

**Real Presence** 

News & Updates from the Diocese of Buffalo May 2023

#### Where have we been? Where are we going?

To some the Eucharist, and likewise, the Eucharistic Revival, are both a mystery! The National Eucharistic Revival, sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), is trying to restore understanding and fidelity to the great mystery of Jesus really and truly present in the Eucharist as we try to encourage each other, indeed all Catholics, to make the Eucharist the source and summit of their faith.

The revival opened June 19, 2022, on the solemnity of Corpus Christi. This feast celebrates Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist. Many dioceses, and parishes here in our own diocese, marked the day last year with Eucharistic processions.

The revival is taking shape over the course of three years - the "Diocesan Year," nearly completed, with prayer and planning, reflection and renewal for priests and diocesan leaders; the "Parish Year," (2023) and the "Year of Missionary Sending" (2024).

The Parish Year, which begins June 11, 2023 (Corpus Christi) will focus more on you, the "parishioner in the pew" in our parishes and families, to search for and foster ways that we as Catholics can experience the Eucharist and deepen our friendship with Christ Jesus. With this comes the hope that we will be inspired to share that friendship with others.

Finally, in 2024, the "Year of Missionary Sending" will include the National Eucharistic Congress (the first in 83 years!) in Indianapolis that will culminate at Pentecost 2025.

#### New York State Eucharistic Congress

As part of the National Eucharistic Revival, the bishops of the State of New York are hosting a statewide Eucharistic Congress October 20-22, 2023 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs in Auriesville, New York. This is a <u>FREE EVENT</u> open to individuals, groups and parishes. Great, nationally-recognized speakers will witness to the power of the Eucharist; Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration and Processions will all be a part of the weekend. Cardinal Dolan and the Bishops will offer Mass throughout the weekend. See the attached flyers and visit <u>https://nyseucharisticcongress.org/</u> to learn more about how you can be involved and to register. Be a part of a gathering of 10,000 Catholics from across the state! Make your plans today!

# Mary, Mother of the Church

On February 11, 2018, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments inscribed a new obligatory Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, into the General Roman Calendar. This memorial is celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost (this year on May 29, 2023, which coincides with Memorial Day). In this time of National Eucharistic Revival, we call upon Mary to renew and reignite our fervor and belief in the Eucharist.



"Taking into consideration the close ties by which Mary and the Church are bound together, to the glory of the Blessed Virgin and for our consolation, We

declare Mary Most Holy to be Mother of the Church, that is, of the whole Christian people, faithful and Pastors alike, who invoke her as their most loving Mother; and We establish that by this sweetest of names the whole Christian people should henceforth give still greater honor to the Mother of God and offer her their supplications. ...this concerns a title by no means new to Christian piety; indeed the Christian faithful and the universal Church choose to invoke Mary principally by the name of Mother. In truth, this name belongs to the genuine nature of devotion to Mary, since it rests firmly on that very dignity with which Mary is endowed as the Mother of the Incarnate Word of God.

Just as the Divine Motherhood is the basis both for Mary's unique relationship with Christ and for her presence in the work of human salvation accomplished by Christ Jesus, so likewise, it is principally from the Divine Motherhood that the relationships which exist between Mary and the Church flow. Mary is indeed the Mother of Christ who, at the moment he assumed human nature in her virginal womb, joined to himself, as Head, his Mystical Body, which is the Church. Mary, therefore, as Mother of Christ, must also be regarded as Mother of all the faithful and Pastors alike, that is to say, of the Church."

— From the Address of Pope Saint Paul VI, at the conclusion of the third session of the most holy Second Vatican Council (November 21, 1964)

### **Upcoming Events**

MAY 14, 2023MASS & HOLY HOUR MEMORIAL FOR BUFFALO SHOOTING VICTIMSSAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL, 10:30 AM

JUNE 11, 2023 SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI - Processions throughout the Diocese

**OCTOBER 20-22, 2023** NEW YORK STATE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS OUR LADY OF MARTYRS SHRINE, AURIESVILLE, NY

JULY 2024 NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

# Questions?

Email worship@buffalodiocese.org or call (716) 847-5545 https://www.buffalodiocese.org/eucharistic-revival/

