

The Eucharist, My Only Good¹

St. Peter Julian Eymard to the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament
No date

The time has come for me to decide whether I want to be a Servant of the Blessed Sacrament or to serve Jesus in another way. Once made, this choice and decision will be forever. I want only one thing, to be a humble and faithful servant of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, and to prove my sincerity. I choose him and take him henceforth for my only good.

This is why:

1. **The adorable Eucharist will be my starting point**, my rule for judging all creation. No object, science, art, person will be esteemed unless they have some connection of service, virtue, love with the divine Eucharist. What is outside of this will be indifferent to me. What is contrary to his service, his glory, or his love will be my bitter enemy.

2. **The adorable Eucharist will be the center of my love** and my life. I will love myself only in Jesus Eucharistic. I will see exercises of piety only as service of the most Holy Eucharist, virtues only as servants of the Eucharist, sanctity and the most sublime perfection only as natural and worthy conditions of the Eucharistic service of Jesus, life as a precious time of service to the adorable Eucharist, the greatest graces, the most excellent gifts of God as but the necessary means of serving Jesus Hostia. Hence, I will love the benefactor more than the gifts, the creator more than his creation, the savior more than my salvation, Jesus more than heaven or my happiness.

3. **The adorable Eucharist will be my only pleasure on earth.** I want no other feasts but his feasts, no songs but his, no joys but his, no satisfaction but his, no other Tabor but the Eucharistic Tabor. Consequently, all that relates to the service, the worship, the glory, the love of the divine Eucharist will be pleasing to me and make me happy. How could I desire and admire anything other than the marvel of marvels, the adorable Host? How could I be happy outside of this Eucharistic paradise, rejoice far from that tree of life, sing on the foreign banks of Babylon? (cf. Ps 136:4) Absolutely not! To be far from the divine Eucharist is to be in exile, and a painful exile; it is a suffering to be without the Eucharist, an agony, the sadness of Adam and Eve outside of paradise, it is a living death. Yet with the divine Eucharist, with this sun of love, all is beautiful, all is good. Poverty becomes royal, obedience divine, purity the wedding ring, the cross the scepter, mortification the royal mantle. At the Eucharistic Cenacle is the wealth of divine love, as the wealth of glory is in heaven. The Cenacle is my wealth, I want no other.

❖ Reading: *Imitation*, Book 4, chap. 4:16.

Point for reflection:

This reflection and the three following make up a series which served as a vocation retreat. Here he proposes the Eucharist as the center of the life of a Servant of the Blessed Sacrament. How is that done?

¹ Number 160. *L'Eucharistie, mon unique bien.*

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