

CALLED & SENT

Blessed | Broken | Given

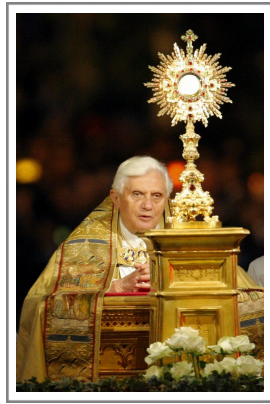


Diocese of Metuchen
Parish Phase

- Sunday, June 11, 2023
- Corpus Christi
- Resources are being compiled.



- July 17-21, 2024
- Indianapolis, IN
- An encounter with the living Jesus Christ renewing our Church and sending us on mission for the life of the world.
- Registration opens February 2023.
- 80,000-100,000 expected to attend.
- Our diocese is actively planning this phase.



“To the end”

“The sacrament of charity, the Holy Eucharist is the gift that Jesus Christ makes of himself, thus revealing to us God's infinite love for every man and woman. This wondrous sacrament makes manifest that ‘greater’ love which led him to ‘lay down his life for his friends’ (Jn 15:13). Jesus did indeed love them ‘to the end’ (Jn 13:1). In those words the Evangelist introduces Christ's act of immense humility: before dying for us on the Cross, he tied a towel around himself and washed the feet of his disciples. In the same way, Jesus continues, in the sacrament of the Eucharist, to love us ‘to the end,’ even to offering us his body and his blood.

What amazement must the Apostles have felt in witnessing what the Lord did and said during that Supper! What wonder must the eucharistic mystery also awaken in our own hearts!

The first element of eucharistic faith is the mystery of God himself, trinitarian love. In Jesus' dialogue with Nicodemus, we find an illuminating expression in this regard: ‘God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him’ (Jn 3:16-17). These words show the deepest source of God's gift. In the Eucharist Jesus does not give us a ‘thing,’ but himself; he offers his own body and pours out his own blood. He thus gives us the totality of his life and reveals the ultimate origin of this love. He is the eternal Son, given to us by the Father. In the Gospel we hear how Jesus, after feeding the crowds by multiplying the loaves and fishes, says to those who had followed him to the synagogue of Capernaum: ‘My Father gives you the true bread from heaven; for the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world’ (Jn 6:32-33), and even identifies himself, his own flesh and blood, with that bread: ‘I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh’ (Jn 6:51). Jesus thus shows that he is the bread of life which the eternal Father gives to mankind.”

SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS, Pope Benedict XVI

Struggling to Believe in the Eucharist?

If you are Catholic and struggling to believe in the Church's teaching on the Eucharist, you are not alone.

3 Ways To Grow In Your Belief Of The Eucharist

1. Read the Scriptures

Read the Scriptures (especially the Gospels), trust that Jesus wants to nourish us, think through the implications, and draw on the living Tradition of the Church.

At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist as a memorial of His death and resurrection. He did this to perpetuate His sacrifice, which was to come, on the Cross until the end of time. He also instituted the priesthood at the same time.

The Sacred Scriptures are full of foreshadowing of the Eucharist, outright explanations of the Eucharist, and references back to the Eucharist. In a sense, every page points us to the Holy Eucharist. In a special way, the Gospels give us the words of Jesus Himself. So, it is worthwhile to spend some time reading or re-reading what He has to say about the Eucharist:

- Matthew 26:26-30 (Last Supper)
- Mark 14:22-26 (Last Supper)
- Luke 22:14-20 (Last Supper)
- John 6:22-59 (Bread of Life Discourse)

“This is the wonderful truth, my dear friends: the Word, which became flesh two thousand years ago, is present today in the Eucharist.”

– St. John Paul II

2. Trust in Jesus' Desire to Nourish Us

Jesus loves you and me. He gives us His Flesh as food because He wants to nourish us. He says, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him (Jn. 6:56).” Through His incarnation and birth, He humbled Himself to share in our humanity. In the Eucharist, we become united to the Person of Jesus Christ. Our mortal and sinfully inclined natures are transformed by our union to the font of life.

We must trust that our Lord wants the best for us. And the best that He can give us is Himself. Therefore, He desires to come to us in the humble form of food to nourish our bodies and souls. When we struggle to believe because our human senses fail, we need to see with the eyes of faith in our trust of Him.

“As the body cannot be sustained without corporeal food, nor continue in natural life, so without this life-giving food the soul cannot persist in the spiritual life of grace.”

– Dionysius the Carthusian



“... nearly seven-in-ten Catholics (69%) say they personally believe that during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine used in Communion ‘are symbols of the body and blood of Jesus Christ.’ Just one-third of U.S. Catholics (31%) say they believe that ‘during Catholic Mass, the bread and wine actually become the body and blood of Jesus.’”

– PEW RESEARCH

3. Think it Through and Draw on Tradition

The bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and not merely symbols. Jesus Christ Himself said, "This is my body" and "this is my blood." The appearances remain but the substance has changed.

If the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, under the veil of a Sacrament, then worship makes sense. During the Mass, we kneel before the Blessed Sacrament. The priest says, "Behold the Lamb of God" while holding up the Eucharist. He kneels and we kneel. If the Eucharist were merely a symbol, then we are worshipping bread and committing horrid blasphemy.

This is the reality: the Eucharist is either Jesus or we are worshipping bread.

"It is not the man who is responsible for the offerings as they become Christ's Body and Blood; it is Christ Himself who was crucified for us. The standing figure belongs to the priest who speaks these words. The power and the grace belong to God. 'This is My Body,' he says. And these words transform the offerings."

-St. John Chrysostom



LECTURE SERIES: "THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH"

January 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Presenter: Very Reverend Timothy Christy

Location: Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen

Fr. Christy, Rector of the Cathedral, will be exploring the USCCB's document on the Eucharist. As Christians, we know that we need Christ to be present in our lives. He is our very sustenance as he reminded us: unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you (John 6:53). The Lord accompanies us in many ways, but none as profound as when we encounter Him in the Eucharist. Please join Fr. Christy for this important event.

Tuesday, January 24th @ 7:00 p.m. - Structure of the Mass

Tuesday, February 7th @ 7:00 p.m. - Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, February 15th @ 7:00 p.m. - Liturgy of the Eucharist w/ the celebration of Mass.

St. Bartholomew Church, 470 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, NJ

Fr. Tim Eck, STL-Lit.
Director of the
Office of Divine
Worship

**Save
the
Date!**



PREPARE FOR THE CATHOLIC EVENT OF THE DECADE!



At this historic gathering, Catholics of all ages will come together to worship our Eucharistic Lord with expectant faith. There, the Holy Spirit promises to enkindle a missionary fire in the heart of our nation as we reconsecrate ourselves to the source and summit of our faith.

Our God is a God of miracles. His love heals and transforms us. He sees you exactly where you are and longs to restore you in body, mind, soul, and spirit—to set your heart on fire with his love. You're invited to a historic moment of revival, where he has particular grace planned for YOU.

We know what happens when two or more are gathered in the Lord's name—but what happens with 80,000?! You don't want to miss the 10th National Eucharistic Congress as the Church gathers to ask him to revive our love of the Eucharist, breathing his life into our dry bones. Your life—and our Church—will never be the same!

<https://diometuchen.org/eucharisticrevival>

Dear Friends,

Our diocese is actively planning on how best to execute this “Catholic event of the decade”! At this point, our goal is to have Eucharistic representatives from each parish travel and join Catholics of all ages at this event.

The diocese has acquired 100 tickets to participate, however, public registration opens in February!

If you would like to receive updates and a notification when you can register and purchase a ticket please visit: <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/>

As more information is made available, you can visit <https://diometuchen.org/eucharisticrevival>



Parish Resources

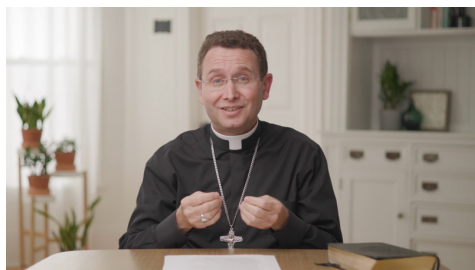


FREE VIDEO CONTENT

Explore Eucharistic Teaching

Learn what the Church teaches about this precious gift and why it is pivotal to your spiritual journey. Browse our free library of videos on the Eucharist for information and inspiration!

Visit: <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/video-content-sign-up>



FREE COURSE BY BISHOP COZZENS

Learn How to Embrace the Gift of the Eucharist

Bishop Andrew Cozzens presents the incredible reality of the Real Presence, unpacks “The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church” as published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and invites you to respond to this radical gift. Discover practical ways you can spread a love for the Eucharist in your community!

Visit: <https://reviveparishes.com/eucharist>

