

Introduction to the series:

The purpose of the October Eucharistic Revival Homily Series is to inspire deeper participation in the Eucharistic Mystery by giving clear teaching on the Eucharist over a period of five weeks. The Eucharist is an exhaustive mystery, and it cannot be explained fully in five homilies. But we can teach about various aspects of the Eucharist that can help us all come to a deeper understanding and commitment to a Eucharistic life. The readings of the five weeks are organized around five main themes of the Eucharist:

October 1 – Theme: Covenant

First Reading: Ex 12:1-14 Passover lamb

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 R. (24b) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Second Reading: Romans 6:1-11

Matthew 26:26-30

October 8 – Theme: Real Presence

First Reading: Deut 8:2-3, 14-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 R. (9a) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

Second Reading: 1 Cor. 10:16-17

Gospel: John 6:41-43 & 47-59

October 15 – Theme: Sacrifice

First Reading: Gen 14:18-20

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 R. (13) I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

Gospel: Luke:22:14-20

October 22 – Theme: Communion

First Reading: Ex 24:3-8

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116:12-13, 15-16BC, 17-18 "Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ."

Second Reading: 1 Cor 11:23-32

Gospel: John 6:53, 60-69

October 29 – Theme: Missionary Zeal

First Reading: Leviticus 24:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:1bc, 2 R. (Mark 16:15) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-16

Gospel: Mt. 28:16-20

"The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world. Let Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: he is God with us. Seek him without tiring, welcome him without reserve, love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever" (Saint John Paul II).

9/30-10/1 Readings

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall stand at the head of your calendar; you shall reckon it the first month of the year. Tell the whole community of Israel: On the tenth of this month every one of your families must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household. If a family is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join the nearest household in procuring one and shall share in the lamb in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it. The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish. You may take it from either the sheep or the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present, it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight. They shall take some of its blood and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house in which they partake of the lamb. That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Do not eat any of it raw or even boiled in water, but roasted, with its head and shanks and inner organs. You must not keep any of it beyond the morning; whatever is left over in the morning must be burned up.

“This is how you are to eat it: with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand, you shall eat like those who are in flight. It is the Passover of the LORD. For on this same night I will go through Egypt, striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast, and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt— I, the LORD! But the blood will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you; thus, when I strike the land of Egypt, no destructive blow will come upon you. “This day shall be a memorial feast for you, which all your generations shall celebrate with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution.”

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54

R. (24b) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

¶ A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, from now on I shall not drink this fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it with you new in the kingdom of my Father.” Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.