

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Solemnity of Corpus Christi *June 22, 2025*

Dear Brothers and sisters,

The solemnity of Corpus Christi is a very special feast for all Christians, because it is the exaltation of the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In this solemnity, the Church manifests its faith in the real and true presence of Jesus in this admirable Sacrament. The Catholic Church has celebrated this since time immemorial.

On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Christians bear witness to our gratitude and worship for such an ineffable gift of the real presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist and for the merits of the death, passion, and resurrection of Our Lord. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. In all the sacraments, we receive God's grace; in this one, we are given God Himself. It is the Sacrament of love that commemorates the Savior's saving Passover. A Sacrament that nourishes, enlivens, unites, and strengthens our Christian existence and anticipates eternal life.

In light of this loving intention of Jesus who has decided to stay with us in the Eucharist, might we ask ourselves: How do we celebrate the Eucharist? What is our participation? What does the Eucharist mean in our social, work, and family life? We must not forget that the Mass is also the sacrifice of the faithful united with Jesus for the worship of God. A real sacrifice, although spiritual.

Dear brothers and sisters, love is repaid with love. God wants our lives to be a spiritual offering of love given to Him and to our brothers. In the same vein, Saint Paul urges us to offer ourselves as a living, holy, and pleasing sacrifice to God (Rom 12:1). Only by living from Love can we be broken bread and poured out wine for others, especially for those in greatest need. It is the only way to authentically celebrate the Day of Charity and Love of God.

Remember,

"God loves you, God loves me, God loves us"

Fr. Sergio

Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blest Art will be visiting your parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land.

For centuries, the Christians in and around Bethlehem have earned a living by carving religious olive wood art to sell to visiting pilgrims. Fewer pilgrims are journeying to the Holy Land today, making it difficult for those Christians to support their families. As a result, there has been a dramatic rise in Christian emigration from the Holy Land. Now, less than 1% of the population in the Holy Land is Christians.



Blest Art Inc helps the struggling Christian families of Bethlehem by marketing their artwork in the United States. Due to this work many Christian families maintain their livelihood and their ancestral homes in the land of our Lord.

When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. We kindly invite you to visit our display and to consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land. In doing so, you will help support the many families who depend on this form of art for their living. Your purchase will make a difference in the lives of many Christian families.

We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards. Please note that we do not ask for, nor do we accept, any donations

Thank you in advance for your purchase when we come to visit.

Jeryes Qumseya
And the members of Blest Art Inc.

Please visit our display
At your parish
Saturday & Sunday
July 5th and 6th, 2025
After each Mass