

Gaze upon Him, consider Him, contemplate Him, as you desire to imitate Him
St. Clare of Assisi



JUNE 11, 2023

THE SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC CHURCH



ARCHDIOCESE of GALVESTON - HOUSTON
OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS: 510 MANLEY STREET • NAVASOTA, TX 77868-3926
LOCATION: 9677 SOUTH HWY. 6
(936) 825-3920 • FAX (936) 825-7612

PARISH LIFE

Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass:
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday: (English) 8:00 am
Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00 pm

Weekday Mass:

First Saturday 9:00 am
Wed, Thurs, Fri 8:30 am
Tuesday 6:00 pm (English)
Thursday 6:00 pm (Spanish)

Rosary Prayed in Common

Tues & Thurs: 5:40 pm
Wed & Fri: 8:10 am
Saturday: 5:15 pm
Sunday: 7:15 am & 12:15 pm

Reconciliation Confession

Tues, Thurs
2nd & 4th Saturdays
5:00 – 5:45 pm
Confession by appointment:
Parish Office
Tel: 936-825-3920

Confesiones

Los martes, jueves y el segundo
y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45 pm
y por cita 936-825-3920

PASTORAL STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Giovanni Nguyen

Permanent Deacon

Garry Janota
Russell Pasket
Gregory Jelinek, MD (Retired)

OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS

510 Manley Street
Navasota, TX 77868
Phone: 936-825-3920
Fax 936-825-7612
Email: shepherd@christourlight.org
Religious Education : 936-825-1869
After hours emergency:
936-825-3920

Parish Website:

<https://christourlight.org>



PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, **please** notify the parish office: 936-825-3920.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

English Baptism preparation is completed via an on-line video class. Spanish Baptism Classes will be held in person. Please call for Rosa or Felisa for class dates and times. All Documents, forms and classes must be completed prior to the next upcoming scheduled Baptism date, turned in, and approved by the Pastor.

The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebration; therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated at Christ Our Light.

English Baptisms will be held quarterly. January 28, April 22, July 22, 2023, and October 28, 2023, at 11:30 AM. Spanish Baptisms will be held quarterly. January 14, April 15, July 15, 2023, and October 14, 2023, at 11:30 AM.

For more information regarding English Baptism, contact Susan Pilger at 979-219-1360.

For more information regarding Spanish Baptisms, contact Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974 or Felisa Paz at 979-255-4361.

WEDDING PREPARATION

Contact parish office or email

Jennifer Nguyen, jnguyen9@twu.edu for registration information. The standard preparation time for weddings is 6-9 months in advance of the desired date. All engaged couples must attend an information session.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK JUNE

SUNDAY JUNE

GATHER BOOK #1022

11

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (Corpus Christi) Solemnity
Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a
1 Cor 10:16-17
Jn 6:51-58 (167) Prop Pss

MONDAY

12

2 Cor 1:1-7
Mt 5:1-12 (359)
Pss II

TUESDAY

13

Saint Anthony of Padua,
Priest and Doctor of the Church 2 Cor
1:18-22
Mt 5:13-16 (360)

WEDNESDAY

14

2 Cor 3:4-11
Mt 5:17-19 (361)

THURSDAY

15

2 Cor 3:15-4:1, 3-6
Mt 5:20-26 (362)

FRIDAY

16

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
Dt 7:6-11
1 Jn 4:7-16
Mt 11:25-30 (170) Pss Prop

SATURDAY

17

The Immaculate Heart of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Memorial
2 Cor 5:14-21 (364)
Lk 2:41-51 (573)

OUR HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE 2023

For the abolition of torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families

MEMORIAL CANDLES

The Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.

P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic Reparative Adoration)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. following the 8:30 AM Masses and will be reposed at 9:00 PM on Wednesdays, Thursdays at 5:45 PM before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass and Friday at 9:00 PM. The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease. "Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024

MASS INTENTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

8:00 AM Torres, Rangel and Baldobino Families

1:00 PM People of the Parish

MONDAY, JUNE 12

No Mass

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

6:00 PM Elsie † and Henry † Rosanky

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

8:30 AM Miguel Nunez †

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

8:30 AM Rev. Albert Olah, SVD †

6:00 PM* Martin Ruiz, Jr. †

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

8:30 AM Chris † and Regina † Mattern

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 VIGIL MASS

6:00 PM Cecil Wilde †

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

8:00 AM People of the Parish

1:00 PM* Candido Diosdado † and Juana Hernandez †

*Spanish

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

5:00 PM Spanish Legion of Mary, CH Cry room

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

5:30 PM Altar Society Meeting, SPH

7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting, SPH

7:00 PM English Choir Practice, CH

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CJ

12:00 PM English Legion of Mary, CH Cry room

7:00 PM Bazaar Meeting, SPH

7:00 PM Spanish Choir Practice, CH

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

6:00 AM TMIY Men's Group, SPH

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLECTION

On the Feast of Corpus Christi (Sunday, June 11) the total offertory in every parish of the archdiocese is dedicated to the support of the formation of seminarians of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston studying at St. Mary's or at other seminaries, the operation of St. Mary's Seminary, and the formation of seminarians of the religious communities who serve in our archdiocese.

PRAY for THE CONTINUING RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF
the infirmed and homebound members of our community:

Sarafina Alo
Andrew Castillo
Braxton Castillo
Jo Ann Clepper
Frank Crouch
Elizabeth Culmer
Eva Estrada
Liz Estrada
Lois Finke
Fabryna Hitchcock
Liz Johnson
Rachel Kammel
Mary Ann Knowles
Liz Kubricht
John Lawrence
Christian Mills
Leslie Mills
France Munoz
Primitivo Zamorano

Anita Olguin
Julian Olguin
Matthew Oliver
Cecelia Pearson
Angelina Peterson
Wallace Peterson
Irene Ramirez
Lucila Rivera
Zek Rueda
Rosalinda Salazar
Josh Sechelski
Sherrie Shiflett
Lydia Torres
Jessie Torres
Polly Uilkie
Jessie Valadez, III
Crystal Winkler
David Woehler
Trần Thị Tuyết Mai
Kim Sechelski

Call the parish office

when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 936-825-3920. Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list. Thank you.

PARISH DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATION & BOOKKEEPER
Nelda Kurten

COORDINATOR OF MUSIC
Leo Hock

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chair: Michael Culver

Teresa Morales

Jason Katkoski

Laura Quirino,

Sam Pry

Diane Le Flore

FINANCE COUNCIL

Teresa Morales

Carolynn Katkoski

Jose Coronilla

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Danny Clark

Richard Krolczyk

Joe Rangel

COORDINATOR OF LITURGY

Sr. Angelia

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carolynn Katkoski

SACRISTIAN

Samuel Pry

RE BOARD

President: Brandi Tejeda

Vice President: Jessica Herrera

Secretary: Teresa Morales

Lucy Coronilla

Jason Katkoski

Allyson Sweeney

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

Jason Katkoski

Bill Heathcott

Gregorio Gonzalez

YOUTH MINISTER COORDINATOR

Jessica Herrera

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact Parish Office

PREPARATION OF MARRIAGE

Deacon Gary Janotta

Deacon Russell Pasket

Jennifer Nguyen, EMBA

Inguyen9@twu.edu

Bulletin & Weekly Announcement Deadline

10 days in advance for new layout

Monday before noon for rush announcement

Email: shepherd@christourlight.org

PARISHLIFE

THE STORY BEHIND THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, historically known by its Latin name, Corpus Christi, celebrates the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. It is traditionally celebrated on the Thursday following the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity. The feast dates to the Middle Ages and originated with a visionary nun and a Eucharistic miracle.

THE STORY

In 1263 a German priest, Fr. Peter of Prague, made a pilgrimage to Rome. He stopped in Bolsena, Italy, to celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Christina. At the time he was having doubts about Jesus being truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. He was affected by the growing debate among certain theologians who, for the first time in the history of the Church, began introducing doubts about the Body and Blood of Christ being actually present in the consecrated bread and wine. In response to his doubt, when he recited the prayer of consecration as he celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, blood started seeping from the consecrated host and onto the altar and corporal. Fr. Peter reported this miracle to Pope Urban IV, who at the time was nearby in Orvieto. The pope sent delegates to investigate and ordered that host and blood-stained corporal be brought to Orvieto. The relics were then placed in the Cathedral of Orvieto, where they remain today.



Catholic Company. Gretchin Filz (June 2017)

This Eucharistic Miracle confirmed the visions given to St. Juliana of Mont Cornillon in Belgium (1193–1258). St. Juliana was a nun and mystic who had a series of visions in which she was instructed by Our Lord to work to establish a liturgical feast for the Holy Eucharist, to which she had a great devotion.

After many years of trying, she finally convinced the bishop, the future Pope Urban IV, to create this special feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, where none had existed before. Soon after her death, Pope Urban instituted Corpus Christi for the Universal Church and celebrated it for the first time in Orvieto in 1264, a year after the Eucharistic Miracle in Bolsena.

Inspired by the miracle, Pope Urban commissioned a Dominican friar, St. Thomas Aquinas, to compose the Mass and Office for the feast of Corpus Christi. Aquinas' hymns in honor of the Holy Eucharist, *Pange Lingua*, *Tantum Ergo*, *Panis Angelicus*, and *O Salutaris Hostia* are the beloved hymns the Church sings on the feast of Corpus Christi as well as throughout the year during Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 06/04/2023	\$ 5,349.51
Maintenance Fund	\$ 50.00
DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2023	

2023 Parish Goal.....	\$ 26,000.00
2023 Total Paid (activity thru 6/06/2023)...	\$ 15,685.00
Difference Goal vs. Paid.....	\$ 10,315.00
Participants.....	47



APPRECIATION

Thank you for your generosity during the Sunday Weekly Collections and your continuous support in donating a one-time or monthly gift to the DSF this year. A little goes a long way when we all work together.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS PAST WEEKEND WAS IN
MEMORY OF HELEN AND DANIEL RODRIGUEZ. THE
PARISH THANKS THE MILLER FAMILY



Photo: ARCHGH.ORG

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
ORDINATION AS A PASTOR!
THE REV. MATTHEW KRUSLESKI



JUNE CELEBRATIONS AROUND OUR PARISH



In this month of June,
our parish would like to
congratulate to those
who celebrates:

Class of 2023:
Doctor in Psychiatry
Master of Arts
High School Graduates
Middle School Graduates

Wedding Anniversaries
Weddings
Birthdays



THE PILGRIMAGE MARY

Story & Photo of Eleanor Smoot, the
Legion of Mary

On the day Our Lady came to visit, I
was experiencing pleurisy pain in my
chest. I asked her for help in healing.
After one day, I did not receive any
more pain. I talked to her daily as you
do a friend for the remainder of her
visit of 9 days. When I watched a ball
game and tv shows, I asked her to
watch with me. I continuously felt her
presence and prayed the Rosary with
her.



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1 CORINTHIANS 10:16-17

We, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Corinthians 10:17)

If you buy an airline ticket, you'll have to decide between first class, with all of its fine amenities, and the more basic economy class. If you go to a play, you can choose between orchestra seating, which is right in front of the action, and balcony seating, where you may not see the actors too clearly. Similar options exist in many other places where people gather. Except, of course, for Mass. There are no different "classes of service" at the liturgy: just the whole people of God gathered as one to receive "the one loaf," which is Jesus himself (1 Corinthians 10:17).

On this feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, St. Paul reminds us that we are "one body" in the Lord (1 Corinthians 10:17). Jesus has called us into one community as his brothers and sisters. He has gifted all of us with the "one baptism for the forgiveness of sins" (Apostles Creed). And he has filled each of us with the same Holy Spirit that filled Mary, Peter, John, and all the saints. Everyone has a first-class seat! Everyone has the same high privilege of being named a child of God!

This truth is at the heart of the mystery we celebrate today: in the gift of the Eucharist, Jesus offers his whole self—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—to each and every one of us. He invites each of us to become treasured vessels of his presence: living, breathing tabernacles of his glory. He makes no distinctions, and he asks us to do the same: we are one in Christ!

Today during Holy Communion, look at the brothers and sisters gathered with you. Lift them up in prayer. Honor them as the beloved of Christ that they are. And welcome them into your heart, just as Jesus has welcomed you!

"Jesus, thank you for giving yourself to me so freely and generously!"

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16. Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20 John 6:51-58

Word Among Us 06/11/23

JUAN 6, 51-58

Mi carne es verdadera comida y mi sangre es verdadera bebida. (Juan 6, 55)

¿Alguna vez has pasado un extenso periodo sin alimentos? Cuanto más tiempo pasemos sin alimentarnos, más débiles nos ponemos.

Las palabras de Jesús son la evidencia de que su Cuerpo y su Sangre son igual de vitales para nosotros como los alimentos o el agua que bebemos. Sin el alimento de la Sagrada Eucaristía, la vida de Dios en nosotros puede drenarse lentamente.

Este es un ejemplo extremo de lo vivificante que es la Eucaristía: En su libro *El me guía*, el padre Walter Ciszek describe los riesgos que asumió cada día para celebrar la Misa en el campo de trabajos forzados en Siberia donde estuvo prisionero: "Yo estaba dispuesto a llegar lejos, a sufrir cualquier inconveniente, a enfrentar cualquier riesgo para ofrecer el Pan de Vida a estos hombres."

Ellos trabajaban largas jornadas en temperaturas gélidas. Sin embargo, al medio día Ciszek celebraba una Misa improvisada donde pudiera hacerlo sin ser detectado. "Las distracciones provocadas por el temor a ser descubiertos... no le hacían perder el efecto que el pequeño pedazo de pan y las pocas gotas de vino consagrado podían producir al alma", escribió.

Estos prisioneros dependían tanto del Cuerpo y la Sangre de Jesús para mantenerse vivos como del poco alimento que recibían de sus captores. La Eucaristía se había convertido en su verdadero alimento y su verdadera bebida.

Ciszek escribió que "ocasionalmente lo vencía la emoción... al pensar en la forma en que [Dios] había encontrado una manera de seguir y alimentar a estas ovejas extraviadas en esa desolada tierra." Que en este día, nosotros también nos llenemos de gratitud al reflexionar en la bondad y la generosidad de Dios que ofrece su vida en la Eucaristía.

"Gracias, Señor, por la vida que me das por medio de tu Cuerpo y de tu Sangre." Deuteronomio 8, 2-3. 14-16 Salmo 147, 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. 1 Corintios 10, 16-17



FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

OUR NEXT SUNDAY IS FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 18TH.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS TO
CELEBRATE FATHER GIOVANNI AFTER
8:00 AM SUNDAY MASS

THERE WILL BE FATHER'S DAY BLESSINGS
TO ALL GRANDFATHERS AND FATHERS
AT ALL MASS NEXT WEEKEND.

This bulletin is made possible by your
generosity. Because of your donation today,
we are able to serve in many ministries here
at

Christ Our Light Catholic Church.

Yes, you are making a difference!

Ricardo Finol



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Why do Catholics celebrate Corpus Christi?

The Catholic Church honors Christ's Presence in the Holy Eucharist with a special feast owing to St. Juliana of Liège, a 13th-century Norbertine canoness from Belgium. She had a great love for the Eucharist. When she was 16, she had a vision in which the Church was a full moon with a dark spot. The dark spot signified that the Church was missing a feast dedicated solely to the Body and Blood of Christ. Even though she had this vision several times, St. Juliana didn't think that she could do anything to help institute this feast. Therefore, she kept it a secret for many years. Once she was elected prioress, she finally told her confessor, who in turn told the bishop. This eventually led to the universal feast of Corpus Christi.

What does Corpus Christi mean?

The Latin words "Corpus Christi" translate to "Body of Christ."

Why is the Solemnity of Corpus Christi important?

The Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life" (Second Vatican Council, *Lumen gentium*, no. 11). In the Eucharist, Jesus Himself re-presents for our benefit His Sacrifice on Calvary (Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:26-29), gives Himself to us in Holy Communion (Exodus 16:4, 35; John 6:1-14, 48-51), and remains among us until the end of the age (Luke 24:13-35; Mt. 28:18-20). He comes to us in this humble form, making Himself vulnerable, out of love for each one of us. Yet, as God Himself, the Body and Blood of Christ deserves our utmost respect and love, as well as our adoration.

St. Thomas Aquinas, Hymn "Tantum Ergo"

Down in adoration falling, Lo! the sacred Host we hail; Lo! o'er ancient forms departing, Newer rites of grace prevail; Faith for all defects supplying, Where the feeble senses fail.

St. Francis of Assisi said, "...In this world I cannot see the Most High Son of God with my own eyes, except for His Most Holy Body and Blood."

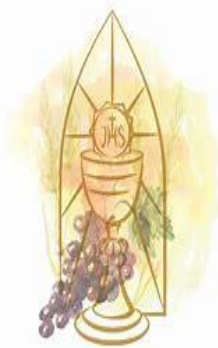
What is the Holy Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is the greatest of the seven sacraments. The Catholic Church teaches that in the Eucharist, Our Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, is really, truly, and substantially, present under the appearances of bread and wine. Our Lord is not merely symbolized by the bread and wine; nor is he present only through the faith of those present. Rather, the two material things, bread and wine, are completely changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, leaving behind only their sensible appearances. Thus, through the words of consecration spoken by the priest, Jesus, without ceasing to be present in a natural way in heaven, is also present sacramentally, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, wherever the consecrated elements are present.

Is the Eucharist biblical?

The Eucharist is discussed many times in Sacred Scripture in its root meaning "to give thanks" (Ps. 9:1, Is. 12:1,4; Col. 3:17; 1 Thess. 5:18). Giving thanks, or blessing God, was the essential element of the prayers of temple, synagogue, and daily life for Israel. There are many instances, as well, in the Old Testament where the Eucharist is foreshadowed even in its sacramental forms, such as Melchizedek's offering of bread and wine (Genesis 14:18-20), the Passover (Ex. 12:1-14), and the manna which sustained Israel until it could enter into the Promised Land (Ex. 16:13-17). Christ likewise always gave thanks to His Father for His good gifts. This is recorded especially in contexts where He anticipated the forms of new covenant worship. These include the wedding feast of Cana (John 2), changing water into wine, the two multiplication of loaves miracles (Mt. 14:13-21; Mt. 15:32-39), multiplying substance to satisfy the needs of all, and His explanation of the Eucharist in the Bread of Life Discourse (John 6).

Finally, at the Last Supper He instituted the Eucharist, as the normative way of commemorating His Paschal Sacrifice on Calvary, commanding that we do this until He comes again (cf. 1 Cor. 11). EWTN



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED FOR THE
COMMISSIONING
OF
EXTRAORDINARY
MINISTERS HOLY
COMMUNION**

**SUNDAY
JUNE 11, 2023
8:00 AM**

**AT
CHRIST OUR LIGHT
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Despite the storm, no electricity at St. Stanislaus Kotska Church and the surrounding area last Sunday, June 4, 2023, 35 people came to the second training for the Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion. We are thankful to the Holy Spirit for keeping our Church and everyone safe!

This Sunday, 24 Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion from St. Stanislaus Kotska, 16 Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion including 13 Ministers for the Sick and Homebound at Christ Our Light Catholic Church will be commissioning as per the Mandate by his Eminence Excellency Daniel DiNardo of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston on Corpus Christi Sunday.

Fr. Giovanni would like to thank everyone for their participation and for their time coming out to the training. Please congratulate them at the end of mass today and we ask that you pray for them in this special ministry.

BIBLE STUDY COMING THIS FALL

**Great Adventure Catholic Bible Class
For Fall, 2023**

at

**Christ our Light Catholic Church
Adventures in the Gospel of Matthew
The King and His Kingdom**

Monday Evenings, 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM

St. Patrick Hall, Navasota TX

WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR START DATES

For additional information contact:

Mike or Helen Kimball

Bible Study Coordinators

281-923-8314 – 832-771-3001

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EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSIONS AND PILGRIMAGES FOR CHILDREN



Katy Bogner-Eucharistic Revival

As the Solemnity of Corpus Christi—the Body and Blood of Christ—draws near, many parishes are planning Eucharistic processions, and our country is preparing for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage which will begin in May 2024! We've been blessed as a Church to celebrate Corpus Christi for over 750 years.

The significance of this solemnity is as relevant today as it was in 1264, when Pope Urban IV declared it a feast of the Universal Church. A year before that, a priest was struggling to believe that the Eucharist was truly Jesus' Body and Blood. While celebrating Mass at the tomb of St. Christina, something miraculous happened. Just as the priest spoke the words of Consecration, the host began to bleed! When the pope heard what had happened, he instructed the bishop of the diocese to bring the host and the corporal with the drops of blood to the cathedral in Orvieto. This procession was met by Pope Urban IV, and the relics were placed in the cathedral where they can still be venerated today. The pope created the Solemnity of Corpus Christi as an opportunity to celebrate the gift of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ truly present in the Eucharist.

Corpus Christi processions and Eucharistic Pilgrimages are wonderful ways to celebrate the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They do require some forethought, but these public expressions of our faith need not be reserved to distant locations or entail elaborate planning. And they are certainly not just for pious adults. Rather, anyone can participate in processions and pilgrimages, including children! When you consider sharing these prayerful practices with children, use the following talking points and activities to help them grow in understanding and devotion.

What is a Eucharistic Procession?

A Eucharistic procession is like a holy parade that brings Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist, into the world that he loves. The Blessed Sacrament is placed in a monstrance and carried out of the church by a priest. A Eucharistic procession sometimes begins at one church and ends at another and is connected to the celebration of the Mass or a time of Adoration.

The procession can be a short walk around the neighborhood of a church or can stretch for miles and miles from start to finish. Along the way, Jesus is accompanied by priests, deacons, altar servers, and people of all ages. Together they can pray the Rosary, sing hymns, or walk in silent prayer. Processions are often planned for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi but can take place just about any time of the year.

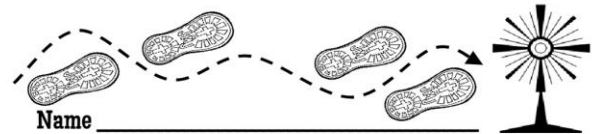


What is a Pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a trip made for a religious purpose to a holy site. Pilgrimages help us remember that our whole life is a journey toward our eternal home in heaven. On this journey we are strengthened through prayer and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, which is our food for this earthly pilgrimage. Christians might go on pilgrimage to pray for a specific intention, to do penance, or to grow closer to God. Pilgrimages always include two elements: prayer and some sort of travel, especially walking. Prayer takes the form of intercession and/or petition, praying for a specific intention (like for healing or discernment), making a sacrifice, and participating in the sacraments through Mass and Confession.

You Can Go on a Pilgrimage!

Use the back of this booklet to list pilgrimages that you would like to go on. Do some research and look for local places your family can visit. On the inside pages, keep track of your pilgrimages and prayer intentions. Use the extra page of "stamps" to mark your Pilgrimage Passport!



You Can Go on a Pilgrimage!

A pilgrimage could take you around the world or it could be right in your own backyard. Someday you might plan a trip to Jerusalem, Rome, Lourdes, or Fatima, but you can still go on pilgrimage right in your own town or even your own home! A pilgrimage to your parish church, a nearby shrine, or a statue in your garden is an opportunity to pray and learn to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

The distance of the pilgrimage does not determine its effectiveness. Our openness to accompany the Lord can create a spirit of pilgrimage even within the walls of our home. Ultimately, every pilgrimage is a journey of the heart in which we follow the path that the Lord has given us to travel on our way to heaven.

"Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven and are traditionally very special occasions for renewal in prayer. For pilgrims seeking living water, shrines are special places for living the forms of Christian prayer 'in Church'." Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2691