

Liturgy Issue # 2

Revival's in the Air 2023

## **AN EXCITING JOURNEY AHEAD**

**Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.**

### **About the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

Originally called Corpus Christi [the Body of Christ], the solemnity had its origins in thirteenth-century France. St. Juliana (1192 – 1258) was the abbess at the Augustinian Sisters at Mont Carvillon near Liege in Belgium. After a vision, she persuaded Bishop Robert de Thorte of Liege to institute a feast to the Blessed Sacrament; he established it in 1246. The feast was extended to the universal Church by Pope Urban IV in 1264. Pope Clement V (d. 1314) and Pope John XXII (d. 1334) formalized the celebrations further.

### **FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS**

None of those three popes mention a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. It first appears in Cologne around 1279 and the idea was approved by Popes Martin V (d.1431) and Eugene IV (d.1447).

The texts for the Divine Office for this feast were composed by St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274). Since the Second Vatican Council, the feast has been called “The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.” The name change is significant. The emphasis is no longer on the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle and presented for adoration by the faithful. The emphasis is on the celebration of the Eucharist.

Indeed, the preface from Holy Thursday is used. In the Collect (Opening Prayer), we acknowledge that we “revere the sacred mysteries” of the Body and Blood of Christ, and that through this sacrament, we experience redemption.

## THE EUCHARIST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

In the First Reading (Year A) Moses reminds the Israelites how God fed them with manna in the desert. In the Second Reading, the Apostle reminds us that we are all one body in Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his followers, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him” (John 6:51).

Participating in Mass, listening to Sacred Scripture, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, and reflecting on the Paschal Mystery, inevitably involves some sacrifice of self. Christians who gather at the table of the Lord are sent forth to bring the Good News to others, to share our faith with those who hunger for the love of God, and to share our food with those who hunger and thirst. The grace of our baptism equips us for mission and makes us accountable for how we serve the Lord and one another. This process only ends when we enter the kingdom of God and feast at the heavenly banquet.

Strengthened by the Eucharist and formed by our weekly participation in the sacrificial meal which is the ultimate model for self-giving love, we must see those in need around us.

Enjoy these Reflections below ↓

### Corpus Christi: Sacrifice, Presence, Communion

On May 26, 2023, Benet Academy and Chesterton Academy—two Catholic high schools—teamed up to host a two mile Eucharistic procession through the busy streets of Lisle, Illinois. Over 300 came to participate, most of whom were under 18 years old.

Sr. Alicia Torres was invited to share a reflection in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament during Eucharistic adoration before the procession began. We are delighted to share these audio files of her talk in English and Spanish with you as we all prepare to participate in Eucharistic processions on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi this weekend!

<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/post/corpus-christi-sacrifice-presence-communion>

From Formed, **Lauda Sion Salvatore**

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi-June 11, 2023

<https://watch.formed.org/daily/season:36/videos/daily-reflections-solemnity-of-corpus-christi-june-11-2023>

Below is a prayer card to highlight the Eucharistic Revival