



St Mary's Cathedral

SYDNEY

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Sunday, 03 June 2018

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - (Corpus Christi) – Year B



Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

The solemnity of Corpus Christi is probably the celebration that communicates more than any other feast the sense of identity of the Catholic community. Catholics are well known to other Christian denominations for their belief in the consecrated bread and wine as the real Body of Christ, no less than that and nothing besides that. We are proud of this faith, and today we celebrate the gift of Christ's Body and Blood as the greatest gift of God to his children.

The Gospel of this Sunday is very rich and full of meaning. I would like to focus on one detail only: Our Lord wanted that the first celebration in which He gave his Body and Blood to the Apostles was to take place in an upper room. I am sure that in ancient Jerusalem, quite a few houses were provided with an upper floor and yet it was uncommon to have wide rooms and places to meet on the upper floor. Such an element invites all of us to notice that in order to enter the banquet God has prepared for us we need to access a higher level of understanding, that of Faith. As far as I can remember there is only one mention of another upper room in the Old Testament, which is the room that a widow prepares for the prophet Elisha staying in her house. She welcomes the one who is bringing the Word of God and at the end of the story, she receives as a gift the resurrection of her son.

Similarly, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ is to conform our entire life to Christ's teachings and to receive from the Lord himself his risen Body and, in the last day, the resurrection of our own bodies for eternal life.

Fr. Pierluigi Passoni

Liturgy...

First Reading Ex 24:3-8

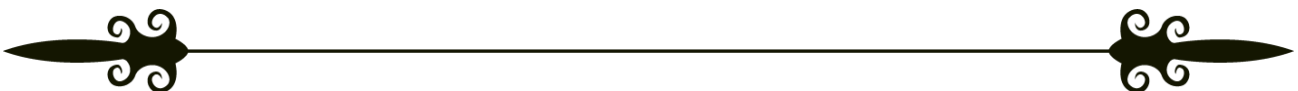
A reading from the book of Exodus

This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you.

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God!



Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:12-13. 15-18. R. v.13

(R.) I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. (R.)
3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. (R.)



Second Reading Heb 9:11-15

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The blood of Christ will purify our inner selves.

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives. how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God!

Sequence

Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing The praises of thy Shepherd-King, In hymns and canticles divine; Dare all thou canst, thou hast no song Worthy his praises to prolong, So far surpassing powers like thine. Today no theme of common praise Forms the sweet burden of thy lays –The living, life-dispensing food –That food which at the sacred board Unto the brethren twelve our Lord His parting legacy bestowed. Then be the anthem clear and strong, Thy fullest note, thy sweetest song, The very music of the breast: For now shines forth the day sublime, That brings remembrance of the time When Jesus first his table blessed.

Within our new King's banquet-hall They meet to keep the festival That closed the ancient paschal rite: The old is by the new replaced; The substance hath the shadow chased; And rising day dispels the night. Christ willed what he himself had done Should be renewed while time should run, In memory of his parting hour: Thus, tutored in his school divine, We consecrate the bread and wine; And lo – a Host of saving power. This faith to Christian men is given – Bread is made flesh by words from heaven: Into his blood the wine is turned: What though it baffles nature's powers Of sense and sight? This faith of ours Proves more than nature e'er discerned.

Concealed beneath the two-fold sign, Meet symbols of the gifts divine, There lie the mysteries adored: The living body is our food; Our drink the ever-precious blood; In each, one undivided Lord. Not he that eateth it divides The sacred food, which whole abides Unbroken still, nor knows decay; Be one, or be a thousand fed, They eat alike that living bread Which, still received, ne'er wastes away. The good, the guilty share therein, With sure increase of grace or sin, The ghostly life, or ghostly death: Death to the guilty; to the good Immortal life. See how one food Man's joy or woe accomplisheth.

We break the Sacrament; but bold And firm thy faith shall keep its hold; Deem not the whole doth more enfold Than in the fractured part resides: Deem not that Christ doth broken lie; 'Tis but the sign that meets the eye; The hidden deep reality In all its fullness still abides. Behold the bread of angels, sent For pilgrims in their banishment, The bread for God's true children meant, That may not unto dogs be given: Oft in the olden types foreshowed; In Isaac on the altar bowed, And in the ancient paschal food, And in the manna sent from heaven. Come then, good shepherd, bread divine, Still show to us thy mercy sign; Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine; So may we see thy glories shine. In fields of immortality; O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, Our present food, our future rest. Come, make us each thy chosen guest, Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest With saints whose dwelling is with thee.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!



Gospel

Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my body. This is my blood.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, ‘Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?’ So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, “The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?” He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.’ The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. ‘Take it,’ he said ‘this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, ‘This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.’

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



CATHEDRAL CLERGY

*Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP
 Father Donald Richardson, Dean
 Father Brendan Purcell
 Father Emmanuel Yoon Jae Seo
 Father Pierluigi Passoni*

CATHEDRAL STAFF

*Chris Backhouse- Cathedral Sacristan
 Thomas Wilson – Director of Music
 Helen Morassut – General Manager, St Marys
 Cathedral Precinct*

A COPY OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY CAN BE PURCHASED FOR \$2

Weekend Mass	Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm Sunday: 7.00am, 9.00am, 10.30am (Solemn High Mass); 12noon Latin Mass in the extraordinary form; 6.00pm Mass
Weekday Mass	Monday to Friday: 6.45am, 1.10pm & 5.30pm; Saturday: 9.00am & 12noon Public Holidays: 9am (or as advertised)
Reconciliation	Monday-Friday: 12noon -1.00pm & 5.00pm to 5.25pm Saturday 11.30am- 11.55am, 4.30-5.30pm
Vespers (Evening Prayer)	Monday to Thursday: 5.00pm; Saturday 5.30pm; Sunday 5.00pm (with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

****COELIACS:** Special Provision is made for Coeliacs at the Cathedral. Those who are gluten intolerant may receive communion either from the Chalice or with a gluten low host. Application should be made to the Sacristan before Mass.

CATHEDRAL NOTICES

WALK WITH CHRIST – 3 JUNE 2018 All are invited to participate in this year's Walk With Christ Eucharistic Procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi, **Sunday 3 June 2018**. Participants will gather at the **corner of Pitt St and Martin Place in the CBD at 2:30pm**. The procession will follow the Blessed Sacrament through the Sydney CBD, finishing at the St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt with Adoration and Benediction. If you are unable to join us for the Procession, you are more than welcome to join us for Adoration and Benediction from approximately 3:30pm in the St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt. The event will conclude at approximately 4:30pm. The procession will help mark the 200th anniversary of a little known, but most heroic and faith-filled time in the history of the Australian Church. In 1818, the Government forcibly removed the only Catholic priest in Australia, Fr Jeremiah O'Flynn, from Sydney. Fr O'Flynn's last pastoral act was to leave the Blessed Sacrament reserved in a faithful Catholic's home so that the colonists and prisoners could come to adore Christ present there. For two years, the Blessed Sacrament, in this lay Sydney home, was the source and centre of worship and consolation for the priestless Catholics of the Australian colony. Please look for the Books of Life in your parish to write your prayer intentions that will be offered at the end of the procession.

YEAR OF YOUTH BLOGGERS WORKSHOP The Australian Catholic youth website www.Xt3.com is hosting a Year of Youth Bloggers Workshop. If you want to improve your writing skills and share your faith online we encourage you to register. **Date: Tuesday - 5 June 2018 .Time: 5.30pm – 8.30pm.** **Venue: 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney (The Polding Centre).** **Who:** This event is for those 18-35 years of age. *You will need to submit a piece of writing before the workshop. To find out more: www.bloggersworkshop.com.au

POSITION VACANT Web Developer, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. Full-time, permanent position. Ideal for someone with some experience but looking to grow in the role. For further information please contact Nevine Piperides at REACH Human Resources, on **0418 698 327**. Applications close Thursday, 7 June 2018.

NO CATHEDRAL TOUR Please note there will be no public tour of the Cathedral on **17th June 2018** as the Eastern Deanery Confirmations will be celebrated at the Cathedral on this day. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience.

ABORTION CLINIC EXCLUSION ZONES: The "Public Health Amendment (Safe Access to Reproductive Health Clinics) Bill 2018" has passed NSW upper house and will be introduced into the Legislative Assembly soon. This new law will create exclusion zones around abortion clinics in NSW with the aim of preventing pro-life counsellors from approaching women. The pro-life volunteers offer support and alternatives to abortion to vulnerable pregnant women, many of whom are coerced into seeking an abortion by others. The majority of women feel that they have no other choice other than to abort because they have no support. The pro-life volunteers offer practical support to these women, encouraging them to keep their babies. Please write respectful hand written letters to your local state MLA outlining your concerns with the bill. Face to face meeting with your local member in pairs is also recommended. It is vital that we speak up on this issue. For the letter-writing guide please email christopher.gordon@sydneycatholic.org

HEART WOMEN'S CONFERENCE Date: **7-9 June.** Venue: **Fairfield RSL.** A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Spoil yourself. Dream again. Feel loved, honoured and cared for. Invite your daughters, mothers, sisters and friends! Men – What women in your life can you spoil by sending them to Heart 2018? Full Registration Cost: \$199 (See our website for other registration options) Register: <https://heart.thecatholicguy.com> Email: heart@TheCatholicGuy.com Phone: **1300 734 880**

CHANGE - ST MARYS CATHEDRAL SERVICES please note that the Latin Mass on **17th June 2018** will be celebrated at the **Cathedral Crypt** as the Eastern Deanery Confirmations will be celebrated at the Cathedral on this day. Please note, there will be **NO ADORATION OR VESPERS** held on the day.

CARDINAL FROM MYANMAR AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL Cardinal Charles Maung Bo, S.D.B., Archbishop of Yangon, Myanmar will be celebrating Mass at **St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 10th June 2018 at 10:30am**. The Cardinal is an official guest of Catholic Mission who will be holding their annual mission appeal over the weekend of 9th and 10th June. Please join us in warmly welcoming Cardinal Bo to St Mary's Cathedral as we look forward to hearing more about the 'education revolution' in Myanmar. For more information, Freecall: **1800 257 296**, catholicmission.org.au/Myanmar

THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA AUST. INC. SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE COMMITTEE invite you to attend our Night of Prayer of Prayer & Reparation on The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart **Friday the 8th of June**. Solemn Mass to commence at 9pm followed by the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, Re-dedication & Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament Exposed, a short break, to end Saturday morning at 1.30 AM, with the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, Mass & morning prayers. The Venue, is **St. Dominic's Parish Flemington, Cnr. The Crescent & Hornsey Rd. HOMEBUSH WEST**(carpark off Hornsey Road church doors open at 8pm

CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY Are you looking for a flexible role and enjoy helping people? Join our dedicated Home Care team to help seniors enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. The following languages would be highly desirable: Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, Polish, Italian, Assyrian. Call CCareline on **13 18 19** to find out more

BISHOP VINCENT LONG TALKYou are invited to hear Bishop Vincent Long, an ardent supporter of Pope Francis, speaking about "the New Dawn of the Church" at 'Winbourne', the **Edmund Rice Retreat and Conference Centre, 1315 Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa 11.00 am to 1.00 pm on Saturday 16th June 2018**. Entry by donation. Registration 10.00 am. For further information contact Dennis Farrar **0425209840**. Organised by the Passionist Family Group Movement.

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EMBRACE, YOUNG ADULTS GROUP. Embrace is St Mary's group for young people of 18-35 yrs old from all cultures and backgrounds. We **meet every Sunday after the 6.00pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral House**, adjacent to the Cathedral. Our activities and youth projects are designed to support spiritual development and encourage active practice of our faith. For **3 June**, Embrace observes Corpus Christi as they host Sister Mary Eliezer, of the Missionaries of Charity, who will give a talk on 'Pride vs Humility'. You are welcome to join: please call/text Embrace Coordinator on **0404 008 870** or write to embrace@stmaryscathedral.org.au.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW Invites you to a Formation Day with the inspired preacher Fr. Roni George of the Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby on **June 30, from 10 am to 4 pm**. Theme; "Three Major Weapons in His Vineyard". Venue; **St. Joseph's Church Hall, Gordon St. Rozelle**. Please register by June 27 at CCR Centre **9810 2499** or e-mail; email@ccrnsw.org.au. Cost by donation. Lunch provided

ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP: applications now open. The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offer scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Applications close 23rd July 2018. Details and application: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>