

LORRAINE JACOB

I didn't know Lorraine for very long. But I knew her for long enough to know she was a Godly woman, and to know she was a very good friend to me and my wife. I first met her about 6 years ago when I took occasional services here in Christ Church, and she would sit near the front and I would bring Holy Communion to her. When she moved to Southern Cross at Mt Barker I met her every month when I came to lead worship and always to give her Holy Communion. Her health was not good, and life was hard, but she always wanted to be at worship and to receive Holy Communion.

Holy Communion is a meal in which Jesus comes to us and loves us and assures us that we are forgiven and belong to him. Jesus always seemed to be meeting people at meals. Sometimes he was invited, and sometimes he put on the meal. One time he took a little boy's lunch and he fed 5000 with it. Many times he was invited to celebrate with people whom God had saved.

The most important meal Jesus celebrated was just before he died, when he took the bread and said: **take and eat, this is my body;** then he said: **take and drink, this is my blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.** And Christians have been taking this meal called Holy Communion ever since. Every time we receive Holy Communion we receive Jesus, and we remember what he has done for us. We remember he is with us, and he loves us and forgives us, and he has prepared a place for us in heaven, where we will share the heavenly banquet with him.

Can you see why Lorraine always wanted to receive Holy Communion? Through Holy Communion Jesus came to her, and assured her she was loved on earth, and one day would join him in heaven. Holy Communion may not look like much to people who don't believe in God; but to those who believe in Jesus it is the most important meal. It is the assurance of God's love for us on earth. It is a token of things to come in heaven.

It was such a blessing for me to give Holy Communion to Lorraine every month for the last years of her life. And on her last day, when she could no longer receive Holy Communion, it was a blessing for me to assure her that she was now going to live with her Lord Jesus, who had always come to live with her in Holy Communion.

Blessed are those who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God... Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb. Lorraine was invited and she has gone to the banquet. You are invited to rejoice with her, and by faith in Jesus, follow her to the home God has prepared for you. Thanks Lorraine for being God's friend and my friend.
David Christian