



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

June 6, 2021 • The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

5 Fascinating facts about Jesus in the Eucharist



By Philip Kosloski

Catholics believe Jesus is present in a unique way under the appearances of bread and wine.

The Eucharist is a central teaching of the Catholic Church that is today often misunderstood.

While it is easy to see how the Eucharist might symbolically represent Jesus' Last Supper with his apostles, it isn't always clear that Catholics believe Jesus is present in a unique way.

For Catholics, the Eucharist is not merely a symbol, but

Jesus Christ himself. Here is a brief summary of 4 fascinating facts about the Eucharist.

Jesus is truly present, body, blood, soul and divinity

The Catholic Church teaches a dogma called "transubstantiation," which the *Catechism* explains thus: "By the consecration of the bread and wine **there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood**" (CCC 1376).

This means that while the appearances of bread and wine remain, the substance is changed, through the power of God, **completely to the body and blood of Christ**. It is a teaching based on Scripture and tradition and has remained **unchanged in its essence since Apostolic times**.

Demons believe and tremble before the Real Presence

A spokesman from the satanic group, Adam Daniels, said, "The whole basis of the [satanic] 'mass' is that we take the consecrated host and give it a 'blessing' or offering to Satan. We're censoring it, [*I think he means using incense*], doing all things that's normally done to bless a sacrifice, which is obviously the host body of Christ. Then we're taking that and we're reconsecrating it, or the Devil does ..." [*The bracketed comment and the single quotation marks within the above quote are mine.*]

In light of the threatened lawsuit, the group returned the consecrated host to the Church. Thanks be to God. But did you notice the satanic spokesman's attestation regarding the host: "which is obviously the host body of Christ"?

Grave and sad though this incident was, and it wasn't the first, these Satanists obviously consider the Catholic Eucharist to be the actual Body of Christ, not a symbol of him. Here then is an affirmation of the Scripture that says, Even the demons believe—and shudder (James 2:19).

Scripture is clear about what the Eucharist is

Several passages from the New Testament show where this teaching finds its primary source. A more lengthy discussion of the sacrament of the Eucharist can be found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

The strongest reference comes from Jesus himself in JOHN 6:54-57.

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CLERGY ASSISTANCE

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM
Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM
Fr. Victor Bartolotta

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Follow the Sunday Mass on our
website, btsp.org.

Confessions can be arranged with
Fr. Wayne. Call his private
number to make your
appointment, 727-401-0487.

PARISH OFFICE

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Here Jesus says:

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.

In the following verses we see that this teaching was scandalous from the very first moment. Several of Jesus' followers abandon him after this, but he doesn't walk back his words to get them back. The Eucharist is what Christ wants for his Church, because he wants to be truly with us in our pilgrimage on earth.

We know early Christians believed the Eucharist was Jesus' body and blood, not just a symbol

*"I have no taste for the food that perishes nor for the pleasures of this life. I want the Bread of God which is the **Flesh of Christ**, who was the seed of David; and for drink I desire His Blood which is love that cannot be destroyed." (St. Ignatius of Antioch – 1st century)*

*"This food we call the Eucharist, of which no one is allowed to partake except one who believes that the things we teach are true, and has received the washing for forgiveness of sins and for re-birth, and who lives as Christ handed down to us. For we do not receive these things as common bread or common drink; but as Jesus Christ our Savior being incarnate by God's Word took flesh and blood for our salvation, so also we have been taught that the food consecrated by the Word of prayer which comes from him, from which our flesh and blood are nourished by transformation, **is the flesh and blood of that incarnate Jesus.**" (St. Justin Martyr – 2nd century)*

*"[Christ] has declared the cup, a part of creation, to be **his own Blood**, from which he causes our blood to flow; and the bread, a part of creation, he has established as **his own Body**, from which he gives increase to our bodies." (St. Irenaeus of Lyons – 2nd century)*

The Church consistently teaches this truth, though especially since the Protestant Reformation there has been much confusion.

To this day, most Christians worldwide believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

There are a little more than 2 billion Christians in the world. Half of those, about 1 billion, are Catholics (of those, only 7% are in the United States). Another 12% of the world's Christians are Orthodox Christians who also believe in the Real Presence.

That means more than 3 of every 5 Christians belongs to a Church that believes in the Real Presence.

It's no wonder. When Jesus says we are saved by his blood, he doesn't mean that we are "saved" by his "blood" — he means his real blood really gives us eternal life.

Reprinted with permission

June 6, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Ex 24:3-8 | Heb 9:11-15 | Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

It takes only a few moments of holding one's breath to realize how desperately we need oxygen to survive. If only we were always as cognizant and mindful of the importance of the Eucharist for the same reason! I, for one, confess to approaching the altar with fervent belief in the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ, but also at times doing so while distracted or not fully appreciative of the gift being given to me. But today's solemnity is a powerful reminder not to take the Eucharist for granted. It is the Church's formal and official homage to Jesus Christ who, "with his own blood" obtained for us eternal redemption. St. Thomas Aquinas offers this description of how wonderful, precious, and important the Eucharist is with the following words: "The only-begotten Son of God, wishing to enable us to share in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that by becoming man he might make us gods." (Opusc. 57, 1-4) Like the disciples on the night of the Last Supper, we, too, receive the body and blood of Jesus under the appearance of bread and wine. He dwells within us, intercedes for us, and through grace he transforms us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Spending time with our Lord at Eucharistic adoration is a profound opportunity to open our hearts to him. Just as we know that we cannot love others well if we don't love ourselves, likewise we cannot share the love of Christ with others well if we don't take time to allow Christ to enter our hearts and our lives. By taking the time to talk to Jesus and listen, we can, in turn, witness to his love to others. We can use this time to pray for a specific person, seek help with a personal dilemma, or ask the Lord to show us where we need repentance and conversion in our own lives so as to be more like him. The more we are conformed to Christ, the better we can bring Christ to the world.

STUDY Draw closer to the Lord through meditation on the meaning of the Eucharist by reading these "basic questions and answers" about the Real Presence: www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-eucharist/the-real-presence-faqs.



Are You Looking to Receive One of the Seven Sacraments With Us?

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Gene-reux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the Baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the Pre-Baptism Class before scheduling a Baptism.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4
Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm

Website Mass

The church is open for our regular schedule of Masses. Recognizing that many will still be unable to attend Mass we will continue to record the Mass and upload it to the website. To view the Mass go to our website: btsp.org and click on the red words to start the video. The recorded Mass is from the Saturday vigil.

We are very grateful to Brent Beauchamp who has been volunteering his services to record the Mass each week. Thank you Brent for your continued support.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 5, Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr
4:00 p.m. Terry Ray (Dec)

Sunday, June 6, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

8:00 a.m. Lloyd Chin (Dec)

9:30 a.m. For Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Bill Maslar (Dec)

Monday, June 7, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Amanda Roberts (Liv)

Tuesday, June 8, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Jessica Getgen (Liv)

Wednesday, June 9, Saint Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, June 10, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Margarite Israelson (Dec)

Friday, June 11, Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:00 a.m. Aimée Azarewicz (Dec)

Saturday, June 12, Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Russell Shaw (Liv)

4:00 p.m. Jim Lawler (Dec)

Patricia Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, June 13, Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Wayne Rocks (Dec)

9:30 a.m. For Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Doug Lederman (Dec)



*The beautiful flowers this weekend
have been donated by Joanne Heffern,
in loving memory of her departed
husband, Vince Heffern.*

**“PRAISE AND BLESS MY LORD,
AND GIVE HIM THANKS AND
SERVE HIM WITH GREAT HUMILITY.”**

~ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Our offertory collection totals will be reported in next week's magazine, due to the Memorial Day Remembrance.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

We Can Prepare the Upper Room

We all know that person, don't we? Hey, maybe we've even been that person.

"I have a great relationship with God, but I don't go to church regularly. God and I are on good terms. I can talk to Him just fine on my own."

There isn't anything false in these statements. It's important to have an intimate, even conversational prayer relationship with God. But the problem with this attitude is that it implies that churches don't matter. Community worship doesn't matter. Today, we are reminded exactly why that is so untrue. Why we need our parishes, our priests, and each other.

The Body and Blood of Christ — that's what it's all about. If it's not about that, it's not about anything. If we don't have the Eucharist, we're just like the ancient priests, making sacrifices that don't have the power to redeem anybody.

Where do we receive the Body and Blood of Christ? For most of us, it's in our parishes. The altar of sacrifice is also the table we gather in front of, as a family, to become one with Christ in the truest and realest way possible, recreating the scene in the Upper Room over and over again every time Mass is celebrated.

The disciples were commissioned by Christ to prepare the Upper Room for the Last Supper. How can we take up that work ourselves? How can we strengthen the bonds in our spiritual family? How can we serve our parish, always remembering that the table is not meant to be set only for two?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS LPi

Electronic Giving Information

During our recent Stewardship Campaign, a lot of people requested information on our Electronic Giving Program. Making contributions electronically is really easy, whether you would like to make a one-time gift or make it a recurring gift for a specific or indefinite period of time.

All you have to do is go to the parish website at www.btsp.or and click on the big green box on the home page that says:

make a difference
DONATE

Then, click on "sign in" and then, if you're new to online giving, "register for an account". If you need help, our business manager, Alice Coston, will be happy to help in walking you through it. You can reach her at the parish office at 727-867-3663.

Stewardship Prayer

O Divine Giver of all gifts, grant us the daily graces we need to follow closely in the footsteps of Jesus in the way we live out our lives and make use of our gifts.

Daily, may we renew with You our small part of the world by allowing Your will to be accomplished in and through us.

Help us to trust in Your love for us and to grow in our fidelity and relationship with You.

We thank You for the trust You place in us as stewards of our personal gifts. May the Holy Spirit guide us in placing our time, talent and treasure at the service of each other so that together we may faithfully witness the Christian message and thus become Your holy people.

Amen

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Hurricane Season Safety

"Say to the LORD, 'My refuge and fortress,
my God in whom I trust.'"

-Psalms 91:2

Be Prepared

In the storms of life, we turn to God and pray that we will be spared from harm. We are also called to take the necessary precautions to protect the precious gift of life and to minimize damage to property. Here are a few helpful reminders:

Evacuation Shelters:

If you are elderly or have special needs, please contact your county's Emergency Management Office to pre-register prior to any storm if you will need to evacuate.

Mass Participation:

All parishioners are urged to use good judgment when deciding if conditions are safe to travel to Mass. In the event that roadways are not clear and weather conditions are unsafe to travel, the faithful are reminded that the obligation to participate in the Sunday Mass does not apply when there is grave difficulty in fulfilling this obligation (Code of Canon Law, Canon 1248 §2).

News and Updates:

If a storm threatens our area, please visit the Diocese of St. Petersburg website for the latest updates relating to parish and school closings. Also, follow the diocesan Twitter <https://twitter.com/DioStPete> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DioStPete/> and Spirit FM 90.5 for the latest news updates.

Resources from around our Diocese:

Florida Department of Emergency Management:
www.floridadisaster.org

Citrus County Emergency Management:
www.sheriffcitrus.org/emergency-management.php

Hernando County Emergency Management:
www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-e/emergency-management

Hillsborough County Emergency Management:
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/residents/public-safety/emergency-management

Pasco County Emergency Management:
www.pascocountyfl.net/365/Emergency-Management

Pinellas County Emergency Management:
www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/

For more information, visit:

www.dosp.org/insurance/hurricane-season

Prayer for Protection During Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed
Your order and returned to its former quietude.

You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control:
the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional
boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose
memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf,
so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we
will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem,
where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

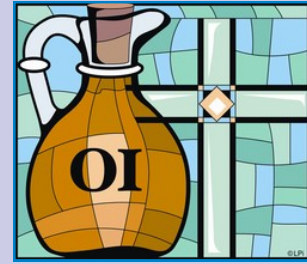
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Christ, Kathryn
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Deacon Lionel Roberts
Detore, Alice
Deuel, Fred
Devyn & Donna
DeZarn, Vickie
Doiron, Gary
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Feltes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferrara, Antoinette
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Fr. Jim Klima
Garcia, Jose M.
Gaskin, Douglas
Genereux, Carol

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Maharne, Cecile
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Mesick, Phil & Nancy
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Moore, Richard A.
Nicholson, Maria
Noguez, Armida
Oliphant, Brian
Phillips, James
Preeper, Helen
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Privitera, Peter
Quinn, Timothy
Roberts, Amanda

Romani, Angelo &
Marlene
Schaefer, Jake
Schneider, Mary Jo
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Smith, Anita
Stankiewicz, Cy
Storey, Barbara
Thuline, James
Velez, Carmelita
Vishnisky, Wayne
Walsh, Thomas
Watson, Amanda
Youngman, Ruth

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from this list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.



Anointing of the Sick

To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

Magazine Articles

If you wish to put anything in the weekly parish magazine, please email any items to be published to parish office at amc@btsp.org

