June 23, 2019

**Excerpts from a Homily of Pope St. John Paul II**

**on Corpus Christi, 2000**

*“In the center is the institution of the Eucharist. St Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, which we have just heard, recalled the event in precise words, adding: "As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (I Cor 11:26). "As often", hence this evening too, as we celebrate the Eucharist in the heart of the International Eucharistic Congress, we proclaim Christ’s redemptive death and in our hearts rekindle the hope of our definitive encounter with him.*

*Conscious of this, we will acclaim after the consecration, as if in response to the Apostle's invitation: "When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory".*

*The day before his death on the Cross, Christ instituted the Eucharist in the Upper Room. He also offered bread and wine, which "in his sacred hands" (Roman Canon) became his Body and his Blood, offered in sacrifice. Thus he fulfilled the prophecy of the old covenant linked to Melchizedek's sacrificial offering. For this very reason—the Letter to the Hebrews recalls—"he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek" (5:7-10).*

*The sacrifice of Golgotha was anticipated in the Upper Room: the death on the Cross of the Incarnate Word, the Lamb sacrificed for us, the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world. In Christ's pain every person's pain is redeemed; in his passion, human suffering acquires new value; in his death, our death is vanquished forever.*

*The People of God receive it with devout participation. With this Bread of life, a remedy of immortality, countless saints and martyrs were nourished and from it drew the strength to resist even harsh and prolonged sufferings. They believed in the words that Jesus once spoke in Capernaum: "I myself am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever" (Jn 6:51).*

*Jesus calls himself 'the Bread of life', adding: "The bread I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world" (Jn 6:51).*

*Like the disciples who listened in astonishment to his discourse at Capernaum, we also find this language hard to understand (cf. Jn 6:60). We might sometimes be tempted to give it a reductive interpretation. But this would take us far from Christ, as was the case with those disciples who "after that no longer went about with him" (Jn 6:66).*

*We would like to stay with Christ and for this reason we say to him with Peter: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68). With the same conviction as Peter, let us kneel today before the sacrament of the altar and renew our profession of faith in the real presence of Christ.”*

***The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ***

***Corpus Christi***

Dear friends in Christ,

Today’s solemn feast has been celebrated in the Church since the 13th century when Pope Urban IV was moved by a Eucharistic miracle to intensify the devotion of the faithful toward the Lord’s Presence in Holy Communion.

To my mind this is a most fitting time for our children (or adults) to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament for the first time. As the Church is focusing on the Real Presence of Jesus, his Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, we have the added joy of seeing our brothers and sisters enter into Eucharistic Communion with the Lord. Their communion brings us joy because the privilege that we have of sharing in “the holy and living Sacrifice” of Jesus is now shared with them.

The Eucharist, as the Church tells us, is the source and summit of our Faith. There is no greater gift that we can receive in the Church than to participate worthily in the Eucharistic Sacrifice and to receive Him with pure hearts. What is prepared for us in heaven is experienced now in Communion as a foretaste of the blissful, indestructible union that constitutes heavenly joy.

Unfortunately, in this time of trial, that union can be broken by falling into grave sin. As we make our way through this valley of tears, it is all too common for folks to fall into serious sin and thereby become utterly unworthy of receiving so great a Sacrament. “*Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord.” (1 Cor 11:27)*

The reason that the Church gives us conditions for receiving the Holy Eucharist is because St. Paul taught us:

“*A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are ill and infirm, and a considerable number are dying.” (1 Cor 11:28-30)*

No one should receive the Holy Eucharist without examining themselves first. To receive the Eucharist as a matter of course or to do so without proper recollection is a sign of weak faith and disrespect for the Lord.

One can imagine the lack of interest and attention that Judas showed the Lord as he prepared to betray Him. One can also imagine the wonder and humility with which the Apostles received from the Lord’s hand his own Body and Blood on the night before He died. It is with the love and purity of the Heart of Mary that we want to receive Jesus in Holy Communion!

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, pray for us,

**Fr. Martin Flum**

**Vacation Bible School** will be held Mon – Fri, July 15th – July 19th from 9am to noon. Our theme is “Life is Wild \* God is Good”. For more information, contact Vicky Hayden by leaving a message at the parish office 240-681-3551. You can also register or donate online through the parish website ***https://stmichaelsbaden.weconnect.com***

**ST. MICHAEL’S MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK**

**Saturday, 06/29/19 5pm**

**Rosary Leader:** Alice Williams **Lector**: Vicky Hayden

**Server**: Claude Boswell **EMHC:** Joseph Sobnosky

Sunday 06/30/19 **8am**

**Rosary Leader:** Betty Lindsay **Lector**: James Holly

**Server:** Julissa & Jesseca Holly **EMHC:** TBD

**Sunday, 06/30/19** 11:30am

**Rosary Leader**: Kevin Mondorff **Lector:** Maureen Ingle

**Server:** Taylor Nickens  **EMHC:** TBD

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday,      06/22/19     5pm  Father Flum & Family

Sunday,         06/23/19         8am     Bishop Michael Fisher

Sunday,         06/23/19       10am   Parishioners & their families

Sunday,         06/23/19   11:30am  First Communicants

Monday, 06/24/19 8am special intention

Monday 06/24/19 7pm Confirmandi

Tuesday, 06/25/19 8am special intention

Wed., 06/26/19 8am special intention

Thursday,     06/27/19        8am      Rosemarie C. Flum

Friday, 06/28/19 8am Eucharistic Adoration

**Readings for the week of June 23, 2019**

Sunday:           Gn 14:18-20/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/1 Cor 11:23- 26/Lk 9:11b-17  
Monday:          Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14-15 [14]/

Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80  
Tuesday:          Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [1b]/Mt 7:6, 12-14  
Wednesday:    Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]

/Mt 7:15-20  
Thursday:        Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/Ps 106:1b- 2, 3-4a, 4b-5 [1b]/Mt 7:21-29  
Friday:             Ez 34:11-16/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Rom 5:5b-

11/Lk 15:3-7  
Saturday:         Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Gal 1:11-20/

Jn 21:15-19.

Next Sunday:  1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

[cf.5a]/Gal 5:1, 13-18/Lk 9:51-62

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS**

Offertory Collections for June 15th & 16th will be reported in next week’s bulletin.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

For those who suffer from chronic illness especially, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Carol Carter, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Jackie Chapman, Brianna Daniels, Kathy Fisher, Pat Hammond, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Adam Lumpkins, Rachel Makle, Louis Miller, Regina Nasatka, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Dawn Russo, Lucille Shanks, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie grow weary under their burden but be strengthened by the love God has for them.

**ST. MICHAEL AND ST. DOMINIC PARISH DINNER!**

This year, with an enhanced menu, one can Dine In or Carry Out at $23 for an advance sale ticket ($25 at the door). Children (ages 7-12) are $10.00; (ages 6 and under are FREE)!

In addition to the perennial cash drawing, this year we have a special quilt - handmade for this occasion to be raffled off! You can see a full picture of the quilt on the dinner flyer. It is sure to draw a lot of interest.

We will also have a Kay Jeweler’s necklace to be raffled off to some lucky winner.

Of course, we need volunteers for our Parish dinner! The volunteers really made the event a spectacular success last year. If you are interested in being a part of the team this year, please contact, CC Meinhardt at 301-440-4295 or Yvette Parker at 301-274-0910.

**CONFIRMATION TOMORROW WITH BISHOP FISHER**

Our candidates will receive Confirmation on June 24th at 7pm at St. Michael’s. Come celebrate the Sacraments with us!

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Currently each morning around 6:30am the Holy Eucharist is brought from the tabernacle and exposed on the altar for the faithful of the parish to adore. To adore the Lord in the Holy Eucharist is an act of Faith in his promise to remain with us always and to believe that what He instituted on the night before He died remains a sacramental mystery in the Church. **It is my firm hope that as a parish and mission, we will come together to adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on a regular, even continuous, basis.** Perpetual adoration is a special gift from the Lord Jesus who by the mission of the Holy Spirit raises up from among his close friends those whom He grants the grace to seek Him in the silence of adoration. Do you want to develop a closer relationship with the Lord? He awaits here in our parish church for you to come visit Him. Do you ever feel the tug at your heart to stop in and visit the hidden Jesus?