



## The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ June 19, 2022

[A]s often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes

— 1 Corinthians 11:26

### THE GIFT OF THE EUCHARIST

Today we hear how Abram encounters Melchizedek, “king of Salem . . . and a priest of God Most High” (Genesis 14:18). Melchizedek appears nowhere else in scripture, but is nonetheless significant. Psalm 110 declares of the great King David, “You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek,” a description later given (in the letter to the Hebrews) to Christ as High Priest.

Early Christians saw in Melchizedek’s bread and wine the bread and wine of the Eucharist; Paul’s account of the Last Supper (in today’s second reading) is the oldest one in scripture. In the Gospel, Luke describes Jesus providing bread for a crowd in words similar to Paul’s, words still used by the Church: Jesus takes bread, gives thanks, breaks it. Together, these three readings reveal how Christian priesthood, Christ’s Real Presence, and the call to serve those in need are all found in the gift of the Eucharist.

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### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

#### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

### Reflection question:

How am I part of the Body of Christ in the world?

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### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5  
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-21, 31-36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14  
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Ps 119:33-37, 40; Mt 7:15-20  
Thursday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17  
Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-80  
Friday: Ez 34:11-16; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5b-11; Lk 15:3-7  
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Lk 2:41-51  
Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16-21; Ps 16:1-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our Parish Picnic returns on Saturday, **August 6, 2022.** Join us for barbecue, games, and a chance to re-connect with friends. Hope to see you there!



### Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of June offerings: PLEASE put in Mass collection basket or mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website [www.stphilipstteresa.org](http://www.stphilipstteresa.org) via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one].

6/12: summary provided soon.

6/19: Capital Expenditures. 6/26: Rural Food.



### Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

**Parish Council [PC]:** Wed., 6/29 at 3pm in Hall  
**Finance Council [FC]:** TBD  
**Liturgy Committee [LC]:** TBA  
**St. Teresa Ladies Guild:** Contact Diane, 823-6044  
**St. Philip Ladies Guild:** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. Details TBA

### ✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule 2022

6/18 Sat. 5pm Mass for ✠ Brendan Smith  
6/19 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ John LaForge Jr.  
6/19 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Arthur Munson  
6/19 Sun. 11:15am Mass for the People

6/25 Sat. 5pm Mass for ✠ Bob Tiller  
6/26 Sun. 8am Mass for the People  
6/26 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Edward Winfield Loftus  
6/26 Sun. 11:15am Mass

### Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650.

Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., River M.; Nikkie; Mr. C., Michelle, Christian A., Peter B., Samantha S., Gary E., Frederick K., John Geving, Donna L.



### RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE JUNE 2022

On Tuesday, June 14, our very efficient volunteers welcomed 59 families, (143 individuals) with lots of smiles as well as a wide variety of fresh produce, proteins, commodities, fresh milk which they prepared on Saturday and Monday.

We saw a significant increase in the number of clients who chose to return to shopping inside our hall rather than drive through so, we are considering using reusable cloth bags to reduce our cost for paper bags. More details in future bulletins. If you have extra reusable bags you are not reusing, please drop them off at the parish hall.

In the interim, please save your clean egg cartons and handled paper bags for donation to our program by dropping them off at the parish hall. We thank you in advance.

Our program is open to all who are in need. If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish office, (707) 408-2650 to get a call back with additional information and to answer your questions.

This program is funded through monthly Rural Food Collection, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

### RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish Hall and parking area:

Saturday, July 9, 9:00 - 10:00am repackaging;  
Monday, July 11, 9:00 - 11:00am set-up; and  
Tuesday, July 12, 7:30 - 11:00am distribution to clients.

## Give them some food yourselves

First of all, episodes like today's reading from St. Luke – before they were confined to their written form and collected into a book we call the Gospel – were originally delivered orally either at an early Christian liturgy or catechetical session. They were told – as a story is told or narrated – ideally not just spoken but performed! They were more literary than our everyday prose. They were meant to move you, have an effect, to change you – over time if not all at once. You could say they were meant to be magical. Of course they lose something of their force if they become so habitual as to go through one ear and out the other.

The scholar Paul Ricoeur – among others – describes them as extended metaphors – designed to re-describe reality as when we say, "John was a charging bull!" Now we know John wasn't and never could be literally a charging bull. But metaphor can make him one – in a way that is truer than "true". So there are truths that range far beyond the truth of merely eyewitness observation or the multiplication table.

And so today's Gospel narration (which is an extended metaphor) about the loaves and fishes was meant (in part) to re-design the way we look at reality. And how wonderfully up-to-date it is – given all the arithmetic. There must have been someone there among Jesus' disciples who resembled our parishioner Bill Shea. You know Bill. He's the one who, during the homily, wanders surreptitiously around the church interior counting how many people are present – like a census taker.

Surely someone like Bill was a character in today's reading because look at all the numbers that make up today's short text: 5 loaves and 2 fish; 5000 men; groups of 50 each; 12 baskets full of leftovers. All of which leaves it open for us to follow the math: if we start with only 5 loaves we may wind up – after the miracle – with at least 4995 (minus the original 5) and so on with the fish; and 100 groups of 50 people each. And have you noticed? It's all about men! What about the women? It allows a lot more counting to do!

The only reason I raise all this is because how well it applies as a miracle to our mathematically, technically sophisticated times. We have reached the point where everything is reducible to numbers, equations, and algorithms. The universal tool has become the computer; hammers and saws are so primeval. It's

math that we believe in; that will nail things down to the nth degree – eliminate all mysteries.



*“Meaningless statistics were up one-point-five per cent this month over last month.”*

In that context, today's story would have us ponder (among other things) the limited range of calculated existence, leaving us still hungry as in a desert, compared to our experiencing the profundity and expansiveness and nutrition of the Being that Christ's word brings to our table – ever ending in a surplus, enough to fill twelve wicker baskets every time around – if we are conscious of what's happening.

Today's Gospel challenges our society's pursuit of an accuracy that will forever be unattainable – thereby allowing room for grace to grow.

--Geoff Wood, 6/19/2022

### The Apple Tree Project: School Supplies for the Children in Our Rural Food Program

School will be starting in August, and with it, the need for costly school supplies for the children in our program. You can help!



Beginning June 25, there will be collection jars in St. Philip and St. Teresa Churches. Please support our program with your personal donation.

Backpacks and school supplies will be purchased by parish volunteers and given to the families at the August Rural Food Distribution. Questions? Please Contact Diane at 707-823-6044. Thank you for helping our children. "Happy Father's Day"!

**Happy Fathers Day!  
Blessings on all fathers, grandfathers, and others who have been fatherly to us in our lifetime. We appreciate you all!**

