

**A Biblical Study of  
*The Catechism*  
*of the Catholic Church:*  
Bible Answers to the Most  
Frequently Asked Questions  
about Catholic Beliefs and Practices**

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**IS CATHOLIC EUCHARIST  
NECESSARY FOR  
SALVATION?**

**DOES THE WINE AND  
BREAD LITERALLY  
TRANSFORM TO THE  
BLOOD AND FLESH OF  
JESUS?**

“Holy Communion because by this sacrifice we unite ourselves to Christ.” (CCC 1331)

“Holy Mass (Missa) because the liturgy in which the mystery of salvation is accomplished concludes with the sending forth (missio) of the faithful.” (CCC 1332)

“At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that, by the words of Christ and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, become Christ’s Body and Blood.” (CCC 1333)

“bread and wine which, by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the words of Christ, have become the body and blood of Christ. Christ is thus really and mysteriously made present.” (CCC 1357)

“the very blood which he  
‘poured out for man for the  
forgiveness of sins.’” (CCC  
1365)

“its salutary power be applied  
to the forgiveness of sins we  
daily commit” (CCC 1366)

“it has always been the conviction of the Church of God...that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation” (CCC 1376)

[NOTE: the references to this doctrine are historical writings 350+ years after Jesus' crucifixion]

John 6:35 “Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.’” (ESV)

John 6:40 “For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” (ESV)

John 6:47–51 “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.”



1 Corinthians 11:25–29 “In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” [26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. [27] Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. [28] Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. [29] For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.” (ESV)

Why does Jesus  
compare the manna  
in the desert with  
himself as “the bread  
of life” in John 6:35?

What does He mean by never hunger and never thirst? Does He mean the Eucharist elements will satisfy a literal hunger and thirst? Or is He describing spiritual salvation, peace, and life through belief and trust in Jesus as the Son of God?

What does Jesus  
describe in John  
6:40 & John 6:47 as  
bringing eternal life?

What does 1 John 4:13 say is the evidence of union with Christ?

How does this counter the Catholic concept that union with God can only happen through the Eucharist (CCC 1331)?

Why does 1 Corinthians  
11:25–29 say eat and  
drink the “bread and cup”  
but then switch to “guilty  
concerning the body and  
blood” and then back to  
“bread and cup” again?

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