

Doctrine Memorization

When did Christ institute the Holy Eucharist? At the Last Supper, the night before He died.

When did Christ give His priests the power to change bread and wine into His Body and Blood? After He blessed and shared the bread and wine at the Last Supper, He commanded His followers to celebrate the Eucharist in His name and memory. He said "Do this in memory of Me."

What is Holy Communion? Holy Communion is the receiving of the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What should we do after we have received Holy Communion? After Holy Communion we should spend some time adoring Our Lord, thanking Him, renewing our promise of love and obedience to Him, and asking Him for blessings for ourselves and others.

What is necessary for the proper reception of Holy Communion?

A) To receive Holy Communion worthily, you must be free from mortal sin and have expressed sorrow for any venial sins committed since your last confession.

B) In honor and respect for Jesus, Catholics fast from all food and drink (except water and medicine) for one hour before receiving Holy Communion.

C) You can receive the Host in your hand or on your tongue. When the priest or Eucharistic minister says, "The Body of Christ", you answer, "Amen".

D) Catholics are required to receive Holy Communion at least once a year, during the Easter season, but you should receive Communion as frequently as you can, to strengthen your relationship with Jesus and with the Christian community. As long as you are in the state of grace (free from mortal sin), you may receive Holy Communion once a day. If you go to two Masses in the same day, (ex. A wedding or funeral Mass on Saturday morning and a Saturday evening Mass for Sunday) you are now allowed to receive Holy Communion twice a day.

What is the Consecration of the Mass? The Consecration is that sacred part of the Mass in which the words of the priest: "This is My Body", "This is My Blood" change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. This is called **Transubstantiation**.

The Last Supper. ¹⁴ When the hour came, he took his place at table with the apostles. ¹⁵ He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover* with you before I suffer, ¹⁶ for, I tell you, I shall not eat it [again] until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God."¹⁷ Then he took a cup,* gave thanks, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; ¹⁸ for I tell you [that] from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."¹⁹ ²⁰ Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." ²¹ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you."

6, 35-59: Up to v 50, "bread of life" is a figure for God's revelation in Jesus; in vv 51-58, the eucharistic theme comes to the fore. There may thus be a break between vv 50 and 51.

6, 43: *Murmuring*: the word may reflect the Greek of Ex 16, 2.7.8.

6, 54-58: *Eats*: the verb used in these verses is not the classical Greek verb used of human eating, but that of animal eating: "munch," "gnaw." This may be part of John's emphasis on the reality of the flesh and blood of Jesus (cf Jn 6, 55), but the same verb eventually became the ordinary verb in Greek meaning "eat."

6, 60-71: These verses refer more to themes of vv 35-50 than to those of 51-58 and seem to be addressed to members of the Johannine community who found it difficult to accept the high Christology reflected in the bread of life discourse.

6, 62: This unfinished conditional sentence is obscure. Probably there is a reference to vv 49-51. Jesus claims to be *the bread that comes down from heaven* (50); this claim provokes incredulity (60); and so Jesus is pictured as asking what his disciples will say when he goes up to heaven.

6, 63: *Spirit . . . flesh*: probably not a reference to the eucharistic body of Jesus but to the supernatural and the natural, as in Jn 3, 6. *Spirit and life*: all Jesus said about the bread of life is the revelation of the Spirit.

"He gave them bread from heaven to eat."

³² So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven." ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ * Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." ³⁶ But I told you that although you have seen [me], you do not believe." ³⁷ Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, ³⁸ because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me." ³⁹ And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it [on] the last day." ⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him [on] the last day."

⁴¹ The Jews murmured about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven," ⁴² and they said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, 'I have come down from

heaven'?" ⁴³ Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop murmuring* among yourselves." ⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets:

"They shall all be taught by God."

Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me." ⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father." ⁴⁷ Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; ⁵⁰ this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

⁵² The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?" ⁵³ Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you."

⁵⁴ Whoever eats* my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me." ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ These things he said while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

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Question Sheet

True/False Write True or False on the line before each statement about what Catholics believe.

1. _____ We cannot have any food, water, or medicine for one hour before Mass begins.
2. _____ The terms Holy Communion, Eucharist and Mass mean the same thing.
3. _____ The bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus at the words of the priest, "this is my body", "this is my blood". This most sacred part of the Mass is called the communion rite.
4. _____ Catholics must receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season, but are encouraged to receive as frequently as they can, even daily
5. _____ You **cannot** receive Holy Communion if you have mortal sin on your soul (meaning "not in the state of grace") until after you have confessed your sin and been absolved.
6. _____ When we are receiving Holy Communion, either on the tongue or in the hand, the priest or minister of communion says, "the Body of Christ." We do not need to respond.
7. _____ Jesus Christ gave his priests (apostles) power to change bread and wine into His Body and Blood after His resurrection from the dead.
8. _____ We are now permitted to receive Holy Communion twice on the same day at different Masses.

9. _____ Christ instituted (founded,gave) the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, the night before He died.
10. _____ After we have received Holy Communion, we should spend time adoring, thanking, promising to love and obey Our Lord, and asking Him to bless us and others.

The Eucharist in The Gospels

Write out the verse from the following scripture citations-found on back of sheet.

John 6:53

John 6:56

Luke 22:19-20