

Sunday June 19, 2022
Corpus Christi Sunday
Parishioner Reflection
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The Two Become One

...and the two shall become one flesh. [Matthew 19:5]

Through the gift of Corpus Christi, The Holy Eucharist, our divine Bridegroom has united Himself to all humankind in the bonds of divine marriage. We are no longer our separate selves, but we are united in the bonds of divine matrimony to our beloved Savior and Redeemer. All this takes place at the Wedding Feast of the Lamb, which is the Holy Mass. The Mass, in which we celebrate the Breaking of the Bread, is heaven come down to earth. While we are still in exile here, our divine Bridegroom unites Himself to us in the sublime sacrament of the altar. So great is His love for us that He cannot wait until we get to heaven to give Himself to us, so He gives us the Holy Eucharist as food for the journey and a foretaste of heaven. Jesus promised us, "I will not leave you orphans, I will come to you [John 14:18]" and The Eucharist is the fulfillment of this promise.

If, God willing, I make it to heaven, it will be my joy to praise God eternally for His goodness, love and mercy, and what greater gift is there of His goodness, love and mercy than the supreme gift of the Body and Blood of Christ, His atoning sacrifice to the Father, and His selfless, total, loving sacrifice to us, His bride. How my soul sings to God even now for the sublime gift of the Holy Eucharist. Words are inadequate to extol the virtues of Christ's greatest gift of Love and His greatest act of Mercy, which is the very gift of Himself in the consecrated bread and wine.

All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come buy grain and eat; Come buy grain without money, wine and milk without cost! Why spend your money for what is not bread; or your wages for what does not satisfy? Only listen to me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare. [Isaiah 55:1-2]

The rich fare is the table of the Lord. He has paid the cost, so that we may eat and drink and be satisfied with no cost to us other than our sweet surrender to His most Holy Will.

The Eucharist is the means by which God is making all things new. When our Creator unites Himself to us, His creatures, through the total gift of Himself in The Eucharist, a most wondrous transformation takes place. Our very essence is lifted from the human to

the divine because the Divine Essence has deigned to take on a human nature, and the total mingling of these essences that takes place when we receive Holy Communion is such that the two are no longer two, but one. When we surrender ourselves totally, purely, and humbly in this most sacred union, our lives become part of God, and God's life becomes part of us. What God has joined, let none divide.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, take a few moments today to contemplate the sublime mystery of the Holy Eucharist. Enter the sweetness of the bridal chamber, and let your lives be transformed