

The Eucharist: Source and Summit.

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November 15, 2016



Mysterion

The Greek word *mysterion* was translated into Latin by two terms: *mysterium* and *sacramentum*. In later usage the term *sacramentum* emphasizes the visible sign of the hidden reality of salvation which was indicated by the term *mysterium*.

Sacrament

- The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions.

The Sacraments

- Initiation
 - Baptism
 - Confirmation
 - Eucharist

The Sacraments

- Service at Communion
 - Marriage
 - Holy Orders
- Healing
 - Reconciliation
 - Anointing of the Sick

Sacramental Character

- **SACRAMENTAL CHARACTER:** An indelible spiritual mark which is the permanent effect of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders, by which a person is given a new permanent configuration to Christ and a specific standing in the Church; the reception of these sacraments is never repeated

The Eucharist



The Source and



Headwaters of the Mississippi River, Lake Itasca State Park, MN



Summit



What is the Sacrament Called

- Eucharist
- The Lord's Supper
- The Breaking of Bread
- The Eucharist Assembly
- The Holy Sacrifice
- The Holy and Divine Liturgy
- Holy Mass (Missa)

Institution of the Eucharist

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

Institution of the Eucharist

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.

(1st Cor 22: 23-29)

Sanctifying Effects of the Eucharist

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.

John 6: 56-57

Sanctifying Effects of the Eucharist

- We become more closely united to Jesus and His Church.
- Grace within us is increased.
- Venial sins are forgiven and we are helped to avoid in the future.
- Our love of God and others is strengthened.

Bread of Life



Real Presence

Jesus answered them and said, “Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for entered life, which the Son of Man will give you.

John 6 : 26-27

Real Presence

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

(John 6: 35)

Real Presence

I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.”

John 6:51

Real Presence

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me

(John 6: 56-58)

Real Presence

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.

(John 6: 66-68)

Who can Receive Communion

- Individual Must be in the State of Grace. Free from serious sin.
- Reception must be preceded by a one hour fast from food and drink.
- Before receiving, prepare with humility and a desire for a pure heart.
- Sign of reverence when receiving
- After receiving make a thanksgiving to your Savior who abides in you now.

For Conversation

- If faith in the Eucharist is a gift, what does it mean to call faith something that goes beyond our powers to understand?
- How can we prepare ourselves to receive the gift of the Eucharist?
- How do we fully participate in the Mass?

For Conversation

- When and where have I encountered Christ in my life since I have started RCIA?
- The word “Mass is derived the closing word “*ite, missa est*” (“*go, you are sent*”) What are you sent to do?