



# MARYTOWN

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION APOSTOLATE

# NEWSLETTER

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### **The Eucharist, A Mystery to be Believed**

**(Part VI)**

**By: Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI**

### **The Eucharist and Matrimony**

#### **The Eucharist, a nuptial sacrament**

The Eucharist, as the sacrament of charity, has a particular relationship with the love of man and woman united in marriage. A deeper understanding of this relationship is needed at the present time. Pope John Paul II frequently spoke of the nuptial character of the Eucharist and its special relationship with the sacrament of Matrimony: "The Eucharist is the sacrament of our redemption. It is the sacrament of the Bridegroom and of the Bride." Moreover, "the entire Christian life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery; it is so to speak the nuptial bath which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist." The Eucharist inexhaustibly strengthens the indissoluble unity and love of every Christian marriage. By the power of the sacrament, the marriage bond is intrinsically linked to the Eucharistic unity of Christ the Bridegroom and his Bride, the Church (cf. *Eph 5:31-32*). The mutual consent that husband and wife exchange in Christ, which establishes them as a community of life and love, also has a Eucharistic dimension. Indeed, in the theology of Saint Paul, conjugal love is a sacramental sign of Christ's love for his

Cross, the expression of his "marriage" with humanity and at the same time the origin and heart of the Eucharist. For this reason the Church manifests her particular spiritual closeness to all those who have built their family on the sacrament of Matrimony. The family – the domestic Church – is a primary sphere of the Church's life, especially because of its decisive role in the Christian education of children. In this context, the Synod also called for an acknowledgment of the unique mission of women in the family and in society, a mission that needs to be defended, protected and promoted. Marriage and motherhood represent essential realities which must never be denigrated.

#### **The Eucharist and the unicity of marriage**

In the light of this intrinsic relationship between marriage, the family and the Eucharist, we can turn to several pastoral problems. The indissoluble, exclusive and faithful bond uniting Christ and the Church, which finds sacramental expression in the Eucharist, corresponds to the basic anthropological fact that man is meant to be definitively united to one woman and vice versa (cf. *Gen 2:24, Mt 19:5*). With this in mind, the Synod of Bishops addressed the question of pastoral practice regarding people who come to the Gospel from cultures in which polygamy is practiced. Those living in this situation who open themselves to Christian faith need to be helped to integrate their life-plan into the radical newness of Christ. During the catechumenate, Christ encounters them in their specific circumstances and calls them to embrace the full truth of

## *The Eucharist, A Mystery to be Believed (Part VI)*

love, making whatever sacrifices are necessary in order to arrive at perfect ecclesial communion. The Church accompanies them with a pastoral care that is gentle yet firm, (90) above all by showing them the light shed by the Christian mysteries on nature and on human affections.

### *The Eucharist and the indissolubility of marriage*

If the Eucharist expresses the irrevocable nature of God's love in Christ for his Church, we can then understand why it implies, with regard to the sacrament of Matrimony, that indissolubility to which all true love necessarily aspires. There was good reason for the pastoral attention that the Synod gave to the painful situations experienced by some of the faithful who, having celebrated the sacrament of Matrimony, then divorced and remarried. This represents a complex and troubling pastoral problem, a real scourge for contemporary society, and one which increasingly affects the Catholic community as well. The Church's pastors, out of love for the truth, are obliged to discern different situations carefully, in order to be able to offer appropriate spiritual guidance to the faithful involved. The Synod of Bishops confirmed the Church's practice, based on Sacred Scripture (cf. *Mk 10:2- 12*), of not admitting the divorced and remarried to the sacraments, since their state and their condition of life objectively contradict the loving union of Christ and the Church signified and made present in the Eucharist. Yet the divorced and remarried continue to belong to the Church, which accompanies them with special concern and encourages them to live as fully as possible the Christian life through regular participation at Mass, albeit without receiving communion, listening to the word of God, Eucharistic adoration, prayer, participation in the life of the community, honest dialogue with a priest or spiritual director, dedication to the life of charity, works of penance, and commitment to the education of their children.

When legitimate doubts exist about the validity of the prior sacramental marriage, the necessary investigation must be carried out to establish if these are well-founded. Consequently there is a need to ensure, in full respect for canon law, the presence of local ecclesiastical tribunals, their pastoral character, and their correct and prompt functioning. Each Diocese should have a sufficient number of persons with the necessary preparation, so that the ecclesiastical tribunals can operate in

an expeditious manner. I repeat that "it is a grave obligation to bring the Church's institutional activity in her tribunals ever closer to the faithful". At the same time, pastoral care must not be understood as if it were somehow in conflict with the law. Rather, one should begin by assuming that the fundamental point of encounter between the law and pastoral care is *love for the truth*: truth is never something purely abstract, but "a real part of the human and Christian journey of every member of the faithful". Finally, where the nullity of the marriage bond is not declared and objective circumstances make it impossible to cease cohabitation, the Church encourages these members of the faithful to commit themselves to living their relationship in fidelity to the demands of God's law, as friends, as brother and sister; in this way they will be able to return to the table of the Eucharist, taking care to observe the Church's established and approved practice in this regard. This path, if it is to be possible and fruitful, must be supported by pastors and by adequate ecclesial initiatives, nor can it ever involve the blessing of these relations, lest confusion arise among the faithful concerning the value of marriage.

Given the complex cultural context which the Church today encounters in many countries, the Synod also recommended devoting maximum pastoral attention to training couples preparing for marriage and to ascertaining beforehand their convictions regarding the obligations required for the validity of the sacrament of Matrimony. Serious discernment in this matter will help to avoid situations where impulsive decisions or superficial reasons lead two young people to take on responsibilities that they are then incapable of honoring. The good that the Church and society as a whole expect from marriage and from the family founded upon marriage is so great as to call for full pastoral commitment to this particular area. Marriage and the family are institutions that must be promoted and defended from every possible misrepresentation of their true nature, since whatever is injurious to them is injurious to society itself.

*(from Sacramentum Caritatis)*



## Inspirational Stories

**Learn to Love Jesus in the Blessed  
Sacrament**

First Friday devotions to the Sacred Heart were a regular part of my Mom's schedule. This meant, of course, that they were a regular part of our family schedule. I remember one Friday, after the Mass and during the Holy Hour, the priest said, "We have to learn to love Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament." A simple sentence, but this night it sparked something in me. I always knew our Lord was present in the Blessed Sacrament, but somehow I became aware that I needed to act in a more personal way with him. I needed to talk with him, to pray to him, to adore him. Here, before me, was the man Jesus Christ, a **real** person, and not just any person, but a person who was **God**.

What a gift of God's grace, to have this light turned on in my soul. It was like hearing the Lord call you to come and visit him in the Blessed Sacrament. I started going to Mass almost every day to be unit-

ed with Him. I also started going to Confession regularly. I began teaching Catechism and tutoring grade school boys so that I could share this great love that had been born in my heart. Then I found myself thinking about priesthood.

That was about six or seven years ago. For the last five years, I have been a neighbor to Marytown, studying for the priesthood at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary. This June I will be ordained as a priest for the Joliet diocese. It was because the Lord drew me close to himself in the Eucharist that I was able to hear His call to the priesthood. Yet His call goes out to all of us—**we have to learn to love Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament**.

*-by Deacon JTK, May, 1998 (Deacon J was ordained on June 6, 1998)*



## *In Perpetual Adoration of the Holy Eucharist Since June 7, 1928*

*“O Lord, we cannot go to the pool of Siloe to which you sent the blind man. But we have the chalice of Your Precious Blood, filled with life and light. The purer we are, the more we receive.”*

*(St. Ephraem)*



*“And according as we say, ‘Our Father,’ because He is The Father of those who understand and believe; so also we call it “our Bread,” because Christ is The Bread of those who are in union with his Body.”*

*(St. Cyprian)*

### *Monstrance at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Marytown, IL*

#### *A Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas*

*Almighty and Everlasting God, the Preserver of souls and the Redeemer of the world, look favorably upon me, Thy servant, prostrate before Thy Majesty, and most graciously accept this Sacrifice at which, in honor of Thy name, I have been present, for the saving health of the faithful, living as well as departed, as also for all my sins and offences. Take away Thine anger from me; grant Thy grace and mercy unto me; open unto me the gates of Paradise; deliver me by Thy power from all evils; and whatever guilt I have of my own sinfulness incurred, do Thou graciously forgive; and make me so to persevere in Thy precepts in this world that I may be rendered worthy to be joined to the company of Thine elect; of Thine only gift, O my God, whose blessed name, honor, and dominion endureth for ever and ever. Amen.*

Source: *Manual of Prayers for the Use of the Catholic Laity*, Prayer After Communion and Prayer of Thanksgiving After Mass, Prepared and Published by the order of the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore

## The Presentation of the Lord, February 2, 2021



The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. The feast occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in the day's liturgy. Once known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the feast has been observed as early as the fourth century. Jewish law stated that the firstborn male belonged to God and had to be "bought back" on the 40th day by an offering of sacrifice. Also, on that day, the mother would be ritually purified.

### Daily Prayer for Ending Abortion

We ask through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of Fatima, for the elimination of abortion in our state and country.

#### Memorare

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen*

#### Memorare

*Acuérdate, Oh piadosísima Virgen María que jamás se oyó decir que hayas abandonado a ninguno de cuantos han acudido a tu amparo implorando tu protección y reclamando tu auxilio. Animado con esta confianza, también yo acudo a ti Virgen de las vírgenes, y gimiendo bajo el peso de mis pecados me atrevo a comparecer ante tu soberana presencia. No deseches mis súplicas, Madre del Verbo divino, antes bien óyelas y acógelas benígnamente. Amén*

**MARYTOWN**

**Upcoming Events**

December 8, 2020-December 8, 2021

Year of St. Joseph

January 1, 2021

Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 3, 2021 (Sunday)

The Epiphany of the Lord

Blessing of Chalk and Incense will not be held due to the pandemic

February 2, 2021 (Sunday)

The Presentation of the Lord

February 11, 2021

Our Lady of Lourdes

February 13, 2021

Militia of the Immaculata Consecration Preparation Class

February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

Annual Adorers' Gathering Postponed due to COVID-19

March 19, 2021

Feast of St. Joseph, begins Year of the Family

March 25, 2021

The Annunciation of the Lord

Check the Marytown Monitor or the [www.kolbeshrine.org](http://www.kolbeshrine.org) website  
for more details about upcoming events.

**And Do Not Forget—Leaving Town?**

It is the obligation of Catholics to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation --even when traveling. Call in advance to your destination to find Mass times, or search for Mass times by visiting: [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org)

## Adorers' Anniversaries

This year, we are recognizing anniversaries of continuous adoration completed in year 2020. It is anticipated that we will continue this practice in years to come. Congratulations to all listed below who have kept their commitment to Christ in the Holy Eucharist!

### 5 years

Kerry Baba	Carolyn Bagdon
Maureen Carroll	Lea Victoria Castro
Sandra Cervenka	Donna Dilorio
Gloria Flores	Linda Lake
Sylvia Murphy	Bonnie Quirke
Stephen Shebenik	Arleen Siap
Beata Wrona	Kasia Wrona

### 10 years

Joseph Arnone	Jozef Boksa
Linda Browning	Elissandro Canlas
Virginia Cordoba	Eric Fernandes
Mary Lauer	Tina Lopez
Jocylene Nacua	Susanna Sendejas
Renee Zorc	

### 15 years

Tina Grubert	Terry Rasmussen
Cecilia Vilorio-Skrzypek	Susan Tourtelot

### 20 years

Carl Piper	Ellen Roberts
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## KOLBE CORNER

We offer fraternal encouragement and spiritual support to those who suffer with chronic or long-term conditions through the intercession of St Maximilian Kolbe, founder of the *Militia Immaculatae* and patron of Marytown.



**BRO. PASCHAL METZGER, OFM, CONV.,**  
**BRO. DAVID WAGNER, OFM, CONV.,**  
**BRO. STANLEY ZABKIEWICZ, OFM CONV.,**  
**BRO. MARTIN SCHMITZ, OFM CONV.,**  
**STEVE SHEBENIK, ROBIN YTURRALDE,**  
**JAMES ERIC QUIRKE,**  
**SUSAN KILLIAN, STEPHEN WELSCH**

*Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.*

## Annual Adorers' Gathering and Annual Eucharistic Conference Update

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual Adorers' Gathering, usually held in February, and the Annual Eucharistic Conference, usually held in the Spring, have not been scheduled so far for this year. We will continue to give updates as time goes along. In the meantime, we continue to pray for all who have suffered during this difficult time.

# Welcome Adorers

In the past 3 months, the following have made a commitment, or are returning adorers:

**Shannon Bowes, Jeremy Fisher, Catherine Hansen, Rolando Hernandez, Daniel Jaimes,  
Ana Maria de Jesus, Anna Tietz**

— May our Eucharistic Lord bless and reward you! —

## Adoration Hours Needing Committed Adorers

**Wed: 3 pm Sat: 7 am**

Our goal is to have 2 adorers for every hour. Additional hours in need of adorers are listed in red on the chart in the vestibule of the Chapel. Committed adorers may want to consider signing up for an additional hour.

## Do You Have an Inspirational Story?

Do you have an inspirational story to share of how Eucharistic Adoration has affected you in your life? If so, we invite you to share your story with fellow adorers. Please contact the Adoration Office (847-367-7800, ext. 398) to submit your witness for publication in the newsletter.

## Condolences for Committed Adorers and Immediate Family Members

We keep all of our deceased Committed Adorers and Immediate Family Members in our prayers, especially those whom the Lord has called during the pandemic:

+David Madden (May, 2020)

+Marion Madden (August 1, 2020)

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
Amen*

## Prayers For Our Troops

Please remember in your prayers our family members serving our country in the armed forces:

E4 Specialist Brandon Dietz

### *SERVICEMEN'S PRAYER*

*"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen"*

## Committed Adorers Who Ask For Our Prayers

Cecile Harris, Ewa Padyasek,  
Rosemary Randall, Jane Sanico, Joyce Sarsok

### **Adorer's Family:**

Delores Trent, Stan Szot, Paul Weaver

*We continue our prayers for past, and present, family and adorers. Another means of prayer is by entering petitions in the "Petition Book" in the rear of the Chapel.*

## MARYTOWN

### Ministry of Care

Committed adorers may request prayers for themselves and/or immediate family members. Also, recently deceased immediate family members can be listed in the "Condolences" section above. The deceased will be remembered during the month of November. For more details, please call the Adoration Office at 847-367-7800, ext. 398, or contact your hourly Captain.