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Chris Virruso



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St. Eugene Church
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.
Benediction at 5:45 pm.
No adoration on Monday, 05/25/26.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE
In order to fully partake in the Mass, the Priest should be the last one in and the first one out.

Dress Appropriately ~ remember, you are in God's house.



FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

Today our Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – Corpus Christi Sunday.

Deep within people of faith, there is a hunger for the Eucharist. Nothing else will do. Our deepest longings and needs will be filled only in union with the Lord. As we receive the Eucharist with our "Amen," we acknowledge our belief that we are truly receiving the Body of Christ; as we meditate on His Presence, we nourish our spirits; as we become what we receive, we grow in holiness. When our hearts are set on the Eucharist, nothing else will do. Jesus Christ does indeed feed us with the gift of finest wheat.

A few years ago, I came across an article that appeared in a neighboring parish bulletin that had to do with good and practical guidelines for receiving Our Lord in the Eucharist. Because I thought many of us could all use a refresher course in this area, and because today's celebration focuses on the Eucharist, here are a few reminders in respecting these important guidelines:

• If you receive Holy Communion on the tongue or in your hand, answer with a definitive "Amen" before you extend your tongue or your hand.
• Extend your tongue far enough for the priest or minister to carefully place the Sacred Host on it. The priest or minister is to place the host on your tongue without touching it; if your tongue is touched, it could create health problems for those receiving later in line.
• Make a bow of the head as a sign of reverence before receiving the Eucharist. This is best done when the priest or minister elevates the Eucharist. Genuflecting and kneeling are not necessary and can cause someone behind you to trip or fall.
• If you are going to receive the host in the hand, please DO NOT GRAB AT THE SACRED HOST. You are to make a throne for the Lord by placing one hand over the other. Then say Amen, take the host with your free hand, and consume the host.
• After receiving Holy Communion, whether on the tongue or in the hand, it is not proper to genuflect to the tabernacle. In most parishes, the tabernacle is empty while Communion is being distributed. Most importantly, after you receive the Eucharist, you are the tabernacle!
• The proper response to "The Body of Christ" is "Amen". Amen means "so be it." It is very important that you make that profession of faith before receiving the Lord. Amen says it all! Anything else is superfluous.

Next weekend the Annual Collection for our Archdiocesan Priest's Health and Retirement will take place. There will be a special 2nd collection taken up for the retired priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The retired priests of the archdiocese receive no funds from the Retired Religious Collection taken up in December. Those funds are used solely for religious nuns and brothers, and religious order priests.

You may not be aware that there are currently 365 active and over 251 Retired archdiocesan priests.

The normal retirement age is currently 70 for Chicago priests. Many of our retired priests still live in a rectory and assist the parish on a regular basis. Many celebrate Sunday Mass weekly; perform marriages and baptisms; and visit the sick in hospitals, much like what Fr. Greg Rom continues to do. Without these dedicated men, many parishes/religious institutions would not be able to provide the full range of Masses and sacraments that are currently offered.

Many of you remember with fondness the priest that baptized you, gave you your First Communion, celebrated your marriage, and visited you when you were sick at home or in the hospital. For most of us, these memories probably include some of the retired priests of our Archdiocese and our parish.

There are two independent living residences for retired priests that are subsidized by the Chicago Archdiocese, with space for some of our retired priests to enjoy communal living with their brother priests in retirement. All these rooms are currently being used.

Last year, many of our retired priests received or were currently receiving nursing home assistance or had or have full-time aides coming to their home or rectory. Spending has increased in providing home care to keep retired priests in the surroundings where they are most comfortable.

The Priests' Pension Fund is losing principal and needs significant contributions to stabilize and secure this benefit for future generations of priests.

The Archdiocese is committed to caring for our retired priests, but we need your assistance. Please help in any way you can by supporting next week's collection, and many, many thanks for your prayerful and financial support of these dedicated and selfless priests and servants of God. Envelopes have been provided in your monthly packets and are also at the entrance doors of our church. They can be put in the 2nd collection basket or can be mailed in, or dropped off at the rectory, either in person or in the mailbox slot to the left of the front door.

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Father's Day is only two weeks away. Here in our country, we set aside this special day to remember and celebrate these special men in each of our lives who, with our mothers, have been instrumental in not only bringing each of us into this world, but have also helped to provide a loving home and a strong male role model that is much needed today. We honor these men who have cared, nurtured, fed, and even sacrificed for us because of their deep paternal love for us.

Whether living or deceased, hopefully a prayer of thanksgiving will be said for your dad. If you might wish to have your father remembered in a special way at our Father's Day Mass, as well as having his name on our altar throughout the year, you can do so by writing your father's name on the special Father's Day envelope provided in your packet this month. They can be dropped off in the collection baskets, placed in the mail slot in the front door of the rectory, or mailed in with your contribution in the next few weeks, and their names will be added to the memorial page(s) that will be included in our parish bulletin, as well as placed on our altar for an entire year.

Wishing you all a fantastic week ahead.

Fr. Rich Yanos