



From The Pastor's Desk

Since the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ on June 26, I have spoken of Christ's sacrifice and the "Real Presence" of Christ in the Eucharist. When Mass is celebrated, it is certainly the "re-presentation" of Christ's sacrifice. As Catholics we believe in the "Real Presence" of Christ in the Eucharist. It is truly a "Real" symbol. It is not just a "representation" of Christ's Body and Blood—**IT TRULY IS HIS BODY AND BLOOD!** We believe as Christ told us, "*This is my Body and Blood given up for you*" - which points us to the Cross.

The third element is the aspect of "Communion." The *Document on the Liturgy* which is the first document of Vatican Council II, points to the fact that we as Catholics must engage in a full conscious active participation in the Liturgy. During the Mass, it is actually each of us participating in full "union" with Christ, which is a very essential element of what the Eucharist is all about. Even if at a particular time in our lives, we can receive Christ only physically, we can open our hearts to receive Him spiritually. Perhaps, we may be in need of spiritual healing. Through the sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession we can prepare to receive Him again fully. What a forgiving and loving God we have. We are so blessed. It is one thing to recognize and to remember the sacrifice of Christ, also to truly embrace the "Real Presence of Christ" in the Eucharist. But the completion of this mystery truly has to be our union or "Communion" with Christ. That third element enriches and completes our understanding of the Eucharist. It is in the reception of Communion, of receiving His Body and Blood, that we come into full union with Him! It is all three which help us have the fullest understanding of the celebration of the Eucharist.

Let us remember that what we do is because of God's love for us. Jesus gives His life for us. We embrace the mystery of the "Real Presence," and we enter into full communion with Him. Again, every time we participate in Mass we are invited to enter into full union with Him. The Priest says, "***The Body of Christ.***" We respond, "***Amen.***" "***Yes Lord,-I Believe. Thank you/Gracias.***"

Church Air conditioning Work

I just want to give you a heads up that one of the compressors for our Church air conditioning has not worked properly and has had a number of service calls. We will probably need to replace it which is beyond the warranty after 20 years since the church was built in 1996. I appreciate your patience during this time. I will keep you up to date on the final decision to address the problem with minimum inconvenience.

Parish Gala

Thanks so much to our Gala committee lead by Sheri David and Rae LaMagna. The ticket sales after the Masses and the myriad of activities by the committee and volunteers are greatly appreciated. What a huge success was the Saint Rosalie's Gala at our newly-renovated Community Center. Many parishioners and guests enjoyed the beautiful evening. How wonderful that so very many participated in one way or another

Parish Pilgrimage New York and Canada

Let me know if you might be interested in a parish pilgrimage to Canada and Shrines of Saint Anne De Beaupré and some shrines like St Joseph's oratory in Montreal and perhaps visiting a shrine in upstate New York. If there is interest we may plan a parish trip for a long weekend perhaps Wednesday through Saturday. Please call the Parish Center and give your name if interested.

Parish Summer Retreat

Father Robert Fath, who visited us last Fourth of July weekend will preach a parish retreat in the beginning of August. Father Robert is a priest of the Diocese of Fairbanks, Alaska. He has visited the bush country and remote villages. This is one of the only Mission territories in the United States.

*I wish you a relaxing summer in the Bays,
Father Ed*