

## CORPUS CHRISTI

Making a covenant in the Scriptures had always involved blood. We see this in our passage today in our First Reading from Exodus. The altar Moses erected represented God's presence, and the twelve pillars represented the presence of the people. A holocaust offering was an act of completely burning an animal of sacrifice in a ritual fire. It symbolized a complete giving of one's self and one's possessions to God. The blood of the animal was used to "seal the deal." Blood, the essence of life, was sprinkled on the altar and the people to seal the covenant between God and the people.

Our Second Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews picks up on the significance of the blood sacrifice. Animal sacrifices had to be continually repeated since they were imperfect sacrifices. To make a perfect sacrifice, a human being, the Son of God, would have to willingly give His life over to God. His life had to be poured out as an animal's life is poured out. Believing that blood contained the essence of life, Jesus gave His blood for us that we might have life, that we might share in some of His attributes, that is, life with God.



The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ calls us to ponder this sacrifice of Jesus. The feast is filled with doctrine and theology, but it is also a feast that speaks of an incredibly profound love. Despite all our education and training, we still do

not completely understand the depth and profundity of this gift. Through this gift, we are allowed to share in the life of God. This is no animal sacrifice that has to be repeated over and over. It is the perfect sacrifice. It is perfect love.

Our lack of understanding can often be seen in our attitude toward the Eucharist. It can be seen in not only the regularity of our attendance but even in the manner in which we attend.

We say we love God. We pledge our faithfulness to God, and we see this pledge made twice in the First Reading, but how good have we been at keeping this pledge, to do all that the Lord has commanded which is to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

### SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Next weekend, June 24/25, our parish will participate in the Peter's Pence Collection for the Works of the Holy Father. Please join in solidarity with the more than one billion Catholics worldwide in providing immediate emergency and disaster relief through the Pope's annual appeal.

### CATHEDRAL VOLUNTEER'S PICNIC

The annual Cathedral Volunteers Picnic will be held on **Friday, July 14, 2006, at St. Joseph Parish** in Clarksburg. The location may seem far away, but is actually just across the river from the Pocket Area of South Sacramento. All choir members, altar servers, Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, ushers, teachers, St. Vincent de Paul members, and other volunteers who support the Cathedral's work and prayer are

cordially invited to attend. Those with last names from A-L are asked to bring Salads, and those from M-Z, Desserts. Everything else will be provided by the Parish. One of the highlights of the picnic is the raffling away of gift certificates from local businesses.

### UNIVERSITY OF SACRAMENTO

The University of Sacramento will hold an Open House on Thursday June 22 between 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm at its Graduate Campus located at 1531 "I" Street, Suite 200, in downtown Sacramento. Find out for yourself about the first Catholic University in Sacramento and our Master's degree and Certificate in Catechetics Programs. For more information, call (916) 443-4760 or e-mail to [kconner@universityofsacramento.org](mailto:kconner@universityofsacramento.org).

# PRIESTHOOD ORDINATIONS TODAY



Today at 2:30 pm, Bishop Weigand will ordain to the priesthood Jeremy Leatherby, Sherwin Colaste, and Julito Orpilla. Please join in this celebration which will celebrate the continuing work of the apostolic tradition in our Diocese of Sacramento.

*We may not have people hungry for a plate of rice or for a piece of bread in New York City, but there is a tremendous hunger and a tremendous feeling of unwantedness everywhere. And that is really a very great poverty.*

*We don't expect hunger here today, in Western countries. We don't expect, maybe, that terrible loneliness. But everywhere today hunger is not only for a piece of bread, but hunger for God, hunger for love.*

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

## HERE I AM LORD!

By virtue of Baptism, we are all called to ministry in Christ's vineyard. Have you heard the call of the Holy Spirit to share your faith in the field of religious education? If so, the Religious Education Program is seeking volunteers.

The program needs support staff at all levels as well as catechists to prepare children for the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. If you have experience in administrative support (clerical), office management, fundraising, newsletter preparation, or operational support, the program needs you. If you are interested in catechesis as a teacher or as a catechist aid (CA) in a classroom, the program needs you.

Also the Religious Education Program invites students who need hours of community service for academic credit to apply. Qualified students may serve as CAs and earn academic credits for their service during a given pastoral year. Please contact the Office of Religious Education for further information.

An application for Volunteer Ministry may be obtained online at our web site [www.cathedralsacramento.org](http://www.cathedralsacramento.org) or by calling the **Office of Religious Education at (916) 444-5364** to request an application form.

## FRANCIS HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Francis House is a resource counseling center that assists the poor in breaking the cycle of poverty. Being a Francis House volunteer has many benefits. You give back to society, you help others that need it most, and you feel good about yourself. We are currently in need of volunteer support in the following areas: greeter/reception, clerical, and resource counselors. Francis House is a safe and enjoyable environment, where our clients greatly appreciate receiving the direct services and referrals we provide them. Morning and afternoons hours are available Monday through Friday. Please contact **Forrest Reed, Program Director at 443-2646**.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**MON 6/18/2006** **St. Romuald, abbot**  
 12:10 pm: Maria Navarro +  
 5:10 pm: Lisa Garcia Schnell +  
**TUES 6/19/2006**  
 12:10 pm: Jose D. Maciel, S.I.  
 5:10 pm John Michael Tುದtud +  
**WED 6/20/2006** **St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious**  
 12:10 pm: Myra Dial, S.I.  
 5:10 pm: Oragica Pavlovic +  
**THURS 6/21/2006** **St. Thomas More & St. John Fisher**  
 12:10 pm: Gene and Family, S.I.  
 5:10 pm June Hayden, S.I.  
**FRI 6/22/2006** **Sacred Heart of Jesus**  
 12:10 pm: Vocations to Priesthood, S.I.  
 7:00 pm: All Souls

### New Parishioner Registration and Change of Address Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Fill out and deposit in Offertory Basket. Thank You!*