

Readings at Mass for Corpus Christi (Year A)

FIRST READING

DEUT. 8.2-3, 14-16

A reading from the book, Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people, 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart - whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of God.

Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 147.12-15, 19-20; R. v. 12

R. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. **R.**

He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.

He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**

SECOND READING

I COR. 10.16-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. **R.**

GOSPEL

JOHN 6.51-58

Jesus said to the Jews,

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another. 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied,

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven, not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

The mystery of faith.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

PROCESSION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Please remain seated or kneeling for the Prayer After Communion. Then, as the altar party forms up in the sanctuary, please stand to join in the procession - following after the altar servers, but before the clergy. As the procession moves around the church, we will sing the hymns on the separate sheet - O Bread of heaven, and Let all the world.

When the procession makes its final approach to the sanctuary down the centre of the nave, please move back to your seats, and there sit or kneel.

The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed upon the altar, and we sing in turn O salutaris hostia and Tantum ergo sacramentum, before Benediction is given.

After Benediction, please repeat the Divine Praises after the Priest.

As the Blessed Sacrament is returned to the tabernacle, all sing Blessed and praised. Then stand, when the bell rings, for the departure of the altar party.

No filming or photography is allowed in this church without the permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens. Thank you.

