

# Liturgy Lessons: 2018



## episode #2: "Using Our Intellect in Worship"

The Second Vatican Council, in the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, called for "active participation" on the part of the Faithful. As the document cites (#14) "...Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that **fully conscious, and active participation** in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people" (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism. "

True worship consists in an acknowledgement of God as our Creator and Father and of our total dependence on him in every respect. Human beings must recognize that we are entirely dependent on God for everything. Even our existence is God's gift.

### THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH

+ "Liturgy is the 'action' of the *whole Christ (Christus tofus)*. Those who even now celebrate it without signs are already in the heavenly liturgy, where celebration is wholly communion and feast." *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)*, no. 1136

### FOR YOUR REFLECTION

How can we use our intellects to participate more fully in the mass?

If every heartbeat is a gift from God, what should be our response?

### FOR FURTHER READING

Virgil Michel, OSB, *The Liturgy of the Church*,  
(New York: The MacMillan Company,  
1937).

*Today's Liturgy Lesson is one part of a thirty three part package intended to help us understand and embrace our experience of the Sunday Mass. Past lessons will be available upon request.*  
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