

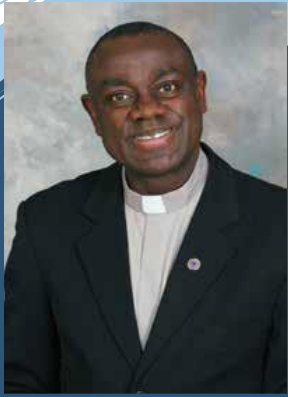
# Ask, Father James:

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## Jesus: The New Temple

We are gradually coming to the end of the 2022 liturgical year. Next Sunday is the Solemnity of the feast of Christ the King. In that feast, we celebrate how the Body and Blood of Christ replace the Old Testament temple (corpus Christi). The Jerusalem temple was one of the wonders of the world and was many, many times larger than any building in Israel. People trooped there because they believed God lives in the holy of holies. They offered sacrifices in there and it was the symbol of national spirituality and pride. It was immense and glorious, a tremendous.

In our text for this Sunday's liturgy, "Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, 'As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.'" (Luke 21:5-6). Jesus comes to replace the temple. He is the new temple - the Body and Blood of Christ is the way to worship God in spirit and in truth. As we prepare to celebrate corpus Christi, let us not be like the people who struggled to accept Jesus. They told Pilate, "Let him be crucified!" and while he was on the cross, the people taunted him, saying he said, he would destroy the temple and build another one in three days (Mark 15:29-32). Persecution against Jesus and the church is still ongoing. Jesus tells us in today's text to endure till the end.




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