LIVING FAITH
THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
(CORPUS CHRISTI)

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY
Luke 9:11b-17

When the crowds found out about the wonders Jesus had done,
they followed him; and he welcomed them,
and spoke to them about the kingdom of God,
and healed those who needed to be cured.
The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said,
'Send the crowd away,
so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside,
to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place.'
But he said to them, 'You give them something to eat.'
They said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish—
unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.'
For there were about five thousand men.
And he said to his disciples, 'Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each.'
They did so and made them all sit down.
And taking the five loaves and the two fish,
he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them,
and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.
And all ate and were filled.
What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.
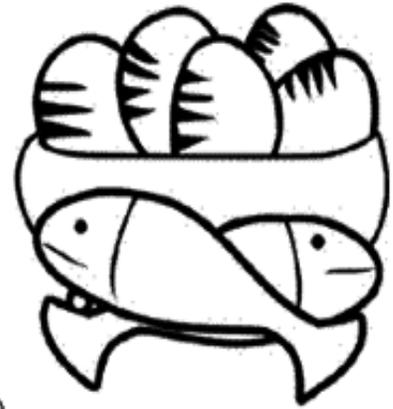
TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

In 2018, on Corpus Christi Sunday, Pope Francis gave a homily in which he said: "In life, we constantly need to be fed: nourished not only with food, but also with plans and affection, hopes and desires. We hunger to be loved. But the most pleasing compliments, the finest gifts and the most advanced technologies are not enough; they never completely satisfy us."

"The Eucharist is simple food, like bread, yet it is the only food that satisfies, for there is no greater love," he added. "There we encounter Jesus really; we share his life and we feel his love."

PONDER AND DISCUSS

- How are you hungry?
- How do you ask Jesus to satisfy your hunger today?

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Jesus Feeds the 5000

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. John 6:11 (NIV)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
25	17	10	22	18	19	13	14	24	16	2	5	1	9	3	15	12	21	8	7	11	26	20	6	23	4

To solve the puzzle, use this key to find out which letter each number represents.

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_____  ____  ___  ___  ___
20 14 18 9   7 14 18 23   14 25 22   25 5 5   14 25 22

_____  __  ___  ,  __  ____
18 9 3 11 13 14   7 3   18 25 7  '  14 18   8 25 24 22

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7 3   14 24 8   22 24 8 10 24 15 5 18 8  '    13 25 7 14 18 21

___  _____  ____  ___  ____
7 14 18   15 24 18 10 18 8   7 14 25 7   25 21 18   5 18 19 7

____  .  ___  _____  __
3 26 18 21  .  5 18 7   9 3 7 14 24 9 13   17 18

_____  .  "  __  ____  _____
20 25 8 7 18 22  .  "   8 3   7 14 18 23   13 25 7 14 18 21 18 22

____  ___  _____  _____
7 14 18 1   25 9 22   19 24 5 5 18 22   7 20 18 5 26 18

_____  ____  ___  _____
17 25 8 2 18 7 8   20 24 7 14   7 14 18   15 24 18 10 18 8

__  ___  ____  _____  _____
3 19   7 14 18   19 24 26 18   17 25 21 5 18 23   5 3 25 26 18 8

____  ____  __  ____  ___
5 18 19 7   3 26 18 21   17 23   7 14 3 8 18   20 14 3

___  _____  .
14 25 22   18 25 7 18 9
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John 6:12-13 (NIV)

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THE CHURCH TEACHES
THE EUCHARIST

It was by means of (this bread and wine) that the Lord Christ wished to present us with his body and blood, which he shed for our sake for the forgiveness of sins. If you receive them well, you are yourselves what you receive." (St. Augustine, Sermon 227)

By the consecration the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about. Under the consecrated species of bread and wine Christ himself, living and glorious, is present in a true, real, and substantial manner: his Body and his Blood, with his soul and his divinity. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1413)

Jesus said: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; . . . he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and . . . abides in me, and I in him" (*Jn* 6:51, 54, 56). (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1406)

The Last Supper (Mt 26:26-28)

Do this in memory of Me...

I am the Bread of Life...

The Eucharist is the heart and the summit of the Church's life, for in it Christ associates his Church and all her members with his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving offered once for all on the cross to his Father; by this sacrifice he pours out the graces of salvation on his Body which is the Church. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1407)

The Eucharistic celebration always includes: the proclamation of the Word of God; thanksgiving to God the Father for all his benefits, above all the gift of his Son; the consecration of bread and wine; and participation in the liturgical banquet by receiving the Lord's body and blood. These elements constitute one single act of worship. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1408)

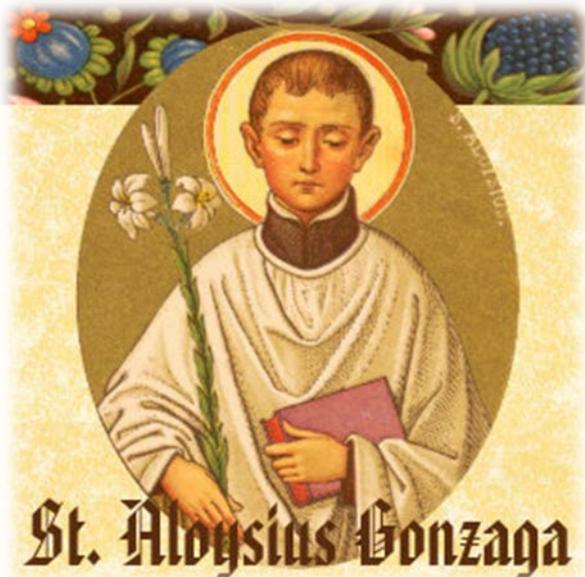Behold what you are. Become what you receive.

St. Augustine

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA
JUNE 21
PATRON SAINT OF STUDENTS

Aloysius Gonzaga was the eldest of seven children born in 1568 into an aristocratic Italian family. "Aloysius" is the Latin form of his given Italian name, Luigi. He was the son of Ferrante de Gonzaga (1544–1586), Marquis of Castiglione, and Marta Tana di Santena, daughter of a baron, a lady-in-waiting to Isabel, the wife of Philip II of Spain.

Aloysius' father prepared him to be a soldier. He grew up amid the violence and brutality of Renaissance Italy and witnessed the murder of two of his brothers. Aloysius became ill as a child, and became an avid reader. When he was 12 years old. He received his First Holy Communion. After reading a book about Jesuit missionaries in India, Aloysius felt strongly that he wanted to become a missionary. He started practicing by teaching catechism classes to young boys in Castiglione in the summers.

Aloysius started thinking in earnest about joining a religious order. He decided to become a Jesuit. His mother agreed to his request, but his father was furious and prevented him from doing so. In 1585 he gave up all rights of inheritance, and entered the Jesuits. He was plagued with poor health. In 1591, a plague broke out in Rome. The Jesuits opened a hospital for the stricken, and Aloysius volunteered to work there. He contracted the plague, and died on June 21, 1591. He was beatified on October 19, 1605 and canonized on December 31, 1726. He is the patron saint of students, of AIDS sufferers and their caregivers.

Watch a short video about St. Aloysius Gonzaga here.