



Jesus asked the twelve apostles, "Do you want to leave me too?" John 6:67

At every Mass, Jesus gives us Himself

Too often, we come to Mass asking, "What am I going to get out of this?" Will the homily be good? Will the music be enjoyable? Will the preacher keep me awake? But we cannot approach the Mass with a consumerist attitude. The better question is: **What do I bring to the Mass? What is my offering?**

Jesus gives us nothing less than Himself. Do we bring ourselves to Him in the same spirit of self-giving?

If we feel that we get nothing from the Mass, perhaps we need to ask how much effort we make to understand its mystery. **The Mass brings us to Calvary.** It is as though we reach out and take hold of the Cross of Christ with our own hands. Each of us carries our own crosses—our struggles, sacrifices, burdens, and sufferings. At the altar, we place them alongside Christ's Cross and unite them with His perfect offering. That is the heart of the Mass.

Let's be super clear about something. **The reason to be Catholic is Jesus in the Eucharist.** That is the reason to come to Mass. **A priest will never be so great** that he's better than the Eucharist and a priest can never be so bad that it makes any sense to **go to a non-Catholic church and lose the Eucharist.**

Priests should work hard on their homilies and try to connect with you, but don't get distracted. Mass is not about the person standing up front, **it's about the Person in the Tabernacle.** The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble because it has God as its object. It's the **most profitable** for salvation because it gives us **the author of grace.** **Holy Communion is the shortest, easiest and safest way to heaven.** It's the sweetest because the Lord is sweetness itself.

*Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good,
Blessed is the one who takes refuge in
Him. Ps 34/8*

Father George