



*God's Gift of Grace*

Original Holiness

**GRACE**

# ONE THING THAT HELPS US TO CHOOSE TO DO GOOD IS CALLED “GRACE”

- **GRACE** has been defined as  
"the love and mercy given to us by God because God desires us to have it, not because of anything we have done to earn it"
  - **Once people receive Grace, they are transformed**; as result, People do good deeds, and acts of love, without looking for anything in return.
  - **Grace is a supernatural power** that transforms the heart, thoughts, actions & attitudes of the person.
- A. Those, who thought that they were already saved only because they have faith;  
St. Paul said  
*"You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:14-26)*
- B. **People, who have God's Grace** {God's Divine life} are "Holy", and love as God loves.  
*"There is no good tree which produces bad fruit,... For each tree is known by its own fruit... "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart, brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure, brings forth what is evil" (Luke. 6:43-45)*

1. **What is Grace?**
2. **Who gave us Grace?**
3. **How Grace was Lost?**
4. **Who wan back for us the Grace lost?**
5. **Today how we keep receiving Grace?**
6. **What happen to us when we receive or have Grace?**
7. **What do we have to do to receive Grace?**
8. **How Grace work in the Sacraments?**



# GRACE = ORIGINAL HOLINESS

What is Grace?

Grace is a gift of God, which is the following:

- God's Divine Live (Eternal Life)
- Sanctity / Holiness
- The state of being Holy
- Sharing God's Divine Life
- Friendship with God
- Ability to love & live in harmony with others
  
- God Super natural power
  - Power to know and love far beyond our human natural abilities.
  
- To Love Supernaturally
  - Ability to love as God loves, and ability to know as God knows.



# GRACE = ORIGINAL HOLINESS

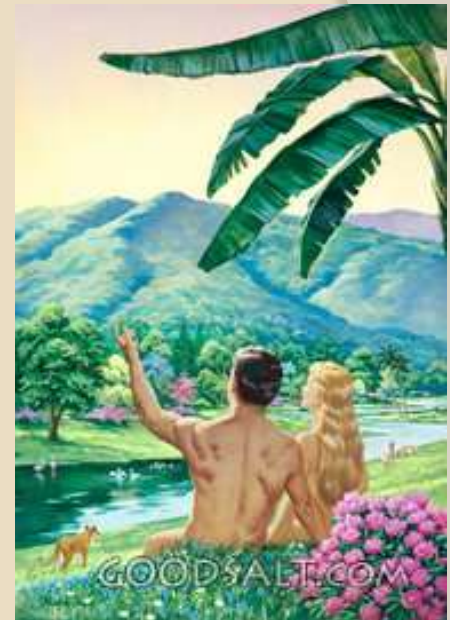
Let talk about the Special Friendship that Adam and EVE had with God.

- **The Scriptures say:** God gave Adam & Eve the wonderful gift of “Holiness”: Original Holiness.
- **Original Holiness is** the state of harmony with God, themselves, and the created world. *(before they sin)*
- **Friendship with God** means Sharing in his **Divine Life**.
- To share in His **Divine Live**, is also called: “SANTIFY GRACE”
  - It is called SANTIFY because it make it HOLY.
  - SANTIFY means to make **“Holy”**.
- **And SANTIFY GRACE** makes us HOLY,
  - because it make us Holy like God *(his live come to dwell in us)*
  - *When we have Sanctify Grace, we become Holy.*



# GRACE: FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

- **Original Holiness** means that Adam & Eve, have friendship with God,
- but also have friendship & harmony within themselves
- **This means that Adam & Eve** had perfect self control, perfect self-mastery
- **This means they always did** what they knew was right  
It was easy for them to be good and easy to control themselves,
- **No one has to tell them to be good** because they have friendship with God  
**and because they have self control** they were able to have harmony in their relationship within each other.
- **We can't be friends** (*be Saints*) **with God, just** because we want it.
- **Share in His Divine Life**, is something God has to give us, **BECAUSE** God himself is the only source of all GRACE.

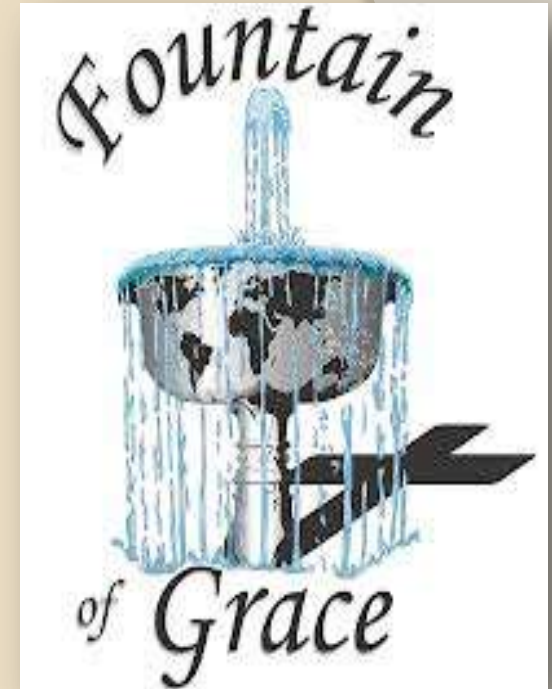


# GOD, SOURCE OF GRACE



# GOD SOURCE OF GRACE

- Remember God made us to be happy with Him in Heaven, so He wants all of us to be holy,
- And God is the Source of all GRACES;
- He is the only One, who can give us His Grace (His Holiness),
- He is the only One, who can give us His Supernatural Love, so we can become Holy,
  - Share His Divine Life with others,
  - Make good choices
  - live in harmony with the creation
  - and be truly happy with Him forever in Heaven





# GRACE : SUPERNATURAL POWER

- **Human Beings** are the summit (highest point) of God's Creation
- God gave His Very Own Life:
  - even he gave Adam & Eve many beautiful things,
  - the most important and beautiful GIFT , God gave them, was HIS VERY OWN LIFE
  - God life was in them!
- **God gave the first humans** the power to KNOW and to LOVE far beyond their natural abilities.
- He gave them the power to know & love as He loves.

**What's this mean?** It means that God perfected their natural power to know & love. (He perfected their intellect and free will)



# GRACE : SUPERNATURAL POWER

- **Also He gave them FREE WILL** to know & love in a DIVINE WAY (Super natural way)

--A Way which we can not do by ourselves—

- **Why God did this?**
- **Because God** meant to be close to them always. He meant to be close to us!
- **If His life always be in us**, then we will go to heaven and live with him forever.
- God means this for you & me, too.



# GRACE : FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

- ◉ **ORIGINAL HOLINESS** also means Adam & Eve enjoyed harmony with the world around them.



- Work for them wasn't difficult, wasn't hard. It was a delight for them...
  - Also they did not have to die or they do not have to suffer.
- ◉ **GRACE** is a great gift for us... God didn't have to give it to us, but He wants it, *to make us holy!*
  - ◉ **God had a plan for his Creation**, and He intended for humans beings
    - to live in harmony (*friendship*) with him and with each other.
    - To work with Him to perfect the created world, making it more perfect to reflect his goodness, beauty and Glory.

# SANCTITY/HOLINESS = HEAVEN

- **Since Adam & Eve were Holy**, they did not have to die.
- **God is Going to take them into Heaven**, at the end of their lives
- So they do not have to suffered
  - A Spiritual death
  - Or Physical Death
- **At the end of Adam & Eve's human life**, would be taken to heaven to be perfectly happy with God forever, sharing his Divine Live.
- **God wants all of us to be Holy**, and to be perfectly happy with Him in Heaven

*Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy. (Leviticus 19:2)*

*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)*

- **Everyone of us is call to be Holy**, to be Saint!



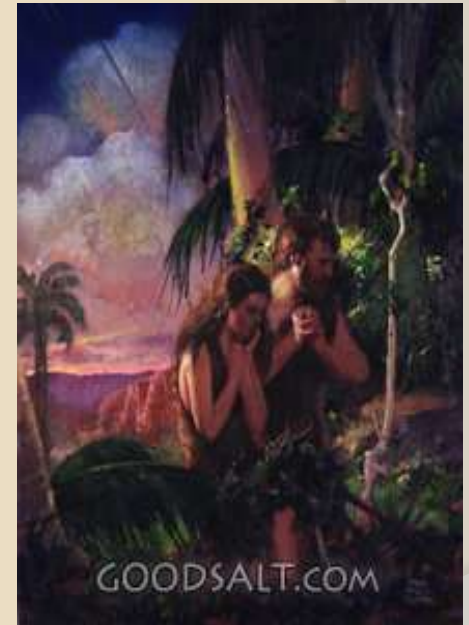
GRACE WAS  
LOST !!!



# GRACE WAS LOST

## All this beautiful Gift was lost:

- ⦿ **The gift of Original Holiness**, The gift of Grace! that God pour us in our first Parents,
- ⦿ **all gifts graces were lost for the sin** of our first Parents.
- ⦿ **They rejected the friendship of God**, and lost His Grace.
- ⦿ **Since they lost His Grace**, they can't transmit God's Grace to others (to us)
- ⦿ **Therefore, Our human nature is hurt**, our will is weaken,
  - 1) **Our flesh is subject to our passions, and our reason to error.**
  - 2) **It is harder for us to do good, it is easy for us to do evil.**
  - 3) **We born with a tendency to sin.**



# NOT GRACE : NO SUPERNATURAL LOVE



- If we do not have God's super natural love, we can't love others.
- if we do not have God's GRACE, (*sanctity*) we can't share that Grace with others.

This means we can't share God's Divine Life with others.

- To **LOVE SUPERNATURALLY** is to Love Freely, *without looking for anything in return.*
- **Because this is how God loves us**, and this is how we must love,
- **but we can't do this by our own**; God have to give us the ability to love as He loves.
- Again, God has to share in his Divine life, to make us holy, so that we can be with Him forever in Heaven.



# GOD WANTS US IN HEAVEN



- **God loves you**, and He wants to be near you. He wants to fill you with his divine life
- He wants to make you happy forever. He wants you to be forever in heaven.
- **But Adam & Eve send God's Grace out** of their soul when they sin.
- **So they can not pass God's life** up to his children. They do not pass it on to you or me.
- So when we are born, we are not sharing God's life (sanctity)
- **But we need God to live in us**, before we can live in Heaven. Thus why we –all, are call to Sanctity



**Who Want Back the “Grace  
Lost”  
for Us again?**



# GOD'S PROMISES

1. **God the Father** promised to send us a Savior: His Son—Jesus Christ (*Genesis 3:14,15*)



- Jesus by his death & resurrection would restore the broken friendship between God and the humanity

2. **God, also promise** to send us The Holy Spirit:

- *“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”*

*And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules...” (Ezekiel 36:26-28)*

# JESUS WAN BACK GRACE

1. **Jesus wan back for us the GRACE lost by Adam and Eve**
2. **And The Holy Spirit transmits God's Grace to all human beings.**
  - ⦿ **Jesus took out our place to make up the sin of Adam & Eve, and all our sins.**
  - ⦿ **God wants us to be with him forever, So he became man,**  
  
**and died in the Cross for us, so we will be not died forever.**



# JESUS SET US FREE

- **When Jesus died**, he did possible for us to receive God's life again.
- **Jesus came to earth for you**, so you can be with Him forever in Heaven.
- **With God's life in our soul**, we will live forever with him again.
- **RESURRECTION:** after Jesus died, he resurrected from death
- If we receive God's Grace, we also will raise up from the death.
  - Grace set us FREE
  - Grace deliver us from physical Death
  - Grace deliver us from Spiritual Death
  - and deliver us from evil.
- While in earth, we will become Holy, and share God's Grace with others.



# THE HOLY SPIRIT: THE SANCTIFIER



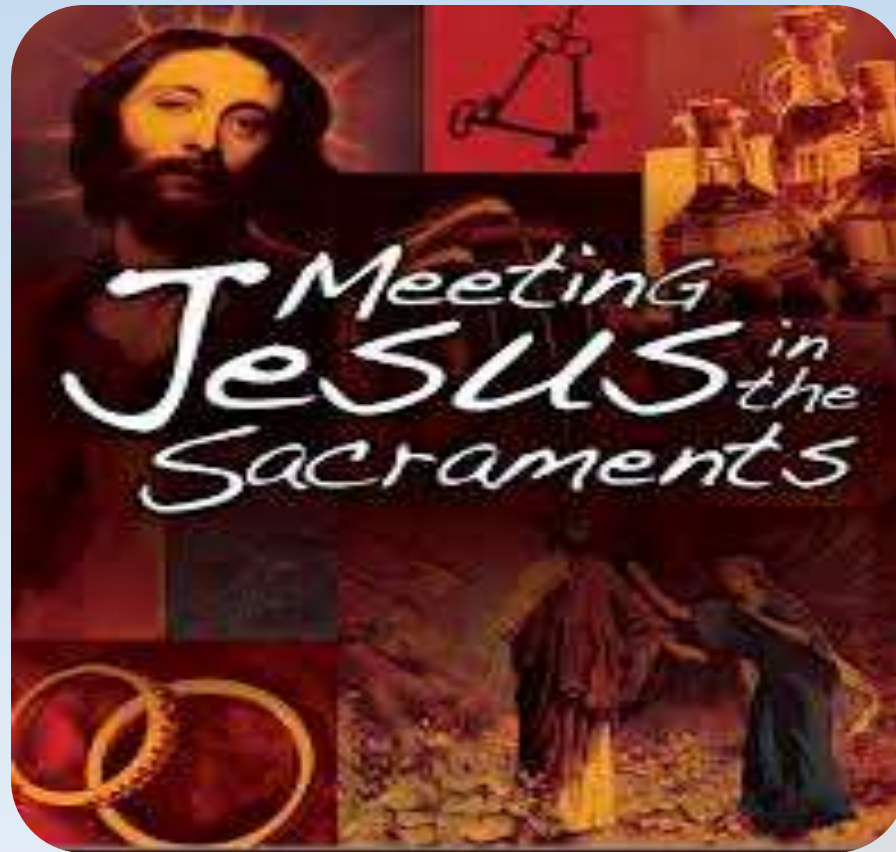
- **The Holy Spirit** is the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit)
- **The Holy Spirit is the Sanctifier,**
  - the one that make you saint.
  - The one that transform you.
  - The one who transmits us GRACE.
- **That's what the Holy Spirit does to us. He transforms us, he changes us.**
- **We are change to move toward God,** to be more & more like Jesus Christ.
- So The Holy Spirit is the Sanctifier, who gives us Grace.
- **We are call to be great saints,** So we don't want to lose the opportunity;

# THE HOLY SPIRIT: God's Promise Of His Divine Help

- **We need God's help, through His Spirit,** to obey Him from the heart and bring our thoughts, attitudes, and actions in line with His.
- **With God's Grace,** we can be saints; we become able to do all good , and even to do little acts of love, such as
  - Advocate, Helping others
  - Making right decisions & choices
  - Loving others
  - Smiling to others
  - Being patient
- **You want to became Holy** and that's what *The Holy Spirit* is about: He transform you and Change you by God's Grace.

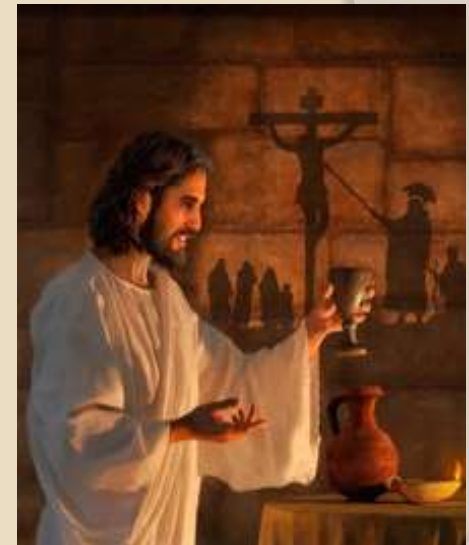


# TODAY HOW WE KEEP RECEIVING GOD'S GRACE?



# GOD SENT US HIS SON JESUS TO SAVE US FROM OUR SINS.

- **This open up for us life for Grace:** Our participation in God's Own Life, once more.
- **Jesus spent his time on earth, preparing us** for the great Graces that would come to us through the Sacraments.
- **Jesus knew that He will not be on earth** with us always, and Yet He promise that He will always be with us.
- **But how he made it on his promise? Through the Sacraments by the Holy Spirit!** (A way that will last through time and space)  
They are his arms **to reaching us, to touching us, to feeds us, to heals us, and to give us grace.**
- **During his time on earth,** Jesus instituted 7 Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, EUCHARIST, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, and Holy Orders.
- **The Graces that we receive from the sacrament** are from the Sacrificial offering of Christ: particularly **the Sacrifice on the Cross.**





# JESUS REGAIN GRACE FOR US

Crucified with Christ



Living for  
SELF



Buried with Christ



Raised as  
a new person  
IN CHRIST

Now he gave us a way to have access to the graces of the sacrifice of the Cross.

# JESUS Instituted The Sacraments To Give Us GRACE, Through The Power Of THE HOLY SPIRIT.



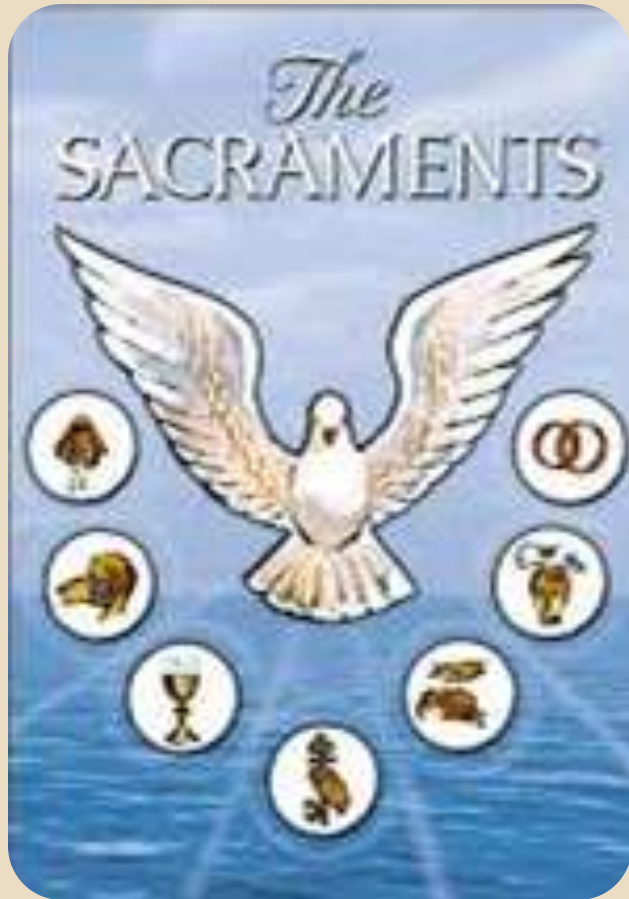
## What is a Sacrament?

**Sacrament** is an “outward sign instituted by CHRIST, and entrusted to the Church to give us GRACE, through the Power of the HOLY SPIRIT.”

Every Sacrament have a particular GRACE that help you to grow in HOLINESSS

# Sacraments Source of Grace

## “by the Power of the Holy Spirit”



- **Through the Sacraments** God invites us to be part of his Family,
- **And God gives us many Graces** to become One with Him, and become Holy.
- **It is a way God loves us, stay with us, & share his Divine Live with us.**
- **God communicates Spiritual life** to our souls in the Sacraments instituted by Christ.
- **By the Power of the Holy Spirit** the sacraments do what they are assign for:
  - Make us Holy,
  - Sanctify you
  - Give you God's Grace
  - Strength your will
  - and Illuminate the reason
- They are visible sings of an invisible reality. They Give us Grace.



The First time, we receive God's Grace is in "BAPTISM", and we continue receiving God's life, very specially in the "EUCCHARIST"



# Sacraments Source of Grace

- Every Sacrament have a particular GRACE that help you to grow in HOLINESSSS
- **As part of God's plan for saving men** (all of us), He knew that we'll need access to all the GRACE Christ bear it for us by his death on the cross & resurrection.
- **God gave us his Grace** to make us his adopted sons & daughters
  - & makes us capable of loving him
  - & participating in his divine life
- **Grace** is God's Divine Life given to us. what Adam & Eve were created, and lost through sin, we regain through the Sacraments by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Each Sacrament is order** to our participation in God's divine life, filling us with his life & love.



# What Do We Have to Do to Have GRACE?



# What do we have to do to have GRACE?

- **Nothing!!!** you do not have to do anything... it is a Gift from God !
- **If it is hard for you to do good**, because of your human nature is hurt, or your will is weaken, **Remember:** You do not have to do this by your own!



○ **Now you have access to all God Graces**, regain by Jesus sacrifice on the Cross.

**Just be sincere, surrender to God, acknowledge Him**, and he will do the rest in your soul—through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

PROVERBS SAYS:

**“...Trust in the LORD with all your heart , And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight....”**

**Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.**

**It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones.** (PROVERBS 3: 5-8)

- In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

# What do we have to do to have GRACE?

Nothing!!! Grace is a gift from God and Faith is a gift, too.

What St. Paul said that the works we do come from GRACE, not from our own efforts or strengths:

For it is by Grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

All the good that you do, it is because God's grace, not because of your own strength. Remember God is the source of Grace.

Then they asked Jesus, "What must we do, to do the works God requires?"

Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." (John 6:28-29)



Grace



Faith → Deeds



SALVATION



# Pure heart to receive GRACE



- **Jesus told us all** that we need to become like little children in order to go to heaven. (*Matthew 18:3*)
- **It is the same with Grace**, if we want to receive God's Grace in our soul in baptism,
- **We have to have a pure of heart** (like children), in order to receive God's divine life in our soul.
- **If you are an adult, and you are sinner**, you can not receive God's Grace in your soul, only until you repent sincerely,
  - 1) **First you have to repent sincerely**, acknowledge that you have offended God
  - 2) **You must confess your sins, & or ask forgiveness** to those you have offended, so your heart become pure and clean like a new baby, *without stain or sin*.
  - 3) Then and only then you can receive God's Grace in Baptism.



# “Always Love & Walk With The Lord”

- ◎ **Remember is very important that** You accept or admit, that while you were growing up, you turned away from God.
  - Maybe you did because ignorance.
  - Or maybe because of weakness.
  - Or maybe because someone unwise or imprudent told you, that you have to grow up & sin first, and later you repent, and then you get baptize.
- ◎ **Even when you become an adult,** *always love & walk with The Lord*, and avoid to sin.
- ◎ Remember We are call to be Saints! Not “sinners”



# “Always Love & Walk With The Lord”

- **We should never offend God** or turn away from Him; also, we should help others to avoid doing evil, specially the children!
- **Jesus said:** “And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me...but whoever causes one of these little ones, who believe in Me, to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.” (Matthew 18: 5-6)
- **Remember a baby or adult receive “God’s Grace”** the 1st time in baptism, in the name of God with this words:  
“I baptize you in the Name of the Father, the Son, and The Holy Spirit”



# Pure of Heart to receive Grace

- **If you are an adult, and you are a sinner, but you do not repent sincerely from your sins,**
- **then your heart is not pure like child's heart; as result, you can't receive God's GRACE in your soul.**

- **Indeed, Jesus told to Nicodemus**

**"Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."**

**Nicodemus asked:** "How can someone be born when they are old?" "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

**Jesus answered,** "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of "water" and the Spirit."

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit (grace).

You should not be surprised at my saying, "You must be born again."

**How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. (John 1:1-9)**



# What Happen To Us When We RECEIVE or HAVE GOD'S GRACE?



# GOD'S LIFE in US is CALLED GRACE

- You may notice that it is often hard to do what is **good**; God knows that our nature is hurt and weaken;
- God doesn't expect us to do this for ourselves. Instead, he comes very close to us and live in us...
- **God always loves us** and by his GRACE, he makes us able to love others, do good, and choose Him more & more.
- **God Grace is working in you**, and it strengths you and moves you to do good.
- **God doesn't force you to do good**, but he gives you, all that you NEED, so you can choose to do what is right.
- **God gave human being the abilities to think & choose**, but when God is living in us, it is easier to choose to do good.



# CATHOLIC DOCTRINE

- It teaches that **God has imparted Divine Grace** upon humanity, and uses the sacraments to facilitate the reception of his grace.



○ **In the Catholic Church** a state of grace is granted by God from baptism firstly, instead of plainly by faith, **and from the sacrament of reconciliation** after, if a mortal sin is committed.

○ **A mortal sin** makes the state of grace lost even if faith is still present.

○ **The sacrament of the Holy Eucharist** pours Grace over Grace, **It nourish our soul**, cleans us from venial sins, and protects our soul from mortal sin.

○ **Jesus come to dwell into our souls** to give us **Eternal life**.

○ So we can share God's grace with others

- Sharing in God's love
- Growing in Loving & Patient
- Living in harmony
- Strengthen our will
- Avoiding doing evil.

# Supernatural Divine Power

- **Divine grace**
- It has been defined as the **divine** influence which operates in humans
  - to regenerate and sanctify,
  - to inspire virtuous actions
  - and to impart strength to endure trial
  - and resist temptation
  - Helps to keep soul happy & healthy
  - And growing in holiness because strengthen.
  - Helps to grow in love for the neighbor.
- It is an individual virtue, and excellence of Divine Origin





# God's Grace is Share with Others

- **The most important & beautiful thing about God's Grace** is that once we received it, we can share his graces with Others.
- **The Holy Spirit works in ours souls,** in such way, that our empathy for others increase noticeable.
  - There is a joy in giving
  - Sharing and listening
  - thanksgiving & offering
  - *it is in dying (to our ego) that we are born to eternal life*
  - It is about others, not about me
  - *it is in giving that we receive;*



# HOW GRACE WORK IN THE SACRAMENTS?



# BAPTISM



Dead to Sin



Buried in Water

Resurrected  
to a New Life



# Grace in Baptism a Special Reality

For Christian Catholics, Baptism has a greater meaning, than just forgiving their sins.

- In the rite of Baptism, not only sins are forgiven, but also,
  - at the moment you are baptized, God's Grace is poured out in your soul, for the first time.
  - You were given the dwelling of the Holy Spirit
  - You were given the dwelling of the Holy Trinity in your soul.
  - Given the theological Virtues: Faith, Hope & Charity
  - And You become part of God's family: the mystical body of Christ
- Remember the sacraments are the reception of Grace in your soul



# The First time, we receive God's Grace is in "BAPTISM",

- When you **were born**, your were given the Gift Of Your Life
  - God give you Your Life when you born.
- When you **were baptize** God gave you the gift of His Own Divine Life. "GRACE"
  - He gave you His life when you were baptize.
- On your birth you were given 2 great gifts:
  1. The gift of life
  2. And the Gift of your family
- Baptism is our beginning of our sacramental life and are united with God
- God wants everyone to receive that special gift: Grace.
- Anyone who have never being baptize can receive the gift of Grace in baptism.



# Baptism Cleanses our Soul from Original Sin



- **Remember** since Adam & Eve disobey God, there has been a brake relationship with him.
- **Baptism** cleanses our soul from Original sin, and brings forward new life: **God's life**
- **It repairs** this broken relationship
- Now we're sons & daughters of God & heirs of heaven, as God intended from the beginning.
- Something special came to live in your soul: **God's divine life.**

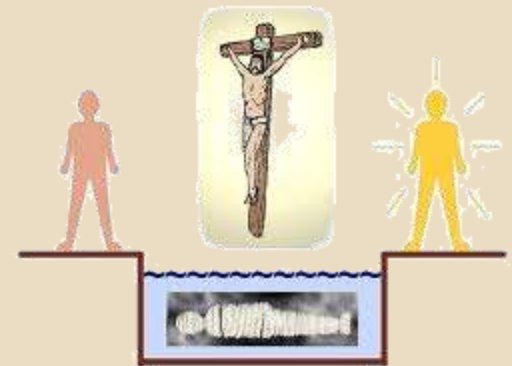
# GOD'S DIVINE LIFE

- As the person is baptized, water is poured on the head of the person 3 times, and the priest said the words:

*"I baptize you in the name of the Father the Son, & the Holy Spirit"*

- With those words**, and the pouring of water, or the immersion in water,

- We became members of the Body of Christ, and the Holy Trinity comes to dwell in our souls.
- We become sons & daughter of God
- God gave you his life
- God came to live in our soul.
- God wash away all sins
- fills you with his life
- Participation of Christ resurrection with new life



# “Reception of GRACE in Person’s soul”



- **WATER** communicates information about our baptism
- **It's telling us** that something important is really truly happening in that moment
- **It shows us that something** is happening in the soul of the person “The reception of GRACE in person’s soul”
- **It shows us that** (water & the words) through the Power of the Holy Spirit
  - washes away the dirt of sin, and makes us clean
  - And Gives us God’s life in our soul



# “Reception of GRACE in Person’s soul”



- The light of **PASCAL CANDLE** is a symbol of God’s Divine Life.
- The **Baptismal Candle** is lighted in the **Pascal Candle**, after you are baptized,
- This represents that God’s life “now” is living in your soul.
- **Jesus is the light of the world**, and he gives us his Divine Life to share with others.



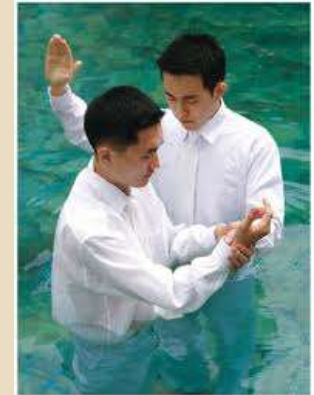
# INDELIBLE SEAL or Character

- From the day of your baptism you are change forever
- In your baptism you are mark, so you belong completely to God.
- You receive a **INDELIBLE SEAL** or character
- This Seal can never be remove from your soul.
  - It configures you to Christ. You are set apart from baptism.
  - This invisible mark in your soul, changes you into child of God
- Because of your Baptism you receive the **seal**, you only need to became baptize “once”, and you never need to be baptize again.



# God's Grace dwells in Pure of Heart

- **The Indelible Seal & God's Grace** is so real in Baptism,
- that when others Baptized Christians or Pastors— *from other Christian denominations*— become Catholics, they do not receive the baptism again;
- **They already have received God's grace** in their soul; when they got baptized the first time.
- **They just need to continue nourishing their soul** with the Graces of others sacraments,
- but very specially by the Holy Eucharist.



# Stay Pure of Heart & Never walk away from the Lord

- **Nowadays, more Christians** from others Christian denominations, have started administering baptism to kids & babies, too.
- **because they have realized** that in order to receive God's Grace in your soul, you have to be pure of heart, like a baby. *(John 1:1-9)*
- **They have realized** that you don't have to go and offend God first...  
and then be baptize to get God's Divine Life to dwell in your soul.
- **If you are pure of heart**, you should stay pure of heart, and void offending God.
- Remember God live in you because your baptism

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price... (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)



# Eucharist

## Source & Summit of Grace



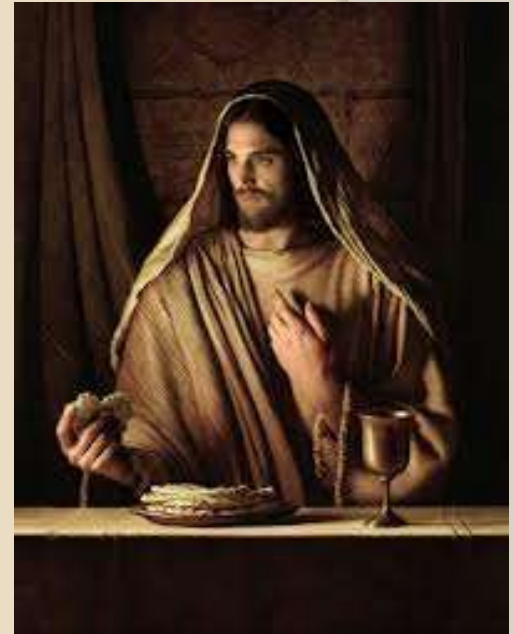
# The most Blessed Sacrament: “THE EUCHARIST”



- **Eucharist** the Source & Summit of our Faith.
- **The True presence of Jesus: Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity!**
  - **The Eucharist** is the Sacrament of Sacraments.
  - **The source of Grace** and the Summit of all other Sacraments.
- **God, the Father, in his plan, united with Christ and the Holy Spirit, give us Grace, or His Divine Life through the Blessed Sacrament.**
- **Of the 7 Sacraments, and the Eucharist is the most important of them, because it is actually Jesus Himself.**

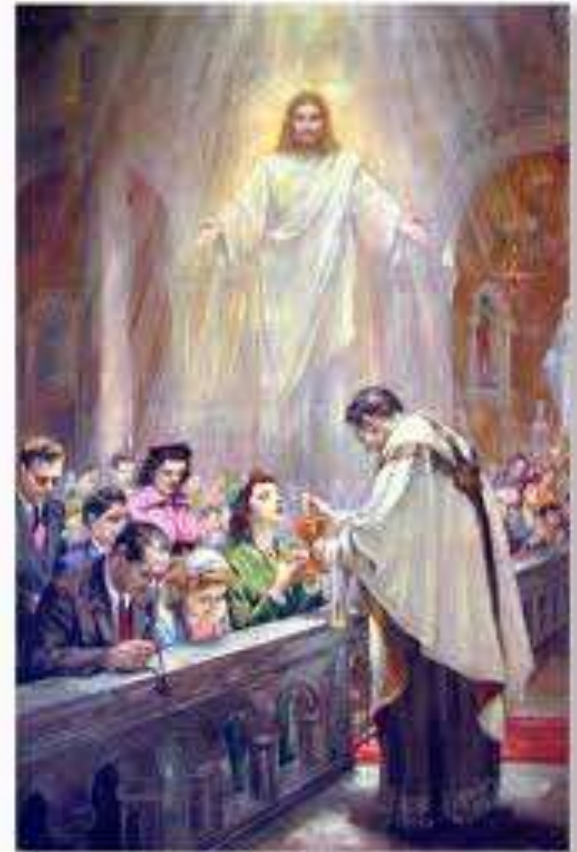
# Jesus: The Bread of Life

- **Jesus:** I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world...”
- Then the Jews began to argue:  
“How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”
- **Jesus said to them,** “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.
- **Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood** has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. **For my flesh** is real food and my blood is real drink.
- **Whoever eats my flesh** and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them.
- **Just as the living Father** sent me and I live because of the Father, so will live because of me the one who feeds on me.  
(John 6: 51-59)



# Grace: Supernatural Life of God in our Soul

- **By eating this bread**, which He called **my flesh**, we will live for ever. (no spiritual death, nor eternal death, but resurrection)
- **The Blessed Sacrament** united us with Jesus Himself.
- By eating the body of Jesus in the “Blessed Sacrament, we share more & more Christ Divine Life & we become more like Him.
- **Here he comes to save us from our sin**, and share with us His Divine Life.
- **Jesus instituted this Sacrament** and said to his disciples “Do this in memory of Me”
- **The Priest in Mass is carrying on** the commandment that Jesus told his disciple and continue to command throughout time.





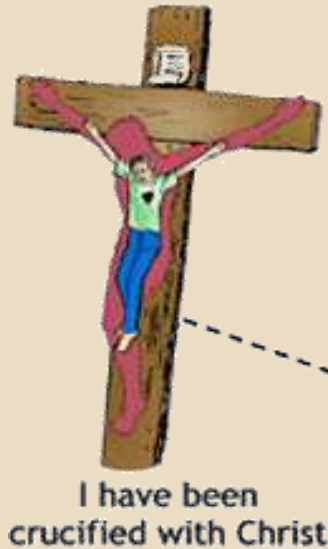
# How we prepare to Receive God's Grace in the Eucharist ?

To receive him, We need to be in state of Grace

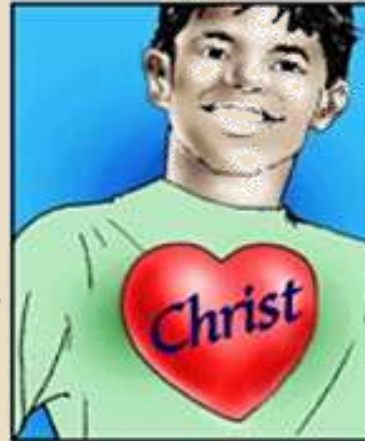
- **Jesus wants to be welcome** to your soul —That means that He can not be there, if you are not in state of Grace.
- **Remember that being in State of Grace** means, you have not committed a moral sin.
  - Other wise you have born, again !!
  - and acknowledge that you have offended God,
  - and ask forgiveness to those you have offended (*exactly as Jesus told to Nicodemus: born again*)
- **If you have committed a mortal sin** you have go to Confession to be forgiven of that sin, and receive some Grace.
- *It must be a really sorrow in your heart for having offended God, before you receive **Communion**, which will give you “more Grace”*



# God's Supernatural Life



"It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me!"



- **Don't forget Grace** is the Supernatural life of God in our soul. It is his Divine Life!
- **When Grace is in your Soul**, Jesus not only feels right at home, but He adds Grace upon Grace.
- **It strengthen you** and help you to grow in Holiness. Your soul needs nourishment and energy to grow in Spiritual life.

# Eucharist life of Holiness & Virtue

- **The life of Holiness and virtue** come from Him, that's why is important to receive the Eucharist to grow strong
- **After the Holy Communion, The Holy Trinity is united with you in a very Special Way.**
  - 1) The Holy Eucharist helps to keep your soul happy & healthy.
  - 2) His Grace help you to Grow in Holiness because you are strengthen.
  - 3) Also cleans your soul, wiping away any venial sins.
  - 4) **And preserve you from** committing moral sins, which bring Death of the Soul.
  - 5) Another Benefit is that you **grow in love** for your neighbor.
  - 6) Receiving Eucharist **builds up the light of your soul**, and makes you Spiritually healthy.



# 2 Sacraments of Grace: Reconciliation & Anointing of the sick.



Every Sacrament have a particular GRACE that help you to grow in HOLINESSS

# 2 Sacraments:

## “Reconciliation” & “Anointing of the sick”

- Sometimes your body get sick, but Do you know that our soul also get sick, too?
- **God has provide us with 2 sacraments full of Grace**, which the Church calls “**the sacraments of healing**”.
  - 1) one that heals the soul
  - 2) And other one that strength you through your suffering, when you are sick or facing death.
- “**PENANCE**” The Sacrament for healing your soul; also, it is called Reconciliation, or Confession.
- “**ANOTING OF THE SICK**” The Sacrament that helps you & strength you when your sick or dying.
- **God is a loving father**, and cares for you every moment, and more specially, provides for you, when you are **suffering in body and soul**.



# “Reconciliation”

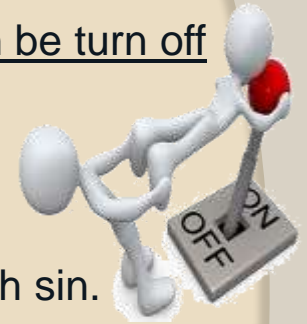


- **Only God** has the power to forgive sin,
- **Before Jesus ascended** into heaven, He entrusted his **apostles**, with the ministry of forgiving sins.
- **No through their own power**, but through God's power: The Power of “**The Holy Spirit**”.
- They are instrument of his forgiveness and goodness.
- **This power is handed on** through the Priesthood by the apostles.
- **By the Sacrament of Confession Jesus** extend his healing hand, forgive our sins, **pours in God's grace and heals our soul**.

# Why do we need the Sacrament of Confession?



- **Baptism**; give us God's divine Grace and wipes away all sin.
- **But unfortunately**, ever since the fall of Adam & Eve, The Human nature is wounded,
- and we still have a tendency to sin, which can be turn off with God's grace.



- **The Human family** continues to struggles with sin.
- struggle with sin is called CONSCUPISCINCE (our inclination to sin)
- **So we have hard time**, and struggle trying to do what is right. That's why we need God's divine life in our souls to strengthen us.
- **How the Sacrament of Penance come to help us to deal with this?**

# How The Sacrament Of Penance Help Us?

- ◉ **God respect our freedom** and even though he knows that sin hurts him, and hurts us,

**He allow us to use our mind and our will** to choose: but He wants us to choose Him and to love him.

- ◉ Unfortunately though sometimes we choose sin, rather than God. That's where the Sacrament of Penance comes in, to pour God's grace in our soul.

- ◉ **In the Sacrament of Reconciliation**, we confess our sin to the Priest,

- ◉ **And through the Power of Holy Spirit** acting throughout the Priest, our sins are forgiven and our soul is made clean

- ◉ **We received God's grace** and feel the comfort of our soul

- a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint.
- consolation for grief or anxiety.
- make us feel less unhappy; & console.
- help us feel at ease; & reassure.
- Our conscious is formed
- Encourage us to avoid evil.





# God's Grace in Reconciliation

- **There is a true story** of a Puerto Rican ex- Protestant Pastor, who became Catholic after receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation:
- **Before he was decided** to prove that this was wrong.
- **In Fact, He so wanted to prove that Confessing the sins to a priest was absurd and foolish**, that he prepared himself sincerely for the sacrament.
  - He made a examination of conscience
  - And Act of contrition (feel sorry by his sins)
- **He entered the confessional** in a Catholic Church; The Priest listen to him, and finally the priest gave him the absolution:  
*“Through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolute you from your sins in the name of the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit”*



# Abundant Grace



- **He receive such abundant Grace** in his soul by the Sacrament of Reconciliation, that he is not the same since that very moment.
- **The Pastor is Fernando Casanova**; now he is a lecturer & speaker for the Catholic Church,
- **Remember** when someone receive God's Grace the intellect or reason is illuminated, and the will is strengthen.
- **The Sacrament of Penance** help you in a particular way to strength you to fight sin.
- The more you have a regular habit of going to confession, the more your conscious is formed to know what is pleasing to God, and what is sinful.

# “Anointing of the Sick”



- ⦿ This Sacrament strength us to bear our illness,
- ⦿ And to bear us to face death,
- ⦿ and to meet God face to face.

# “Anointing of the Sick”

- **To take care of our Body** when we are sick or dying we have the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.
- **Why Jesus institute this sacrament?** Lets face it, it is hart to be sick
- And it’s hard to watch someone that you know and love, suffer and be in pain.
- **Jesus have a lot of compassion** for those who suffer. Jesus himself embrace suffering and death, so that he could defeat them.
- **Everyone at some point** in their life is going to be suffering  
Ever since Adam & Eve suffering is part of our lives, as human beings.



# Grace to bear Suffering



- **Jesus suffer** for our sins. He suffer on the Cross, too.
- **In difficult moments** we can united all the suffering, to Christ suffering on the cross.
- **By uniting our suffering and pain** to his, He let us participate in this suffering for our own grow and holiness, and for the sake of our souls.
- **Many saints grow** in virtue and love by offering the suffering they have with Christ.
- **When you suffer, you have a choice** became better or complain
  - You can complain to God and everyone around you.
  - Or you can be heroic and carry suffering with patient.
- **With Patient** we're growing in companion for others who also are afraid.
- **By baring the cross**, with faith and trust in God you became holy and Great saint.

# “Anointing of the Sick”

- **Jesus know** that suffering and facing death are not easy.
- **Just as the Holy Spirit** is with you to give you strength (grace) through the other sacraments
- **Also God has an specific sacrament** to help you on times, when you are more tested and treated by sickness or death: “Anointing of the Sick”
- **Those who are sick or dying** are the one who receive this sacrament.
  - Also it's given to those that are in danger of death because of serious illness or old age.
- Like all the Sacraments, there are particular GRACES that go with the Anointing of the Sick.
- **The purpose of the sacrament** is to give you strength on faith, in serious illness and death.
- **During this sacrament** the priest anoint the sick with oil, while he said a Prayer to God.



# Oil for serious illness & death



## Why oil?

Through History oil have been a symbol of health, beauty and strength. (grace)

*“And they went out, and preached that men should repent... and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.*

(Mark 6:12-13)



# Sacramental Graces for the Anointing of the Sick

- You are united to the Passion of Christ, for your holiness & holiness of the world.
- You are strengthen
- and given peace
- and courage during suffering
- You receive forgiveness of sin,
- Your are prepare for death, and Eternal Life!
- You feel at ease and REASSURE
- You feel the comfort of our soul





# Something that Medicine Can Never Do



- **Church is interested**, in the person's physical health, but it is more interested in **person's spiritual health**.
- **The Church wants us to participate** of the sacraments because it knows the Power and the Graces the person received:
- **The sacraments health us spiritually**, something that medicine can never do.
  - The person is strength to bear his/her suffering
  - And united the sufferings to Christ for his/her own sake, and the sake of other souls.
  - Also the person is strength to bear, even death itself.

# “ Marriage” and “Holy Orders”



Two Sacraments in particular, that are at the service of the Family

# At Service of the Family

- ⦿ **There are 2 Sacraments** in particular, that are at the service of the Family
  1. Holy Orders
  2. Matrimony or Marriage
- ⦿ **Both sacraments are order to the service** of God's Church: to build the body of Christ.
- ⦿ **They are directed towards the Salvation of Others** (if they contribute as well to their personal salvation)
- ⦿ **It is through service to others** that contribute to salvation.



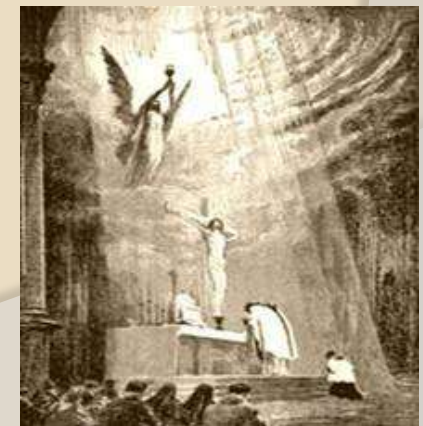
# Holy Orders & Special GRACES



- **This vocation is directed** for the Salvation of others.
- Priests are at the service of others
  - To give you sacraments
  - To teach you
  - To tell you about God's love for you.
- **With the help of the Holy Spirit** the priest helps to build the body of Christ, by the gift of himself to the whole Church.
- **By the Power of the Holy Spirit** —within the Ordination Ceremony— the Priests or Bishops receive the Sacred Power
- or Special GRACES to bring us the Sacraments.

# Some Sacred Powers or Special Graces

- **When a Priest is ordained**, the Bishop places his hand on his head
- and calls the Holy Spirit to give him the special **GRACES** or Sacred Power, to do **what a Priest** does.
- **The priest acts in Persona Christi:**
  1. Offer the Sacrifices of Mass, where we receive Jesus' Body and Blood
  2. Celebrate Marriages
  3. Celebrate others sacraments
  4. Forgive our sins
  5. Brings us the last rites, when we are dying, etc.



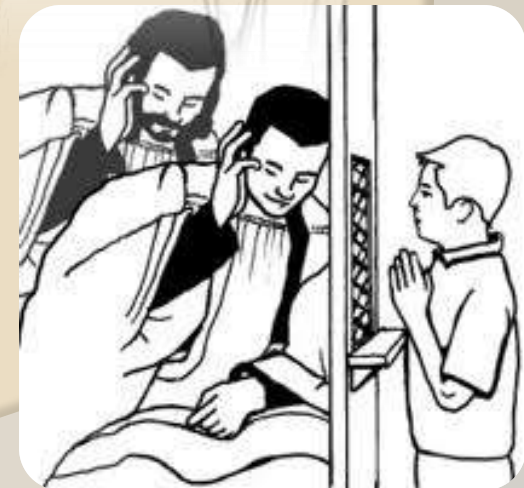
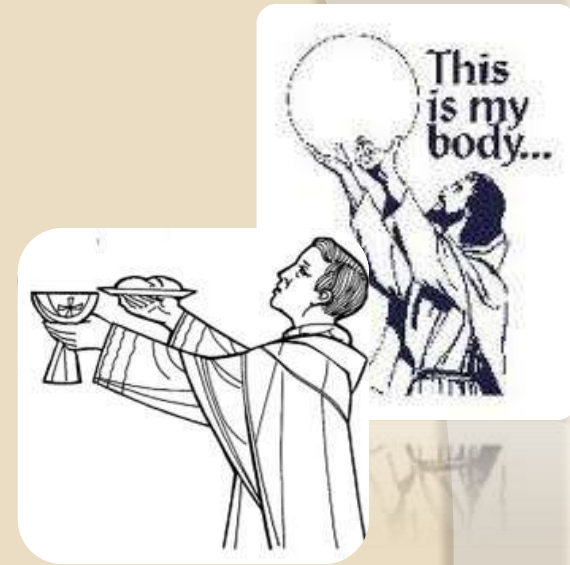
# “Sacred Powers” or “Special Graces”

- **The priest acts in Persona Christi:**
- this means that by the Power of the Holy Spirit, it is **Jesus Himself**, who becomes present in each celebration of the Sacraments.
- **Exactly as Jesus Promised** to the apostles: “He will be with us always, until the end of times.”
- **It is Christ giving us the Graces**, (no the priest) by the power of the Holy Spirit.



# Some Sacred Powers or Special Graces

- For example in Mass, the priest does not say: “this is Jesus’ body...”
- The priest says: “this is my body and blood that will be shed for you”... because in that *“particular moment”* he is acting in the “Persona Christi”.
- Other Example in Confession, he says: “I absolve you of your sin, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.....”
- In that specific moment , the Holy Spirit makes **Jesus** to become present in the sacrament, by making possible that the priest acts in Persona Christi.



# If Holy Eucharist Sanctifies and Helps to be Holy,

## Why some Priests are not?

- **St. Paul said** that to receive the Holy Eucharist the person has to be in Estate of Grace,  
**Otherwise**, it happens the opposite !!!, and the soul becomes weaker.
- **Remember that being in State of Grace** means, you have not committed a moral sin, otherwise
  - made a examination of conscience
  - An Act of contrition
  - And confess the sins
- **When someone receives The Holy Eucharist** in an unworthy manner, he or she become weaker:
  - it is harder to do good and easier to do evil.
  - The tendency to sin increases
  - The intellect is subjected to error
  - The flesh is subjected to their passions.
- Saint Paul said that we must examine ourselves, before we eat of the bread and drink from the cup, in order to become sanctified, and avoid evil & weakness in our soul.





# Saint Paul Correcting an Abuse of the Lord's Supper

**For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you:**

He, Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said:

**"This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."**

**For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

**So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.**

**Everyone ought to examine themselves** before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

**For those who eat and drink —without discerning the body of Christ— eat and drink judgment on themselves.**

**That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.**

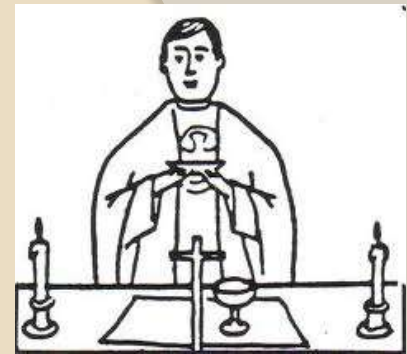
**But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment.**

**Nevertheless, when we are judged in this way by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be finally condemned with the world... (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)**

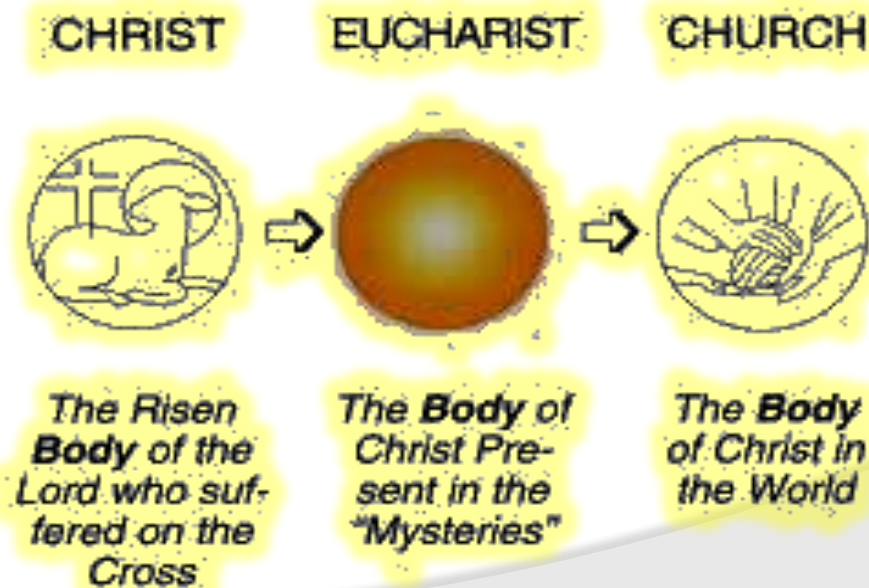


# Perfect Contrition a Golden Key to Heaven

- Some priests may eat & drink from the body of Christ by routine or unintentional.
- Some priests may eat & drink without discerning the body of Christ
  - a) **Therefore, instead of receiving God's Divine Life** (which builds up the light of their soul, and makes them Spiritually healthy) their soul become weaker.
  - a) **As result, they have hard time**, and struggle trying to do what is right. And eventually they will commit moral sins, which bring Death of the Soul.
- **Be CAREFUL!!** Exactly what happens to some Priests, it might happen to us, too.
- **We should avoid** eating the bread, or drinking the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner
  - a) **We must examine ourselves** before we eat of the bread and drink from the cup of the Lord.
  - b) **We must have a perfect Contrition of heart** and ask God for his forgiveness and Graces, which preserve us from committing moral sins.



- **After we receive the Holy Communion in state of grace**, we may participate of Jesus own body: **body, blood, soul and divinity**.
- **We participate of God's Divine Life**
  - God's Grace
  - God's Eternal Life
  - God's Sanctity & Holiness
  - God's goodness & forgiveness
  - God's harmony & love for others.
- **And now we all become members of his Holy Body** by the Graces pour in our soul, by the power of the Holy Spirit:
- **One Body to sacrifice, serve, & love others**, **And to become Holy**, in image & likeness of God for the sake of others.



# “Sacrament of Marriage”



Sacrament of Marriage at service of the Family  
Participate in God's Grace Life, giving Love

# Supernatural Power



- **When man & woman celebrate the sacrament of matrimony**, they promise to be faithful to each other.
- By the power of the Holy Spirit, they are set apart for God. Husband and wife will help each other to become holy.
- This is true self-giving love through sacrifice.
- **It is some times so hard** to giving sacrifice, even for someone, you love very much.
- **But on the Sacrament of Marriage, the graces** that the couple receive by the sacrament will help them.
- **The Graces received** in the Sacrament is a supernatural power that help the man & woman to **love** each other,...  
not only by human love, but with God's love.

# Serving others

- **The Catechism says:** By serving others those who receive the Sacrament of Matrimony become Holy.
- **Sacrament of Matrimony receives** Special Graces to live faithfully their vocations, and serve others, first.



## How do marriage people serve?

1. **Husband serve** and love his wife
    - The husband responsibility is to show his wife, how much God loves her through him.
  2. **The wife serve** and love her husband
    - The wife responsibility is to show her husband, how much God loves him through her.
  3. **God may bless them with children** to love & serve as well
    - Both have the responsibility so show their children God's perfect love and goodness.
- **Like a priest give his very life to serve** the Church (the children of God), the Husband and wife give themselves to each other and their children.

# The Graces of the Sacrament

- **Marriage is part of God's Plan** to help husband & wife to become great saints through their service & love for each other.
- **In the sacrament of matrimony** man & woman exchange consent or tell each other that they will always will belong to each other forever.
- The fruits of the Sacrament are
  - Taking responsibility very seriously
  - They become one, in image & likeness of God
  - Sacrifice for each other
  - loving each other completely: faithfulness
- **There are both** life of self giving and Sacrifice, but they lead to great Holiness.



# Husband & Wife Cooperate with God's Plan



- **Husband & wife cooperate with God's** plan, and their love overflow in children.
- **Marriage must provide a stable home** for the kids:
  - not that only provide good dresses & good schools
- But give them the most precious gift: “To hand on the Faith”
  - Pretty dresses eventually faith, & good education is great... **But**
- **their responsibility** is to get their children to heaven...
- **Marriage** builds up the body of Christ by bringing new life, into the world, and into the Church.



# Supernatural Graces



- **Marriage is not easy**, sometimes there are challenges:
- But challenges like these help the marriage to strengthen their marriage.
- **...since marriage is a sacrament**, they will receive **Special Graces** to help them in all this difficulties.
- *They are granted with supernatural graces.*
  - *Wherever there is injury, there is pardon*
  - *They do not seek to be consoled, as to console;*
  - *Do not seek to be understood, as to understand;*
  - *By giving is that they receive*
  - *And by dying to themselves, they are born to eternal life*
- These graces strengthen their graces for each other.
- **It is an opportunity** to face their own weaken humanity, stretch themselves, and **grow in holiness for God's Glory.**

# For the Sake of Others

- **MARRIAGE** is the sacrament received by two persons to become “ONE”, in image and likeness of God.
- **Husband & Wife** experience Supernatural Grace: Serving, self giving, and loving for the sake of others.
- **The Sacrament of Marriage is a Life Given Covenant** between man & woman who are faithful until death, for the sake of others.
- **The perfection of a Holy Covenant is God himself: “The Holy Trinity”** (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)
- **3 persons in communion** with each other, serving each other, loving each other, and who become One, for the sake of all.



# if Grace fortify, Why people divorce?

- **Because** human nature is wounded, the Will is weakened, and we have a tendency to sin... so we need more Graces to nourish our soul..
- **With their own strength**, sooner or later their love will wear out.
- **It is of the Lord's mercies** that our love is not consumed, because of his graces.

Jesus said:

*"...must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.*

*For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.*

*What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? (Matthew 16:25) (Mark 8:35)*



# if Grace fortify, Why people divorce?

- Eve though husband & wife receive some Graces, **Still, the Grace received in Marriage** –as in any other sacrament— needs to be nourish, and strengthen with the **Holy Eucharist**.
- **Remember the Eucharist** is the source of Grace for all other sacraments;
- **The Holy Eucharist** pours Grace over Grace. It is Jesus Himself (body, blood, soul and divinity) who comes to dwell in us:
- **People who are marriage**, but do not keep receiving the Eucharist, they do not have enough Divine Life, to continue helping, serving & loving others, and become holy.



**Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you**

**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, (John 6:51)**

- **Without Eternal Life:** The Will is weaken, the flesh become subjected to passions and the reason is subjected to error.

# With God's Grace, We Can Be Holy for the Sake Of Others & the Glory Of God



I am in Christ and Christ is in me!



"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."  
Philippians 4:13

SPRIT  
OF  
CHRIST



# GRACE A GIFT FROM GOD



**ANY QUESTION?**