

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Cycle C
June 6, 2010

Readings: Genesis 14:18-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Luke 9:11b-17

Believe in Miracles

It's always a special morning when we honor our new graduates at Mass. We have a new graduate in our family. My daughter Andrea was here for the graduation Mass five years ago when she graduated from high school. And last month, I attended her college graduation at Oakland University. She would have been here again this morning, but she just got married yesterday and is heading up north for a short honeymoon. If I seem a little tired, well it was a pretty short night with the reception and all.

I'm pretty blessed—all four of my children have now completed college; all four are now married. All that is left for me is to play with the grandchildren. It's something I could have never imagined 40 years ago when my wife and I sat on the same athletic field back in 1970 waiting to go up and receive our diplomas. We hardly knew each other then; we had just started dating a few weeks earlier. Sitting there that day, I had no idea how my life would unfold. In many ways it seems miraculous. I'm sure many of you will look back 40 years from now and scratch your head in wonder as well. It can be scary as you start on the next leg of your journey through life.

The best advice I can give you is to stay close to Jesus and to follow Him. This is what the throngs of people did in our gospel story. They didn't worry about where they were going, or where their next meal would come from. They recognized Jesus as someone who could provide them with truth for their lives. And Jesus took care of them and performed a miracle to feed them. The people that followed Jesus knew it was a miracle; they didn't think it was a trick concocted by Jesus and the apostles. We know they recognized the multiplication of the loaves and fishes as a miracle because in one of the gospel accounts they see this miracle as a sign that Jesus was the Messiah and they try to make Him their king.

We believe in miracles because we believe in God and His unlimited power. We see and believe how Jesus fed the large crowd with five loaves of bread and two fish. And yet we sometimes struggle to believe the miracle that occurs each time we come to Mass. Through the actions of the priest, Jesus turns bread and wine into His Body and Blood. It is important to believe this; it is important to receive the Eucharist regularly for sustenance on our journey through life. It keeps us on the path to eternal life in heaven.

Stay close to God. Pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament, especially when you feel like there is no one else to turn to. Receive Holy Communion regularly. Do these things and there will be no need to worry or be afraid. You will be able to believe in miracles.

Believe in miracles and God will lead you to do great and miraculous things.

Deacon Joe Hulway