

Corpus Christi Lesson

Lesson Goal: This lesson's goal is for the student to understand that the Church has a special feast day to remind us that Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

Overview: The feast of Corpus Christi is the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. It is a feast that remembers that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Holy Eucharist. This feast was instituted at a time in the church when many were having doubts about the Real Presence. God used a nun, a priest, and a miracle to bring about a feast that would return people's belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

Pre-Video Discussion: Read the Bible passages about Jesus being the Living Bread in the gospel of John 6: 22-72.

Jesus says, "I am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he shall live forever; the bread I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world." Many people could not believe what Jesus was saying and began to argue about what Jesus said. So again Jesus says even more strongly to help them understand, "Unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, you shall not have life in you...." Many of His followers found this just too hard to believe and left, no longer following Jesus. Jesus was talking about the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. They understood what Jesus was saying, but they just could not believe this. Sadly, many people even today walk away and do not believe that we are truly receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. The Church has a special feast that reminds us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist - The feast of Corpus Christi.

Watch "The Feast of Corpus Christi" video on Catholic Brain

Comprehension and Discussion Questions:

Note: These questions are asked after the video to check student comprehension and to clarify and further discuss and explain what was seen on the video.

- 1) What does "Corpus Christi" mean?

Corpus Christi is Latin for "Body of Christ."

2) What are we celebrating on the feast of Corpus Christi?

On the feast of Corpus Christi, the Church is celebrating the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

3) Where did the idea of the feast of Corpus Christi come from?

It was revealed to St. Juliana. She had a great love of Jesus in the Eucharist. Jesus appeared to her several times and told her work on a feast honoring the Holy Eucharist.

4) What did Peter of Prague, the priest who was doubting the Real Presence, do about his unbelief?

Peter prayed. Peter didn't just walk away. He prayed for God's help in his unbelief and God answered his prayer. Sometimes it is hard to believe, but just like Peter we should turn to God in our times of doubt.

5) How did God answer Peter's prayer?

God answered his prayers by sending him a miracle. During the consecration of the Mass, the host began to bleed. Everyone saw the blood fall into the chalice. The matter was investigated by the Church and it was found that a miracle had occurred.

6) What is the special vessel called that holds Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament?

A monstrance holds the consecrated Host. A monstrance is a way to adore and show honor to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Activity:

Make a visit with the children to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at church.
Complete the coloring page of the "Monstrance" on Catholic Brain.

