

Dear Padre,

Why have many Christian religions been divided over the question of Christ's Body and Blood?

Today's Gospel indicates that even before the Last Supper, Jesus' teaching about his Real Presence was met with skepticism. When Jesus said, "The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world," the reaction was, "How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?" (John 6:51–52). When Jesus continued, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains



in me and I in him," his hearers shrugged: "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" (John 6:56, 60).

John's inclusion of this incident in his Gospel indicates that some of his contemporaries also denied Christ's Real Presence. Since then, some Christians have broken away from the Catholic Church because they could not accept the reality of Christ's eucharistic Presence. Some contend that Christ was speaking metaphorically—that the bread and wine merely symbolize the spirit of Jesus. Others say that Christ is present only as a result of the faith of the community and doesn't remain after the worship service.

The Catholic Church teaches that when Jesus pronounced, "This is my body...this is my blood," he meant exactly what he said. For Jews of Jesus' time, "body" meant the person, and "blood" was the source of life identifiable with the person. Jesus was saying over the bread and wine, "This is my very self." Church teaching couldn't be more clear: in the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1374).

—Fr. Oscar Lukefahr, CM
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday
JUNE 15
Weekday
1 Kgs 21:1–16
Mt 5:38–42

Tuesday
JUNE 16
Weekday
1 Kgs 21:17–29
Mt 5:43–48

Wednesday
JUNE 17
Weekday
2 Kgs 2:1, 6–14
Mt 6:1–6, 16–18

Thursday
JUNE 18
Weekday
Sir 48:1–14
Mt 6:7–15

Friday
JUNE 19
Most Sacred Heart
of Jesus
Dt 7:6–11
1 Jn 4:7–16
Mt 11:25–30

Saturday
JUNE 20
Immaculate Heart
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
2 Chr 24:17–25
Lk 2:41–51

Sunday
JUNE 21
Twelfth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Jer 20:10–13
Rom 5:12–15
Mt 10:26–33

Our Parish COMMUNITY

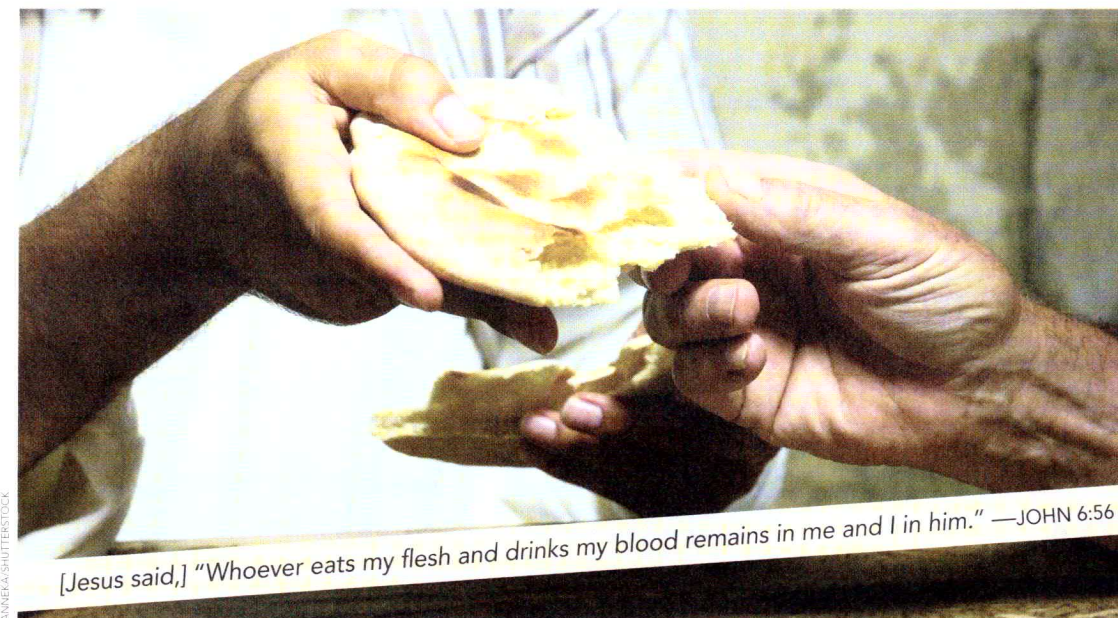
June 14, 2020

Body and Blood of Christ (A)

Dt 8:2–3, 14b–16a

1 Cor 10:16–17

Jn 6:51–58



[Jesus said,] "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." —JOHN 6:56

Take and Eat

Many of us are little different from the Jewish crowds who cried out: "How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?" (John 6:52). Jesus does not explain how the bread was really his flesh. What he did was underscore the importance of eating this bread, which was his flesh. He then goes on and insists that we must drink his blood as well. If these were hard sayings for the people of Israel, who in their ancient past might have shared the flesh and blood of a sacrificed animal, what are we "sophisticated" contemporary Christians to make of it?

The people of Jesus' time would have recognized several elements from their traditions in Jesus' discourse, but his reinterpretation of them would have startled them. Like the victim of an ancient holocaust offering, Jesus' blood is shed. However, it is not poured around the altar; it is to be consumed. Bread from heaven recalled the manna that fed their ancestors in the wilderness. However, the manna lasted for only a day; it then rotted. The bread Jesus gives is living bread that enables those who eat it to live forever. This is a lot to believe. But then, that is exactly what we are asked to do. We might have correct theological language to explain how this transformation takes place, but we still will not understand the mystery to which it points. So what are we to do? Very simply: take and eat!

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

• The Eucharist is one of the foundational mysteries of our faith. A good Eucharistic prayer might be: "I believe; help my unbelief."



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Eucharistic worship also teaches us the right balance of values: not to put earthly realities in first place but heavenly goods; to hunger not only for material food, but also for "food that endures for eternal life" (John 6:27).

—ADDRESS TO THE DIOCESES OF CESENA AND BOLOGNA,
APRIL 21, 2018



ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH
600 Soderberg Street, PO Box 983, Lakin Ks. 67860
Office #620-355-6405 = Cell #620-408-5538
June 14, 2020

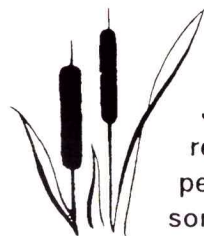
Mass Intentions for the week:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday, June 15, 8:00 a.m. | +Wayne Miller |
| Tuesday, June 16, 8:00 a.m. | For Our Country |
| Thursday, June 18, 8:00 a.m. | Kelly & Joan Rice |
| Friday, June 19, 8:00 a.m. | James Gordon |
| Saturday, June 20, 4:00 p.m. | For Rain |
| Sunday, June 21, 9:00 a.m. | Elisa Perez & Eduvigis Padilla |

Confessions will be heard Saturdays, 3:00 p.m. and Again Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Readers:

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Gwen Waechter | June 13, 4:00 p.m. |
| Steve Sullivan | June 14, 9:00 a.m. |
| Tom Bachman | June 20, 4:00 p.m. |
| K of C Member | June 21, 9:00 a.m. |
| Karen Burden | June 27, 4:00 p.m. |
| Cindy Achen | June 28, 9:00 a.m. |



Compassion Incarnate

Jesus was a man with the compassionate heart of God. He recognized the exhaustion of body and spirit exhibited by the people and bestowed upon His disciples the mandate to do something about it. Matthew tells us that He gave them the power to expel unclean spirits and to cure any kind of sickness and disease. Healing has, then, always been an integral part of the Christian ministry. How is it practiced in your home and community?

PLEASE OBSERVE THE HEALTH PROTOCOLS:

Wear Masks: in charity, humility cover your face

Distance: 6 feet distance between households and individuals in the Pews

Communion: Maintain 6 feet distance in procession. Remove Mask to receive communion.

Sign of Peace: No handshakes

Touch: Avoid touching doors and non-family members

Dispensation: Please stay home if you feel sick, or susceptible or in contact with those that are sick.

Collection for June 7, 2020: Envelopes \$715.00; Loose Offering \$232.00; On Line Giving \$1,219.07; Total \$2,166.07; Average Weekly Expense \$1,989.55; Income over/under (+176.52)

Parish and Finance Council Members Needed: If you are interested in serving on either the Parish or Finance Council you are to call Father Peter or any member of the 2 councils and let them know (the list of members is listed on the bulletin board at both entrances of the church).

Rummage Sale: We are planning to have a rummage sales again this summer, **However, we are Not Accepting Clothes this year.** If you have items you would like to donate and need help getting them to the hall, you may call any of the following: Tressa Powers, 355-6206; Jana Jenkinson 290-5201; Carolyn Robertson 290-5569; or Gwen Waechter 272-1030.

HEARTLAND CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY WILL BE HOSTING WEBINARS THIS SUMMER. 7:00 TO 8:30 P.M. ON THE FOLLOWING DATES: July 9, August 13, and September 10. You must register to receive Link <https://heartlandspirituality.org/webinars/>