

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



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.



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Congress**

**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. The Diocese of Metuchen has been promoting this event for the past year partnering with Corporate Travel Service to create travel packages for the parishioners in the diocese. At this time, there are still an ample number of passes. However, accommodations and transportation will not be available through the diocese. Attendees will need to independently make their own arrangements. If you or someone you know would like to attend the NEC this summer, we ask that you please register as soon as possible. Please contact Adam Carlisle (acarlisle@diometuchen.org) in the Office of Evangelization & Communication in 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.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

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.

EUCHARISTIC 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.

"The best, the surest and the most effective way of establishing PEACE on the face of the earth is through the great power of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament." – Pope St. John Paul II



NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the Diocese of Metuchen



The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will begin in New Haven, Connecticut, **and will pass through the Diocese of Metuchen on May 27-28, 2024.** During these two days, the Diocese of Metuchen will welcome the National Eucharistic 'Perpetual Pilgrims' as they process from the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, to St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, New Brunswick, and St. Augustine of Canterbury in Kendall Park. We encourage you to eat, pray, and walk with them as they witness to the world that Jesus is here, present in the most Blessed Sacrament, and that he accompanies us - all of us - on our pilgrimage in life.

There will be three stops in the Diocese of Metuchen for the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. **Attendees must register for each stop at <https://diometuchen.org/nep2024>.** Please select the Pilgrimage stop in the Diocese of Metuchen to Register. *Please be aware that registration is handled by the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and the Modern Catholic Pilgrim.*

Date: Monday, May 27, 2024

Location: The Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 548 Main St, Metuchen, NJ 08840

- The Diocese of Metuchen will welcome the 'Perpetual Pilgrims' of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen.
- **7:00 PM - 9:00 PM:** Praise and Worship at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. *Join us for Praise and Worship!*
- **7:15 PM:** 'A Pilgrim Church on Earth: The Christian's Lifetime Procession with the Eucharistic Lord" by Fr. Roger Landry
- **9:00 PM - 8:00 AM:** All-Night Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. *Find peace in an evening of Adoration at the Cathedral.*

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Location: The Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 548 Main St, Metuchen, NJ 08840

- **8:00 AM - 8:30 AM:** Breakfast at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. *Enjoy a meal before we start the day's Eucharistic Procession! **Please register for the Breakfast!***
- **8:30 AM - 11:00 AM:** Eucharistic Procession from the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen, to St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, New Brunswick.

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Location: St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, 94 Somerset St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

- **11:00 AM - 11:30 AM:** Mass at St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, New Brunswick. *Join us for Mass to conclude the day's Eucharistic Procession.*
- **11:30 AM - 12:30 PM:** Lunch at St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, New Brunswick. *Enjoy a meal at the end of this section of the Eucharistic Procession! **Please register for the Lunch!***
- **12:30 PM - 4:00 PM:** Procession to St. Augustine of Canterbury Church, Kendall Park, from St. Peter the Apostle University and Community Parish, New Brunswick. *Join us for the final leg of the day's Eucharistic Procession! Be sure to bring water, food, and good walking shoes.*

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Location: St. Augustine of Canterbury Roman Catholic Church, 45 Henderson Rd, Kendall Park, NJ 08824

- **4:00 PM - 4:30 PM:** Dinner at St. Augustine of Canterbury Church, Kendall Park. *Join us for dinner! **Please register to participate in the dinner!***
- **4:30 PM - 5:00 PM:** Tour of the Church/Chapel of the Saints at St. Augustine of Canterbury, Kendall Park. *Join us for a tour of the Church/Chapel of the Saints at St. Augustine of Canterbury Church.*
- **5:00 PM - 5:45 PM:** 'The Eucharistic Journey to Holiness' by Fr. Roger Landry. *Join us at 5:00 PM for a presentation on Eucharistic Miracles/Stories of the Saints.*
- **5:45 PM - 6:15 PM:** Blessing for the Pilgrims as they Depart for the Diocese of Trenton at St. Augustine of Canterbury Church, Kendall Park. *Join us for a blessing for the Pilgrims as they Depart for the Diocese of Trenton.*

For registration and additional information, please visit the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the Diocese of Metuchen webpage at <https://diometuchen.org/nep2024>.

The Diocese of Metuchen's participation in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is being organized by the Secretariat for Evangelization and Communication. Questions? Contact Adam Carlisle, Secretary for Evangelization and Communication, at acarlisle@diometuchen.org.

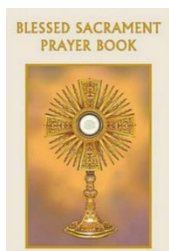
RESOURCES

TO HELP FOSTER DEVOTION TO THE HOLY EUCHARIST

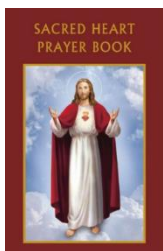
The following items are available at the Parish Center:

7 Secrets of the Eucharist Book and Study Guide

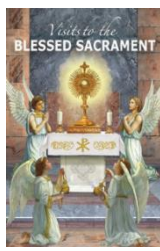
The 4-week parish workshop based on Vinny Flynn's book *7 Secrets of the Eucharist* recently concluded, and we have a limited supply of extra books and study guides available for sale at the parish center for \$10 each.



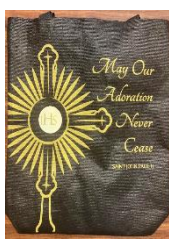
BLESSED SACRAMENT PRAYER BOOK - \$8.00



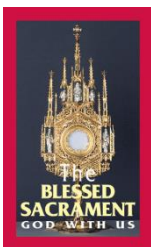
SACRED HEART PRAYER BOOK - \$8.00



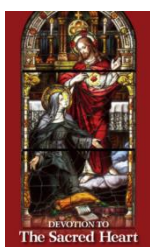
VISITS TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - \$8.00



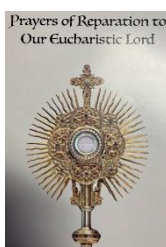
TOTE BAG - \$2.00



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



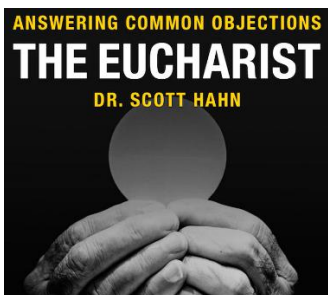
MONSTRANCE LAPEL PIN - \$2.00

Learn more about the Sacred Liturgy and the Holy Eucharist on



This week, we recommend the following Series:

Answering Common Objections: The Eucharist by Dr. Scott Hahn

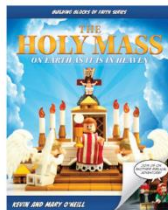


Covering the Biblical evidence for the authority of the Pope, the doctrine of Purgatory, devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, the Sacrament of Confession, the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist, and more, the remarkable set is an essential resource for answering

the various objections that Protestants makes to the Catholic Faith.

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN - *Pick of the Week*

The Holy Mass: On Earth As It Is In Heaven Book & Parts of the Mass Flip Card Ring Gift Set



Having a tough time getting your kids to engage with the Faith? Not anymore! This delightful set breaks down the theology and symbolism behind every moment of the Holy Mass, told through engaging comic-book style that

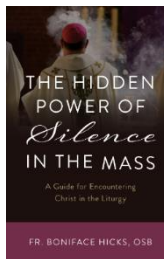
will have your kids eagerly turning to the next page. Then they'll put it into practice with the Parts of the Mass Flip Card Ring, allowing them to follow along during the Mass, and even to memorize the different parts! A one-of-a-kind gift for First Communion that teaches the Faith in a fun way.

This item may be purchased on AMAZON or on the Catholic Company website (<https://www.catholiccompany.com/the-holy-mass-on-earth-as-it-is-in-heaven-book-parts-of-the-mass-flip-card-ring-gift-set/>).

BOOKS ON THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Pick of the Week

The Hidden Power of Silence in the Mass By Boniface Hicks, O.S.B.



In this game-changing book, Fr. Boniface Hicks, O.S.B., reveals how you can actively listen and open yourself to receive God's personal love for you in the Mass, where our Lord waits to quench your deepest longing and heal your wounds. Drawing from the wisdom of the saints, modern-day spiritual giants, and his own penetrating reflections, you will learn how to quiet your mind,

stretch your heart, and become childlike in the sense of experiencing the sacred mysteries with wonder and awe.

The Mass, as most Catholics are aware, consists of words and gestures through which the Church worships the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. But as far fewer Catholics know, the periods of silence are more than pauses or empty spaces, as Fr. Hicks explains. They are beautifully textured with prescribed prayers spoken quietly by the priest, meaningful images such as incense and chalice veils, and expectant faith ready to surrender or receive from God in particular ways. Learning how to attune our hearts to these silences can greatly increase the fruitfulness of our reception of grace at Mass.

In these soul-enriching pages, you will explore the various textures of silence in general, the ways in which silence affects your interior life, and how silence can draw you into more intimate prayer. Through such intimate encounter, you will learn to enjoy praying at Mass with your whole heart, mind, and soul and will arrive at a more conscious, active, and fruitful participation in the sacred liturgy.

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

EUCCHARISTIC SAINTS

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

THE SAINT WHO SAW THE HUMILITY AND GENEROSITY OF JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST



Thomas of Celano, the first biographer of St. Francis of Assisi, tells us that the saint often used to tell people: “If I should happen at the same time to come upon any saint coming from heaven and some little poor priest, I would first show honor to the priest, and hurry more quickly to kiss his hands. For I would say to the saint: ‘Hey, St. Lawrence, wait! His hands may handle the Word of Life and possess something more than human!’” Such was the love of St. Francis for the Eucharist.

In Jesus Christ, Francis saw the incredible generosity of a God who assumed our poor, fragile human nature out of love for us and all creation. It was this good God, who did not insist on his divine prerogatives, but readily “emptied himself” to join us in our poverty, who captured Francis’ heart. Just as he had great affection for the God who became flesh, so Francis had profound respect and love for the Eucharist, in which the Word of the Father continues to pour forth God’s goodness by “coming down” to us daily on the altar under the guise of bread and wine. Francis’ writings are filled with exhortations and exclamations about the astounding humility of a God who does not hesitate to offer himself to us. For Francis, the Eucharist is the most striking and regular reminder that God truly is “the fullness of good.”

In his writings, St. Francis never uses the word Eucharist to describe the sacrament. Instead, he refers most often to “the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Such a concrete, descriptive phrase is to be expected from a saint who tended to avoid abstract thinking and language. But in this case, it is especially important because by referring regularly to “the Body and Blood of the Lord,” Francis emphasizes that the sacrament is not a static “thing” but a dynamic person, who is present on the altar just as much as he was when he walked with his disciples in Galilee. As he tells us in his Testament, which he wrote at the end of his life, “I see nothing corporally of the most high Son of God except His most holy Body and Blood.” In all of this, Francis does nothing more than express orthodox Catholic faith in the Real Presence, but his sense of this presence is characteristically lively, concrete, and even intimate. For Francis, his Lord and brother Jesus came to him personally whenever he received Communion.

Most astounding to Francis was the way in which Jesus is present to us in the Eucharist. When the Word of the Father first came to us in the flesh, he did so in great humility and poverty. In fact, for Francis, the very act of becoming human reflected the humility of the all-powerful God. Although he is now glorified and seated at the right hand of the Father, Jesus comes to us in even more humility and poverty, not only under the guise of ordinary bread, but as food. In a letter he wrote to all the friars, Francis breaks into rapturous praise of the humility of the One who came to serve and still comes to serve: “O wonderful loftiness and stupendous dignity! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! The Lord of the universe, God and Son of God, so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under an ordinary piece of bread! Brothers, look at the humility of God and pour out your hearts before Him!”

In the same letter to all the friars, Francis exclaims that there is only one possible response to such divine generosity and humility: “Humble yourselves that you may be exalted by him! Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that He Who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally!” All Christians bear the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, and so all Christians are called to be as much like him as possible. For St. Francis of Assisi, this means being as humbly generous with God as God has been with us. In the letter Francis wrote to the priests of the order, the saint makes the point a little differently: “Are we not moved by piety [that is, profound respect]...when the pious [profoundly respectful] Lord puts Himself into our hands and we touch and receive Him daily? Do we refuse to recognize that we must come into His hands?”

He repeats this exhortation in his letter to those friars who are in charge of Franciscan houses (“custodians”), urging them to “humbly beg the clergy to revere above all else the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...They should hold as precious the chalices, corporals, appointments of the altar, and everything that pertains to the sacrifice.” And in his letter to all the friars of the order, he urges once again that all vessels and liturgical items, including the books that contain Christ’s holy words, be treated with the reverence due them.

Francis’ frequent statements about the Eucharist are, of course, marked by his characteristic emphasis on the profoundly generous humility of God, who is goodness itself. It was not enough for God to have mercy on us in our brokenness and sin. God could have done that “from a distance,” keeping the divine holiness and majesty far away from us and our tendency to be very unholy. But God is too good, too generous for that, and chose instead to embrace our broken human nature, quite literally, by becoming one of us in Jesus. This is not only an astounding act of love, but even more remarkably a humble one. This “awesome and exalted humility and humble awesomeness” is extended to us every day, if we choose to accept it, in the form of bread and wine. Once again, the humble God does not choose to come to us any other way but the most simple, subtle, and unintimidating. For St. Francis, there was only one way to respond to such generosity and goodness, and it was with praise, thanksgiving, and a desire to allow Jesus to transform us into his image and likeness.