

On the Divine Liturgy

Why do Orthodox Christians believe that we truly receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ in communion?

Because Jesus told us so!

In *The Gospel of John* (6:51-59) Jesus said:

I am the living bread that came down from Heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from Heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever.” Jesus said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Could Jesus have been any more succinct and clear on this matter?

from Guide to the Divine Liturgy, by Robert Krantz

From the Fathers

Let us consider, beloved brethren, what the congregation of believers did in the time of the apostles. Back then, at the beginning, the mind flourished with greater virtues. The faith of believers burned with a warmth of faith that was still new. Back then they sold houses and farms and gladly and generously presented the proceeds to the apostles to be distributed to the poor.

St. Cyprian of Carthage

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



July 22, 2012

7th Sunday of Matthew

Please remember in your prayers:

*Priest George, Charles, Marianna, Michael, Kristen, Barbara
and all those serving in our Armed Forces*

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July 22, 2012

7th Sunday of Matthew

Commemoration of:

Sts. Mary Magdalene, Myrrhbearer & Equal-to-the-Apostles,
Markella, Virgin-martyr of Chios

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Angelikai Dynamis (Hymn of the Day) Tone 6

Christo to thi' Imas (Hymn of St. Mary) Tone 1

O holy Mary Magdalene, you kept Christ's commandments and followed Him, Who for our sakes was born of a Virgin. Today we celebrate your memory and receive forgiveness through your prayers.

Tou Stavrou Sou (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which you guard in peace forever, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.

Kontakion

Prostasia ton Christianon Tone 2

Champion of Christians not put to shame, advocate before the Maker always steadfast, do not spurn sinners' voices raised in prayer. In your goodness respond to bring help to us who devoutly petition you. Hasten your intercession and urgently make entreaty; for you unfailingly defend, O Theotokos, those who honor you.

Epistle Reading

Romans 15:1-7

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of your Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house,

the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

*We welcome Fr. Paul Burholt to celebrate the Liturgy with us,
along with Matushka Gabriela.*

This Week

Fri - St. Panteleimon - Divine Liturgy - 9:00 am

2012 Greek Festival

Check out the new Festival Website at GreekFestivalHawaii.com. You can sign up to volunteer, read a variety of blogs, and obtain festival information.

Please share the address with your friends, family and co-workers!

MONEY TALKS

F. G. Kernan wrote, "That money talks, I do agree; But it only says 'Goodbye to me!'"

To the Christian money says more than "Goodbye." When given to help the poor, it says, "I love you. I care for you. I give you part of my sweat and blood."

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread. *Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*