



June 19

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Gn 14:18-20 | 1 Cor 11:23-26 | Lk 9:11b-17

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Today begins the National Eucharistic Revival, a grassroots effort launched by the U.S. bishops to reignite “devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.” What better day to begin than on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, when we as Catholics reflect on the source and summit of our faith. “For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself ...” (*catechism*, 1324) Our readings today remind us that the Eucharist is more than a powerful symbol; as Catholics, we believe we receive Christ himself – body, blood, soul, and divinity – in the form of the consecrated bread and wine. As Pope Francis said in a homily on this solemnity in 2019: “If we receive it into our hearts, this bread will release in us the power of love. We will feel blessed and loved, and we will want to bless and love in turn.” That is what the early disciples did, whether feeding the 5,000 or nurturing the early Church. The Eucharistic Revival gives each of us an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of the Eucharist and share it with others.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

On today’s solemnity, also known as the feast of Corpus Christi, some parishes have a eucharistic procession. This is when a consecrated host – that is, the real and substantial presence of Jesus Christ, body, blood, soul and divinity – is placed within a monstrance, which is then lifted and carried by a priest who leads the faithful in procession beginning at one holy place and ending at another. Some parishes or religious communities may extend hours for eucharistic adoration. Both of these are excellent opportunities to spend time with Jesus and reflect on Christ’s gift of himself in the Eucharist. What should be our response to this gift? As Pope Francis has said, it is a call “to go out and bring Jesus to others.” Just as Jesus challenged the disciples when they didn’t think they had enough bread and fish to serve the 5,000, we may feel we “don’t have enough” to give. Nourished by the Eucharist, however, and by our devotion to the real presence of God in that Eucharist, we have all we need to go out and witness to the love of Jesus. Go forth and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

ACTION Spend time in eucharistic adoration this week, even for a few minutes. Share what the experience was like with others or invite a friend to join you.

AVON-THAMES CATHOLIC FAMILY OF PARISHES

Website: www.avonthamescatholic.dol.ca Email: avonthamescatholic@dol.ca

Parish Family Office: 519-271-6722 96 Huron Street, Stratford ON N5A 5S6

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Please join us! Our wonderful and talented organist, Anna Checinski, is retiring after over 30 years of faithful service to our Parish Communities. We are hosting a reception after the 8:30 am. Mass next Sunday, June 26th in St. Joseph's Hall. Come and enjoy some coffee and goodies to celebrate Anna!



Mass Schedule and Intentions for the week of June 20—25

Monday—6:00 pm. at St. Joseph's Church: St. Joseph's School Graduation Mass

- 1. Maria Celej Dennis Celej
2. Frank & Filomena Vito The Estate
3. Corrie Jochems Nelda Dwyer

Tuesday—6:00 pm. at Immaculate Conception Church: St. Ambrose School Graduation Mass

- 1. Maria Sacco The Apostles of Divine Mercy
2. Stephan Voros The Knights of Columbus, Council 1431 3rd Degree
3. Urban Portz Edeltraud Portz

Tuesday—7:00 pm. at St. Joseph's Church (Adoration is cancelled for this week)

- 1. Peter Bokkers Annie Bokkers & family
2. The intentions of the Waters family Connie Bakker
3. Raymond Dennis Hartman Mary & Steve Horenberg
4. Arthur O'Connor George & Flo Smith

Wednesday - 8:00 am. at Immaculate Conception Church

- 1. Ellen Hopper Tess Rousseau
2. Elizabeth Wachsmann Immaculate Conception CWL
3. Jim Leyser The Apostles of Divine Mercy

6:00 pm. at St. Joseph's Church: Jeanne Sauvé Graduation Mass

- 1. Rita Marguerite Clarke David, Marianne & Massimo Braca
2. Dan Zivkovic Marilyn & Paul Smith
3. Hermina Reurink St. Joseph's CWL

Thursday—10:00 am. at Holy Name of Mary Church

- 1. Olga Semeniuk Anne & Read Paxton
2. Elizabeth MacDonald Her family
3. Vera Huiberts Steve & Mary Horenberg
4. Doreen Disther Josie & Joe Viani



**remaining Mass schedule and intentions on the following page.



Thursday—6:00 pm. at St. Joseph's Church: St. Aloysius School Graduation Mass

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| 1. Munzio D'Alessandro | Eleanor Chapple |
| 2. Joe Walsh | Mike Meyer |
| 3. Catherine Crozier | St. Joseph's CWL |
| 4. For the sick in our Family of Parishes | Connie Bakker |

6:00 pm. at Holy Name of Mary Church: Holy Name of Mary School Graduation Mass

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| 1. Mary Garvey | The family |
| 2. The intentions of the DeWit family | Steve & Mag Hartman |
| 3. The intentions of the Hartman family | |
| 4. The intentions of the Bakker family | |

Friday—8:00 am. at St. Joseph's Church (adoration to follow Mass until 9 pm.)

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| 1. Jim Kelly | Joe Moss & family |
| 2. Rita Stagg | Joanne Kraemer |
| 3. Bruno Zanin | |
| 4. Nick Forte | The Zanin family |

Saturday—10:30 am. at Immaculate Conception Church

Memorial Mass for Mary O'Keefe—all are welcomed by the family to this Mass

We ask you to pray...

Please pray for those who have died especially Monica Lambert. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Please pray for those are sick, especially Deacon Leo, Remco De Wit, Pauline Patterson and Claire Nicholson. This list will be cleared bi-monthly. If you wish to remain on the list please call Mary at the office. (519-271-6722 ext. 24)

Please pray for vocations, especially this coming week for Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, Deacon Dennis Rivest, Deacon George Sebok, Annette Donovan-Panchaud (Pastoral Minister), Fr. Lucio Couto, Fr. Stephen Van Massenhoven, for religious communities, Bishop Ronald Fabbro, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, and for Pope Francis.

Sacraments Confession times: You are also most welcome to call the office and book an appointment with one of the priests.

Saturdays: 11:00 am. — noon at St. Joseph's and 4:00 pm. — 4:30 pm. at Immaculate Conception

Sundays: 9:00 am. — 9:30 am. at Holy Name of Mary.

Baptisms Celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:00 pm. (Holy Name) or 1:00 pm. (rotating between St. Joseph's and Immaculate Conception) with the preparation class held the Tuesday evening before at 7:40 pm. Please call the office and register your child, or email Elizabeth at emanto@dol.ca or Mary at mchisholm@dol.ca

First Reconciliation Completed for this year.

First Holy Communion Completed for this year.

Confirmation Completed for this year.

Weddings Booked six months to a year in advance by calling either church office to speak with one of the priests.

Blessing Prayer for Father's Day

Blessed are You, Lord and Father of all life,

Who has given to us the gift of the father of our family.

Today, we honour him and we thank You for the numerous good things that are ours
because of him.

His love for us has been a sign of Your divine affection and a sharing in Your holy Love.

His continuous concern for our needs and welfare is a mirror of Your holy providence.

And so, as we honour him, we praise You, Father of all peoples.

Bless him this day with Your strength and holy power

That he may continue to be a sign of You to our family.

May we who have the honour of bearing his family name do so with great pride.

May we, the members of his family, assist him in his holy duties as a parent
with our respect, our obedience and our deep affection.

Bless him, Lord, and bless all the men, young and old, in our lives,
with happiness and good health, with peace and with good fortune,

So that he who has shared of his very life may live forever with You,

God and heavenly Father.