



The Voice

7th June 2015

The Body and Blood of Christ, Year B

Psalter Week 2

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Mary Moulds.
- **Anniversaries:**
James Leonard McCabe,
Mr. and Mrs. W. Mortimore,
Michael Mortimore, Philip
Mortimore, Patrick Simmons.
- **And the sick:**
Hanna El-Khatib, June Ferry,
Kate Stinson,
Janelle Darson, Pat Bombell,
Kevin Houghton, Lola Proctor,
Fr. Bill Meacham, Beryl Allen,
Alan Harland, Terry Curtis,
Grace Williams, Irene Beck,
Roy Beveridge, Arnold Diorio,
Peter Kenneth Thorson,
Rene Glaze,
Audrey Winsbury.

In years gone by the major focus of this feast of Corpus Christi was a procession that usually concluded with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Many of us have fond memories of Benediction: a bejewelled cope and monstrance, the flickering candles, the Divine Praises and Latin hymns. It all worked to create a magical atmosphere. As richly theatrical as it was, the magical side of it was part of the problem.

In medieval times Catholics rarely received Holy Communion. So much so it was in this context that the Church ruled that we have to communicate at least once a year. In the absence of communion, veneration of the Blessed Sacrament took on a great significance. Seeing the host was thought to impart an intense power.

Although in the last 100 years we have been encouraged to receive communion more frequently, the magical properties ascribed to the host persist in some people's devotional thinking.

As Catholics we believe that Jesus is really and personally present to us in the broken bread and shared cup of the Eucharist. And although we believe that Christ is present in the Scriptures, the assembly and the ministers of the Church, we hold that Christ's presence under the form of bread and wine is one filled with the greatest intimacy and uniqueness.

The Eucharist is not intimate and unique because it is magic. It's not intimate and unique because we gaze upon the elements. The Eucharist is intimate and unique because earthly signs are transformed by God's love, and are consumed in faith. As we eat and drink these elements Christ becomes part of us, and we come alive in Christ.

In the fifth century Saint Augustine taught his people that if they truly loved the

Eucharist they would become what they eat. The same is true for us today. By receiving into our hands the bread – blessed and broken, the cup – poured and shared, we say 'Amen' to becoming the same in Christ: blessed, broken, poured out and shared in love. We commune with God and God with us in the Eucharist so that just as earthly gifts are transformed into Christ so through us will be the entire world, and all things in it.

There is a huge and important difference between grace and magic. One is a trick for show. The other is the power of love, which expresses itself in faith, hope and service.

In a profound poem French Jesuit Didier Rimaud challenges those of us who love the Eucharist to see it linked to the liberation begun in the Exodus, consummated in the Resurrection and working in our world today.

In remembrance of you, we take the bread of Easter in our hands, this Bread do we consume:

It does no longer taste of bitter herbs,
nor of unleavened bread.

It is the bread of a land promised us
where we shall be set free.

In remembrance of you, we take the wine of Easter at our feast, this wine do we hold dear. It does no longer taste of bitter springs, nor of dark salty pools. It is the wine of land promised us where we shall be made whole. In remembrance of you, From exile we return.

In remembrance of you, We walk across the sea! No wonder the early Christians called the Body and Blood of Christ, 'food for the journey'. May this Eucharist strengthen and embolden us to help God liberate and transform the world through how we spend our lives.

© Richard Leonard SJ.

Inside this issue:

Notices and News	2
Solemnity and Slavery	3
Directory	4
More Thoughts on Holy Communion	4

Psalm Response

© Colin D. Smith cfc

I will take the cup of sal - va - tion, and call on the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; Whoever eats this bread will live for ever. *Alleluia!*

Around the Parish

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday this Monday, 8th June. Morning Mass will be at 9.00am, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

Parish Office will be closed and will re-open Tuesday, 9.30am.

Thank You: I would like to thank everyone for the marvelous event we had on Friday of last week: the PPC, the office staff, those who spoke and those who attended. Thank you for the kind words and the gift (I only noticed when I got home that the stole had the parish logo on it – nice touch!

Thanks to all those who have sent me cards and letters. When I am properly set up (which includes getting a printer), I hope to reply personally.

Fr. John Hill.

Installation: 9.15am Mass, July 26th. 2015 will see Bishop Peter return to Woy Woy to install Fr. Jack as our Parish Priest and Frs. Timothy and Philip as our Assistant Priests.

The occasion will be marked with morning tea in the Leo Mahon room to which you are warmly invited.

Baptisms: We welcome into our Faith community and pray for Danielle and Benjamin James who were baptised last Sunday.

Pastoral Letter & Media Release from the Catholic Bishops of Australia to all Australians on the 'Same-Sex Marriage' Debate. Copies available in the gathering area.

Volunteer Church Cleaning 12/6/15: Terry Murphy Bill Cantley, Mabel Torres, Linda Potestas.

St. Vincent de Paul's Winter Appeal 6/7 June: A leaving collection at all Masses *this* week-end. Please give generously towards assisting the needy and marginalized in our Community.

Ken Hall/Joan Murphy on behalf of Peninsula Conferences.

Anyone wishing more information on The Society's work in our community should contact Ken Hall on 4341 2769.

C.W.F. Appeal: Thank you to all who contributed to this recent appeal. Amount raised \$8,326.70.

Morning Tea Roster 14/6/15 after 9.15am will be our Craft Group.

Children's Liturgy Roster 14/6/15: Christine French, Marianne Bowyer.

Of Grace and Faith Study Group meeting Thursday 11th June, 11am, Leo Mahon room.

2015eConference streamed live over the internet Tuesday 23rd June, 10am-2.30pm in the Leo Mahon room. Topic: Religion: Catalyst for Violence or Peace? Probing the Abrahamic traditions for answers. This conference will tap into interfaith issues surrounding the three Abrahamic traditions: Christianity, Judaism and Islam. For catering purposes, please write your name on the list in the gathering area if you'll be attending.

Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on our children by Bishop Peter here on Saturday 20th June. Please keep our children in your prayers.

Faith Based conversations: Getting good at talking about your faith to family and friends takes practice (and grace). Make a new friend you can talk with about Sat. 13 June, 10.30am. Morning tea included.

Bus Trip: Thursday 11th June to Mary MacKillop Chapel for Cancer Healing Mass. Cost \$15. Leaving 8:30am. Contact Susie Casey 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

Bus Trip : Wednesday 17th June, Mystery Trip. Cost \$15. Leaving 9am. Contact Susie Casey 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

The Just Word

Pope Francis on Climate Change: The consequences of environmental changes, which are already felt in a dramatic way in many States, especially the insular ones of the Pacific, remind us of the gravity of negligence and inaction. The time to find global solutions is running out. We will only be able to find adequate solutions if we act to-

gether and in agreement. Hence, there is a clear, definitive and ineluctable ethical imperative to act...

'The effective struggle against global warming will only be possible with a responsible collective answer, that goes beyond particular interests and behaviour and is developed free of political and economic pres-

ures. It is only possible with a collective answer that is able to overcome attitudes of mistrust and to promote a culture of solidarity, of encounter and of dialogue able to show the responsibility to protect the planet and the human family.'

Message to UN Convention on Climate Change, 11 December 2014.

From the Diocese and beyond

DBB WYD Krakow Information Sessions for Pilgrims: St. Peter's College, Tuggerah Lakes. Monday 22nd June, 7.30pm-9.30pm. OR St. Leo's College, Wahroonga. Thursday, 25th June, 7.30pm-9.30pm. *rsvp wyd @dbb.org.au*

Mercy Catholic College 125th Anniversary Celebrations Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church. 2pm-3pm. Open House 3.00pm-5.00pm. Mercy Catholic College, Chatswood. Reflect and Reconnect. We welcome all Mercy ex-students and ex-teachers to attend our celebratory event. RSVP. *mccchatswood125years@gmail.com*

"Australia's Biggest Morning Tea." St. Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre, 8 Humphreys Rd. Kincumber Sth. Monday, 15th June, 10am. Guest Speaker: Kath Evans. Recipient of St. Mary MacKillop's second miracle. Our museum will be opened. R.S.V.P. Phone 4368 2805 or email bookings *@stjosephsretreat.org.au*

Vigil for the Feast of the Sacred Heart Friday/Saturday 12/13 June. Holy Cross Church, Kincumber fully advertised in last week's newsletter. *Please note* there has been a change in the Mass time on Friday night from 6pm to 7pm.

Latin Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, 14th June at 3pm. St. Cecilia's Church, 23 Byron St. Wyong.

"Maverick Missionary Martyrs" John the Baptist, Peter and Paul. Presenter: Sr. Virginia Burke, r.s.j. Wednesday, 17th June, 10am-2.30pm. With breaks for morning tea/lunch. Morning tea and a sandwich lunch provided. Cost \$25 or donation. St. Joseph's Education and Spirituality Centre, 8 Humphreys Rd. Kincumber Sth. Bookings: phone 4368 2805 or *booking@stjosephsretreat.org.au*

Solemnity and Slavery

Ron Raab

Collect, Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit sanctification made known to the human race wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the truth faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful majesty. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Collect, 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

O God, who in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin you bestow eternal gladness. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Many people in our neighbourhood suffer from social isolation. For many people suffering mental illness, loneliness distorts their reality even more than disease. For some people, loneliness even kills. People living in the bug-infested, single-room-occupancy hotels often die alone. Prostitutes roam our urban corner, looking for people who cannot live another night with their loneliness. Drug dealers are always nearby to numb the pain of our neighbours or to satisfy lonely youth attending a blaring concert in the nightclub across the street.

Our staff struggles to create community from such loneliness, beginning with the liturgy itself. I pray the opening prayer on the solemnity of the Trinity, aware that most people do not feel welcomed into the relationship of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The iconic relationship of our God does not easily model how people in severe poverty are to live. This takes time, and relationships are fragile. Welcoming people into communion, into unity, is so counter to what most people experience on the streets. On the violent streets, life is all about self-protection, not giving oneself over to another person or institution or even to God.

Loneliness is often translated into reluctance to believe in God. I witness this reluctance in the sanctuary and the confessional. I pray with people's reluctance in my alone time and in moments of prayer with groups of people. This reluctance comes to the surface because people do not feel worthy of God. Many adults hold on to their reluctance because God was forced on them as children or because they were shamed into going to church.

This collect outlines the reason for our gathering at the Eucharist. God has made known to the human race the truth and love of Jesus the Christ and the grace of the Holy Spirit. In our baptism

we acknowledge the true faith of the paschal mystery. We are invited into that sharing of life prompted by God, who continues to create within us love, mercy, and kindness. This collect is an invitation to begin Eucharist by breaking through the loneliness that so many people in the pews face. These words of prayer must somehow crack through the shame people feel about being in relationship with God.

The collect of the Mass is a prism in which we bring people into viewing the nature of God in the continuing celebration of the Eucharist. The prayer invites people into the covenant relationship with God that is made known among us in our various parishes, our neighbourhoods, and our world. The Trinity invites people to rest in the loving relationship of God, not because the relationship and God are perfect but because God is still here for the weary, the lonely, and the shamed.

I pray the collect on the 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time reminded of the continuing mission of Christ. Jesus was born into a world in need. He gave up his heavenly presence with a new humility on earth. This action of Christ is not over. Christ did not only abase himself for a fallen world of the past; Christ is still reaching out to bring life and love to us in every day and age. This is genuine joy for all people in all ages: the presence that somehow we need to translate into the depths of people's lives. This is the church of mercy and not judgment, of love and not condemnation, of hope and not loneliness.

These collects come to life in every parish when we reach out first of all to people who live in isolation and fear. This takes real courage. Outreach to people well beyond the sanctuary steps takes genuine faith modelled on Christ who humbled himself in the first place. We must reach out to the concrete sidewalks of the city and the concrete floors of jails and prisons. We must be willing to abandon our complacency for the rich reward of being in relationship with people who cannot live with their loneliness another day. Every parish community must be willing to abandon their judgment of people and accept into the pews those who are different and who are hurting. This is the perfect model of Trinity life.

The translation of these collects in the new Roman Missal does not stop in our new worship aids or in our familiar pews. The translation of the Trinity continues in our neighbourhoods among people who feel they cannot survive their lives. The people who have been shunned by our communities are the place where these ancient Latin texts meet the streets. The translation of these collects into genuine community is a reflection of our God made flesh, so we may live in eternal gladness.

ML

Rev. Ronald Patrick Raab, CSC, serves as associate pastor at St. Andre Bessette Church in Old Town, Portland, Ore. He broadcasts *On the Margins*, a weekly Scripture commentary on radio KBVM.fm. Learn more at www.ronaldraab.com. From *Ministry & Liturgy*, copyright © Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission

under licence number 115216.



“And what do Christians bring to the eucharistic celebration and join there with Jesus’ offering?” The answer: “Their lives as Christian disciples; their personal vocations and the stewardship they have exercised regarding them; their individual contributions to the great work of restoring all things in Christ.”



Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

Woy Woy, Umina, Ettalong, Koolewong, Tascott, Blackwall, Booker Bay, St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point

St John the Baptist Church, corner of
Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office Ethel Cox Parish Centre
P.O. Box 264 Walter Baker Hall
54 Victoria Road 100 Blackwall Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Fr. Jack Robson, *Parish Priest*.

Fr. Timothy Raj MSPS & Fr. Philip Thottam
MSPS. *Assistant Priests*.

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene Spithill
& Margaret Cooper.

Office Hours: 9.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.
Monday to Friday.

Deadline for The Voice: 3.30 p.m. Wednesday.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds); Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday, 3.30 p.m.; Saturday 11.30am; & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; 5th Sunday, during 9.15 a.m. Mass.

Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30 a.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am).

PARISH CHOIR – Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7 p.m.

Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, 21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 f 0243 445049.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP For information and events contact Sam French 042 244 9539.

CATHOLICCARE Marriage & Family Relationships. Phone: 4356 2600.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Christine on 4341 0584.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at Peninsular Community Centre, Cnr. Ocean Beach Rd and McMasters Rd., Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30 p.m. and finish approx 10.20 p.m. Cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6.00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries: Rob 0427 990 818.

More Thoughts on Holy Communion

Richard Husted ofm & Caroline Thomas

Eucharistic Cup

Jesus said, "Take and eat" and "Take and drink." The option of receiving from the cup is once again common practice. Some prefer not receiving from the cup for one reason or another and that is always a choice. It obviously should be your choice if you are sick or not feeling well.

Communion Dialogue

The dialogue – "The Body (or Blood) of Christ," and "Amen" – between the minister and the person receiving is

an essential part of the Rite of Communion. Only after saying: "Amen!" do you then extend your tongue or your hands to receive the host. It is our way of saying, "Yes, I believe that this is the Body of Christ" or "Yes, I believe that this wine is the Blood of Christ."

Two practical notes: please do not try to take the host with your fingers; and, if you wish to receive from the cup, you need to take the cup from the minister with both hands, take a sip and then return the cup to the minister.

We're on the Web!
www.woywoycatholic.org.au



Diocese of
Broken Bay