

The Real Presence

Eucharistic Education and Adoration

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Volume 1

A Eucharistic Retreat

By Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.

[Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from Fr. Hardon's Meditation #25]

The Holy Father hopes the worship and adoration of the Holy Eucharist will be promoted and practiced in every nation because in his judgment, it is the only possible hope for bringing a mad world back to its senses. And that is why for the first time in the history of Catholicism, the present Holy Father has ordered Eucharistic exposition all week in St. Peter's Basilica, and that is why he has a religious community of women there all day and every day. When the Holy Father inaugurated this historic practice of perpetual Eucharistic Adoration ten years ago, he pronounced a prayer I'd like to share with you

First, before pronouncing the prayer, he addressed Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist by saying: "Hail, O True Body, born of the Virgin Mary, which really suffered and was sacrificed on the Cross for mankind." Then the prayer:



"Lord, stay with us. These words were spoken for the first time by the disciples of Emmaus. Consequently, in the course of the centuries, they have been spoken an infinite number of times by the lips of so many of Your disciples and confessors, Oh Christ. As Bishop of Rome and first servant of this temple which stands on the place of Peter's martyrdom, I speak the same words today. I speak them to invite You, Oh Christ, in Your Eucharist, present to accept the daily adoration continuing through the entire day in this temple, in this Basilica, in this Chapel. Stay with us today and stay from now on, every day according to the desire of my heart which accepts the appeal of so many hearts from various parts, sometimes far away, and above all, meets the desire of so many inhabitants of this Holy See. Stay that we many meet You in the prayer of adoration and thanksgiving, in the prayer of expiation and petition to which

all those who visit this Basilica are invited. Stay. You are at one and at the same time, veiled in the Eucharistic Mystery of Faith and are also revealed in the Species of bread and wine which You have assumed in the Eucharist. Stay, that Your Presence in this temple may incessantly be reconfirmed and that all those who enter here may become aware that it is Your house, the dwelling of God with men and visiting this Basilica, may find in it the very source of life and holiness that gushes from Your Eucharistic Heart. Amen."

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They Knew Where to Find Him

By Dorothy Smith

It was pouring rain the day I went to the Adoration Chapel as a substitute. I was alone for about fifteen minutes, and before the hour was up seven other people dropped in to visit with our Lord.

I was spiritually distracted by the way these men and women, soaking wet, quietly and reverently communicated with Our Lord. Observing them, I was moved. I was reminded of Zacchaeus the tax collector, who was very short in stature, as was one of the adorers that day. Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore tree to get a better look at Jesus. This adorer positioned himself as close to the Monstrance as he could to pray. A different adorer reminded me of the woman who thought, "If only I can touch His cloak I shall be cured." (MT 9:21) and another one of the centurion who said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed." (MT 8:8)

There are as many reasons for coming to the Chapel as there are people who come to Adore the Lord. They knew about Jesus' healing power and where to find Him two thousand years ago. And to this day, they still know where to find Him for His blessing, His comfort, His healing ... even on a rainy day.

Catholic Education

By Dorie Gruss

One does not lose one's faith. Instead, one abandons the faith when they do not continue to study their faith. As paraphrased from the writings of St. Louis De Montfort:

"Can we love someone we do not even know? Can we love deeply someone we only know vaguely? Why is Jesus, the adorable, eternal and incarnate wisdom loved so little; is it because He is either too little known or not known at all?"

"One does not lose one's faith. Instead, one abandons the faith when they do not continue to study their faith."

This knowledge of eternal Wisdom is not only the most noble and the most consoling of all, it is also the most useful and the most necessary since eternal life consists in knowing God and Je-

sus Christ, His Son.

If we wish to have roots of immortality in our heart, we must have in our mind, knowledge of our faith. To know Jesus Christ, incarnate wisdom, is to know all we need. To presume to know everything and not know Jesus Christ is to know nothing at all."

We must continue to grow in the faith. We must continue to learn more about the true Catholic faith as given to us by God, Jesus Christ.

We would like to offer you an opportunity to continue to grow in the true faith. Please call Dorie Gruss (630) 932-7796 for more information, and a free pamphlet, CATHOLIC HOME STUDY COURSES, written by Father John A. Hardon, S.J.

Eucharistic Heart - Stay With Us

Msgr. Douglas Raun, a parish priest for 16 years and pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rio Rancho, New Mexico declared that having been in a parish now for two-and-a-half years with Eucharistic Adoration, he would never be in one again without it.

"It is one of the most effective tools for ministry and evangelization that I've ever seen. It revitalizes and gives a spiritual heart to the parish," he said.

Testimony for Favors Granted

Author Unknown



Last October I woke up with a sharp pain behind my right ear and eye. Then I noticed a numbness and drooping of the right side of my face. My doctor said I had Bell's Palsy. A virus infection of the nerve on the right side of my face. He gave me some medication and said I would need therapy or it might get worse.

I didn't get the therapy because no one had the proper stimulator needed for the treatment. In the meantime it was time for my wife and I to attend Adoration. Although my eye was so sore I had to wear a patch, we went.

In addition to my other prayers, I asked Our Lord to ease the pain in my eye. As we drove home my eye started to feel better and in a few days the entire problem cleared up, without therapy. I thank the Lord that I am well again and praise Him for His compassion.

For help to start Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration at your site, call or write "The Real Presence Association, Inc."

If you have a short story about Eucharistic education or adoration that you would like to share with others, send it to "The Real Presence Assn., Inc." Not all stories can be used and none will be returned.

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