



**Disciples**  
*Making Disciples*



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## The Eucharist: God's Covenantal Love for Us

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body  
and Blood of Christ  
6 Jun 2021

Ex 24: 3-8  
Hebr 9:11-15  
Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

Today's Gospel describes what we witness at Mass when the priest consecrates bread and wine to become the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus took two species and with the words of blessing, "Take it; this is my body" and "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many", he instituted the Eucharist more than 2000 years ago. It was the night when the new covenant was established.

What is this new covenant that Christ has established with us? From the time of Abraham to David, God has been establishing a covenantal relationship with us. Every time we receive Jesus' body and blood, God is repeating his promise to us: "I will be your God, and you will be my people." (Ex 6:7) The late Fr Henri Nouwen says that the covenant that God made with us is different from our human understanding of contracts. "When we make a contract with a person, we say, 'I will fulfil my part as long as you fulfil yours. When you do not live up to your promises, I no longer have to live up to mine.' Contracts are often broken because the partners are unwilling or unable to be faithful to their terms. In our society, we don't speak much about covenants; we speak about contracts. But God did not make a contract with us; God made a covenant with us, and God wants our relationship with



*"...in this sacramental sign he entrusts himself to us with limitless trust, as if not taking into consideration our human weakness, our unworthiness, the force of habit, routine, or even the possibility of insult." (Redemptor Hominis, 20)*

one another to reflect that covenant. That is why marriage, friendship, life in community are all ways to give visibility to God's faithfulness in our lives together. When God makes a covenant with us, God says, "I will love you with an everlasting love. I will be faithful to you, even when you run away from me, reject me, or betray me." (*Bread for the Journey*)

The musician Michael W. Smith, quoting Genesis 50, has a song entitled, "Sovereign Over Us" which proclaims, "Even what the enemy means for evil, You (God) turn it for our good." The betrayal of Christ has changed the course of history forever. We have all experienced betrayal by close friends (or even a spouse!). The pain of betrayal can feel so unbearable and unforgivable. It is certainly very human for us to even hate the very people who have betrayed us. Jesus, too, suffered betrayal. He walked and journeyed with Judas, yet Judas betrayed him. In his last encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* ("The Church from the Eucharist"), Pope St John Paul II says that it is out of Christ's painful betrayal experience that the Eucharist was born. "'The Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed' (1 Cor 11:23) instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of

his body and his blood. The words of the Apostle Paul bring us back to the dramatic setting in which the Eucharist was born." (11)

In his first encyclical, "*Redemptor Hominis*" (The Redeemer of Man), Pope St John Paul II emphasised Christ's everlasting and unselfish love which endures even now to our present day through the Eucharist, "... in this sacramental sign he entrusts himself to us with limitless trust, as if not taking into consideration our human weakness, our unworthiness, the force of habit, routine, or even the possibility of insult. Every member of the Church, especially Bishops and Priests, must be vigilant in seeing that this Sacrament of love shall be at the centre of the life of the People of God, so that through all the manifestations of worship due to it Christ shall be given back love for love and truly become 'the life of our souls'. Nor can we, on the other hand, ever forget the following words of Saint Paul: 'Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup'" (20).

Jesus loves us with an everlasting and unconditional love. The question is, are we willing to accept his covenantal love ... the ball is in our court.

## Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg) by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs

### SSVP 2ND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection by Society of St Vincent De Paul this weekend to help the poor and needy in monthly rations and other aid programmes. SSVP members will be at the atrium area. Please give generously.

### TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

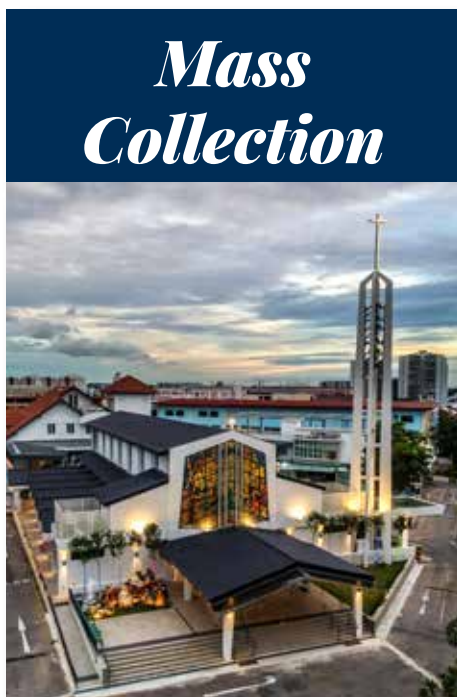
Please submit your intentions **ONE WEEK** in advance and wait for the Finance Department to contact you. They will provide you with a "Reference No", MO xxx (eg MO 001). Key in the given referral number upon making payment via PayNow (**T08CC4033J**).

### CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic session via Zoom is on **Mon 7 Jun, 8pm**. There will be praise and worship followed by Bible Sharing facilitated by Andrew Toh. All are welcome.

#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 836 3543 9497  
Password: HOLYSPIRIT



## JUNE MASS BOOKINGS

[HTTPS://MYCATHOLIC.SG](https://mycatholic.sg)

**TUE 8 JUN, 12PM**

**Booking for a 3rd weekend Mass\*.**

*\*Weekday Mass bookings for the whole of June are open throughout the month and subject to availability.*

### ONLINE MASS BROADCAST

Due to the reduced capacity of 50 persons per Mass, all Mass slots for June have been fully booked. Do remember to cancel your booking 24 hours in advance if you are unable to attend. You can tune in to the Archdiocese Daily Mass broadcast via [Youtube.com/CatholicsSg](https://www.youtube.com/CatholicsSg)

**Weekdays: 12noon**

**Sundays & Public Holidays: 10.30am**



### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: MAKE YOUR MARRIAGE A PRIORITY!

Marriage is a project to be worked on together and a process of growth - Pope Francis (Amoris Laetitia, no. 218, 221). Good marriages can always be made better. To deepen your relationship, sign up for a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Please contact David & Clara @ 9670 5390 or email them at [mewkend@gmail.com](mailto:mewkend@gmail.com).

### HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Please submit your prayer request to [www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessoryprayer](http://www.sfxchurch.sg/intercessoryprayer). All prayer requests are kept confidential. Join us online on **Fri 11 Jun, 8pm** to pray and intercede for others in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome!

#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 861 5125 7252  
Password: SFX11JUN



### RCIA AND RCY 2021/2022: A JOURNEY OF FAITH

Do you know of anyone who is interested in embarking on a journey of faith? Or perhaps someone who has felt a stirring in their heart and is seeking answers to questions, or even peace in their struggles?

We encourage you to reach out to them and invite them to join us in RCIA and RCY.

#### RCY journey (13 – 23 years old)

**'Come and See' Session**

**Date:** Sun 20 June 2021

**Time:** 10.15am - 12.30pm

**Sessions start:** Sun 27 June 2021  
Every Sunday, 10.15am - 12.30pm

**Venue:** JPll hall

**Register:** [tinyurl.com/sfxrciysignup](http://tinyurl.com/sfxrciysignup)  
or enquire at [rciy@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:rciy@sfxchurch.sg)

#### RCIA journey (24 years old and above)

**Sessions start:** Tue 6 Jul 2021

Every Tue, 8pm - 10pm

**Venue:** JPll Hall

**Register:** [tinyurl.com/sfxrciasignup](http://tinyurl.com/sfxrciasignup)  
or enquire at [rcia@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:rcia@sfxchurch.sg)

**Your continuous generosity and donations will help contribute to our Parish's daily operations. You can make your offerings via the following options:**

- 1. PayNow** - Launch the PayNow service on your bank's app or online website. Select "Send via Unique Entity Number (UEN)" and enter "**T08CC4033J**". Proceed to check entity name - Church of St Francis Xavier, then key in amount. Lastly, key in the reference - Mass Collection.
- 2. Cheque** - Payable to 'Church of St Francis Xavier' and write 'Mass Collection' behind the cheque. Mail cheques to **63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758**.

# Corpus Christi - A Eucharistic Miracle



## HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS THIS MONTH

### EVANGELISATION: THE BEAUTY OF MARRIAGE

Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

## IN THE MONTH OF MAY 2021

### WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couples:

1. Dion Seow Zhi Liang & Esther Wong Ye Teng
2. Tan Yoong Liang Michael & Tay Shu Ling Julia
3. Justin Ho Jin Kiat & Liu Jiaqi
4. Wu Zhi Yong & De Souza Brigid Rose-Marie

### CONDOLENCES

We offer our prayers to the families of the following who have returned to the Lord:

1. Lim Ai Hua Christina
2. Joseph Siew Weng Cheong

### BAPTISMS

We welcome the following:

1. Caleb Abel Paranjody
2. Luca Koh Jin Rong
3. Koh Kang Jie Raphael
4. Wong Zheng En Pierre

*The Corporal of Bolsena -  
13th Century  
Paolo C. / Flickr*



**Many Catholics know that Corpus Christi is Latin for 'the body of Christ' and that on this day, the Eucharist is celebrated to proclaim the truth of the transubstantiation of bread and wine into the actual body of Christ during Mass.**

**But did you know that a Eucharistic miracle inspired the Feast of Corpus Christi?**

In 1263, while on a pilgrimage to Rome, a German priest, Peter of Prague, stopped at the town of Bolsena just north of Rome. We are told that while Fr Peter was a good, pious priest, he had doubts about the holy Eucharist. He agonised over whether Christ actually was present in the consecrated host.

The next day when he celebrated Mass and when he said the words of consecration, the host began to bleed. Blood fell onto his hands and onto the corporal on the altar. He was awestruck and began to cry. At first, he was not sure what to do and tried to hide the blood, but then interrupted the Mass and announced what had happened. The congregation, too, was awestruck. He asked to be taken to see Pope Urban IV who was at the neighbouring town of Orvieto.

Pope Urban IV ordered an investigation and after all the facts had been ascertained, the Holy Father declared a miracle had occurred. He ordered the relics to be brought to the Cathedral of Orvieto with a procession of great pomp and ceremony. The pope met the procession, and the relics were placed in the cathedral, where they are still venerated today.

One year later, in 1264, Pope Urban IV instituted the feast of Corpus Christi, a special feast day to recognise and to promote the great gift of the Blessed Sacrament. He commissioned St. Thomas Aquinas to compose a Mass and an office for the Liturgy of the Hours honouring the holy Eucharist. St. Thomas Aquinas also composed the beautiful Eucharistic hymns "Panis Angelicus," "Pange Lingua," "O Salutaris Hostia" and "Tantum Ergo."

Today, at the Church of St. Christina in Bolsena, one finds the altar where the miracle took place, and where the blood-stained stones are preserved. The Cathedral of Orvieto possesses the blood-stained corporal as well as fragments of the miraculous host.





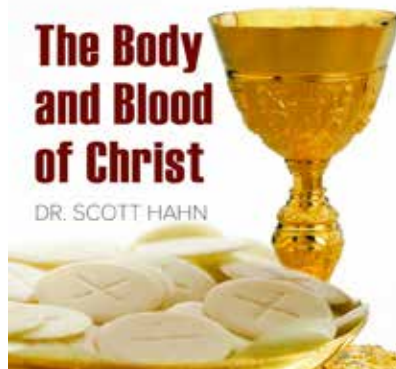
Looking for more Information?  
visit [www.sfxchurch.sg!](http://www.sfxchurch.sg!)

For many Catholic churches today, the main feature of Corpus Christi celebrations is the triumphant liturgical procession in which the sacred host is carried out of the Church "for the Christian faithful to make public profession of faith and worship of the Most Blessed Sacrament".

Though the Solemnity was celebrated on Thurs 3 Jun, you can still listen in on FORMED as Dr Scott Hahn walks through the biblical basis for the Catholic belief in Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. Our worship of Jesus in His Body and Blood calls us to offer to God our Father a pledge of undivided love and an offering of ourselves to the service of others.

**"For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."**

Scan the QR code to watch  
The Body and Blood of  
Christ by Dr Scott Hahn



# CORPUS CHRISTI

## THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

- Established in **1246** by **BISHOP ROBERT DE THORTE OF LIEGE** as suggested by **ST. JULIANA OF MONT CARVILLON**
- made **UNIVERSAL** by **POPE URBAN IV** in **1264**



It was **POPE JOHN PAUL II** who took the annual Corpus Christi procession from St. Peter's Square **TO THE STREETS OF ROME.**

## NO OTHER FEAST RECEIVES AS MUCH ATTENTION IN CANON LAW

as the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. The document prescribes "... a procession through the streets is to be held, especially on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, as a public witness of veneration of the Blessed Eucharist."



### THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI IS ONE OF

**5** OCCASIONS IN THE YEAR on which a **BISHOP** cannot be away from his diocese unless for a grave and urgent reason.

It celebrates the tradition and belief in the body and blood of **JESUS CHRIST** and **HIS REAL PRESENCE IN THE EUCHARIST.**

Numerous Eucharistic **MIRACLES** where the host transformed into real blood and flesh, have occurred throughout the centuries and until today remain unexplained by science.

## Mass Timings

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tue & Thu:**  
6.30pm

**Fri:**  
8pm

### WEEKEND MASSES

**Sat Sunset:**  
5.30pm  
(There is currently no Novena at 4.45pm)

**Sun:** 9am, 11am, 1pm, 5.30pm

**MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**  
9am

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Suspended until further notice

**HOLY HOUR**  
Suspended until further notice

## Opening Hours

### PARISH OFFICE

For pastoral care services (e.g anointing, funerals etc), you may contact before coming at the following hours.

**Mon - Sat:**  
9.30am - 6.30pm  
**Sun:** 8.30am - 1pm

### ADORATION ROOM

Closed until further notice

### LIBRARY

Closed until further notice

### COLUMBARIUM

Suspended until further notice

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK



The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.

## INFANT BAPTISM



For more information, please contact the Parish Office for Baptism of Infants.

## FUNERAL



Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact the Parish Office.

## MARRIAGE



Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date.

## MASS OFFERING



Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office and Church. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.

## VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)

Source: CBCP News