

On Holy Thursday we celebrate the gift of the presence of the Lord in the Eucharist, the priesthood and within the loving sacrificial acts of Jesus disciples. The priesthood of the Lord's New Covenant is not vicarious to do what those of the faith community can't do but representative, to act in the name of the community doing what every member of the community has been commissioned to do by their baptism. The dynamic presence of the Lord present in the Eucharistic Liturgy empowers the Lord's like active presence within His disciples' acts of sacrificial service and the static presence of the Lord honored in devotion to the Eucharist reserved within the tabernacle.

In the Gospel of John, within the account of the Last Supper neither is bread taken, blessed, broken and shared nor is the cup of wine taken, blessed and shared. In John's Last Supper the feet of the betrayer, denier and the other apostles are washed by Jesus. Jesus upon the Washing of the Feet says: "... as I have done for you, you should also do." Further into that supper evening Jesus proclaims: "I give you a new commandment: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (JN13: 34) May the presence of the Lord be seen and revered in the loving sacrificial acts of his disciples, you and me; as we, His disciples, see and reverence the Eucharistic presence of the Lord in the body and the blood of the Lord, within the Eucharistic bread that is taken, blessed, broken and shared and the Eucharistic cup of wine that is taken, blessed and shared.

Fr. John