

THE BODY AND BLOOD of Christ



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church

Madison Heights, MI www.stvincentferrer.net

JUNE 7, 2026 † THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

From The Pastor

Today's feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is a theological feast that honors our faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. The feast developed early in the twelfth century. It was initiated into the universal calendar by Pope Urban IV in 1264. In truth, the feast has its true origins in the Old Testament that culminates in the institution of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday.

Wandering in the desert, the Israelites complained to Moses out of hunger and thirst for real food and real drink. They were weary, hungry, and afraid, losing hope in the reality of a Promised Land. God heard their plea and provided 'bread from heaven' that was unknown to the Israelites. It was unknown to them because it was only in the region of Sinai where they had traveled. Manna served two purposes. It became real bread, real food for the people in their hunger. It also reminded them of God's promise to lead them to a promised land. This bread renewed their faith in the fidelity of God's promise.

The real food of bread made from the manna anticipates of the living bread given in the Eucharist. Jesus is emphatic, "My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink." Taken too literally, those who heard these words of Jesus were disgusted at the thought of cannibalism. The literal and real meaning of Body and Blood reveals the life of Jesus received and consumed as Eucharist is indeed real food and drink.

The Body and Blood of Jesus, freely given through his sacrificial death on the Cross, is the food of love that reveals the truth of the living God incarnate in the Divine Son. The manna given by God to the Israelites was to satisfy their physical hunger as well as to revive their souls in the hope of God's fidelity to his promise.

The Holy Eucharist is the fulfillment of God's promise not only for a Messiah, but also for a communion of life with God here and now in anticipation of our eternal homeland in heaven. The gift of the Eucharist is the fruit and promise of the Incarnation. God needed a body to save humanity and all creation. God wanted to save us in the most personal way possible. The most personal way was to become one like us and with us in all things but sin. God, in the Incarnate Christ, showed us what is

possible for all human beings who desire a share in the Divine life of God. How is the Body and Blood of Jesus real food? The Holy Eucharist is the Bread of love realized in the broken body of Jesus given for us on the Cross. Love is real food. The body of Jesus, freely given, is the food of love that saves, heals, redeems, and makes us whole. Love is the nourishment that gives life.

The blood of Jesus is real drink. The life of Jesus was poured out in the shedding of blood that flowed from his bleeding body to wash away the sins of the world. The blood of Jesus, poured out for our sake, is real drink that nourishes us in the truth of divine love given for our sake.

Love is the truth of our existence as human beings. Human beings are dependent on the food of love to find any identity, meaning, or happiness in this life. Without love, human life is quite impossible. Love is in fact real food because it nourishes the human spirit, animates the human soul, while it heals and inspires human emotions for love, connection, and belonging.

Blood is life. The life of Jesus was a life of love poured out to give to the world the life God intends for us in union with Him. This is why the Eucharist is called Holy Communion. Receiving this communion of love with faith as real food given us in the dying and rising of Jesus feeds and strengthens our union with God through the body and blood.

The Eucharist is the real and true living presence of the Lord Jesus. It is not merely a symbol. The Eucharist is a relationship of love given by God, that heals, forgives, and redeems all who seek the truth of love. This gift was initiated by God, accomplished in Christ, which offers the world a constant nourishment of love. The Eucharist also fulfills the promise that Jesus would be with us always to the end of the age unto the glory of heaven.

If you hunger for love, healing, forgiveness, belonging, or communion with God and others, go to Mass, receive communion, and believe in the living presence of Jesus Christ in his Body and Blood. Allow the love of Christ to be your food and drink so you can be the food and drink of love for others.

Father John Esper

Liturgical Schedule

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm

Live Streaming of the Following:

**LIVE
STREAMING**

Daily & Weekend Masses

Adoration on Tuesdays
8:45 am to 10:00am

Rosary on Thursdays
following 8:00am Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

Contact Information

ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071

248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721

Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

Summer Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Closed Friday, Saturday, & Sunday

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum
Deborah Tourville, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

For sacramental information or
Funerals contact the Parish Office
248-542-8720

MASS

Intentions

MONDAY, June 8, 2026

8:00am Mass: Fr. John Esper (Blessings in Retirement)
req. by Corrine McCarthy

TUESDAY, June 9, 2026

8:00am Mass: Jessie Giszczak† req. by Bernadette Gutowski

WEDNESDAY, June 10, 2026

8:00am Mass: All Deceased Parishioners

THURSDAY, June 11, 2026

8:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

SATURDAY, June 13, 2026

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer
Don Bessler† req. by Marie Bessler

SUNDAY, June 14, 2026

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer
Giuseppe Tosto† req. by Virga Family
Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family
Martha Kehoe (Special Intention) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

John Lamerato†(12th R.A.) req. by Sam & Meg Lamerato

*We should never again use the expression,
'When Jesus was on earth' or think of
Him as being only in heaven. Jesus is still
on earth. "While all the sacraments confer
grace, the Eucharist contains the author of
grace, Jesus Christ Himself."*

-Fr. John Hardon, S.J

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/
1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58

Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/ Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/ Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/ Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8,
11/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 (580)/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-
13/Mt 5:20-26

Friday: Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10/1 Jn 4:7-
16/Mt 11:25-30

Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10/
Mt 5:33-37

Next Sunday: Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5/Rom 5:6-11/
Mt 9:36-10:8

Evangelical Service Corner

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING
Tuesday, June 9th at 6:00pm

The St. Vincent De Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday at 6pm in back of Church. All those interested in becoming part of this ministry are welcome to attend.

CCSEM SENIOR FOOD COLLECTION
June 13/14

Items requested:

Individual lunchbox sized and packaged snacks like: Crackers, Granola bars, Cereal bars and Fruit snacks
 Canned Foods including: Soups, Stews, Chili, Ravioli, Spaghettios, Fruit, Vegetables
 Gift cards, in any amount are especially appreciated and used to buy perishable food, from: Kroger, Meijer, Walmart or Target



When I was a young altar server, I once overheard two very different comments about the Eucharist. One person asked, “Is Father distributing the bread or the wine?” Later, another asked, “Can you go get Jesus from the tabernacle?” Same parish, same Mass, but two very different ways of speaking. I pondered: So, is it bread that we pretend is Jesus? Or is Jesus a tiny white thing in a box? I was utterly confused.

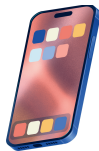
This Feast of Corpus Christi is an excellent time to think about how we should speak about the Eucharist. In today’s Gospel, Jesus declares: “My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.” (John 6:55) His words scandalized his listeners, who feared cannibalism, and even today puzzle many, who reduce them to metaphor. Both miss the truth.

The Church gives us better words that honor Jesus’ words in the Gospel. After the consecration, we do not call it “bread” or “wine.” Nor do we say, “a piece of Jesus” or even “Jesus.” We say: the Eucharist. We say: the Body and Blood of Christ. We say: the Real Presence. We say: the Most Blessed Sacrament. These words safeguard the astonishing reality that Christ himself is truly present, whole and entire, under the appearances of bread and wine.

If we speak well about the Eucharist, we will think more clearly and believe more deeply. And if we believe more deeply, we will adore more truly the One who gives himself to us — not bread, not wine, but Jesus Christ himself, whole and entire.

— Father John Muir
 ©LPI

Phone Safety:



Tips to Avoid Phone Scams

Phone scams and online scams are on the rise because of AI. The Oakland County Prosecutor’s office offers the following tips.

- If you don’t recognize the number don’t text or call back.
- Scammers can use AI to clone voices. If they say they are in trouble, hang up and call the family member to confirm.
- If you pick up a call, hang up as soon as you feel confused or pressured.
- Do not give any personal or financial information.
- If the caller claims to be from your bank, company, or government agency, hang up and call back using a number from your statement, card or organizations website. Do not call from a number provided during the call.

A prayer for you from the bible Numbers 6: 24-26.
May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.

Angela Maynard, Parish Nurse



Happy 100th Birthday

The St. Vincent Ferrer family sends congratulations and best wishes to Stanley Lowin who recently celebrated his 100th birthday!

Observances of the Week

- Sunday: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
- Tuesday: St. Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday: St. Barnabas, Apostle
- Friday: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Saturday: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary; St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Flag Day



**Our CSA target
for this year is
\$ 39,101.00.**

Thank you to all who have responded. St. Vincent Ferrer Parish has received \$19,679.00 in pledges or one-time gifts.

Checks must be made payable to *Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA* and mailed to the gift processing center in Minnesota using the return envelope included in the packet mailed to parishioners. To make an electronic donation, please follow the directions on the pledge card.

If you did not receive a CSA letter packet and wish to make a donation, please call the Parish Office.



Pray for...

...government leaders everywhere to seek wisdom in finding peaceful solutions to world wars and tensions.

...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, floods, wars, earthquakes and disasters.

...respect for life from conception to natural death

...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.

...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally.

...all who are sick, homebound undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.

Lord Jesus,

You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen



Consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus June 11

This Thursday, June 11th, as part of the celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, the United States bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This event be livestreamed at the USCCB
youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/usccb>

COME PRAY THE ROSARY

**Mondays during the summer
at 6:30pm -
Administration Bldg. Patio**



Everyone is welcome to join the Immaculata Prayer Group in praying the rosary each Monday evening at 6:30pm. Immaculata prayers will be prayed following the rosary for any who wish to remain. Bring your own lawn chair. Rosaries are available if needed. If questions, contact the Parish Office.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

1st Reading: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a

Question: Moses instructs the Israelites to never forget their 40-year journey in the desert and the Lord's deliverance of them from slavery in Egypt. What has God done in your life that you will never forget?

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 10:16-17

Question: Paul reminds the Corinthians that the Body and Blood of Christ unite us as one body. Do you see your faith community united by the Eucharist?

Gospel: Jn 6:51-58

Question: Jesus teaches the crowds that whoever eats his body and drinks his blood will live forever. Who could you invite this week to attend Sunday Mass and receive the Eucharist with you?

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?
CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

Hearts of Jesus

Question: Why do we celebrate the Hearts of Jesus in the month of June?

Answer: Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an ancient practice. We can see its Scriptural origins in Jesus’ own references to His Heart. “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest ... for I am meek and humble of heart” (c.f. Matthew 11:28, 29).

The devotion received a surge of popularity in the late 1600s. Jesus appeared several times to a French religious sister, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, pointing to his heart. During this time, the Jansenist heresy had risen in France, which preached limited predestination for salvation. When appearing to Margaret Mary, Jesus affirmed his love for all mankind: “Behold the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing.” He asked for a special feast celebrating his Sacred Heart on the Friday following the feast of Corpus Christi. Over time, June has become known as the month of Sacred Heart. ©LPi



**VIRTUES. EXPLAINED!
CONNECT WITH
TRADITION AND
GROW YOUR FAITH**

Gratitude, Explained!

How many of us have been told to “be grateful” when we look a little glum? But the truth is that gratitude is about more than just attitude. This virtue concerns our actions — how we carry ourselves in the world, how we behave toward other people, and how we submit to lawful authority.

“Gratitude answers to the moral debt,” St. Thomas Aquinas writes (Sum., II:II, 106, Art. 1). We owe gratitude to those who have cared for us — children owe it to their parents in the form of respect (CCC 215) and citizens owe it to their country in the form of love and service (CCC 215).

The Eucharist is the most perfect act of gratitude. Appropriately, Jesus “gives thanks” for the bread at the Last Supper, just as we give thanks before the Eucharist — acknowledging God as the principal source of all that is good.

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INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The starving Israelites found their physical salvation in manna, “a food unknown to your fathers.” We find our spiritual salvation in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, a food unknown to too many souls. Blessed are we to partake of the Bread of Life. ©LPi

Women’s Sacred Journey

Saturday, June 13 at 9:00am

**Faith Formation Office
SVF School Bldg.**

Women’s Sacred Journey group invites all women to join them in praying and reflecting on Scripture passages. The gathering is every other Saturday. No registration or fee required.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

June 13/14, 2026

MASS	4:00PM	9:00AM
Sacristan	D Tourville	T Karolski
Reader #1	M Kairis	D Gray
Reader #2	J McCown	T Karolski
EME	M Kairis	L Yolkiewicz
EME	J McCown	A Goll
EME	R Pasiak	D Gray
Greeter	R Juska-Svoba	D Vu
Greeter	R Pasiak	T Oparka
Greeter	T Pasiak	N Oparka
Greeter	Volunteer	T Lane
Traveling Chalice Host Beginning June 13/14, 2026 Jennifer Balantine		



What Is True Sacrifice?

When I was a child I can remember stopping by my parish or another local Catholic church to just spend some time in prayer before the holy Eucharist. We didn't have exposition and adoration much in those days, but we were keenly aware of the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle. I would sometimes stare at the lighted candle near it and know that Jesus was alive.

I had never heard someone speak about a stewardship way of life back then. If I am honest, the primary message I heard back in those days was along the lines of we need to be as good as we are able. Sacrifice was only at Lent, disciples were people in the Bible, and generosity mostly had to do with the collection basket and the poor box at the church entrance. I even went to Catholic schools!

Maybe the message of stewardship was there somewhere packaged differently and I just missed it. It wasn't until I was an adult, and after acquiring two theology degrees, that I understood both with my head and my heart what a stewardship way of life really meant. But I look back at those days and I realize that the groundwork was laid for me to understand these things. It was those times before the holy Eucharist that I began to understand true sacrifice. It was at those times that I began to understand how actions and realities that seem so simple to the human eye can be so profound. And it was at those times that I began to see that true love knows no bounds. What does the holy Eucharist say to you about stewardship? Maybe today is a great time to reflect on your answer.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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CATHOLIC TRIVIA JUST FOR FUN

Question: What term describes the changing of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass? ©LPi

Answer: Transubstantiation

TRUE FOOD

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Like most millennial women, I have a bizarre relationship with food.

I'm so busy and distracted that most days, I forget to eat — until nighttime, when I make some very questionable decisions, usually involving cake. I also came of age in a time when any woman without a visible eating disorder was labeled as “curvy” (and curvy was understood by everyone to be A Very Bad Thing). Thus, I have a deep feeling of shame whenever I do eat, even when I am hungry, and even when it's something good for me.

I'm so messed up when it comes to food that I often wonder if I even have a good point of reference for understanding the Eucharist. What is “true food” and “true drink,” when you live in a society where bodily nourishment is so plentiful — at least for certain fortunate people like me — that we reject it out of pride, that we feel a shame for needing it, and that we use it as a balm for feelings of boredom, pain, and fear?

But I suppose there's no better way to understand the Eucharist, when you really think about it. The Israelites survived on manna from Heaven — what they would have given for a grocery store. What they would have given for redemption.

I am given both. I appreciate neither to the extent that I should.

True food, true nourishment, true life — physical and spiritual — these are things we all desperately want. And so many of us have them. But our ability to understand what they mean — well, it's hampered. This isn't Eden, after all.

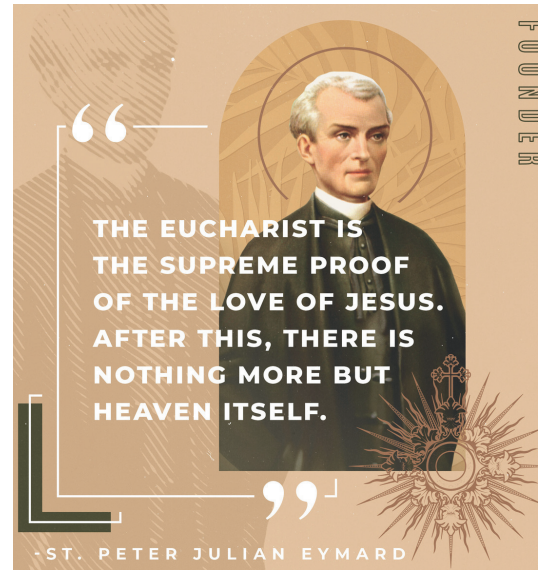
We are reading a book missing half its pages, singing a harmony missing half its parts. We stumble forward, knowing that the fullness can come, will come — one day.

If we keep trying.

©LPi

REPORT ABUSE

To make a report or contact the Abuse Hotline:
EMAIL reportabuse@aod.org
PHONE 313-237-6060
TOLL FREE 866-343-8055



Financial Stewardship Giving - Week ending May 23/24, 2026

Fiscal Year 7-1-25 to 6-30-26	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Envelopes Used & e-fund participants	240	109		
Offertory	\$5,185.00	\$5,271.73	86.73	25,912.82
Energy/Hospitality/Flowers/Candles/Mass Intentions	472.00	213.00	(259.00)	2,472.25
Fundraising: Budget Deficit Envelopes/CSA Refunds	1,673.00	80.00	(1,593.00)	(36,787.43)
Bequests: Free Will				3,337.00
Bequests:				
AOD Collection:				
Holy Days		5.00		5,298.00
CSA 2026 Pledges and One-Time 17,779.00		CSA Paid 15,534.00		

Financial Stewardship Giving - Week Ending May 30/31, 2026

Fiscal Year 7-1-25 to 6-30-26	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Envelopes Used & e-fund participants	240	87		
Offertory	\$5,185.00	\$ 4,057.35	(1,127.65)	24,785.17
Energy/Hospitality/Flowers/Candles/Mass Intentions	472.00	211.00	(261.00)	2,211.25
Fundraising: Budget Deficit Envelopes/CSA Refunds	1,673.00	115.00	(1,558.00)	38,345.43
Bequests: Free Will				3,337.00
Bequests:				
AOD Collection:				
Holy Days				5,298.00
CSA 2026 Pledged & one time gifts \$19,679.00		CSA Paid		\$ 17,374.00

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Cell: **(248) 808-4353**

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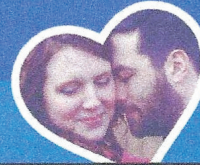
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