

# Institution Narrative

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The Institution narrative—sometimes called the consecration—is the moment during Mass when we hear again the story of the first Eucharist: the story of how Jesus gave his disciples his own Body and Blood in bread and wine on that last night before he died. The priest lifts up the chalice filled with wine and says: “TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, / FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, / THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY / FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.” Chalice is not a word we use in ordinary speech, but is a word we tend to reserve for the Eucharist. A second change is from “for all” to “for many.” Of course, this doesn’t represent a change in our belief about the saving mission of Christ, who “takes away the sins of the world” (Invitation to Communion). Rather, it is a more faithful rendering of the Latin *pro multis*, and reflects the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper according to Mark and Matthew.

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