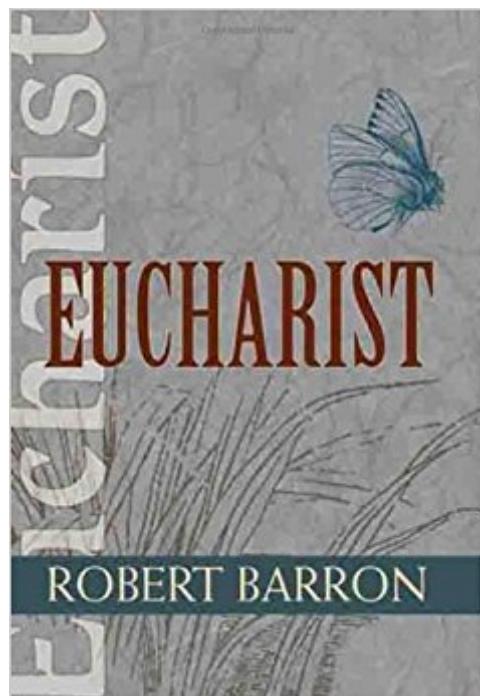


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# Eucharist (Catholic Spirituality For Adults)



## **Synopsis**

A master theologian and popular Catholic author offers inspiring insights into the mystery of Christ's presence in our lives. As festive as the film "Babette's Feast" and as profound as the work of Ronald Knox, this fresh look at the Eucharist brings to light the meanings of meal, sacrifice, and real presence in our lives.

## **Book Information**

Series: Catholic Spirituality for Adults

Paperback: 141 pages

Publisher: Orbis Books (September 30, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570757224

ISBN-13: 978-1570757228

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 60 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #109,859 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Christian Books & Bibles > Worship & Devotion > Sacraments #50 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Roman Catholicism #121 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Salvation Theory

## **Customer Reviews**

ROBERT BARRON is professor of systematic theology at the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. He is the author of many articles and books, including *And Now I See*, *The Strangest Way*, and *The Priority of Christ*. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

First, I want to disclose that I am not a Roman Catholic, but a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. I found this book facinating, insightful, and deeply enriching. Aside from the actual "how" Jesus becomes really present in the elements of bread and wine, (and the author treats the views of Luther vs. Thomas Aquinas very respectfully) there is nothing that I felt was contrary to Lutheran teaching. In a small volume, the themes of sacred meal, sacrifice and real presence were treated on such a profound and faith affirming level. In addition, the discussions of biblical texts offered many new insights and symbolism that I had not been aware of, such as the image of the mother hen gathering her chicks as not only an image of love and care, which I had recognized, but

as taking part in sacrificial imagery as well. I really enjoyed the discussion of the power of words, and how God speaks things into being and how that relates to Jesus' words at the last supper transforming bread and wine into his body and blood. My son was recently confirmed in the Lutheran Church, and one of the questions he had to answer was what gifts does God provide to us in the Lord's supper? The answer is eternal life, forgiveness of sins and salvation. I thought this book did a tremendous job of demonstrating how those gifts flow because of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Finally, the discussion gave me hope that on this aspect of theology, which is really of central importance to the faith, Lutheran and Roman Catholic unity may not be far off.

This book is one of the very best I have ever read about the mystery of the Eucharist. This is one of the most mis-understood, yet powerful mysteries of the Catholic Church. Most folks fail to realize what the Truth is about the Real Presence of Christ because of lack of knowledge. This book explains it simply but thoroughly, Not difficult to read at all. Barron is very good at guiding his readers through the channels of sound theology--but never let's us get lost! His teaching is based primarily on the Bible, but he does a fine job of including the teachings of early Church fathers as well as 21st century theologians. As he brings it all together, one cannot help feeling a sense of awe as we realize we are in the midst of a mystery established by Christ Himself 2000 years ago. This book should be passed out in every Parish!

The video that accompanies this book is amazing. It's just Father Barron doing what he does best, teaching people about the faith. This is a concise, highly informative, and the most complete examination of the Eucharist I've ever encountered. Catholics and non-Catholics alike can learn a lot from either the book or the movie. Whether you call it the Eucharist, Consecrated Host, Lord's Supper, Communion, or the Lamb's Feast, you will learn so much about the history of Christ's gift of this sacrament that you never knew before. Father Barron really brings home the meaning of the meaning of the Eucharist in a way that will renew your faith.

A wonderful work on the Eucharist - divided into three key sections: (1) The banquet meal with God, (2) Sacrifice, and (3) The real presence. The author uses wonderful analogies, authoritative quotes, and set up a very clear, logical apology/explanation of the Eucharist. I used this book to help Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to better understand the Eucharist. While they found it beneficial, many struggled with the vocabulary. I found it to be a very easy read but I have a Masters in Theology and I am an ordained deacon. This is also an excellent book for Catholics to

share with other Christians that do not understand the Mass or our belief in the Eucharist.

This book features the different aspects of the Eucharist, develops the background, shows the problems of some ways of expressing the real presence of our Lord. I appreciate especially the connection between the Word of God in creation and the Power of the Word of God in transubstantiation. Using St. Thomas Aquinas' logical way of answering questions was appropriate.

The vivid presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist of the Word and the Eucharist of the Body and Blood becomes but one God incarnated, yet humbled himself into Eternal Meal left for us to feed on. Jesus says that his body is real food and his blood is real drink; therefore, we eat him as animals devour not as humans eat. The meal has been given and we eat it as it was commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

All was as advertised. Loved it.

I have read two of Robert Barron 's books now, Catholicism and this book. Beside being held captive by the wonderful way father writes, I found my faith growing like I've never known. The way the book ties the Bible, history and logic together is so faith strengthening, I would recommend this book to anyone who wants the challenge of really finding your faith and in so doing, finding your God.

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