

Summer 2022

Dear St. Jude Parishioners:

The Diocese of Baton Rouge, in conjunction with the church throughout the United States, is entering into a process of *Eucharistic Renewal*. This is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the meaning and place of this sacrament in our lives, as well as an opportunity to invite those who feel distant from church, for whatever reason, to return and reconnect.

Here at Saint Jude, we will be initiating a parish-based implementation of this process. The process itself and the opportunities that come with it will involve both our parish and school, as we are one community in faith.

Included in this packet, you will find:

- An Explanation of the Overall Process
- An Amazing Survey Finding
- Basic Eucharistic Terminology
- The Introduction and Explanation of our Parish Theme
- Initiatives to Be Undertaken in St. Jude Parish

I invite you to take the time to read through these materials, so that you can become familiar with this project. In the near future, we will also be making available other resources to be used at home.

Thank you again to all of you for being such an amazing community. I look forward to this next year and this time of renewal with you.

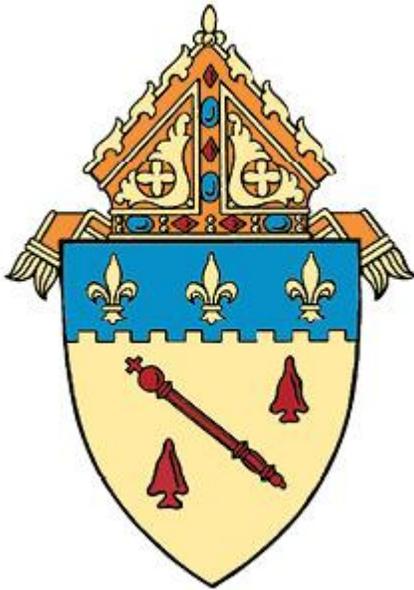
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Trey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Trey Nelson
Pastor

Eucharistic Revival

A 3 Year Process



That the People in Our Land Might Encounter Jesus in a Living and Personal Way in the Most Holy Eucharist

In late 2019, a **Pew Study** indicated what many had long suspected. Few Catholics, approximately 30 percent, fully believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. This stark reality inspired the Bishops of the United States to action. More than an event or a program, they envisioned a true Revival to rediscover the source and summit of our Faith through a deep commitment of prayer, pilgrimage, and worship on the part of the entire Church in the United States.

The Bishops of the United States are calling for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the United States, healed, converted, formed and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and sent out on mission “for the life of the world.”

These powerful words from the prophet of Ezekiel cut to the heart of what it means to experience a revival. To “revive” means “to return to life.” For many, the initial Eucharistic amazement that is experienced when receiving the Blessed Sacrament for the first time has become dim. Joy-filled expectation has been replaced with routine. For many a living and personal relationship with Jesus seems impossible.

For others, such a relationship has become dulled or suffocated by other concerns. Whether you’re a Catholic with a Eucharistic devotion spanning 50 years, someone who has drifted away from the faith, or a person who has never stepped foot in a Catholic Church, you are welcome here. This revival is a time to discover or renew a relationship with Jesus by encountering Him in the Blessed Sacrament, where He is always present and always seeking an encounter with you. We hope you join us on this journey.



An Amazing Survey Result

31%

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."*

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Key Words and Phrases

Eucharist

The term early Christians used to refer to their worship gatherings where they listened to God's word and offered thanks by presenting bread and wine to fulfill the command of Jesus to "do this in memory of me." In this celebration, also known as Mass, Jesus transforms the bread and wine into his Body and Blood so that the people of God can be united with him and each other. Along with the entire celebration, these transformed elements are also called the Eucharist.

Blessed Sacrament

A term used to refer to the consecrated bread and wine, now become the Body and Blood of Christ. The Blessed Sacrament is often reserved in tabernacles, reverent receptacles in Catholic churches, so that Christ can be adored there and so the Eucharist can later be brought to the sick and dying.

Transubstantiation

A classic theological term used to describe how the innermost reality of the bread and wine offered at Mass are transformed into the presence of Jesus, even when the appearance of bread and wine remain.

True/Real Presence

A phrase used to emphasize the sacramental presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Though Jesus is present in his Word in the Bible, in His people, in the poor, and other places, He is most especially present in the Eucharist. "For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him"

(John 6:54-55)

From Pope Paul VI

This presence is called 'real' not to exclude the idea that the others are real' too, but rather to indicate presence par excellence, because it is substantial and through it Christ becomes present whole and entire, God and man."

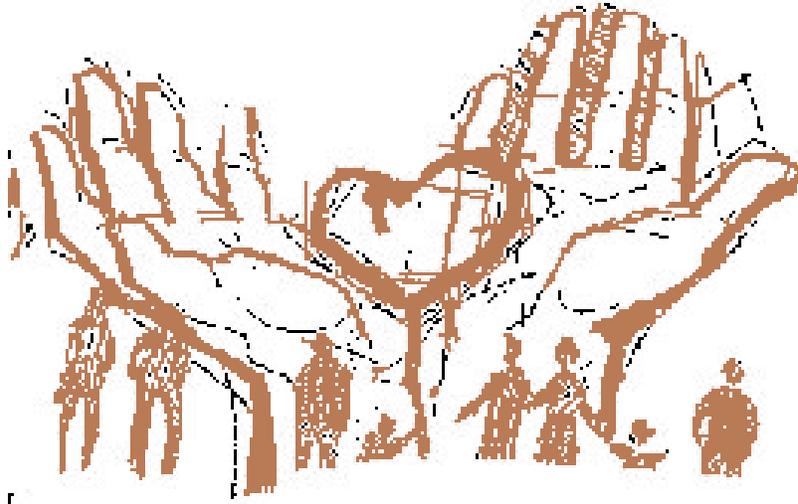
(Pope Paul VI, Mysterium Fidei, 39)

Eucharistic Renewal in St. Jude the Apostle Parish

In our parish, plans are underway to invite members of our community into a personal renewal of connection to the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. It will be our effort also to reach out to those who may feel disconnected from church and invite them into a renewal of their relationship with Christ and with community. This will be a combined effort between church and school.



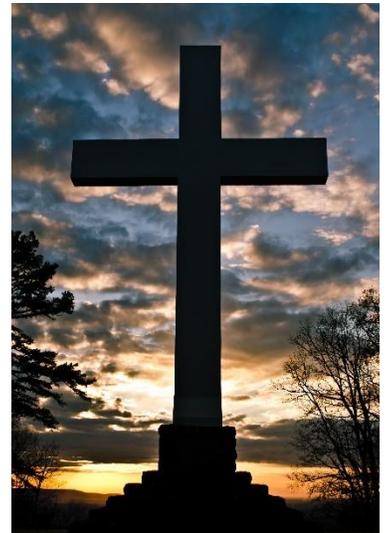
Our 2022-23 Parish-Wide Theme



“I Will Never Forget You!” (Isaiah 49:15)

All of us prayed earnestly for an “end to the pandemic.” While there are still some concerns in this regard, we have overcome so much and have moved back into the regular pace of life as normal. However, now, along with the lasting effects of the past 2 to 3 years, there are other realities and issues that cause us anxiety and, in many cases, fear: the reality of war, school violence, gun violence, racism, economic down-turn, natural disaster, and change for many in work ethic, and so on. Along with these international, national, and local challenges, we each have our personal issues going on in our own lives.

With this in mind, we offer to our parish-wide community our theme for 2022 and 2023, ***“I Will Never Forget You!”*** This is based on the scripture Isaiah 49:15. In a time of so many challenges, both recurring and new, we all need to be a sign for each other that God, indeed, is with us, is ever-faithful, and will not forget us. Ever.





IN ST. JUDE PARISH

Participation in *Diocesan Renewal*
(See web address below)

Parish Council *Community Engagement Plan*

Parent Survey: The Effects of Technology on Family Life

Emphasis on Eucharist in *School and P.S.R. Curriculum*s

Fr. Trey's *Series on Eucharist:*
"What it Means to Be a Eucharistic People"

Concerted Effort *to Invite Distant Catholics to Return* to Our Community

Renewal of *Formation in Sacramental Theology and Practice*

Dates, Times, and Sign-Up Links to Come Soon!



**For a Detailed Description of the
3-Year Process of Eucharistic Renewal
in the Diocese of Baton Rouge**

www.diobr.org



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
of
BATON ROUGE
Office of the Bishop

June 19, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It is with great hope and excitement that on this Solemnity of *Corpus Christi* I announce, in union with the other Bishops of the United States, the beginning of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative that aims to renew the Church by rekindling a living relationship with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

Throughout this Eucharistic Revival, we will be planning, at the diocesan and parish levels, opportunities for prayer, conferences, missions, and retreats to help us increase our understanding of our Catholic faith and deepen our belief in the centrality of the Eucharist in our lives. We also hope that this revival will inspire a movement of the Holy Spirit to awaken within each one of us a desire for a deeper personal relationship with Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In 2024, the revival will culminate with a National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

Why this revival now? In recent years, we have experienced many trials as a nation. These challenges have not only upset our comforting routines, but they have shaken our foundational trust in our institutions, communities and even our Church where we have traditionally turned for security, meaning and hope. We are all in need of healing and are looking for answers and ways to deal with the overwhelming challenges of life.

Unwisely though, in these moments when we need guidance and direction, we all too often look to worldly advice rather than to the very source of wisdom and hope, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Why are members of the faithful not turning to Christ in these troubled times? For some of us, the initial joy and amazement we once felt in receiving the Blessed Sacrament at Mass has become dimmed. For others, our attendance at Mass feels more like an obligation as we have replaced the love of God with the love of worldly things. For many, a living and personal relationship with Jesus seems impossible.

It is my hope that the Eucharistic Revival will indicate how far we have moved away from God in our lives and help us rediscover a living relationship with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

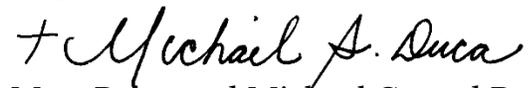
Whether you are a Catholic with a Eucharistic devotion spanning 50 years, someone who has drifted away from the faith, or a person who has never stepped foot in a Catholic church, I am inviting you to allow the Lord to revive your heart.

This revival is a time to discover or renew a relationship with Jesus by encountering Him in the Blessed Sacrament, where He is always present and always seeking an encounter with us. We hope you join us on this journey.

Thus, it is with joy that I announce the Eucharistic Revival in the Diocese of Baton Rouge has officially begun!

To learn more about our diocese's Eucharistic Revival, visit <https://diobr.org/eucharisticrevival>.

Hope in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Duca". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Michael Gerard Duca
Bishop of Baton Rouge