

The Way of Beauty

Session 3: Beauty and Liturgy

Speaker: Fr. Paul Massel

1. Fr. Massel explained that he thinks that art leads us into a liminal space, a place in between vastly different realms: *Chronos* (human time) and *Kairos* (the eternal now). He elaborated that when the two meet we experience God.

When have I had experiences of liminal spaces?

2. Fr. Massel connects liminality with incarnation. The Eucharist, Fr. Massel continues, is that in which “all that has been created finds its greatest exaltation” (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 236). In the Incarnation, Jesus enters time and Creation. In the Eucharist at Mass we find this same Jesus who is “the living centre of the universe, the overflowing core of love and of inexhaustible life” (Ibid.).

Do I recognize this reality of the Holy Eucharist? How might I better prepare myself for the Eucharist at Mass to honour this reality? How might I share with others the Good News of the beauty of the Eucharist and the Incarnation?

3. In the context of my ministry, how can I make the best use of music, lighting, sound, multi-media, art work, architecture, and, if applicable, sacred vessels and vestments?
4. Find a painting. What is it about this painting that accomplishes beauty?