

THE EUCHARIST AND JUSTICE
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Michael H. Crosby, OFM Cap.

Introduction: Recall the Telespot: If you can't find him in them; it's not likely you'll find him in there.
Review what we mean by "Justice," "Eucharist" and our reality in light of the two definitions.

- I. What do we mean by "Justice:" Right relations.
 - A. Personal, communal and social (institutional).
 - B. "It is not right that . . ."
- II. What do we mean by the Eucharist.
 - A. Grounded in the Scriptures, i.e., New Testament (see JP II, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 20)
 1. Version in Matthew, Mark and Luke: "DO" this in memory of me.
 - a. Account of the multiplication of the loaves.
 - 1) In a world where women and children did not count, they "all ate" and were satisfied
 - 2) Universal compassion.
 - b. Last Supper: the ritual must celebrate communion.
 2. Version in John: "Do you know what I have DONE for you?"
 3. Version in Paul: Ritual worthless if not grounded in right relationships.
 - B. Grounded in the Tradition,
 1. Official church teaching, GIRM. Four forms of the Real Presence
 2. Teaching of John Paul II.
- III. Rules regarding celebration of the Eucharist
 - A. Micah 6:6-8. Is this what God requires of us? (What God wants us to do?)
 1. Justice, mercy and humility to ground all eucharistic celebrations as the basis for all laws about how it is to be celebrated.
 2. Rules about rituals must flow from this.
 - B. Holiness Codes of OT replaced by Jesus' effort to bring about "right relationships"
 1. Holiness as it came to be defined by OT priests and canonists.
 - a. Use model
 - b. Consequence: exclusion and separation
 2. "Unless your justice exceeds that" combined with "be holy/just/right in the way your heavenly Father is holy/just/right."
 3. Antithesis statements.
 4. A key antithesis statement re: Eucharist: If you are on your way to the altar and recall anyone has anything against you, go, make it right. Recall Liz and woman vis-à-vis Ralph
- IV. "It is not right that. . ."
 - A. Origin in scriptures:
 1. Jesus' effort to have all rules arising from tradition reflect the actual revelation of God. Matthew 15:1-20. "It is not right . . ."
 2. Early community: Problem of discrimination. Distribution of food in the house churches. Rise of the diaconate. "It is not right . . ."
 - B. Present reality:
 1. Insufficient number of priests for the number of people. Arch. Vlazny
 2. Code: Faithful found to attend Mass on Sundays (#82 [CCC #83]). GIRM #162: "It is the Christian people's right to have the Eucharist. . ."
 3. Current understanding of Eucharist as something that involves the priests vis-à-vis God which the people observe rather than co-celebrate. Exp. in PA.
 4. Eucharist as reason for the priesthood. *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, ##31-33.
- V. Need for all right relations(hips) at every level of cosmos if we are to be truly Eucharistic

