



Visit our website: [www.corpuschristi.org.au](http://www.corpuschristi.org.au)

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B**

**17TH & 18TH AUGUST, 2024**

**REFLECTION** by Fr Michael Tate

**The Greatest Gift**

When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last fifty years has been the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under the appearance of both bread and wine.



The reception of both the consecrated bread and the consecrated wine is in perfect harmony with today's Gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life.' Note the present tense: 'has' – right now! This is because, as St John Paul II put it: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

Of course, Our Risen Lord is really present under the appearance of either the bread or the wine. For a Jew, (unlike the Greeks) the *body* was absolutely core to being the person one is. For a Jew, *blood* was identified as the life-force of any animal. So, for the Jewish Jesus, to say 'This is my body... this is my blood' was to gift us his core identity, his deepest vitality. Either the consecrated bread or consecrated wine gives us His whole life.

But to receive both the Heavenly Bread and the Spiritual Drink does enable us to more fully respond to Our Lord at the Last Supper: 'Take, eat ... take, drink'. Then the words of today's Gospel can more physically resonate in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.'

We could take a moment to pray in thanksgiving that we are able to join in the tradition starting with the Apostles at the Last Supper and, in doing so, to enter into Holy Communion with the only One who can embody in us the secret of His resurrection.

**We, the people of Corpus Christi,  
seek to grow in living  
a Christ-centred mission,  
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,  
justice and community in today's world.**



**A very warm welcome to anyone who  
is new to the parish.**

*So that we can get to know who you are,  
please introduce yourself to the priest or acolyte after Mass  
and fill out a Census Card, which is available in the foyer.*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday evening from 5.15pm -  
5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

First Friday of each month after  
9.10am Mass.

This is also an anointing Mass.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH**

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

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Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/  
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm  
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

**Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio**  
- [jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org](mailto:jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org)  
- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)  
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

**Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary/  
Sacrament Co-ordinator**  
- [mc@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:mc@corpuschristi.org.au)

**Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support**  
- [sw@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:sw@corpuschristi.org.au)

**Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament  
Support**

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary – ph 4726 2200  
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College – ph 4777 0900  
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

# Parish News

## WEEKDAY MASSES UPDATE

COMMUNION SERVICES WILL TAKE PLACE HERE AT CORPUS CHRISTI WHILE FR JESSIE IS ON LEAVE.  
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY @ 6PM  
THURSDAY & FRIDAY @ 9.10AM

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Should you wish to attend Mass please see the following:

Weekday Mass Times at

St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith

Monday: 9:30am  
Tuesday: 6:45am & 9:30am  
Wednesday: 9:30am & 7pm  
Thursday: 9:30am  
Friday: 6:45am & 12:10pm

Weekday Mass Times at  
St Joseph's Parish Kingswood  
Monday to Friday at 8.00am

## SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION



### Sacrament of First Eucharist

A parent only meeting for the Sacrament of First Eucharist will take place on

**WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST AT 6.30PM IN THE CHURCH.**

*This meeting is only for the parents of children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation in March 2024.*

### Sacrament of Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children Baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office to book the date of Baptism and to register for the Rite of Welcome and Information Meeting.



## LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

It is with great sadness to advise that Sr Maria Marin PBVM died last Thursday at Our Lady of Consolation Home, Rooty Hill. Many of you will remember Sr Maria as the dear friend of Fr George. She spent a lot of time here at Corpus Christi and selflessly cared for Fr George during his entire illness before his death in 2018.

*May Sr Maria be welcomed into the fullness and safety of the Lord.*

### Recently Deceased:

Norman Hennessey (06/08/24 - Peter Sinnet's brother-in-law)

### Anniversaries:

Christine Jeffery (20/08/23), James William Sinnet (20/08/81), Anthony Azzopardi (08/08/15), Francis Muscat (27/07/23)

### For those who are sick:

Max Ducasse, Barbara Kemp, Werner Rauker, Rose Zahra, Eleanor Albertyn, Rosa Pronesti



## CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH

THE NEXT GATHERING WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST AT 5.00PM

Liturgy followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Liturgy and registration is not necessary.

## YOUTH MASS DATES

Parish Youth Masses will take place on the following Sundays at 5.00pm:

**15th September; 20th October;  
17th November; 15th December**

For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact Fr Jessie or Kieran Faccin.

## 'YOUNG IN SPIRIT' SENIORS GROUP

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

## LAUNCH OF THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH

On Saturday 10th August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality) <<http://parracatholic.org/synodality>>.

## PARISH GIVING

### Planned Giving/Parish Donations

*Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.*

If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

BSB: 067 950  
Acct No: 100000698  
Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish



**Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)**

*Please contact Marie at the Parish Office if you*

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

## Advertising in The Net

Are you interested in advertising your business in The Net??? Ads run for 12 months for a cost of \$420 beginning in April. You can also run an ad one or three months. For details, please contact Marie at the Parish Office.

# Parish News

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### New Ministry Roster

A huge thank you to all who support our parish by way of the various Liturgical Ministries.

We are about to get our information together to prepare a new Roster to cover the period from **31st August/1st September – 21st/22nd December**.

Would all those who are involved in rostered Ministries, please check your diaries and contact the Parish Office by either phone or email **prior to Tuesday 20th August** of any non-availability during that period.

### Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for its Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses, which commence in September, for those who are interested.

There is no cost for these courses.

**Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown  
Mondays at 7pm**

- ⌘ 9th September: Compulsory Introduction Session.
- ⌘ 16th & 23rd September: Ministers of the Word.
- ⌘ 14th & 21st October: Ministers of Communion.
- ⌘ 28th October: Communion to the Sick & Dying.\*
- ⌘ 4th & 11th November: Ministers at the Altar.\*\*

\* If you wish to complete Communion to the Sick & Dying, you must attend the Ministers of Communion Session first.

\*\* If you wish to become a Minister at the Altar, you must attend all sessions.

**Deadline for enrolments: 2nd September.**

**Please contact the Parish Office for an enrolment form.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE UNABLE TO ADD ANYONE TO THE PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER UNTIL THE ABOVE RELEVANT COURSES AND THE REQUIRED SAFEGUARDING MODULES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Catechist News... Are you able to help?

If you can spare about an hour each week during school terms and would like to find out more about becoming a teacher or a helper, you can call the Parish Office or our Catechist Co Ordinator, Lorrene Gorman on 0414 471 329.

### Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

Children's Liturgy is on during the school terms at 6pm and 9.30am Masses. We try to keep your rostered times to a maximum of 3 each term. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

### Adopt a Garden

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to adopt a section of the parish gardens. If you are experiencing any problems with the work you are doing in your section, if you have any queries or would like to join this group, please contact the Parish Office, who will put you in touch with Greg Hall, the coordinator.

## SAFEGUARDING

### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The modules are available to complete online at <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>

**Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)**

**Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)**

Should you prefer to complete the modules in face-to-face meetings, the following dates are available:

**Cycle 1 (Initial)**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August (Mods 1 & 3) 6.30pm-9pm at Rouse Hill Parish

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (Mod 2) 6.30pm-8pm at Rouse Hill Parish

**Cycle 2 (Renewal)**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August (Mods 4 & 5) 10am-1.30pm at Richmond Parish

For more information, please email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

## Diocesan News

### ACBC 2024-2025

#### Social Justice Statement Launch

All are warmly invited to attend the official launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement,

*'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World'*

**Tuesday 20th August from 10am to 12pm**

**St Paul's Catholic College Sports Hall, Greystanes**

(adjoining Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes).

Please RSVP your attendance via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Wd96tbps0>

### MET Worship Children's Liturgy Workshop

*Children's liturgy team members are invited to attend a workshop with an outline of the Diocesan Guidelines and a Children's Liturgy Q&A session with the Diocesan Liturgy Educator, Sr Mary-Louise Walsh.*

**Thursday 19th September from 7pm - 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown.**

To register or for more information, please email Lucy on [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) or use this link: <https://parracatholic.org/events/met-childrens-liturgy-workshop-19-sept/>

### MET FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course

Searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality? Hoping to find renewed ways of expressing your faith? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with spiritual director Jeff Hood on Tuesdays 17th & 24th September & 1st October.

To register or for more details contact the team via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

# The Living Word

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

11th August 2024

## First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs

*Come and eat my bread; drink the wine I have prepared.*

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table. She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights: 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.' To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-3. 10-15. R. v.9

**(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him. Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **(R.)**

Come children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **(R.)**

Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace. **(R.)**



## Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Be watchful that you may know the will of God.*

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.*

Jesus said to the crowd:

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

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life,

and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

### Questions for Adolescents

- \* Why might Jesus have used such physical imagery (flesh and blood) with his audience?
- \* What message is Jesus trying to convey through this imagery?
- \* Why is the reception of Eucharist such an important aspect of Christian tradition?
- \* Why do you think this gospel text is critical to Catholic theology about Eucharist?
- \* In what ways is 'bread' an appropriate image for Jesus?

### Questions for Adults

- \* Why do you think this extended image of the 'Bread of Life' appears only in the gospel of John?
- \* Why was Jesus' imagery so confronting for his audience?
- \* In what ways is the reception of communion sustaining of faith?
- \* What does it mean to 'live eucharistically'?

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## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Wisdom invites us to her banquet. Since she is the way to God, those who accept her invitation will feast on the things of God. This is not a paltry meal that meets only our basic needs. It is a lavish banquet with delicious food and exhilarating drink. The banquet of wisdom is an apt symbol of the generosity of God, open to all, enriching all. This is in sharp contrast to the kind of feasting that is depicted in the epistle. Fools succumb to the temptations of the evil days in which they live and they feast on selfishness, ignorance and debauchery. Two banquets are set before us. Both of them are tempting. Which one will we choose?

The banquet that Jesus offers is like the banquet of Wisdom. However, it far exceeds even Wisdom's table. At Jesus' banquet, we feast on his body and his blood. If we feed at the table of the Lord, we will have life because of him, and we will be raised up on the last day to live forever. This is truly a bold claim and a hard saying. We are told that the food we eat is his body, and what we drink is his blood. We are told that his body, not merely his teaching, is the true bread that came down from heaven. We are told that only if we eat and drink what he offers will we have eternal life. He makes the claim and extends the invitation. How will we hear it? How will we respond?

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### REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

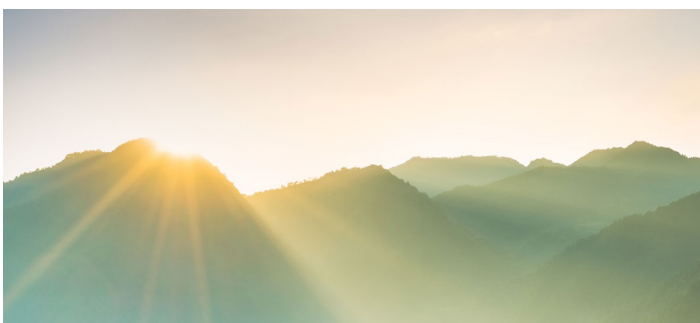
When Jesus speaks of being the bread of life from heaven, the people listening probably don't understand what he is talking about. At least we understand what he did at the Last Supper, and how his real presence comes to us in the form of bread and wine at Mass.

If you could ask Jesus to explain the sacrament of the Eucharist in terms that a teenager could relate to, what do you think Jesus would tell you?

What is it like for you to go to Mass? Do you find Mass to be a spiritual experience and an important form of community prayer in your life? Why or why not?

If you could give special training to priests on how to help the community celebrate Mass in a way that would involve and engage young people, what suggestions or advice would you give?

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## Reflections by Greg Sunter

### Gospel Focus –

#### Real Presence

The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central doctrine of the Catholic faith. It is regarded as a revealed truth proved by both scripture and tradition. This week's gospel, indeed the entire 'Bread of Life' discourse (Jn 6:26-72), is an essential passage of scripture that supports the teaching of Christ present in the



Eucharist. Along with scripture, the other proof of the doctrine is tradition. Since the first century, only a brief time after the death of Jesus, Christians linked their celebration of Eucharist with the words of Jesus at the last supper – they celebrated Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus.

### Living the Gospel –

#### You are what you eat

In a world that is obsessed with health and fitness and yet, ironically, also experiencing an ever-increasing overweight and obese population, what we eat has come under greater scrutiny than ever before. 'You are what you eat' has become a catchcry for healthy eating but Catholics have known the truth of this statement for centuries. When we participate in the Eucharist, we not only receive the body of Christ; we become the body of Christ. The people who make up the Church in the world are indeed the body of Christ. In the words of St Teresa, 'Christ has no body now but yours!'

### Gospel Focus –

#### Different View – Cannibalism?

One of the criticisms levelled against Catholicism since the days of the early Church – and continuing even today – is the claim that Catholics perform an act of cannibalism in the Eucharist! The critics seize on the 'body and blood of Christ' that are consumed in the Eucharist. Transubstantiation is a difficult concept for many people to comprehend (including many Catholics). Whilst the 'substance' of bread and wine – the essence of their bread-ness and wine-ness – are changed to the body and blood of Christ, the 'form' of the bread and wine remains the same.

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August

*For political leaders*

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.



# Children's Worksheet

**Whoever eats this bread  
will live forever**



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

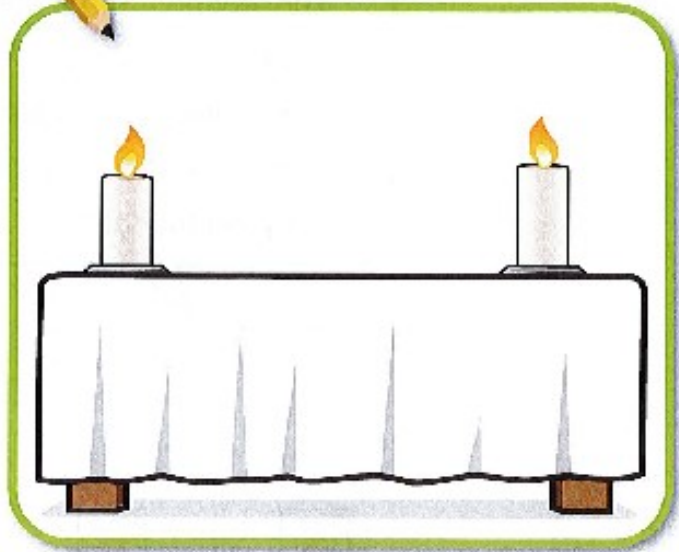
Use the words below to find out what Jesus said to his apostles.

The special food and drink we have at Mass is Jesus' flesh and blood. Draw a picture of the priest blessing the bread and wine at the altar.

Those who \_\_\_ my flesh  
and \_\_\_ my \_\_\_  
will have \_\_\_ life,  
and I will \_\_\_ them  
up on the last \_\_\_.

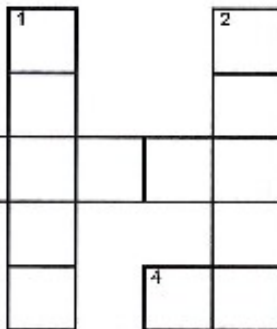


eternal  
blood  
day  
drink  
eat  
raise



Can you complete this crossword puzzle? It uses pictures as clues instead of words!

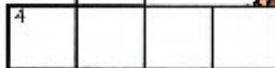
1



2



3



4



5



John 6:51-58

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# Solutions

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Those who **eat** my flesh  
and **drink** my **blood**  
will have **eternal** life,  
and I will **raise** them  
up on the last **day**.

