



Corpus Christi Sunday B

14th June 2009

Follows from last week, an article by Ron Owens on Worship...

Seeing Worship As A Means to An End, Rather Than An End in Itself.

Our drive to evangelize and our desire to grow numerically have led us to "use" worship as a tool to reach the lost. We have gone so far as to turn our worship services, as opposed to evangelistic services, into "seeker-friendly" meetings, so the world will feel at home when they come into the house of God. We should always be sensitive to the unsaved, but nowhere in Scripture are we told to accommodate the world in what God calls the believer to offer to Him.

Worship, as we find it in Scripture, is the exclusive right, privilege, and responsibility of the child of God. It is spiritually impossible for an unbeliever to worship. The prevailing idea that the church needs to sound like the world in order to win the world demonstrates a serious misunderstanding of what church really is. It demonstrates more concern with what the world thinks than with what God thinks.

There is one fundamental reason why the living God wants His people to assemble in worship: that is, to ascribe to Him the worth and value that are His, individually and as a body, and to present their bodies as living sacrifices. Worshipping God is not a means to an end; it is an end in itself!

Missing Ingredients in Worship.

In some churches, the vital elements of worship are being omitted from the service because so much time is being taken for other things. What are these "vital elements" of worship? One of them is prayer. Jesus said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer" (Mark 11:17), yet prayer is not central in so many of our modern day services.

In our travels, I have sometimes checked the amount of time churches actually spend praying in their worship services. At one point, four out of

five spent more time welcoming the visitors than all their praying combined. Two out of those five spent more time making the announcements than in prayer. Recently, in one of the largest churches in our land, a total of forty-five seconds was actually spent in prayer, while ten minutes were given to a humorous Sunday School promotion.

Another vital element of worship missing from our services is the reading of Scripture. How often have you heard an entire chapter of God's Word read in a worship service? The Apostle Paul instructed Timothy to give attention to the public reading of Scripture (1Tim. 4:13). We, too, need to heed this instruction.

To follow next week...

CCD 1-8 is closing this week (to allow the Faith Sharers to meet next week) and will resume on the 25th July.

However, your children are expected to be present every weekend for the Sunday mass (either on Saturday evening or Sunday morning). A special effort is asked to attend the Youth Mass on the first Saturday of the month.

YOUNG YOUTH YES WEEKEND

There will be a Young Youth YES weekend on the 25th-26th of July. This programme is tailored for the youths between 12 and 17 years and will help them understand better who they are and who they are interacting with and, ultimately, will unfold a little more their relationship to God.

Those who have already been on a Mini, welcome to the weekend and those who have already done a Young Youth YES weekend, welcome back for a deeper experience.

Registration forms available from Jude James.

By the way, you may have heard that some of the YESSERS intend to go to Mauritius in December to attend the convention that will celebrate 25 years of YES in Mauritius. Remember that YES Mauritius was founded from YES South Africa and that a delegation from Mauritius attended our own convention two years ago. Because such a journey is so expensive, YES as a family is raising funds to help the few families that are committed to represent YES SA. If you feel part of the family, please support! Gossipers, please refrain!

Altar Servers Roster

Wed 17th: Janine, Bradley, Jacklyn

Sat 20th: Kyle, Sasha-Lee, Adrian, Mikayla, Marlene, Reece

Sun 21st: Kewan, Sherwin, Claudene, Claudette, Nathanie

Flower List

P. Warnasuriya, Roseline Annamalay, Marlon & Desiree Annamalay, Lenny & Savy Anthoo

Mass Intentions

Sat 13th: Donovan Naiker & Muriel Naidoo RIP

Sun 14th: Devan Pakari & Eileen Williams RIP

Tue 16th: Thanksgiving

Wed 17th: Noël Jackson 40 days

JUSTICE AND PEACE

There will be a Workshop on Saturday 27th June from 10h00 to 13h00.

Venue: to be advised (possibly the Church Hall – if it is not being utilized on this day.)

All welcome to attend.

DEDICATION ENVELOPES

Fr seems to have misunderstood the PFC for the two last weekend. The envelopes were not ready yet. He was supposed to remind the people to fill out their dedication card. So, if not done yet, please do so.

In the meantime, the envelopes seem to be now ready for collection.

CCD4 Parents meeting

Next Saturday at 2pm.

Catechists Archdiocesan Retreat

On the 18th July from 9am to 4pm at Mazenod Retreat Centre in Germinston. All catechists warmly encouraged to attend.

MARRIAGE COURSE

Couples interested to join the Marriage Course team are invited to contact ASAP Father, Jude and Kenna or Clive and Vanessa. Thank you.

Weekend masses: SATURDAY 5 pm and SUNDAY 10.30 am
Confessions: SATURDAY 4.30 pm or by appointment
Weekday masses: TUESDAY 9 am and WEDNESDAY 7.30 pm
First Friday of the month: ADORATION 6.15 pm and MASS 7.30 pm

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For Mass intentions and appointment with Father, please contact Shantha by phone at the office on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9.30 to 12.30 OR leave a message on the mailbox OR send an email.
For Sick calls, please contact Clive Padayachee on 011.854.5060 or 072.493.4773
For Funerals, please contact Vivian Patel on 011.854.8523 or Cynthia Thomas on 011.854.5490
In case of emergency only, Fr. Philippe's cell is 082.729.3758

Join in the following activities...

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP : every Monday 7.30 pm in the Hall.
Contact Edgar 011 852 4960
INTERCESSION PRAYER GROUP: every Friday 10 am - 24 Opaal Street - Extension 5. Contact Vivian 011 854 8523
PRAYER GROUP: every Saturday 3.30 pm in the Hall.
YOUTH CIA GROUP: every Friday 7.30 pm in the Hall - contact Lerece 083 411 5650