1689.27: Communion of Saints | 9/10/23

27:1: United to Christ Therefore United to One Another

All saints are united to Jesus Christ their head by His Spirit and by faith, although this does not make them one person with Him. They have fellowship in His graces, sufferings, death, resurrection and glory.

- Union with Christ is our foundation (cf 1689.8.8, Christ the Mediator)
 - Romans 6:5; Ephesians 1:3; 1 Cor. 6:17; 12:13; 1 John 3:24; 4:13.

- Clarifying: "although this does not make them one person with Him."
- United to Christ, Christians share in the blessings and sufferings of Christ
 - John 1:16, Philippians 3:10 (cf. 1 Peter 4:13; Romans 8:17)

Since they are united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces and are obligated to carry out these duties, both public and private, in an orderly way to promote their mutual good, both in the inner and outer aspects of their lives.

- United to Christ <u>therefore</u> we are united to one another.
- What is "communion"?
- Christians have an obligation to one another

Next Steps

- 1. Ephesians 1:3 says that every spiritual blessing Christians have, they have "in Christ" (i.e. because of their union with Christ). What specific blessings might this description include? How does this lead us to value union with Christ?
- 2. How should union with Christ transform our attitude and actions toward other Christians?
- 3. Consider a Christian who you have a hard time with. Now do your best to view that person "in Christ" (for example, loved in Christ, chosen in Christ, belonging in Christ). How should union with Christ affect how you view them?