

REMEMBER ME. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST

Intent of the jottings:

- *To bring out the social implications of the Eucharist.*
- *The Mass has a communitarian dimension.*
- *One of the primary purposes of the Eucharist is to build the body of Christ, the community of believers.*
- *To prepare the participants for a meaningful Eucharist.*

Instructions.

1. Give copies of the Hymn or Poem “**Take and Eat**”
2. Let the participants read it, reflect on it and pray over it
3. Finally, sing it
4. Next let them go over the questions placed after the poem.

TAKE AND EAT.

Take and eat, this is my Body,
Broken on crosses too lonely to mention,
Take and drink, this is my Blood,
Spilled on your alleys and lost in your hallways...

Remember me, remember me.

Take and eat, this is my gift, myself,
Given in love in the face of rejection.
Take and drink, this is my life.
Know it's my pledge now to be with you always.

Remember me, remember me.

I couldn't be here; remember me;
I live all alone; remember me,
I walk on your streets and sleep by your highways,
Remember me, remember me.

Remember me, remember me.

I ride in your bus, remember me,
I sit in your jails, remember me,
I live in your sick-beds and wait for your footsteps;
Remember me, remember me.

Remember me, remember me.

I count on your love, remember me.
I dance in your eyes, remember me,
I put on your ring, and give you my lifetime
Remember me, remember me.

Remember me, remember me.

I live in your house, remember me,
I play in your yard, remember me,
I kiss you goodnight and call you my father,
Remember me, remember me.

Remember me, remember me.

Take and eat, this is my Body,
Take and drink, this is my Blood,
Remember me, remember me!

(Joe Wise).

QUESTIONS :

1. What is for you the meaning of the song?
2. What stanza or line of the song appeals to you most? Why?
3. What feelings has the song aroused in you? Mention them.
4. Has the Eucharist any relation to our day to day life? What? How?
5. How can we make the Eucharist relevant to our daily chores and routine?
6. What implications have the song for your individual life in particular?

7. Are there any areas in your life not in keeping with the meaning of the song? Which?
8. Is there anything in your life you want to change? What? How?

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION.
on the social implications of the Eucharist.

Suggested Thoughts:

- Sacraments and the Eucharist in particular, are not “magic”...
- They do not work automatically...
- The dispositions and attitudes of the recipients are essential...
- The sacraments are “signs” of a deep spiritual realities, namely :
God’s presence within us, the Spirit of God building a community of believers.
The family of God’s children. the Mystical Body of Christ.
- Those realities should be present...If they is not there the sacraments turn into are false signs...deceptive signs...
- The reality represented by the Eucharist is the “unity” of all Christians...of all men...All partake of the same table...of the same banquet...
- Many grains of wheat, but one loaf. Many grapes crushed to fill one cup with wine...
- Christ is the bread broken for me and you, for us and all...
- We too have to be the bread of Christ to be broken for all...
- Participation in the Eucharist means participation of life...in everybody’s life...joys and sorrows...successes and failures...
- The Eucharist has essentially a “social” dimension. We are all “one”... interrelated...one body. The “Body of Christ”...

APPENDIX Activities

- Activities may be based on the lyrics of the song “The Baker Woman”
- Comment on the lyrics of the poem “The Baker Woman”, .
- Distribute the different stanzas of the song “The Baker Woman” among the participants.
- You can make smaller groups especially for the occasion.
- The activities are left to the creativity of the group or groups
- Each group will have to prepare an activity based on his stanza or stanzas e.g.
a role play, collage, dance drama, a tableau, a photo language story, or any other of their own.
- Each group will present his creation to the house.
- After each presentation, there will be a short evaluation and discussion.

THE BAKER WOMAN

1. The Baker woman in her humble lodge
Received a grain of wheat from God.
For nine whole months the grain she stored;
Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**Make us the bread, Mary, Mary.
Make us the bread, We need to be fed.**

2. The baker woman took the road which led
to Bethlehem, the house of bread,
To knead the bread she labored thro’ the night,
And brought it forth about midnight.

**Bake us the bread, Mary, Mary.
Bake us the bread, we need to be fed.**

3. She baked the bread for thirty years
By the fire of her love and the salt of her tears,
By the warmth of a heart so tender and bright,
And the bread was golden-brown and white.

**Bring us the bread, Mary, Mary,
Bring us the bread, we need to be fed.**

4. After thirty years the bread was done;
It was taken to town by her only Son!
The soft white bread to be given free
To the hungry people of Galilee.

**Give us the bread, Mary, Mary.
Give us the bread, we need to be fed.**

- 5 For thirty coins the bread was sold,
And a thousand teeth so cold, so cold
Tore it to pieces on a Friday noon
When the sun turned black and red the moon.

**Break us the bread, Mary, Mary.
Break us the bread, we need to be fed.**

6. And when she saw the bread so white,
The living bread she had made at night
Devoured as wolves might devour a sheep,
The baker woman began to weep.

**Weep for the bread, Mary, Mary.
Weep for the bread, we need to be fed.**

7. But the baker woman's only son
Appeared to his friends when three days had run
On the road to which Emmaus led,
And they knew him in the breaking of bread.

**Lift up your head, Mary, Mary,
Lift up your head, for now we've been fed.**

(Translated from the French by Hubert Richards.)

Closure: End the exercise with a group prayer or a Eucharist.