

First Sunday of Easter

April 9, 2023

He Took Bread and Wine

How can we ever fully enter the profound wonder of Eucharist if we don't connect our own lives, our own work and energy, to it? When we look upon the elements on the altar, the bread and wine, do any of us truly see them as the fruits of our labors and the works of our hands? Do we see them as the elements of God's creation transformed by human labor into bread and wine, and now offered back to God to be transformed again into the substance and essence of Christ? Do we see them as the collective gifts of the gathered community being offered up, consecrated, and shared? Do we see them as the circular unity between Creator, creating, and created?

Living with Real Presence: Eucharist As An Approach to Life
S. James Meyer, 23rd Publications

Questions To Ponder:

Have you ever been gifted with a homemade gift? How

What is the work of your human hands that you bring with you to the Eucharist you each day or each week?

How would you sum up the journey you have experienced during this Easter season?

Lectio Divina: Read John 3:16-18

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

What word or phrase from this Scripture passage most resonates with you?

How will this reading shape your life this week as you continue the journey beyond this season of Easter?

Challenge for the Week: Find a special place in nature this week in which to spend some quiet time. Will you be so inspired as to commit to one new or different way to living in peace and harmony with God's creation, in relationship with God's people? Bring this special connection, this special place, the special commitment you made, to Mass this week.