

We're having a what?

Dear Parish Family,

Only 31% of us believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist – three out of every 10 Catholics, according to Pew Research Center. This shocking reality has been a major topic at the general assemblies of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). They recognized a great need in our country for a renewal in Eucharistic catechesis and it was through their discernment that they created a three year initiative called the National Eucharistic Revival. This revival officially launched on June 19, 2022 for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi).

If you haven't heard about it, don't worry! You are not alone as most of our brothers and sisters in Christ are just finding out as well. Here's what we need to know. The USCCB has dedicated the next three years to serving a specific purpose in the National Eucharistic Revival's mission. Last year, during the year of diocesan revival, not much was mentioned or done in our diocese since most of our energy was focused on welcoming a new bishop, which is understandable.

This year is dedicated to fostering Eucharistic devotion at the parish level where we hope to foster Eucharistic devotion by strengthening our liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit.

With that said, it is my hope and sincere prayer that this dedicated time be fruitful in reviving our love for the Lord truly present in the Eucharist. During the year, our parish family will be provided with many opportunities to grow our love for Jesus who is present and waits for us in the Eucharist. One of those resources will be our weekly bulletin columns entitled Eucharistic Revival | Jesus in Our Parish. Here, we will dive into different areas of Eucharistic findings that will help strengthen our understanding so as to give rise to a deeper faith as we are reminded by Saint Anselm of Canterbury that "faith seeks understanding."

Throughout each month, our column will help us to see the Eucharist foreshadowed in the Old Testament and how it is brought to completion in the New Testament. We will look at the most profound and recent Church documents on the Eucharist, as well as review liturgical texts to better understand that how we pray affects what we believe. With Sacred Scripture and Church Teachings, we will have a solid foundation to truly be inspired by the lives of saints who had strong Eucharistic devotions and then marvel at how even science supports our belief in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We are excited to offer this endeavor for our parish family and to provide opportunities more centered around our Lord in the Eucharist.

For more information on the National Eucharistic Revival, please visit the official website (eucharisticrevival.org), and see how the Holy Spirit might be moving you to better encounter Christ in the Eucharist. Meanwhile, we pray that you will benefit from our weekly bulletin articles and parish activities throughout this year of Eucharistic revival.

Your parish priest,

