



SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

June 14, 2020

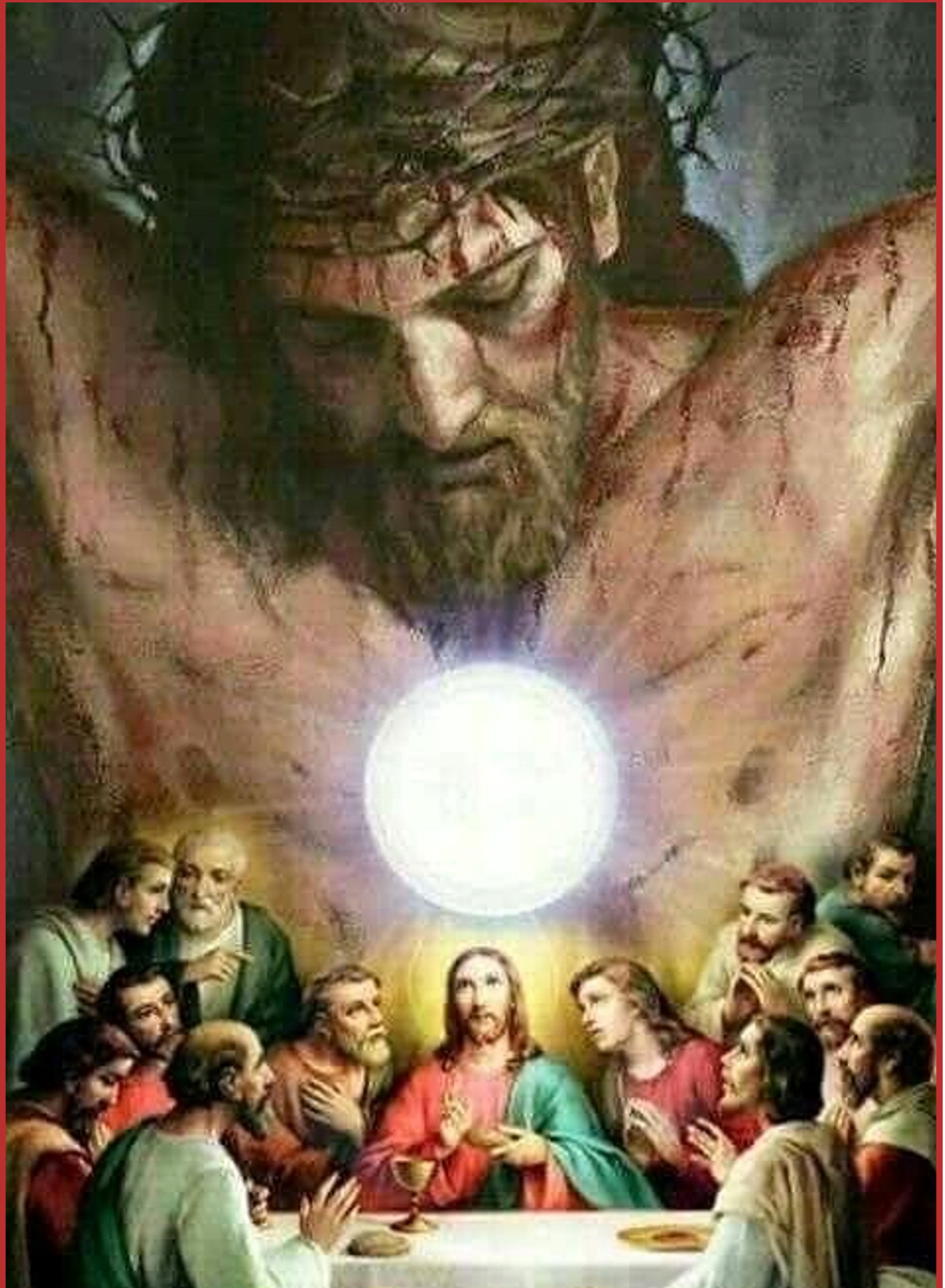
MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS

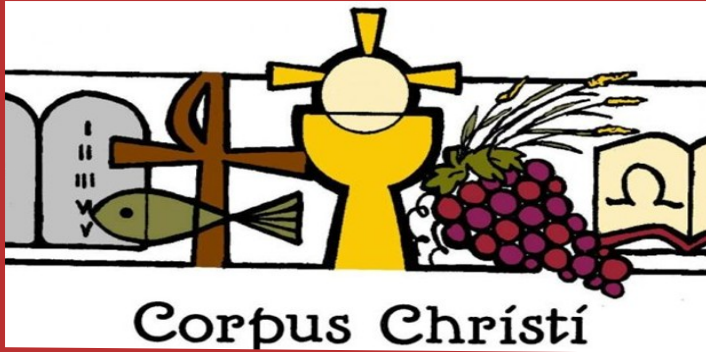
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Jesus said to the Jewish crowds: "I am the Living Bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this Bread will live forever; and the Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world."

"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my Flesh is true Food, and my Blood is true Drink. Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the Bread that came down from Heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this Bread will live forever."

(John 6:51–58)





The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

lectionary for Mass © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD. All rights reserved. Photo: Nito/Adobe Stock

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

JUNE 14, 2020

LIVING, LIFE-GIVING BREAD

The unifying motif of this year's readings for today is God's gift of living, life-giving Bread. Prefigured in the manna, which not only nourished individuals but defined Israel as a community under God's special care, Jesus, the living bread, bestows on us—individually and as a community—eternal life that, in John's perspective, begins here and is fulfilled hereafter. This "already/not yet" theme is alluded to by the Communion invitation's reference to Revelation's vision of the kingdom-feast: "Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9) once slain who lives forever. For Saint Paul, the eucharistic bread and cup are both sign of what the community is called to be and source of the community's strength to live that ideal.

FLESH AND BLOOD

Today's Gospel verses, John 6:51–58 are a "eucharistic version" of the previous verses, 6:35–50, in which Jesus asserts, "Whoever believes has eternal life" (6:47). Now Jesus replaces "believes" with "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (6:54). This parallelism is mirrored in the complementarity of the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the intimate relationship between ambo (lectern) and altar, "the table of God's Word and the table of Christ's Body."

But today's Gospel presents a further parallel, the complementarity of flesh and blood. By using "flesh," a word he sometimes uses to denote the whole of human nature rather than "body," John seems to suggest that, in receiving Christ's Body in the Eucharist, we disciples are to assimilate the whole of Jesus' humanity, his own radically self-sacrificing-unto-death lifestyle as our distinctive manner of being human. Moreover, the very reason the law forbade partaking of sacrificial blood is precisely why Jesus says we must drink his blood, "for the blood is life" (Deuteronomy 12:23). By partaking of Christ's Blood in the Eucharist, we "have eternal life" here and now; that is to say, we live by Christ's victory over death in this life, a victory that will be made permanent when Jesus raises us up on the last day (6:54).

WE ARE ONE

As we partake of this gift, we become one with Christ in reality. But there is more. We also become one with each other. As we all partake of the mystery, we are united in flesh and spirit—in the Holy Spirit—with each other as well. As Paul says, "Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Corinthians 10:17).

Today we celebrate this wonderful gift. Even though we do not fully understand it, we believe and accept it with joy. We are one with Christ and one with each other. We too become the Body of Christ in the world.

TODAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 8:2–3, 14b–16a

Psalm 147:12–15, 19–20

1 Corinthians 10:16–17

John 6:51–58

PRAYER BEFORE JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:35-40): Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the Bread of Life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst. But I told you that although you have seen me, you do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from Heaven not to do my own will but the will of the One who sent me. And this is the will of the One who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what He gave me, but that I should raise them on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have eternal life, and I shall raise Him on the last day." The Gospel of the Lord.

Silent Prayer of Thanksgiving and Expressions of Love

LITANY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

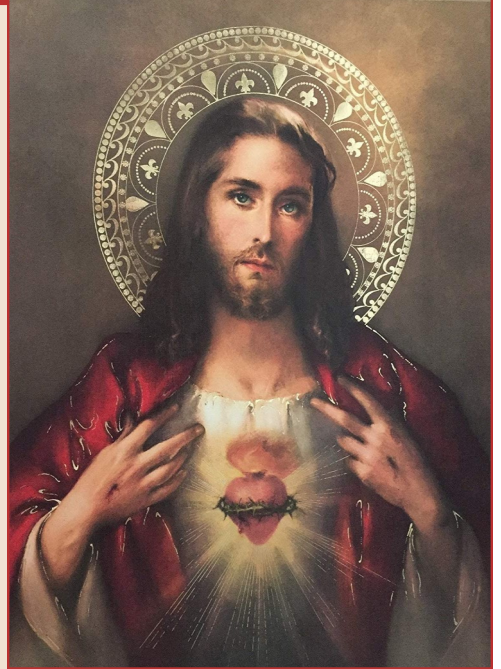
God, our Father in Heaven, have mercy on us. God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us. God, the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, united in substance to the Word of God, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, of infinite majesty, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, sacred temple of God, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, Tabernacle of the Most High One, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, House of God and Gate of Heaven, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, abode of justice and love, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, wellspring of all virtues, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, King and center of all hearts, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, in whom dwells the fullness of Divinity, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father was well pleased, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have all received, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, enriching all who invoke you, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness, have mercy on us.

Heart of Jesus, atonement for our sins, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, overwhelmed with insults, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, obedient unto death, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, victim of our sins, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who trust in you, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, hope of those who die in you, have mercy on us. Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, spare us. Lord, graciously hear us. Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make our hearts like unto yours.



Let us pray, God our loving Father, grant wisdom to those who govern us, compassion and courage to those who work to defend human life, and safety and care to every human being. For you alone, who formed us in our mothers' wombs, and who call us home to heaven, are God, forever and ever. Amen.

SUPPORT GPS!

Dear St. Therese Parishioners,
GPS-Guadalupe Pregnancy Services needs your support now more than ever in order to continue to provide life



-affirming, compassionate care to mothers, babies, and their families.

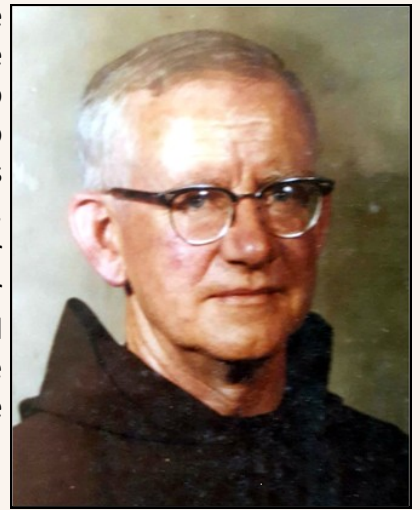
Since we were not able to distribute baby bottles this past May, as we normally do, we are continuing our campaign to collect the filled baby bottles and the gifts for babies and moms. Please...

- Pick up a baby bottle from the porch at the Parish offices (510 N. El Molino St); fill it with coins and bills, and return it during daytime hours (ring the bell to let someone know you're placing it there).
- Donate online at <http://www.pregnancy-gps.org/Donate.html>
- Mail a check (made payable to GPS) to Guadalupe Pregnancy Services, Post Office Box 1192, Alhambra, CA 91802.

Note: Your donation is tax-deductible!

THE CLOISTERED NUNS

The Auxiliary for the Cloistered Carmelite Nuns would like to thank everyone who donated earlier this year to the Fr. Jerome Appeal for the support of our very special neighbors, the Discalced Carmelite Cloistered Nuns.



Your generous donations have totaled over \$18,000, all of which goes towards the support of the nuns. If you were unable to donate earlier and would like to donate now, that would be very appreciated. Just put your check in any envelope marked "Fr. Jerome Appeal" and send it to the Nuns' Monastery at 215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra 91801.

God bless you!

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY BABY SHOWER

These are essential items of which we are running low:

FOR BABIES:

- Baby Shampoo and Wash
- Baby Lotion
- Diaper Rash Cream
- Cornstarch Baby Powder
- Baby Spoons/Forks
- Socks Boys/Girls (12/18 months)
- Clothing Girls (9/12/24 months)
- Clothing Boys (9/18 months)
- Wash Cloths / Bath Towels
- Diapers Size 4, 5 & 6
- Pull-ups Size 2T/3T
- Baby Wipes
- Baby Formula
- Baby Food Jars
- Toys



FOR MOMS:

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Lotion
- Bar Soap/ Body Wash
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Dish Soap
- Detergent
- Cleaning Products
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Lysol
- Hand Sanitizer

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS:

- Cereal /Oatmeal
- Juice
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Canned Meats & Fish
- Rice /Beans
- Snacks/Cookies



LIVE STREAMED DAILY MASSES!

Praise God!

The Church has reopened!

Remember, the Dispensation is still in effect for those who don't feel safe to go around large groups of people, are 65 and over, are immune-compromised or whose health is vulnerable in any way, etc. For you we will continue to **LIVE STREAM Mass** every day of the week on Facebook and YouTube.

To view, just go to our **Facebook page** at <https://www.facebook.com/stthereseoflisieuxalhambra> and scroll down until you see the most recent live streamed Mass (see a red box that says, "Live"). You can easily access it from the Home Page of our

website (just click on the word Facebook in the right column, and it will take you to our page—no need to be a Facebook member). Sometime after the Masses air, you can access them from our website (link: **LIVE STREAMED MASSES**) **AND** from our **YouTube Channel**. Go to the YouTube app on your Smart TV's and search for St. Therese Roman Catholic Church. Click on that and then choose the Mass for the day and watch it on a **big screen TV**.

If you're not on our weekly newsletter (which contains the latest information about our Masses, confessions, etc., please send your email address to denisekay@hotmail.com. The newsletters normally go out on Fridays.



FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

*"...for God loves a cheerful giver"
(2 Corinthians 9:7)*

May God reward you!

Below you will find the total collections for the last few weekends.

May 22—June 5, 2020

Unrestricted.....	\$23,068.00
Restricted.....	\$ 6,649.00
TOTAL.....	\$29,717.00

April 13-19.....	\$21,310.00
April 20-26.....	\$ 7,254.00
April 27—May 13..	\$44,848.00
May 14-21.....	\$ 7,407.00

Check Users:
Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account.

God bless you for continuing to support the Parish. We are grateful to you and to all who sent donations to our School in response to my letter asking for financial help on its behalf, and those who responded to my "ugly bathroom" message.

We are so blessed to have such caring, loving parishioners. We are continuing to keep you in our daily thoughts and prayers.

*With Sincere Thanks from
your Carmelite Friars*



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE MEDITATION



Today's First Reading (Dt 8:2-3, 14-16): Moses said to the people: "Remember how for forty years now the LORD, your God, has directed all your journeying in the desert, so as to test you by affliction and find out whether or not it was your intention to keep His commandments. He, therefore, let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your fathers, in order to show you that not by bread alone does one live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the LORD. Do not forget the LORD, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery; who guided you through the vast and terrible desert with its serpents and scorpions, its parched and waterless ground; who brought forth water for you from the flinty rock and fed you in the desert with manna, a food unknown to your fathers."

God sustained the people of Israel for forty years in the desert with manna sent down from heaven, and Moses doesn't want them to forget it. God brought forth water from stone for them to drink, and Moses doesn't want them to forget this, either. And Moses tells them—twice—that the food that God sent was a food that neither they nor their ancestors before them had ever experienced before. Jesus, too, speaks of Food come down from Heaven, Food that the Jewish people had never experienced before. Recalling the manna in the desert, Jesus doesn't want them to forget it either, explaining that He is the Food and Drink of eternal life. And Paul reiterates to the Corinthians and to all of us that in the Bread and in the Cup, we share in the Body and Blood of Christ.

God provides food to nourish our bodies and our souls, to bring us into union with the Divine. This is what we celebrate on this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. The Israelites who journeyed through the desert for forty years knew physical hunger, but they were also hungry for more—they needed to know that God was with them as they made their way through the dangerous desert. We, too, experience hunger. We need to be assured that the Lord is with us as we navigate the circumstances of our lives, some of which feel dangerous, if not to our bodies, certainly to our spirit. Our participation in the Eucharist provides this assurance and more: fed with Christ's Body and Blood, we are drawn into communion with Christ and one another.

The Israelites who journeyed through the desert were fleeing slavery and certain death. But along the way, they encountered serpents and scorpions and experienced great hunger and thirst. God fed them with manna and quenched their thirst with water drawn from a rock. In these miraculous encounters, the people came to believe that God was truly with them on their journey, and with this assurance, grew to rely on and put their trust in God. Jesus began His ministry with a pilgrimage to the desert, where He prayed and placed His trust in His heavenly Father. Strengthened at God's hand, Jesus stayed true to His mission even in the face of cruel death, giving Himself, His very life and substance to us in Bread and Wine at the Last Supper and for His disciples for ages unending.

WHAT IS YOUR DESERT? Chances are you are not physically wandering in a desert, although millions of people throughout the world live without adequate clean water. All of us experience spiritual and emotional deserts, however. The food that Jesus gives in the Eucharist, His very Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, nourish us in our desert moments and strengthen us to live as Christ's people in the world. Partaking in Christ's Body and Blood, we are to live as Christ's people in the world, standing in solidarity with those who are in deserts of their own—physical, spiritual, and emotional. We are called to act as Christ's body, nourishing others through our presence, prayer, and sharing. What is your desert? How does the Eucharist strengthen you as you journey through this dark and sometimes frightening place in life? What deserts of others are you called to address through your caring and sharing as a member of Christ's body, the Church?

Mass Intentions

Corpus Christi

For the Week of June 13 through June 20, 2020

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Mark and Wieslaw Adamowicz, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Robert Barcelos, OCD, INT

7:30 a.m.: John Okamoto, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Disc. Carmelite Friars of the Western Prov. INT

11:00 a.m.: Peter & Monica Grimm, 23rd Anniv INT

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD, INT

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carrell Family & Friends, INT/RIP

Noon: 1) Denise Sookhan, Birthday Intention

2) David Barrera, INT

Tuesday:

*7:30 a.m.: Albert Shower, RIP

Noon: 1) Marie Halpin, Birthday Intention

2) Jesús Salvador Alcaraz, RIP

Wednesday

*7:30 a.m.: Carrell Family and Friends, INT/RIP

Noon: 1) Alvina Mary Hopkins, RIP

2) Virgilio Lopez, INT

Thursday:

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD, INT

Noon: 1) McAllister Family, INT

2) Albert Grimm, 9th Birthday Intention

Friday:

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD, INT

Noon: 1) Maria Enny So, RIP

2) Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, INT

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

Noon: 1) Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

2) Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

*Held at the *Carmelite Chapel, 215 East Alhambra Road. Open to the public except on Sundays and holidays.

***THE NUNS' CHAPEL
IS BACK OPEN FOR
PUBLIC WORSHIP EVERY
DAY BUT SUNDAY!**

(50 people maximum)

You Are What You Eat

In John's Gospel, Jesus gives a long discourse on the Bread of Life. The first part talks of bread as a sign of God's loving care for the people. Like the manna in the desert, Jesus represents God caring for the people in a new way. But the part we hear in today's Gospel is more specific. He says the Bread He will give is His Flesh. The leaders of the Jews don't understand. Hopefully, we can do better.

In the pagan world at the time of Christ and before, a sacrifice was also a meal. An animal was ritually killed and burnt (i.e., cooked), to be shared at a meal with the people. The sacrifice was a gift to the gods that joined the people to their deity and also to each other. So Jesus used that understanding of sacrifice to explain His gift of Self. He would die on the cross as a sacrifice to the Father, and we would share in the meal by consuming Bread and Wine, which become His Body and Blood. That meal is shared today in the Eucharist.

Better than the pagan sacrifice, the Eucharist unites us with God because Jesus is both human and divine. His humanity allowed Him to represent us to the Father, as a lawyer represents a client to the court. Jesus' divinity allowed His sacrifice to be worthy of the Father, as no merely human gift could be. So giving His life on the Cross was the best and only way that He could offer a true sacrifice to the Father.

The Eucharist also unites us to one another. We share this meal with other Christians as a sign of our common faith. Christ who gave Himself to the Father on the Cross also gives Himself to us in the Eucharist. And because the food we share is the Body and Blood of Christ, we—in a sense—become what we eat. So we are all members of the Body of Christ. We show this by our love, by sharing our faith, by forgiving each other, and by our service to one another. If we believe that Jesus is divine, we must believe His word that the Eucharist is truly His Body and Blood, given for us.