

# Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

## *Faith in Laity Corner*



Monday, June 19, 2017  
*Feast of Corpus Christi*

*Year I/Cycle A*  
*Jn. 6:51-58*

## **Flesh & Blood?**

This Sunday in the United States, the Catholic Church reflects on this important Feast of the Body of Christ. The foundation of our Catholic faith is based on the belief that Jesus during His time on earth, made certain declarations very clear. He did not change His speech, nor did He give us (*Catholics*) an option. If we are Catholic, then we believe when Jesus said these words:

*“I am the bread of life” (Jn. 6:35)*

The simple most common item of food in any culture, it may be called by various names-bread, pan, roti, rolls, tortilla; but it is the basic staple for every meal. Just as *bread* is essential for every meal; Jesus becomes our spiritual *bread* for the *life meal* of our souls.

*“I am the bread that came down from heaven,” (Jn.6:41)*

Jesus speaks in these quotes using the first person ‘I’, there is no substitute. He is the Word made Flesh, the bread sent from God to us on Earth.

*“My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.” (Jn. 6:32)*

There is no doubt, Jesus repeated that it was His Father who sent Him to humanity for the ultimate purpose of bringing us out of darkness to light; bringing us out of sin and death to purity of joy and life.

*“For the Bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” (Jn. 6:33)*

There is the link of the ‘*bread*’ or Body of Jesus providing us with the strength to override sin and to overthrow the specter of death; just as He did. He knows that on our own, we can do nothing.

*“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him” (Jn. 6:44)*

Our path to God the Father is only through His Son Jesus, there is no other way. Jesus saw the need to clarify what they thought He said by saying it again,

*“I am the bread of life.” (Jn. 6:48)*

Jesus does not shift the conversation, He continues it very forcefully, that the only way to the Father is through Him; His flesh and blood is real and we are asked to eat of Him. Jesus reiterates again and again ....

*“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you.” (Jn. 6:53)*

This *‘flesh eating’* will not be an act of cannibalism, but this is the flesh that will sustain us for life in our dark and sinful world. This is the way and the only way for us as Catholics to see the face of God and live.

*“Whoever eat My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.” (Jn. 6:54)*

If a fact is repeated over and over, we have to consider there is something significant that Jesus wants to impress upon us.

*“For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.” (Jn. 6:54)*

If we have any doubt, whether Jesus is making a bad *‘joke’* we now know it is not; He says it loud and clear. We experience the Body and Blood of Jesus with every Mass we attend and receive the Holy Eucharist, and with every time we adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. By partaking of His Body and Blood, His flesh is absorbed into our bodies and we absorb Jesus so as to become what we eat. What a wonderful thought!! We become not only people who know Jesus but we are absorbed into the Body of Christ

*“Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood remains in Me and I in him.” (Jn.:56)*

Throughout the world in many Catholic churches evidence of Jesus’ Blood and Body have been revealed and are on public display for both believers and non-believers to see what He means - that His Body/flesh is food and His Blood is true drink.



<http://dowym.com/voices/5-incredible-eucharistic-miracles-from-the-last-25-years/>





Miracles of the Holy Eucharist surround us, we can choose not to believe, but Jesus said that only when we eat of His Flesh and drink of His Blood we can be joined to Him. It is now your choice to believe what the Feast Corpus Christi is all about, you have free will to make this choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

*During this time, we need prayer and pray to join ourselves to the Living Bread to avert the continued death and hopelessness of so many people. We pray for those who die in by violence, fire and drowning.*

Faith in Laity Corner is a weekly review of Sunday's readings written by

Brenda Chee Wah, a parishioner of *Christ Our Hope Catholic Church  
Lithonia, Georgia.*

Available now on the Parish App. and webpage

<http://www.christourhopeatl.org/becoming-a-catholic/christ-our-hope-catholic-church-weekly-reflections.php>

Your remarks, questions and comments can be emailed to [faithinlaity@gmail.com](mailto:faithinlaity@gmail.com)

Scriptures: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)