

On Receiving Holy Communion Worthily

FEED MY LAMBS *The Catholic Herald*

-by Bishop William K. Weigand *Issue of May 19, 2007*

I ended my last column by saying: "Let us have the integrity, too, to refrain from receiving Jesus in the Eucharist if we are not properly disposed and in the state of grace." I will quote from the U.S. Bishops' pamphlet of last November to explain this. (*Called to His Supper*)

Responding to question 4, "Should We ever refrain from receiving Holy Communion?," the Bishops reply, in part: "We may find ourselves in situations, however, where an examination of our conscience before God reveals to us that we should refrain from partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ. Moreover, we should be cautious when

making judgments about whether or not someone else should receive Holy Communion.

"In order to receive Holy Communion, we must be in communion with God and with the Church. Mortal sin constitutes a rejection of communion with God and destroys the life of grace within us...

"Because our sin has separated us from God and from our brothers and sisters in Christ, we have forfeited our right to receive Holy Communion, for the Eucharist by its very nature, expresses and nurtures this life-giving unity that the sinner has now lost. St. Paul warned the Corinthians that 'whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the Body and Blood of the Lord.' (1 Cor 11:27)

"Catholics who are conscious of committing any mortal sin must receive the Sacrament of Penance before receiving Holy Communion....

What about Catholics who dissent from Church teaching? The Bishops explain: "As Catholics we believe what the Church authentically teaches on matters of faith and morals, for to hear the voice of the Church, on matters of faith and morals, is to hear the voice of Christ himself. To give selective assent to the teachings of the Church not only deprives us of her lifegiving message, but also seriously endangers our communion with her...."

"If a Catholic in his or her personal or professional life were knowingly and obstinately to reject the defined

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The Feast of Corpus Christi

Sunday, June 10, 2007 is the feast of Corpus Christi.

On June 22, 2000, the Feast of Corpus Christi, Pope John Paul II celebrated in a procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament to the Basilica of St. Mary Major and gave a homily centered on Melchizedek, the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper and the multiplication of the loaves.

"The day before his death on the Cross, Christ instituted the Eucharist in the Upper Room. He also offered bread and wine, which "in his sacred hands" (*Roman Canon*) became his Body and his Blood, offered in sacrifice. Thus he fulfilled the prophecy of the old covenant linked to Melchizedek's sacrificial offering. For this very reason—the Letter to the Hebrews recalls—"he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest *after the order of Melchizedek*" ([*Heb*] 5:7-10).

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Vacation Replacement

While Fr. O'Connor is on vacation - visiting family in Ireland- Msgr. Murrough Wallace, retired pastor of St. Theresa parish, South Lake Tahoe, will be his replacement until Fr. Richard Rolfs comes (June 14).

Summer Expanded Mass Schedule

From Sunday, July 1, to Labor Day we will have, as in past summers, an additional Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m.. Again, in their continuing goodness, the members of the Tahoma Homeowners Association are making their park - The Marie Sluchak Community Park- available to us for this "Mass in the Park." When Fr. Rolfs leaves after the first Sunday of August, priests of the Legionaries of Christ, as they did last summer, will combine with Fr. O'Connor to continue to make Mass available at Corpus Christi, Tahoma, and Queen of the Snows through the Labor Day Sunday. We are much in debt and grateful to Fr. Rolfs and the priests of the Legionaries of Christ for their summer help and service.

Devotions - temporarily suspended

("So you could not stay awake with me for even an hour?" - Mt. 26:40):

Mon—Fri (8:00 am):

Daily Mass—Resumes June 18

1st Sat (8:00 am):

First Saturday Mass

Mon (5:15-6:15 p.m.):

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Thurs (4:00- 6:00 p.m.):

Exposition and Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

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doctrines of the Church, or knowingly and obstinately to repudiate her definitive teaching on moral issues, he or she would seriously diminish his or her communion with the Church. Reception of Holy Communion in such a situation would not accord with the nature of the Eucharistic celebration, so that he or she should refrain."

In the case of a public person, scandal may also be involved. "When a person is publicly known to have committed serious sin or to have rejected definitive Church teaching and is not yet reconciled with the Church, reception of Holy Communion by that person is likely to cause scandal for others. This is a further reason for refraining from Holy Communion..." This does not mean that such a person is refused Holy Communion, however. The person is himself/herself expected to have the integrity to refrain from receiving.

"How Can we prepare to receive Holy Communion more worthily?," ask the Bishops. They suggest:

"Remote preparation includes the following:

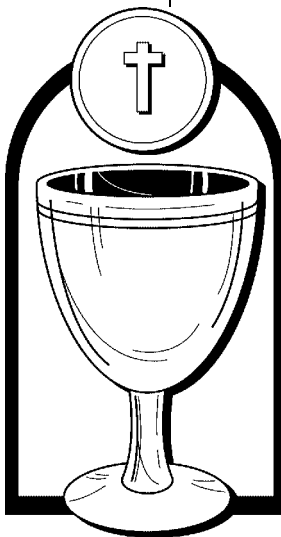
- Regular prayer and Scripture reading...
- Faithful and loving fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities of our state in life...
- Daily repentance of sin and regular participation in the Sacrament of Penance..."

"Proximate preparation includes the following:

- Prayerful recollection...
- We are required to keep the Eucharistic fast, that is, refraining from food and drink (except for water and medicines) for at least one hour prior to receiving Holy Communion...
- We should also come to the sacred liturgy appropriately dressed...
- Attentively participating in the liturgy..."

The Bishops conclude by saying: "May we always approach this holy mystery with due reverence and awe and love for the Holy One of God, our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is in our midst and who comes to abide within us, making us holy as he himself is holy." (#4, #5)

(You can find the full text in the April 7 issue of The Catholic Herald or purchase it on the web at: <http://www.usccbpublishing.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=719> .)



(Feast of Corpus Christi—Continued from page 1)

The sacrifice of Golgotha was anticipated in the Upper Room: the death on the Cross of the Incarnate Word, the Lamb sacrificed for us, the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world. In Christ's pain every person's pain is redeemed; in his passion, human suffering acquires new value; in his death, our death is vanquished forever. The day before his death on the Cross, Christ instituted the Eucharist in the Upper Room. He also offered bread and wine, which "in his sacred hands" (*Roman Canon*) became his Body and his Blood, offered in sacrifice.

Thus he fulfilled the prophecy of the old covenant linked to Melchizedek's sacrificial offering. For this very reason—the Letter to the Hebrews recalls—"he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest *after the order of Melchizedek*" ([*Heb*]5:7-10)." ...

"...The mystery of our salvation! Christ—the *only Lord yesterday, today and for ever*—wanted his saving presence in the world and in history to be linked with the sacrament of the Eucharist. He wanted to make himself the bread which is broken so that everyone can be nourished by his very life through participation in the sacrament of his Body and Blood." (Pope John Paul II, 6/22/2000)

Catholic Radio and Television

By listening to Catholic Radio you can participate in the celebration of the Mass, pray the Rosary, hear instructional and inspiring talks and discussions. Listen locally at KIHM Reno 920 AM, 92.7 FM, 93.3 FM, or on the Internet at www.ihradio.org. To view EWTN in this area you need a satellite dish.

Pray for the Sick

Bill Brady	Jay Di Benedetto	Mary Ellen Elsnore
Marge Faia	Gabriel Jensen	Tom Jensen
Albert Juarez	Joey Kenney	Emily Killian
Don Mashbir	Helen Mathis	Mary Margaret Rankin
Joseph Recchia	Barbara Schmidt	Joan Velo
	Rosalie Wampler	

For Prayer Requests, please call the Parish Office at 583-4409

Church Restoration and Repair

Work completed: Queen of the Snows Deteriorated portions of roof and floor supporting beams (14 each) cut away and replaced; supporting pillars repaired; three new pillars added. Surface rock-lined drain constructed (to replace original underground -now occluded - drainage pipe); Placer Co. required handicap access ramp and accessible restroom installed.

Funding: Expenditures: \$410,854.³⁵ Income: \$326,987.⁹⁰

Work in prospect: Corpus Christi Church, Parish Rectory, Mulligan hall: Evaluation for structural integrity, pre-painting repair needs, painting. Restoration, Repair, Painting priorities to be then set and undertaken as needed and as funding available.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Restoration and Upkeep of our parish churches and buildings.