

This week's preparation for First Communion



1. This Sunday we celebrate the **Feast of Corpus Christi**. See if anyone in your house knows what that means & what language it is!! It is a really important feast for First Communion children. In lots of places it is celebrated with a big procession with everyone following what we call the Blessed Sacrament, that is, Jesus, carried around in a special display called a **monstrance**, like in these photographs.
2. Read the Gospel story for Sunday, on the next page.
3. Draw & colour or paint a picture that explains what you think Mass is all about – your picture might have people coming to the church, it might be a picture of the bread & wine, it might be a picture of the bible or someone reading about Jesus or something else..... **you** decide. When your picture is done I would like you to **drop it to Marino church if possible**. Put it in the sacristy letter box on the girls' school side. Put your name on the back of the picture. The church gates are open during the day only (Mon – Sun) so I understand that some people might not be able to deliver the picture.
4. Watch the Mass on Sun next (June 14th) at 11am over the webcam. I will display all the pictures I get at the Mass.



The Gospel Story for the Feast of Corpus Christi:

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowd:

“I am the bread from heaven! Everyone who eats it will live forever.

My flesh is the life-giving bread that I give to the people of this world.”

They started arguing with each other and asked,

“How can he give us his flesh to eat?”

Jesus answered: “I tell you for certain that you won’t live unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man.

But if you do eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will have eternal life, and I will raise you to life on the last day.

“My flesh is the true food, and my blood is the true drink.

If you eat my flesh and drink my blood,

you are one with me, and I am one with you.

“The living Father sent me, and I have life because of him.

Now everyone who eats my flesh will live because of me.

“The bread that comes down from heaven is not like what your ancestors ate.

They died, but whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Feast of Corpus Christi: what does it mean?

- Corpus is the Latin word for body so Corpus Christi means the **Body of Christ** (This feast day is also called The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ).
- At Mass when people receive Communion, the priest/minister holds up the Communion and says ‘The Body of Christ’. In the Gospel story, Jesus called his body ‘the bread of life’. Some people call it ‘the bread of the angels’ which is a really lovely description.
- When we receive Communion, we are welcoming Jesus in a way that helps us grow strong in love. Now that the Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted, we are getting closer to that day when you too will receive the Body of Christ! ☺☺☺

