



Home Celebration 5: Corpus Christi - The Body & Blood of Christ

Introduction

Do you ever wish that you could have been with Jesus when he walked the earth?

Jesus wants to be with us, he gave us a gift to do this: the Eucharist. At every Mass, through the Holy Spirit, bread and wine become Jesus' Body and Blood.

Two weeks after Pentecost, we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Corpus Christi is the Latin name for Body of Christ. Corpus means body and Christi means Christ.

Celebrating this feast reminds us of the immense importance of the Eucharist.

Jesus loves us so much that He is willing to give us His very self - both through His death on the cross and the gift of the Eucharist.

Through the Eucharist, Jesus makes us more like himself. We listen to what happened at the Last Supper.

Scripture - Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

It was the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Passover lambs were being killed. Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?"

Jesus said to two of the disciples, "Go into the city, where you will meet a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him, and when he goes into a house, say to the owner, 'Our teacher wants to know if you have a room where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples.' The owner will take you upstairs and show you a large room furnished and ready for you to use. Prepare the meal there."

The two disciples went into the city and found everything just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover meal.

During the meal Jesus took some bread in his hands. He blessed the bread and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples and said, "Take this. It is my body."

Jesus picked up a cup of wine and gave thanks to God. He then gave it to his disciples and said, "Drink it!" So they all drank some.

Then he said, "This is my blood, which is poured out for many people, and with it God makes his agreement. From now on I will not drink any wine, until I drink new wine in God's kingdom." Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Reflection

At Mass, the priest takes the bread and wine as Jesus promised at the Last Supper. The priest says the words of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit the bread is no longer bread, but the **Body of Christ**. The wine is no longer wine, but the **Blood of Christ**.

JESUS comes to us in **HOLY COMMUNION**.

“Communion” is a Latin word meaning “community”.

When we receive the Body of the Lord, a holy community is established between God and US! (*YOUCAT for Kids 78*)

When we receive Holy Communion, we receive Jesus into our heart. We grow closer to Jesus and one another. Jesus’ Body and Blood give us the strength to follow him more closely.



Suggested Activities

- Being part of a family is precious. Every family is different, and every family member is unique. Time that families spend together is important. When Christians meet with their Church family and share in Holy Communion, they are united. Make a card for a member of your own family or Church family telling them how special they are and thanking them.
- After receiving Jesus, you can talk to Jesus, heart to heart. Write a short prayer that you can say when you make your First Holy Communion or when you next receive Communion. Your prayer might include the words: love, thank you, help, sorry, bless or please. Write your prayer on the love heart shape and after receiving Holy Communion, pray your prayer.
- In the Gospel of Matthew (6:8-13), we read that Jesus taught people how to pray using the Lord’s Prayer. Before we receive Communion, we also pray that prayer that Jesus taught, **pray the Our Father together**.
- A monstrance is a precious, usually golden vessel, for the Blessed Sacrament (the word Monstrance comes from the Latin word *monstrare* meaning to show). The Blessed Sacrament is bread that was changed into the Body of Christ during the Holy Mass. People like to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament in a monstrance to worship God. Why not use ideas from [here \(www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2015/07/seeing-jesus-in-eucharist-monstrance.html\)](http://www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2015/07/seeing-jesus-in-eucharist-monstrance.html) to make your own monstrance “We see Jesus in the Eucharist”.



Suggested Music

- Bread of Life - www.youtube.com/watch?v=COo9G3V0dx4
- Remember Me - www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vWQyOUGzL0
- This is my Body - www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEQXc_uuUnY