



The Body And Blood Of Christ

The Church As The Body of Christ

Introduction

This is the feast of Corpus Christi- the body of Christ. St. Paul continually reminds us that we are the Body of Christ. The Eucharist is not a private devotion; it is a great act of common worship. Here we become conscious of our unity. Here the Body of Christ becomes visible. The one thing which above all others would make us unfit to be part of the Eucharist is if we were not reconciled with one another. Are we?

First reading (Exodus 24: 3-8)

This reading describes the solemn ratification by Moses and the people of the covenant God made with them on Mount Sinai.

Second Reading (Hebrews 9:11-15)

Through the redeeming work of Christ God has entered into a new and eternal covenant with his people.

Gospel (Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26)

This describes the preparation and celebration of the Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples the night before he died.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Christ is the head of his Body, the Church, and we are the members of that body, gathered together on this day we pray to the Father in his name.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the church: that it may be a light for all the nations, a sign of unity, and a force of reconciliation among all peoples. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all the leaders of the world: that God may grant them the gifts of unity, of love, and of peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



Liturgy Cycle B

For the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the unloved: that we the followers of Christ may befriend them and show them that Christ cares about them. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That as we celebrate this Eucharist we may experience the bonds of love Christ wanted to see among his followers, and that these bonds may be strengthened. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Reflection

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Outside the church the noisy traffic flows past.

People rush hither and thither.

But I have left that world behind

and I am here before you.

I do not exclude my brothers and sisters.

I bring them with me,

for I know that they are equally dear to you.

I have nothing.

But I feel that I have everything

since I have you.

I close my mind and open my heart,

And so I am at peace.

There are so many people in the world

with whom one feels at peace.

But I feel at peace here with you.

Here I experience true worth, which consists,

not in my possessions and achievements,

but in knowing that I am loved by you.

Here I grow like corn in the sun.

In this oasis I encounter you, Lord.

Here I am nourished with that mysterious food

which alone can satisfy the hunger

the heavenly Father has put in my heart.