

What Are YOU Doing and Why?

Sensus Fidelium – The Truth in the Pews

Christ fulfills his prophetic office, not only by the hierarchy but also by the laity. He accordingly both establishes them as witnesses and provides them with the ‘sense of the faith’ and the grace of the word. {Catechism of the Catholic Church #904} After having done these reflections on *What are We Doing and Why?* at Mass for about a year and a half now, it just occurred to me that all of what I’ve written has come only from my own learning and understanding, and a small collection of reference books and articles on the Mass that I draw from. But what I’ve written does not necessarily reflect much (or any) of the *Sensus Fidelium* recognized in the official teaching of the Catholic Church, and referred to in the excerpt from the Catechism given above. The *sensus fidelium*, or the “sense of the faithful” refers to the recognition or “sense” of the truth of our faith on the part of the Faithful of the Church, alongside the more formal teaching of those officially recognized as leaders and teachers in the Church, such as the bishops. What I have written so far about *Why We Are Doing and Why* has represented only a certain portion of the *We*, namely, the formal and official voice of the Church. So, in service of a more accurate and representative *We*, I would like to invite and request **YOU** to tell me ***What YOU Are Doing and Why*** when you come to Mass. *What does the Mass mean to you? What do you experience, think, and feel at Mass? Is there one or another part of the Mass that is your favorite, and why? Is there one or another part of the Mass that is your least favorite, and why? Why do you keep coming back? And so on...* Please share with me (by email to dkrettek@juno.com), for me to share with others {anonymously, of course} your *sensus fidelium* about *What We Are Doing and Why?* at Mass. Thank you!

Please let us know what else about our faith tradition you'd like to find out more about. Contact our Council for Catechesis at tkautza@saintmaryhc.org.