



Reflection for the Feast of Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Jesus)

Michael Fallon MSC offers a valuable insight into Jesus' words, "eat my flesh and drink my blood." He suggests that truly hearing Jesus means making a home for his word in the depths of our hearts and minds, and walking his path in a spirit of faithful discipleship. Following Jesus is expressed not only in ritual, but also in a life of loving service to others.

The first reading reminds us that God sustained the Israelites in the desert, meeting their needs and asking only for their trust and obedience. In the Eucharist, God continues to nourish us for the journey and calls us to a love that is self-giving, broken open, and shared for the sake of others.

Our journey of faith is one of discipleship and communion. When we gather in faith and love, we are nourished by Jesus and reminded that God remains with us. In coming together, serving others, and remembering Jesus, we open ourselves to his presence, guidance, and strength.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us that unity in Christ does not erase diversity but gathers it into one body. As he writes, "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them... there are different kinds of service, but the same Lord" (1 Cor 12:4-5). God works through each person for the good of all.

This is what we see and experience in Passionist Family Groups as we build and sustain relationships. We recognise both the needs around us and the variety of gifts people bring as they respond with openness, service, and a spirit of belonging. Even as we grow older, each of us still has something to offer. The witness of the early Church, which we seek to emulate, shows us how to reach out and build bonds of love, peace, and fellowship, strengthening our communities and opening a path to hope and renewed faith.

To follow Jesus, then, is to look beyond ourselves and contribute to the life of the community. As we share our gifts in kindness and service, we become signs of God's love and invite others to journey with us in faith.

God go with you,

Paul

Scripture Reflection: Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), Year A – 7 June 2026

Abide in me



O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.

LECTIONARY READINGS

First reading: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

Psalm: Psalm 147

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Gospel: John 6:51-58

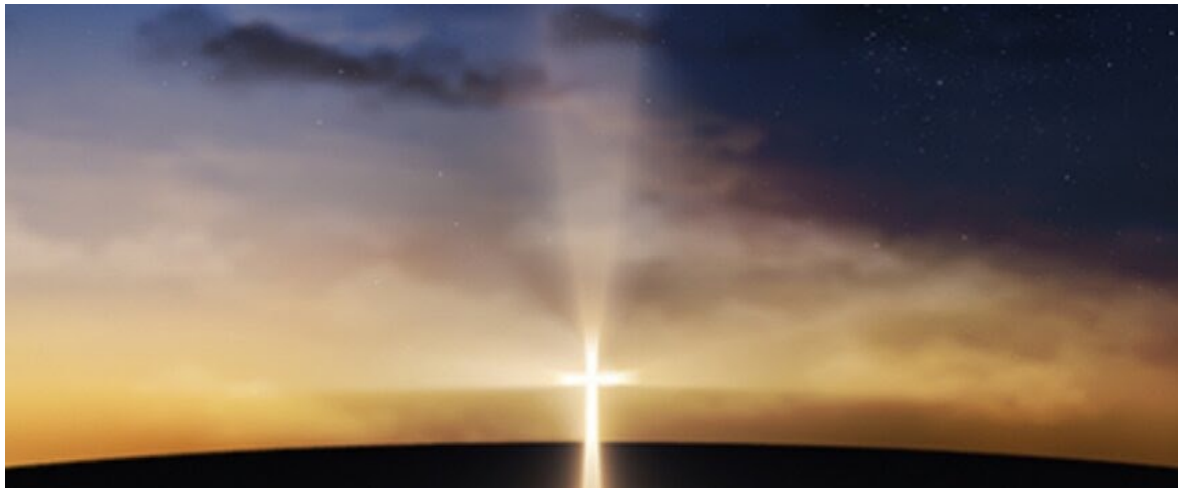
Link to readings [Click here](#)

Today's feast of Corpus Christi invites us to celebrate with gratitude and reflect deeply on the mystery of the Eucharist. This is the great gift of Jesus' very self: the bread of life. The readings help us to see how God nourishes us, draws us together as one, and calls us to trust in him.

In the **first reading**, Moses recalls how God brought the Israelites out of slavery and led them through the desert, providing manna and water. We are never left alone: the Lord

cares for us even in times of struggle. This theme is echoed in the **Psalm**, as the people lift their hearts in praise and thanksgiving for God's guidance, his word, and his protection. In the **second reading**, Paul reminds the Corinthians—and us—that sharing in the body and blood of Christ unites us both with Christ and with one another, making us one body. In the **Gospel**, Jesus declares himself to be the living bread from heaven. The Eucharist is the new manna, given through Jesus, who remains with us always as the source of life.

This week, we pray for a deeper trust in the gift of the Eucharist, and especially for those unable to share in it for whatever reason, remembering that God loves every one of us unconditionally.



Safeguarding: “Working Together for a Safe Church”

Any complaints should be directed through the National Office of Professional Standards (NOPS) or reported directly to the New Zealand Police or Oranga Tamariki.

Phone: 03 365 1993 or 0800 114 622. **Email:** prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz

www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz

Formation (Adult Faith Education & Spirituality)

The Theme for this year's Formations is Nurturing and Nourishment. Hugh McKay prefers the term "kindness" because it is the only form of human love that does not depend on affection. It is a response to a need, and it draws on our compassion – the quality that stands out most in Jesus' life. Jesus chose to mix with and meet outcasts, inviting them to share his table. His fellowship included everyone – a family for all!.

PJ Harding defines nurturing as what fills your cup, whether that is laughter, fresh air, good food or time with loved ones. In Passionist Family Groups our reaching out and being family to each other brings joy, understanding, service, care and support. It's not just about 'me' but the welfare and nourishment we can give to each other through our love, concern and compassion. This nurturing leads to nourishment of the heart.

Email: paulus663@gmail.com or Mobile: 021357933

Formation Bookings: Napier 6th June; Dunedin Parishes 13 & 14 June; Palmerston North 28 June `St Hellier's 26th July and 35th Anniversary; East Coast Bays 28th July 2026.
Ashburton 8 August Christchurch parishes August 9th

Prayer:

1. We pray for Pope Leo and thank him for his truth-telling regarding the war in the Middle East and elsewhere. His stance has been one of integrity, and his leadership provides a stark contrast to the quest for power and domination. Let us walk the path of peace with him.
2. We are reminded by Pope Leo XIV in his first encyclical to stay strong in the preservation of human dignity.
3. We pray for many members of PFG's in Whakatane who are seriously ill.
4. We pray to be like Jesus, spending ourselves in the service of others- welcoming, guiding and leading people through care, compassion and forgiveness.
5. We pray for all struggling to live due to the constraints globally impacting our world
6. Let us take up the call of Pope Leo to foster a sense of belonging in our communities. Also to be united in Christ – united in Mission
7. We remember that God calls on us, as people of faith, to offer our voices to help those who have none.
8. Keep in mind all those who continue to struggle with mental health challenges, and their families who support them in their daily lives.

1. *Please remember in prayer Fr Robert Steele PP in Pukekohe – his brother died recently and now he is expecting his brother Bruce to die, Leonie Christian, Margaret and Graeme Armstrong, Jocelyn Kev Bryant and family, Tim Walsh, Debbie Cotter; Christine and Derrick Scott; Paul, Deb and Nick Kelly, Norma Bellamy and family and daughter in law facing a difficult delivery of her child on Friday May 29 Norma is going up their tomorrow (Friday) and Lindsay Penman in your prayers*

6. Also, please remember, Pat Carson, Graeme Matthews, Di Buckley, Adrian van de Pas and her son Robert, Tim Bartells & family, Linda Darbyshire and family in your prayer, Christine Geoghegan's daughter Kate and extended families, Pauline Prendergast, Robyn Burns (Hill)

7. *Keep in mind all those who are struggling with decisions made by leaders that are causing harm, fear, injustice and separation of families.*

8. Your own intentions



Humour:

- What does a nosey pepper do? It gets jalapeño business.
- Did you hear about the fragile myth? It was busted.
- What word can you make shorter by adding two letters? Short.
- What do call a criminal landing an airplane? Condescending.
- I stayed up all night wondering where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- Why do people who live in Greece hate waking up at dawn? Because Dawn is tough on Greece.
- How do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it.
- Justice is a dish best served cold. Otherwise, it's just water.
- Why should you never throw grandpa's false teeth at a vehicle? You might denture car.
- Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting? They always drop their needles.
- What did the lunch box say to the refrigerator? Don't hate me because I'm a little cooler.
- What do you do to have a space party? You planet.

Belong, Behave, Believe



Have a great week everyone.....