



Adoremus Jesum

Volume 13

The Real Presence Association, Inc.
7030 West 63rd Street
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: (773) 586-7809
Email: qcs@therealpresence.org
www.therealpresence.org

To Grow In Eucharistic Amazement

“Let our hearts bow in adoration of God –
open wide to God in unbounded love.”

Opening homily by Archbishop Raymond L. Burke

Over 550 people gathered with joy to celebrate the love of Jesus and to start off the *Year of the Eucharist* on a sunny Saturday in October. The event took place at the elegant Drury Lane center in Oak Brook Terrace, Illinois. The opening Mass was concelebrated by Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, a dozen priests and numerous deacons. In his homily, Archbishop Burke reiterated the unique opportunity for the church to benefit from this grace-filled year. It should be a momentous year of conversion—for the church as well as for us individually. This was the first Conference sponsored by *The Real Presence Association*, an international organization, located in Chicago, Illinois. Their goal is to promote Eucharist education and adoration. They assist parishes throughout the world in this endeavor.

As the keynote speaker Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, from the Saint Louis, MO Archdiocese and spiritual director for *The Real Presence Association*, gave an inspiring overview of the encyclical, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*. He repeated the Pope's theme to "Rekindle Eucharistic Amazement." He stressed that faith in the Real Presence requires a worthy reception of the Eucharist and that the New Evangelization is rooted in the Eucharist. He reminded us that the Holy Father, in his writing on the New Evangelization, calls us to turn to Christ anew, to look on the face of Christ, to take up the cross, and to grow in holiness. To this end the rosary can help us to grow in new energy and enthusiasm, and to gain a deeper knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Also, with the new liturgy guidelines, we can discover anew that the heart of Sunday is the Eucharistic Sacrifice. Pastors are urged to deliver a strong message to congregations about the importance of Sunday Mass.



Pope John Paul II, in his last three encyclicals has given us the call to "put out into the deep":

**Rosarium Virginis Mariae* (the Rosary)

**Redemptoris Missio* (New Evangelization) and

**Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (the Eucharist).

The last one teaches us in a very personal style about the true presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist just as it was revealed in sacred scripture and continually proclaimed by the Holy Catholic Church through the centuries that the Real Presence is a living presence. **We are to ask for the gift of grace to grow in Eucharistic amazement.**

On reverence, the Archbishop called upon us to use the proper decorum when we are present before the Real Presence. We are to maintain a sense of awe, give attention to gestures and physical actions, pray with our body as we genuflect when we enter or leave the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, dress reverently, fully participate in the Holy Mass with responses and song, fold our hands in prayer, spend time recollecting, and wait in sacred silence.



We may offer a prayerful spiritual communion daily when we express our desire to be one with Jesus. The actual reception of holy communion enhances the invisible life of grace within us.

With the grace of holy communion from God we are able to become more like Christ. Remember that communion demands that we examine ourselves and seek reconciliation, (Canon 916) and (1 Cor 11) "Let a man examine himself." It is the Eucharist and penance that assist us in daily conversion so it is important not to neglect either sacrament.

Lastly, Archbishop Burke admonished that as Catholics we are to avoid scandal of grave public sin, and seek pastoral advice. Bishops must safeguard the worthy reception of the Eucharist! Remember the Eucharist is Christ's pledge of future glory and our strength for the journey. Ask for the gift of grace to "Rekindle Eucharistic Amazement."

Collaborated article written by Dorothy A. Smith, Dorie Gruss and Margaret Gilmore.

THE EUCHARIST IS THE CENTER OF OUR FAITH



It is estimated that well over 3 million people from all over the world participated in the 48th International Eucharistic Congress held in Guadalajara, Mexico. It is reported there were also countless others who lined the streets and even joined with the marchers in the processions of the Blessed Sacrament.

There were cardinals, bishops, priests, religious and many lay people who contributed to the reigning spirit of the Eucharist. Via television, Pope John Paul II in his message encouraged us, "To nourish ourselves on Him means to receive the very life of God, opening us to the logic of love and sharing."

Cardinal Francis Arinze, the Vatican's prefect for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, referred to the Eucharist as, "the fountain from which all life flows." Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana said, "We must pray before the Blessed Sacrament. This is what Christ wants us to do, to come before Him and listen, as He says His words, 'Come to me all you who are weary.'" Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop of Quebec, who will be the host for the next International Eucharist Congress in 2008 had this to say, "The Church needs to go back to



the basics, as Pope John Paul II has been insisting during these past several years which is why he is emphasizing the Eucharist by proclaiming a *Year of the Eucharist*."

Cardinal Francis George, Archbishop of Chicago said, "Adorers of the Eucharist in the United States are testifying to many graces received from adoration, including conversions, prayer answered, reconciliation in families, increases in priestly and religious vocations and other favors." The Archdiocese of Chicago will celebrate the *Year of the Eucharist* in a variety of ways and started with a Eucharistic Conference sponsored by *The Real Presence Association*. Special groups devoted attention to the children of the world. Discussion groups centered on the catechesis of parents and their children on the topic of the importance of the understanding of the Eucharist. Furthermore, parents were encouraged to speak to their bishops to ask pastors to begin Eucharistic adoration so that children can start to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at an early age.

Information and quotes used in this article were obtained from an article written by Patty Gayes, a contributing writer for The Catholic New World.

To Heighten the Focus on the Eucharist

Listed below are plans compiled from information gathered about dioceses in the United States where arrangements are underway for the celebration of *The Year of the Eucharist*. If your parish would like to have their preparations listed, send them to Dorothy at 6132dout@sbcglobal.net. Please include the name of your diocese.

In the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois:

- Speakers are scheduled to visit throughout the year at Sacred Heart Parish in Lombard, IL.
- An open invitation is going out from Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Naperville, Illinois for evenings of prayer and Benediction. They will host speakers on the Eucharist one of which is Fr. Mitch Pacwa, radio and television host on EWTN.
- A springtime concert of sacred Eucharistic hymns are being offered at St. Elizabeth Seton in Naperville, IL.

In the Diocese of Phoenix, AZ :

- Parishes throughout the Phoenix diocese will look for special ways in the home, parish, and through events in the diocese to celebrate the Eucharistic year by:
- additional catechetical instruction and implementation of the liturgical norms.
 - expansion of the concept of Eucharistic adoration to parishes who are still not committed.
 - promotion of greater reverence for the Blessed Sacrament.

In the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey:

Plans are underway to encourage more Eucharistic Adoration sites. Currently there are two Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration chapels in Newark and twenty-two in the state of New Jersey.

Something more is expected in all Dioceses:

- We must increase reverence in our churches, most especially when we receive Holy Communion.
- We must become educated through a deeper understanding of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.
- We must evangelize our faith in Jesus.
- We must spend time with Jesus in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.
- We must work to build a special relationship with Jesus.

*When Pope John Paul II announced
The Year of the Eucharist, he stated:*

"To live the Eucharist, it is necessary, as well, to spend much time in adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament, something which I myself experience everyday drawing from it strength, consolation and assistance."

This Publication may be duplicated without permission.
© The Real Presence Association, Inc. 2004
Website: www.therealpresence.org