

“wine” not made by the fermentation action of yeast results in invalid matter. The Pope has responded over the years that the addition of sulfites as antioxidants to inhibit the yeast and to avoid spoilage does not affect validity. (Continued next week)

-Bernard Kellett

**Entrance Antiphon: O Come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.**

**First Reading: Job 7 1-4, 6-7**

**Responsorial Psalm: 146 Response: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9 16-19, 22-23**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Mark 1 29-39**

**Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

**Communion Antiphon: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

“Human dignity is the same for all human beings: when I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own.” — Pope Francis



## **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B, 2024 Weekly Reflection:**

**Altar Wine (i)** When at the request of his Mother Mary, Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding at Cana, it was the finest of all wines. And it was the purest wine of all when,

at the Last Supper, he “took a cup ... saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins’” (**Matthew 26:27-28**). The wine had to be the purest from the vine because earlier Our Lord also said, “For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink” (**John 6:55**). Naturally, the wine that will become the true Blood of Christ at the consecration during Mass must also be of the purest, highest quality.

Over the years, questions have arisen about the validity of the wine used for the celebration of the Mass. The 1983 Code of Canon Law in canon 924 §3 requires that the “wine must be natural from the fruit of the vine and not spoiled.” The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) further clarifies, “The wine for the celebration of the Eucharist must be from the fruit of the vine (**Luke 22:18** – For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes)), natural, and unadulterated, that is, without admixture of extraneous substances”. The GIRM goes on to say that diligent care should be taken to ensure that wine intended for the Eucharist is kept in a perfect state of conservation, meaning that the wine does not turn to vinegar.

The most important feature, therefore, of altar wine is that it be made in the natural way entirely from “the fruit of the vine,” that is, from grapes. Wine made from raisins is also acceptable. Wine made with genetically modified organisms can be considered valid matter. The addition of other fruits or juice invalidates the matter, as would be such wine-based liquors as sangria, wine coolers, or wine spritzers. The chemical manufacture of