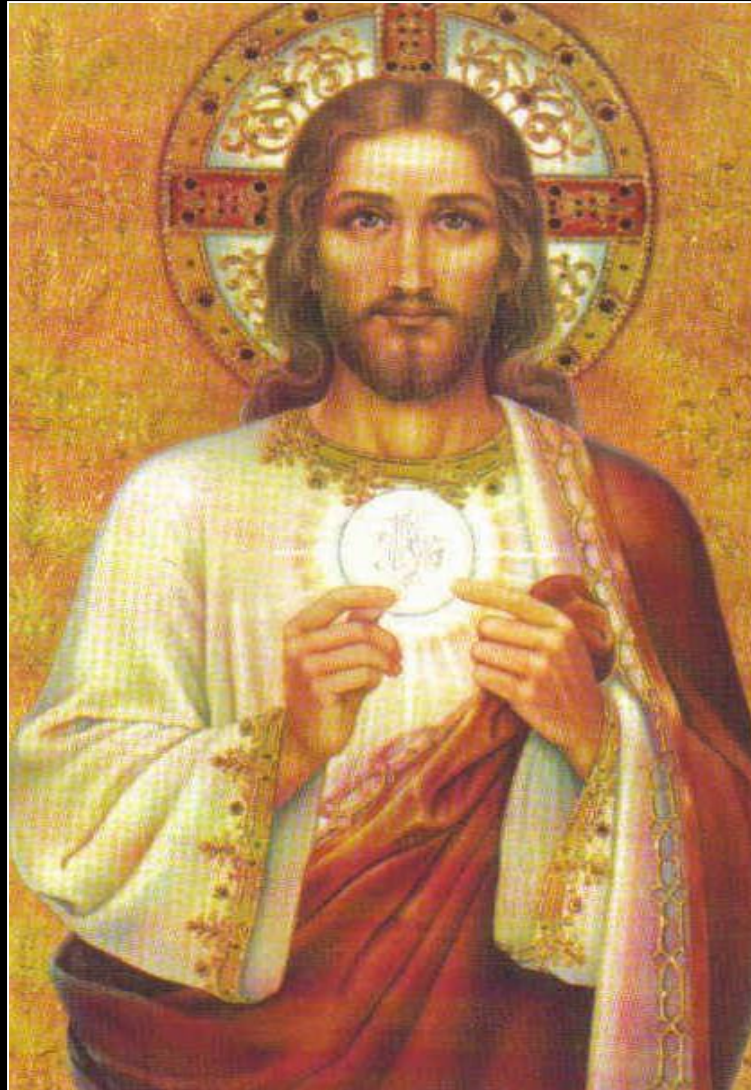


Eucharist



December 4, 2014

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

- Completes Sacraments of Initiation
- Review – sacrament
- Sacrament of **Love*** Bond of **Charity**
- Eucharist is **source** and **summit** of the Christian life.* (Mass)
- In it is contained whole spiritual good of the Church – namely Christ Himself.
(CCC1324)

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

- **Minimum Age**: Age of reason (7yrs.- person able to distinguish the Body of Christ from ordinary food & can receive Holy Communion reverently.)
- **Can be repeated?** Yes (each time the faithful participate in the Mass with required dispositions) (read CCC1388)
Obligation once a year.

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

Matter: wheat bread (leavened or unleavened) and natural grape wine

Form: Words spoken over the Bread *“Take and eat, for this is My Body”* and Wine *“Take this, all of you and drink...this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new & everlasting covenant. It will be shed for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me...”*

(Mk 14:22-24; Mt26;26-30; Lk 22:14-23)

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

Mark 6:22-24

The Institution of the Lord's Supper

22 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." 23 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. 24 He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many..."

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

Ordinary Minister: Validly ordained priest

Extraordinary Minister: None

(Laity can distribute Holy Communion but not consecrate –Laity called Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion)



Eucharist – Sacrament

Holy Spirit

Ordained priest

(Unleavened) bread

Wine

Meaning of Eucharist

- Primary meaning of Eucharist--
thanksgiving – given to the Father(God) through, with & in Christ (through the sacramental priest). (CCC 1359-1361)
- Eucharist is the *sacrificial memorial* of Christ and of His Body, the Church --a real, living, visible *re-presentation* of the sacrifice of the Cross. (CCC 1362-71)

Meaning of Eucharist

- Eucharist is the *presence of Christ, (Real Presence)*
- Body, Blood, Soul, Divinity, by the power of His word and the Holy Spirit. (CCC1374)
(Transubstantiation)

The Eucharist is known as...

1) Eucharist – Thanksgiving

2) Lord's Supper (Cf I Cor 11:20; Rev19:9)

Passover Meal



The Eucharist is known as...

3) Breaking of Bread

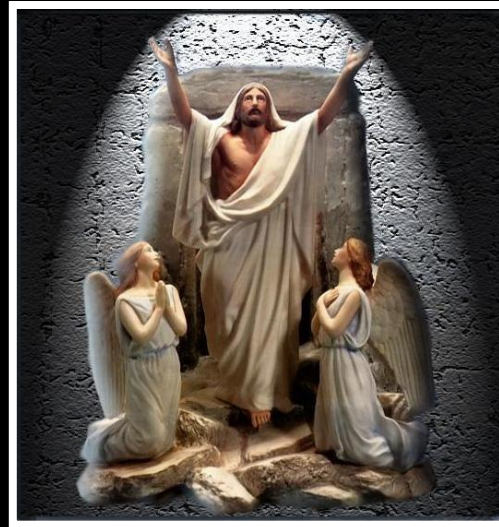
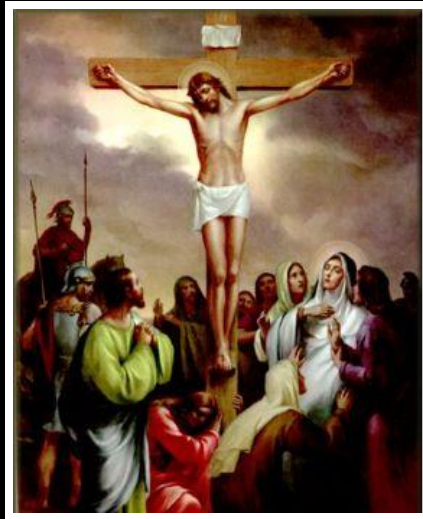
(Cf Mt 26:26; 1 Cor
11:24; Acts 2:42, 46;
20:7, 11)



4) Eucharistic Assembly (Cf 1Cor 11:17-34)

The Eucharist is known as...

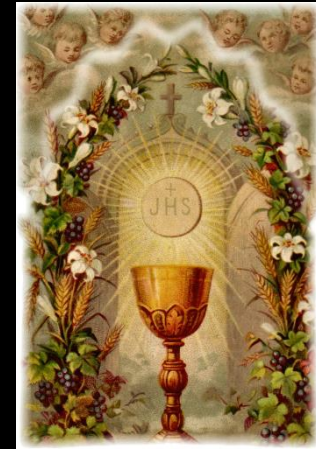
5) Memorial of our Lord's Passion & Resurrection (Mt 26:26-30; 27:50-54)



6) Holy Mass or Holy Sacrifice of the Mass- Holy and Divine Liturgy (Heb13:15; 1 Pet 2:5; Ps 116:13; Mal 1:11)

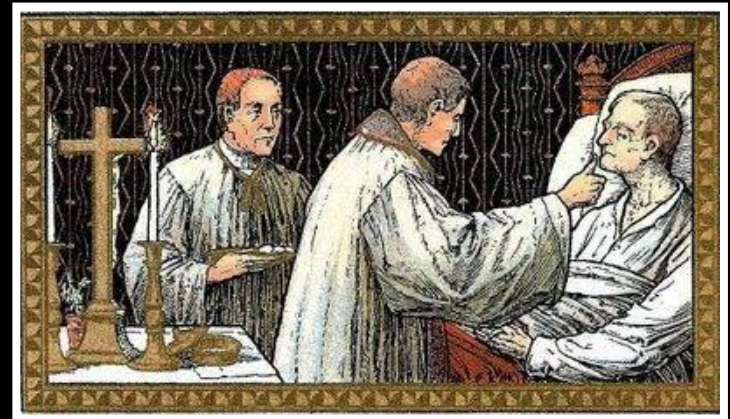
The Eucharist is known as...

7) Most Blessed Sacrament
(source and summit of life)



8) Holy Communion
(Cf 1 Cor 10-16)

9) Viaticum – food for
final journey (anointing)



The Eucharist is known as...

10) Real Presence –
Eucharistic Adoration
body (real person)
blood (centre of life)
soul (home of Spirit)
Divinity –Trinitarian Love



The Eucharist is known as...

11) Bread of angels, Bread from Heaven,
Bread of Life



What is the Eucharist? Summary

- **Sacrifice**

covenant – blood – life – Passover

- **Memorial**

Perpetuates the **sacrifice of the Cross**

Jesus – Lamb of God – Christ, High Priest

- **Meal** – Last Supper – **Paschal Banquet** in which Christ is consumed

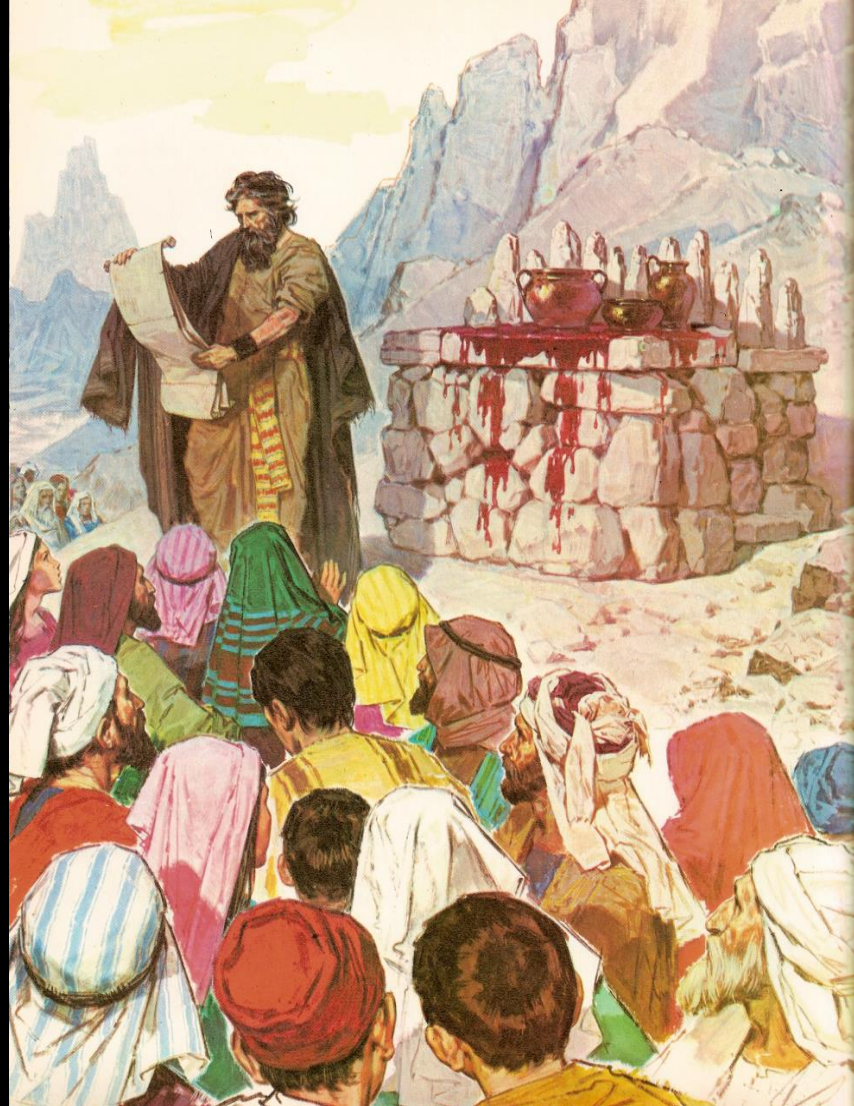
- **Real Presence** – Transubstantiation- Jn 6:25-51

Sacrifice

Covenant
blood
life
Passover



Covenant



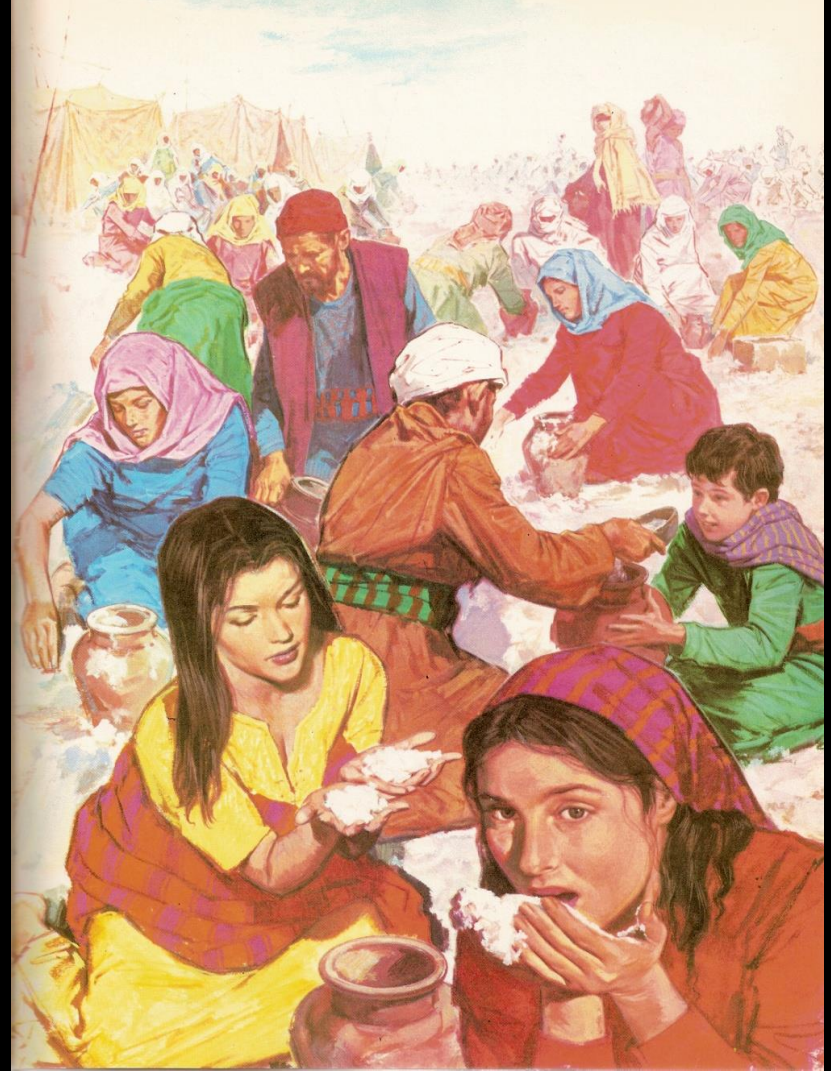
Passover



Bread of Life

Bread and wine
have a new
significance in the
context of the
Exodus (Manna)

Natural
symbolism for a
type of the
Eucharist



Bread of Life

Many examples in Gospels show Jesus' concern that people were nourished & taken care of.

Feeding of 4000 (Mk 8:1-6) & other multiplication of loaves & fishes (Mt 14:15-21)

Wedding feast –Cana. (Jn2:1-11)

All prefigure fulfillment of wedding feast of Heaven & superabundance of the unique bread of the Eucharist.



Last Supper Memorial

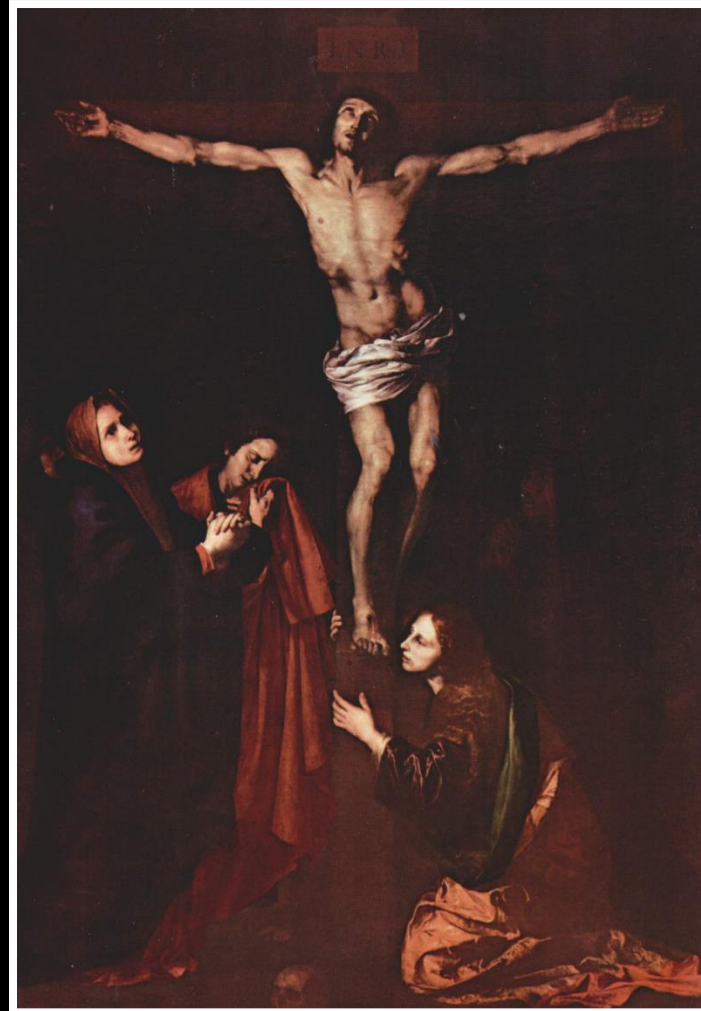
Jesus shared an unique and special meal, the Last Supper, with His apostles –first Eucharist. The apostles understood that Jesus' words “**This is My Body...This is My Blood. Do this in remembrance of Me...**” meant that this action was to be repeated again & again until the Lord returned as he had promised. (1 Cor 11:23-25; Mark 14:25)



The Ultimate Sacrifice

Jesus:

- Victim - Lamb
- Priest
- Holocaust



Effects of Eucharist

- 1) A more intimate union with Jesus (CCC1391)
- 2) Separates Christian from life of sin CCC1393-94
- 3) Transformation not only of individual person* (increases grace of Baptism) but also of entire community of believers.* Church
- 4) helps in practice of good works.
- 5) pledge of the glory to come “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and abides in me and I in him”. (Jn 6:51, 54, 56)

Homework, Hymn

- Hymn: Bread of Life
- Homework: Act of Spiritual Communion.

Discuss:

- The importance of sharing meals together both at the time of Jesus and now.
- What do Jesus' desire to break bread with everyone – even outcasts – and his actions toward these people tell us about him and about how we should be acting toward the “outcasts” in our society?
- The difference between outward appearance and inward reality and how we become the Body and Blood of Christ when we receive the Eucharist.
- If we receive Eucharist not as “passive receivers” but as true partakers of the Mystery we expect spiritual transformation. What does this mean for our daily lives and how does this reality challenge us to act differently?

Act of Spiritual Communion

- My Jesus, I believe that You are really here in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You more than anything in the world, and I desire to receive You into my heart. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally at this time, come at least spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You now as I [will] do when I actually receive You. Never let me be parted from You. (Redemptorist Pastoral Publication - *Essential Catholic handbook of the Sacraments*)