

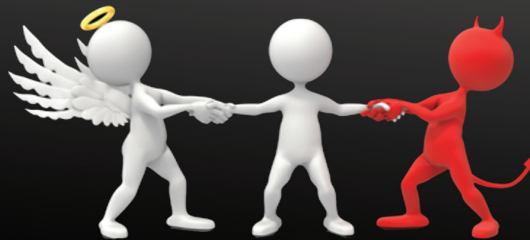
THE EFFECTS OF HOLY COMMUNION

St. Thomas Aquinas speaks of the effects of Holy Communions that are worthily made (in a state of sanctifying grace).



The effects of Holy Communions that are made in a state of mortal sin (having lost the state of sanctifying grace).

GOOD



BAD

► IN HOLY COMMUNION WE RECEIVE GOD HIMSELF, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ARE UNITED TO GOD THROUGH HOLY COMMUNION. THERE CAN BE NO GREATER HONOR AND GIFT THAN THIS!

► HOLY COMMUNION NOT ONLY GIVES US GRACES, BUT ALSO THE SOURCE AND AUTHOR OF ALL GRACE.

► HOLY COMMUNION UNITES US TO THE PASSION OF CHRIST AND STRENGTHENS US TO CARRY THE CROSS.

► HOLY COMMUNION IS OUR SPIRITUAL FOOD THAT GIVES US THE STRENGTH TO PRACTICE THE VIRTUES NEEDED FOR A TRULY CHRISTIAN AND SPIRITUAL LIFE.

► HOLY COMMUNION IS A SACRAMENT OF CHARITY AND UNITY AND UNITES US TO GOD AND EACH OTHER.

► HOLY COMMUNION IS A PLEDGE OF ETERNAL LIFE. "I AM THE LIVING BREAD WHICH CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN. IF ANY MAN EAT OF THIS BREAD, HE SHALL LIVE FOR EVER" (JOHN 6:51-52).

► HOLY COMMUNION FORGIVES OUR VENIAL SINS.

► HOLY COMMUNION HELPS TO PRESERVE FROM TEMPTATIONS TO FUTURE MORTAL AND VENIAL SINS.

► WHOEVER RECEIVES THIS SACRAMENT WHILE IN MORTAL SIN, IS GUILTY OF SACRILEGE, BECAUSE HE PROFANES THE SACRAMENT AND THEREFORE HE SINS MORTALLY. (St. Thomas Aquinas)

► THE WORST SINS ARE THOSE AGAINST GOD. THEN, NEXT COME SINS AGAINST THE SACRAMENTS. FINALLY, THERE ARE SINS AGAINST SELF AND OTHER PERSONS.

► "WHOSOEVER SHALL EAT THIS BREAD, OR DRINK THE CHALICE OF THE LORD UNWORTHILY, SHALL BE GUILTY OF THE BODY AND OF THE BLOOD OF THE LORD. BUT LET A MAN PROVE HIMSELF: AND SO LET HIM EAT OF THAT BREAD, AND DRINK OF THE CHALICE. FOR HE THAT EATETH AND DRINKETH UNWORTHILY, EATETH AND DRINKETH JUDGMENT TO HIMSELF, NOT DISCERNING THE BODY OF THE LORD" (1 Cor. 11:27-29).

► ST. AMBROSE SAID THAT PERSONS WHO COMMIT THIS SACRILEGE "COME INTO CHURCH WITH A FEW SINS, AND LEAVE IT BURDENED WITH MANY."

► ST. CYRIL WROTE SOMETHING YET STRONGER: "THEY WHO MAKE A SACRILEGIOUS COMMUNION RECEIVE SATAN AND JESUS CHRIST INTO THEIR HEARTS - SATAN, THAT THEY MAY LET HIM RULE, AND JESUS CHRIST, THAT THEY MAY OFFER HIM IN SACRIFICE AS A VICTIM TO SATAN."

St. Alphonsus Liguori says: "What hope would you entertain of the recovery of the man who, instead of taking the medicine prescribed by his physician, drank a cup of poison? What can the sacrament of penance be to those who conceal their sins, but a deadly poison, which adds to their guilt the malice of sacrilege? What, then, does the sinner do, when he conceals his sins in confession? He tramples underfoot the blood of Jesus Christ. And should he afterwards receive the Holy Communion in a state of sin, he is, according to St. John Chrysostom, as guilty as if he threw the consecrated Host into a filthy toilet!" (Sermon for the Third Sunday of Lent).