

**June 17-18, 2017**

**The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - (Corpus Christi)**

**Deuteronomy 8:2-16**

**First Corinthians 10:16-17**

**John 6:51-58**

The smell of bacon sizzling; fresh brewed coffee luring us from slumber; the taste of cold watermelon on a hot summer day; the smoky charred allure of s-more's; so many tastes, so many foods and beverages that come with portfolios of memories. With the fullness of Summer opening before us, so many of our aromatic and tasty meals have close associations with the people with WHOM we have enjoyed them and the events they celebrated/commemorated. On this SECOND DOCTRINAL weekend of **The Body and Blood of Christ** (Corpus Christi in Latin) we are reminded of the unique gift given us at The Last Supper on Holy Thursday when Jesus took bread and wine and gave them to his disciples with the admonition: 'This is my body, this is my blood.' Each time we consume the Eucharist we are NOT just remembering what Jesus did but actually experiencing it anew...and consuming his sacramental flesh and sacramental blood. Unlike the smells and tastes of our Summer festivities that evoke memories, EUCHARIST is all about the actual DIVINE PRESENCE offered to us for strength, sustenance and guidance...we actually RECEIVE and CONSUME the body and blood of Jesus, the eternal Son of God. Anymore than one would show up at a Thanksgiving Dinner and simply look at the food or enjoy the aromas, Eucharist is given to us to be CONSUMED so that what we eat becomes the essential building blocks of our OWN bodies. When we eat our breakfasts, lunch and dinners, what we consume is digested and becomes the fuel for our muscles, is transformed into new blood cells, flesh and blood and powers the synapses within our brains. In the very same way, when we consume EUCHARIST, the divine body and blood of Jesus is digested and becomes woven into our physical selves...the consecrated bread and wine do not lose their divinity when we consume them, rather, their divinity slowly transforms our physical selves into being more than we can ever imagine. **As our parents taught us...eat good food for you are what you eat.** So it is with Eucharist, we become what we eat...and having eaten of this wonderful food, WE go out into our individual worlds as Eucharist to all we encounter...we become walking, talking, living tabernacles. So eat and enjoy. Savor the tastes of the bread and wine and remember...this is a very special meal, when the one who has invited us to it actually becomes the food served at it. Which is what we are called to do in the same way when we leave here...WE are food for the world.

Thank you for sharing these final hours of Spring with our Santa Clara Community as we settle in for the precious weeks of Summer. **NEXT WEEKEND is our 2017 SummerFest Food Fair** after all the Masses so come prepared to linger and enjoy the varied foods and beverages. Invite your family and your friends; aside from Christmas and Easter (and Savor the Night) there is no better weekend to enjoy Santa Clara! This weekend we also acknowledge the DADs among us, those with whom we are genetically linked as well as those who have FATHERED us throughout our years. THANK YOU to these men who have helped to shape, form, strengthen and walk with us as we have become whom we are today! Please take a Bulletin with you on your way home and, as Summer OFFICIALLY dawns on Wednesday, please know that you are loved. FKB