

Tonight's Topic:
Jesus in the Eucharist

January 4, 2023
Speaker: Monica Pope

Proclamation: Fulfilling the Father's promise, Jesus Christ has rescued us *from* sin and death, and *for* intimate union with Him. God commands we participate in His rescue through the Eucharist.

- God created us without us: but He did not will to save us without us. (CCC 1847 quoting St Augustine)
- This day will be a day of remembrance for you, which your future generations will celebrate with pilgrimage to the LORD; you will celebrate it as a statute forever. (Exodus 12)
- (Jesus said) "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." (Luke 22: 15)

(Jesus said) "I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me. Father, they are your gift to me."

John 17: 20- 24

"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins."

Matthew 26: 26- 28

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- "The cup of the New Covenant, which Jesus anticipated when he offered himself at the Last Supper, is afterwards accepted by him from his Father's hands in his agony in the garden at Gethsemani, making himself "obedient unto death." Jesus prays: 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me.'" (CCC 612)
 - "Jesus *knew* and *loved* us each and all during his life, his agony and his Passion, and gave himself up for each one of us... He has loved us all with a *human heart*." (CCC 478)
 - "St Leo the Great responds, 'Christ's inexpressible grace gave us blessings better than those the demon's envy had taken away.' St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "There is nothing to prevent human nature's being raised up to something greater, even after sin..." (CCC 412)
 - "...by the Eucharistic celebration we already unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy and anticipate eternal life, when God will be all in all." (CCC 1326)
 - "...'liturgy' means the participation of the People of God in 'the work of God.' Through the liturgy Christ, our redeemer and high priest, continues the work of our redemption in, with, and through his Church." (CCC 1069)

- (Jesus said) “Where two or three are gathered, I am in their midst.” (Matthew 18:20)
- “Christ’s presence under the Eucharistic species is unique... In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist ‘the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.’” (CCC 1374)
- “Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, a flesh ‘given life and giving life through the Holy Spirit,’ preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion...” (CCC 1392)
- “The Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins. The more we share the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to break away from him by mortal sin. The Eucharist is not ordered to the forgiveness of mortal sins—that is proper to the sacrament of Reconciliation. The Eucharist is properly the sacrament of those who are in full communion with the Church.” (CCC 1395)
- “Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself.” (1 Corinthians 11:27- 29)
- “The Eucharist is the ‘source and summit of the Christian life.’” (CCC 1324)

(Jesus said) “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.’ ... As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, ‘Do you also want to leave?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.’” (John 6: 54-56, 66-69)

NOTES

The Order of the Eucharistic Liturgy

The Introductory Rites

- Entrance and Greeting
- Penitential Rite
- The Gloria
- The Introductory Rites conclude with the Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

- First Reading
- Responsorial Psalm
- Second Reading (on Sundays and solemnities)
- Gospel Acclamation
- Gospel
- Homily
- Profession of Faith (on Sundays, solemnities, and special occasions)
- Universal Prayer, Prayers of the Faithful

Liturgy of the Eucharist

- Presentation of the Gifts and Preparation of the Altar
- Prayer over the Offerings:
- Eucharistic Prayer which includes:
 - Preface
 - Holy, Holy, Holy
 - First half of Eucharistic prayer, including this *epiclesis* and the words of the institution of the Eucharist, what we commonly call the Consecration.
 - The Mystery of Faith
 - Breaking of the Bread
 - Second half of Eucharistic Prayer
 - Ending with Doxology
- The Liturgy of the Eucharist continues with the Lord's Prayer,
- Sign of Peace
- The Lamb of God
- Reception of Jesus in the Eucharist, Communion
- Prayer after Communion
- Missa: Go

Declaration: Fulfilling the Father's promise, Jesus Christ has rescued me, _____
from sin and death, and for intimate union with Him. God commands me, _____
to participate in His rescue through the Eucharist.

Tonight in Confirmation Year 1 **The Sacraments: Initiation & Healing**

We will be covering at a high level the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) and Healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick). We will be engaging with the Catechism of the Catholic Church to understand and share with the rest of the class about each of these Sacraments.

This Month's Challenges:

- Reading Scripture
- Looking into a Saint (and beginning to pray about potential Confirmation patron)
- Pray 15 minutes a day

Questions to Engage with Your Kids:

- Which Sacrament did you research and present?
 - What did you learn?
- What saint do you think you will learn about before next month?
 - What makes you interested in that saint?
 - Who are you considering for your Confirmation patron Saint?
 - What do you think are good things to consider in choosing a patron saint?
- Also consider sharing with your child your own confirmation experience:
 - Whom you chose as saint and sponsor, and why.
 - If you made these choices today, would they be different?