

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.*

St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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The Most Blood and Body of Christ (Corpus Christi Sunday) (C) June 22, 2025

Today, the second Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate a second solemnity, which marks our return to Ordinary Time. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. At one time, this day was called *Corpus Christi*, Latin for "the Body of Christ." In the most recent revision of the liturgy, the name for this day is expanded to be a more complete reflection of our Eucharistic theology.

The feeding of the 5,000 is the only one of Jesus' miracles to appear in all four Gospels. Luke places it between Herod's question, "Who is this about whom I hear such things?" and Peter's response to Jesus' question about who he thought Jesus was: "You are the Messiah of God." In Luke the feeding is not the result of Jesus' compassion for the crowd but is instigated by the disciples. They wanted Jesus to send the crowd away to town. Instead, Jesus tells the disciples to give them some food on their own.

The passage is meant to remind us of two feedings in the Old Testament: the feeding of the Israelites in the desert and Elisha's feeding of 100 people with 20 loaves in 2 Kings 4:42-44. It is also connected to the institution of the Eucharist. As in the Last Supper accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke and in Paul's account in 1 Corinthians 11:23-24, Jesus takes bread, looks up to heaven, blesses the bread, breaks it, and then gives it to the disciples. In using this exact language, Luke is reminding his readers that in this miracle Jesus is doing more than feeding hungry people as God did for the Israelites and the prophet Elisha did as well. The bread he gives is his body, which he will continue to give as often as the community breaks bread in remembrance of him in the Eucharist.

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR YOUTH AND THE LEADERS THIS WEEK AS THEY
ENRICH THEIR RELIGIOUS LIFE WHILE ATTENDING TOTUS TUUS.**

**Mass Schedule & Intentions
For the week of June 23, 2025**


Mon.	June	23	11:30 AM	SB	All Souls
Tues.	June	24	11:30 AM	SB	Nancy Willis †
Wed.	June	25	11:30 AM	SB	Conrad & Theresa Wildhagen†
Thurs.	June	26	11:30 AM	SB	Paul Ridder †
Fri.	June	27	11:30 AM	SB	Denise Doggett †
Sun.	June	29	8:00 AM	SJ	Vincent & Kaye Venhaus†
Sun.	June	29	9:30 AM	SA	Maurice Andre †
Sun.	June	29	11:00AM	SB	People of the Parish



Mary Beshaler June 26th
MaKayla Doggett June 26th
Ann Griebel June 27th
Timothy Rosfeld June 27th
Brittany Trumbull June 28th
Brecken Phelps June 28th
Toby Kinderknecht June 29th

Ministry Schedule

Date: June 29	St Agnes	St Boniface	St John's
Time	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Conrad & Aleta P.	Dan & Jo T.	Cole & Lacy K.
Lector	Aleta A.	Traci K.	Toby K.
Server		Erin F. & Emmett P.	Cotter J. & Gregory W.
EMHC	Conrad & Aleta P.	John R. & Rod B.	Jon & Molly W.
Communion to shut ins or Music		David P.	Music: Robin G.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Agnes</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 8, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$294.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$2515 of \$4014 Donor Goal: 6 of 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thrift Store Open June 27 9AM to 4PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Boniface</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 8, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$934.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. John's</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Our Gifts to God & Church</i> June 8, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$1217.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p>
<p><u>Parish Council Meetings:</u></p> <p>St Agnes July 9th 6 PM St Boniface July 10th 6 PM St John's July 6th 5 PM</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: space-around;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="color: green; font-family: cursive; font-size: 2em;">Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Mr. & Mrs. William Reiff June 24th Mr. & Mrs. Rex Hanna June 26th Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Schacher June 26th</p> </div> </div>	

Quotes for Today

Saint Cyril of Alexandria (376-444) Feast Day June 27

“By nature, each one of us is enclosed in his own personality, but supernaturally, we are all one. We are made one body in Christ, because we are nourished by one flesh. As Christ is indivisible, we are all one in Him.

Therefore, He asked His Father

— that they may all be One as We also are one.”

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). ●



JAMALOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK

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



PAUL HARRIS / CNS

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*.