

Dear Parishioners,

Eucharistic Revival! This year we are in the midst of a 3-year Eucharistic Revival throughout the entire United States. This year, year 2, the focus is on increasing awareness in the parishes of our country. It will culminate with a Eucharistic Congress in Indiana July 17-21. Two months prior to the Eucharistic Congress, there will be Eucharistic Processions that will begin from 4 starting points in the country and all end in Indiana. The Eucharistic Processions will begin in San Francisco, CA (St. Junipero Serra Route), Lake Itasca, MN (Marian Route), New Haven, CT (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route), and Brownsville, TX (St. Juan Diego Route). The routes themselves form a cross, all converging in Indiana in time for the Congress. You can even go to the Eucharistic Revival website to find information on how to join part of one of those Eucharistic Processions if you like.

Last year was year 1, the focus was on the Archdiocesan level, to make people aware of the Eucharistic Revival and next year, year 3, will focus on us as Catholics going out to the world and helping people to understand that God really is in our midst, in the Eucharist.

Between now and the Eucharistic Congress in July, we will be increasing times of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Eucharist. This increase will take place before Masses on weekends at least once a month, ending with Benediction right before each Mass begins for that weekend. Immediately following each Mass on that weekend we will expose the Blessed Sacrament, giving people an opportunity to stay and spend some time with the Lord Jesus in prayer. Please observe silence in the church especially on those days as people will be spending that time in prayer.

We will have classes throughout the year on the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and understanding the Mass. These will be held especially during Advent and Lent, but also at some of the Women's group meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month (except in December, when there will be no meeting) and all the Men's group meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (except in December, when there will be no meeting)

We will also have at least one Eucharistic Procession on the feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, at 1:45 pm. My hope is that all parishioners would join in this procession.

There is also a group being organized by Tom Gray and Scholastica White, to go in person to the Eucharistic Congress in Indiana.

You can find information throughout the year in our bulletin, on our Facebook page and/or website.

This is the first Eucharistic Congress to be held in the United States in 83 years. They are expecting about 80,000 Catholics to come to the Congress in July. It is an exciting time, an opportunity for our own faith to be revived, to grow in hope in a difficult time in the world and in the Archdiocese as we face Partners in the Gospel together. It is a great reminder that what, or rather who, unites us as the body of Christ, is the Lord Jesus Himself. Our Lord humbles Himself every single day to come among us in the Eucharist on altars around the world as daily and weekend Masses are celebrated.

In the peace of Christ,

Fr. Nick Wichert