In the old Baltimore Catechism, Question #6 in the First Lesson is:

*Why did God make me?*

And if you don't remember the answer, it is:

*God made me to know Him,*
*to love Him,*
*and to serve Him in this world,*
*and to be happy with Him for ever in heaven.*

Blessed John Henry Newman - an Anglican convert who lived near the end of the 19th century said it in a few more words:

*God has created me to do Him some definite service.*
*He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.*
*I have my mission.*
*I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.*
*I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.*
*He has not created me for naught.*
*I shall do good; I shall do His work.*
*I shall be an angel of peace,*
    *a preacher of truth in my own place,*
    *while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments.*
*Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away.*
*If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him,*
    *in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him.*
*If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.*
*He does nothing in vain.*
*He knows what He is about.*
*He may take away my friends.*
*He may throw me among strangers.*
*He may make me feel desolate,*
    *make my spirits sink,*
    *hide my future from me.*
*Still, He knows what He is about.*

Long or short - however you consider this question … we all have a mission. In today's readings, we hear in the First Reading - St. Paul's "farewell discourse," and the Gospel continues Jesus' "farewell discourse" to the Apostles. In both of these talks, there is a prayer for the future of the Church - especially the mission of evangelization.

We, too, are called to share in the mission of Christ … the mission of the Apostles.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, let us pray for a spirit of clarity, so that we may know with more certainty … our mission … whatever that may be. May we remain, "consecrat[ed] in the Truth" … Jesus Christ … who is our Way … our Truth … and our Life.