

# *"Walking with Christ."*

## *The Mystery of Corpus Christi*

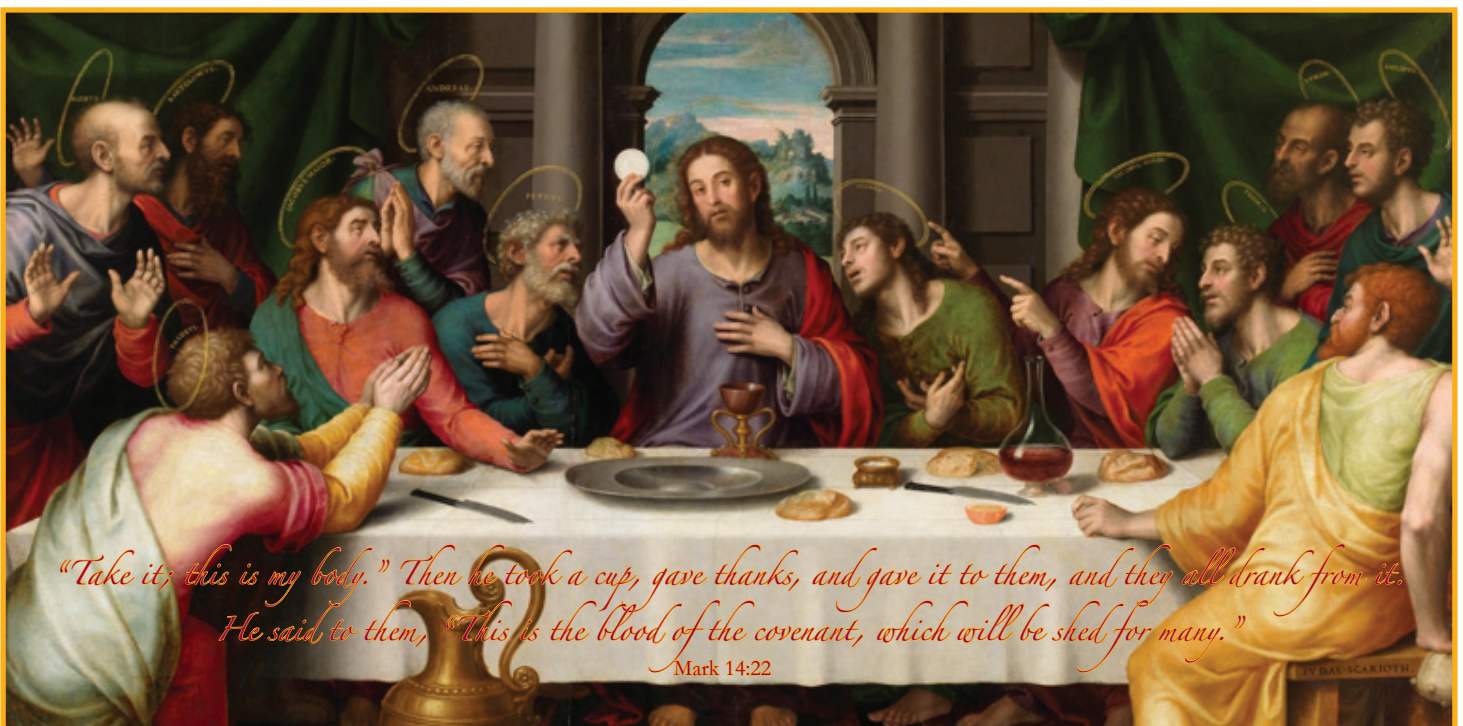
By: Deacon Rick Lawlor

We are in the midst of the season of mysteries within the Liturgical Calendar. Last week we celebrated the great mystery of the Holy Trinity and this weekend the Church celebrates the mystery of Corpus Christi, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The Trinity and Eucharist are perhaps the most misunderstood mysteries of our Catholic faith. In regards to the Eucharist, Catholics and especially non-Catholics struggle with the notion that we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus. In fact during the early days of the Church people accused Christians of being cannibals as they celebrated the Eucharist. Even today many people reduce the Eucharist to a symbolic ritual of Jesus' sacrifice. However, through Scripture and Tradition, Apostolic teaching, and through Divine Revelation, the theology of the Church regarding the Eucharist is most clear. When a priest consecrates the Eucharist at Mass, the bread and wine actually becomes the body and blood of Jesus. Even though it looks like bread and wine and tastes like bread and wine, through the greatest mysteries of God, ordinary bread and wine is transformed into the body and blood of Jesus.

The mysteries of the Church are great and vast, each day our lives are filled with mystery as we walk this journey with God. The Eucharist is proof that God desires to be with us, to walk with us, to laugh with us and to cry with us. God became man and walked in our footsteps, he understands human nature well. Jesus desires a close and personal relationship with each of us and it is through the Eucharist that we can be closest to God.

In addition, the Eucharist has the power to change lives, Jesus has the power and desire to make each of us better. Therefore, I would like to conclude with these two points. First, God desires to be with us, especially sinners. If God can move mountains, he certainly can convert a sinner. Secondly, when we receive Holy Communion remember to be as reverent as possible, and when the minister says *"The Body of Christ"* it is our obligation to proclaim that truth with a clear and audible *"Amen!"* Therefore, my friends embrace our season of mystery. Jesus is with us and he desires a close and personal relationship with each of us. Receive Jesus in the Eucharist with great joy and allow him to transform your lives forever.

May Almighty God Bless you today and always.



*"Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is the blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many."*

Mark 14:22