

John Henry Cardinal Newman

. . While he was thus thinking, a change came over the worship. A priest, or at least an assistant, had mounted for a moment above the altar and removed a chalice or vessel that stood there; he could not see distinctly. A cloud of incense was rising on high; the people suddenly all bowed low; what could it mean? The truth flashed on him, fearfully yet sweetly; it was the Blessed Sacrament - it was the Lord Incarnate who was on the altar, who had come to visit and to bless his people. It was the Great Presence, which makes a Catholic Church different from every other place in the world; which makes it as no other place can be - holy . . .

John Henry Cardinal Newman *Loss and Gain: The Story of a Convert*