

INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

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Corpus Christi



Disputation of Holy Sacrament, Raphael, Fresco, 1509 /1510 - Doctors of the Church (identified by their names inscribed into their halos), with Pope Gregory I and Jerome seated to the left of the altar and Augustine and Ambrose to the right, along with Pope Julius II, Pope Sixtus IV, Savonarola and Dante Alighieri. Pope Sixtus IV is the gold dressed pope in the bottom of the painting.

Background

The Feast of Corpus Christi is on Thursday and will be celebrated on the Sunday following as an external Solemnity.

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi celebrates the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The term *transubstantiation* was defined at the Fourth Lateran Council (called by Pope Innocent III on 19 April 1213 and opened at the Lateran Palace on 11 November 1215) and gave formal



16 June
2019

W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E



Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest in Shrewsbury

Weekly Schedule *

	Ordo	Cathedral	St Winefride's	Mass Intention
Sun	16 th June Trinity Sunday, I class.		11.45 Confession & Rosary 12.15 Mass 6pm Vespers/Benediction	Private Intention Novena for Fathers*
Mon	17 th June St. Gregory Barbarigo Bishop and Confessor, III class.	7.30am Mass	6pm Vespers & Compline	Private Intention Novena for Fathers*
Tue	18 th June St. Ephraem Syrus Dc, Conf., & Doctor, III class, Com. of Ss. Mark and Marcellianus Martyrs.	7.30am Mass	5.30pm Confession & Rosary 6pm Mass	Private Intention Novena for Fathers*
Wed	19 th June St. Juliana Falconieri Virgin, III class, Comn. Ss. Gervase and Protase Martyrs.	7.30am Mass	* No Vespers: Parish Catechesis at the Cathedral	Private Intention Novena for Fathers*
Thu	20 th June Corpus Christi, I class.	*No Mass	*6pm Mass & Benediction	Novena for Fathers
Fri	21 st June St. Aloysius Gonzaga Confessor, III class.	7.30am Mass	5.30pm Confession & Rosary 6pm Mass	Novena for Fathers Rt. Rev. Mark Davies
Sat	22 nd June St. Paulinus Bishop and Confessor, III class		11 am Confession & Rosary 11.30 am Mass 6pm Vespers & Compline	Novena for Fathers
Sun	23 rd June External Solemnity of Corpus Christi.		11.45 Confession & Rosary 12.15 Mass 6pm Vespers/Benediction	Novena for Fathers

* Changes from the usual schedule

* Novena for Fathers will be offered personally by Canon Smith on these days while yet absent from Shrewsbury.



and official recognition to a term that had already already been in use for some time as a description of Christian belief concerning the real presence of Christ in the Holy Sacrament.

There is one Universal Church of the faithful, outside of which there is absolutely no salvation. In which there is the same priest and sacrifice, Jesus Christ, whose body and blood are truly contained in the sacrament of the altar under the forms of bread and wine; the bread being changed (transubstantiatio) by divine power into the body, and the wine into the blood... (Fourth Lateran Council, Canon 1)

In view of Protestant dissent from this dogma, the Council of Trent declared it again in 1551:

And because that Christ, our Redeemer, declared that which He offered under the species of bread to be truly His own body, therefore has it ever been a firm belief in the Church of God, and this holy Synod doth now declare it anew, that, by the consecration of the bread and of the wine, a conversion is made of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord, and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of His blood; which conversion is, by the holy Catholic Church, suitably and properly called Transubstantiation. (Council of Trent, 13th Session, 11 October 1551, Chapter IV)

However, the dogma goes back to the earliest days of the Church and can be found in the writings of the Apostolic Church Fathers. For example, Saint Ignatius of Antioch, who was one of the disciples of the Apostle John, wrote warning us of *“those who hold heterodox opinions on the grace of Jesus Christ ... they do not confess that the Eucharist is the flesh of our Saviour Jesus Christ ... They who deny the gift of God are perishing in their disputes.”* (Letter to the Smyrnaeans, c.110)



The feast of Corpus Christi was promoted by Saint Juliana of Liège. Urban IV, with the bull *Transiturus de hoc mundo*, made it a feast of the universal Church in 1264.



The Feast of Corpus Christi

Quoting from the New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia:

This feast is celebrated in the Latin Church on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday to solemnly commemorate the institution of the Holy Eucharist.

Of Maundy Thursday, which commemorates this great event, mention is made as *Natalis Calicis* (Birth of the Chalice) in the Calendar of Polemius (448) for the 24th of March, the 25th of March being in some places considered as the day of the death of Christ. This day, however, was in Holy Week, a season of sadness, during which the minds of the faithful are expected to be occupied with thoughts of the Lord's Passion. Moreover, so many other functions took place on this day that the principal event was almost lost sight of. This is mentioned as the chief reason for the introduction of the new feast, in the Bull "Transiturus."

The instrument in the hand of Divine Providence was St. Juliana of Mont Cornillon, in Belgium. She was born in 1193 at Retines near Liège. Orphaned at an

early age, she was educated by the Augustinian nuns of Mont Cornillon. Here she in time made her religious profession and later became superioress. Intrigues of various kinds several times drove her from her convent. She died 5 April, 1258, at the House of the Cistercian nuns at Fosses, and was buried at Villiers.

Juliana, from her early youth, had a great veneration for the Blessed Sacrament, and always longed for a special feast in its honour. This desire is said to have been increased by a vision of the Church under the appearance of the full moon having one dark spot, which signified the absence of such a solemnity. She made known her ideas to Robert de Thorete, then Bishop of Liège, to the learned Dominican Hugh, later cardinal legate in the Netherlands, and to Jacques Pantaléon, at that time Archdeacon of Liège, afterwards Bishop of Verdun, Patriarch of Jerusalem, and finally Pope Urban IV. Bishop Robert was favourably impressed, and, since bishops as yet had the right of ordering feasts for their dioceses, he called a synod in 1246 and ordered the celebration to be held in the following year, also, that a monk named John should write the Office for the occasion. The decree is preserved in Binterim (*Denkwürdigkeiten*, V, 1, 276), together with parts of the Office.

Bishop Robert did not live to see the execution of his order, for he died 16 October, 1246; but the feast was celebrated for the first time by the canons of St. Martin at Liège. Jacques Pantaléon became pope 29 August, 1261. The recluse Eve, with whom Juliana had spent some time, and who was also a fervent adorer of the Holy Eucharist, now urged Henry of Guelders, Bishop of Liège, to request the pope to extend the celebration to the entire world. Urban IV, always an admirer of the feast, published the Bull "Transiturus" (8 September, 1264), in which, after having extolled the love of Our Saviour as expressed in the Holy Eucharist, he ordered the annual celebration of Corpus Christi in the Thursday next after Trinity Sunday, at the same time granting many indulgences to the faithful for the attendance at Mass and at the Office. This Office, composed at the request of the pope by the Angelic Doctor St. Thomas Aquinas, is one of the most beautiful in the Roman Breviary and has been admired even by Protestants.

The death of Pope Urban IV (2 October, 1264), shortly after the publication of the decree, somewhat

impeded the spread of the festival. Clement V again took the matter in hand and, at the General Council of Vienne (1311), once more ordered the adoption of the feast. He published a new



decree which embodied that of Urban IV. John XXII, successor of Clement V, urged its observance.

Neither decree speaks of the theophoric procession as a feature of the celebration. This procession, already held in some places, was endowed with indulgences by Popes Martin V and Eugene IV.

The feast had been accepted in 1306 at Cologne; Worms adopted it in 1315; Strasburg in 1316. In England it was introduced from Belgium between 1320 and 1325. In the United States and some other countries the solemnity is held on the Sunday after Trinity.

In the Greek Church the feast of Corpus Christi is known in the calendar of the Syrians, Armenians, Copts, Melchites, and the Ruthenians of Galicia, Calabria, and Sicily.

Novena for Fathers

The novena will be offered for nine days, starting on Trinity Sunday, 16th June.