

# Why Do We worship?

“... the sacred and holy Sacrifice of the Mass is not a Sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving only, or a mere commemoration of the Sacrifice performed on the cross, but also a truly propitiatory Sacrifice, by which God is appeased and rendered propitious to us.” (*Catechism of Trent, The Sacrament of the Eucharist* pg. 164)

## In Scripture

“And Jesus saith to them: **Whose image and inscription is this?** They say to him: Caesar’s. Then he saith to them: **Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God, the things that are God’s.**” (St. Matthew 22:20-21)

“Jesus said to them: **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment.**” (St. Matthew 22:37-38)

“**When therefore you shall see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place: he that readeth let him understand.**” (St. Matthew 24:15)

“**Watch ye therefore, because you know not what hour your Lord will come.**” (St. Matthew 24:42)

“**For she in pouring this ointment upon my body, hath done it for my burial.**” (St. Matthew 26:12)

And he took bread, when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying “**This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**”

## According to Saints

“If, therefore, with a pure heart, a lively faith, and affected with an inward sorrow for our transgressions, we immolate and offer this most holy victim, we shall, without doubt, obtain mercy from the Lord, and grace in time of need; for so delighted is the Lord with the odor of this victim that, bestowing on us the gift of grace and repentance, He pardons our sins.”  
(*Catechism of Trent, The Sacrament of the Eucharist*, pg. 164)

“It is indeed better (as no one ever could deny) that men should be led to worship God by teaching, than that they should be driven to it by fear of punishment or pain; but it does not follow that because the former course produces the better men, therefore those who do not yield to it should be neglected. For many have found advantage (as we have proved, and are daily proving by actual experiment), in being first compelled by fear or pain, so that they might afterwards be influenced by teaching, or might follow out in act what they had already learned in word.” (St. Augustine)

“The Holy Catholic Church teaches that it is not possible to worship God truly except in Her and asserts that all who are outside of Her will not be saved.” (St. Gregory the Great)

“I have as yet said nothing concerning the Sun of all spiritual exercises, which is the most holy, sacred, and royal sacrifice and Sacrament of the Eucharist, the center of the Christian religion, the heart of devotion, the soul of piety; an ineffable mystery which embraces the untold depths of divine charity, and in which God, giving Himself to us, bestows upon us freely all His favors and graces.

“Prayer, united to this Divine Sacrifice, has unutterable power, so that in it the soul overflows with celestial grace, as leaning upon her Beloved, He fills her with fragrance and spiritual sweetness, until, in the words of Solomon, she is like a pillar of smoke of aromatical spices, of myrrh and frankincense, and of all powders of the perfumer. Endeavor, if possible, to be present daily at the Holy Mass, that, together with the priest, you may offer the Sacrifice of your Redeemer to God His Father in your own behalf and that of the whole Church. The holy angels are always present in great number to honor this holy mystery, St. Chrysostom says; and we may hope to be made partakers of their holiness, when we are gathered together with them to the same intent: and the choirs of the Church Triumphant as well as the Church Militant join themselves to Our Lord in this divine action, that with Him, in Him, and by Him, we may as it were take God by storm, and obtain His mercy and love. What a privilege to be united in so blessed and might an action!” (St. Francis de Sales, *Introduction to the Devout Life*)