

January 4th, 2012

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

This morning we continue our examination of the 39 Articles as we explore Anglican Christianity. Two weeks ago we looked at Article 29 the Wicked receiving Holy Communion...the question asks whether or not the sacrament is efficacious without the faith of the recipient - and the answer is yes but that the sacrament is all the more efficacious when received by a believer and that the sacrament should be limited to believers. Today we continue our examination of the sacraments with Article 30 On Receiving in Both Kinds - meaning both the bread and wine the body and blood of Christ.

Article 30 - Both Kinds The Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the lay people; for both parts of the Lord's sacrament, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be ministered to all Christian men alike.

The Articles of Religion address in several ways the Church and her sacraments and article 30 continues that discussion. It was the Roman practice that communion was considered too holy for lay people except, perhaps, once a year...instead it was considered good enough to participate in "ocular" communion - simply looking upon the sacrament. Archbishop Cranmer wanted to make sure that the lay people and the clergy together participated in the sacraments both receiving in both kinds the bread and wine the body and blood of Jesus.

This is another way in which the separation between the orders was lessened. In the Roman tradition the priest was, and perhaps continues to be, an intermediary between God and Man. In the Anglican tradition the priest plays a very important role in the celebration and administration of the sacraments. He is an aid to the people and a representative for the church and, at in the celebration of the sacraments he is an "Alter Christus" or another Christ. This is not to say that the priest is Christ but that as he celebrates the Eucharist it is Christ who transforms the bread and wine through the priest speaking the words of Institution.

When we, all of us, receive Holy Communion in both Kinds we follow Christ's example and command... ***"Take, eat: This is my***

Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.... Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new



If you know of someone who would like to subscribe to the Bishop's Note, please send the appropriate email address to erin@vegasanglican.org and he or she will be added!

Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." (BCP 362)

Merry Christmas and a Blessed Epiphany to you all!

Bishop Menees

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[December 2012 Edition of The San Joaquin Anglican](#)

Check this edition of the San Joaquin Anglican
for current news of the Diocese!

[Diocesan Calendar](#)

Check the Diocesan Calendar for information on upcoming events!

- January 6th** - Bishop @Epiphany in La Mirada @4p.m.
- January 8th** - Rural Deans @ 10 a.m.
- January 13th** - Bishop @Epiphany in Corcoran
- January 19th** - Anglican 4th Day @10a.m. St. Paul's, Bakersfield
Diocesan Council @ 10 a.m.
- January 20th** - Bishop @St. Paul's in Visalia
- January 26th** - Standing Committee @10a.m.
- January 27th** - Bishop @ St. Paul's in Bakersfield
- February 1st - 2nd** - Little Brothers & Sisters of Sacrifice Winter
Retreat & Joint Vestry Retreat with the Bishop (Both @ ECCO)
- February 8th-9th** - Joint Vestry Retreat with the Bishop @ECCO
- February 15th-18th** - Anglican 4th Day Retreat @ECCO
- April 29th - May 1st** - Clergy Conference

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