



Here's a text if you've only got a minute ...

'... Christ has given us this memorial of his passion to bring us its saving power until the end of time ...'

From the Preface to the Eucharist

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.'

The Gospel Acclamation

'Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

The Gospel Acclamation

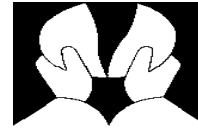
We come then to this wonderful sacrament to be fed at your table and grow into the likeness of the risen Christ ...'

From the Preface to the Eucharist

REFLECTIONS

What does the week hold for me and how do I feel God may be calling me?

And ... what do I want to ask of the Lord for myself and for others?



AMDG
CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY
YEAR C, 29 MAY 2016



'The bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Isn't the greatest gift one can give to another, the gift of oneself?

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray for the **willingness** to make present in our world the love of Christ **shown to us** in the Eucharist.

Lord Jesus Christ, we **worship** you living among us in the sacrament of your body and blood.

May we **offer** to our Father in heaven a solemn pledge of undivided love.

May we **offer** to our brothers and sisters a life **poured out**.

This prayer sums up the whole Paschal mystery that we have been celebrating these past few weeks: God's total gift of himself to us through Christ; his presence/love in us through the gift of the Spirit. As community, as Church, how can I/we respond to such love?

The words of the Opening Prayer alone could well be sufficient for us for the week.

Slowly mull over ... Savour ... Whisper ... each word or phrase.

All prayer begins with desire: 'willingness' to ...

All prayer seeks to respond to God's love: 'worship' ... 'offer' ...

All prayer seeks to love not just in words but also in deeds: my life 'poured out' in 'loving service' of ... who...?

All prayer ends slowly; like Jesus giving thanks to the Father with the help of the Spirit, and then reflecting on this privileged time with the Lord.

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 11: 23–26

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.’

In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, ‘This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of or in memory of me.’

Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

Here Paul explains the meaning of the Eucharist.

The Eucharist of its very nature is essentially a community action.

*The body of Christ taken, blessed, broken and **shared** on the Cross is the same body of Christ taken, blessed, broken and **shared** at the Last Supper, and indeed at every Mass. Whenever we celebrate the Eucharist, **we** re-enact the Last Supper.*

I let Paul speak to me as I re-read his letter ...

How does it touch my heart; encourage me; challenge me?

Perhaps I remember how Jesus brought life to so many people: through healing, forgiving, encouraging, etc ...

Perhaps I remember what he has done for me ...

How can I proclaim his death – his total love for me by my example and values?

GOSPEL LUKE 9: 11–17

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing. It was late that afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, ‘Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.’

He replied, ‘Give them something to eat yourselves.’ But they said, ‘We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.’ For there were about five thousand men.

But He said to his disciples, ‘Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.’ They did so and made them all sit down.

Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, raised His eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then He broke them and handed them to His disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

I may read this Gospel day after day. I always begin slowly praying – this scene I know so well. What are you asking of me today?

I watch the crowd: what types of people are they? What are their concerns, their hopes ...?

I let Jesus approach me, love me. Am I willing to be bread broken for others as He was?

And so ...

If there is Mass in the part of the world where I live on Saturday or Sunday and I allow Jesus to give himself to me in the Eucharist – to whom do I give Eucharist, that is myself?

Who are the ‘hungry’ I meet ...? How can I feed them ...?

I talk to Jesus and let him speak to me through his Spirit in my heart asking for what I need in order to be bread for others ...