

The Easter Vigil?

Intro:

How do you welcome the resurrection of Jesus Christ for the life of the world?

- a) Resurrection – recovering the ancient story
 - b) Welcome – do not explain, or seek to experience, instead participate
 - c) You & Jesus Christ – narcissism vs the 2nd Adam
 - d) For the life of the world – the vigil does world history
 - e) How? – substance precedes method
- I. Roots of the vigil
 - a) the Easter vigil is the Christian Passover Ex 12, Jn:29, I Cor 5:7
 - b) comparison of the old and new Passover
 - 1. a memorial
 - 2. a ritual re-presentation
 - 3. a sacrificial meal
 - II. The structure of the Easter vigil
 - a) the lighting of the fire (anticipation)
 - b) the service of Readings (salvation history)
 - c) the service of Baptism (enter the story)
 - d) the Easter eucharist (the consummation of history)
 - III. Brief theological and practical comments on word & symbol
 - Light – the lighting of the fire
 - Exsultet – the Christian Passover
 - Readings – story in symbolic journey
 - Baptism – images of water
 - Eucharist – the ultimate transformation of all things

Conclusion:

The Easter vigil is the “Mother of all worship” Augustine