

The Pursuit of Wisdom

AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY



Dr. Roger Nutt

Introduction to Sacramental Theology

OUTLINE AND RESOURCES



Meet Your Professor

Dr. Roger Nutt, S.T.L., S.T.D., is the provost and a professor of theology at Ave Maria University. He co-directs the Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal and is a member of the Academy of Catholic Theology. Dr. Nutt's research focuses on Christology and sacramental theology, particularly the theology of St. Thomas Aquinas. He has written three books and translated works, with publications in esteemed journals. Additionally, Dr. Nutt serves as a co-editor for multiple volumes, contributing to subjects such as Christian responses to death, Aquinas and Christology, Aquinas and the Greek Fathers, and Thomism and predestination.

SECTION 1 | 28 min.

Salvation Through Sacraments

Discover how the sacraments are our means to salvation through a profound friendship with God. Embrace these visible signs of invisible realities and explore how they were instituted by Christ to communicate grace.

1:35 – Sacraments as the Means to Friendship with God

3:29 – Sacraments: The Basics

7:36 – Sacraments as Revealed by God / The Problem of Possibility

8:46 – Christ as Mediator Between God and Man

19:47 – What Are the Sacraments?

FOR REFLECTION

Consider how the sacraments reflect Christ Himself.



SECTION 2 | 25 min.

The Gift of Grace

Contemplate how grace—in the Christian sense—signifies the unique presence of God within us, and how He bestows this gift of grace upon us through the sacraments.

0:18 – Introduction and Important Quotes

2:28 – Grace according to the Christian Spirituality

10:15 – Grace in the Sacramental Life of the Church

12:16 – How Do We Get Grace?

15:58 – The Catholic Teaching of Sacramental Causality

21:56 – What Is the Role of Sacramental Grace?



SECTION 3 | 20 min.

Living Our Faith

Discover how to integrate what you've learned into your everyday life through three key principles. Recognize that the sacraments—as Christ's actions—are the highest form of prayer and discover how they reveal God's eternal closeness and enliven the liturgical life of the Catholic Church.

0:18 – How Should We Approach the Sacraments?

0:43 – The Sacraments as the Highest Form of Prayer

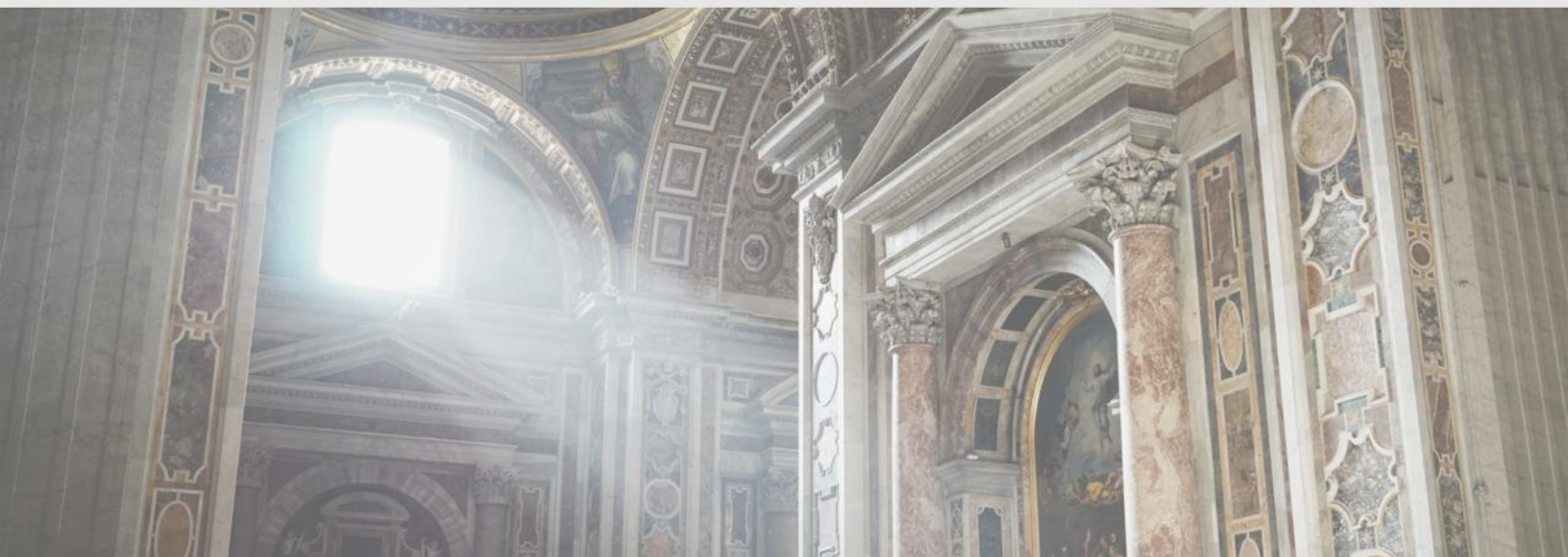
5:48 – The Sacraments Reveal God's Closeness

10:40 – The Eucharist as the Greatest Sacrament

17:05 – Summary and Conclusion

FOR REFLECTION

Consider what the greatest sacrament is, and why it differs from the others. What is the significance of the first and last sacraments and what do they tell us about God's pursuit of us?



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