

Misconceptions.

Three misconceptions about the Sacrifice of the Mass are occasionally found at Notre Dame and among Catholics elsewhere:

First, there are those who think that the reception of Holy Communion is the most powerful way to draw down God's favor. As a consequence of this belief, these good people have little regard for the Mass.

A second group is so impressed with the idea that Holy Communion is the height of petition that its members will not assist at Mass on weekdays when Holy Communion cannot be received for some reason or other, like the breaking of one's fast.

The third misconception is that of those who consider Mass as a time of preparation for Holy Communion; these spend all their moments saying Communion prayers.

An explanation of the Catholic doctrine will clear away these errors and open up a new source of help to souls.

The Mass is a family gathering. A gathering of many families into a big one. The Murphys, O'Briens, the Smiths and the Salvatoris meet under one roof. Very simply, it is a meeting of God's children with God.

This family prayer would be very powerful in itself, but it would not be the Mass. This prayer would be still more powerful if our Blessed Lady joined the group with a choir of angels and saints, and yet this would not be the Mass, and it would not be the most powerful of prayers. The Mass is not the prayer of an individual, nor of a number of families. Someone else is present at every Mass, and His presence is the important one--that of Our Blessed Lord Himself. At the Consecration of the Mass Christ comes from Heaven to pray with everyone in the church and for everyone. The Mass is the prayer of Christ and his brothers and sisters--a tremendous thought.

Here is a picture of what happens at the Consecration. All the members of the congregation are looking up to God the Father. Then into their midst comes Christ, God's Divine Son. The Father looks down and sees this magnificent sight: His Son and His adopted children praying together to Him. The Father cannot but be touched by this prayer, and so He grants countless blessings through the Mass.

Bring all your petitions to Mass, because there you are not praying alone: Christ and the whole congregation prays with you. Receive Holy Communion at Mass whenever possible; It makes you more holy, and the more virtuous one is the more favors will he receive from his Heavenly Father.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandmother of Tom Appelbaum (How). Two Special Intentions.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN DEVOTIONS
SERMON AND BENEDICTION
FATHER EUGENE BURKE PREACHER

6:45 P.M. EAST CAMPUS
7:15 P.M. WEST CAMPUS
NO 5:00 BENEDICTION WED.

EAST CAMPUS: Farley, Breen-Phillips, Zahm, Cavanaugh, St. Edward's
Sorin and Walsh.

WEST CAMPUS: All others.