

ANGLICAN/ROMAN CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

Third Meeting - Windsor, 1st - 8th September, 1971

STATEMENTS ON THE EUCHARIST

by the Joint Study Group of Representatives  
of the Roman Catholic and Scottish Episcopal  
Churches

1. Provisional Statement on the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

"The Eucharist is not simply the commemoration of Calvary (as of a past event).

"The Eucharist is not simply a sacrifice of praise or thanksgiving for Calvary or for its fruits.

"The Eucharist is not simply the pleading by us of the heavenly sacrifice (or of Calvary) as of something which does not belong to us but belongs to Christ alone.

"But the Eucharist is in some sense (a) the presence of Christ's sacrifice (b) in such a way that this one sacrifice is offered by the ascended and glorified Lord in his Church, (c) so that in the Eucharist we offer Christ's sacrifice as being also in a real sense our sacrifice by his gift (through our incorporation with him)."

2. Agreed Statement on the Real Presence.

"After the Consecration, the Bread of the Eucharist is a different kind of bread: the bread of human life has been changed into the Bread of everlasting life.

"This change, though it does not affect the physical or chemical properties of bread, is nevertheless a real change - not one imposed by our purpose, mind or faith. It is more than a change in the use to which we put bread: it is more than a change in its meaning for us. It is a change by which the bread of human life has become the Bread of everlasting life, has become 'The Body of the Lord'." (PS3: Jan. 20th, 1971)