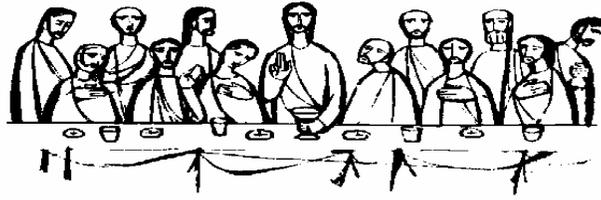


THE EUCHARIST



Based on Chapter 17, "The Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Christian Life,"
(United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 213-232)

I. Lesson of Faith – (taken from pages 213-214)

Prayer Leader:

Having read the account of Blessed Carlos Manuel Rodriguez's Eucharistic zeal, are you inspired with new desire to more actively involve your students in the understanding of and love for the liturgy? What concrete ways surface for you to accomplish this understanding?

(Prayer Leader invites general offering of ideas for two to three minutes.)

II. From the Catechism (taken from page 223)

Read by the Prayer Leader, for personal sentiments of gratitude and awe.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ is present in the proclamation of God's Word, in the Eucharistic assembly, in the person of the priest, but above all and in a wholly unique manner in the Eucharist. "This presence is called 'real'--by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is Presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present."

*(CCC 1374, citing Pope Paul VI, *Mystery of Faith* 39)*

III. Meditation - Luke 22:14-19

Reader:

When the hour came, he took his place at table with the apostles. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for, I tell you, I shall not eat it (again) until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; for I tell you (that) from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

After proclaiming the Gospel, the reader allows for a moment of silence and then begins the

response.

IV. Response: (taken from Doctrinal Statements on pages 228-229)

Reader: Our response is: My Lord and My God!

or Lord, I believe...Help my unbelief.

The Eucharist is the summit and source of our Christian life...because in the Eucharist is found the entire treasure of the Church, Jesus Christ. (*response*)

The Eucharist is the memorial of Christ's saving life, death, and Resurrection, made present for our salvation by the action of the liturgy. (*response*)

Christ, acting through the ministry of his priests, is both the priest offering the sacrifice and the victim being sacrificed. (*response*)

"As sacrifice, the Eucharist is also offered in reparation for the sins of the living and the dead and to obtain spiritual and temporal benefits from God."
(*response*) (CCC 1414)

The fruits of Holy Communion include a deeper union with Christ, a closer identity with all the faithful, a commitment to the poor, and a pledge of future glory. (*response*)

V. For Discussion – (page 228)

The Prayer Leader introduces the discussion questions to groups of two or three. Groups discuss for three to five minutes.

The Catechism reminds us that the Eucharist commits us to care for the poor (see CCC 1397). How can we live this commitment during the week? How are you the "Body of Christ" at work, at home, at school?

VI. Prayer - *Anima Christi* (page 230)

Prayer Leader: Together, let us pray...

Soul of Christ, be my sanctification.
Body of Christ, be my salvation.
Blood of Christ, fill all my veins.
Water of Christ's side, wash out my stains.
Passion of Christ, my comfort be.
O good Jesus, listen to me.
In thy wounds hide me,
Never let me be parted from thy side,
guard me, should the foe assail me.
Call me when my life shall fail me.
Bid me come to thee above,
with thy saints to sing thy love,



world without end. Amen.

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