

# Voices of Scripture & Tradition Resource Page

## Christ Present in the Eucharist

### Christ Present in the Eucharist Session One

#### Session One: The Priest & Assembly

Each week, a new “Voices of Scripture & Tradition” Resource Page will be available. It provides the main reflection questions for the week, with scripture and doctrine related to the week’s topic. Use these pages for prayerful reflection before a session, or as a follow-up review. Bring this sheet and any prayer reflection notes to our session.

Sunday Feb. 18, St. Malachi Hall 11:30am-1pm. Light Lunch Provided.

#### The Four Main Questions to Ponder:

- Describe a time when you personally experienced Christ’s Presence through a member of the assembly or through the priest at Mass.
- Describe a time when you had the opportunity during Mass to personally reach out and share Christ’s Presence with another person or the priest.
- Can you identify a type of person or behavior that inspires or annoys you at Mass? How can you recognize Christ’s Presence in that situation?
- What do the children and youth of your parish observe as your community gathers to worship? How do they recognize Christ’s Presence in YOU and in all those assembled?

#### **Exodus 20:8-10**

Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God.

#### **Psalms 118:24**

This is the day the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice in it and be glad.

#### **1 Corinthians 12:12-13**

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

#### **Matthew 18:20**

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

#### **2 Corinthians 6:16**

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said: “I will live with them and move among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people.”

#### **John 6:56**

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.

#### **1 Peter 2:5**

[L]ike living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

#### **Psalms 139:13-14**

You formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother’s womb.  
I praise you, because I am wonderfully made;  
wonderful are your works!  
My very self you know.

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### **Catechism of the Catholic Church #1069**

The word "liturgy" originally meant a "public work" or a "service in the name of/on behalf of the people." In Christian tradition it 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.

### **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #7, Vatican II**

Every Liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of his Body which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others; no action of the Church can equal its efficacy by the same title and to the same degree.

### **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #10, Vatican II**

Liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows.

### **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #7, Vatican II**

Christ is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister... but especially under the Eucharistic species... He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church... He is present, lastly, when the Church prays and sings, for He promised: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:20).

### **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #11, Vatican II**

Pastors of souls must therefore realize that, when the liturgy is celebrated, something more is required than the mere observation of the laws governing valid and licit celebration; it is their duty also to ensure that the faithful take part fully aware of what they are doing, actively engaged in the rite, and enriched by its effects.

### **Constitution on the Church #10, Vatican II**

Christ the Lord, High Priest taken from among men, made the new people "a kingdom and priests to God the Father". The baptized, by regeneration and the anointing of the Holy Spirit, are consecrated as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood.

### **St. John Chrysostom (late 300's)**

You cannot pray at home as at church, where there is a great multitude, where exclamations are cried out to God as from one great heart, and where there is something more: the union of minds, the accord of souls, the bond of charity, the prayers of the priests.

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church #2181, 2182**

The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist...

Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church.

### **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #26, Vatican II**

Liturgical services are not private functions, but are celebrations of the Church, which is the "sacrament of unity," namely, the holy people united...

### **Constitution on the Church #7, Vatican II**

Through Baptism we are formed in the likeness of Christ: "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body".

### **Constitution on the Church #10, Vatican II**

Though they differ from one another in essence and not only in degree, the common priesthood of the faithful and the ministerial or hierarchical priesthood are nonetheless interrelated: each of them in its own special way is a participation in the one priesthood of Christ. The ministerial priest, by the sacred power he enjoys, teaches and rules the priestly people; acting in the person of Christ, he makes present the Eucharistic sacrifice, and offers it to God in the name of all the people. But the faithful, in virtue of their royal priesthood, join in the offering of the Eucharist.

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church #1098**

The assembly should prepare itself to encounter its Lord and to become "a people well disposed." The preparation of hearts is the joint work of the Holy Spirit and the assembly, especially of its ministers. The grace of the Holy Spirit seeks to awaken faith, conversion of heart, and adherence to the Father's will.