



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

Place Yourself on the Altar

The Eucharist is unique because it allows us to encounter Jesus in a tangible way. As we see, receive, and become more like Him, we grow in our ability to recognize His presence in our daily lives.

My friends, as we continue our reflections on the Eucharist, I invite you to consider what happens during the Offertory. When the priest prepares the gifts of bread and wine, ****place yourself on the altar.**** Bring to God the intention you are carrying in your heart. Place that person, problem, concern, or desire into His hands.

I try to do this myself as a priest. During the Offertory, I quietly pray: "Jesus, I place this person on Your altar. I place before You this problem, this concern, and this situation that I cannot resolve. May Your grace and power touch this person and this intention."

At every Mass, Jesus invites us to offer Him everything: our struggles, pain, sickness, difficulties, dreams, families, children, ministry, and future. Place everything on the altar.

There is a beautiful symbolism in the priest mixing a little water with the wine in the chalice. The wine represents Christ, while the water represents us—our humanity, weakness, and need for God. As the water is united with the wine, we are reminded that our lives are being united with Christ and offered to the Father.

The Offertory, therefore, is not a time for distraction. It is a moment of participation. As the gifts are placed on the altar, say in your heart: "Lord, I place myself here. I place my family here. I place this person and this intention into Your hands."

Try this at Mass this week. Entrust one particular intention to Jesus and surrender it completely to Him—not because we want to control His answer, but because we trust His wisdom, mercy, and perfect will.

Father George

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