

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

Today we celebrate the solemn feast of *Corpus Christi*. It is three feasts in one: the feast of the Eucharistic sacrifice, feast of the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the feast of the Real Presence of Jesus. It is a doctrinal feast established for three purposes: 1) to give God collective thanks for Christ's abiding presence with us in the Eucharist and to honor him there; 2) to instruct the people in the Mystery, Faith and devotion surrounding the Eucharist, and 3) to teach us to appreciate and make use of the great gift of the Holy Eucharist, both as a Sacrament and as a sacrifice. Although we celebrate the institution of the Holy Eucharist on Holy Thursday, the Church wants to emphasize its importance by a special feast, formerly called "*Corpus Christi*." It was Pope Urban IV who first extended the feast to the universal Church.

This year's readings for the Feast emphasize the theme of Covenant blood because the ancient peoples sealed Covenants with the blood of ritually sacrificed animals, and Jesus sealed his New Covenant with his own Bloodshed on Calvary. Today's Gospel details how Jesus converted this ancient ritual into a Sacrament and sacrifice. Instead of the lamb's blood, Jesus offered his own Divine/human Body and Blood, and instead of sprinkling us with blood, Jesus put it into our hands as food and drink: "*Take ... eat ... this IS my Body which will be given up for you*" (He did not say "This represents my body"), and "Take ... drink ... *This is ... my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal Covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many....*" (nor did He say, "This represents my blood...").

Let us appreciate the "Real Presence" of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, by receiving him with true repentance for our sins, due preparation and reverence. By receiving Holy Communion, we become Christ-bearers as Mary was, with the duty of conveying Christ to others at home and in the workplace, through love, mercy, forgiveness and humble and sacrificial service. Let us offer our lives on the altar along with Jesus' sacrifice, asking pardon for our sins, expressing gratitude for the blessings we have received and presenting our needs and petitions on the altar.

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS
CCD: Catholic Christian Discipleship**

+As a Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration, the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is very special. Adoration proclaims our belief in the unique presence of the risen Christ in the Eucharistic species of bread and wine and is a sign of our communion with our Lord as well as with each other. Adoration is a response to that presence and union with awe and worship. Adoration has always been included in the celebration of Mass itself at the time of the elevation of the host and at communion when we observe silent prayer to Jesus in the Blessed sacrament. Let us pray that at each Mass we might be filled with awe and adoration of Jesus present with us and with others.

+ A Teacher for Grade 4 and Grade 6 is needed.

Blessings and peace ~ Sister Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,022.00
Loose	110.72
Total	1,132.72
Total from May 28, 2017	1,300.00
Building Fund	40.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 395.00
Loose	110.00
Total	505.00
Total from May 28, 2017	674.00
Building Fund	100.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 611.95
Loose	84.00
Total	695.95
Total from May 28, 2017	890.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 245.00
Loose	27.00
Total	272.00
Total from May 28, 2017	379.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)
2017/2018 Catholic Services Appeal

Contributor Status Report as of 5/6/18

	Assessment	Received	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,179.00	\$ 8,845.00	\$ 2,334.00
St. John	\$ 8,721.00	\$ 5,190.00	\$ 3,531.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,249.00	\$ 2,840.00	\$ 2,409.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,509.00	\$ 2,509.00	PAID in FULL

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OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

GILMAN CORNER STORE
447-8376
 GAS - POP - BEER - BULK FOODS
 SNACKS - MOVIES - LOTTERY
 OPEN 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
 7 DAYS A WEEK

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People of faith are committed to serving others in God's love in healthcare, child welfare, migration and refugee resettlement, education, and more. Religious freedom protects the space in which we can continue to serve. Religious Freedom Week begins June 22, the Feast of Ss. Thomas More and John Fisher. Join Catholics across the country to pray and act for the freedom to serve faithfully and with integrity.