

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

### St. Regina's Church Staff

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## Remember In Prayer

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# The Most Holy Body and Blood Of Christ

June 22, 2025

#### THE GIFT OF THE EUCHARIST

Today we hear how Abram encounters Melchizedek, "king of Salem . . . and a priest of God Most High" (Genesis 14:18). Melchizedek appears nowhere else in scripture, but is nonetheless significant. Psalm 110 declares of the great King David, "You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek," a description later given (in the letter to the Hebrews) to Christ as High Priest.

Early Christians saw in Melchizedek's bread and wine the bread and wine of the Eucharist; Paul's account of the Last Supper (in today's second reading) is the oldest one in scripture. In the Gospel, Luke describes Jesus providing bread for a crowd in words similar to Paul's, words still used by the Church: Jesus takes bread, gives thanks, breaks it. Together, these three readings reveal how Christian priesthood, Christ's Real Presence, and the call to serve those in need are all found in the gift of the Eucharist.

#### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We owe today's beautiful feast to a valiant woman who suffered a great deal to establish a feast out of her love for the Eucharist. Juliana was a nun in Belgium in the thirteenth century. She served in a hospital for lepers. She became convinced through her prayer that the liturgical year was incomplete because it had no feast for the Eucharist. Her efforts were not welcome, and a supervising priest sought to punish her for promoting a feast that "nobody wanted." He even had her accused of financial mismanagement and banished her from her convent.

Shortly after she was exiled, the bishop approved the feast. It quickly spread through Europe. In those days, people very seldom received Holy Communion, and so the processions through the streets with the eucharistic bread not only led to an awareness of Christ's hunger to be with us, but prepared the way for a deeper desire to receive Christ's Body and Blood in more frequent Communion. The feast grew rapidly, but Juliana disappeared into poverty and a hidden life. She ended her days as an "anchoress," a woman living in seclusion in a room attached to a parish church. Imagine her delight at seeing us gathered at the table of the Lord on this day, aware of Christ's presence in our midst, sharing fully in Christ's Body and Blood. Our celebration today invests her struggle and sorrows with dignity and meaning.

#### .Reflection question:

How am I part of the Body of Christ in the world?

#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Melchizedek brought out bread and wine and blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18-20).

**Psalm** — You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek (Psalm 110).

**Second Reading** — Paul gives his description of the institution of the Eucharist (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

**Gospel** — Jesus feeds the crowd with five loaves and two fish (Luke 9:11b-17).

#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Genesis 12:1-9; Ps 33:12-13; G Mt 7:1-5 Tuesday: Isaiah 49:1-6; Ps 139:1b-3,13-14ab. 14c-15;

G Luke 1:57-66,80

Wednesday: Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Ps 105:1-4,6-9; G Mt

7:15-20

Thursday: Genesis 16:1-12,15-16; Ps106:1b-2,3-4a,4b-5;

G Mt 7:21-29

Friday: Ezekiel 34: 11-16; Ps 23:1-3a,3b-4,5,6; G Luke

15:3-7

Saturday: Genesis 18:1-15; Lk 1:46-47,48-49,50-55;

G Mt 5-17

Sunday: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3,4-5.6-7.8-9; G Mt 16:

13-19

#### **PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

#### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

THE ANNUAL YARD SALE IS GOING TO BE AUGUST  $8^{\rm TH}$  AND  $9^{\rm TH}$  .YOUR DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT AT ANY TIME THEY CAN BE STORED IN THE BACK ROOM .

The annual spaghetti dinner is going to be September 19th this year .Volunteers will be needed .A sign- up sheet will be posted at the front of the church so anyone can plan to be here for the preparation and work schedule. Many hands make light work . Please try to make plans to help.

JULY 6<sup>TH</sup>-----LECTOR PEGGY SERVER Carlos EUCHARISTIC M Jim, Anita, Ann F COUNTER——— MARY & ANN JULY13th -----LECTOR Beverly SERVER Max EUCHARISTIC M. Ann, Anita, Jim COUNTER——TOM &BEVERLY JULY20TH -----LECTOR Mark SERVER Max EUCHARISTIC M Beverly, Anita, Jim COUNTER-TOM &BEVERLY WEDNESDAY LECTOR

July 2nd Peggy

July 9th Cheri

July 16th Beverly

July 23rd Peggy

July 30th Cheri

#### **National Collection**

June 29, 2025

Peter's Pence Collection

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