



CORIO LARA

CATHOLIC PARISH

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (B)

2nd June 2024

The miracle behind the feast of Corpus Christi

The solemnity of *Corpus Christi*, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, dates back to the Middle Ages. From the tenth to the fourteenth centuries, the Church worked at developing a language that could adequately express her belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. In the midst of this debate, in the first half of the thirteenth century, St Juliana of Liege, a Norbertine nun from Belgium, developed a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and petitioned bishops and even the Pope for the establishment of a feast day in its honour. Her petitions gained traction and eventually culminated in the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena-Orvieto. The miracle occurred thus:

In 1263 a German priest, Peter of Prague, stopped at the Italian town of Bolsena while on pilgrimage to Rome. He was, by all accounts, a pious priest, but one who, perhaps precisely because of his deep reverence for God, found it difficult to believe that Christ was actually present in the consecrated Host. While celebrating a Mass at Bolsena, having barely spoken the words of Consecration, Peter was astounded to observe blood seeping from the consecrated Host, over his hands and then onto the altar and corporal. Confused, Peter initially attempted to hide the blood, but soon realised the significance of the miracle that had occurred. At that time, Pope Urban IV (who, prior to his election had been a supporter of St Juliana's devotion to the Blessed Sacrament), was residing at the nearby city of Orvieto. Leaving the Host and corporal in Bolsena, Peter travelled to Orvieto for an audience with the Pope. Pope Urban listened to the priest's account and set his conscience at ease with absolution. He oversaw an investigation into the purported miracle and, when all the facts were ascertained, ordered the bishop of the diocese to bring the Host and blood-stained corporal from Bolsena to Orvieto. With archbishops, cardinals and other dignitaries in attendance, the Pope met the procession and, amid great ceremony, had the relics placed in the cathedral. This is revered as the first Eucharistic procession. The linen corporal bearing the spots of blood is still reverently enshrined and exhibited in the Cathedral of Orvieto. Inspired by this miracle, Urban IV began the process for the establishment of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. He commissioned St Thomas Aquinas to compose the texts for a Mass and Divine Office honouring the Holy Eucharist as the Body of Christ. One year after the miracle, Pope Urban IV introduced St Thomas's compositions to the Church and, by means of papal bull, instituted the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

In 2015, the diocese of Orvieto launched a restoration project for the corporal. During the restoration the blood deposits on the corporal were subject to scientific analysis. One of the experts to work on the corporal was Ester Giovacchini, an expert in conservation, restoration and ancient fabrics. Upon completion of the restoration, Ester Giovacchini reported that analysis of the corporal under UV fluorescence light "indicates the presence of blood, which reflects a blackish color, split into plasma and serum which reflects a yellow-ivory color."

For a detailed account of the science behind other Eucharistic miracles, read Dr Franco Serafini's book *A Cardiologist Examines Jesus: The Stunning Science Behind Eucharistic Miracles* (2021) available from veritatis.com.au.

Fr Marcus Goulding

CHURCHES

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio
St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

ADMINISTRATOR

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WEBSITE

coriolaracatholicparish.com.au

PARISH OFFICE

Jasna Brdar | *Parish Secretary*
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PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Royden D'Souza

EVANGELISATION COORDINATOR

Gudrun Philipp

MASS TIMES

Tue. 9.15am | *Corio*
W. 9.15am | *Lara*
Th. 9.15am | *Corio*
F. 9.15am | *Corio*
Sat. 5pm (Vigil) | *Corio*
Sun. 9am | *Lara*
11am | *Corio*

CONFESSIONS

Tue. 7.30pm–8.30pm | *Corio*
Sat. 4.30pm–4.55pm | *Corio*
Sun. 8.30am–8.55am | *Lara*

THE ROSARY

8.50am | Prior to weekday Masses

HOLY HOUR

Tue. 7.30pm – 8.30pm | *Corio*

FIRST SATURDAYS

8.30am Confessions | *Corio*
9.30am Mass of Saturday | *Corio*
6.30pm Viet. Vigil Mass | *Corio*

PRESBYTERY GIVING (1st Collection)

St Francis Xavier Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347
ACC 674 963 655

CHURCH GIVING (2nd Collection)

St Francis Xavier Church Account
BSB 083 347
ACC 543 292 126

Mass Readings

Entrance Antiphon | Cf. Ps 80:17

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

First Reading | Exodus 24:3-8

Responsorial Psalm | Psalm 115(116):12-13,15-18

R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

Second Reading | Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel Acclamation | John 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel | Mark 14:12-16,22-26

Communion Antiphon | John 6:57

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 3:9-15 | 2 Cor 4:13-5:1 | Mark 3:20-35

MASS ROSTER NEXT WEEKEND 8th & 9th June 2024

5.00pm Corio	Reader EMHC	Ken McCarthy Frank Moloney
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9.00am Lara	Reader EMHC	Val Brennan Di Saliba
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11.00am Corio	Reader EMHC	Mary Salazar Adela Buaya Vicky Neri
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick:

The faithful departed: Denise Green.

Pray for vocations to the priesthood!

Seminarians: Rhys Lowther, Greg Lewis

Parish Notices

PARISH FORMED SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE. Thanks to donations from some parishioners, our parish has been able to purchase a subscription to FORMED. Formed is a streaming service of Catholic media content that you can access on your phone, tablet, computer or TV. For more information and to access our subscription, visit coriolaracatholicparish.com.au/formed.

PARISH BUS TO MELBOURNE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION. 70 parishioners have booked a seat on our parish bus to the Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession this weekend. This meant we had to book a *second bus*, a wonderful sign of your love for the Eucharist and our seminarians.

INCREASED SUNDAY ATTENDANCE IN OUR PARISH. Catholic parishes count attendance at their Sunday Masses each year throughout the month of May. This year, our parish averaged 478 attendees each weekend of May. Last year, our average weekend attendance was 418. This means that, over the last twelve months, an extra 60 people have begun attending Mass in our parish! Let's keep building on this growth through our worship, formation and fellowship.

PROJECT COMPASSION TOTAL. A total of \$4161.15 was donated by our parishioners to Project Compassion this year. Thank you for your generosity.

FR MARCUS TAKING ANNUAL LEAVE. Fr Marcus will take his annual leave from Monday 10th June to Tuesday 9th July. While he is away, Fr Brendan Lane will supply the weekend Masses and a Mass on Friday evenings.

From 10th June – 9th July, the parish Mass schedule will be:

Mon-Thurs | No Masses

Fri | 5.00pm Confessions (Corio), 5.30pm Mass (Corio), 6.00pm Holy Hour with Confessions (Corio)

Sat | 4.30pm Confessions (Corio), 5.00pm Vigil Mass (Corio)

Sun | 8.30am Confessions (Lara), 9.00am Mass (Lara) | 11.00am Mass (Corio)

PARISHIONER PROFILES. Over the next few months, Reno Demicoli and Gudrun will be conducting brief 'interviews' with parishioners across Lara and Corio before and after Masses. In time, these will appear in the parish bulletin. If you wish to be interviewed, please contact Gudrun to arrange a suitable time.

SUNDAY ROSARY. We would like to continue holding the rosary before the 11am Mass each Sunday. If you can help lead the rosary one weekend a month, please speak to Gudrun.

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC? Our next RCIA formation course for adults interested in becoming Catholic starts in September. Register at www.coriolaracatholicparish.com.au/rcia.

'SPARK' U18 YOUTH GROUP. Open to high-school-aged youth. Next meeting 6.00pm - 8.30pm Sunday 9th June in the Xavier Centre. Pizza dinner provided. Donations appreciated. Contact Gudrun for more information: gudrun.philipp@cam.org.au.



HERE FOR YOU

Kingsfunerals.com.au

Ph. 5248 3444

OUR PARISH IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING
OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS