What’s in a Name? The Dynamism of the Eucharist Answer Key

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| Name | History of / Basis for Name | Dynamic Action Revealed by Name |
| The Eucharist | * Comes from Greek word *eucharistein*, meaning “thanksgiving” * Related to the idea of “blessing” because Jesus took, blessed, broke, and gave the bread; the Jewish *berakah,* integral to the Eucharist, is a blessing that acknowledges God’s presence and continued saving action | * **God’s action?** Actions that reveal God’s active presence in Jewish and Christian traditions = giving thanks and blessing God for giving us everything * **Our response?** Action of thanking and blessing God in return through participation in the Eucharist and by doing God’s will in our daily lives |
| The Lord’s Supper | * Recalls the Last Supper, a Passover meal * Anticipates the “supper of the Lamb” we will share with Jesus in the Kingdom of Heaven (see 1 Corinthians 11:20, Revelation 19:9) | * **God’s action?** Reveals God’s deep love for us, also his active presence in our lives through Jesus Christ * **Our response?** Action of repeating the words of the Last Supper reminds us of Jesus’ actions at the Last Supper; helps to make Jesus’ words present for us during the Mass |
| The Breaking of the Bread | * Recalls custom of the duty of a host at a Jewish meal to break bread and distribute it * Signifies that even though bread is broken to share, the Eucharist is the one Christ and we share in his one Body | * **God’s action?** Gives us a ritual through which we can remember Jesus’ sacrifice and God’s love * **Our response?** Action of breaking bread is our participation in the Eucharist; it makes Jesus’ action of breaking bread at the Last Supper present for us during the Mass |
| The Eucharistic Assembly | * Comes from Greek word *synaxis*, *syni* meaning “together” and *axis* meaning “the central point around which something turns” * Recalls that early Christians’ lives were centered around the Eucharist * Entire liturgical year built around Sunday because it was the day on which Christ rose from the dead | * **God’s action?** Calls us to meet together as an assembly to celebrate the Eucharist, following Jesus’ example * **Our response?** Action of gathering to celebrate the Eucharist shows the role of the Eucharist as a unifier of our Christian communities |
| Name | History of / Basis for Name | Dynamic Action Revealed by Name |
| The Holy Sacrifice | * Also called the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the “sacrifice of praise,” etc. * Refers to the idea of the Eucharist as the sacrifice of Christ made present to us in the liturgy | * **God’s action?** Sacrificing his Son reveals God’s deep love for us * **Our response?** Action of preparing the Eucharist at Mass reminds us of Jesus’ sacrifice |
| The Divine Liturgy | * The Eucharist is sometimes referred to as the Holy and Divine Liturgy, the Sacred Mysteries, and the Most Blessed Sacrament. * Refers to the idea of the Eucharist as the source and summit of the lives of Christians | * **God’s action?** Reveals God’s presence at Mass through the Eucharist * **Our response?** Action of sharing in God’s holiness and respecting God’s holiness |
| Holy Communion  and Holy Mass | * Comes from the reference to the Body and Blood of Christ as being holy * Recalls that in the Eucharist we are united to Christ, sharing with him and with the Church as a single body * Holy Mass refers to the entire Eucharistic celebration; name is taken from Latin word *missa*, meaning “dismissal” * Underlines importance of dismissal as the sending forth of the assembly to do God’s will in the world | * **God’s action?** Reveals the holiness of the Mass because God is present in the Mass * **Our response?** Action of sharing in and celebrating the memorial of Jesus’ death and Resurrection until he comes again in glory |