

CORPUS  
CHRISTI



# Corpus Christi Sunday

## 11 June 2023

To all who are tired and need rest;  
to all who mourn and need comfort;  
to all who are friendless and need friendship;  
to all who are discouraged and need hope;  
to all who sin and need a Savior; and to whomsoever will,  
**THIS PARISH OPENS WIDE HER DOORS  
IN THE NAME OF JESUS THE LORD!**

### SACRAMENTS

#### Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

**Saturday** (anticipated): 5:30 PM  
**Sunday**: 8:00 AM; 10:30 AM; 12:00PM  
**Monday-Saturday**: 8:00 AM  
**Holy Days of Obligation**: see inside

#### Penance & Reconciliation:

**Monday-Thursday; Saturday: 7:30-7:50 AM**  
**Saturday afternoon: 4:00-4:50 PM**

A Catholic is obliged to confess serious sins in kind and number to a priest. If one is conscious of having committed serious sin, Confession ought to be made before receiving the Eucharist.

**Baptism:** Please call to arrange for your child's baptism before or soon after birth. A Godparent must be a Catholic in good standing.

#### Anointing of the Sick:

Please call for a priest to celebrate this Sacrament of Healing and Forgiveness for someone who is seriously ill or in danger of death. Do not wait until the sick person is unconscious.

#### Matrimony:

All Catholics ought to seek to have their marriage blessed by the Church so as to live in God's good graces & receive the Eucharist. Marriage cannot validly exist between baptized persons unless it is also a sacrament (Canon 1055.2). Contact a priest a year prior to the intended date of marriage to ensure proper preparation.

**Confirmation:** Need to complete your Sacraments of Initiation? Call Mrs. Kachnowski at 908-245-6572. She will help you prepare for confirmation. If they can do so without serious inconvenience, Catholics ought to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation before being admitted to marriage (Canon 1065).

**RCIA: Desire baptism?** Called to be a Catholic Christian? Contact Deacon David at 908-245-6572 and he will help you discern God's call to holiness.

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Paul J Prevosto, pastor  
[Fr.Prevosto@proton.me](mailto:Fr.Prevosto@proton.me)  
Rev. James Spera, pastor emeritus  
Rev. Deacon David Farrell  
[assumptionschool113@gmail.com](mailto:assumptionschool113@gmail.com)  
Rev. James Tortora, weekend assistant  
Rev. Solomon Ngwumezie, weekend asst.  
Fr. John Francis, CSJ, weekend assistant  
Rev. David McLaughlin, in residence  
Mrs. Virginia Jediny, Office Manager  
[assumptionrp@yahoo.com](mailto:assumptionrp@yahoo.com)  
Mrs. Debbie Kachnowski, PCL  
[assumptionschool110@outlook.com](mailto:assumptionschool110@outlook.com)  
Mrs. Donna Schmatz, music director

### TRUSTEES

Mr. John Ballantyne, Trustee  
Mrs. Elizabeth Santora, Trustee

### CONTACTS

Telephone: 908-245-1107  
FAX: 908-245-2789  
Parish email: [assumptionrp@yahoo.com](mailto:assumptionrp@yahoo.com)  
Parish Website: [www.assumptionrp.com](http://www.assumptionrp.com)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday:  
8:00 AM till 4:00 PM

### ASSUMPTION SCHOOL OF RELIGION OFFICE

908-245-6572  
Email: [assumptionschool110@outlook.com](mailto:assumptionschool110@outlook.com)

This QR Code will bring you to the **Breviary**, the Official Daily Prayer of the Church which priests and religious have vowed to pray. Laity are invited and encouraged to pray these prayers daily also.



Focus your camera on the QR Code to the left and you will have the readings for the day.

Church of the Assumption

a Roman Catholic Parish

ERECTED A.D. MCMVII

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**ANTICIPATED MASS FOR SUNDAY**

5:30 PM **Frank P. & Ida M. Wood**  
Frank & Ronald Wood

**SUNDAY June 11 CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY**

8:00 AM **People of the Parish**

10:30 AM **Elizabeth & Ralph Oliveri**  
Son, Ralph

12:00 PM **Grace Signorello**  
family

3:00 PM **Intentions of the St. Anthony Feast Volunteers**

**MONDAY June 12**

8:00 AM **Souls of the Faithful Departed**  
Leonore Sanchez

**TUESDAY June 13 Anthony of Padua, priest**

8:00 AM **Souls of the Faithful Departed**  
Helena Diegidio

**WEDNESDAY June 14**

8:00 AM **John Antonucci**  
Love, Mom

**THURSDAY June 15**

8:00 AM **Rose & Lawrence Altamura**  
Love, the Family

**FRIDAY June 16 THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

8:00 AM **Doris Sisto**  
Daughter, Robyn

**SATURDAY June 17 Immaculate Heart of the BVM**

8:00 AM **Souls of the Faithful Departed**  
Gilberto Sanchez

**ANTICIPATED MASS FOR SUNDAY**

5:30 PM **Our fathers, living and deceased**

**SUNDAY June 18 XI SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 AM **Our fathers, living and deceased**

10:30 AM **Our fathers, living and deceased**

12:00 PM **Our fathers, living and deceased**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** 2 Cor 1:1-7; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9;  
Mt 5:1-12

**Tuesday:** 2 Cor 1:18-22; Ps 119:129-135; Mt 5:13-16

**Wednesday:** 2 Cor 3:4-11; Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 8, 9;  
Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 3:15 - 4:1, 3-6; Ps 85:9-14; Mt 5:20-26

**Friday:** Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10;  
1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30

**Saturday:** 2 Cor 5:14-21; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12;  
Lk 2:41-51

**Sunday:** Ex 19:2-6a; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rom 5:6-11;  
Mt 9:36—10:8

For readings go to: [www.usccb.org/bible/readings/](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/)



**Prayer List: To have someone placed on or removed from the sick list please call the Rectory.** We invite you to clip out this section each Sunday. Perhaps you could put it near a prayer book, in your Bible, or in your pocket or purse. It is a good thing when we pray with and for one another. Thank you and God bless you!

**Our Parish Community prays for the sick:**

Patrick Ahern Jr., Altigracia Alvarez, Kathy Barz, Fred Boyne, Brendan, Joe Caponegro, Ken Castenon, Christine Conrad, Kay Downey, Ronald Fellner, Carol Fellner Nasta, Dorothy Ford, Charles Frank, Nicholas Fusco, John Garofalo, Lynn Gehrmann, Fran Getchies, Harold Gibson, Bonnie Greer, Cynthia Ingman, Thomas Ingman, A.M.J., Elizabeth Knych, Michael Lacey, Nancy Lanfrank, Chris Lettieri, Stella LoPiccolo, Christine Marino, Janet Marino, Christine Mattingly, Chantell McDonald, Eleanor Morehouse, Tanina Naccarato, Joe Netta, Monica Quigley O'Brien, Margie Ortizio, Lily Rita Procopio, Sabrina Romani, Rudy Salazar, Ann Sisalli, Antonio Spano, Gabrielle Spano, Debra Szajko, Tony Wargacki

**Please pray for our Faithful departed & their loved ones**  
**Luigia Capone**



**Prayer for Our Troops**

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

**Charitable Gift Annuities**

Making a significant gift to your parish can increase your bottom line! By making a gift for a charitable gift annuity, you receive an income tax deduction and annuity payments for life. Plus, part of each payment is tax-free. Learn more about this wonderful opportunity by contacting Theresa Lynch, Planned Giving Manager, Archdiocese of Newark at (973) 497-4042 or by email at [Theresa.lynch@rcan.org](mailto:Theresa.lynch@rcan.org).

**MEETINGS**

Finance Council	Jun 19	7:00	UPH
Pastoral Council	Sep 18	7:00	UPH
St. Vincent de Paul	Jun 13	8:00	Chapel
Rosary Society	Sep 04	7:00	LPH
Knights of Columbus	Jun 28	8:00	Loreti Hall

**Special Memorial Donations**

Bread & Wine for Mass, Candles & Sanctuary Light are given  
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELIZABETH & RALPH OLIVERI**  
Requested by Son, Ralph

Bread for Mass is given  
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARIA JOANNIDES GRAMMENOS**  
Requested by a friend

Candles are given  
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF JAMES MOLINARI (HAPPY BIRTHDAY!)**  
Requested by his Children & Grandchildren

## How to Receive the Eucharist with Humility

Today we focus on the Body Blood Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. In the Mass the Bread (of pure wheat) and Wine (of pure grapes) are consecrated according to the dictates of Our Lord Jesus at his Last Supper in the Cenacle the night before he died. He instructed the Apostles to do this in remembrance of Him. And so, the priest (the descendent of the Apostles) says, "Take this all of you and eat of it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you." Then he takes the chalice of wine and water and says, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of Me."

Before the priest consumes these holy Species, he is instructed in the Roman Missal to **reverently** consume the Body of Christ saying, "May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life." And likewise, he says over the Precious Blood, "May the Blood of Christ keep me safe for eternal life." Once again, he is instructed to **reverently** consume the Blood of Christ.

The faithful are then invited forward to consume this most sacred gift **reverently**. It seems that many are confused or are not sure how to receive properly. Allow me to explain.

**Proper disposition:** Before approaching to receive, one must examine his conscience. If one is aware of having committed a serious sin (e.g. deliberately missing Mass) or is living in a perpetual state of sin (e.g. cohabitating without a valid sacramental marriage) then he must go to the Sacrament of Confession prior to receiving and/or amend one's life. For venial sins, one needs to make a sincere act of contrition, like the Confiteor (I confess to ...) at the beginning of Mass.

**Reverence.** The Church asks us to make a sign of reverence before receiving. A bow, a sign of the cross, are examples. This should be done before stepping forward to receive.

**Acceptance:** As the priest says, "The Body of Christ," the communicant clearly and devoutly says, "Amen." Amen acknowledges ascent of faith to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

**Reception:** The ordinary way to receive the Body of Christ is on the tongue. One steps forward, opens his/her mouth and slightly puts one's tongue to receive. If one chooses the option to receive in the hand, then the Lefthand is placed in the Righthand, and the priest or deacon or mistress places the Sacred Species in the communicant's hand. He steps aside and reverently consumes the Eucharist. One IS NOT to walk away without consuming our Lord's Body immediately. This can easily lead to sacrilege, a very grave sin.

If the Precious Blood is offered then the communicant is to approach the extraordinary minister or deacon, saying, "Amen", taking the Chalice, and then **reverently** consuming a small mouthful of the Blood of Christ.

Upon returning to the pew, one places himself in prayer or praises the Lord in song along with the rest of the congregation.

## Do Not Do List

- Do not grab the Host.
- Do not lick the Host from your hand. Do pick it up with your fingers and place it in your mouth.
- Do not take the Eucharist with your teeth or lips, rather receive it on the tongue.
- Do not walk away with the Host. Step aside after receiving

and consume it immediately.

Say AMEN clearly.

Do Confess any serious/grave sins before receiving. Confessions are available Monday-Thursday, Saturday at 7:30 AM, and Saturday afternoon at 4:00 PM. If your marriage needs to be regularized (blessed in the Church), then see the priest and he will help resolve any issues that prevent the reception of the Sacraments.

The Eucharist is the Body, Blood Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Though none of us are worthy to receive, by the word of Christ our souls are healed. We must have a humble disposition. Pride is a sinful state in which we feel that we deserve even what we are not prepared for or are unworthy of. If serious sin is in the way, then confess. If one is in a perpetual state of sin, then amend one's life: Marriages can be rectified; Unnatural attractions can be purified; and Disordered behavior can be amended. But to receive it while conscious of any grave sin is a sacrilege, an offense to the saving grace God offers to us in the Eucharist.

Pax Christi, Fr. Paul



**O Lord, may we share in your divine life,  
which is foreshadowed in the present age  
by our reception of  
your precious Body and Blood.**

**Save the Children from "adult" websites.  
Protect your chastity, now!**

Go to [Freefiltering.org](http://Freefiltering.org) and learn how to block those unwanted sites from your eyes. Protect your virtue, guard your children's innocence.

It really works by blocking sites in your Wi-Fi server. Act now before your children see one more pornographic site or one more "social media" site promoting the LGBTQ+ propaganda.

## Sanctity of Life

### RACHEL'S VINEYARD

The Church can also be a place to heal. We are called to "be merciful like the Father." So many are suffering from the effects of abortion. Where can they heal? Where can they feel safe and loved?

The Archdiocese of Newark Respect Life Office will be hosting four upcoming Rachel's Vineyard retreats in 2022 to heal the wounds from abortion. Retreat dates are:

September 22-24

Contact the Respect Life Office for more details by calling 973-497-4350, or e-mail:

[Cheryl.riley@rcan.org](mailto:Cheryl.riley@rcan.org)

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." (Psalm 147:3)

## COME, PRAY WITH US

St. Anthony Novena - Tuesday Evenings at 7:30 PM (Sept-June)

Holy Rosary - First Sundays at 10:00 AM in the church

Perpetual Novena of St. Jude - after the Saturday 8 AM Mass

### Council 3240 Fourth Annual

### Scholarship Award

Knights of Columbus Msgr. Joseph F. Loreti Council 3240 will be awarding two High School Scholarships for \$750.00 each.

The Scholarship is for a student that is either entering a Catholic High School or continuing their education at a Catholic High School.

The student's immediate family must be Parishioners of the Church of the Assumption, Roselle Park, NJ.

The student would need to write an essay of at least 500 words on:

- how they incorporate their Catholic faith in their daily life,
- what type of volunteering they have done and continue to do for the Church and/or the Community, and
- what they would like to do or are currently doing in High School.

Applications may be obtained by emailing [vbonassisa@aol.com](mailto:vbonassisa@aol.com)

Applications and Essays must be completed and returned by July 15, 2023.

## PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

Call 973-313-6190 or speak to one of the Priests. or contact Fr. Gino dela Rama at [eugenio.delarama@rcan.org](mailto:eugenio.delarama@rcan.org)

## Religious Life for Women and Men

Contact Sr. Patricia M. Wormann, O.P at [Sr.Patricia.WormannO.P@rcan.org](mailto:Sr.Patricia.WormannO.P@rcan.org) or call 973-497-4368

## STEWARDSHIP

Last Sunday's Collection: **\$4978.00**

Maintenance Collection: **\$3392.00**



### Annual Appeal the 2023

Make your gift today.



**When you make your pledge you may designate it for a special program.**

**Remember to select Assumption Parish (024), Roselle Park.**

**Go to [rcan.org/sharing](http://rcan.org/sharing)**

### Annual Appeal 2023

The 2023 Annual Appeal is underway! We have **\$22,304.99** already pledged. This is approximately **59%** of our goal of \$37,598. Stretch goal is \$41,101.00

The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. These programs help to make our own parish a more vibrant place of worship.

If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge envelope at the back of the church or visit [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing).

Thank you for your prayers and support.

### COMMUNION MINISTERS

#### June 2023

5:30 PM	Cindy Campbell	John Mattingly
8:00 AM	Maryann Mansueto	Marge Denci
10:30 AM	James Kompany	Joan Trapp
12:00 PM	Maureen Rebimbas	

### LECTORS

#### June 10/11

5:30 PM	Gerard Taveras	Cindy Campbell
8:00 AM	Anthony Cordero	John Ballantyne
10:30 AM	Sebastian Saavedra	Diane Burgos
12:00 PM	Debbie Kachnowski	Patty Muccia

#### June 17/18

5:30 PM	Gerard Taveras	Cindy Campbell
8:00 AM	Anthony Cordero	John Ballantyne
10:30 AM	Sebastian Saavedra	Diane Burgos
12:00 PM	Debbie Kachnowski	Patty Muccia

### ALTAR SERVERS

5:30 PM	Joe Schmatz	
8:00 AM	Loretta Raczynski	Angelo Geronimo Anthony Geronimo
10:30 AM	Giovanni Scipioni Alaina Quintela	William Casaine Emily Casaine
12:00 PM	William Casaine Emily Casaine	Nicholas Motley Adrianna Motley

**The St. Anthony Festival Sponsors**  
**GOLD SPONSORS**

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 Fr. Paul Joseph Prevosto  
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 RPEA-Roselle Park Education Association  
 Fr. James Tortora  
 Debbie & Joe Kachnowski  
 Ralph E. Oliveri  
 RPYBSL-Roselle Park Youth Baseball & Softball League  
 Spencer Savings Bank  
 Iorio Deli Inc.  
 Helen Casa  
 Open Road Chevrolet  
 In Loving Memory Of Ann Marie Bonassisa  
 Angel Masonry, LLC



“ACTIONS SPEAKS  
**LOUDER**  
 THAN WORDS.  
 LET YOUR WORDS TEACH  
 AND YOUR ACTIONS SPEAK.  
 WE ARE FULL OF WORDS  
 BUT EMPTY OF ACTION.  
 AND THEREFORE ARE CURSED BY THE LORD  
 SINCE HE HIMSELF CURSED THE FIG TREE  
 WHEN HE FOUND NO FRUIT  
 BUT ONLY LEAVES.”  
 — ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA

Bob Wojcik & Family  
 Martin & Annette Venturo  
 Susanne Keicher-Joseph Infuso and Family  
 Hammer Mfg. Co.  
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 Barbara Goss  
 In Loving Memory Of Michael Keicher  
 Frank and Karen Colucci-In Memory Of Andrew Colucci  
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 Assumption Rosary Society  
 Pastosa Ravioli  
 Vintage Italian Restaurant

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 Perrotti’s Quality Meats

**CHURCH of the  
 ASSUMPTION CHILDREN**

YOU’RE INVITED to take part in the  
 CELEBRATION of our parish’s Feast Day  
 FEAST of the ASSUMPTION,  
 Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>

Join us as we learn about Mary and how to pray the Rosary.  
 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
 (after 10:30 AM Mass) in Loreti Hall  
 Meeting Dates: June 25  
 July 9, 16, 23, 30 August 6, 13  
 \*Attendance at all meetings not required.  
 Come to as many as you can.  
 There will be fun activities, reenacting of the mysteries of the rosary, singing, taking part in the candlelight procession and more!  
 Parents and children come to the first meeting for full details.  
 Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>,  
 11:30 AM in Loreti Hall  
 For more information or questions ...  
 Contact Rosemarie Olden (908) 472-1232  
[Rmpowers01@aol.com](mailto:Rmpowers01@aol.com)



**Could you not  
keep watch  
for one hour?  
(Mk 14:37)**

To sign up as an  
Adorer of the  
Blessed Sacrament at

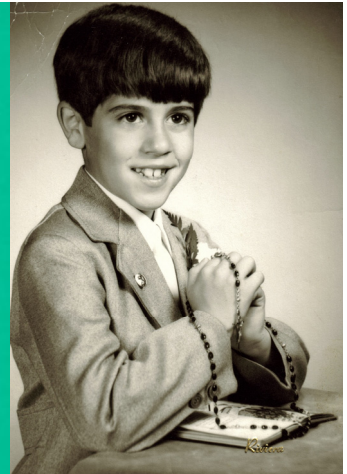
**St. John the Apostle Church**  
1805 Penbrook Terrace, Linden, NJ

please email:

[adoration@sjanj.net](mailto:adoration@sjanj.net) or call the rectory at  
908-486-6363

Visit [www.sjanj.net/ministries/perpetual-adoration/](http://www.sjanj.net/ministries/perpetual-adoration/) for more information and to  
signup online.

Catechism  
for  
Young  
Children



**INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT  
BY SHARING YOUR FAITH WITH  
THE LITTLE ONES.**

**BECOME A CATECHIST.**

**CALL DEBBIE KACHNOWSKI  
AT 908-245-6572**

Lazarus Ministry  
Comfort the Sorrowing

Assist grieving families as they prepare  
their loved one's funeral.

All you need is a kind disposition  
and attentive heart.

Call Marge Denci at 908-507-6306 to find  
out how you too can serve Christ.

**"Roselle Catholic High School  
would love to have your son or  
daughter become part of our com-  
munity! For any questions about  
our program or admission process,  
please contact Mishell Arizaga,  
[marizaga@rosellecatholic.org](mailto:marizaga@rosellecatholic.org) or  
908-445-7900.**

**Have a blessed day!"**

**From a work by Saint Thomas Aquinas, priest**

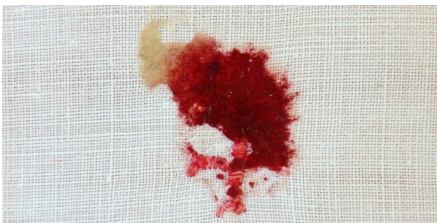
*O precious and wonderful banquet!*

Since it was the will of God's only-begotten Son that men should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. What could be more wonderful than this? No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift. It is offered in the Church for the living and the dead, so that what was instituted for the salvation of all may be for the benefit of all. Yet, in the end, no one can fully express the sweetness of this sacrament, in which spiritual delight is tasted at its very source, and in which we renew the memory of that surpassing love for us which Christ revealed in his passion.

It was to impress the vastness of this love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful that our Lord instituted this sacrament at the Last Supper. As he was on the point of leaving the world to go to the Father, after celebrating the Passover with his disciples, he left it as a perpetual memorial of his passion. It was the fulfillment of ancient figures and the greatest of all his miracles, while for those who were to experience the sorrow of his departure, it was destined to be a unique and abiding consolation.

## The Eucharistic miracle of Sokolka: The host is tissue from heart of a dying man (Aleteia - published on 09/23/17)



Every day, on the altars of Catholic churches around the world, the greatest miracle possible takes place: the transformation of bread and wine into the true Body and Blood of Christ.

Nonetheless, when we receive Communion, we can only touch its true nature with our faith, because our senses only perceive bread and wine, physically unaltered by the consecration.

What are the implications, then, of the Eucharistic event in Sokolka, Poland?

It took place on Sunday, October 12, 2008, two weeks after the beatification of Servant of God Fr. Michael Sopocko.

During the Holy Mass celebrated at the parish church of St. Anthony in Sokolka, at 8:30 a.m., a consecrated host fell from the hands of one of the priests during the distribution of Communion, next to the altar. The priest interrupted the distribution of Communion and picked up the host, and, in accordance with liturgical norms, placed it in a small container of water—in this case, one found in some churches beside the tabernacle, where the priest may wash his fingers after distributing Communion. The host was expected to dissolve in the water, which would later be disposed of properly.

Sister Julia Dubowska, of the Congregation of the Eucharistic Sisters, was the parish sacristan. At the end of the Mass, at the request of the pastor, Fr. Stanislaw Gnidziejko, she poured the water and the host into another container. Knowing that the consecrated host would take some time to dissolve, she placed the new container in the safe located in the parish sacristy. Only she and the pastor had the keys to the safe.

A week later, on October 19, Mission Sunday, when the pastor asked her about the condition of the host, Sister Julia went to the safe. When she opened the door, she noticed a delicate aroma of unleavened bread. When she opened the container, she saw, in the middle of the host—which was still largely intact—a curved, bright red stain, like a blood stain: a living particle of a body. The water was untainted by the color.

The sister immediately informed the priest, who brought in the other priests at the parish and the visiting missionary, Fr. Ryszard Gorowski. They were all amazed and left speechless by what they saw.

They kept a discreet and prudent silence about the event, considering its importance; this was a consecrated host which, by the power of the words of Christ at the Last Supper, was truly His Body. From a human point of view, it was difficult at that point to define if the altered form of the remainder of the host was the result of an organic growth, a chemical reaction, or some other cause.

They immediately notified the metropolitan archbishop of Bialystok, Edward Ozorowski, who went to Sokolka with the chancellor of the Curia and other diocesan officials. They were all deeply moved by what they saw. The archbishop ordered that the host be protected while they waited to see what would happen.

On October 29, the container with the host was transferred to the Divine Mercy Chapel in the rectory, and placed in the tabernacle. The next day, by decision of the archbishop, the stained host was taken out of the water and placed on a small corporal, which was then put back in the tabernacle. The host was kept this way for three years, until it was solemnly brought to the church on October 2, 2011. During the first year, it was kept secret. During that time, the Church authorities reflected on what to do,

since they were dealing with a sign from God which needed to be interpreted.

By mid-January of 2009, the altered fragment of the host had dried out naturally, and remained like a blood stain or clot; since then, its appearance has not changed.

That same month, the archbishop requested histopathological studies be done on the host. On March 30, he created an ecclesial commission to study the phenomenon.

A piece of the altered host was taken and analyzed independently by two experts, Prof. Maria Sobaniec-Lotowska, MD, and Prof. Stanislaw Sulkowski, MD, in order to ensure the credibility of the results. Both are histopathologists at the Medical University of Bialystok. The studies were carried out at the university's Department of Pathomorphology.

The specialists' work was governed by the scientific norms and obligations for analyzing any scientific problem in accordance with the directives of the Scientific Ethics Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The studies were exhaustively described and photographed. The complete documentation was given to the Metropolitan Curia of Bialystok.

When the samples were taken for analysis, the undissolved part of the consecrated host had become embedded in the cloth. However, the red blood clot was as clear as ever. This transformed part of the host was dry and fragile, inextricably interwoven with the rest of the fragment, which had kept the form of bread. The sample that was taken was large enough to carry out all the necessary studies.

The results of both independent studies were in perfect agreement. They concluded that the structure of the transformed fragment of the host is identical to the myocardial (heart) tissue of a living person who is nearing death. The structure of the heart muscle fibers is deeply intertwined with that of the bread, in a way impossible to achieve with human means, according to the declaration of Prof. Maria Sobaniec-Lotowska.

The studies proved that no foreign substance was added to the consecrated host; rather, part of the host took the form of heart muscle of a person near death. This kind of phenomenon is inexplicable by the natural sciences. At the same time, the Church teaches us that the consecrated host becomes the Body of Christ, by the power of His own words at the Last Supper, repeated by priests during the consecration of the Mass.

The results of the histopathological studies, dated January 21, 2009, were included in the dossier given to the Metropolitan Curia of Bialystok.

In its official communiqué, the Metropolitan Curia of Bialystok stated:

“The Sokolka event is not opposed to the faith of the Church; rather, it confirms it. The Church professes that, after the words of consecration, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the bread is transformed into the Body of Christ, and the wine into His Blood. Additionally, this is an invitation for all ministers of the Eucharist to distribute the Body of the Lord with faith and care, and for the faithful to receive Him with adoration.”



## Knight's Corner

The Knights of Columbus (Council #3240) of the Church of the Assumption would like to invite any interested men, that wish to learn more about the Knights of Columbus to fill out one of the cards located in the front of the Church and place it in the collection basket. Or go to <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html> to apply. Please be sure to “like” our Facebook page: Knights of Columbus - Msgr. Loreti Council #3240

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