



A Year with the Catechism

(In preparation for next week.)

The Sacrament of the Altar (Part III)

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “Forgiveness of sins.”

Bible Passages

Whoever comes to Me, I will never drive away.

[John 6:37]

He who stands firm to the end will be saved.

[Matthew 24:13]

My sheep listen to My voice; I know them and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of My hand.

[John 10:27-8]

Weekly Catechism Reading

John 6

p. 331 – Central Thought

p. 331-332 – Part 362 (A)

p. 332-333 – Part 362 (B)

p. 332-333 – Part 362(C)

p. 333 – Part 363 (1113-1114)

p. 333-334 – Part 363 (1115-End)



A Year with the Catechism

Devotion

Bible Readings

Luke 8:42b-48

Devotion

When we are sick we turn to our doctors and the medications they give us, to help us to feel better. We trust their judgment and their knowledge of how medicine works.

The woman who came to Jesus had a medical problem, and she knew Jesus could heal her. By faith, she looked to the only One who could help her. In the Sacrament of the Altar, our Lord brings to us medicine for our souls to heal us of our sin-sickness. We come to the altar to receive our Lord's Body and Blood because we know we are sinful and we need to be healed.

We know that our Lord comes to us here as He comes to no other place joined with the bread and the wine, and through faithful repentance we receive forgiveness, life and salvation.

Our eyes of faith look to God, and the sacrifice of Jesus alone for our forgiveness. We receive that forgiveness given in His Body and His Blood. We receive that forgiveness through faith. Departing from the table, we hear those words of our Lord echoed to us, "Your faith has made you whole. Go in peace."

Prayer

By the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, You made us whole, dear Father, and healed us of our sins. We look with the eyes of faith to receive that forgiveness when we approach the altar to receive our Lord's Body and Blood. Strengthen us in our faith that we may ever keep our eyes on Jesus, ever look to Him and Him alone for our forgiveness, and see Him as He comes to us in this Sacrament. In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.