



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

Faithfulness to Tradition

The first Christian communities preserved and transmitted the apostolic teaching; they preached the word of God and lived by it (see Phil 2:11), continually abiding in “the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, [devoting themselves] to the breaking of the bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Especially in the “breaking of the bread”, Christians recognized the fulfillment of the Gospel and the presence of Christ among them (see Lk 24:31). At the same time, they announced the arrival of the coming age. They did so while living in this world, yet not being “of this world” (see Jn 15:19, 17:14). These words can be fully applied to the Church today, which maintains within herself the Apostolic Tradition. Following the example of Peter, the Church unceasingly calls all people to repentance and baptism, by which they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit: “For the promise is for you, for your children and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him” (Acts 2:39). The faithful receive a foretaste of these events and of the coming of the kingdom God in the most Holy Eucharist, where the encounter and communion of God and humankind is realized. This is the content of Tradition by which the Church lived in apostolic times, I would she list today, and by which you believe in the age to come. (#36)