Everyday Catholicism

Why does the priest say, “The mystery of faith”?

After the consecration at Mass, the priest says, “The mystery of faith.” Many of us know the response so well that it comes out almost by habit. But what mystery are we proclaiming? In ordinary speech a mystery is a puzzle to be solved. The Church means something else: a truth God has revealed and lets us share in, though it remains greater than we can understand.

At the consecration, by the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of Christ, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus. Their appearances remain, but Christ is truly present. This is not a new sacrifice: He offered Himself on the Cross once and for all, and in the Eucharist that one sacrifice is made present to us. We do not merely recall something long past; Christ lets us share here and now in His Death and Resurrection.

After the priest says, “The mystery of faith,” the people answer with one of the memorial acclamations. One says, “We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.” The words echo Saint Paul: whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

Most of the Eucharistic Prayer is addressed to the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit. In the acclamation we speak directly to Jesus. That change is easy to miss. The priest prays in the name of the whole assembly, and this response makes his prayer our own.

For centuries the Latin words mysterium fidei were spoken within the words over the chalice; since 1969 they introduce the people’s acclamation. Their place changed; the Church’s faith did not.

When we answer, we are not filling a pause in the liturgy. We are proclaiming what Christ has done, what He makes present among us, and what we await in hope.

This Sunday, listen carefully when the priest says, “The mystery of faith.” Answer with the congregation, and make the acclamation your own prayer to Jesus, who gave His life for you and will come again.

Catechism Connection: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1353–1357, 1362–1367; General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 151.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Jesus said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter said in reply, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’”

— Matthew 16:15-16

Mass Intentions

Sat.	22	+Mary Fatooh
Sun.	23	+Linda Pearson
Mon.	24	Steve Buller
Tues.	25	St. Joseph’s Parishioners
Wed.	26	Staff and Students of Mt. Carmel School
Thurs.	27	John Rose Family
Thurs.	27	+Angelica De La Riva and +Amparo De La Riva (Spanish)
Fri.	28	Staff and Students of St. Patrick’s School
Sat.	29	Mary Moloney
Sun.	30	+Linda Pearson

August 23, 2026

Most Rev. Ramón Bejarano
Bishop of Monterey

Rev. Martel Ramos
Pastor
Pastor@SaintJosephCayucos.org

Office Hours
Monday–Thursday
10:00 AM–4:30 PM
Friday — Closed

Parish Staff
Judy Ann Cross
Business Administrator
BusinessAdmin@SaintJosephCayucos.org

Mass Schedule
Monday–Friday — 9:00 AM
Thursday — 6:30 PM (Spanish)
Saturday Vigil — 5:00 PM
Sunday — 10:00 AM

Rosary
Weekdays — 8:30 AM

Confessions
Friday after the 9:00 AM Mass
First Saturday — 4:00 PM

Adoration & Benediction
Friday after the 9:00 AM Mass

Adoration and Benediction

Join us each Friday for Adoration immediately after the 9:00 AM Mass, followed by Benediction.

This quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament gives us an opportunity to remain with Jesus, bring Him our prayers, and rest in His presence. All are welcome.

Thank You, SLO Food Bank!

Saint Joseph Parish thanks the SLO Food Bank for donating a refrigerator to our Food Pantry. This generous gift will be a great help as we continue serving neighbors in need.

We are grateful for their kindness and support. May God bless everyone who made this donation possible.

Remembrance Tree Donations

Honor or remember a loved one with a personalized engraved leaf on the Saint Joseph Parish Remembrance Tree.

For more information or to request an order form, please visit or contact the parish office.

Welcome, Liv Eleanor Sola

Last Sunday, August 16, we celebrated the Baptism of Liv Eleanor Sola. It was a beautiful moment for Liv and her family, and a joy for our parish to welcome her into Christ and His Church. Please keep Liv and her family in your prayers.

A Word of Thanks

I am grateful to the members of our Parish Finance Council and Pastoral Council for the time and care they give to Saint Joseph Parish. Their financial guidance and pastoral advice help me make good decisions for our parish.

Thank you for serving so generously. May God bless you.

Father Martel

Installation of Father Martel as Pastor

All parishioners are invited to Father Martel's Installation Mass on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 6:00 PM. During the Mass, Father Martel will be formally installed as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish. A reception will follow.

We hope you will join us as we pray for Father Martel and celebrate this important day in the life of our parish.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

St. Joseph Parish invites adults 18 years of age and older who have not been baptized and therefore have not received the Sacraments of Initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist — to begin their journey of faith through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA).

If you know someone who has not received these sacraments, please invite them to consider this opportunity. We would be honored to accompany them as they grow in faith and prepare to receive the sacraments.

For more information or to register, please contact the parish office or speak with Father Martel after Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND INJURED

We are updating our parish prayer list. If you or a loved one is sick, injured, or in need of prayer, please contact the parish office so we may add the name to the list. To help us keep the list current, please also let us know when a name may be removed.

Steve Santi
Stan Piwaworski
Jim & Joanne Tobias
Innette Starkenburg
Steve Buller
Michael Shields
Mary Moloney
Mickey Bruno
Gary & Bonnie Nelson
Butch Rambaud
Marina Taverner
Keith Hart
Sandy Johnson
Eric Solum
Glen Bennett
Bonnie Bowman
Bill Mazzacane
Editha Andres
William Baldwin