



# The Offertory & the Consecration

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# The liturgy of the eucharist-the offertory & consecration

- **Task 1:** Watch this video of part of the mass, up until 7min 3secs (when the congregation stand up):
- <https://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/receive/liturgy-of-the-eucharist/>

# The Offertory at Mass



Understand what happens at the Offertory.  
Think about the offerings we can make.

## The Offertory

At the Offertory, when we see people taking the bread and wine up to the altar, we offer our lives to Jesus. The bread and the wine are symbols of our self-offering. They represent the gift we make of ourselves to God. For example, we can offer:

- the times we have helped others,
- the successes, good things that have happened,
- our disappointments and difficulties.



All these gifts are offered to God the Father when the priest says:



*Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have the bread we offer  
you:*

*fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.*

We reply: **Blessed be God forever.**

*Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the wine we offer you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.*

We reply: **Blessed be God forever.**

The gift of ourselves and all that we do to help others, God transforms into something beautiful. In return, we receive God's love and grace.

a) Explain what happens at the Offertory of the Mass.  
Why is it very important?

b) Give examples of the offerings we can make to Jesus.



## Task 2

Written response to these two questions.



# The Consecration



Know what happens at the Consecration.  
Reflect on what this means for us.

## What happens at the Consecration?

At the Consecration, Jesus becomes truly present in the bread and wine. This is the way God reaches out to us. He gives Himself to us in the gift of Jesus, who is truly God and truly human.



But how do I know Jesus is  
present when I can't see him?  
Tony

We cannot see everything that exists. We do not see our intelligence, yet we know we have it. We do not see our mind but, we can experience its effects because we can think and make decisions.

It is only by the gift of faith that we can believe in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. At the Last Supper, when Jesus gave the bread to the Apostles, he said, "This is my body". When he gave them the cup of wine to drink, he said, "This is my blood". Jesus can bring about what he says.

## The Consecration

At the Consecration, we remember and participate in the Last Supper, which Jesus had with the Apostles before he was crucified. The miraculous change in the bread and wine is brought about by the power of the Holy Spirit.



We believe Jesus is present when the priest raises the sacred host and says,

"Take this, all of you and eat of it,  
for this is my body,  
which will be given up for you".



We believe Jesus is present when the chalice is raised and the priest says,



"Take this, all of you and drink from it,  
for this is the chalice of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal Covenant,  
which will be poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins".

We still see bread, we still see wine, but with our faith we say, Jesus is really and truly present and he is God.

## Jesus makes the perfect sacrifice

It is at the consecration in the Mass when we remember the sacrifice that Jesus made when he freely offered his life on the cross. He handed over his life in love to the Father as the most perfect sacrifice to take away the sins of the world. His love was so perfect that it overcame death and he rose triumphantly.



Now Jesus, in the person of the priest, offers the sacrifice of his Body and Blood and invites us to offer ourselves in thanksgiving to the Father. The priest says,

"Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever."

We reply: AMEN.

### Activities

1. Look back at Tony's question on page 54 and write an answer to it.
2. Think of a way to explain to someone who is not a Catholic what we believe about the Eucharist and why we believe it. You will need to make links with the Last Supper.

## Task 3

Written response to  
these two questions.



## THE OFFERTORY

### Question 1

Explain what happens at the Offertory of the Mass. Why is it so important?

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### Question 2

Give examples of the offerings we can give Jesus.

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## THE CONSECRATION

### Question 1

Respond to Tony's question, 'But how do I know Jesus is present when I can't see Him?'

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Think of a way to explain to someone who is not a Catholic what we believe about the Eucharist and why we believe it. You will need to make links to the Last Supper.

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