

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

THE EUCHARIST: IT IS THE LIVING PRESENCE OF GOD THE CHRIST



This Sunday, we pause to reflect on that which unites us, on that which brings us together: the Eucharist for today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Sacrament. Why pause to reflect on it when we celebrate it every Sunday of the year, and indeed every day of the week? Certainly, in part, because routine lies in wait for us. How do we approach Communion simply joining the line and receiving the Body of our Lord in a somewhat distracted manner? So yes, let us take the time to pause, to meditate on what unites us on this day: the Eucharist the Body and Blood of Christ, the Most Holy Sacrament.

The Scriptural texts proposed to us by the liturgy allow us to ground ourselves more deeply in this feast, enabling us to grasp its full significance and meaning so that we may experience our celebrations and our encounter with Christ in today's Communion with ever-greater intensity. **The Gospel reading serves to open our eyes to the presence of Christ within our Eucharist. Indeed, if Jesus was able to feed a crowd of some 5,000 men with just five small loaves and two humble fish, how could He not feed us with His very life through a single small host which embodies His entire presence, His very Body?**

Throughout His ministry, Jesus never ceased to be attentive to the needs of those around Him attentive even to their most material, most essential needs in order to enable each person to discover within themselves a more fundamental need: a need that transcends the material, and which He alone can satisfy. **The crowd is hungry just as it is in today's Gospel passage and it must be fed; the Samaritan woman is thirsty she comes simply to draw water and her thirst must be quenched; the disciples are terrified upon the raging waters of the Sea of Tiberias, and they must be reassured. When a sick woman, or a blind or paralyzed man, comes to meet Christ seeking Him, even if only to touch the hem of His garment He must heal them.** Jesus never remained indifferent to the distress of all those who walked by His side, regardless of whether their lives were praiseworthy, or their intentions upright.

Christ hears us; **He listens to us and is intent upon responding to our distresses, our hungers, our thirsts, our wants, and our wounds. So yes, blessed are we to be invited to the Wedding Feast of the Lamb; let us give thanks to the Lord for such a gift, such a treasure, and let us know how to make room for Him in our hearts, so that He may make His dwelling there. Amen.**

Very Rev. Fr. Lucien Eugene Pierre Ph.D., Pastor, VF

Dean of Northwest Broward Deanery of the Archdiocese Miami – June 7, 2026