

The Anaphoric Sanctus: Brief Historical-Liturgical Presentation

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Abstract

The problem of the origin and evolution of the *Eucharistic Anaphora*, in its entirety, is an issue that is still debated today, given both its complexity and the lack of clues about the evolution and the “exact” time of introduction of all the elements that make it up today, in its original structure. The same lack of clarity can be found regarding the origin and appearance of some of the important sections of the *Eucharistic Anaphora*, such as the *Sanctus* (the 2nd section), which separates the theological prayer from the Christological prayer. How complex is the evolution of this segment (*Sanctus*) in the structure of the *Eucharistic Anaphora*, we will try to demonstrate, as far as our sources allow, in the present study. Unfortunately, the lack of clear mentions represents a serious obstacle in terms of how to accurately determine the evolution and timing of the introduction of the anaphoric *Sanctus* in the structure of the *Eucharistic Anaphora*. However, we hope that those few clues recovered by specialists to help us outline at least a clear picture of what the *Sanctus* represents in the structure of the *Anaphora*. However, as the title of this study shows, our research does not claim to be a complete one, but we will only try to reproduce those fundamental aspects of the evolution of the *anaphoric Sanctus*.