



May the feast of

CORPUS CHRISTI

Bring you and your family in greater communion with our Lord and Saviour.

Corpus Christi is a Christian observance that honors the Holy Eucharist. It is also known as the Feast of the Most Holy Body of Christ, as well as the Day of Wreaths.

Corpus Christi is a festival that has been celebrated by many Christians, particularly the Catholic Church, in honor of the Eucharist since 1246. The name "Corpus Christi" is a Latin phrase that refers to the body of Christ. It is a moveable feast that is celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday or on the Sunday after Holy Trinity in some countries such as the United States. This event commemorates the Last Supper on the day before Jesus' crucifixion, as described in the Bible. Corpus Christi is primarily celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church but it is also included in the calendar of some Anglican churches.

The feast was introduced from Belgium to England at some stage between 1318 and 1325, according to various sources. In England before the Reformation, there was a famous procession in London on the day. A group of clergymen would move down the street chanting the paternoster, or the Lord's Prayer. Over the years, they perfected their timing so that just as they reached a certain corner, they sang "Amen". Although the feast of Corpus Christi is no longer observed as a public holiday in England, there was a time when the city guilds were involved in processions on this day and often performed what was known as "Corpus Christi" plays.

In Trinidad and Tobago, Corpus Christi is the feast day celebrating the Institution of the Mass. Followers of the Roman Catholic faith attend church services on Corpus Christi morning before going to processions in their communities. The biggest procession is held in front of the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Independence Square in Port of Spain.



Image Taken from: Trinidad Newsday 2019

Image Taken from: Trinidad Guardian 2019

Since there is often a great deal of rainfall around the time of the Corpus Christi celebrations, gardeners in Trinidad and Tobago consider the day to be good for planting, as it is believed that anything planted on this day will thrive. The prospect of showers does not in any way deter those observing the day, whether planting or taking part in the public processions. Both farmers and first time planters try to get the best fruit and vegetable plants for this occasion and many gardeners stock up on seeds, seedlings, plants and fertilizers. Some planters also carry their seeds to church services for blessing. Among the popular plants purchased during this time are tomatoes, hot peppers, melongene (eggplant or aubergine), ochro, patchoi (Chinese cabbage or bok choy), lettuce, and grains such as corn and pigeon peas.



Sapodilla, breadfruit and cherry trees, as well as exotic species such as dragon fruit, Meyer lemon and Mexican lime trees and more were planted as part of the annual Corpus Christi observance at the President's House on Thursday 11th June 2020. Image Taken from Loop News June 12 2020.



"Take, eat this is my body, which is broken for you; This do in remembrance of me. This cup if the new testament in my blood; This do ye, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11: 24-25

" I AM THE *Bread* WHICH CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN SO THAT A PERSON MAY EAT IT AND NOT DIE."

JOHN 6: 48-51

Source: Corpus Christi. (n.d.). Retrieved June 1, 2021, from <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/common/corpus-christi>

Corpus Christi. (n.d.). Retrieved June 01, 2021, from <https://www.nalis.gov.tt/Resources/Subject-Guide/Corpus-Christi>