

Fortitude in the Eucharist and the Apostles: A Reflection for June

Greetings, Sir Knights and Valiant Companions of the Temple.

As we move through this month of June, we pause our labors to reflect on the spiritual foundations that sustain our Order. Our path is one of both the sword and the spirit, and this month, two significant observances remind us of the divine nourishment we receive and the heavy price of the testimony we bear.

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi

Thursday, June 4, 2026

The Feast of **Corpus Christi**—the Body and Blood of our Lord—stands as the bedrock of our spiritual strength. While we remember the institution of the Eucharist in the shadowed, somber halls of Maundy Thursday, this feast is our daylight celebration of Christ's enduring presence among us.

- **The Bread of Life:** Proposed by the Doctor of the Church, **Thomas Aquinas**, to Pope Urban IV, this day focuses solely on the Holy Eucharist. It is a celebration of the joy found in the Real Presence—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.
 - **The Miracle of Faith:** Established in 1264 following the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena, this solemnity reminds every Knight that we do not march alone; we are fed by the very life of the Captain of our Salvation.
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The Martyrdom of Saints Peter and Paul

Monday, June 29, 2026

Toward the month's end, we turn our eyes to Rome to honor the two pillars of the Church: **Saint Peter and Saint Paul**. Their lives serve as the ultimate blueprint for the Christian soldier—one representing the rock of the Church, the other the tireless messenger to the nations.

- **A Shared Sacrifice:** Though they traveled separate paths, both Apostles met their end in Rome under the tyranny of Emperor Nero. Their stories, captured in the **Acts of the Apostles**, serve as a "manual of arms" for the soul, showing the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit's guidance.
 - **The Fire of Trial:** During the Great Fire of Rome in 64 A.D., Nero sought to extinguish the light of the Gospel by blaming the Christian community. In this crucible of persecution, Peter and Paul offered their final testimony. Tradition tells us they ascended to their reward on the same day, united in death as they were in the mission.
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The Knight's Charge

Fellow Knights, let the devotion of Aquinas and the courage of the Apostles stir your hearts. In an age of uncertainty, let us anchor ourselves in the **Eucharist** for strength and look to **Peter and Paul** for the courage to stand firm against any tide.

May we ever remember the solemn vow we have taken and the Great Captain we serve.

Non Nobis, Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam.

Please sign up for the Land of Enchantment Festival on 31 July and 1 August 2026, in Santa Fe.

Courteously and Fraternally,

Harry W. Jenkins II

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Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New Mexico