

ST. MARY'S PARISH

703 Monroe St., Ellis, KS 67637

April 13, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Lent



Phone #s

Rectory: 726-4522

E-Mail

Parish: stmary@gbta.net
SMS Principal: ppark@stmarysellis.net

Website

Parish: www.stmarysofellis.org
Diocese: <http://salinadiocese.org>

Mass Schedule

Monday 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday 8:10 a.m.
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. (EGSC)
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. Cedar Bluff, May 18 - Sept. 7, 2025

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Anytime by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline

By 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

Baptism

By appointment. Contact the Pastor

Weekly Readings

April 14 - April 20

Mon: Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11
Tue: Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wed: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25
Thu: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; John 13:1-15
Fri: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; John 18:1-19:42
Sat: Genesis 1:1-2:2; Luke 24:1-12
Sun: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; John 20:1-9

Parish Personnel

Pastor	Fr. Dana Clark
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Emily Mattheyer
School Principal	Mrs. Patti Park
Pastoral Council President	Mr. Brian Serpan
Liturgy Chairpersons	Ruth Bollig and Alyson Johnson
Finance Council President	Mr. Melvin Augustine
School Council President	Mr. Matt Fondoble
Home & School President	Mrs. Jenni Bongartz
Director of Religious Education	Mrs. Judy Schuler

Marriage

Contact the pastor at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. No wedding will be scheduled without premarital instruction.

Mass Intentions

Sat	Apr 12	5:30 p.m.	Earl & Luella Lambert+, Greg Lambert+, and David Dreiling+
Sun	Apr 13	7:00 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Dinkel Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Apr 13	9:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Mon	Apr 14	5:30 p.m.	Simon & Alma Davignon+ Family (liv/dec)
Tues	Apr 15	8:10 a.m.	Junior Schippers+
Wed	Apr 16	8:10 a.m.	John & Alice Gabel+ Family (liv/dec)
	EGSC	10:00 a.m.	For the Residents & their families (liv/dec)
Thurs	Apr 17	7:00 p.m.	Philomene (anniv) & Otto Berens+
Fri	Apr 18	3:00 p.m.	<i>No Intention</i>
Sat	Apr 19	8:30 p.m.	James Werth+ Family (liv/dec)
Sun	Apr 20	7:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Sun	Apr 20	9:00 a.m.	Eddie & Fidelia Honas+

Meetings & Events

Sun	April 13	Palm Sunday Coffee & Donuts after 9am Mass Lenten Communal Penance Service at 2:00pm Guitar Choir Practice at 10am
Mon	April 14	Home & School Meeting at 6:00pm School Council Meeting at 7:00pm
Wed	April 16	Musical Stations @ 7:00pm
Thurs	April 17	No Eucharistic Adoration Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00pm
Fri	April 18	No School & Parish Office Closed Good Friday Service at 3:00pm Divine Mercy Novena begins at 5:30pm
Sat	April 19	Divine Mercy Novena at 5:30pm Holy Saturday Vigil at 8:30pm
Sun	April 20	Easter Sunday Masses at 7:00 & 9:00am Divine Mercy Novena at 5:30pm
Mon	April 21	No School & Parish Office Closed Divine Mercy Novena at 6:00pm

Ministries for Holy Week: Holy Thursday—Easter Sunday: April 17 - April 20

Ministry	Holy Thursday 7:00pm	Good Friday 3:00pm	Holy Saturday 8:30pm	Easter Sunday 7:00am	Easter Sunday 9:00am
Lector	Amy Hudson	Megan Honas Melvin Augustine	Amy Hudson Sharon Bittel	April Pfeifer	Allen Weber
Offertory Procession	Taylor & Maddie Lambert Family	XXX	Pat & Diane Kuhn	<i>Volunteers</i>	Eric & Kristen Gaschler Family
Eucharistic Ministers	Lisa Weber Mindy Eck Cindy Zervas	Terry & Cindy Zervas Sarah Eck Andrea Zody	Sharon Bittel John & Andrea Zody	<i>Volunteers</i>	Lisa Weber Paula Wasinger Need (1) Volunteer
Cantor / Musician	Guitar Choir	Emily Mattheyer Alyson Johnson	Adult Choir Nancy Cunningham	<i>Volunteers</i>	Guitar Choir
Servers	Jocelyn & Olivia Eck Sophie Siebel	Hunter, Breckyn, Brielle Honas	<i>Addalyn & Ainsley Haas</i> Need (2) Volunteers	<i>Volunteers</i>	Hannah & Luke James Alyvia Kraft
Ushers & Greeters	James Rome Alyssa Rome Duane & Karen Dorzweiler	Mark & Sarah Eck Family	<i>Volunteers</i>	<i>Volunteers</i>	Mark & Sarah Eck Family

Other Ministries

Communion to Homebound	April 18 (Fri)	<i>No Communion</i>
Ellis Good Samaritan	April 20 (Sun) 10:15 a.m.	<i>No Communion</i>
Rosary Leaders	April 19 (Sat) 8:30 p.m. April 20 (Sun) 9:00 a.m.	<i>Volunteers</i>
Monthly Money Counters	April	Bob & Margie Mickelson

Parish Offering: April 5 & 6

Weekly Budget Fiscal Year 2024-25: \$6,641.73

Offertory Loose Plate.....\$749.00

Adult Envelopes.....\$3,361.44

Total Giving.....\$14,521.12

After this weekend the collection's average is under by \$1,801.35.

Did you know if you attend Mass at any church of the Heartland Parishes: you can put your SMC envelope in their collection and it will be sent to SMC? In other words, if you find yourself attending Mass at another parish in the area, it would be safe to say your tithing envelope will make it back to SMC!

Parish Announcements

- **Lenten Penance Service.** Father Dana will be hosting our Parish Communal Penance Service with Confession this Sunday, April 13, at 2:00pm.
- **Holy Saturday Choir Members Needed & Practice Time Set:** We invite any voices who would like to sing for the Easter Vigil. A practice will take place this Sunday, April 13th at 7:00pm in the church. If you have questions, please contact Nancy at 785-726-1096.
- **YDisciples!** It's time again for our "Clean Out the Freezer Night!" Let's rally at 6:30pm on Wednesday!
- **Volunteers for Washing of the Feet (Holy Thursday):** We are needing (9) volunteers to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday Mass at 7pm. Please call Parish Office!
- **No Eucharistic Adoration on Holy Thursday.**
- **Holy Land Collection:** We will be taking up a special collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday.
- **Lenten Rice Bowls:** Remember to drop off your Rice Bowls this week. Place them in the box near the musicians area.
- **Easter Lilies:** You are invited to make a minimal donation to the parish for Easter Lilies. If you wish to have flowers "in memory" of loved ones, please include their name(s) with your donation. Put it into the collection basket or drop by the Parish Office. Please note: EASTER FLOWERS on envelope. If you wish to purchase your own flowers, we ask that you deliver them close to, but no later than Saturday, April 19 at 9:00am.
- **Pray the Divine Mercy 9 Day Novena:** You are invited to pray the Divine Mercy Novena with us beginning Good Friday at 5:30pm in the church. Father Dana will pray the Novena each day at 5:30pm with the exception of Monday, April 21 at 6:00pm and Saturday, April 26th at 5:00pm. See Novena schedule on bulletin insert. Everyone is welcome to attend! We will also have each of the nine days posted on our church website home page and Facebook page with different intentions daily at 3:00pm! Divine Mercy Sunday is the Sunday after Easter, April 27th; a special prayer service will be held at 3:00pm.

Notes from the Pastor

Lenten Confessions. Our Parish Communal Penance Service is this Sunday (Palm Sunday), April 13 at 2:00pm.

Lenten Faith Formation Opportunity. We will be watching and discussing Session #6 of the "Search" series. Meeting time is Sunday at 7:00pm in the church basement.

Good Friday Collection. On Good Friday, all Christians are united in a special way to the Holy Land. Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to support the Christians in the Holy Land by preserving the past – shaping the future of the Holy Land.

Divine Mercy Novena and Divine Mercy Sunday . I invite you to participate in the Divine Mercy Novena starting Good Friday at 5:30pm, see the Divine Mercy insert for details. Note in the insert the Plenary Indulgence Granted for Divine Mercy Sunday. Included with Divine Mercy insert is a short explanation of the Real Presence of Christ and Eucharistic Adoration. Also, included is my outline explaining what indulgences are. I hope it helps! I also, invite you to the Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service on April 27 at 3:00pm.

Easter Vigil will begin at 8:30pm. We have four candidates who will be entering the Catholic Church. Let's gather together to welcome them.

Easter Sunday. Masses will be at their regular times: 7:00am and 9:00am.

Holy First Communion. Our second graders will be making their First Communion on April 27 at the 9:00am Mass.

Upcoming Events:

April 13	2:00 p.m.	Lenten Communal Penance Service
April 16	7:00 p.m.	Musical Stations (School children)
April 17	7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday Mass
April 18	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service
April 19	8:30 p.m.	Easter Vigil
April 20	7:00/9:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Masses
April 27	9:00 a.m.	First Communion
April 27	3:00 p.m.	Divine Mercy Prayer Service

Have a good week! Fr. Dana

Parish Prayer List

Please Remember in Prayer

Juanita Augustine, John Cersovsky, Coleen Dinkel, Cory Eberle, Joe & Arlene Erbert, Beverly Elliot, Sr. Doris Flax, Gary Flax, Robert Gerhardt, Debbie Haas, Edna Hejny, Steve Hejny, Nathan Hively, Doug Kingsley, Tim Kingsley & Family, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Agneta Kuhn, Irene LaBarge, Joey LaBarge, Kevin LaBarge, Shawna LaBarge, Martin & Debbie LaBarge, Indiana Landess, Annette Lang, Michael Lang, Norma Lang, Marge Metzler, Joan Neufeldt, Elizabeth Newton, Jodi Patten, Doug Rohr, Bernie & Laura Schoenberger, Brandon Schoenthaler, Darryl Schuler, Joe Sloan & Family, Tanner Sullivan, Jim & Jill Urban Family, Kathy Wiesner, and the residents of EGSC.

If any one has names they would like added to the list, they may call the rectory at 726-4522.

School Announcements

Monday, April 14: Home & School Meeting @ 6:00pm
School Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

Tuesday, April 15: Famous Figures @ 2:00pm

Wednesday, April 16: 6th Grade Musical Stations @ 7:00pm

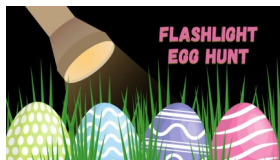
Friday, April 18: *No School* (Good Friday)

Monday, April 21: *No School* (Easter Monday)

- **Famous Figures Are Coming to St. Mary's School:** We invite you to join us in the school gym on Tuesday, April 15th at 2:00pm to watch our 5th Graders present their Famous Figures! Top 3 contestants will represent St. Mary's at the Final Competition on Friday, May 2 in the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center.
- **6th Grade Musical Stations of the Cross:** If you were unable to join the 6th Grade Class this past Friday, they will be praying our Musical Station of the Cross again on **Wednesday, April 16th at 7:00pm.**
- **Needing Easter Chocolate for your Easter baskets?** Remember to shop at St. Mary's School for your chocolate needs! We have all flavors still in stock: Milk, Dark, Almond, Caramel, Crisp, Peanut Butter. \$2.00 bars each or buy a box of 36 bars! Stop by or Call the School Office to place an order!
- **SAVE THE DATE: St. Mary's Spring Music Concert** is set for Wednesday, April 23rd beginning at 6:00pm! You are in for a real treat as we welcome the 5th & 6th Grade Ellis Band performing along with the St. Mary's School students!
- **Discount Cards:** Students and Staff are selling discount cards again this year for \$20.00 each to raise money to install a new basketball court on the east side of the playground equipment! These cards can be used over and over at all the locations until June 2026! Call the School Office to place your order—this is a great way to support St. Mary's School and save money while you are at it! >>>



Community Announcements



ERC's Ellis High School Students ONLY Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 16 at 8:30pm SHARP** at the K-18 Baseball Field! Friends, Treats, Prizes and tons of Fun!!! Bring your own flashlight! Hunt for eggs around the Legion Baseball Field filled with candy and prizes!

Ellis Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Ellis Good Samaritan Center on Saturday, April 19th beginning at 11:00am. There will be goodies for ages 0-14! Times begin with youngest ages first, and all times are staggered to allow parents to help and watch multiple children in the different age groups! (11:00am = 0-18months, 11:10am = 18mo-2 yr, 11:15am = 3-4 yrs, 11:20am = 5-6 yrs, 11:25am = 7-10yrs) Hunts go **FAST!** Don't Be Late!!!



Welcome Spring with YDisciple & Good Sam Residents!



April 2025

From the Diocese



As some of you may know, I was in Ukraine recently as part of the subcommittee for the bishops of the United States for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. I met a man in his early eighties who, decades ago, spent eight years in a Gulag camp in Siberia, Russia. These places are a brutal system of forced labor camps coupled with freezing temperatures during the winter. As this man talked about the current situation of what's happening in Ukraine by Russia aggression, he concluded the conversation with a sigh, adding, "What gives me hope, though, is that in the end, evil does not win."

This reminds me of a story told by a priest in a homily that I heard decades ago. The priest shared how a man had been in the Gulag camp for fifteen years and finally had enough of the torture. He decided he would try to escape, knowing full well that he would be shot. The day he was going to attempt an escape, a man whom he had never seen before came up before him, leaned to the ground, and drew a cross in the dirt with his finger. At that moment he realized that God was with him. The next day, he was released from prison.

The cross! All the evil in the world cannot surpass the infinite love from the cross. The love from the cross is infinitely greater than all the evil in the world. Evil does not win. Love does. Jesus loves us from the cross. He told St. Catherine of Siena, "It's not the nails that kept me on the cross, but my love for you." This is why each one of us can say, "We are not the sum of our sins, failures and mistakes, but God's love for us." Happy Easter to you and your families! May the risen Christ fill you with hope, joy, and peace!

+ Gerald L. Vincke

Gerald L. Vincke, Bishop of the Salina Diocese

NEIGHBORS NEAR & NEIGHBORS FAR:

Catholic Home Missions



Surprisingly, the Catholic Church is poorly established in many parts of our country.

The bishops' Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions is a grant-making agency. It offers financial support to missionary activities that strengthen the Catholic Church in the U.S., and in its territories and former territories.

"Home Missions" is the name for dioceses and parishes in these places which cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help.

The Salina Diocese is a Mission Diocese directly supported by this appeal!

To Give:

Anytime during the month of April, place an envelope in your Parish Collection labeled "Catholic Home Missions"



—Upcoming Events—

— 4/10

Chrism Mass

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Salina, 11:30 a.m.

— 4/20

Easter Sunday

— 4/27

Divine Mercy Sunday

— 4/29-5/2

Divine Mercy Radio Spring Care-A-Thon

— 4/26

Transitional Dcn. Ordination

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Salina, 10:00 a.m.

St. Francis Xavier School Auction

Junction City, 5 p.m.

Salina Catholic Schools Blue & Gold Affair

Salina, 5:30 p.m.

51st Annual Auction for Christian Education

TMP-Marian, Hays 5 p.m.

St. Joseph Parish Bazaar & Fundraiser

Damar, 4 p.m.

Together, let us be disciples of Jesus on mission!

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Palm Sunday



A long time before Jesus, a man named Zechariah said our king would ride in on a donkey. When Jesus came to Jerusalem during Passover, a Jewish Holiday, he was riding on a donkey! The crowds used palm branches to wave him in.

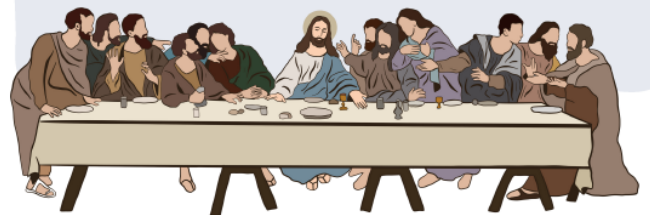
Spy Wednesday

The day before the Last Supper, Judas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, betrayed him for 30 pieces of silver. We call this day Spy Wednesday because of his sneakiness!



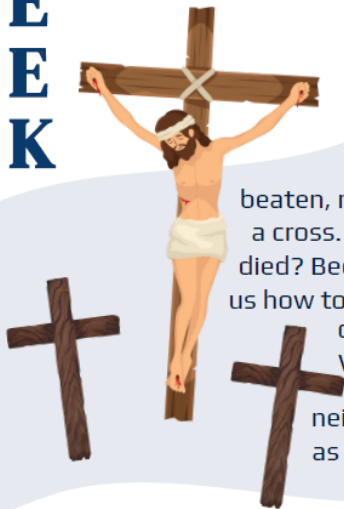
Holy Thursday

Because Jesus was Jewish, he celebrated Passover with his apostles. After he broke bread (like we do at communion!), Jesus went to a garden to pray. All of his apostles fell asleep. Then, soldiers arrested him.



Good Friday

Jesus died at 3 p.m. on Good Friday. He was beaten, made fun of, and nailed to a cross. Why is it "good" that he died? Because he showed all of us how to die like him, so that we can rise like him too! We are all called to love our neighbor as much as Jesus loved us!



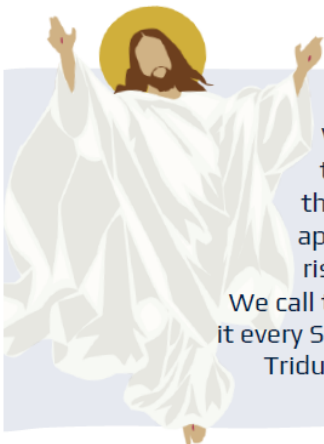
Holy Saturday

On Holy Saturday, Jesus was buried in a tomb. While he was still dead, Jesus went to where all the souls were of people who loved God and died before him. He did this so he could bring these people into the Kingdom of Heaven too!



Easter Sunday

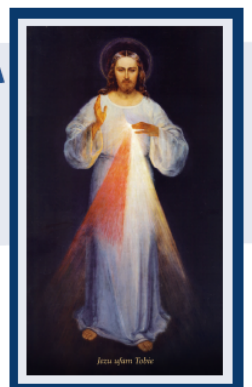
Women were going to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body, but the tomb was empty! An angel appeared and told them he had risen, just as he said he would! We call this "Easter," and we celebrate it every Sunday, but especially after the Triduum, where we have a 50-day long Easter season!



The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!

This is because Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska (a nun from Poland) and asked her to help the world celebrate his mercy. He asked her to have a picture of him painted and create a special day. In the picture, Jesus' hand is blessing us. The red coming from his heart is showing us his love, and the white coming from his heart is showing us his mercy!

**DID
YOU
KNOW**



Divine Mercy Sunday

April 27, 2025

A Day of Extraordinary Graces, a Day of Mercy, An Opportunity to help sinners to come back into full union, with Christ and His Church.

On that day *"the very depths of My tender Mercy are open..."*

The Promise to All Souls Observing Divine Mercy Sunday

On one occasion, I heard these words: My daughter, tell the whole world about My Inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. *The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.* On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. [Diary 699]



Plenary Indulgence Granted for Divine Mercy Sunday.

On June 13, 2002 Pope John Paul II granted a plenary indulgence for Divine Mercy Sunday.

Conditions given for this plenary indulgence:

1. Sacramental Confession (preferably before Divine Mercy Sunday)
2. Reception of Holy Communion (on Divine Mercy Sunday)
3. Prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff (Our Father, Hail Mary, and a Glory Be.)
4. Participation in the prayers and devotions held in honor on Divine Mercy**

on Divine Mercy Sunday,
in any church or chapel,
in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin.

** Instead of participating in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, a person, who in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g., Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!);

Divine Mercy Novena

We will pray the novena as a parish (see schedule below) leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday. The Novena can be prayed at home. The Novena will be prayed, starting on Good Friday (April 18), at 5:30 p.m. each day, except the Monday (April 21) & Saturday (April 26). On Monday we will pray the Novena after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, on Saturday we will pray it at 5:00 p.m. before Mass.

	Day	Time
1	Good Friday	5:30 p.m.
2	Holy Saturday	5:30 p.m.
3	Easter Sunday	5:30 p.m.
4	Monday after Easter	6:00 p.m. (after 5:30 Mass)
5	Tuesday after Easter	5:30 p.m.
6	Wednesday after Easter	5:30 p.m.
7	Thursday after Easter	5:30 p.m.
8	Friday after Easter	5:30 p.m.
9	Saturday after Easter	5:00 p.m. (before 5:30 Mass)

Divine Mercy Sunday

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Confessions (an opportunity for the fallen away to return)

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service. Service will include:

Readings from Scripture
Readings from the diary of St. Faustina
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Chaplet of the Divine Mercy (Sung)
Litany in Praise of the Divine Mercy
Prayer of Entrustment
Veneration of the Image of Divine Mercy
Benediction

For more information about the Divine Mercy go to the following websites:

www.thedivinemercy.org
www.divinemercyfilm.com
www.feastofmercy.net

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

The Real Presence of Christ and Eucharistic Adoration

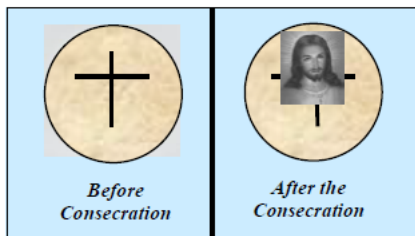
THE REAL PRESENCE



**"Take and eat.
This is my Body..."**

As Catholics we believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Council of Trent states that: "the Blessed Eucharist contains truly, really and substantially the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and consequently Christ whole and entire..." (Chapter vii, Can1).

Through the power of the Holy Spirit the substance (the nature) of the bread and wine changes. Physical and spiritual qualities are joined, and the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ; the whole Christ is present in a sacramental way. The change takes place when the words of consecration are pronounced by the priest in Holy Mass.



As the "heavenly" Second Person of the Trinity "miraculously" assumes a human nature, in the Eucharist the "earthly" bread and wine "miraculously" assumes a divine nature. It becomes Christ. A physical link is made to the person of Christ under the appearance of bread and wine.

Belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist is one main thing that distinguishes us from our Protestant brothers and sisters. It does make a difference whether Catholic or not, when you consider what our Catholic faith has to offer: Christ himself present in the Eucharist. Of course Christ is present in other ways; the Eucharist offers another and greater way -- Christ Himself.

Those who broke off from the Catholic Church were unable to take this Sacrament with them, because it requires a validly ordained priest (or bishop) through whom Christ chose to work this miracle. So, what our Protestant brothers and sisters have in their communion practices is a symbol. For Catholics we have the real thing. If we realize this truth, then we should never wish to leave the Catholic Church.

Jesus leaves us a sacrament in which he gives himself to us. His love is so great he desires to give himself to us in this special and unique way. It is not a symbol, but a reality. He desires to be close to us, to unite with us, to be part of us. He gives himself to us in the Eucharist to be the life and food of our souls: "... the one who feeds on me will have life because of me...whoever eats this bread will live forever." (John 6:57, 58).

It is hard to understand. It requires faith. It requires a belief and trust in the words and actions of Jesus: "Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink." (John 6:53-55).



**"I am the
Bread of Life"**

When some of his disciples leave, Jesus does not try to stop them. He meant what he said literally and they interpreted it that way. He was offering us something that at first glance seems ridiculous. It is the way he chose to remain physically connected to us; a way to incorporate us more fully into his Mystical Body.

The Real Presence is a mystery, not an impossibility. It can't be explained in scientific terms, but neither can God himself. It is not contrary to reason, yet it is beyond our minds to comprehend fully.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration Explained

After the sacrifice of the Mass, the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist (in the consecrated bread) continues. Jesus in his sacramental body and blood remains. That is why Eucharistic Adoration is important.

Eucharistic Adoration is the worshipping of Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament is placed in a vessel called a monstrance and placed on the altar for viewing.



Pope John Paul says this: "The Church and the world have a great need of Eucharistic worship". He prays that perpetual exposition and adoration of the Eucharist would be established in every Catholic Church throughout the world.

You come to worship and to visit with Jesus. You can tell him your problems, your needs and concerns, your joys. For many the time they spend each week with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most peaceful, the most satisfying time of their whole week.

If you can accept the possibility of the real presence, then come and experience the reality through Eucharistic adoration. If this belief of our faith is true, why not take time to experience the reality of being with the Lord in this special and unique way.

Benefits Experienced

Benefits that parishes have experienced from the practice of regular Eucharistic Adoration include: growth of spirit and spiritual life in the parish; stronger marriages and happier families; increase in vocations; increase in Mass attendance.

Liturgical Form for Eucharistic Adoration

The general liturgical form of Eucharistic adoration consists in:

- Exposition
- Adoration (worship and prayer)
- Benediction
- Reposition.

These terms are defined below:

Exposition. The ceremony in which a priest (or deacon) removes the Sacred Host from the tabernacle and places it in the monstrance for adoration. A song, incensing of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opening prayer (e.g., a litany of the Sacred Heart) are generally part of the ceremony.

Benediction. A Eucharistic devotion in which those gathered are blessed with the Blessed Sacrament. A priest, vested in alb, stole, and cope first incenses the Blessed Sacrament. A benediction song (e.g., Tantum Ergo) is usually sung during the incensation. A prayer is then said prior to the blessing. Following the prayer, a "humeral veil" is placed around the priest's shoulder. With the humeral veil covering his hands, the priest goes to altar, picks up the monstrance and blesses the people with the raised monstrance in the form of a cross. After the blessing, the Blessed Sacrament is placed in the tabernacle. The Divine Praises are sung or recited (or a suitable song is sung).

Reposition. The placing of the Blessed Sacrament back into the tabernacle.

Guidelines for Eucharistic Adoration



- Maintain an absolute quiet when entering and leaving the church / chapel during adoration.
- Genuflect one knee (or bow if unable to genuflect) when entering and then when leaving.
- Spend the time of adoration praying, contemplating, worshipping, or doing spiritual reading.
- Kneel during Exposition (when the tabernacle is opened) and Benediction (when the priest kneels).

Indulgences

I. A Review of Sin

1. The *Commitment of Sin* (two types):
 - a. Mortal (serious) sin – a break in our relationship with God
 - b. Venial (less serious) sin – a weakening in our relationship with (our attachment to) God
2. The *Removal of Sin* involves:
 - a. Repentance for sin (i.e., sorrow) by the person committing the sin.
 - b. Forgiveness of sin by God.
 - c. Reparation (making amends / giving satisfaction for sin committed / restoring the soul to its original state of purity)
 - 1) Sin (because it leaves its mark, however small) requires some form of reparation.
 - 2) Each sin
 - a) weakens our virtue and attachment to God.
 - b) strengthens our own disordered desires.
 - c) makes committing the next sin easier.
 - d) has consequences that repentance and forgiveness do not alone erase.

II. Some Analogies

1. A child breaks a window:
 - a. There is an apology by the child (repentance)
 - b. Forgiveness by the owner
 - c. Owner expects payment by the child to fix the window (reparation)
2. A wife is hurt by her husband (Their relationship is strained in some way because of the hurt.)
 - a. There is sincere sorrow by the husband (repentance).
 - b. Wife forgives her husband.
 - c. Husband does something to make amends (reparation).
3. An employee steals money from his company
 - a. There is sorrow by the employee (repentance)
 - b. Forgiveness (possibly) by employer.
 - c. Restitution by the employee (reparation):
 - 1) Restoration of the money
 - 2) Or, imprisonment (if true reparation is not possible – imprisonment is “a reparation by way of loss of liberty and the pursuit of the everyday business of living.”)

III. In Regards to Sin

1. There is repentance (sorrow) by the sinner
2. Forgiveness by God (possibly thru Sacrament of Reconciliation)
3. Reparation – giving satisfaction / offering expiation / doing something to make amends
 - a. **Temporal punishment** is another name for reparation
 - b. It can occur in this life or in Purgatory.
 - c. If it occurs in this life, it reduces the amount of temporal punishment necessary in Purgatory.

IV. Reparation / Satisfaction for Sin

1. We (ourselves) can't do anything to satisfy God's infinite justice.
 - a. Jesus came to take sins on himself – to make it possible for us to be purified.
 - b. We are still required to make some effort at reparation (although we are limited and unable to make full restoration).
 - c. The infinite merits of Jesus make our finite acts of reparation meritorious.
2. Forms of reparation (ways to make reparation) for sin:
 - a. Love—"love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Pt 4:8)
 - b. Prayers, mortifications, good acts.

V. Indulgences Explained

1. An indulgence is (essentially) a type (or form) of reparation for our sins; it removes temporal punishment due to our sins.
2. Definition of indulgence: "a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins..."
 - a. Whose guilt has already been forgiven;
 - b. The faithful Christian must be duly disposed to gain it *{i.e., the indulgence}*;
 - c. The faithful Christian must meet certain conditions *{i.e., perform certain acts of love}* prescribed / defined by the Church *{via her authority of binding and loosing}*;
 - d. The Church (as the minister of redemption) dispenses and applies (with authority) the *treasury of the satisfactions* of Christ and the saints." (CCC 1471).
3. The Church (using her authority of binding and loosing) defines some of these acts of love as ways to undo the punishment due to sin / to make atonement and reparation (to lessen our temporal punishment).
4. The reparation / satisfaction comes from the spiritual merits of Jesus and the saints.
5. To receive the indulgence a person;
 - a. Must be in the state of grace;
 - i. Recent reception of the sacraments Reconciliation and the Eucharist may be a condition.
 - b. Must be duly disposed (i.e., have the right attitude; the right intention of the heart).
 - c. Must say the given prayer and / or perform the specified good works prescribed by the Church to gain the indulgence.
6. An indulgence may be:
 - a. Partial (remission of part of the temporal punishment), or
 - b. Plenary (remits all the temporal punishment)
7. Why can indulgences be given?
 - a. The reason is related to the Church's teaching on the Mystical Body of Christ and the communion of saints.
 - i. We are connected to Jesus and the communion of saints via this Mystical Body.
 - ii. There is a treasury of spiritual goods, so to speak, available to the Church to dispense (via its authority to bind and loose) for the reparation of sins.
 - iii. The merits of Jesus and the saints are stored, so to speak, in this "common" treasury of spiritual goods.
 - b. It would be like having a fund for broken windows.
 - i. When a child breaks a window (and sorrow and forgiveness have taken place), the manager of this fund could dispense money from this fund to repair the window for the child.
 - ii. The manager of this fund may require the child to do something (say a prayer, perform a good deed) in order for the money to be given to fix the window.
8. Indulgences can be obtained for those who may be in Purgatory.
9. We can add to the treasury of the Church if we ask for (or accept) sufferings and trials beyond what we need to make reparation for our own sins.