



Corpus Christi procession. Oil on canvas by Carl Emil Doepler

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ June 14, 2020

Not by bread alone does one live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the LORD.

— Deuteronomy 8:3b

FOOD FROM HEAVEN

God sustained the people of Israel for forty years in the desert with manna sent down from heaven, and Moses doesn't want them to forget it. God brought forth water from stone for them to drink, and Moses doesn't want them to forget this, either. And Moses tells them—twice—that the food that God sent was a food that neither they nor their ancestors before them had ever experienced before.

Jesus too speaks of food come down from heaven, food that the Jewish people had never experienced before. Recalling the manna in the desert, Jesus doesn't want them to forget it either, explaining that he is the food and drink of eternal life. And Paul reiterates to the Corinthians and to all of us that in the bread and in the cup, we share in the body and blood of Christ.

--J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINT ROMUALD (c. 951-1027) June 19

"God so loved the world," declares John 3:16. "Do not love the world," warns 1 John 2:15. The "world" to love: this planet, entrusted to our stewardship, and its people, God's children all. The "world" to flee: "sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life" (1 John 2:16). Born in nobility, Romuald's conversion followed the shock of witnessing his father murder an enemy. Renouncing his privileged world, Romuald sought God's world in monastic life. Its winding turns and several dead ends make Romuald's journey resonate with all who find life more maze than superhighway. Both the hermit's solitary struggle and community life's unique challenges shaped Romuald's legacy: his vast Camaldolese Benedictine family of monks, nuns, and lay associates who, these thousand years later, from the mountain solitude of Camaldoli, Italy to an urban monastery in Berkeley, California—in Asia, Africa, South America, Europe—integrate Romuald's experience into their witness of solitary prayer, communal charity and worship, and promotion of contemplative spirituality in this world that can so easily distract us from the God who loves it still.

--Peter Scagnelli, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42
 Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48
 Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thursday: Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15
 Friday: Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 10; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30
 Saturday: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Lk 2:41-51
 Sunday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

saint snippets

Empty yourself completely and sit waiting, content with the grace of God.

St. Romuald
 11th-century Italian nobleman who left his worldly life behind to live as a hermit. He founded the Camaldolese monastic order.

Copyright © 2019, Michael Thimons

June 19

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!



For the month of **May/June** offerings: PLEASE mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipsteresa.org via Paypal or card. *Include your offering envelope # with your donation.*

In June [as of 6/10]: 1st Collections: \$2045.
 Add'l Oper.: \$540. Rural Food: \$870.

6/14: Capital Expenditures. 6/21: Operating Expenses.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA
Finance Council [FC]: TBA
Liturgy Committee: TBA

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: cancelled for now
Coffee & Goodies: cancelled for now



Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon: cancelled for now

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Fr. Bala is more than willing to fulfill Mass Intentions in his daily Private Mass celebration. (There is a customary \$10 stipend for any Mass Intention.) But it is left to the wish of those who have already submitted (or have yet to submit) to the office their Intentions, as to choice of a private or public Mass. Email to philip.teresa@yahoo.com Or leave a message at the alternate office number: 707-408-2650.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
 Monday: Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time
 Friday: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
 Saturday: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; World Refugee Day

Prayer Requests: Leave a message at 707-408-2650 to add, edit, or delete names.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Pat P.



PRAYING

One prays best who does not know that one is praying.
 —St. Anthony of Padua

SHOELESS

I wept because I had no shoes, until I saw someone who had no feet.
 —Ancient Persian saying

Pastor Speaks...

My knee surgery went well. I returned to the rectory Wednesday evening and I am recuperating slowly. I am grateful to all those who have prayed for a successful surgery. Let God continue to bless us all! --Father Bala



RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE: JUNE 2020.

Eighty-six local families, including 33 children and 33 seniors received nutritional support on June 9. Recipient families were very appreciative of the fresh produce, dairy products and other much needed food which filled their vehicles as they made their way through our drive through distribution. Families who

requested them also received protective masks. We will maintain our use of social distancing, hand sanitizer, gloves and masks as indicated for the next few months. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations and awesome volunteers. **Thank you for your donations of time, talent, and treasure as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.**

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

in the Parish Hall: Saturday, July 11, 9-10:00 am repackaging. Monday, July 13, 10:00am - 12:00pm set up. Tuesday, July 14, 8:30 - 11:00am distribution of food to clients.

... and the Word was God ... and the Word became flesh ...

The Age of Faith! That's what people call the pre-modern times in which our ancestors lived. The Bible and the long ago writings of Greek philosophers were – you could say – the only encyclopedias available back then. They told you all you needed to know about the world, its nature, its origin, its meaning. People believed in a divine maker whose interventions in human affairs were certain – indeed were required if one was to be “saved” – to transcend death.

But then doubt instead of faith preoccupied influential thinkers. Discoveries like that of America, of our circling the sun instead of the sun circling us raised questions about everything. Indeed, doubt became the norm. It was fashionable to be unsure.

But if you doubted things often enough, you could end up knowing *one thing* for certain: that you could *doubt*, which meant you could *think*; that you had a mind that *did* exist and was equipped with an ability to calculate down to the 'nth degree the world roundabout us so that at last we could be *sure* of things. Beyond wishing or jumping to conclusions you could measure things logically, mathematically – and discover the *material* truth of our

world – and control it in technical ways – for instance by managing electricity for our own comfort; no more candles.

Science revealed the facts; it took precedence over the “superstitions” of the past. It put mind over matter, head trips that even viewed our very bodies as objects of investigation more so than flesh and blood, as something we have to put up with, that makes demands that distract our thoughts. Like a headache or a pain in my big toe or sadness over a spouse's dementia. How can you “think” with such physical distractions?

Which led some scholars of recent times (the 20th century) to ask questions – to object: it's not true that thinking, mind over matter, calculation tell us all we need to know about things. Our *whole body, our flesh and blood* is involved in our ability to know things. Feelings, indigestion, our finger tips, our response to sounds and smells, imagination, reflexes, moods play a role in our knowing. Our physical mobility can play a part: you see a hill from where you are; I see it from where I am. It's the same hill but in some way not the same. A tree is more than what science would call *a perennial plant with an elongated stem*. It can be a Christmas Tree, a family tree. What was the poem Joyce Kilmer wrote? *I think that I will never see / a poem lovely as a tree*.

Which brings to mind those opening verses of St. John's Gospel where it says: “And the Word became flesh.” What an astounding belief – beyond the reach of reason alone, *unthinkable!* The *Word* in the Bible refers to God's creative word or God's Law as given in Exodus or the writings of Scripture in general. John dares to say that Jesus is God's Word, God! who became flesh – flesh in the sense of soft, tender, full of grace, capable of feeling, of suffering with us, of touching us, bleeding for us, dying for us, poetizing . . . It almost seems to say that even God needed to know the way *we* know – as incarnate, as flesh and blood and *not* just as someone who might say: *I think, therefore I am*. Thinking seems not to have been enough - even for God!

--Geoff Wood, 6/7/2020

Black Saints: Sr. Thea Bowman

Did you know that a little Methodist girl born, Bertha Bowman, in Yazoo City, Mississippi, grew up to be a renowned Roman Catholic nun, teacher and scholar? Sr. Thea Bowman became Catholic when she was nine years old. She later went to college and then became the first African American to join the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Wis. After 16 years of teaching at the elementary, secondary and college levels, Sr. Thea Bowman was invited to be a special consultant for the Catholic Church. She gave presentations around the country aimed at bridging racial and cultural divisions. She combined her gifts of singing and gospel preaching, with prayers and storytelling. Sr. Thea Bowman was diagnosed with bone cancer in 1984. Yet, she continued her fight against the evils that drive people apart, from her wheelchair, until her death at age 53 in 1990. Sr. Thea Bowman said she prayed “to live until I die – to live fully.” And that she did.