



Adoremus Jesum

Volume 7

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The Excitement of an International Eucharistic Congress

My first International Eucharistic Congress was in Wroclaw, Poland in 1995. A devout Polish priest, ordained in Krakow in the 1970s by Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, led a pilgrimage to Poland and the Czech Republic with the highlight being the 46th International Eucharistic Congress. The pilgrimage began out of a parish in Ft. Myers, Florida. As my renewed desire for the richness of my faith grew, I was enticed to go.

I have had a great interest in Eucharistic Congresses since and have attended two Congresses and I am currently making plans for my third one – the 48th International Eucharistic Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Just what is a Eucharistic Congress? Well, it is a gathering of Catholics – priests, religious and laity who come together to express their devotion for the Holy Eucharist.

At every Eucharistic Congress, which lasts a weekend to seven days, there are numerous speakers who expound on the various topics of the Eucharist. The International Congresses are usually 3-5 years apart, which allows for preparation, as they are always held worldwide. Catholics come from all over the world to participate in the ceremonies and to celebrate Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. There are tables and booths set up where one can find information about the Catholic faith. There are cultural interests, music and art. And of course, there is an adoration chapel and confessions are heard almost non-stop. There is a daily Mass and at least one day is reserved for a Eucharistic procession, many times a nighttime candlelight procession. All believers – clergy, religious and laity line the streets following the Blessed Sacrament. It is an awesome, breathtaking and magnificent event that shows forth the great power of His Real Presence. Participation in such a procession makes one grateful to be a Catholic!



The first International Eucharistic Congress was held at Lille, France on June 21, 1881. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, "...the idea was merely local and met with few adherents, but it grew from year to year with ever increasing importance."

Since then, forty-seven International Eucharistic Congresses have been formed, each with their own special value. For example, out of the 43rd Congress held in Madrid, Spain in 1993, Pope John Paul II encouraged the promotion of Eucharistic adoration in parishes around the world.

The United States has hosted two International Eucharistic Congresses. The 28th International Eucharistic Congress was held in Chicago in 1926 and the 41st International Eucharistic Congress was held in Philadelphia in 1976. The most recent International Eucharistic Congress was held in Rome, Italy during the Holy Year 2000.

On the closing day of the Congress in Rome, the Holy Father announced that the location of the next International Eucharistic Congress would be in Guadalajara, Mexico October 10 – 17, 2004. His Eminence Juan Cardinal Sandoval Iniguez invites all Catholics to participate with his diocese in the celebration. The theme is:

**The Eucharist:
Light and Life of the New Millennium**

Looking forward to seeing you there!!
Sandy Klaud

For More Information Visit:
<http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/misc/excite.htm>

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: "...visits to the Blessed Sacrament are the
: most efficacious way of growing in holiness."
: Pope Paul VI
:.....

**A LAYMAN'S THOUGHTS
ON ADORATION**

In His great love God affords us the opportunity to give something in return for His gift of the unsurpassed value of the Sacrifice of the Mass. This something is adoration. His joy is to see us come before Him to worship and adore His true presence in the most Blessed Eucharist. We know the Mass is of inestimable value to us and to the world, and we should know that the individual act of adoration outside of Mass is also of value to the Triune Godhead.

It is inconceivable that Eucharistic adoration should not be the heart and soul of every Catholic parish. Many parishes do have adoration and yet it seems that it is very seldom perpetual. We find ourselves wondering why Catholic parishes with hundreds and even thousands of families do not have 168 people willing to give God one hour a week. That is the minimum number of adorers needed for perpetual adoration.

Perpetual adoration of the Blessed Eucharist is a beautiful practice and display of faith in his Real Presence with us. We should not fear to attempt to start the practice of such a laudable devotion in our parishes. We should not imagine that God looks for our success in such endeavor. No. All he asks of us is that we try. Adoration is our means to salvation. To draw closer to him allows his grace to fill an emptiness which each one of us has. He is aware of us. He calls us to himself.

Many were the events in Our Lord's life when he was abandoned. Many were called to his birth, but all were too busy to come, and we know many more should have been at his death but were afraid.

Let us not be too busy or afraid ! When you are invited to be an adorer of the Blessed Eucharist for one hour a week just say YES and let God take care of the success.

Humbly in the Name of Christ,
Jim and Cathy - Florida

**Lord Jesus, what has
made you so small?
LOVE
St. Bernard of Clairvaux**



**BOOK REVIEW
No Wonder They Call
It The Real Presence.**

What an appropriate title for the book that reveals Lives Changed By Christ in Eucharistic Adoration. David Pearson, the author and features editor for the National Catholic Register, has given us a book that reminds us everyone has a story connected with Adoration.

This book is written in interview format, and unwinds the lives of nine very different people. Pearson has managed to get to real people struggling with odd circumstances that have painted their lives with pain, confusion, commitment and conversion. God's love rescued each one when they drew close to Him before The Blessed Sacrament, privately through adoration. There are a multitude of stories out there, but these testimonies will surprise you, even bring a tear to your eye. This is a beautiful book to add to your spiritual reading material. The book is available in retail and online bookstores or by calling (800) 458-8505.

VISITORS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Our web site, www.therealpresence.org is known worldwide. Over 144 countries have visited our website since we began to document stats on June 11, 2000.



The heart of our intention for this website is to promote Eucharistic education and adoration.

You will find that one visit is not enough. Join thousands throughout the world who come often to seek knowledge, enlightenment and inspiration about Jesus as Eucharist.

THE SECOND ADORER

- In order to have a successful Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration program, it is recommended that there be at least two adorers signed up for each hour. Sometimes things happen unexpectedly at the last minute and an adorer cannot make their hour of adoration.
- When this happens, they should contact the other adorer for that hour to make sure the hour is covered.
- It is always the responsibility of the adorer to make sure the hour is filled.

THANK GOD FOR SECOND ADORERS!

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