

**WHY DOES THE PRIEST SAY
“THE BODY OF CHRIST”
INSTEAD OF “THIS IS JESUS**



**1. “THE BODY OF CHRIST” IS A DECLARATION
OF FAITH.**

When the minister says, “The Body of Christ,” he is not merely identifying what is being given to you. He is proclaiming what Catholics believe is truly present in the Eucharist: Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Jesus Himself said: “This is my body, which will be given for you.” - LK 22:19. So the words at Communion point directly to Christ's own words at the Last Supper.

2. “AMEN” MEANS “I BELIEVE”.

This is one of the most beautiful parts. The priest says: “The Body of Christ.” And you respond: “Amen.” That “Amen” is not simply a polite response. It is an act of faith. You are essentially saying: “Yes. I believe.” The Church's liturgical instruction specifically directs the communicant to respond “Amen” before receiving the Eucharist (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 161). So the exchange becomes almost like a profession of faith.

3. WHY NOT SIMPLY SAY “THIS IS JESUS”?

Because “The Body of Christ” says much more. The Eucharist is not simply Jesus' body understood as an isolated physical object. Christ is truly and substantially present in the Eucharist. The Church teaches that the whole Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, is present under each Eucharistic species. (CCC 1374). Therefore, when you receive the consecrated Host, you are not receiving only a “part” of Jesus. You receive Christ Himself. The expression “Body of Christ” also points to something bigger: the Church itself is called the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). So the Eucharist unites us more deeply with Christ and, through Him, with His Church.

**4. THE WORDS REMIND US THAT THIS IS NOT
ORDINARY BREAD.**

Before consecration, the bread is ordinary bread. But after the Eucharistic Prayer and consecration, the Church teaches that through transubstantiation, the substance of the bread is changed into Christ's Body, while the appearances of bread remain. This is why Catholics do not approach Communion as though they are simply receiving a symbolic reminder of Jesus. We believe Christ is truly, really and substantially present. Jesus said: “For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.” - John 6:55. That is why the words “The Body of Christ” are so significant.



**5. YOUR “AMEN” SHOULD CHANGE HOW YOU
RECEIVE COMMUNION.**

Think about what is happening. You approach the altar. The minister looks at you and says: “The Body of Christ.” Then you say: “Amen.” At that moment, you are not merely saying that you want the Host. You are affirming your faith in what the Church teaches about the Eucharist. That is why the Church asks us to approach Holy Communion with reverence, faith and proper disposition. The Eucharist is not simply something we receive. It is Someone we receive. In simple words, why doesn't the priest simply say, “This is Jesus”? Because “The Body of Christ” is the Church's liturgical proclamation of what you are receiving, rooted in Christ's own words at the Last Supper. And when you respond “Amen,” you are saying: “Yes, I believe that this is truly Christ.” Those two words should therefore never become an automatic response. The next time you hear: “The Body of Christ.” Pause for a moment. Look at what you are about to receive. And remember: You are not merely receiving bread. You are approaching Christ Himself. Then say your “Amen” with faith.

SOURCES:

Sacred Scripture: Mt. 26:26-28; Lk 22:19-20; Jn 6:51-58; 1 Cor 10:16-17; 1 Cor 12:27.
Catechism of the Catholic Church: §§1322-1419, especially §§1374-1377.
General Instruction of the Roman Missal: §§161-162.



Archdiocese of Adelaide

MATER CHRISTI PARISH

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28th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A — Oct 11, 2026

**READY AND PROPERLY CLOTHED
FOR THE LORD'S BANQUET!**



In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a wedding feast. The son of the king is marrying his beloved bride – and we are that bride! We can say that God has proposed marriage to us, and he means to join himself to us in an eternal union of love in Heaven.

Sadly, the invited guests refused to come. Very often we, too, refuse to God when he invites us into a closer relationship with him. The king finally sends out his servants to invite anyone at all, “good and bad alike.” However, one comes into the banquet but was not properly dressed. The problem was not that the man did not have a wedding garment. Rather, he chose not to put it on. He preferred to stay in his own clothes, and so he was cast out of the banquet hall.

What can we learn from this? We must come to the wedding feast wearing the proper garment. And what is that? St. Paul describes the wedding garment in Colossians 3:12-14: “Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. In other words, interiorly we are to look like Christ; our hearts must look like his heart.

Jesus' warning is clear. We cannot celebrate the feast if we reject his gracious offer to transform us into his likeness.

Today let us pray for the grace to be more conscious of the wonderful invitation which our God is giving us, so that we can value it properly. As the Gospel Acclamation says, “May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.”

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

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Ms Rita Griffante & Ms Lucia Raybould
Parish Office Staff

MASSES SCHEDULE

Weekdays
8:15am—Monday—Friday
Saturday
8:00am—Italian
4:30pm—Spanish (Ant Sunday Mass)
6:00pm—English (Ant Sunday Mass)
Sundays
9:00am—English
10:30am—Italian
6:00pm—English
3:00pm—Albanian—2nd Sun
3:00pm—Filipino—3rd Sun
Baptism—11:45am—Sunday
Confession—8:30-9:00am—Saturday
Adoration—7:00pm—Saturday



“Jesus Christ is the one who abides the heights of heaven, who walks on the wings of the wind and whose eyes measure the earth. He is God. But he is almost afraid to show it and seems intent to show only his humanity so as to make his clemency known.”

John B. Scalabrini, Pastoral Letter, 16.2.1878

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1st Reading — Is 25:6-10

From the book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people’s shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

R: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. R.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. R.

MANY ARE CALLED, BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN

Matt 22:14



2nd Reading — Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20

From the letter of Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen. The Word of the Lord

Alleluia! Alleluia! May the Father of our lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Gospel — Mt 22: 1-14

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

ARCHDIOCESE NOTICE



We are delighted to share with you that the dates for the 54th International Eucharistic Congress (“Eucharist28”) have now been confirmed. Eucharist28 will be held in Sydney from 24 September to 1 October 2028, preceded by a Theological Symposium from 20 to 22 September 2028. Eucharist28 is a special opportunity for the Church. The coming years of prayer and preparation offer us a significant opportunity to deepen devotion to the Eucharist, strengthen the faith life of our communities, and help people rediscover the joy and transforming power of Christ’s presence among us.



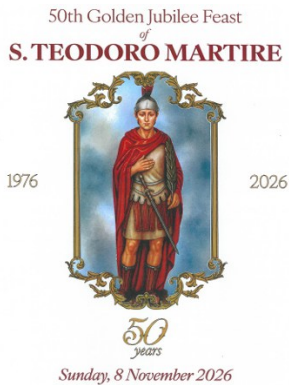
Calvary Home Care
For more than 140 years, Calvary has continued the mission inspired by Venerable Mary Potter and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, caring for people with compassion and dignity. Today, Calvary Home Care continues this tradition by supporting older South Australians to remain safe, independent and connected in their own homes. Through the Australian Government’s Support at Home program, our local Adelaide team can help you or a loved one access high-quality, personalised care and support at home. When the time comes to seek a little extra support, we are a Catholic provider you can turn to. Enquire today by calling 1300 797 522.

PARISH NOTICE



The Feast of San Hilarion is on October 25, 2026 at Gleneagles Reserve, Seaton. There will be Triduum Masses at 7pm on October 19, 20 & 21 at Mater Christi Parish Church. The Feast Day will commence with a Solemn Procession from Mater Christi Parking to Gleneagles at 10am. Mass is at 10:30am.

The Solemn Mass for the Feast of San Teodoro Martire will be on November 8, 2026 at 10:30am at Mater Christi Church. Procession around the parish compound will begin at 10am. Triduum Masses will be on Nov 4, 5 & 6 at 7pm. For Luncheon Ticket pls contact Frank Coluccio (0419821155).



PARISH CALENDAR

Sat 10/10	4:30 PM	Mass in Spanish
	6:00 PM	+John Reid, +George Papillo
Sun 11/10	9:00 AM	+Nikoll Ducaj, +Immaculada Postrano, +Rino & +Livia Rebellato
	10:30 AM	+Angelo & +Gelsomino Penna
	3:00 PM	Albanian Mass
	6:00 PM	+George Papillo
Mon 12/10	8:15 AM	Honouring St Carlo Acutis +George Papillo
	7:00 PM	Mass in Spanish
Tue 13/10	8:15 AM	Italian Mass +Guido di Fabio
	7:00 PM	Memorial Mass (+Valeriano De Rossi)
Wed 14/10	8:15 AM	English Mass
	7:00 PM	Memorial Mass (+Luisa Ciccone)
Thu 15/10	8:15 AM	English Mass—St Teresa of Jesus
	7:00 PM	Memorial Mass (+Dominic Finis)
Fri 16/10	8:15 AM	English Mass
	7:00 PM	Memorial Mass (+Ma Rosa Vinci)
Sat 17/10	8:00 AM	Italian Mass—St Ignatius of Antioch

MINISTRY ROSTERS

Oct 11, 2026	Lectors	EOCM
6:00pm (Sat)	Nives Kresevic Leila Veras	Fil Della-Pietra Rosa Mazzone
9:00am	Alberto Logozzo Elaine George	Teresa Candeloro Charles Zammit
10:30am Italian	Albina Perre Vito Zerella	Maria Bigolin A & N Farinola
6:00pm	Lina Jose Precious Galgo	Mimma Adami Rosemary Velardo

Oct 18, 2026	Lectors	EOCM
6:00pm (Sat)	Cherry Icamen Niniane Ortiz	Jenny DeGennaro Fil Della-Pietra
9:00am	Loel Ojerio Christine George	Francesca Boffo Frank Ienari
10:30am Italian	Nicholas Farinola Anthony Farinola	Cecillia Mazzone G & L Farinola
6:00pm	Marigold Maine Rietta Corkin	John Scarfo Teresa Cimmino

COLLECTION (04/10/26)

1st Collection	2nd Collection	S. Collection	Total
\$2,115.00	\$2,018.00		\$4,133.00