PARISH TRANSFORMATION

EUCHARISTIC REVIVE REVIVE

Personal Reflection: Becky Davis, Family Ministries Coordinator

I'm envious of those who just know. Of those who just have childlike faith. Who just believe without any proof. I'm not like that. I've always been more of the stereotypical doubting Thomas type. When a new Eucharistic Miracle shows up I'll go through all the reasons why it's likely not true before I'll believe that it is. When there's a new incorruptible potential saint, I will go through all the scientific reasoning first. In fact, I will question Church teaching and God on most things until there is proof. And He shows up. When I look, the answers are there. God reminds me of the Truth. And knowing the Truth informs my actions.



If you've ever been in my line when I'm an Extraordinary Minister, you may notice that I hold the Eucharistic up intentionally, as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness and the Son of Man was lifted up on the cross before I announce to the communicant, "the body of Christ". And when I approach the Altar, no matter how many flowers or tables I'm carrying, you will see me kneel to honor Christ, our Eucharistic King, or at minimum bow because the God of the universe who took on death so I can live is present there and deserves my reverence.

If I stopped doing the actions that remind me of the Truth, would I forget and slip away? Maybe. And if I didn't surround myself with strong community that believes, would I forget and stop coming? I don't know. But I know somewhere in the back of my mind the certainty of the Truth that I've found. I know that Jesus can only be Liar, Lunatic, or Lord. And of those He is Lord, even if sometimes the doubts in my mind creep in. And I know His Word is True. And that means John 6 is True. And when Jesus says this bread is my flesh, it's True. And so I'll kneel, and bow, and distribute with intentionality. And I'll go to the Church where He is present and pray because He is there in a special way. And I'll surround myself with community who reminds me of the Truth.

Maybe this is too raw and too real. Maybe you don't think that those who work in ministry should have doubts and wrestle with the Lord. But some of us do. I think it's important that we wrestle with the things together in community and seek together for Truth. I won't stop wrestling with the Lord. And now that you know, you have permission to hold me accountable if you ever see me start to slide. Because in the depths of my heart, even if I sometimes doubt, I know Truth.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON WHAT THE EUCHARIST MEANS TO YOU, CONTACT MARY AT COMMUNICATIONS@STJOSEPHMECH.ORG OR 717-766-9433.