

Dear Padre,

Some of my non-Catholic friends say the bread and wine are just symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus. Is there documented proof that we receive the Body and Blood at Communion?

Your non-Catholic friends are accurately representing their understanding of the Eucharist within their Christian denomination, but it is not the Catholic understanding. Catholics believe that, “in the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the ‘body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ, and therefore, the whole Christ, is truly, really, and substantially contained” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1374). Therefore, Catholics do not believe that the Eucharist is a symbol of Jesus but rather, “This presence is called ‘real’” (CCC 1374).

To answer your question regarding “documented proof,” this can be offered only by the consistent and unchanging witness of the Christian community, found in the Catholic Church, that has never wavered in belief or practice of this understanding. At the same time, we understand that it is a mystery. It is not something that can be placed under a microscope or dissected. As a mystery, it is not subject to the laws of science and biology. Such laws are not applied to theological mystery, which goes beyond what can be physically seen but is “seen” through the eyes of faith. As the hymn proclaims: “Look beyond the bread you eat, see your Savior and your Lord” (“Look Beyond,” Darryl Ducote). ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



JEMASTOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK



PAUL HARRIS / GNS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There is hunger for food around us, but also for companionship; there is hunger for consolation... there is hunger to be evangelized. We find this in the eucharistic bread—Christ’s attention to our needs and the invitation to do the same toward those who are beside us. We need to eat and to feed others.

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 19, 2022

Monday

June 23

Weekday

Gn 12:1–9

Mt 7:1–5

Tuesday

June 24

The Nativity of
St. John the Baptist

Is 49:1–6

Acts 13:22–26

Lk 1:57–66, 80

Wednesday

June 25

Weekday

Gn 15:1–12,

17–18

Mt 7:15–20

Thursday

June 26

Weekday

Gn 16:1–12, 15–
16 or 16:6b–12,
15–16

Mt 7:21–29

Friday

June 27

The Most Sacred
Heart of Jesus

Ez 34:11–16

Rom 5:5b–11

Lk 15:3–7

Saturday

June 28

Weekday

Gn 18:1–15

Mt 8:5–17

Sunday

June 29

Sts. Peter and
Paul, Apostles

Acts 12:1–11

2 Tm 4:6–8,

17–18

Mt 16:13–19

Do you have a question for the Padre?

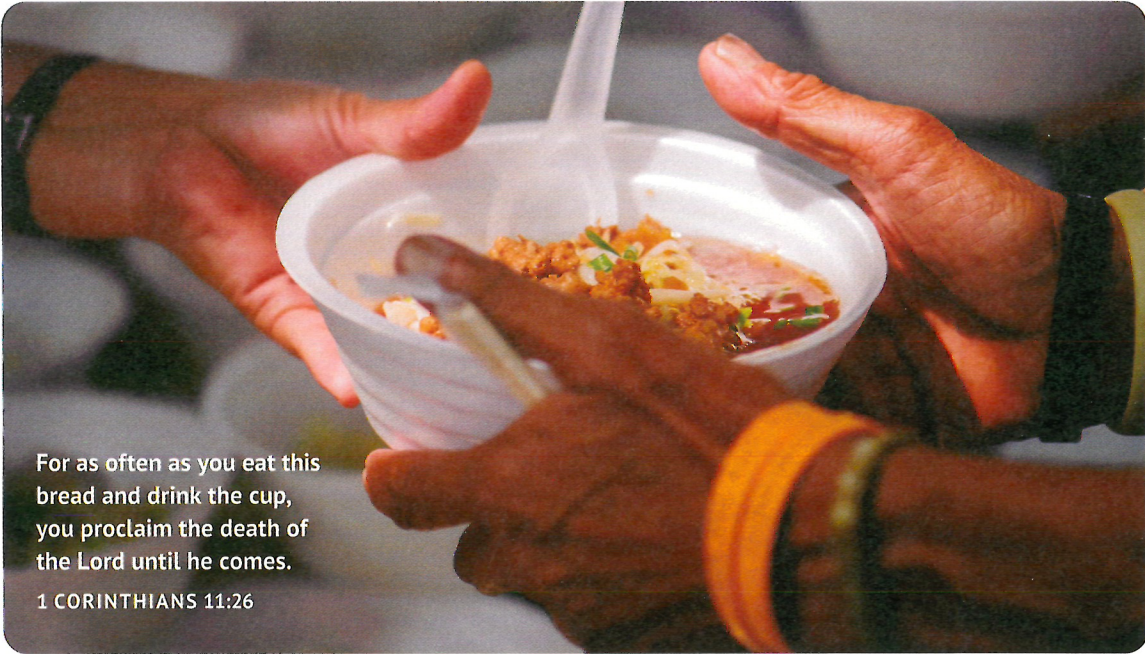
Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

Our Parish COMMUNITY

June 22, 2025

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

Genesis 14:18–20 / 1 Corinthians 11:23–26 / Luke 9:11b–17



For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:26

Food in the Desert

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

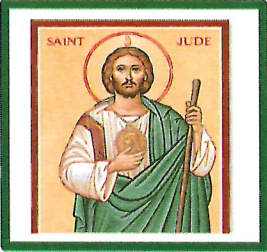
Today, Sue lives in a retirement community. She no longer drives, so she walks the few blocks to the grocery store for her simple needs. One day, she took her checkbook to pay for some groceries because she had lost her credit card and had not yet received a new one. The store, however, would not accept personal checks without some identification, and, without a driver’s license to show, she found herself in a swirl of distraught frustration. That was when the person behind her in line offered to pay her \$11 bill. She was overwhelmed and called to tell me about the stranger’s kindness to her:

Throughout the Scriptures, deserts were always places of chaos and abandon, but they were also places where people were fed by God. In the desert, the wandering Hebrews were fed manna; in the desert, Jonah was fed when he wanted to give up; in the desert, Jesus was sustained by God; and in today’s Gospel, Jesus fed the crowd in that “deserted” place with five loaves and two fish. In so many ways, it is when we find ourselves in the deserts of life, feeling abandoned and hungering for solutions to our needs, that we recognize God feeding us. Sometimes, it occurs in simple, unexpected ways, as it did for Sue. At other times, we are fed with the strength to endure and make our way through a difficult time to the other side of life’s storms. ●

Reflect

Reflect on your experiences of loss and abundance, loneliness and acts of kindness, and struggles and grace.

June 22, 2025 – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ



ST. JUDE PARISH

Father Robert Creagan, Pastor, frcreagan@stakalamazoo.org
Deacon Jim Bauer, Administrator, cell: (269) 655-6510
P.O. Box 102, Gobles, Michigan 49055-0102
Office Phone (269) 628-2219
Webpage: www.st.judeparishgobles.com

For Pastoral Emergencies, Contact Deacon Jim on his cell phone.

PARISH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS (6/1 THRU 9/1/25): Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Office Email: st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com

Sacristan:	Tammy Bauer	(269) 655-6672
Administrative Asst.-Bookkeeper:	Lauren Gilbert	(269) 286-4898
Religious Ed Coordinator:	Jennifer Price	(269) 377-6734
Safe Environment Coordinator:	Jennifer Rossell	(269) 744-2582
Choir Director:	Laura Woods	(269) 628-4886

WEEKLY MASS CALENDAR: Confession: Thursday Mornings after Mass CELEBRANT:

Sunday	June 22, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Fr. Creagan
Thursday	June 26, 2025	9:00/10:30 a.m.	Adoration/Mass	Fr. Creagan
Sunday	June 29, 2025	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Mass	Bishop Bradley
Thursday	July 3, 2025	9:00/10:30 a.m.	No Adoration/Mass	

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday	June 22, 2025	Linda Lucas	By: Leonard Lucas
Thursday	June 26, 2025	Betty Peebles	By: Sadie Payne
Sunday	June 29, 2025	The People of St. Jude Parish	By: Pro populo
Thursday	July 3, 2025	Lillian A. Wheeler	By: Rick & Beth Beam

TODAY:

SUNDAY: 6-22-2025

NEXT SUNDAY: 6-29-2025

Reader	Rocky Karsen	Reader	Bruce Herschleb
EO Ministers	Tony & Jenny Karsen	EO Mins	Bishop, Priest & Deacons
Servers	Bo, Lydia, Daisy, Carlena	Servers	Alexa, Hazyl, Emma, Alanah

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday	June , 2025	Target	\$ 2,000	Offered	\$ 2,111.00	\$ 83.00
Year to Date		Target	\$ 97,800		\$ 100,094.20	\$ 2,183.20
Attendance		111	Year-To-Date Attendance			5754

Do This in Remembrance of Me

The solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi, is a significant feast in the Roman Catholic Church. In this solemnity, Jesus gives us his body and blood as a gift. It celebrates the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, emphasizing the Church's teaching that the bread and wine consecrated during Mass become the true body and blood of Christ.

Most of us are familiar with the names listed in the Catechism for this sacrament, which highlight different aspects of it. It is referred to as the Eucharist, or Thanksgiving. It is also known as the Lord's Supper, the Breaking of Bread, the Memorial of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection, the Holy Sacrifice, the Sacred Mysteries, the Most Blessed Sacrament, Holy Communion, the Bread of Angels, Bread from Heaven, and Holy Mass (see CCC 1328-32). Capturing the "inexhaustible richness of this sacrament" (CCC 1328) is impossible simply by naming it; thus, we turn to God's word for further meaning and understanding.

In the reading from Genesis, the priest-king Melchizedek brings bread and wine to celebrate Abraham's victory. He invokes God's blessing on Abraham and blesses God for His works. The Church sees in this celebratory feast a prefiguration of her own offering of bread and wine in the Eucharist (CCC 1333). Jesus is the priest and king who offers the sacrifice on our behalf through bishops and priests. This offering is necessary for the sacrifice of our sins, one that will finally reconcile us to the Father once again. In this way, one sacrifice is sufficient for all time, and through our participation in it, the Eucharist and its merits are extended.

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul relays all that Jesus did on the night He was handed over: taking bread and wine, giving thanks, breaking it, and sharing. Paul concludes, "as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes." Some commentaries refer to Paul's narrative, which emphasizes Jesus' action of self-giving and his double command to repeat his own action. In this earliest account of the Lord's Supper, we can already see the Eucharist presented as sacrifice, self-gift, memorial, and sign of the new covenant.

In the Gospel, Jesus miraculously feeds a crowd of five thousand. After speaking to them about the kingdom of God and healing those who need to be cured, Jesus takes five loaves and two fish, blesses them, breaks them, and gives them to the disciples to distribute to the crowd. These actions call to mind his institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper.

From these readings, we see that the Eucharist is far more than a celebratory meal during which we hear about the kingdom of God and give thanks for the salvific work that Christ performed for us on the cross. It is a participation in Christ's redemptive work, in which the bread and wine are offered up, along with our works and prayers, to be transformed into the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ. His body is blessed and broken for us and given to us to share, so that we might be blessed and broken for others, becoming what we receive and proclaiming the death and resurrection of Christ until he comes again in glory.

IT'S ALMOST HERE!

*Next Sunday is our Picnic & Silent Auction
and we're celebrating 40 years as a Parish!*

See the insert in today's bulletin for all the exciting details.
There's still time to sign up – sheets are on the table in the hallway.

WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU THERE!

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Sonny Laughlin, Julie Haley, Joan Rumery, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, Frank Hosh and those on our prayer chain.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE - In today's gospel, Jesus teaches that we will find abundance by sharing the little we have. No matter how little time, money or food we have, it is enough to share.

A SPECIAL WAY TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE – Here at St. Jude, you can sign up to have a loved one remembered by having the Sanctuary Candle lit for one week in their name (which will be announced in the bulletin). Donations are \$10.00. If you are interested, please call the office at 269-628-2219.

PRAYER CHAIN – Please remember that “PRAYERS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”. Pray as you want – say a Rosary, pray to a Saint, however you wish. Let's pray for our St. Jude Community and their families, relatives, and friends. If you wish to add someone to our prayer chain, please contact Claire Miller at 269-628-5667.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE PARISH, WELCOME! – We love to see new faces! In order to get to know you better, please see Deacon Jim or stop by the office to fill out a registration form.

ROSARY – Just a reminder that we recite the Rosary on the first and third Sundays of the month at 9 a.m. All are welcome!

DID YOU KNOW? The Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament that provides spiritual and physical healing through the grace of God. It is intended for anyone who is seriously ill, facing surgery or is elderly or frail. The Anointing of the Sick provides comfort, peace, courage, and forgiveness of sins. It can also lead to physical healing, if it is God's will.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2025

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made a pledge or contribution! If you have not yet contributed, we encourage you to make a commitment decision this week. Your gift, together with those of others across our diocese, will support the essential ministries and programs of our church.

You can make your pledge or contribution by dropping your completed pledge card in the offertory basket. To be sure that you are correctly credited for your pledge, please use a clearly marked Bishop's Appeal envelope. Extra envelopes are available on the table in the hallway. If you would like to give electronically, visit the Diocese of Kalamazoo website and click on Giving.

All checks for the appeal should be made out to The Diocese of Kalamazoo.

2025 Pledges to Date

GOAL: \$17,991 Total Pledges to Date: 40

Pledged to Date: \$ 14,440.92

Total Received: \$ 11,060.92

FROM THE DIOCESE

LOOKING TO MEET FAITHFUL SINGLE CATHOLICS? August 22nd-24th, 2025 - Join 400+ singles coming from all parts of the US (and beyond!) at the 20th Anniversary National Conference for Single Catholics in Denver, Colorado! (Can't travel? Participate virtually and engage with others through online social media and small group discussions. This is your chance to connect with like-minded singles of all ages.

The weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, Mass, adoration, fellowship, and more. The National Conference for Single Catholics (NCSC) will be held at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield, CO (Denver Metro Area) this year.

The conference is organized by Anastasia Northrop, a long-time promoter of John Paul II's work and message. With support from the local ordinaries and bishops of neighboring dioceses. Anastasia is excited to return to the Archdiocese of Denver and host the 20th anniversary of the conference in its founding location.

If attending in person, use the promo code PARISH25 for a discount. [Visit their website](#) for more information and to register. (Can't find your question answered on the website? Call (551) 247-0727.)

Bishop Lohse has pledged to provide professional counseling or therapy to victims of clergy sex abuse in the Diocese. Victims can receive 24-hour care via the crisis hotline set with Catholic Charities at 800-873-8336.