Worcester F 80 Distinctiones

65 Church is double (*Ecclesie duplex*)

The genre of the church is found to be double. For it is material, which consists in a heaping together stone, Psal. [67:27]: “In the churches bless the Lord.”

¶ There is also the spiritual church, which consists in the congregation of the faithful. About which Matt. 18[:17]: “Tell the church.” And according to this is the double genre of sanctification which is said to be the dedication of the material church and the spiritual church is said to be the justification. Of which one is the signification of the other, so that what is done in the exterior church materially represents the signification of what ought to be done in the spiritual church. So thus, concerning both it can be explained that of Eph. 5[:25-26]: “Christ loved the church, that he might sanctify it.” The church is said to be our mother. Therefore, we must obey it in its precepts just as in paying it its tithes and such. And so that they would not become useless, dissolute, and jabbering by which the divine service would be impeded.

¶ For it is considered a monstrous thing if the infant in the maternal womb would speak, so if one jabbers in the church, Tob. 3[:17]: “Never have I joined myself with them that play: neither have I made myself partaker with them that walk in lightness.”