

ATMOSPHERE

12-31-2012 BY Harry Zirkelbach

The clothing of the small boy were covered by black cassock and white surplus, as he emerged from the Church Sanctuary after Mass with a candlelighter, intent on extinguishing the two candles that he had lighted before Mass began. The process was simple, place the small cup extinguisher over the flame, lower it to cover the flame, and in seconds the flame would die. It was effective, world wide. In those moments the flame was deprived of fresh oxygen, the burning ceased for now the pocket of remaining air would not support combustion.

It is the same today, years later. The simple gesture traps the small amount of air in the small brass pyramid shape cup, burns the oxygen there, and the physics of this event precludes fresh air from entering the small space of that cup.
It is repeatable eternally.

Then and now it amazed the mind, that all in the church were not consuming the remaining oxygen inside the building, snuffing out all life. If a candle was that delicate, why are humans excluded from the same destruction?

The question is repeated each time that individual returns to attend Mass, and beyond, in this reminder, the mysteries of the universe are visible to all in everything they see and do.