

The Eucharist and the Healing Power of Remembrance: Re-Discovering Eucharistic Discipleship

The core of the Eucharist is the anamnesis (remembrance), where we remember what Christ did for us in the last supper and on the cross, with the consequence of the resurrection. From an outward appearance it seems as the anamnesis is the celebration of a future event, the common resurrection and the coming Kingdom, but after a closer reading we find that it is the celebration of the restoration of creation through the Church, which will be fully elaborated in the eschaton. The key to this restoration is thanksgiving, where the Christian rejoices in what has been given, accepting the responsibility of mending what is broken through a restored relationship with God and fellow human beings, i.e. discipleship. The lecture explores this feature through a comparative reading of various anamneses, where thanksgiving is understood as participation in the good things that God and our fellow human beings are capable of in creation, fellowship and charity. Through thanksgiving (eucharistía), creation is restored to communion.