

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church

June 14, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

Oh Sacrament Most Holy, Oh Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!
Happy Corpus Christi Sunday to one and all!

I was so touched by the look of joy in the eyes of those who were able to attend Mass last weekend. No one, however, was happier than myself. I was so good to have at least part of our congregation back. I am now looking forward to the day, and I believe that day will come, when we will have the entire congregation back in the pews. Until then, our Deacons and I continue to ask all to exercise common sense and caution as we await either a vaccine or a cure for the coronavirus.

Speaking of Deacons, we, of course, have a new one. We give thanks and praise to Almighty God for calling Gregg Hoyer to the Order of Deacons. He is a good family man, a hard worker, and a good parishioner. So, I am confident that he is going to be a good Deacon and a great addition to the good Deacons we already have: Vince and Gary. For those who can attend, Deacon Gregg Hoyer will be preaching the 11:00 Mass this Sunday, June 14. Through the prayers of St. Stephen, St. Ephraim, St. Lawrence, and all of the other Deacon Saints, may Deacon Gregg have a long and fruitful ministry.

On this day, we are equally thankful for Deacon Gary and Deacon Vince. I cannot do it without them. Deacon Gary and his team continue to oversee the pantry and we thank them for their hard work and dedication. Deacon Vince continues to lead our RCIA and Evangelization teams. Plus Deacon Vince is overseeing a brand new and important outreach: OLSH phone ministry. Heads of Committees along with other volunteers have started calling parishioners just to see how things are going. So please don't be surprised if you are called and please thank them for what they are doing.

Along with the so many great volunteers that we have are the members of our Altar Society. Long before this present crisis, they have been cleaning our church, and they continue to do so. We are so grateful for them as they give the church a good cleaning each week and then give it a spot cleaning after each Sunday Mass. When you see one of these members of the Altar Society, please thank them. Also, please consider joining them in this extremely important work.

We also thank Mr. Mark Guinther, and his firm, Eastern Diversified Services, for recently lending us a fogger and donating the sanitizer to help keep our church safe.

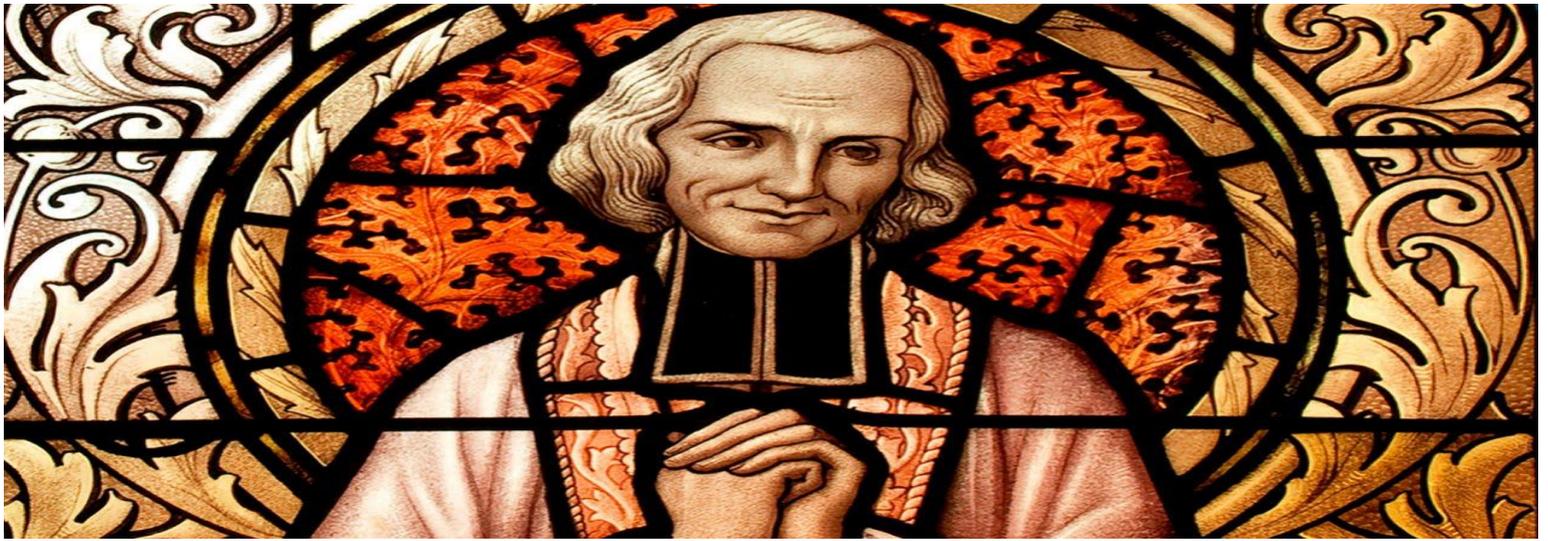
As said at the beginning of this newsletter, this is Corpus Christi weekend. As last weekend, we were asked to reflect on the Blessed Trinity, so this weekend we are asked to really and truly celebrate the gift of the Holy Eucharist. It is the greatest of gifts. It is a gift which fills us with God's Grace in this life and prepares us for the life to come. That is why we constantly encourage each other to frequently and worthily participate in the Eucharist and to receive Holy Communion. To help us appreciate this gift even more I have included St. John Vianney's instruction of the power of receiving Holy Communion and the power of making a Spiritual Communion.

Lastly, let us continue to pray our Rosaries and our Chaplets for the health and wellbeing of our nation.



Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

Fr. Michael J. Pawelko



**St John Vianney:
Catechism on Receiving Holy Communion &
Making a Spiritual Communion**

MY CHILDREN, all beings in creation require to be fed, that they may live; for this purpose God has made trees and plants grow; it is a well-served table, to which all animals come and take the food which suits each one. But the soul also must be fed. Where, then, is its food? My brethren, the food of the soul is God. Ah! what a beautiful thought! The soul can feed on nothing but God. Only God can suffice for it; only God can fill it; only God can satiate its hunger; it absolutely requires its God!

There is in all houses a place where the provisions of the family are kept; it is the store-room. The church is the home of souls; it is the house belonging to us, who are Christians. Well, in this house there is a store-room. Do you see the tabernacle? If the souls of Christians were asked, "What is that?" your souls would answer, "It is the store-room. "

There is nothing so great, my children, as the Eucharist! Put all the good works in the world against one good Communion; they will be like a grain of dust beside a mountain. Make a prayer when you have the good God in your heart; the good God will not be able to refuse you anything, if you offer Him His Son, and the merits of His holy death and Passion. My children, if we understood the value of Holy Communion, we should avoid the least faults, that we might have the happiness of making it oftener.

We should keep our souls always pure in the eyes of God. My children, I suppose that you have been to confession today, and you will watch over yourselves; you will be happy in the thought that tomorrow you will have the joy of receiving the good God into your heart. Neither can you offend the good God tomorrow; your soul will be all embalmed with the precious Blood of Our Lord. Oh, beautiful life!

O my children, how beautiful will a soul be in eternity that has worthily and often received the good God! The Body of Our Lord will shine through our body, His adorable Blood through our blood; our soul will be united to the Soul of Our Lord during all eternity. There it will enjoy pure and perfect happiness.

My children, when the soul of a Christian who has received Our Lord enters paradise, it augments the joy of Heaven. The Angels and the Queen of Angels come to meet it, because they recognize the Son of God in that soul. Then will that soul be rewarded for the pains and sacrifices it will have endured in its life on earth. My children, we know when a soul has worthily received the Sacrament of the Eucharist, it is so drowned in love, so penetrated and changed, that it is no longer to be recognized in its words or its actions. . . . It is humble, it is gentle, it is mortified, charitable, and modest; it is at peace with everyone. It is a soul capable of the greatest sacrifices; in short, you would not know it again.

Go, then, to Communion, my children; go to Jesus with love and confidence; go and live upon Him, in order to live for Him! Do not say that you have too much to do. Has not the Divine Savior said, "Come to Me, all you that labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you"? Can you resist an invitation so full of love and tenderness? Do not say that you are not worthy of it. It is true, you are not worthy of it; but you are in need of it. If Our Lord had regarded our worthiness, He would never have instituted His beautiful Sacrament of love: for no one in the world is worthy of it, neither the saints, nor the angels, nor the archangels, nor the Blessed Virgin; but He had in view our needs, and we are all in need of it. Do not say that you are sinners, that you are too miserable, and for that reason you do not dare to approach it. I would as soon hear you say that you are very ill, and therefore you will not take any remedy, nor send for the physician.

All the prayers of the Mass are a preparation for Communion; and all the life of a Christian ought to be a preparation for that great action. We ought to labor to deserve to receive Our Lord every day. How humbled we ought to feel when we see others going to the holy table, and we remain motionless in our place! How happy is a guardian angel who leads a beautiful soul to the holy table!

If we are deprived of Sacramental Communion, let us replace it, as far as we can, by Spiritual Communion, which we can make every moment; for we ought to have always a burning desire to receive the good God. Communion is to the soul like blowing a fire that is beginning to go out, but that has still plenty of hot embers; we blow, and the fire burns again. After the reception of the Sacraments, when we feel ourselves slacken in the love of God, let us have recourse at once to spiritual communion. When we cannot come to church, let us turn towards the tabernacle: a wall cannot separate us from the good God; let us say five Patres (Our Fathers) and five Aves (Hail Marys) to make a spiritual communion. We can receive the good God only once a day; a soul on fire with love supplies for this by the desire to receive Him every moment. O man, how great thou art! fed with the Body and Blood of a God! Oh, how sweet a life is this life of union with the good God! It is Heaven upon earth; there are no more troubles, no more crosses! When you have the happiness of having received the good God, you feel a joy, a sweetness in your heart for some moments. Pure souls feel it always, and in this union consists their strength and their happiness.

