Readings for the week of June 22, 2025

Sunday:
Gn 14:18-20/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 (4b)/
1 Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11b-17

Monday:
Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/
Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday:
Vigil: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17

Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/
Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Wednesday:
Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 7:15-20

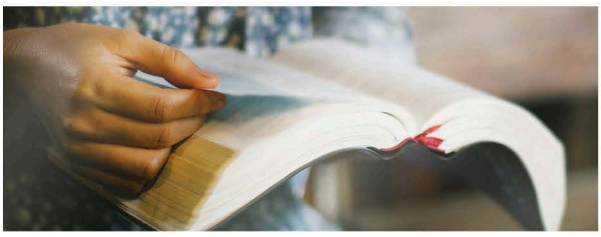
Thursday:
Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/
Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 7:21-29

Friday:
Ez 34:11-16/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/
Rom 5:5b-11/Lk 15:3-7

Saturday:
Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54-55/Mt 8:5-17

Next Sunday:
Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/
Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/
2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19



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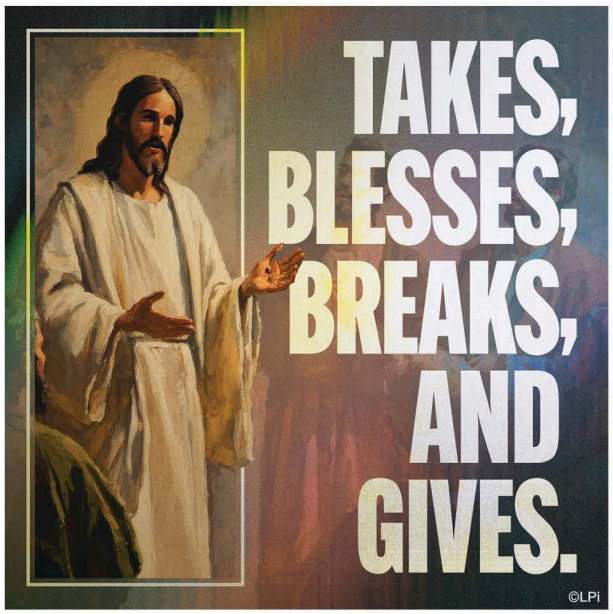

Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A Catholic friend of mine occasionally says, "The Eucharist is not a noun. It's a verb." In so saying, he is making the point that the Eucharist isn't simply Jesus' bodily presence given to us in holy Communion. It also manifests the dynamic pattern by which Christ actively loves and saves us. He teaches us to cooperate with that pattern. This Eucharist actually embodies four verbs: Jesus takes, blesses, breaks, and gives. Let's consider each one.

He **takes:** Do we acknowledge that we are totally in God's hands? Do we receive everything in our lives as a gift, and act responsibly with it?

He **blesses:** Do we actively reflect that Jesus makes us holy in our baptism? Do we embrace our bodies and souls as temples of God, worthy of love, peace, and joy?

He **breaks:** Do we run from failure and disappointment, from getting old or being ignored? Are we too worried about getting hurt or sick? Do we embrace our sufferings with confidence?

He **gives**: Are we willing to make our lives a gift for others? Are we confident that we will always have enough love to give to others, that God will always provide enough for us? Do we rejoice in giving away what we have to others, expecting nothing in return? This is the dynamic life the Eucharist empowers us to live.

— Father John Muir

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Sometimes we forget that we *need* the Eucharist. It's not just a nice thing to have, a sweet act of devotion, something to bolster our faith. The Eucharist is none of those things. The Eucharist is the food without which we will die.

As the Day Was Drawing to a Close
It isn't uncommon for me to get to the noon hour only to realize that I haven't yet eaten anything that day.

It drives my husband crazy. He was raised by a bunch of Italian women, so he can't help but think three meals ahead. And don't get me wrong, I love food — I literally dream of donuts. But some days, I'm just so busy and I keep putting it off until I realize how weak I feel, how light-headed. And I think to myself: *Stupid, you've done it again.*

This is what comes to mind today, on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, as I read the Gospel account of the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

I think of hunger, distraction and the poor planning of those who pride themselves on being capable.

"As the day was drawing to a close," it is written — that's when the disciples finally realized that 5,000 hangry people is not an ideal situation.

I wonder, did Jesus roll his eyes when they came to him, and think, "Finally"? At any point he could have pulled out a fish and said a blessing. But he waited for them to ask. He waited for them to realize how badly they needed it.

Sometimes we forget that we need the Eucharist. It's not just a nice thing to have, a sweet act of devotion, a sacramental item that bolsters our faith. The Eucharist is none of those things. The Eucharist is the food without which we will die. The Eucharist is something we must seek out. Remember: the day is drawing to a close.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?
Catholic Life Explained

Question:

I have been going to Mass for years and have always wondered: why do we make the three signs of the cross before the Gospel?

Answer:

Certainly, many people go to Mass or other devotions, doing and saying things out of habit or reverence and not really understanding the reasons behind some of these things. But everything we do has a meaning or purpose that helps us to worship better, proclaim our beliefs, or focus the attention of the people on something that has a greater importance or significance. A review of the meaning of various gestures and practices can help us have a deeper appreciation for what we do.

There is a little prayer that goes with the three crosses before the Gospel: "May the words of the Holy Gospel be on my mind, on my lips and in my heart." In standing to hear the Gospel, we acknowledge that Jesus is present, and the words of the Gospel are addressed to us. All of the gestures and special postures we adopt before the Gospel are intended to help us prepare for hearing the Word as well as act on it. The incense, the Alleluia, the deacon or priest, and the special dialogue and announcement that introduces the Gospel help us focus our attention on the Good News we are about to hear. The three signs of the cross show our desire and good intention to hear and live the Gospel.

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Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
"Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
the creator of heaven and earth;
and blessed be God Most High,
who delivered your foes into your hand." (Gn 14:19-20)

Psalm:
You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek. (Ps 110)

Second Reading:
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. (1 Cor 11:26)

Gospel:
Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God,
and he healed those who needed to be cured. (Lk 9:11b)

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Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

Five loaves and two fish: a measly portion of food for such a large crowd of people. But we must remember that it doesn't matter what the size of our offering is. If we only lay it before Christ, he will take it and make it a mighty bounty.

Observances for the week of June 22, 2025

Sunday: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Tuesday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Friday: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St. Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles

Devotions, *Explained!*

Marian consecration is the act of consecrating oneself to Jesus through the intercession of his Blessed Mother and is rooted in the words of Jesus himself when he beseeched the Apostle John to look upon Mary as his mother (John 19:27).

Prayer for the True Presence

Jesus,
What a gift we have in your True Presence: the assurance of your friendship, your company, your grace, your love. Increase our thirst for you as you, also, desire to draw closer to us.
Amen.

Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets.
- Lk 9:16-17

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

In reaction to the thanksgiving meal of bread and wine, Abram generously gave Melchizedek a tenth of his possessions. What could you give back to God this week out of gratitude?

Second Reading:

Paul tells us from the very beginning the early Church celebrated the Eucharistic meal as a remembrance of Jesus' death and as central to our faith. How does the Eucharist strengthen your faith?

Gospel:

The miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 underscores Jesus' desire to feed us. What do you find yourself hungry for today?

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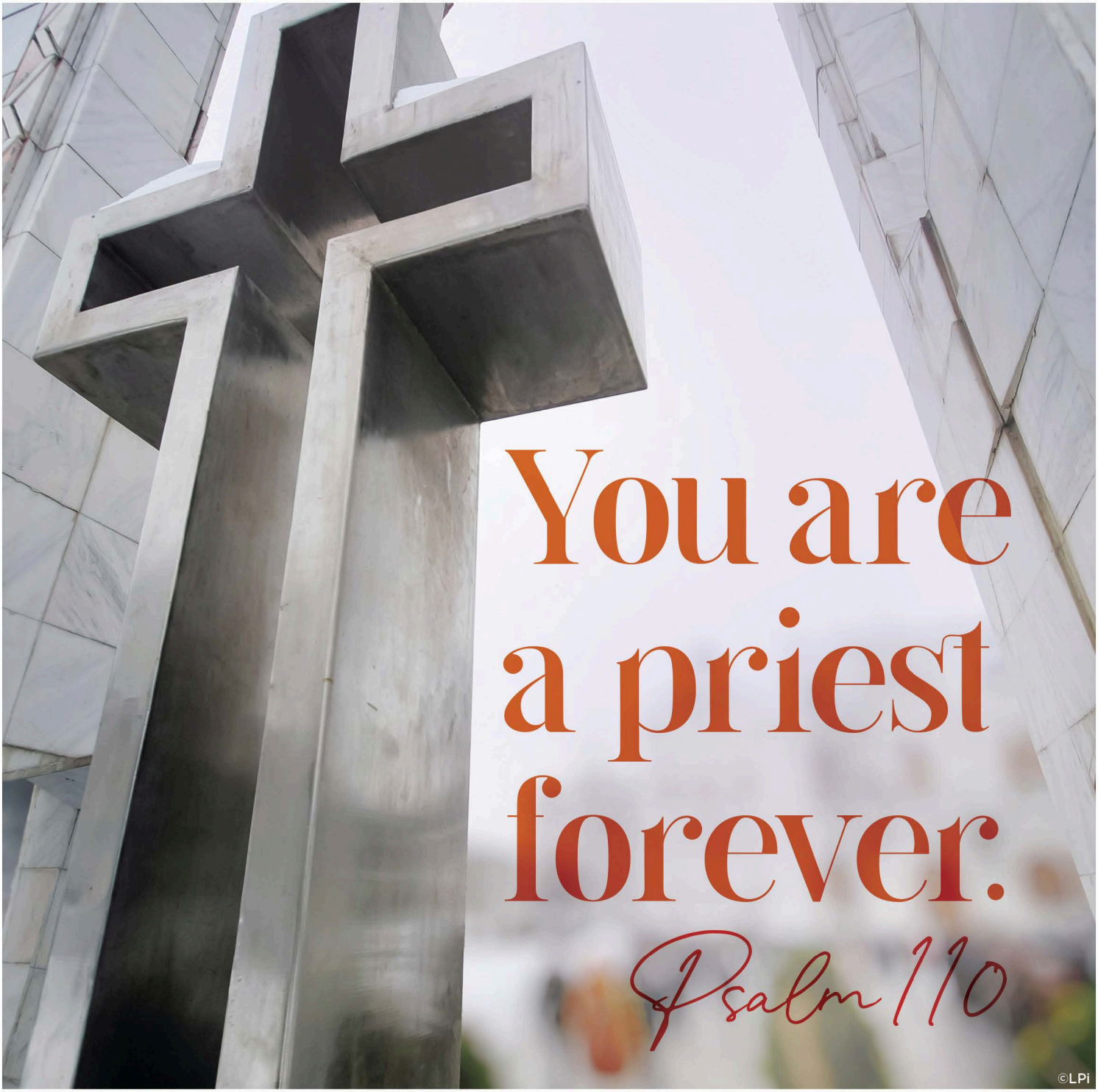

The Twelve approached him and said, "Dismiss the crowd so that they can go into the surrounding villages and farms and find lodging and provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." He said to them, "Give them some food yourselves."- Lk 9:12-13

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