



The Voice

25th May 2008

The Body and Blood of Christ, Year A

Psalter Week 4

ORDINARY TIME

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Recently deceased:**
 Marjorie Burns, Nellie Higham, Glen Hughes.
- Anniversaries:**
 John Watson, John Ashley, Bede Ashley, Ellen McGinley, Raffaella Princi, Patrick Powter.
- Remembrances:**
 Murray Kiley, Ron Houliston, Charles Julius, David & Ellen O'Regan, Olive Beach, Arthur, Muriel & John Brown, Jean & Basil Sainty, Gwen Tracey, Eileen Brown, Jason & Tara Johnston, Curace & David Cang, Jr., Estela Soriano, Martin Townsend, Nicky, Elonora, Marita & Mark Geronimo, Jordan & Adel.
- Sick:**
 Rev. John Hill, John Ward, Val Ide, Mgr. John Grannall, Robin Sorrenson, Dominique Johnston, Ross Vanderveen.

One Loaf, One Body

Since one often hears ill-informed comment on the Mass, we reproduce on page 3 a text from the second century telling us how the Eucharist was celebrated then.

St Paul, in today's second reading, speaks of the way in which 'we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.' Here is how this is spelt out in chapter 9 of a document at least as old as Justin's treatise and possibly even earlier (perhaps from the first century), the *Didache*, or 'The Lord's Teaching through the Twelve Apostles':

Now concerning the Thanksgiving (Eucharist), thus give thanks. First, concerning the cup: We thank thee, our Father, for the holy vine of David Thy servant, which Thou madest known to us through Jesus Thy Servant; to Thee be the glory for ever. And concerning the broken bread: We thank Thee, our Father, for the life and knowledge which Thou modest known to us through Jesus Thy Servant; to Thee be the glory for ever. Even as this broken bread was scattered over the hills, and was gathered together and became one, so let Thy Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into Thy kingdom; for Thine is the glory and the power through Jesus Christ for ever. But let no one eat or drink of your Thanksgiving (Eucharist), but they who have been baptised into the name of the Lord; for concerning this also the Lord hath said, Give not that which is holy to the dogs.

In chapter 10 there is a thanksgiving: But after ye are filled,(8) thus give thanks: We thank Thee, holy Father, for Thy holy name which Thou didst cause to tabernacle in our hearts, and for the knowledge and faith and immortality, which Thou modest known to us through Jesus Thy Servant; to Thee be the glory for ever. Thou, Master almighty, didst create all things for Thy name's sake; Thou gavest food and drink to men for enjoyment, that they might give thanks to Thee; but to us Thou didst freely give spiritual food and drink and life eternal through Thy Servant. Before all things we thank Thee that Thou art mighty; to Thee be the glory for ever. Remember, Lord, Thy Church, to deliver it from all evil and to make it perfect in Thy love, and gather it from the four winds, sanctified for Thy kingdom which Thou hast prepared for it; for Thine is the power and the glory for ever. Let grace come, and let this world pass away. Hosanna to the God (Son) of David! If any one is holy, let him come; if any one is not so, let him repent. Maranatha. Amen.

Do we not recognise in these two early testimonies the faith that we still have in the Body and Blood of Christ, as enunciated in today's gospel? *I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever ... For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.*

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

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Psalm Response

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Praise the Lord Je - ru - sa - lem; Come praise the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Around the Parish



Parish Pastoral Council: A reminder to all parishioners that the Parish Pastoral Council is seeking new members, due to a number of members retiring, having completed their full term. The remaining members will be very welcoming to all who decide to join them. All those interested please write to Fr. Hill c/- Parish Office, PO Box 264, Woy Woy. 2256. Please mark the envelope with letters 'PPC'

St. Vincent de Paul will be conducting a clothing drive next week-end 31st May-1st June and request your generous response. Bags available at the Church and we would appreciate their return—full of course—if unable to return the full bags phone 4342 3907 and pick up will be organized. Many thanks.

Mary Mac's Place: On Tuesday, 13th May, the hard work and dedication of our wonderful volunteers was acknowledged at an Afternoon Tea at Ethel Cox Centre. Fr. Knobbs officiated and Trish Devlin, Bill Raper, Mary Scarf, Kath Player and Pat Slattery from our Steering Committee welcomed the

volunteers. Sincere thanks to Mary Scarf, Trish Martin, Louise Degeling, Pat and Kath, Nicole and her team from Community First Step for a terrific job with the catering. Our thanks to Woolworths for their generous donation of \$150 towards afternoon tea.

Bus Trip to the Hunter Valley surrounds Wednesday 28th May. There are 4 vacancies left. Contact Susie 4342 3893 or 0403 4117 639.

Parish Pastoral Meeting: The following matters were discussed on 8th May, 2008.

- Our Parish hosted the Broken Bay Deanery meeting for areas 4 & 5 on 1st May in the Walter Baker Hall. The participants were given a tour of the Church prior to commencement of the meeting. Items discussed were the Parish Pastoral Plan 2006-2010 and possible sharing of resources among Parishes.
- The recruitment of new Pastoral Council members.
- The success of the Broken Bay Music Ministry Forum, Master Class on the Accompanist,

held in the Church Sunday 4th May. All found the class very helpful and enjoyable. The Parish Council wishes to give special thanks to Lola de Souza and Rae Garski for the refreshments provided.

- The Lay Ministry educational program run by the Broken Bay Diocese was also a great success. Over 100 participated.
- St. John's School Report: Principal Frank Cohen reported a very successful Enrolment Information evening on 6th May. 56 enrolment packages were handed out. The school has won \$15,000, which will be used for a special Maths Program.. Feast of St. John the Baptist, 24th June, the school is celebrating with Mass at 11am, followed by a BBQ. All parishioners welcome. Full details t.b.a. The school is also looking for new board members. Parishioners who think they may have the skills/ gifts for this position are invited to contact the school 4341 0884.

Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on our children 22nd June. Please keep them in your prayers.

Social Justice

Overseas Aid: An effective overseas aid program will aim to create conditions that enable each human being to realize her/his potential for social, political, economic and spiritual fulfilment, in a manner consistent with the common good.

The official goal of the Australian aid program is one of self-interest. It is: *to advance Australia's national interest by helping developing countries reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development.*

Australian overseas aid has decreased from 0.65% of the

Gross National Income in 1975, to 0.7% and makes Australia 14th out of the 22 OECD donor countries. 33% of aid money goes to be called "good governance" programs which focus primarily on law and order and institution building, resulting in a significant decrease in funding for basic needs such as education, health and infrastructure. Yet aid funding for basic social services is critical for the reduction of poverty.

Most of Australia's aid budget, (2001/2002 \$1.8 Billion), goes to a small number of private busi-

nesses in Australia, to be delivered primarily by a few private contractors for profit.

Australia directly ties more than 50% of its aid, prioritising the profits of Australian private companies ahead of poverty reduction.

In dollar terms, our aid program (0.26% GNI) costs each Australian approximately the cost of one loaf of bread a week.

Information: *Jubilee Australia* www.jubileeaustralia.org
Aid Watch www.aidwatch.org.au
AusAid www.ausaid.gov.au

From the Diocese and beyond

An Introduction to Julian of Norwich – Free Lecture Wed 28 May, 7.30pm-8.30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, 23 Yardley Ave., Waitara, and Tuesday 3 June, 1pm-2pm at Level 8, Caroline Chisholm Centre, 423 Pennant Hills Rd.

Pennant Hills. To register and more info phone 9847 0030.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during an **all-night Vigil** at Holy Cross Church, South Kincumber, from 6.30pm Friday 30 May (Feast of the Sacred Heart) ending 6.30am 31st May

(Visitation of the Blessed Virgin). The Vigil will begin with Mass 6.30pm and during the night there will be prayers, Rosary, hymns and silent reflection. Toilet facilities available and tea/coffee provided during the night. Enq; Paul Salmon 4381 1335.

The Eucharist in the Early Church

St Justin Martyr

And this food is called among us Eucharist, of which no one is allowed to partake but the man who believes that the things which we teach are true, and who has been washed with the washing that is for the remission of sins, and unto regeneration, and who is so living as Christ has enjoined. For not as common bread and common drink do we receive these; but in like manner as Jesus Christ our Saviour, having been made flesh by the Word of God, had both flesh and blood for our salvation, so likewise have we been taught that the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by transmutation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh. For the apostles, in the memoirs composed by them, which are called Gospels, have thus delivered unto us what was enjoined upon them; that Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, said, "This do ye in remembrance of Me, this is My body;" and that, after the same manner, having taken the cup and given thanks, He said, "This is My blood;" and gave it to them alone. Which the wicked devils have imitated in the mysteries of Mithras, commanding the same thing to be done. For, that bread and a cup of water are placed with certain incantations in the mystic rites of one who is being initiated, you either know or can learn.

And we afterwards continually remind each other of these things. And the wealthy among us help the needy; and we always keep together; and for all things wherewith we are supplied, we bless the Maker of all through His Son Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Ghost. And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country

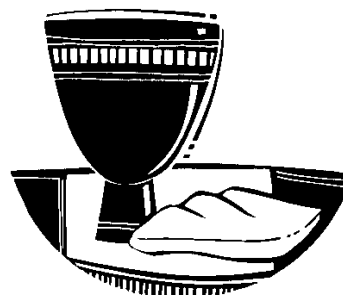
gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things. Then we all rise together and pray, and, as we before said, when our prayer is ended, bread and wine and water are brought, and the president in like manner offers prayers and thanksgivings, according to his ability, and the people assent, saying Amen; and there is a distribution to each, and a participation of that over which thanks have been given, and to those who are absent a portion is sent by the deacons. And they who are well to do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is deposited with the president, who succours the orphans and widows and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, and those who are in bonds and the strangers sojourning among us, and in a word takes care of all who are in need. But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Saviour on the same day rose from the dead. For He was crucified on the day before that of Saturn (Saturday); and on the day after that of Saturn, which is the day of the Sun, having appeared to His apostles and disciples, He taught them these things, which we have submitted to you also for your consideration.

These are chapters 66 & 67 of the *First Apology* of Justin Martyr (c.100-165), in which he defended the doctrines and practices of the early Christians. The essential characteristics of the Mass we celebrate today are clearly discernible in his account.



The Scriptures today remind us that "we, many though we are, are one body for we all partake of the one loaf." How are we using our gifts of time and talent to build up the Body of Christ?

See 1 Corinthians 10:16-17



"If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink his blood, you will not have life in you"

Devotions

Home Rosary: John & Patricia Robbie, 20 Attunga Cl. St. Hubert's Is. Ph: 4342 1904. Tuesday 27 May at 10.30am.

Prayers for WYD Tues 27th May 2.30pm-3.05pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Please consider making a visit to the Chapel each week to pray for WYD.

Booklets available for use in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Our Lady Star of the Sea: Prayers in honour of the Patroness of our Diocese, Saturday 31st May. 11.15am-11.45am. Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

Woy Woy, Umina, Ettalong, Koolewong, Tascott, Blackwall, Booker Bay, St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point and Phegan's Bay.

St John the Baptist Church, corner of Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office Ethel Cox Parish Centre
P.O. Box 264 100 Blackwall Road.
54 Victoria Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Dr John Hill, *Parish Priest*

Fr Barry Nobbs, *Assistant Priest*

Parish Secretary: Libby McManus

Receptionists: Pamela Burton & Raelene McLenaghan

Parish Office Hours: 9.30 am – 4.00pm
Monday to Friday

Deadline for The Voice: 4.00 p.m.
Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.45am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds); Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday, 3.30 p.m.; Saturday 11.30am; & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; 5th Sunday, during 9.15 a.m. Mass. Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30 a.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am).

CENTACARE Marriage & Family Counselling, Pregnancy help – 20 Watt St, Gosford. Phone: 4324 6403.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Robyn on 4341 0584.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at St Mary's Hall, Ocean View Rd, Ettalong (opposite Palm Beach Ferry Wharf). Games start at 7.30 p.m. and finish approx 10.15 p.m., cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6.00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries 43690626.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH MINISTRY – For information and events contact Robyn on 0432 619 182.

PARISH CHOIR – Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7 p.m. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, 21a Dul-kara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 f 0243 445049

Eucharistic Processions

Paul Turner

The Body of Christ under the form of bread may be carried in solemn procession through public streets. The practice, more frequent in past generations and among certain ethnic groups, is still encouraged.

A eucharistic procession forms after mass or after a period of adoration. It is especially appropriate on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. Usually a priest places a large, unbroken, consecrated host inside a glass protector called a lunette. He then inserts the lunette into a monstrance. A monstrance is a beautifully crafted vessel that draws attention to the host.

The priest, vested for Mass or wearing a white cope, holds the monstrance aloft. Ministers carrying lights and incense join him. Additional ministers may carry a canopy above the priest and the monstrance. The faithful join the procession, singing hymns and offering prayers as they walk.

The procession may pause at stations decorated for the occasion, where the

priest blesses the faithful with the monstrance. Ideally, the procession begins at one church and ends at another, where the priest gives a final benediction and reposes the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. Alternatively, the procession may return to the church from which it began.

Eucharistic processions evangelise the civic community, as Catholics witness to their faith.

Throughout the 20th century the faithful began sharing communion at Mass more frequently than they did before, and many eucharistic devotions faded. The main reason Jesus gave his body and blood was for us to take, eat and drink. Although some eucharistic devotions are rarely seen, it is more important to see the faithful sharing communion at Mass.

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Diocese of
Broken Bay