



# LITURGICAL CATECHESIS

Week 12 (May 10, 2017) - The Liturgy of the Sacrament (Session 7 of DVD)

## **Introduction:**

“The whole sacrifice of Calvary is focused to a point at the altar. It is brought home and made a reality as I kneel to receive the true body and blood given and shed for me. Then it was offered on the cross, now, in heaven triumphant—through the bread and wine. Here I truly touch Calvary, which is now being pleaded by my high priest. Here I find the secret whereby I can touch my God, the secret whereby divine love can also be born in me and thus radiate through me into the lives of my fellow men. Here at the altar I find love.

At the altar is the cresset where we get our fire of the Calvary love. How this love is needed! We have lost much of it. We have to invent all kinds of methods to attract the people. We must advertise; we must entertain. Why? Because the church has lost its way to the altar it has also lost its way into the heart of the world. For the pure love of Calvary alone can save the world. It is that love for which the world is aching. But we must first recapture it ourselves. Let us find the reality of Calvary, of love, by the way of the altar. There we can again touch the wounds of Christ; and by touching the wounds of Christ, we shall touch the wounds of the world.”

-Rev. Berthold von Schenk, *The Presence*

## Last Week: The Liturgy and the Word

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*When worship was held in houses during the first 300 years of early Christian worship, what action ended the service of the word? Why? (Matthew 5:23-24, 2 Cor. 5:18-21)*

*Why did the early Church receive from a table rather than an altar?*

*What's difference between a table and an altar in worship?*

*What were the two basic structures of House worship in the early Church?*

*How is God present among His people in the Church?*

*What part of worship began the Service of the Sacrament?*

*The words, "The Lord be with you" are spoken throughout the service. Who spoke those words long ago and to whom? (Luke 1:28)*

*What is the pastor communicating when he says them today?*

*When the people respond "And with thy spirit" What does that mean?*

*What do the words "Lift up your hearts" mean?*

*Then are spoken the words, "Let us give thank unto the Lord, our God. (Ps. 50:14; 69:30; 95:2) and the response "It is meet and right so to do." What are we saying in giving thanks to God there?*

*In the Proper Preface the words are spoken, "Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven..." Why why?*

*How can we know that heavenly things and people are present?*

*Heaven is a place, but where is heaven? Is it right to say "heaven is on earth"?*

*As we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar, what are we proclaiming? (1 Cor 11:26)*

*In receiving Jesus' body and blood, we are joined with all Christians of all times and all places. How do we know that this is true? (Luke 9:28-36)*

*What is the focus of the Christian life?*

*What then should be the central focus of Christian worship?*

*What is going on in the Post-Communion Collect? How does this connect to the Kiss of Peace which begins the Service of the Sacrament in the ancient Church?*

*As Christians living in a world of sin and death, let us take great comfort in the reality that by God's grace and power, we are IN CHRIST!*