

Adult Assignment

Something to Think About

- In modern day Iraq, Catholic families risk their lives to attend Mass on Sundays. In an interview with *60 Minutes*, one young adult said: "Half of my family goes to one Mass and half to another Mass." When asked why, the young man answered: "In this way if the church is blown up by a terrorist bomb, at least half of my family will survive."
- In many poor countries, Catholics will *walk* one or two hours each way to attend Mass. Such is their dedication to the Eucharist.

In contrast to the above **commitment** to the Eucharist millions of Catholics who live in nice homes close to a church and drive nice cars, find it too much of a 'sacrifice' or too much of an **inconvenience** to come to Mass on Sunday. All of us should often pray that the Holy Spirit would open our minds and our hearts to the tremendous gift God is offering us when we choose to actively participate in the Mass.

Questions for Reflection (on reverse side or another sheet):

- Why has the Mass for 2,000 years been so important for Catholics? How important is it in your life?
- Why do so many Catholics seem to be silent spectators at Mass? Was there a time in your life when you were a silent spectator? If so, what helped to change that?
- What will it demand of you to *pray* the songs at Mass if you are not already doing so?
- Ideally all of us who participate in the Mass should come with forgiving hearts or with a desire to forgive life's hurts. How challenging is this for you?
- Do you agree that the behavior of others at Mass is contagious? How easy or hard is it for you to sing at Mass if no one is singing around you?

Catholic Catechism Knowledge Hunt:

What are the precepts of the Catholic Church?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Good Practice Suggestion:

- Develop the Good Practice of getting to church ten or more minutes before Mass begins and the good practice of remaining at Mass until the end of the final song.
- Develop the Good Practice of showing hospitality in church, aware that the warmth you show to another may be very important to someone who is hurting and feeling alone.