

**Reason 1** It's your way to relive the Last Supper.

**Reason 2** When was the last time you prayed *too much*?

**Quick Tip** Be early. Would you come late to your wedding? (Women, don't answer!)

Reason 3 If you want to spend eternity with Christ, you need to get to know him now.

Reason 4 It's the central, necessary activity of Christian worship (Luke 22:14-23; John 6:53; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

**Reason 5** It's your best way to identify yourself with Christ's sacrifice on the cross.



Reason 6 Some of the greatest people in history were Massgoers (St. Francis, Blessed Mother Teresa, Pope John Paul II ...)



Reason 7 Wise people invest money for the future. How much more should we invest in eternal life?



Reason 9 If you've been to confession, you get to receive Jesus Christ. If you find a better deal, do that instead.

Quick Tip Forgotten what to do at Mass? You'll remember. It's like riding a bicycle! Follow the Mass closely with a helper: Missalette, missal or Magnificat.

Reason 10 If you knew Jesus would be somewhere, wouldn't you go see him?

Reason 11 Guaranteed Bible readings. Countless lives have been changed by Scripture. Might yours?



Reason 12 Statistics say that people who go to Church are less stressed **Reason 13** It's the best way to pray for your family and friends — and to cope with troubled times.

#### Common Good Excuses

#### What's in it for me?

Everything! God desires only and always your good. He became a man in large part to give us himself in the Mass. Why should you deny yourself such a gift?

# I don't need to go to Mass to get close to God.

At Mass, you receive God himself — Jesus Christ truly present in the sacrament. Even a beautiful mountain vista can't compare to that.

### I had a bad experience with the Church.

This is always sad. But many of us also had bad teachers — and we know the whole education system isn't bad. Jesus wants to bring you healing at Mass.

## I don't get anything out of Mass.

Don't expect it to be entertainment. Learn about what it does: joins us to Christ, separates us from sin, wipes away venial sins, commits us to the poor, prepares us for heaven.

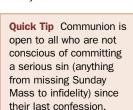
#### I don't have the time.

There are 24 hours a day, 168 hours a week. Mass takes one hour. That's less than 1% of your week. You have the time: find it.

### I'm a sinner. I don't deserve to be at Mass.

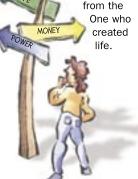
Welcome to the club! We are a Church of saved sinners. None of us deserves to be here. See you at the confessional ...

Reason 14
One out of Ten
Commandments asks
us to go to
Mass every
Sunday.



**Reason 15** You'll become a better person at Mass. The more you are part of God's life, the better you'll be.

Reason 16 Life is complicated. Get directions that work —



Quick Tip In prayer after Communion, make one resolution about how you'll live your life differently. (Think back on the homily for ideas.)

**Reason 17** It's your way to go most directly through Jesus Christ to God the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit in prayer.



Quick Tip Bow your head as a sign of reverence before receiving Communion. (Do it while the person in front of you is receiving Communion.)



#### Reason 18

Is one hour too much to give to God? How many do you spend on other priorities?



Content: Martha Fernandez-Sardina (www.adw.org/evangel/office.html); Father Richard Gill (www.legionofchrist.org); Curtis Martin and Edward Sri (www.focusonline.org); Father C. John McCloskey (www.cicdc.org); Father Rob Panke (www.gwu.edu/-catholic). Art: Tim Rauch. Photos: Pope and clock, CNS; Mother Teresa, KRT; Last Supper by Juan de Juanes, The Spanish Arts Gallery.



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