

The Transfiguration of our Lord

THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

So we have, in a brief way, covered the first point that deals with this Sacrament's essence. Now examine further the effectiveness and benefits that really caused the Sacrament to be instituted. This is its most necessary part, so that we may know what we should seek and gain there. This is plain and clear from the words just mentioned, "This is My body and blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Briefly, that is like saying, "For this reason we go to the Sacrament: there we receive such a treasure by and in which we gain forgiveness of sins." "Why so?" "Because the words stand here and give us this. Therefore, Christ asks me to eat and drink, so that this treasure may be my own and may benefit me as a sure pledge and token. In fact, it is the very same treasure that is appointed for me against my sins, death, and every disaster."

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