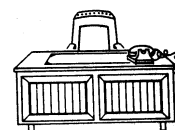


The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 23, 2019



From the Desk of
Fr. Romanus

Dear Parishioners,

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ:

This Sunday is the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, which commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist. The solemnity was *Corpus Christi* prior to Vatican II. In the official Calendar, the Church celebrates it on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. However, in countries where it is not a day of obligation (as in The United States), it is usually celebrated on the Sunday following Trinity Sunday.

Church historians attribute the origin of this solemnity to an Augustinian Nun, Juliana of Liege, who had a vision of the Church in the form of a full moon with a dark spot that signified the absence of such a solemnity. She revealed her vision to various members of the Church's hierarchy and within a year, the Church celebrated the solemnity for the first time.

Pope Urban IV extended the celebration to the Universal Church in a Papal Bull entitled *Tansiturus* (1264). At the Pope's request, St. Thomas Aquinas (the Angelic Doctor) composed the hymn *Tantum Ergo*, dedicated to this celebration. Pope Clement V took up the issue again at the General Council of Vienna in 1311, which mandated its adoption. He also published a new decree on the solemnity that included sections from Pope Urban IV.

The Church's liturgical life revolves around the Eucharist. Vatican II states that the Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of the Christian life (*Lumen Gentium*, 11). Likewise, the Catechism teaches that the Eucharist is the 'sum and summary' of our faith (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1327). Participating in the Eucharistic banquet fulfills Jesus' divine intention where he states: "He who eats My Flesh and Drinks My Blood will abide in me, and I in him" (John 6:56). Through the eyes of faith, we come to appreciate the sanctifying gift of the body and blood of Christ in the appearance of bread and wine.

Recall that our parish was "Corpus Christi" before the merger. This would have been our feast day. As part of the merger, the feast day of our parish was moved to November 26, the feast of Christ the King.

Congratulations to Blessed Savior graduates:

Thirty-six eighth graders graduated from our Blessed Savior School on Thursday, June 6, in a ceremony held at the East campus. Please, join me in congratulating the graduating class of 2019. We pray that God will bless and guide them as they move on to High School. We are proud of their accomplishment and hope they will be good ambassadors of our parish and school.

Nomination for Trustee:

The term of office for our Trustee Secretary, Mark Kuchta, has expired. On your behalf, I thank Mark for his service to our parish. He has also expressed a willingness to continue as parish trustee. Hence, I am pleased to nominate him to serve another term as trustee. Trustees serve a two-year staggered term to ensure continuity. The nomination process is now open.

Archdiocesan guidelines state that after the pastor makes the initial nomination, parishioners may nominate additional candidates in writing. Signatures of ten or more registered parishioners should accompany each nomination. The nominee must be Catholic, registered and practicing member of the parish, and at least 25 years of age. If there are other nominations in addition to the pastor's nomination, an election will take place. The winner becomes trustee only if approved by the Archbishop.

Have a great week!

Fr. Romanus