

# Mysterious Encounters: Unveiling the Power of the Sacraments

## Week 3: The Eucharist

### Old Testament Roots

#### 1. Typology

- a. “Adam . . . was a type of the one who was to come.” (Romans 5:14)
- b. “This grace hid itself under a veil in the Old Testament, but it has been revealed in the New Testament according to the most perfectly ordered dispensation of the ages.” (Saint Augustine, *Treatise on the Spirit and Letter* 27)

#### 2. The Passover Liturgy

- a. Instructions for celebrating the Passover
  - i. **Step 1:** Choose a young, unblemished male lamb. (Exodus 12:5)
  - ii. **Step 2:** Remove all leaven (symbolizing impurity) from your home. (Exodus 12:15)

- iii. **Step 3:** Kill the lamb... (Exodus 12:6)  
  
...but don't break any of its bones. (Exodus 12:46)
  - iv. **Step 4:** Drain the lamb's blood into a bowl and daub its  
  
blood on the lintel and doorposts of your home using a  
  
branch of hyssop. (Exodus 12:7, 22)
  - v. **Step 5:** Roast the lamb whole. (Exodus 12:9)
  - vi. **Step 6:** Eat the lamb with unleavened bread and bitter  
  
herbs. (Exodus 12:8)
  - vii. **Step 7:** Celebrate the Passover every year perpetually.  
  
(Exodus 12:14, 24-27)
- b. The final plague of Egypt (Exodus 12:12-13)
- c. Jesus, the Passover (Paschal) Lamb**
- i. Young, male, without blemish
  - ii. First-born of God who dies in our place
  - iii. No broken bones (John 19:31-36)
  - iv. Receives wine on a hyssop branch (John 19:28-29)

- v. Body and Blood must be consumed (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:17-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 6:53-56)
- vi. Perpetual institution (Luke 22:19, 1 Corinthians 11:24)

### 3. The Manna in the Wilderness

- a. "Bread from heaven" (Exodus 16:4)
- b. The glory of God's presence in the cloud (Exodus 16:10)
- c. Appearance of manna with the morning dew (Exodus 16:13-14)
- d. Just enough to meet daily needs (Exodus 16:17-21)
- e. "The bread of the angels" (Psalms 78:25)
- f. **Jesus, the living bread from heaven.**
  - i. The glory of God's presence in the cloud at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 9:34-35)
  - ii. Differences between Jesus and the manna in the wilderness (John 6:48-50)

- iii. “The living bread which came down from heaven” (John 6:51)

#### 4. The Bread of the Presence

- a. Table in the Holy Place of the tabernacle (Exodus 25:25-28)
- b. Golden “flagons and bowls with which to pour libations” (Exodus 25:29)
- c. Twelve cakes of bread (Leviticus 24:5)
- d. Offering each sabbath of bread with incense by the high priest. A perpetual sacrifice to be eaten by the priest. (Leviticus 24:7-9)
- e. “Bread of the Presence” (Exodus 25:30)
- f. Lamps burning continually opposite the table (Leviticus 24:1-4)

#### 5. More Types of Jesus and the Eucharist

- a. Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20, Psalms 110:4)
- b. Covenant sacrifice and meal at Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:1-11)

## What the Church Teaches

1. "The Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life.'" (*Lumen Gentium* 11; CCC 1324)
2. Early Church teachings
  - a. Saint Paul, 1 Corinthians 11:27-29
  - b. Saint Ignatius of Antioch (early 2<sup>nd</sup> century), Letter to the Smyrnaeans 7: "They abstain from the Eucharist and from prayer, because they confess not the Eucharist to be the flesh of our Saviour Jesus Christ, which suffered for our sins, and which the Father, of His goodness, raised up again."
3. Elements of the sacrament
  - a. Form
  - b. Matter
  - c. Effects
4. Transubstantiation (Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Third Part, Question 75; CCC 1376)

a. Substance

b. Accidents