

April 23, 2017

## Heart of the World XX

Like the heart in the body, the very center and life-moving force of the Church is the Eucharist. All of the other Sacraments and the whole life of Grace and the Church in the world flow from it and lead back to it. This series is organized around that fact.

100 years ago, in his third apparition, this Angel was holding a consecrated Host and Chalice filled with the precious Blood of Our Lord. He taught the children a prayer:

*Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference, by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I pray for the conversion of poor sinners.*

In this part of the series, we will take this prayer piece by piece.

1) *Outrages* are serious acts of blasphemy and dishonor toward the Holy Eucharist (stealing and desecrating, etc.).

2) *Sacrileges* are the deliberate violation of Our Lord in the Eucharist. Examples are forcing Him to yield Himself to us unto our condemnation when we receive Communion when we should not. (1Cor 11:27-30) Profaning Him in the Eucharist like purposely not keeping the fast, or chewing gum while receiving Communion. As an Extraordinary Minister doing *anything* other than bringing Him to the sick or homebound (stopping for coffee or errands, to talk to friends, listening to the radio in the car, etc.) while bearing Him on our person.

This week we come to Indifference.

Indifferences are the foundation of these other violations and make them possible. Indifference happens when we do not focus our attention on, and respect towards the Lord (specifically, but not exclusively, in the Eucharist). There are many ways to be indifferent. Almost all of us have fallen into this at some point.

*Allowing* our minds to wander in distraction at Mass or Adoration. Talking needlessly in His presence. Sitting passively and not interiorly participating at Mass by choosing to do anything that keeps us from following the prayers and action of the Mass. Not showing the respect due to Our Lord by dressing in a proper manner. Failing to genuflect (or at least bow) when we enter and leave His Presence. There are many, many others.

Indifference shows a lukewarm heart. A heart that is present out of compliance to a rule and not because of love. A heart that is complacent and ungrateful. The very worse (and most common) offenders are almost always clergy. Jesus tells us how He feels about this in Rev 3:14-18. Our Church in America is most certainly best described as the church in Laodicea.

**Fr. Michael**