



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST *In the Diocese of Plymouth*

9th Sunday after Pentecost

21st July 2024

The Costliness of the Oblation Offered Up in Holy Mass



Excerpts from The Incredible Catholic Mass

Let us therefore ask what is the victim which Christ, in His character of high priest, immolates to God the Father.

The victim must be no mean oblation, but one of immense and priceless value; otherwise, it would not be worthy to be offered to the infinite Deity. If the whole world is only as a drop of dew in God's sight, what can be found in the whole wide world meet to be offered to His majesty? What is there in Heaven or on earth that Christ can offer as a worthy and acceptable sacrifice to the Most Holy Trinity, except a victim that is divine?

What then is it, do you imagine, that Christ offers up to Almighty God in the Holy Mass? Listen and marvel! In all the universe, He

found but one gift, one alone, meet to be offered up to the infinite Deity, and that was His sacred humanity, holy and immaculate, His adorable Body and Blood, His most pure soul. Concerning this, St. Chrysostom says: "Christ was and is both priest and victim; He is the priest according to the spirit, the victim according to the flesh. He is both the sacrifice and the thing sacrificed." St. Augustine says much the same in his commentary on Psalm 26: "Christ alone was a priest in such wise as to be at the same time the victim, for He sacrificed naught else but Himself since all the treasures of Heaven and earth could furnish no victim fit to be sacrificed to the Most Holy Trinity.

The sacred humanity of Our Lord was the greatest and highest work of divine omnipotence. This the Mother of God revealed to St. Bridget in these explicit words: "Of all things that exist, or that have ever existed, nothing is so estimable and precious as the sacred humanity of Christ." For the bountiful hand of God endowed the human nature of His Son with treasures so rich and so innumerable of grace and virtue, of sanctity and wisdom—in a word, with such perfection—that nothing more or greater could be added to it. And this not because God's power in the bestowal of rare and priceless gifts is limited, but because Christ's human nature was incapable of receiving anything greater. The Mother of God is possessed of a beauty, holiness, and excellence

that surpasses our conception, yet in comparison to Christ's sacred humanity, she is but as a burning torch to the midday sun. And on account of this supreme excellence, Christ's sacred humanity is adored upon earth, not only by pious mortals, but by the holy Angels; and in Heaven it is also the object of unceasing adoration, second only to God Himself, in virtue of the exalted graces and perfections wherewith Christ, as the head of the human race, has invested His human nature to a degree surpassing that of any other creature.



God, in His bounty and liberality, endowed the Angels at their creation with great sanctity and other glorious attributes; He has also, out of pure charity, bestowed on many good people and eminent Saints from their birth gifts and graces of no ordinary kind; above all, He conferred upon the Blessed Virgin Mary, both at her creation and throughout her life, extraordinary graces, privileges and perfections in great abundance. But in the sacred humanity of Christ, all these gifts and graces meet together, besides other inestimable prerogatives and celestial favors without number which the Holy Ghost implanted in it at its creation. Hence, we may

judge how noble, how excellent, how glorious beyond all comprehension is Our Lord's humanity and what an unfathomable ocean of perfections it contains within itself.

The most holy and exalted humanity of Christ is the precious oblation which the great High Priest, the only-begotten Son of God, daily in every Mass that is said, presents and offers up to the Most Holy Trinity. Nor does He offer this alone; with it He offers all that in this same sacred humanity He did and suffered during three and thirty years, to the greater honor and glory of the ever-blessed Trinity: all His fasts, vigils, prayers, journeyings; all His penances, preachings, mortifications; all the persecutions, calumny, contempt, the outrages to which He was exposed; the pains, the scourging, the crowning with thorns, the wounds, the torture and anguish He endured; His tears, His sweat of blood, the water that flowed from His side, and the crimson tide of His blood. All this Christ places before the Holy Trinity in every Mass that is celebrated, offering it up in no less valid a manner than He did when on earth in His holy life and bitter sufferings.

But the essential value of this Sacrifice consists in this, that Christ does not offer up His sacred humanity alone, but in union with His divinity. For although in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass it is not the divinity but the humanity of Christ that is offered up to the Holy Trinity, yet the perfection wherewith this oblation is made is owing to the hypostatic union. Through this union the humanity is divinized, enriched with endless treasures of grace and given a worth beyond all price. Hence we conclude how inestimable is the Sacrifice which the Redeemer offers to

the Most High God in every Mass, since He offers up His sacred humanity in a marvelous and incomprehensible manner.

Finally, we must not fail to observe that Christ does not offer up His humanity glorified as it is in Heaven, but in the lowly form under which it is upon the altar. The Angels in Heaven tremble before the glorified humanity of Jesus Christ, and they are lost in amazement when they behold the abasement of this same humanity upon our altars. Here it lies hidden—imprisoned, as it were—under the species of bread and wine. For so closely do these outward forms surround and conceal the sacred humanity of Our Lord that, if they are moved to another place, it is removed with them, and as long as the forms continue, it remains present beneath them, no mortal power availing to separate it from them. Under so small, so humble, so lowly a form does Christ present Himself to the ever-blessed Trinity, offering Himself up in a manner which inspires all the heavenly host with profound admiration.

This knowledge may serve to make us appreciate and value more highly the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and assist at it more frequently with greater joy and deeper devotion. For the Masses offered daily are the weapons of divine grace, the fount of divine mercy, the sacrifice of atonement which is all-powerful, if we assist at it devoutly. On this account, our heartfelt thanks are due to our adorable Saviour for having instituted for our sakes this efficacious and salutary Sacrifice, wherein He offers Himself up for us daily, nay, hourly, to the Holy Trinity. We ought indeed to thank Him for having given us so powerful a weapon, whereby we may win

divine graces and, as it were, take by storm the citadel of His mercy.



Questions and Answers

Our sessions of Questions and Answers at Lanherne with Canon Smith are for anyone who has questions about the Catholic Faith or Liturgy. The sessions will be about an hour. The next sessions are:

Tuesday 23rd July 6:30pm

Tuesday 20th August 6:30pm

Holy Days of Obligation

Every Sunday

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Every

(15 August*)

MASS INTENTIONS

	AT LANHERNE	CANON TANNER
21	BENEFACTORS G. Lowe & Family	Camilla Straghan
22	Josephine Zimmer	Camilla Straghan
23	Caroline Ann Hill	Camilla Straghan
24	GH & Family	Cardinal Burke
25	Lawrence David Ashman RIP ICKSP Members, Relatives, and Apostolates	Private Intention
26	Christopher & Nuala Hart	Mgr Wach
27	Nathan, Josephinie & Fam	Holy Souls

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Safeguarding Reps:
Christina Hunt / Sarah Checkley

The Sisters of Lanherne are grateful to the Providence of God who supplies their needs through the generous support of the faithful.

At Lanherne Convent

Sunday 8am Conventual Mass
11am Low Mass
Monday – Saturday 8am Mass
Thursday Mass at 8am and 6.15pm
Confession:
Thursday: 5.15pm-5.45pm
Friday & Saturday after Mass

Friends of Lanherne

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Holy Angels Torquay
Account Name: ICKSP
Account Details: 40-03-33
Account Number: 12333902

At Holy Angels

Sundays:
10.20 -10.40am Confessions
10.45am Sung Mass
5.30pm Vespers & Benediction

Mon. Mass at 8.30am

**No weekday Mass or Adoration
for 2 weeks.**

Plymouth: Sundays at 8.30am
First Saturdays: 11.30