

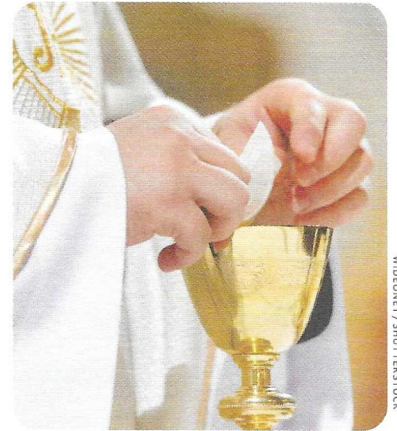
Dear Padre,

At Mass, why does the priest put a part of the consecrated host into the chalice?

The celebration of the Eucharist was known as “the breaking of the bread” in the Acts of the Apostles (2:42). “The gesture of breaking bread done by Christ at the Last Supper, which in apostolic times gave the entire Eucharistic Action its name, signifies that the many faithful are made one body (1 Corinthians 10:17) by receiving Communion from the one Bread of Life, which is Christ...” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 83). At Mass, bread is broken and wine is poured for Communion, just as the Body of Christ was broken and the Blood of Christ was poured out on the cross. In this fraction rite, we recognize Christ in “the breaking of the bread,” as did his disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 23:30–31).

After the fraction of the bread, the priest places a small piece of it into the chalice “to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation, namely, of the Body of Jesus Christ, living and glorious” (*GIRM* 83). This rite is called the commingling.

While the *Agnus Dei* (“Lamb of God”) accompanies the fraction of the bread, the priest quietly recites a prayer of preparation for Communion “so that he may fruitfully receive the Body and Blood of Christ. The faithful do the same, praying silently” (*GIRM* 84). ●



WIDEORBIT/SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Sisters and brothers, I am convinced that “the world can be seen more clearly from the peripheries.” We must listen to the peripheries, open the doors to them and allow them to participate. The suffering of the world is better understood alongside those who suffer.

**FOURTH WORLD MEETING OF POPULAR MOVEMENTS,
OCTOBER 16, 2021**

MONDAY

January 30
Weekday
Heb 11:32–40
Mk 5:1–20

TUESDAY

January 31
St. John Bosco, Priest

Heb 12:1–4
Mk 5:21–43

WEDNESDAY

February 1
Weekday
Heb 12:4–7, 11–15
Mk 6:1–6

THURSDAY

February 2
Presentation of the Lord
Mal 3:1–4
Heb 2:14–18
Lk 2:22–40 or
Lk 2:22–32

FRIDAY

February 3
Weekday
Heb 13:1–8
Mk 6:14–29

SATURDAY

February 4
Weekday
Heb 13:15–17,
20–21
Mk 6:30–34

SUNDAY

February 5
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 58:7–10
1 Cor 2:1–5
Mt 5:13–16

Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

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