

Children's liturgy for Corpus Christi 19th June 2022

Corpus Christi means "The body of Christ". The other name we use for this day is "The Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord".

"The Eucharist" means the remembrance of what Jesus did at the Last Supper, when he shared bread and wine with his friends and told them "This is my body" and "This is my blood". He asked them to do this in remembrance of him. That is what we do during the Mass, we have the Eucharistic prayers blessing the bread and wine, and the celebration of Communion which is the sharing of them with everyone. This is why the Mass is sometimes also called the Eucharist.

Now please read the Gospel reading below slowly and carefully.

Gospel

Luke 9:11-17 [🔗](#)

The feeding of the five thousand

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing.

It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

Take a moment to think about the story. Imagine what it must have been like to be there as one of the crowd, sharing the bread and fish with everyone.

This story tells us something about how Jesus feeds us at the Eucharist. Where does the food come from which he shares with the people? Where does the food shared at the Eucharist come from? Jesus could have sent everyone away to find food for themselves; what did he do? At our celebration of the Eucharist he invites us all to come and share his special food. Jesus takes the food; what does he do? At church, what does the priest do with the bread and wine? Who gave the food to the people? Who gives the special food of the Eucharist to us? Jesus takes our ordinary food and makes it special. What is special about the food of the Eucharist?