THE EUCHARIST

Our first love, our final love
WHO ARE YOU, LORD?
WHO AM I?

—St. Francis of Assisi questions
SACRIFICAL LAMB
CHOSEN
PEOPLE/REDEEMED
BRIDEGROOM

BRIDE
Scripture about the Eucharist

BEGINNING

Exodus 12:3–28

MIDDLE

John 6: 43–54

END

Revelation 22: 1
3 Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.
5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.
6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.
7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
11 This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. 14 This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.
43 Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. 44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. 47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

—JOHN 6: 43-50
51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

53 So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day;

JOHN 6: 48-54
Do I consider the Eucharist a matter of life and death?
22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life[b] with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants[c] will worship him; 4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

REVELATION 22:1-5
Let **him** kiss me with the kisses of **his** mouth!  
For your love is better than wine,  
your anointing oils are fragrant,  
your name is perfume poured out;  
therefore the maidens love you.  
Draw me after you, let us make haste.  
The king has brought me into his chambers.  
We will exult and rejoice in you;  
we will extol your love more than wine;  
rightly do they love you.

- SONG OF SONGS 1:1-4
1 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2 “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4 Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ 5 But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, 6 while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.
7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ 10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12 and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.”

MATTHEW 22: 7-14
Do I listen to Jesus call me His beloved one?
Do I still hear the Lord calling me to deeper conversion?
This wholly redeemed city, the assembly and society of the saints, is offered to God as a universal sacrifice by the high priest who in the form of a slave went so far as to offer himself for us in his Passion, to make us the Body of so great a head.... Such is the sacrifice of Christians: "we who are many are one Body in Christ" the Church continues to reproduce this sacrifice in the sacrament of the altar so well-known to believers wherein it is evident to them that in what she offers she herself is offered.

ST. AUGUSTINE (CCC 1372)
What is hidden and not public in the church? The sacrament of baptism and the sacrament of the eucharist. The non-Christians can see our good works, but the sacraments are hidden from them. The things that they can see rise up from those they cannot, like the whole of the visible cross rises up from the base of the cross fixed in the earth.

-St. Augustine
Can people see by my life and actions that I know the living God?
The Lord, having loved those who were his own, loved them to the end. Knowing that the hour had come to leave this world and return to the Father, in the course of a meal he washed their feet and gave them the commandment of love.161 In order to leave them a pledge of this love, in order never to depart from his own and to make them sharers in his Passover, he instituted the Eucharist as the memorial of his death and Resurrection, and commanded his apostles to celebrate it until his return; "thereby he constituted them priests of the New Testament." —CCC 1337
“The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world … Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: he is God with us. Seek him without tiring, welcome him without reserve, love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, for ever!

-POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II, SEPT 27, 1997
The Eucharist: the sacrament of death and resurrection.

The glorified Lord: the mystery of eternity sacramentally present in the Eucharist.
This is also the *culmen* (highest point) of God's love— it is not possible to go further than that.

This is expressed, made real in every Eucharist, everyday around the world.
Mortem tuam annuntiámus, Dómine, et tuam resurrectionem confitémur, donec vénias.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
Which words of the Eucharistic Prayer stand out to me and confirm my belief in Jesus present in the Eucharist?
ADORO TE DEVOTE

I devoutly adore You
1 Godhead here in hiding whom I do adore
Masked by these bare shadows, shape and nothing more.
See, Lord, at thy service low lies here a heart
Lost, all lost in wonder at the God thou art.

2 Seeing, touching, tasting are in thee deceived;
How says trusty hearing? that shall be believed;
What God's Son has told me, take for truth I do;
Truth himself speaks truly or there's nothing true.
3 On the cross thy godhead made no sign to men; 
Here thy very manhood steals from human ken: 
Both are my confession, both are my belief, 
And I pray the prayer made by the dying thief.

4 I am not like Thomas, wounds I cannot see, 
But I plainly call thee Lord and God as he: 
This faith each day deeper be my holding of, 
Daily make me harder hope and dearer love.
5 O thou, our reminder of the Crucified,
Living Bread, the life of us for whom he died,
Lend this life to me, then; feed and feast my mind,
There be thou the sweetness man was meant to find.

6 Like what tender tales tell of the Pelican,
Bathe me, Jesus Lord, in what thy bosom ran--
Blood that but one drop of has the pow'r to win
All the world forgiveness of its world of sin.
7 Jesus whom I look at shrouded here below, 
I beseech thee, send me what I thirst for so, 
Some day to gaze on thee face to face in light 
And be blest forever with thy glory's sight.
Scriptural Quotations from NRSVCE First Edition, Bible Gateway

Saint Augustine. Alternate Title: Saint Augustin. Philippe de Champaigne (Belgium, Brussels, 1602-1674, active France, Paris). Los Angeles County Museum of Art


The Pelican in Her Piety: Wikimedia Commons: Maigheach-gheal / The Pelican-in-her-Piety / CC BY-SA 2.0

St Augustine- Christianity Stack Exchange


Pope John Paul II First Communion Photograph- https://aleteia.org/2022/06/01/did-you-know-that-the-future-john-paul-ii-had-to-wear-girls-shoes-for-his-first-communion/


Pope St. John Paul II Celebrates Christmas Mass- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enNfBghKq0o
THE LAST SUPPER

Matthew 26 : 26–29
DISCUSSION QUESTION

What does truth have to do with the Eucharist?
CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1376
1413
THE EUCHARIST

Is the teaching of the Eucharist difficult for you to accept?

What do you wish to say to Jesus?

How can we grow in love for Jesus in the Eucharist?