Sacramentum Caritatis

Sacramentum Caritatis â€" 'The Sacrament of Charity' â€" is an Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Benedict XVI which was published on 22nd February 2007. It takes as its theme †The Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Church's Life an Mission'. The Exhortation contains the Holy Father's reflections on the Ordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops that took place from 2nd to 23rd October 2005.

Bishops from around the world gathered in Rome for that Synod to mark the conclusion to the Year of the Eucharist that had been inaugurated by Pope John Paul II. His successor conducted the Synod and Sacramentum Caritatis details many of the themes and issues that were discussed around the Most Holy Eucharist.

Pope Benedict XVI divides the Exhortation into three major parts:

• The Eucharist, a Mystery to be Believed •Â Â Â The Eucharist, a Mystery to be Celebrated

•Â Â Â The Eucharist, a Mystery to be Lived

Click here to access the text of the Apostolic Exhortation on the website of the Holy See. The work can be purchased online with the Catholic Truth Society and check availability at the CTS bookstands in the parish Churches. Carl E. Olson of Ignatius Insight has written an article highlighting some of the main issues discussed in the Exhortation.

Archbishop Raymond Burke of St. Louis has produced a fourteen part commentary on Sacramentum Caritatis. His Grace has kindly agreed to make his reflections available for downloading. Simply click on the appropriate section below:

Part I

Part II

Part III

Part IV

Part V

Part VII

Part VIII

Part IX

Part X

Part XI

Part XII

Part XIII

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