

Diocese of Tyler
December 2007

Communion in Christ

The Church in this world is a living communion in Christ. This communion in Christ is the People of God joined together through the waters of Baptism and is most fully realized in participation in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. This communion, while present around the world is always manifest in a particular geographic place in a community of Christians joined in communion with a legitimate successor of the Apostles and in living communion also with the successor of Peter.

Three Processes

Christian Initiation: “initiation into the life of the Sacraments and integration into the life of the community.” To assist people in response to the invitation of God to draw closer to Him through initiation into the life of the Sacraments and integration into the life of the Church. Fullness of Christian Initiation is found in the visible communion of the Catholic Church.

Liturgical Renewal: “Fall in love with the Liturgy.” To foster a genuine falling in love with the Liturgy. Encountering the Liturgy as the great expression of the Trinity's love which brought forth the plan to bring redemption to humanity. The liturgy is the great work of Jesus Christ done on behalf of the human family. We participate in the liturgy by our Baptism; in love we participate fully, consciously and actively. The liturgy in this world is an experience of our communion in Christ.

Call to Holiness and Discipleship: “Be Holy as your Heavenly Father is Holy.” Deeply written on the human heart is a desire to be holy that can only be fulfilled through Jesus Christ. Baptism immerses the human person into the life of the Trinity and into the Paschal Mystery. As Baptized Christians we are called to live as disciples of Jesus Christ; following Him who is the way, the truth and the life. As Catholics we are invited to respond to the call of discipleship by consciously choosing to grow in our knowledge and love of God and in our actions that put love into service.

New Evangelization:

“Jesus Christ is the event of evangelization.” An event of evangelization is a moment in a persons life is an experience or encounter in which a person, in the midst of their life circumstances, is opened to God's grace. Generally, it is only with help from the Body of Christ which is the living Church that this seed of grace can bare fruit to the greater glory of God.