

> Dearly Beloved,

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> “Do this in remembrance of me”. With these words of Jesus at the Last Supper in the Upper Room I began last Sunday’s Grace Moments video message. They are also part of our Holy Eucharist Liturgy. I hadn’t spoken these words standing in the Sacred space where three months ago we were gathering together at the Lord’s Table for the meal of his Love for us.

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> This time that space was empty except for Scott taping the video and me. The whole experience simply underscored how much I miss sharing that meal with you and our Risen Christ. In these past three months I’ve been thinking a lot about the words of Jesus and what he meant when he said, in fact commanded us, to “Do this in remembrance of me”.

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> It was a command for his disciples and us to “Do” something and to do it regularly, continuously. Was it just the Supper he was referring to, or something more? We obviously haven’t been able to do the Holy Eucharist regularly and I suspect that the first disciples weren’t able to either. We call the Holy Eucharist a Sacrament, an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. I think that Jesus is commanding us to live Sacramentally, to live life as outward and visible signs of the Grace of God within us. To do life, everything, in remembrance of him.

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> To do everything in remembrance of Jesus is to not forget who you are and to whom you belong. To live in remembrance of Jesus is to not forget that your purpose for living is to bear the beams of his love for all people, it is to be a messenger of his mercy and compassion for our friends and our enemies. It is to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor (who is anyone in need) as our selves. It is to strive for justice for all people and to respect the dignity of every human being and to walk humbly with God. To live this way is to become a living sacrament, to be celebrating Holy Eucharist every day, not just when we are together on Sundays.

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> “Do this in remembrance of me” can also mean, “always stay connected to me”. I think that’s what St. Paul meant when he encouraged you to pray continuously, to do all of life in remembrance of Jesus connected, centered on him, led and empowered by his Spirit, his love filling and overflowing from you. He promised he would be with you always in life and death. His presence makes all places Holy places and every moment of your life sacred. He has told us that when we are responding to others in need, those suffering, with care we are at the same time doing it to him.

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> All of this can mean that although we cannot “Do this in remembrance of me”, as we will when we return to worship in our familiar Sacred gathering space, we can still have Holy Eucharist every day of our lives if we are willing to live Sacramentally, if we are willing to live as he commanded us to live, with him in us and we in him as a natural continuation of the meal we will have at his Table.

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> I remind you and in doing so remind myself that Jesus has never told us to do something because we should. What he has told us is “if you love me you will obey, you will do, what I command you”. If we love him we will do life in remembrance of him who first loves us. How you live in all circumstances can be a sign of your love for Jesus who first and always loves you.

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> In Christ’s Love, Fr. Bob