

FAITH CHAT

with James & John

Is Jesus Truly Present In The Eucharist?

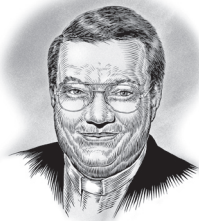
Know This...

Not only is Jesus' glorified human body present at the right hand of the Father in heaven, but it is really, truly, and substantially present—Body, Blood, soul, and divinity—in the Eucharist. At Mass when the priest says, "This is my body" and "This is the cup of my blood," the Holy Spirit miraculously changes ordinary bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Eucharist is the crown jewel of the Sacraments.



John When the priest, in the person of Christ, speaks the words of consecration at Mass, we are witnesses to a greater miracle than Jesus' ascension into heaven.

James: For 2000 years the Church has believed and proclaimed that Jesus, true God and true man, is truly and substantially present in the consecrated bread and wine.



John: The Eucharist does not look nor taste like human flesh and blood. Yet, the substance of bread and wine has been changed into the substance of Jesus' glorified Body and Blood.

James: God is present everywhere in the world. He is present spiritually in those who are in a state of grace; and He is truly and substantially present in the Eucharist.

John: In an act of faith and trust in Christ and His Church, Catholics believe in God's Real Presence in the Eucharist.

James: When we are without mortal sin and properly disposed to receive Holy Communion, Jesus comes into our bodies, nourishes our souls, and offers us eternal life.

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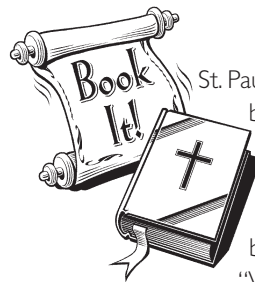


"Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks He broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My Body which is given up for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' And likewise the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My Blood.'" Lk 22:19-20 "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you." Jn 6:27 "Jesus said, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.'" Jn 6:53-56

"The Eucharistic presence of Christ begins at the moment of the consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist. Christ is present whole and entire in each of the species and whole and entire in each of their parts, in such a way that the breaking of the bread does not divide Christ." ccc 1377

"The Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins. The more we share the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to break away from him by mortal sin. The Eucharist is not ordered to the forgiveness of mortal sins - that is proper to the sacrament of Reconciliation. The Eucharist is properly the sacrament of those who are in full communion with the Church." ccc 1395

"Do not look upon it as bread, do not regard it as wine; nor are these excreted into the privy like the rest of foods. Perish the thought! But like wax brought into contact with the fire, where nothing is lost and nothing is left over, so too the Mysteries are thought to be consumed by the substance of the Body." St. John Chrysostom



St. Paul believed in the Real Presence. "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." 1 Cor 10:16-17

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord." 1 Cor 11:27

Lord Jesus, I love You and all You've done for me. Each time I'm properly disposed to receive You in Holy Communion You give me grace, help me grow in holiness, cleanse me of venial sin, strengthen my ability to avoid mortal sin, reduce my love of self, increase my love of neighbor; deepen my faith in Your Church, and offer me hope for eternal life. I pray that I might always receive Your Body and Blood with true love and devotion. Lord, hear my prayer.

