

The Feast of corpus Christi- The Body and Blood of Christ Year A – 14th June 2020

If possible arrange candles, a crucifix and a Gospel or Sunday Missal on a table.

Introduction

Today we celebrate Corpus Christi – the Body and Blood of Christ. We focus on the wonderful gift that Jesus has given us by giving us Himself in the Eucharist.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us.

An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Especially when our daily routines are different just now. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song".

We are sorry,
Truly sorry,
Heal us Lord,
In Your love,
Help us to do better, Help us to be kinder. Forgive us,

Forgive us.

Gloria (Sung)

(To the Tune of Frere Jacques)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

Almighty God and Father,

we worship You, we give You thanks,

we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,

only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of the Father.

Amen

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the **Gospel Acclamation:**

(Sing to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It')

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,

As we listen to the story,
let us praise him for his glory. Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord.

Gospel

A reading from the Holy Gospel According to St. John

All say "Glory to You Oh Lord" while making a cross on your forehead, on your lips and on your heart.

Gospel: John 6:51-58 (refer to)
<https://cafod.org.uk>>Education>Children's liturgy)

Finish by saying: The Gospel of the Lord All reply : Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

When did Jesus leave us His body and Blood? You might need to remind the children of the "last supper" and have a discussion on what happened then.

What did Jesus promise to everyone who "eats the bread of life?" Jesus promised that they would never be hungry or thirsty and that He would give them everlasting life with Him in Heaven. Discuss with them what kind of hunger and thirst this is. It's the yearning for God's love.

Explain to the children the words of the consecration that the Priest says at every Mass...the words of Jesus..."This is my body...." And when raising the chalice..."This is my blood...."

Explain that at these words of consecration God, through the actions of the Priest, changes the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus.

Explain and discuss with the children the wonderful gift that Jesus has provided us with in giving us Himself – body, blood, soul and divinity- truly present in the consecrated bread and wine that we receive in Holy Communion.

It is due to this wonderful gift that we can see that Jesus loves us so much that He remains with us in the consecrated hosts in the tabernacle and in Holy Communion.

You could take the opportunity to discuss with the children the (red) sanctuary lamp and that when you enter a Roman Catholic church where this is lit, it indicates that Jesus is present in the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle, and that this is why we genuflect towards the tabernacle.

If time permits you could also mention Eucharistic Adoration and ask if the children have ever been to Adoration or Benediction. Explain about exposition where we adore Jesus in the Blessed

Sacrament displayed placed in the Monstrance. (The children may describe the Monstrance as a “golden sunshine”).

Jesus said “Do this in memory of me” this is why we are called to go to Mass to fulfil what Jesus asks us to do. To eat his body and drink his blood and join him in the holy sacrifice at the altar.

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for showing Your love for us by being forever present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacles of our churches and for coming to us in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer**

Lord Jesus,

Help us to love and serve You better in our daily lives, and in Your love, draw us ever closer to You.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer**

Closing Prayer

Teach the Children this prayer to be said in front of the Holy Eucharist.

“Oh Sacrament most Holy, Oh Sacrament Divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine.” (Say three times) Amen.

For Parents or Carers reading this at home, there are some further resources on the Archdiocesan website including some craft ideas to prepare in advance to help with reflection or enjoy afterwards.