

significantly less than 1% alcohol, can be permitted, the permission is granted only for a specific person. Others present at the Mass, including concelebrants, must use normal wine.

Ensuring proper valid matter for the Eucharist is an important task. The Pope noted in 1929 that it is criminal to expose so great a Sacrament to the danger of nullity. This was reiterated in the 2004 Instruction *Redemptionis Sacramentum* and in the 2017 Circular Letter to Bishops on the Bread and Wine for the Eucharist: it is altogether forbidden to use wine of doubtful authenticity or provenance, for the Church requires certainty regarding the conditions necessary for the validity of the sacraments.

-Bernard Kellett

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46

Responsorial Psalm: 31 Response: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10 31-11:1

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45

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

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B, 2024

Weekly Reflection: *Altar Wine*

(ii) During the celebration of the Mass, water is mixed with the wine. Wine to which water in a greater or equal quantity has been

added would make the wine invalid, since the wine would have lost the qualities of wine. The addition of pure distilled grape spirits during the process of fermentation to increase the alcohol content to avoid spoilage is also permitted, so long as the total alcohol content is not above 18%. The colour and flavour are not defined: red, white, or rosé are acceptable as is sweet or dry wine; however, sparkling wine such as champagne or spumante are not valid.

Mustum is fresh juice of the grape or juice preserved by suspending its fermentation and thus limiting its alcohol content (by means of freezing or other methods that do not alter its substance). The Pope has noted caution has to be taken to preserve the necessary distinction between mustum and certain types of pasteurized or otherwise treated grape juice which, though commercially accessible, would not constitute mustum. Pasteurized grape juice is not valid matter because pasteurization removes even trace amounts of alcohol produced in the natural fermentation process. The prohibition of additives to mustum as in normal wine remains the same.

The use of mustum was once restricted only to clergy suffering from alcoholism or other serious health problems and requires authorisation from the Pope. However, since 2003, an officer of the Church who has power to execute laws is able to give permission for an individual priest or layperson to use mustum for the celebration of the Eucharist. Permission can be granted for as long as the situation continues for which permission was granted. Such situations include alcoholism, wine allergy or intolerance, or other health problems. While the use of mustum, which usually contains