

#6: *Only Christ can make us worthy for Himself* [November 13, 2011]

“Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof.” These words are taken directly from the Gospel of Luke and recount the humility of the centurion who asked Christ to heal his sick servant. At every Mass, we take these words upon our own lips as we prepare for Christ to enter into the home of our hearts in Holy Communion. This is a constant reminder that we have become the Temple of the Holy Spirit and that the Lord has come to dwell within us. There is certainly nothing we can do to make ourselves worthy of this great gift. Yet, there is Someone who has the power to make us worthy.

“Only say the word and my soul shall be healed.” Christ has the power to render us worthy for His divine indwelling. Our souls can only be made worthy by the forgiveness available to us because of Christ. In order that we may gain the greatest benefit from our participation in the Eucharistic offering, we must be sure that we are properly disposed. For this reason, whenever we have fallen from the state of grace through mortal sin, we must present ourselves for sacramental Confession so that Christ can “say the word” to heal and forgive our souls. Nothing we can do can take away the stain of sin: this is the work of Christ that we celebrate in the Sacraments of the Church. Allowing Him to say the healing word of forgiveness opens our hearts to receive the grace that makes us holy and gives us hope that we will become like the “blessed ... called to the supper of the Lamb.”

