

Keysis Schedule

3/5/08

Review Eucharist—The Sacrament of Sacraments [Sun Flower]: (Consider having some of the kids from last week come up to the white board to teach what they know about the different bullet points)

1. Foreshadowing of the Eucharist
 - a. Melchizedek—King/priest who sacrificed bread/wine
 - b. Manna in the desert—literally fed from heaven
 - c. Last Supper at Passover-sacrifice the lamb/spilling of the blood, breaking unleavened bread to remember manna, finish the meal with the cup of wine.
 - d. Feeding of the 5,000 directly before the last supper discourse in John.
2. Three Understandings of the Eucharist
 - a. Meal
 - b. Sacrifice
 - c. The True Presence
3. Properly receiving the Eucharist—state of grace

Justin's Talk: Faith in the Eucharist

- Adoration—personal experience
- Doubt
- God makes his True Presence known through miracles
 - There have been miracles throughout history that are well documented and investigated, finally being approved by the Church as authentic
 - God uses a miracle usually under three circumstances—lack of faith in the Real Presence, when the Blessed Sacrament has been profaned, or for no other reason than to prove to an adamant unbeliever.
 - Example story:

During the 13th century St. Anthony of Padua was reported to have converted a hardened heretic through a rather unique contest. The heretic, by the name of Bononillo, was unmoved by the reasoning of the "hammer of heretics," as St. Anthony was called. Bononillo was as stubborn as the mule that stood beside him.

Eyeing the mule, Anthony made an offer to Bononillo. He asked him whether he would give up his heresy if the mule were to bow down and adore its Creator present in the Blessed Sacrament. The heretic answered he would, provided he could lay down certain conditions: for two days the mule was not to be fed, and on the third day it was to be led into the public square. On one side of the square would be placed a tempting pile of fresh feed, on the opposite side Anthony could stand with what Bononillo contemptuously called the "body of Christ." Anthony agreed, but in all humility made one condition. If the animal did not kneel before the Blessed Sacrament, his sins alone were to be blamed.

The day arrived for this strange contest and the square was crowded with people. When the derisive Bononillo arrived with his half-starved mule, he was fully confident that his mule had sense and appetite enough to go after the feed. But he was wrong. Anthony had implored his Lord in the intervening two days for the soul of this heretic. God did not let his faithful servant down. When turned loose, the mule without the least hesitation advanced towards Anthony and knelt in an attitude of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. With much emotion and contrition the heretic too fell on his knees and gave up his heresy. As wonderful as these miracles are the greatest of all, transubstantiation, has to be viewed with the eyes of faith.

- Modern miracles are reported but are still under investigation
- God wants us to believe without seeing but understands our difficulties in believing He is Truly Present.