

UNDERSTANDING The Word among us Press

When we come to Mass, we have a chance to offer God our suffering and our problems. As the bread and wine are lifted up to God by the priest, you can also offer your pain to God—Nothing is too small or trivial."

FIVE LIFE - CHANGING REASONS TO GO TO MASS (flyer) www.wau.org

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Catholic Sacrifices for Sin



Lent is the moment of Sacrifices

Rev. Barry Stechschulte 3/18/2011, The Daily Standard, Celina OH

During Lent ...





"Every year my mom corrected me and said I should be giving up something that really costs me. So, I would end up giving up TV after school or soda pop. And she would tell me to

> **'Offer that little sacrifice** to God for all the souls out there who needed His grace more than I.'

"I took those lessons from my mom to heart and ever since Lent has always had a special place in the practice of my give up TV (Like my daily ESPN fix) or soda pop (nothing goes better with a burger and fries than a cold Dr. Pepper).

> I **offer these little sacrifices** not so much because they have value in themselves, but

> ***UNITED to Christ's sacrifice** on the **Cross**, they take on a **redemptive** value in the whole economy of salvation.

"That's the key: We can do little if nothing on our own.

But by UNITING it to Jesus's offering we can really make a difference.

"This fruit of the Incarnation—that God became one with us by becoming one of us. He sacrificed Himself in a human body and soul, in our place.

> **Now he** allows us to **UNITE our sacrifices** of every day to His.

"Not that Christ's sacrifice was insufficient. It was not. But **Christ** wants us to **participate** in our **salvation**

> Because He participated in our human nature. So, **our little offering** does matter to us and to Jesus.

"At the Catholic Mass, the priest pours a few drops of water into the cup of wine to be consecrated into the Blood of Christ.



This symbolizes our little sacrifices offered ALONG WITH the Blood of the Lamb on the altar.

For it is at the altar that the one redemptive sacrifice of Christ is made present for us, and it is the best moment to offer our sacrifices."

The Keys of Heaven Ministries Tracts, Given to you by:

Transform Suffering into Joy

Michael La Corte, SOUL Winter 2011, pg. 3, 4; SOUL@BLUEARMY.COM

"Without the Consequences of Suffering, we wouldn't learn to choose Wisely ... Often, suffering appears to be random, severe, and unfair ... however we can do our best to minimize our suffering and ... of others by following God's

"We can transform our human suffering and ... of others by following God's path.

> *We can transform our human suffering into Eternal Salvation for ourselves and for others.

"Our Lady of Fatima brought this message to us through the three shepherd children when she asked them on May 13, 1917,



'Will you offer yourselves to God, and bear with submission all the sufferings He sends you, in reparation for the sins that offend Him, and for the conversion of sinners?'

"Towards the end of Jacinta's life Our Lady asked her if she wanted to come to Heaven or suffer more from her very painful disease.

> Jacinta made her choice and took great joy in learning that the Blessed Mother would send her to two more hospitals, not to get better but to continue to **suffer for** the conversion of sinners.

"We shouldn't seek suffering and we should work to overcome it, but as we encounter it or even life's daily aggravations,

> We should offer them to God as acts of penance for the reparation of sin.

"These small acts transform something unpleasant into something spiritually good and we should allow it to bring us joy, because



By accepting suffering in the way that God has asked, we will be **serving** God, our fellow man and working toward our Salvation."

Mary is called "The Gate of Heaven because no one can enter that blessed Kingdom without passing through her—As the moon standing between the sun and the earth, transmits to the earth whatever light it receives from the sun, so Mary stands between God and human beings and pours His grace upon us." -St. Bonaventure