

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

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Welcome to this special section of the bulletin dedicated to the National Eucharistic Revival! As our parish continues to observe the second phase of this historic event, we are pleased to provide this dedicated space to weekly information on matters pertaining to the Revival. In addition to announcements regarding special activities and events, this section provides a regular listing of resources, catechesis and directives which are intended to help foster a deeper devotion and a greater understanding of the Holy Eucharist. We invite you to look over this section each week for new and updated content and we pray that as you do so, you will grow in your appreciation and love for Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.



The First National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years July 17-21, 2023 | Indianapolis, Indiana

This is a pivotal moment in both American history and the legacy of the Catholic Church. We are expecting tens of thousands of pilgrims – but space is limited. Jesus Christ will be there. Will you?

Ticket, travel & accomodation packages are now available from the diocese but they are limited! If you wish to attend, you should act now before the seats are gone. You may contact Anne Houston at 973-479-6467 or the Office of Evangelization & Communication at the Diocese of Metuchen.

OFFICIAL PRAYERS NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

O SACRED BANQUET, in which Christ is received, the memory of His Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us.

MY GOD, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.

O MOST HOLY TRINITY, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.



NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage has publicly launched!

The NEP (<https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/>) will consist of four cross-country Eucharistic processions, collectively traversing the entire continental United States over a two-month period, beginning during the feast of Pentecost, May 17-19, 2024.

The pilgrimage is being organized by the National Eucharistic Revival campaign in conjunction with Modern Catholic Pilgrim, a Catholic nonprofit dedicated to deepening the faith across



the country through pilgrimages. Along the way, the pilgrims will make stops in major US cities, churches, Catholic colleges, and holy sites. Parishes along the routes will host Mass, adoration, devotions, praise and workshop, lectures on the Eucharist, and more.

The Seton Route, which will begin in New Haven, Connecticut, will be passing through the Diocese of Metuchen on May 27-29, 2024. The four pilgrimage processions will ultimately converge in Indianapolis on July 16, 2024, to participate in the National Eucharistic Congress. Adam Carlisle, Secretary of Evangelization and Communication, will be helping to organize our diocese's involvement. If anyone is interested in assisting with this important event, please feel free to contact Adam Carlisle at acarlisle@diometuchen.org.

PERPETUAL ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Our parish offers Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 24/7 in our Eucharistic Adoration Chapel located in the Parish Center. We are very blessed to be the only parish in the Diocese of Metuchen to offer Perpetual Adoration. We welcome and encourage you to regularly visit our chapel and to invite others as well.

EUCCHARISTIC GUARDIANS



We are always in need of more Eucharistic Guardians. Eucharistic Guardians dedicate themselves to an hour of silent prayer each week in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. They make Perpetual Adoration possible by assuring that Jesus is never left alone. For more information or to sign up, please

call the Parish Office or Gerry Aboyme at 732-266-4145.

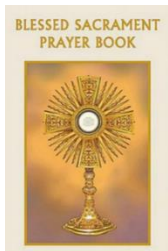
RESOURCES

TO HELP FOSTER DEVOTION TO THE HOLY EUCHARIST

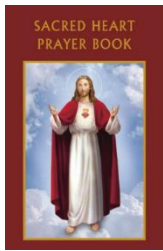
The following items are available at the Parish Center:

7 Secrets of the Eucharist Book and Study Guide

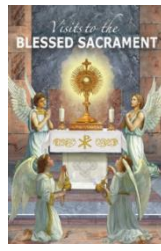
The 4-week parish workshop based on Vinny Flynn's book *7 Secrets of the Eucharist* recently concluded, and we have a limited supply of extra books and study guides available for sale at the parish center for \$10 each.



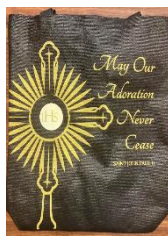
BLESSED SACRAMENT PRAYER BOOK - \$8.00



SACRED HEART PRAYER BOOK - \$8.00



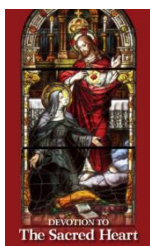
VISITS TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - \$8.00



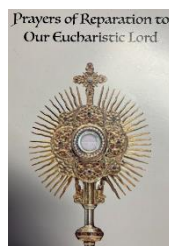
TOTE BAG - \$2.00



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - GOD IS WITH US - \$5.00



DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART - \$5.00



PRAYERS OF REPARATION TO OUR EUCHARISTIC LORD - \$2.00



MONSTRANCE LAPEL PIN - \$2.00

THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

is the 2021 United States Catholic Conference of Bishops document on the Eucharist – the doctrinal source text for the National Eucharistic Revival. To read the document, visit the Bishop's Conference Official Website at: www.usccb.org.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Pilgrimage Passport

June 2023 – June 2024



The children in the religious education program here at Our Lady of Fatima Church are engaging in the Year of

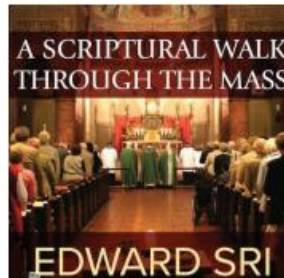
Eucharistic Revival by making a pilgrimage to various chapels, shrines and holy sites within the surrounding area to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. They have each received a little "passport" to take with them and to get stamped as they complete their visit to each site. If you would like to participate in this spiritual pilgrimage as well, pick up a passport at the main entrance to the church. We hope many children will partake in this wonderful experience visiting Jesus! Additional information can be found on our parish website www.olfparish.org.

Learn more about the Sacred Liturgy and the Holy Eucharist on **FORMED**

This week, we recommend the following Series:

A Scriptural Walk Through the Mass

By Edward Sri



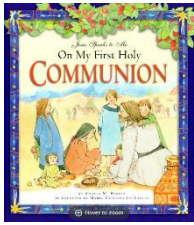
For Catholics, the Mass is entirely familiar, but often not well understood. Scripture scholar and well-known author Dr. Edward Sri takes listeners on a journey through the sacred liturgy that is sure to help Catholics experience the Mass more fully as the most powerful and important prayer of the Church. Dr.

Sri examines the historical and biblical roots of the words, prayers, actions, and gestures contained within the Mass in order to arrive at a deeper understanding of their significance.

"And because Jesus is the Eucharist, keeping Him in the center allows all the rich doctrines of the Church to emanate from Him, just as the beautiful gold rays stream forth from the Host in the monstrance." – Kimberly Hahn

"Our Lord came to the aid of each great tribulation with a special devotion. The present and future tribulations of the Church and of nations are greater than at any other period, and this persecution is more dangerous than those of previous times. Hence, the devotion which God sends to the succor of His Church and of the nations at the present time is the devotion to the Most Holy Eucharist. It is the highest of all devotions." - Pope Leo XIII

Jesus Speaks To Me On My First Holy Communion



In this unique gift book, Jesus speaks warmly and lovingly to children who are receiving him in the Eucharist for the first time. In twelve scenes from Scripture, from Creation to Pentecost, Jesus explains that it is his Father's plan for each child to be part of their family of love. He invites the child to be his friend and to draw close to him in the Eucharist and in prayer. Each Scripture scene is colorfully illustrated by Italian artist Maria Cristina Lo Cascio. This book also features an opening dedication page; pages to record memories, including photos, church programs, and a space for children to write or draw; and Traditional prayers such as the Our Father and Hail Mary.

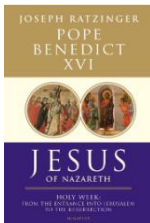
This item may be purchased on AMAZON or on the Catholic Company website <https://www.catholiccompany.com/jesus-speaks-to-me-my-first-holy-communion-133709/>

BOOKS ON THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Pick of the Week

Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection

By Pope Benedict XVI



For Christians, Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God, who died for the sins of the world, and who rose from the dead in triumph over sin and death. For non-Christians, he is almost anything else—a myth, a political revolutionary, a prophet whose teaching was misunderstood or distorted by his followers.

Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God, and no myth, revolutionary, or misunderstood prophet, insists Benedict XVI. He thinks that the best of historical scholarship, while it can't "prove" Jesus is the Son of God, certainly doesn't disprove it. Indeed, Benedict maintains that the evidence, fairly considered, brings us face-to-face with the challenge of Jesus—a real man who taught and acted in ways that were tantamount to claims of divine authority, claims not easily dismissed as lunacy or deception.

Benedict XVI presents this challenge in his new book, *Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week: From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection*, the sequel volume to *Jesus of Nazareth: From the Baptism in the Jordan to the Transfiguration*. Benedict brings to his study the vast learning of a brilliant scholar, the passionate searching of a great mind, and the deep compassion of a pastor's heart. In the end, he dares readers to grapple with the meaning of Jesus' life, teaching, death, and resurrection.

This book is published by *Ignatius Press* and may be purchased at most religious book stores and on AMAZON.COM.

The Presence of Christ by the Power of His Word and the Holy Spirit

"Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us," is present in many ways to his Church: in his word, in his Church's prayer, "where two or three are gathered in my name", in the poor, the sick, and the imprisoned, in the sacraments of which he is the author, in the sacrifice of the Mass, and in the person of the minister. But "he is present...most especially in the Eucharistic species."

The mode of Christ's presence under the Eucharistic species is unique. It raises the Eucharist above all the sacraments as "the perfection of the spiritual life and the end to which all the sacraments tend." In the most Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, *the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.*" This presence is called 'real'—by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a *substantial* presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present.

It is by the conversion of the bread and wine into Christ's body and blood that Christ becomes present in this sacrament. The Church Fathers strongly affirmed the faith of the Church in the efficacy of the Word of Christ and of the action of the Holy Spirit to bring about this conversion. Thus St. John Chrysostom declares: "It is not man that causes the things offered to become the Body and Blood of Christ, but he who was crucified for us, Christ himself. The priest, in the role of Christ, pronounces these words, but their power and grace are God's. "This is my body", he says. This word transforms the things offered."

And St. Ambrose says about this conversion: "Be convinced that this is not what nature has formed, but what the blessing has consecrated. The power of the blessing prevails over that of nature, because by the blessing nature itself has changed... Could not Christ's word, which can make from nothing things into what they were not before? It is no less a feat to give things their original nature than to change their nature."

The Council of Trent summarizes the Catholic faith by declaring: "Because Christ our Redeemer said that it was truly his body that he was offering under the species of bread, it has always been the conviction of the Church of God, and this holy Council now declares again, that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church fittingly and properly called transubstantiation."

United States Catholic Conference, Inc. (1994). *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. New York, NY: An Image Book, Doubleday, pages 389-392.

EUCCHARISTIC SAINTS

SAINT CATHERINE LABOURÉ

THE NUN WHO HAD A VISION OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL



On the night of July 18, 1830, St. Catherine Labouré was awakened by her Guardian Angel, who said, "Come to chapel; the Blessed Virgin is waiting for you." The Blessed Virgin Mary told her, "My child, the good God wishes to entrust to you a mission."

The mission that God wanted to entrust to Catherine was made manifest to her on November 27, 1830. It was the mission of making and distributing the Medal of the Immaculate Conception, now known as the Miraculous Medal. Our Lady appeared to Catherine standing on a globe and

dressed in white having with a long white veil which fell to her feet. The Virgin held in her hands, at the height of her shoulders, a golden ball which she seemed to be offering to God as she raised her eyes to heaven. Her fingers were covered with rings whose precious jewels sparkled brilliantly and showered down innumerable rays of light on the globe beneath her feet, almost obscuring the view of her feet. Mary lowered her eyes and looked directly at Catherine. Mary said nothing, but Catherine heard this message, "The ball which you see represents the world, especially France, and each person in particular. These rays symbolize the graces I shed upon those who ask for them. The jewels which give no rays symbolize the graces that are not given because they are not asked for." Then the apparition changed. Our Lady appeared with a white dress, a blue mantle, and a white veil which draped back over her shoulders. She was still standing on the globe, and had one foot on the head of a serpent which lay at her feet. The number 1830 was marked on the globe. The Virgin had her arms and hands pointed downwards, and a cascade of rays was falling down from both hands onto the globe. An oval frame formed around the Blessed Virgin, and written around within it, in letters of gold, was the beautiful prayer, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you." This was the front side of the medal that was to be made. Then the vision revolved to show the reverse side of the medal. Catherine saw a Cross with a bar at its feet with which was intertwined an "M." Beneath the "M" were the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, both surmounted by flames of love, one having a crown of thorns, and other pierced with a sword. Encircling all of this were twelve stars around the oval frame. Catherine heard the voice telling her, "Have a medal struck after this model. All who wear it will receive great graces. They should wear it around the neck. Graces will abound for persons who wear it with confidence."

The Miraculous Medal is a symbol of the whole history of salvation from Genesis to the Apocalypse. The front side of the medal depicts the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Victorious Woman of Genesis, her foot crushing the head of the serpent. Our Lady is standing on the globe of the world symbolizing Mary both as the Victorious Woman and the Queen of Heaven and Earth. Mary's hands are shown showering a cascade of brilliant rays on the world, as if she found them too heavy with graces and was eager to pour them on to the People of God as the Mediatrix of all graces. Around the oval frame of the medal are the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you." This brief prayer contains the truths of both the Immaculate Conception of Mary and Mary's intercessory power with God for those who ask for her aid.

On the reverse side of the Medal there is a Cross, the symbol of Christ's Redeeming Sacrifice on Mount Calvary for the salvation of the world. At the base of the Cross is a bar, which symbolizes the foot of the Cross. Intertwined with the bar is the letter "M" symbolizing Mary's intimate involvement at the foot of the Cross with her Son's Redemptive Sacrifice, Mary's subordinate role to that of Jesus. It was also at the foot of the Cross that Jesus gave us, in the person of the Beloved Disciple, His own Mother to be our Mother. "Woman, behold your son; son, behold your Mother" (John 19, 25-27). And the beloved disciple gives us an example to follow, so that we learn to take Mary into our homes, into our lives, into our hearts, as do loving children. So the "M" stands not only for Mary, but also for Mother. On the Medal beneath the Cross and the "M" we see the two Hearts, the Sacred Heart of Jesus encircled with a crown of thorns, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary pierced with a sword. The two Hearts are surmounted by flames, symbolizing the burning love with which Jesus and Mary accomplished the work of Redemption, each in their proper way. Around the oval frame of the Medal, encircling the Cross, the "M," and the two Hearts, there is a crown of twelve stars. This can be seen as a reference to the "the Great Sign" in the Book of Revelation; the "Woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." The Woman who engaged in battle with the "huge red Dragon . . . the ancient serpent, who is called the devil, or Satan" (Rev 12:3 & 9) is the Queen of the Apostles, the Mother of the Church.

Since the Cross is the symbol of Christ's Redemptive Sacrifice, we can also see a Eucharistic symbolism on the Medal. The Divine Savior instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice [the Mass], the Memorial of His Death and Resurrection, and entrusted it to His Spouse the Church. In every Eucharistic Liturgy the Church involves the Blessed Virgin Mary, so befitting to her who stood heroically at the foot of the Cross uniting her sufferings to the Sacrifice of her Son, filling up in her body those things that are wanting to the sufferings of Christ, for the sake of His Mystical Body, the Church. In all of the approved apparitions of Our Lady there is a Eucharistic thrust. She usually asked for a church to be built, in which the Eucharistic Sacrifice and the Blessed Sacrament always have prime place. Mary always leads those to Jesus, and Jesus is especially present in the Eucharist.