



A Year with the Catechism

(In preparation for next week.)

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Bible Passages

I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!

[Mark 9:24]

Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. *[Revelation 2:10]*

A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread or drinks of the cup. *[1 Corinthians 11:28]*

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

[1 Corinthians 10:17]

Weekly Catechism Reading

Matthew 13:1-9

p. 338 – Central Thought

p. 339-340 – Part 367-370

p. 340-341 – Part 371

p. 341-342 – Part 372

p. 342 344 – Part 374 (A-C)

p. 344 345 – Part 374 (D)-End



A Year with the Catechism

Devotion

Bible Readings

Matthew 8:5-10, 13

Devotion

Who is worthy? It is a question that has been asked throughout time. Who is worthy to do this or that? The angels ask this question in heaven [Rev. 5:2]. We ask this question all the time.

Like the Roman centurion in our reading, we are not, of ourselves, worthy to receive Christ as He comes to us in His Body and Blood. We are sinful flesh and cannot see God without being consumed [Is. 6:5]. If we really took a good, hard look at ourselves, we certainly could find something wrong that would make us feel unworthy to receive Christ.

Our Lord has given us faith, faith to see Christ in the Sacraments, faith to receive the grace He offers there. By that faith we repent of our sins, we turn from them and try to no longer do them. Strengthened by the grace God gives us, we are emboldened to live according to His will. Our worthiness is not in the perfection of our life, but in the perfection of Christ's life given for us, and our faith which looks to that sacrifice of Christ for our forgiveness.

Prayer

Lord, we are not worthy to receive You, but You have spoken Your Word and healed Your servants. Teach us never to despise this Sacrament or take it for granted. Keep us ever mindful of the great cost of our salvation, and send Your Holy Spirit to enable us constantly to do Your will. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.