

The background is a gradient of blue, transitioning from a lighter shade at the top to a darker shade at the bottom. In the four corners, there are decorative white line-art patterns that resemble circuit traces or fiber optic paths, with small circles at the end of the lines.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS REFLECTION DAY

What we will be doing!

Why we minister in our churches?

What is mass?

Eucharist – Sacrifice, Memorial, Covenant, Celebration.

History of the Mass.

Christ at Mass – Structure of Mass.

Where does it go?

OPENING PRAYER

Loving Father, as we gather in your service, help us to fully understand the magnificence of your Son's sacrifice for us and the wonder of your presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Guide and instil in us perseverance and a willingness to do your will.

As we begin our Reflection as Eucharistic ministers, open our hearts to others as we invite them to your table to share your precious gifts.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God for ever and ever.

Amen

YOUR MINISTRY

IN SMALL GROUPS -

- ▶ What do you do ?
- ▶ Why do you do it?
- ▶ Do you feel appreciated in your role?

LOOKING FORWARD...

Ministry – What is it?

The Eucharist Minister.

The Source of Ministry – why we do it.

What is Ministry?

Ministry is a response - by putting our gifts & talents at the service of the Church.

What is the Church?

'Where two or three are gathered in my name...' (Mt. 18:20)

'Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.' (1 Cor. 12:27)

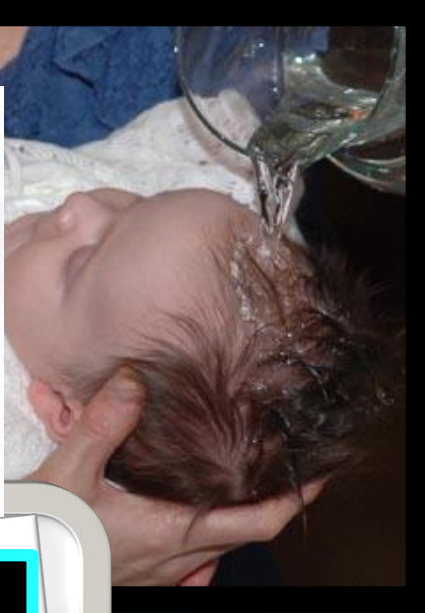
How do we become members of the Church – the Body of Christ?



Baptism!

What is Jesus doing in washing the feet of His disciples?





Moments of Ministry...





"The Body of Christ"

"Any idea what the girl in red is saying?"



Go & Become

"The Body
of Christ"

You are

This is

This is, You are, Become...

...The Body of Christ."

The background is a solid blue gradient. In the four corners, there are decorative white line-art patterns resembling circuit boards or neural networks, with lines extending from small circles.

**‘RECEIVE THE BODY OF CHRIST, *(THIS IS)*
RECEIVE WHAT YOU ARE, *(YOU ARE)*
AND BECOME WHAT YOU RECEIVE.’**

ST AUGUSTINE

The image features a blue gradient background with white circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of straight segments and small circles, resembling a stylized PCB or network diagram. The lines are positioned in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, framing the central text.

**HOW DO WE BECOME WHAT WE
RECEIVE?**



“Behold the Lamb of God”



‘Love one another just as I have loved you.’

John 15:12



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THE MASS

Mass?

Mass – *'Ite, missa est...'* Literally means "Go, it is a dismissal."

In other words: "You are dismissed."

Has come to mean –

"You have been given a mission...now go and fulfil that mission."

Eucharist-*ein*

= Thanksgiving

Blessing – central part of Jewish prayer, this gives some insight into the role of the Eucharist/Mass, it is essentially prayer the prayer of the Community – *laos ergon*.

What is the first thing that happens at Mass?



We gather... Why?



“Behold the Lamb of God”

WHAT IS EUCHARIST?

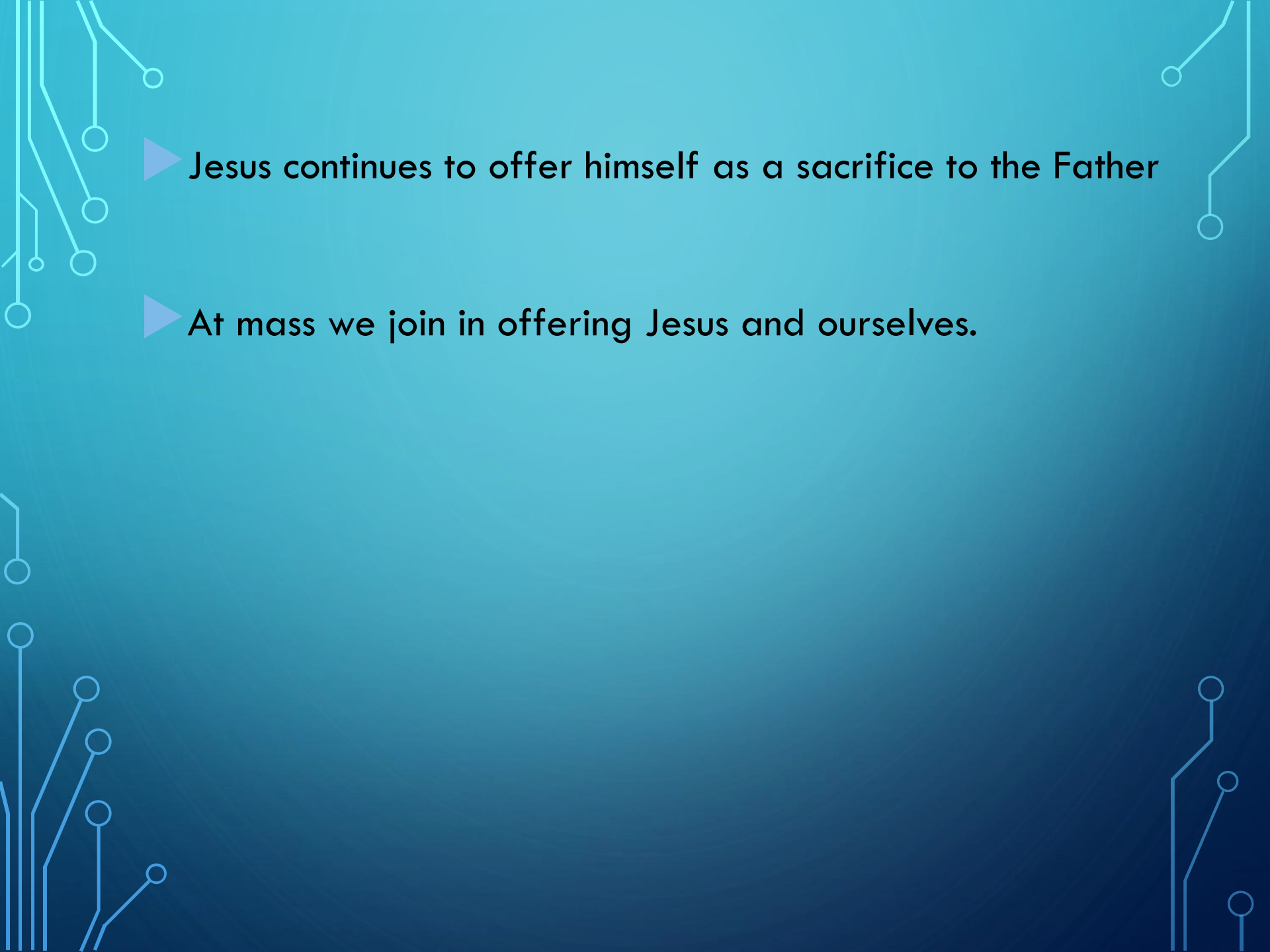
- A Sacrifice.
- A Memorial.
- A Covenant.
- A Celebration.
- It is the **source** and **summit** of the **life** and **mission** of the Church.
- It is rooted in the Bible.



SACRIFICE

- ❑ **To offer a gift to God**
- ❑ **To Make Holy**



- 
- ▶ Jesus continues to offer himself as a sacrifice to the Father
 - ▶ At mass we join in offering Jesus and ourselves.

MEMORIAL

To make present - Re-membrance. Not in the sense of recalling but something much more dynamic.

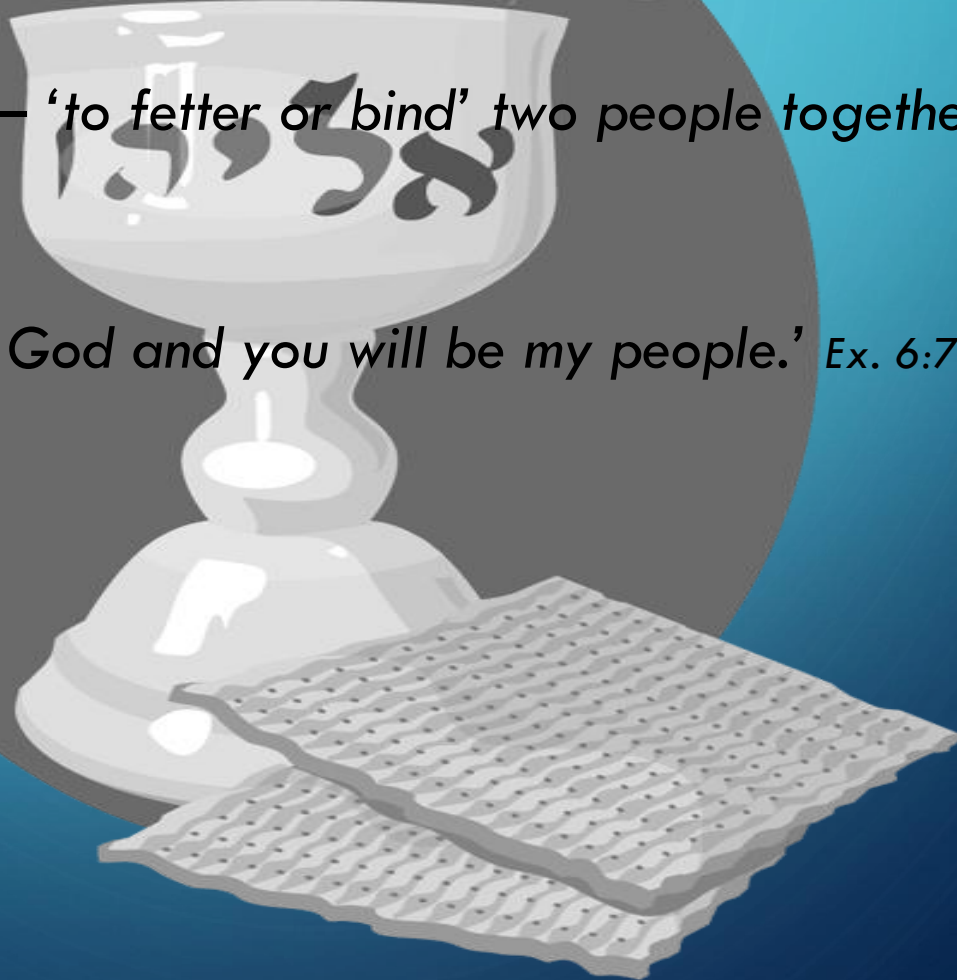
**Anamnesis not just recall but Re-present.
Not in the sense of a representation of
something but in an actual making
present of an event.**

COVENANT

PASSOVER

An agreement – *berith* – ‘to fetter or bind’ two people together.

‘I will be your God and you will be my people.’ Ex. 6:7.



CELEBRATION

Joy that we are saved and have hope of eternal life.

Gratitude for what God has done for us in and through Jesus.

Appreciation of how great is God.

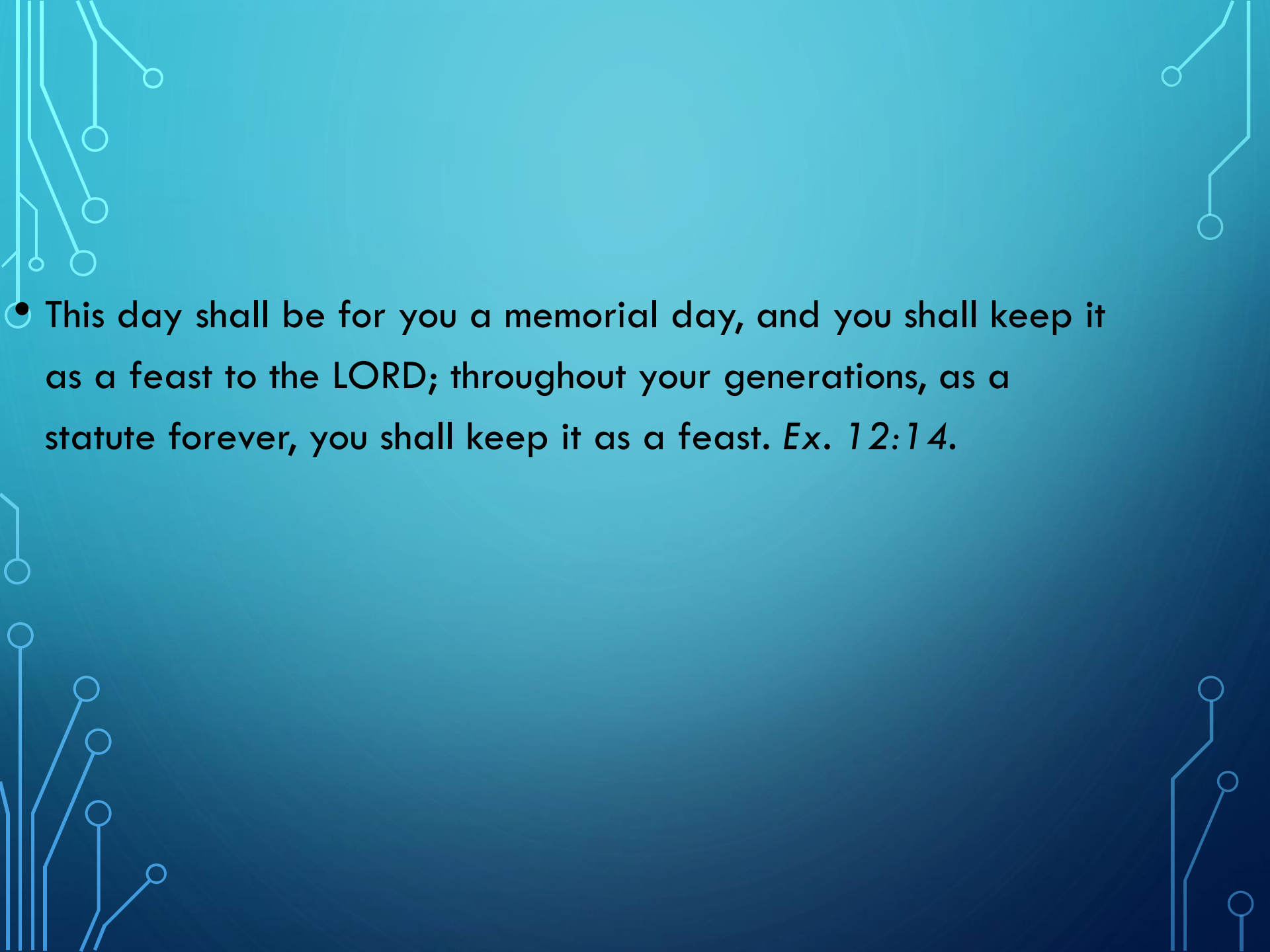


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HISTORY OF THE MASS

PASSOVER

- Neighbours gathered in their homes, to eat lamb, unleavened bread and wine. They ate standing, dressed for the journey. *Ex. 12:1-14.*

- 
- The slide features a blue gradient background with white circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of straight segments connected by right-angle turns, ending in small circles, resembling a stylized PCB or network diagram.
- This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast. *Ex. 12:14.*





THE LAST SUPPER

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

EARLY CHURCH

- ▶ They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer
- ▶ All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need

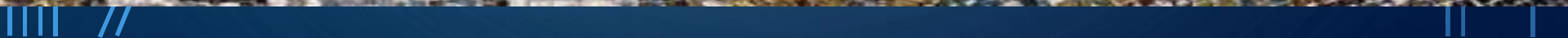
Acts 2: 42,44-45

On...Sunday all who dwell in cities or in the country meet together in one place, and the narratives of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read ... When the reader has finished, the president (*priest*) verbally instructs us, and exhorts us to imitate those good persons (*or things*) [of whom we have just heard]. Then we all stand up together, and offer up prayers; and, our prayers being over, bread and wine and water are brought in, and the president in like manner offers up prayers and thanksgivings to the best of his ability, and the people shout assent, saying Amen; and there is a distribution to each person and a general partaking of that over which the thanksgiving has been made, and it is sent to those who are not present by the deacons.

Justin Martyr c. 100 – c165 AD/CE



CONSTANTINE



325 (AD) CE

- Christianity formally recognised
- Structure and church buildings
- Slowly over centuries lay roles were taken over by priests



VATICAN II

- Encouraged the full, active and conscious participation of all people at mass.

- Liturgy = 'The work of the People'
leitourgia (laos, ergon)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

- Is an aid at mass not a substitute for the active participation of the Faithful



The Fourfold Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

The assembled people; 'Where two or three are gathered in my name...' (Mt. 18:20) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.' (1 Cor. 12:27)

In the Word proclaimed; for it is Christ himself who speaks in and through the scriptures.

In the person of the priest who acts in the person of Christ the head; In persona Christi capita.



In the Eucharistic species, Body & Blood, is the most perfect presence

STRUCTURE OF MASS

- Introduction- Opening Rite – **We Gather**
- Liturgy of the Word – **We Listen**
- Liturgy of the Eucharist – **We Give Thanks**
- Communion Rite – **We Eat**
- Concluding Rite – **We Go**

We Gather - On...Sunday all who dwell in cities or in the country meet together in one place,

We Listen - and the narratives of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read ... When the reader has finished, the president (*priest*) verbally instructs us, and exhorts us to imitate those good persons (*or things*) [of whom we have just heard].

We Give Thanks - our prayers being over, bread and wine and water are brought in, and the president in like manner offers up prayers and thanksgivings to the best of his ability, and the people shout assent, saying Amen;

We Eat - and there is a distribution to each person and a general partaking of that over which the thanksgiving has been made,

We Go - and it is sent to those who are not present by the deacons.



- We Gather

‘Come to me all of you...’ *Mk 1:18.*

- We Listen

‘Jesus began to teach...’ *Mk 7:15.*

- We Thank

‘He gave thanks to God’. *Mt 14:19.*

- We Eat

The Last supper *Mt 26:26.*

- We Go

Go out and tell the Good News.

Mk 16:15.



WHERE DOES IT GO?

- ▶ The Great Amen
- ▶ Penitential Rite
- ▶ Prayer of Faithful
- ▶ 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord'
- ▶ The Creed
- ▶ Presentation of the gifts
- ▶ The Our Father
- ▶ The Gospel
- ▶ The Gloria

EUCCHARIST

- It is a sacrifice
- A memorial
- A covenant
- A celebration
- It is the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church.
- It is rooted in the Bible

CONCLUSION

- The Eucharist is a ritual with a very special meaning.
- It is Jesus' words and actions at the Last Supper, the crucifixion and the resurrection, "re-member-ed" and "re-present-ed" to the People of God today.

Any Questions...



LOOKING BACK...

Mass – where the word comes from!

Eucharist – what it means it's roots and elements
Sacrifice, Memorial, Covenant & Celebration

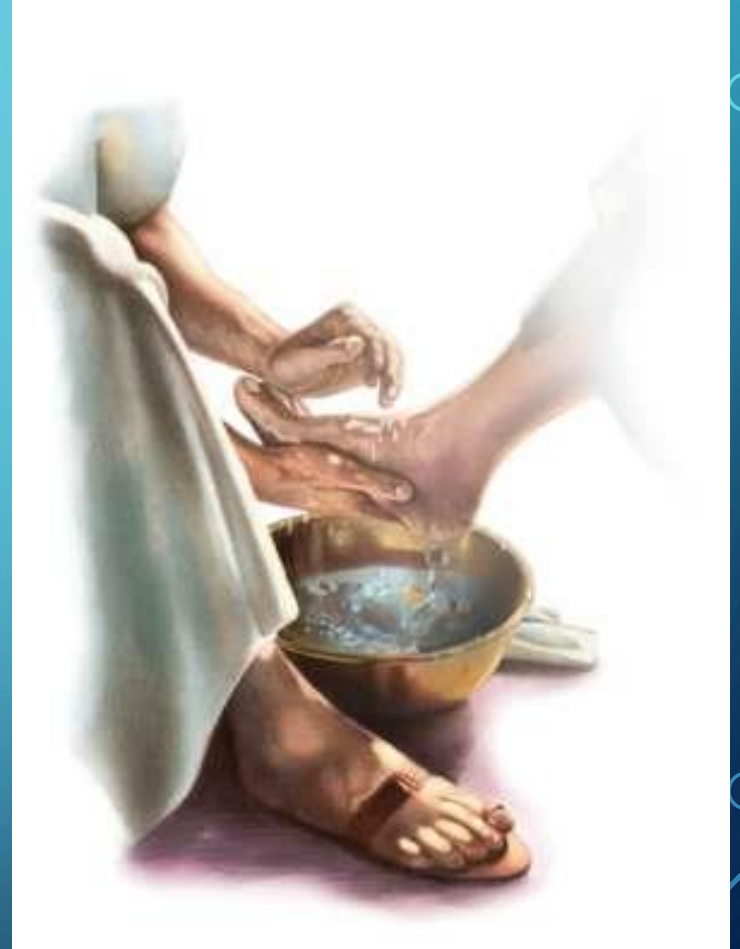
History of the Mass.

Fourfold presence of Christ at Mass—
Structure of Mass.

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LET US PRAY...WE TAKE A
MOMENT OF SILENCE

Gentle God,
Cradle our feet
and our lives
in your holy hands.
Wash us in your
grace.
Amen.

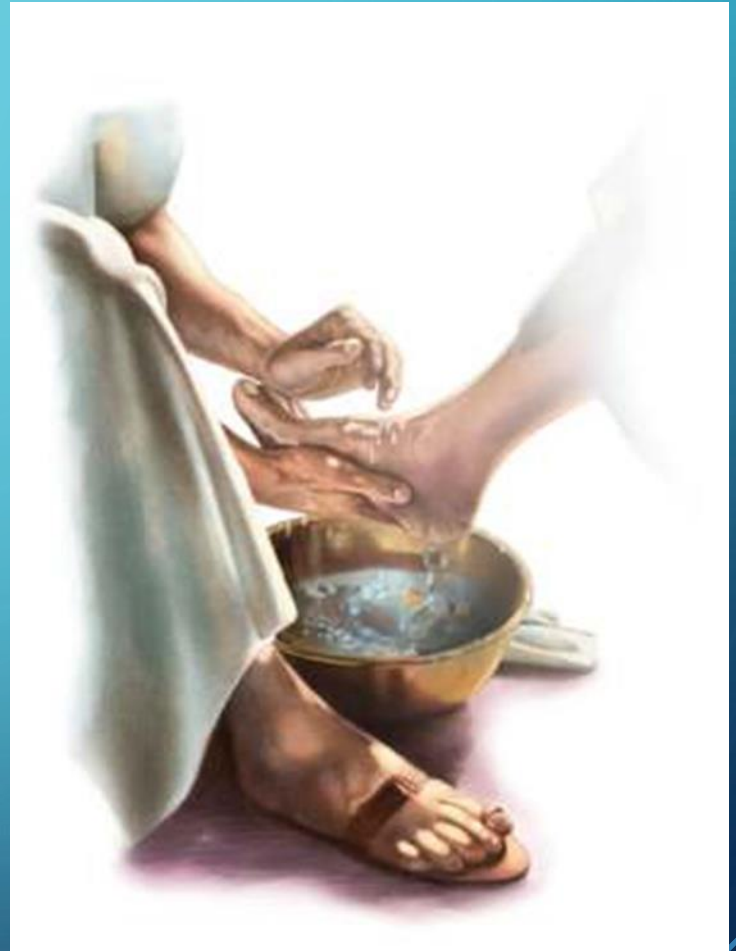


RESPONSE: HEAR OUR PRAYER

- ▶ Give us strength in serving You as a follower of Christ.
- ▶ May the Eucharist bring us Your Forgiveness and give us the freedom to serve You, all the days of our lives.
- ▶ May the Eucharist help us to remain faithful and give us the grace we need in Your service.
- ▶ May it teach us the way to eternal life.

"Such as my love has been for you, so must your love be for each other. This is how all will know you are my disciples: by your love for one another"

(John 13: 34-35).



PRACTICALITIES

OF OUR MINISTRY

- Reverence
- Respect
- Movement
- When & where
- Cameo

Tools of the Trade



- Nails , aftershave, perfume,
- Sanitation of hands.
- Finger bowl, ritual cleansing beforehand and practical cleansing after distributing Communion .
- Smile - that this is a joyful thing that we are doing.
- Eye contact



Any Questions...

The image features a blue gradient background with white circuit-like lines in the corners. The text is centered and reads:

**THANK YOU,
SAFE HOME
&
GOD BLESS!**