

# Father John Baptist Reus

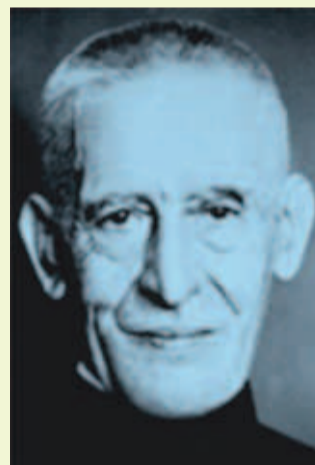
1868-1947

*Father John Baptist Reus,* was born in Germany in 1868. After entering the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) he was ordained a priest and was sent to Brazil.

He taught theology at the College of Christ the King at San Leopoldo. He was the author of many books, notably his "Spiritual Diary" and his "Autobiography" which described his deep mysticism.

Numerous miracles were attributed to him during his lifetime, all attesting to his sanctity when he died in 1947. His tomb is in the Sanctuary of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In 2003 Father Reus was Beatified by Pope John Paul II.

In his diary entry for February 10, 1940, he wrote: "I saw two Angels next to me, adoring the Lord in my heart. I believe they were Seraphs. And the three of us were together in a great fire. This occurs simply whenever we invite the Angels (which I always do!) to adore our divine Savior united in the flame of love (...) Whenever Angels offer up the prayers of those souls entrusted to them, they assist at the Altar with such joy and fervor that the results are rivers of Grace which flow to the Church from the Heart of



Celebrating the Eucharist, Father Reus often experienced angelic visions. His "Diary" records many instances where Angels actually joined him at prayer.

At the moment during Mass when the "Glory to God in the Highest" was recited, he not only experienced Angels praying with him in praising God but he also observed his own words ascending to the heavens as flickering flames of fire. He literally felt to be on fire with divine love during Mass, often exhibiting extraordinary symptoms of hypothermia.

Jesus. And what, then, must be the purity of the priest who has been given a dignity even above that of the Angels! Because by the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which no one is capable of understanding, the priest is appointed to summon our Lord to the altar!"