

SUNDAY PLUS

Feed my hunger

Amen!

By Fr Richard Reid
C.Ss.R.

Every time we say "Amen" as we receive Holy Communion we are publicly affirming the very feast we celebrate today, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. When the priest or the minister of Holy Communion holds before you the consecrated host and says, "The Body of Christ" our "Amen" is our agreement, our way of saying "yes, Lord, I believe". Therefore our "Amen" should be loud, clear and authentic.

There are many studies on the Internet which claim many things about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Many people proclaim their profound sadness about those who cannot accept the Church's

teaching while still receiving Holy Communion.

Today's Feast is certainly an occasion when the Church worldwide reminds itself of the precious and intimate gift that Jesus is to us in Holy Communion. Coming to us in a basic way in the form of food allows us to have those moments of closeness that are quite unique. No-one knows what is going on between the two of us in that time of receiving Holy Communion and in the moments thereafter. This is divine time, albeit briefly, but let us never lose the chance of this closeness with the Lord.

If time is on your side, read, *The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist: Basic Questions and Answers*, which can be found here <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/order-of-mass/liturgy-of-the-eucharist/the-real-presence-faqs>

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Hungering for God

"Too late have I loved you, O Beauty so ancient, O Beauty so new. Too late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside myself, and there I sought you! In my weakness I ran after the beauty of the things you have made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The things you have made kept me from you - the things which would have no being unless they existed in you! You have called, you have cried, and you have pierced my deafness. You have radiated forth, you have shined out brightly, and you have dispelled my blindness. You have sent forth your fragrance, and I have breathed it in, and I long for you. I have tasted you, and I hunger and thirst for you. You have touched me, and I ardently desire your peace."

St Augustine

"Our thirst for God brings us to the altar. Where that thirst is lacking, our celebrations become dry and lifeless. As Church, it is not enough that the usual little group meets to celebrate the Eucharist; we need to go out into the city, to encounter people and to learn how to recognise and revive their thirst for God and their desire for the Gospel."

Pope Francis

Loving Lord,
I hunger and
thirst for you.
I yearn to be
filled with you
to overflowing.
Lord, I can never
have enough of
your presence.
☪ Amen.

Feast of the week
Friday 24 June

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Heart of our Saviour, heart of our friend;
Heart that has loved thine own to the end.
Heart of our king, Heart of our Lord,
Be thou forever loved and adored.

Heart of Jesus, human heart,
Thanks to thee for all thou art!
Where should we have been or be,
Fount of goodness, but for thee?
Heart so full of love for us,
Would that we could love thee thus.

Author unknown

Today: Genesis 14:18-20 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 Luke 9:11-17	Monday: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15, 18 Matthew 7:1-5	Tuesday: 2 Kings 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36 Matthew 7:6, 12-14	Wednesday: 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3 Matthew 7:15-20	(E) St John Fisher & Thomas More (Feast): 2 Maccabees 6:18, 21, 24-31 Matthew 24:4-13	Thursday: Isaiah 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26 Luke 1:57-66, 80	Friday: Ezekiel 34:11-16 Romans 5:5-11 Luke 15:3-7	Saturday: Isaiah 61:1, 9-11 Luke 2:41-51	Next Sunday: 1 Kings 19:16, 19-21 Galatians 5:1, 13-18 Luke 9:51-62
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