

THE MOST BLESSED EUCHARIST

NOTHING on this earth is more wonderful or beautiful than the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – the holy and true Sacrifice of the Mass, but the Mass, as things stand today, is highly misinterpreted. As we misinterpret the Mass we, in the same way, misinterpret the CENTER PIECE of the Mass, namely the Most Blessed Eucharist. In the Mass we speak of TRANSUBSTANTIATION, which word means the miraculous changing of the bread and wine into the ACTUAL BODY AND BLOOD of Jesus Christ. A mysterious miracle, indeed. It is a serious Catholic tragedy that so many Catholic people (even priests!) no longer believe in this most awesome and Catholic doctrine. Transubstantiation is no longer taught in Catholic Schools, and, at most, enjoys a one line reference in Catholic Religious text books. But this doctrine must be central in orthodox Catholic belief.

The Council of Trent taught clearly that to priests ALONE, properly ordained, have the POWER to consecrate been given, that is, the power to change ordinary bread and wine into Body and Blood. This is not a symbolic act, but an act having a realness that is miraculous. In the awesome matter of Consecration, absolutely everything depends on the belief and the intention of the priest performing the Consecration. The very strict rules concerning the composition of the bread and wine (MATTER), and the EXACT wording to be used (FORM), together with the precise rule governing the all important PROPER belief and intention of the officiating priest MUST be scrupulously observed – without interpretation or adaptation or addition or adjustment or any change whatsoever. (It simply must be said here all of the above must be present if one expects validity in this matter. Language does not affect validity.) If ANY portion or part of these requirements is missing or is changed or altered in any way - - THERE IS NO CONSECRATION - - no matter who says otherwise! And if there is no Consecration, there is no Transubstantiation! The belief or the faith or the wishes of the people present in no way effects Transubstantiation. If the priest fails to fulfill ALL of the requirements in this matter, not bringing about Transubstantiation, the Faith of the people present will not take up where the priest left off. If the priest fails to Consecrate, the people receive no more than ordinary bread for communion, even if they believe otherwise. This has been the official teaching, the constant and habitual and ageless teaching of our Catholic Religion. Belief in the Eucharist is basic Catholic doctrine. The question must be asked: "If one does not believe in the Eucharist, thinking it to be a symbolic action, is such a one properly called Catholic?"

Present day erroneous teaching concerning the matter of the Transubstantiation, has brought about most serious deviations in Catholic Worship, Catholic Life Experience, Catholic Observance, and Catholic Thought. Catholic Thought demands CORRECT and EXACT understanding and belief in this fundamental Catholic teaching. It is not open to opinion, interpretation or adaptation – no matter who the teacher may be. □