

June 15, 2020-Reflections for Ordinary Time

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear God, I acknowledge the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation for being the ongoing stewards of this traditional territory.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread." (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)



Yesterday, the Church celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi, otherwise known as the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. A day dedicated two weeks after the feast of Pentecost to remind the faithful that our faith's heart is at the Lord's table. At every mass we celebrate together, pre COVID-19, we gather to take part in the sharing of Christ's body. We adore the Lord who gives himself to the faithful. We come to reconcile with the Lord and nourish our souls on His word. We connect with the beating heart of our faith and renew our commitment to take the Good News of the Lord out into the world. For in the sharing of the body and blood of Christ we become the living bread of Christ in the world.

St. Paul explains how Christ is the one bread and we share in that one piece. In other words, he is the core of everything we do in our lives. He acknowledges that there are many of us, but WE form the community. Undoubtedly, this scripture rings true as the protests continue around the world, where we see that not all groups, especially those within the black community, are not globally treated with respect or as equal partners in their neighbourhoods. They have never felt that they have the same opportunities nor voice in the public sphere. Sentiments which the Indigenous in our nation share. As a nation we have neglected, ignored, and abused our First Nations people for centuries. A reminder that we forget, WE, means all.

I pray that as restrictions are further loosened; we take the time to acknowledge our own failings. May we take them first to the Lord in humble adoration, meditating on the words of J.R. Tolkien, who wrote, "Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves on earth, and more than that: Death. By the divine paradox, that which ends life, and demands the surrender of all, and yet by the taste -or foretaste- of which alone can what you seek in your earthly relationships (love, faithfulness, joy) be maintained, or take on that complexion of reality, of eternal endurance, which every man's heart desires." From there, we can root our lives in Christ so everyone can come to the Lord's table. For those who continue to fight for the rights of all, remain rooted in Christ and let the Holy Spirit guide you to open those doors for others through reason and action. May those who have suffered the injustices of this world find mercy in their hearts to forgive and develop sustainable changes so current and future generations will be heard and seen. As we prepare to gather once again around the Lord's table, let us never forget how all of us are called to share in the one loaf which is body of Christ. May you keep close to your heart the words of Jesus who said, "Remember I am with you always till the end of days." Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.