



Sons of Saint Joseph tm

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1 - SOSJ Sacramentum Caritatis part 1: The Eucharist, the Church and Sacraments

Saturday, May 11, 2024

Cor 11: 23-28

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. 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.

Questions

1. How do we explain to people that to understand the Church as the “Bride of Christ, we then understand the Holy Eucharist even better? Why is this important for us to understand as disciples of Christ and our duty to evangelize the world?
2. How is the Church a sacrament itself, as the Vatican II called it? Why is it important for Catholics to understand the Church herself as a sacrament? Hint: define sacrament as a sign and an instrument.
3. Why should the Eucharist, and thus Holy Communion, be seen as the climactic sacrament? Wouldn't anointing be seen as more climactic based on its proximity to death? How should all the other sacraments be seen as pointing to the Eucharist?
4. How does the Sacrament of Penance bring out the critical importance of the Eucharist? What are ways in which confession shows the great power and importance of the Eucharist? How can we teach this to our children?