

Unholy Communion

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Have you ever gone to a Restaurant where the Server is in a hurry to get your order and then disappears. He then returns shortly and practically throws the plated food on the table in front of you, saying nothing and then rushes to the next table. saying almost nothing (mumbling, actually). Soon he will return to clear the table for the next cutomers. No matter how good the meal itself may be, the dining expereince has been greatly diminished.

We were visiting a new church yesterday, as we were on a trip out of town. In a poorly prepared and delivered Homily, the Preacher stressed the importance of the Lord's Supper. We were about to partake of the Flesh and Blood of Christ, he said- a very important experience, necessary for Eternal Life. What we did experience next was most certainly not that.

The experience in front of the Altar was worse than the one in the restaurant I have described. If this was Holy Communion, it was a blasephemous travesty. The ushers rushed the congregants to the front of the Nave. It was very crowded. Everyone seemed to be in a great hurry to get it done. The servers passed out the wafer and wine at break neck speed, mumbling somthing as the worshippers then rushed back to their pews fot the last hymn and blessing. This was not a Holy Communion!

Exegetical Footnote: There is a very significant difference between "flesh and blood" and "body and blood". They are not the same! The Priest above made them interchangeable.