

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B, 9 June, 2024

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,
Proston and Wondai



Unity in diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!



Looking for a Way to Love Our Eucharistic Lord? Learn at the School of Mary

In the mystery of the Eucharist, the Lord walks with us, accompanies us and offers us the help of his grace so that we might work out our salvation in him.

The reality of the Lord "pitching his tent" with us and dwelling among us is a mystery so great and so intimate that it should fill us with the highest sense of awe and the most profound sense of amazement.

No human being has ever loved, worshipped or served the Lord Jesus as perfectly as Our Lady loves, worships and serves her Son. And so, why would we not turn to her, ask for her help, be inspired by her example, and receive encouragement through her maternal guidance?

In his 14th and final encyclical, 'Ecclesia de Eucharistia', Pope Saint John Paul II directed the attention of the Church back to the Eucharist.

In the encyclical, John Paul II tells us: "Mary can guide us towards this most holy sacrament, because she herself has a profound relationship with it".

The saintly Pope devoted the entire sixth chapter to "the school of Mary, Woman of the Eucharist." Here are just a few examples.

"Yet we know that she was present among the Apostles who prayed 'with one accord' in the first community which gathered after the Ascension in expectation of Pentecost. Certainly, Mary must have been present at the Eucharistic celebrations of the first generation of Christians, who were devoted to the breaking of bread' (Acts 2:42)".

The awareness of Our Lady being present at the New Passover, the Eucharistic Sacrifice of the early Church, is itself enough to compel all of us to a deeper faith and gratitude in the Eucharist. If she, Mother of the Lord, bows down before the Eucharistic Sacrifice and the Lord's True Presence, then certainly who are we, adopted into the divine family, not to do the same?

John Paul II continues:

"In her daily preparation for Calvary, Mary experienced a kind of 'anticipated Eucharist' – one might say a 'spiritual communion' – of desire and of oblation, which would culminate in her union with her Son in his passion, and then find expression after Easter by her partaking in the Eucharist which the Apostles celebrated as the memorial of that passion."

continued on next page...

Sunday Mass Times

Murgon

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am

Wondai

every	Saturday	5.00pm
WEEK	DAY	TIME

Proston

every	Saturday	9.00am
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Goomeri

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday (except 5th Sunday)	6.00pm

Gayndah

WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th Sundays	9.00am

Cherbourg

WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.30pm

Weekday Mass Times

12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah
5.00pm, Wednesday, Wondai
9.00am, 2nd, 4th Thursdays, School/Parish Mass, Murgon
9.00am, 1st, 3rd Thursdays, Castra

Holy Hour for Peace

Wondai, 4.00pm to 5.00pm,
Wednesday, before Mass

Today's readings

Genesis 3: 9-15; Corinthians 4: 13-5:1;
Mark 3: 20-35

Response:

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I The prince of this world will now be cast out, and when I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all to myself, says the Lord. Alleluia!

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"What must Mary have felt as she heard from the mouth of Peter, John, James and the other Apostles the words spoken at the Last Supper: 'This is my body which is given for you' (Luke 22:19)?"

The thought of Our Lady hearing the words of consecration from the mouth of the apostles and participating in the remembrance – the making present – of the Lord's one sacrifice in the Eucharist is something that will compel even the most lukewarm soul to drop to his knees in prayer and adoration before the Eucharistic Lord.

We are led to spiritually see the Mother of the Lord – who gave him a body and nurtured him as a child, who alone could physically say with the Lord, "This is my Body" and "This is my Blood," and who alone was with him as a source of strength at the cross.

Such a thought allows for the Mass to take on for us a further human realisation and awareness of what the Lord is doing and what he is accomplishing among us. Mary points to her Son, she gives us a warmth and connection to the sacrifice, and shows us how to worship and adore the Lord.

As John Paul II gave us the image of Our Lady receiving Holy Communion:

"The body given up for us and made present under sacramental signs was the same body which she had conceived in her womb! For Mary, receiving the Eucharist must have somehow meant welcoming once more into her womb that heart which had beat in unison with hers and reliving what she had experienced at the foot of the Cross".

The mere thought of the Blessed Mother receiving the Eucharist, and somehow mystically the Lord returning to her own body, is a cause

of serious reflection on what it means for us – who are we? – to receive the Lord's Body and Blood. Such a reflection serves as the source of an ever-deeper sense of unworthiness and gratitude toward the gift of Holy Communion.

The saintly Pope is not done. He makes a connection between Our Lady's Fiat and our Amen at the reception of Holy Communion. As she believed in the Presence of God within her womb, so we are called to believe in the Presence of God under the appearance of bread and wine.

"As a result, there is a profound analogy between the Fiat which Mary said in reply to the angel, and the Amen which every believer says when receiving the body of the Lord. Mary was asked to believe that the One whom she conceived 'through the Holy Spirit' was 'the Son of God' (Luke 1:30-35)".

John Paul II, however, gives us even more. He turns to the question of Eucharistic adoration:


"When, at the Visitation, (Mary) bore in her womb the Word made flesh, she became in some way a 'tabernacle' – the first 'tabernacle' in history – in which the Son of God, still invisible to our human gaze, allowed himself to be adored by Elizabeth, radiating his light as it were through the eyes and the voice of Mary. And is not the enraptured gaze of Mary as she contemplated the face of the newborn Christ and cradled him in her arms that unparalleled model of love which should inspire us every time we receive Eucharistic communion?"

The realisation of the Blessed Mother as the first tabernacle in history, in which both she and later Elizabeth would adore the Lord, is a compelling springboard for each of us in our own lives to turn to the Lord in the tabernacles of our



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 If you know anyone in need,
please contact Lindsay Poilly
President, Saint Vincent de
Paul Conference, on
0437 864 667 or 5459 5234

We pray for those who are sick:
Renee Elliott; Orlando Dyrit;
Wendy Heidemann; David McIntosh.
Recently deceased: Dina Wardrop
(Proston) .

parishes and to adore and rejoice in
the Lord's Presence among us.

In each of these ways – the
Eucharistic Sacrifice, the reception
of Holy Communion and Eucharistic
adoration – Pope Saint Paul II wants
us to see Our Lady's presence. He
concludes by writing:

"Mary is present, with the Church and
as the Mother of the Church, at each
of our celebrations of the Eucharist.
If the Church and the Eucharist are
inseparably united, the same ought
to be said of Mary and the Eucharist".

John Paul II knew how much the
Blessed Mother can help each of us
love the Lord Jesus. The saintly Pope
unveils these Marian thoughts of his
heart as a gift and encouragement to
us. He simply tells us: If we're going
to love the Eucharistic Lord, then we
need his Blessed Mother to guide us.