

PARISH FAMILY ABLAZE PRAXIS (3-1-20)

COME, CREATOR SPIRIT: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator come,
From Your bright heavenly throne!
Come, take possession of our souls,
And make them all your own.

You who are called the Paraclete,
Best gift of God above,
The living spring, the living fire,
Sweet unction, and true love!

You Who are sevenfold in your grace,
Finger of God's right hand,
His promise, teaching little ones
To speak and understand!

O guide our minds with Your blessed light,
With love our hearts inflame,
And with Your strength which never decays
Confirm our mortal frame.

Far from us drive our hellish foe
True peace unto us bring,
And through all perils guide us safe
Beneath Your sacred wing.

Through You may we the Father know,
Through You the eternal Son
And You the Spirit of them both
Thrice-blessed Three in One.

All glory to the Father be,
And to the risen Son;
The same to you, O Paraclete,
While endless ages run. Amen.

THE BEAUTY OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

- I. The Beauty of Sacrificial Love—The Wedding Feast of the Lamb
 - A. The place of most intense expression of this beauty—The Nave:
 1. The Liturgy in Heaven interacts with the Liturgy on Earth
 2. Central focus—Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church!
 - a. Crucifix—Christ died for love of us: Our Way
 - b. Tabernacle—Love's Presence and Feast: Our Thanksgiving
 3. Sanctuary Lamp—the Light of the World: Our Radiance
 4. Altar—Sacrifice and Supper:
 - a. Our union with God and the Body of Christ
 - b. Our way of self-giving and sharing in holiness and true love

5. Ambo—the Word: Our Gospel vision that shapes our mind
6. Candlesticks—Angels and men are lights through the Light of the World
7. Vestments—Priest, and all priestly people, are clothed radiantly in Christ
- B. The Nave—The Bride of Christ/Christ's Body
 1. Procession:
 - a. Thurible—Our prayers rising up to Heaven
 - b. Processional Cross—Our Way that leads to Heaven
 - c. Gospel—Our vision and proclamation
 - d. Candlesticks—We are children of the “Father of lights”
 2. Front—To the Left and Right of Jesus Christ:
 - a. Mary: Mother/Bride/Greatest Saint
 - b. Joseph: Earthly Father of Christ/Husband of Mary
 - c. The Holy Family that Guides us to the Heavenly Family—God/Holy Angels/Saints
 3. Side Walls—the Saints in Heaven that join us:
 - a. They pray with us and intercede for us
 - b. Their beautiful examples encourage and inspire us
 4. In the pews—Those clothed in Christ and nourished by him:
 - a. Clean and orderly—both spiritually and physically
 - b. Well-dressed—both spiritually and physically
- II. Degrees of Light and Beauty—Revealed by our focus:
 - A. Looking forward toward the center, eyes drawn upward toward Heaven
 - B. Looking forward and upward toward the sides—the saints, starting with Mary and Joseph
 - C. Mass—through the visible beauty, wondrous words, and heavenly music, by engaging all our senses—is meant to draw us onward in holiness and upward in love—we move eventually toward the altar for Holy Communion, where Heaven meets Earth

TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

- I. What should be the most beautiful item in the Church? Why?
- II. Do you find crucifixes beautiful? If so, why? If not, why? Why do we tend to try to adorn them and render them beautiful?

SACRED SEVEN QUESTIONS

- ___ 1. We refer properly to lay members of the parish who help the priest distribute Holy Communion as “Eucharistic ministers.”
- ___ 2. Only out of true necessity should the lay faithful help in the distribution of Holy Communion.
- ___ 3. Lay members helping distribute Holy Communion is intended for the sake of a fuller participation of the laity in the celebration of Mass.
- ___ 4. If lay faithful are truly needed to distribute Holy Communion, then special urgent prayers of intercession should be multiplied that the Lord may soon send a Priest for the service of the community and raise up an abundance of vocations to sacred Orders.
- ___ 5. If there is a risk of profanation, Holy Communion should not be given in the hand to the faithful.
- ___ 6. The paten, our Communion-plate, should be used during distribution of Holy Communion to ensure to avoid the danger of the Sacred Host or some fragment of it falling.

___ 7. Anyone who is conscience of grave sin should not celebrate or receive the Body of the Lord without prior sacramental Confession. T

MISSION

- I. Morning Prayer: “Renewal of Baptismal Promises,” “Angel of God,” “Glory Be,” and “The Anima Christi,” “Veni Creator Spiritus”
- II. Mental Prayer During the Day (15-30 minutes):
 - A. The Rosary
 - B. Journal Meditation:
 1. 5-10 Minutes of Scriptural or spiritual reading
 2. 5-10 Minutes writing to either the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
 3. 5-10 Minutes recording what you believe God is saying to you
- III. Examination of Conscience and Act of Contrition:
 - A. When the Holy Spirit sees my soul, what does He see that is beautiful by grace, and what does He see that is ugly because of sin? What must I do to make my soul more radiant?
 - B. Do I see my life as generally radiant and beautiful or as generally dark and ugly? Do I work to make my life and those around radiant and beautiful?