



"Real Presence"

"O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!"

Volume 2

A publication of Apostles of the Real Presence
Consecrated to Mary, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Issue 2: 2001

"Just as the sun is the source of all energy and warmth, so is the Blessed Sacrament the source of all grace and love."

The goal of this newsletter and our Apostolate, Apostles of the Real Presence, is to make Jesus Christ Known, Loved, and Adored in the Blessed Sacrament.

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PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: ANSWER TO FR. RANDALL'S PRAYER

by Lee Grossi

Fr. Randall encourages every parish to develop a Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration program. In his usual exhilaration when speaking about the "Host exposed," Fr. Randall exhorts "How I wish our Church were more obedient to Pope John Paul II! Did you know that he, at the Eucharistic Congress in Seville, Spain in 1993, requested that every parish in the world inaugurate perpetual adoration? He started it himself at that time in St. Peter's in Rome. What fantastic graces await us if we only step out and do this! I believe that if it can be done in an inner city parish, it can be done everywhere. Don't be afraid. 'Duc in altum,' ('set out into the deep') as John Paul urges us at the beginning of this new millennium. The Eucharistic reign of Christ will do the rest!"



Fr. John Randall, Pastor of St. Charles Parish on Dexter Street in Providence, spoke of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration as an answer to a pastor's prayer, when he was keynote speaker at a Corpus Christi vigil observance at St. Bartholomew Parish in Providence in 1999.

Since Fr. Randall started adoration in a converted sacristy which now serves as the adoration chapel, he has more time to devote to his priesthood ministry rather than counseling his parishioners. He lovingly says "... people are finding peace and answers before Jesus while in adoration."

In 1984, St. Charles' parishioners first brought their pains and worries before Our Eucharistic Lord Jesus Christ in adoration.

Fr. Randall recalls "I had always dreamed of being in a parish where there was easy and constant access to the Blessed Sacrament. When I was assigned pastor of St. Charles Parish in the inner city of Providence in 1978, one of my disappointments was the realization that this would never happen here. The insurance companies would insist on keeping the Church locked for security reasons. I more or less tried to live with that."

After six years of obedience, Fr. Randall received a 'messenger from God.' He reminisces "in 1984, a priest preaching perpetual adoration came knocking at my door asking if I were interested in having

not only access to the Blessed Sacrament, but perpetual adoration before the Host exposed. I told him I would love that, but it was not possible, given our dangerous inner-city position." Encouragingly, "he replied, 'Let's go see your church and take a look.'

Within a very short time, he drew up a practical plan to solve our security problems and have adoration." This priest sent by God described how "we could transform our very large sacristy into an adoration chapel with beautiful, multi-colored stained glass windows." He proposed that the chapel be "self-enclosed, locked off from the rest of the Church, with a separate and secure entrance and a bell. People could be trained to come on the hour, ring the bell and the person finishing that hour of adoration would let the next adorers in. I was ecstatic over this dream come true."

As a follow-up, this wonderful priest came to St. Charles "on the following week-

See "Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration ..." cont'd on back page...



For information on promoting Eucharistic Adoration, please call us at (401) 943-4171. We have available literature, representatives and a program to assist pastors for a successful and sustainable Eucharistic Adoration commitment.

EARLY CHURCH FATHERS, THE REAL PRESENCE AND A MIRACLE

St. John Chrysostom, "Homilies on the Second Epistle to Timothy," 2,4, c. 397 A.D.

"I wish to add something that is plainly awe-inspiring, but do not be astonished or upset. This Sacrifice, no matter who offers it, be it Peter or Paul, is always the same as that which Christ gave His disciples and which priests now offer: The offering of today is in no way inferior to that which Christ offered, because it is not men who sanctify the offering of today; it is the same Christ who sanctified His own. For just as the words which God spoke are the very same as those which the priest now speaks, so too the oblation is the very same."



St. Ambrose of Milan,

"On the Mysteries" 9, 50-52, 58; 391 A.D.

"Let us be assured that this is not what nature formed, but what the blessing consecrated, and that greater efficacy resides in the blessing than in nature, for by the blessing nature is changed. . . . Surely the word of Christ, which could make out of nothing that which did not exist, can change things already in existence into what they were not. For it is no less extraordinary to give things new natures than to change their natures. . . . Christ is in that Sacrament, because it is the Body of Christ; yet, it is not on that account corporeal food, but spiritual. Whence also His Apostle says of the type: 'For our fathers ate spiritual food and drink spiritual drink.' [1 Cor. 10:2-4] For the body of God is a spiritual body."

† † †

THE REAL PRESENCE = JESUS CHRIST, BODY, BLOOD, SOUL AND DIVINITY

"It is not the power of man which makes what is put before us the Body and Blood of Christ, but the power of Christ Himself who was crucified for us. The priest standing there in the place of Christ says these words but their power and grace are from God. 'This is My Body,' he says, and these words transform what lies before him."

St. John Chrysostom, "Homilies on the Treachery of Judas" 1,6; d. 407 A.D.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE at *BOLSENA*

It is 1263, and a priest called Peter of Prague who was having doubts about the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, made a pilgrimage towards Rome, stopping for a night at the village of Bolsena where he celebrated Mass at the Church of Santa Christina. His fervent prayer to God to restore his faith was answered when at the elevation of the host at the Consecration as he said the words "This Is My Body," the host turned into Flesh and began to bleed profusely.

Also, at this time, a particular heresy, Berengarianism, was strong throughout Europe, which denied the true presence of Jesus. Our Lord gave the Church at this time powerful saints to counteract the dark periods: St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua.

Of great importance also in this miracle story is Pope Urban IV and Blessed Juliana of Liege, Belgium, who received visions and a message from Jesus to institute a feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Juliana had told only archdeacon of Liege, who later became Pope Urban IV, of the message she received from Jesus. She died before her mission could be completed.

Pope Urban IV was in Orvieto at the time of the miracle and Peter of Prague went there to tell him of his experience. The Pope sent a bishop to Bolsena to verify Peter of Prague's experience but he did not wait for the bishop to return. The Pope, followed by the entire population of Orvieto, went out to meet the Bishop and immediately went down on his knees at the sight of Jesus on the Sacred Corporal. The Pope brought the Miraculous Corporal back to Orvieto and declared that the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena truly dispelled the rampant heresies of the day.

At the same time, someone contacted the Pope and repeated the request of Blessed Juliana for a feast day to honor the Blessed Sacrament. It is recorded that throughout the following year, the Pope devoted almost all of his time to writing the Papal Bull, *Transi-turus*, published on August 11, 1264, thus instituting the Feast of Corpus Christi, in honor of the Blessed Sacrament.

GLORIOUS RESURRECTION & FIRES OF PENTECOST LEAD US TO KINGSHIP OF JESUS

Pope John Paul II, our Holy Father stated in his May 10, 2000 General Audience message that "The final destination of Christ's journey through life is not the darkness of the tomb, but the shining Heaven of the Resurrection. Our faith is based on this mystery, and in *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, it is written "The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the paschal mystery along with the cross" (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n. 638).

Jesus' Sacrifice on the Cross makes us sons and daughters of the Father as he revealed in John 20:17 "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God," ensuring our eternal salvation when we shall blossom in glories of our own resurrection.

Appearing in His Glorified Body in the Upper Room on the evening of Easter Sunday, Jesus said "Peace be with you." The Apostles were comforted and faith in their Savior and the great mystery of everlasting life was renewed.

Just as God the Father gave "the breath of life" to the first man, Adam, by breathing into his nostrils (Gen. 2:7), Jesus breathed on the Apostles and said "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." The Sacrament of Penance is instituted, the power to forgive sins is given to Jesus' bishops and priests—the Apostles, and we are given new life.

Jesus would appear to His Apostles for the next forty days, and ascend to the Father with the assurance "You will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses . . . to the ends of the earth."

Fires of Pentecost

Jesus' promise was fulfilled in Jerusalem on Pentecost, fifty days after His Resurrection as the Apostles and worshippers from every

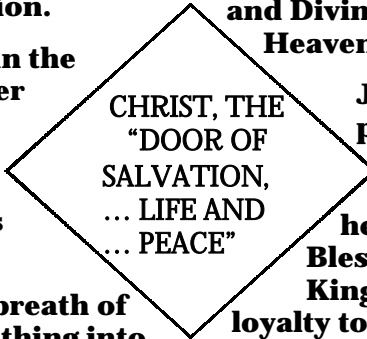
nation gathered. "Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues" (Acts 2:2-4). They received the gifts of the holy Spirit, became united as one body through the Spirit and thousands believed that Jesus is the Lord and Savior of all peoples.

Jesus is Christ the King

Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ is Lord of Heaven and Earth. He is the King of all Creation, the one who came down to earth and made God visible to us. He makes us His subjects and rules us, leads us, protects us, gives us a share in His eternal Kingdom, and never leaves us as we share in His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in partaking of the Bread from Heaven, Jesus Himself in the Eucharist.

Jesus is a peaceable King who waits patiently at the door for us to knock and ask Him to be part of our lives. He invites us to soak in his healing rays as we adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus longs to be King of our hearts. We owe much loyalty to Jesus, our King, for enduring the pain and suffering that was due us. Jesus is our invincible King, who remains our lifelong friend and companion as we journey on earth through the trials and crosses in our daily lives. All Jesus asks of us is to allow Him to love us and respond to that love by heeding His Commandments, carrying our crosses, following Him and acknowledging Him, thereby bearing witness to everyone we meet of the saving powers of Jesus Christ.

St. John tells us in the Book of Revelation that Christ is "the ruler of the kings of the earth." (Rev. 1:5) Pope Pius XI, in his encyclical letter of December 11, 1925 "*Quas Primas*," reminds us of the words 'You were not redeemed with corruptible things, but with the Precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb unspotted and undefiled.' All Glory to You, Jesus Christ, our Sovereign King!



FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI: BLESSED JULIANA'S HIDDEN MISSION OF 20 YEARS



"The moon, which is appearing to you, is a figure of My Church. The dark line passing over it, and veiling some of its brightness, is to signify that a great feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament is wanting to complete its glory."

This was the interior message received by 18-year old Belgian Augustinian nun, Juliana, in the year 1208. Orphaned at age 5, nuns raised her in an Augustinian convent in the Belgian town of Cornillon.

In 1206, she experienced the mysterious vision of seeing a full moon which was darkened in one area. She only told her superior of this vision but it was not until 18 years later that she divulged the message to the archdeacon of Liege, Jacques Pantaleon.

Providentially, this archdeacon later became the Pope Urban IV and in the year 1264, he established and decreed the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Juliana did not see the reality of her mission and suffered much to bring Jesus' message to the world. Through the years, disbelieved by her own religious "sisters," with whom she lived for fifty years, her last years were full of scorn and persecution. Ultimately those "sisters" made her an outcast, literally throwing her out on the streets because she tried to reform the convent rule.

For all her suffering and dedication to His mission Jesus allowed Juliana to die while kneeling in adoration upon her straw bed as a priest held the Blessed Sacrament before her on April 3, 1258. Juliana was beatified by the Church as Blessed Juliana of Liege.

Though Pope Urban IV enjoyed a brief pontificate, his important works were to establish the great Feast of Corpus Christi and to ask the young Dominican theologian, Thomas Aquinas, to compose the Mass and Office for this feast. St. Thomas Aquinas' Eucharistic canticle, *Pange Lingua*, is most widely known:

*"Sing, my tongue, the Savior's glory,
Of his Flesh the mystery sing;
Of the Blood, all price exceeding,
Shed by our immortal King,
Destined, for the world's redemption,
From a noble womb to spring. . . ."*

Today, observation of Corpus Christi processions is widespread throughout the world. Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, wishes that "our adoration never cease." In his apostolic letter, *Domini Cenae*, written in February 1980, less than a year and a half into his pontificate, Our Holy Father wrote "The Church and the world have a great need of Eucharistic worship." And in 1983, our Holy Father promulgated a new Code of Canon Law.

Canon 944: Wherever in the judgement of the diocesan Bishop it can be done, a procession through the streets is to be held, especially on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, as a public witness of veneration of the Blessed Eucharist.

Canon 937: Unless there is a grave reason to the contrary, a church in which the blessed Eucharist is reserved is to be open to the faithful for at least some hours every day, so that they can pray before the blessed Sacrament."

*Come Let Us Adore Him,
Christ our King!*

Spiritual Summer Visits to Jesus for Children

Tip #1: On those hot summer days before you head to enjoy God's beautiful beaches, why not also bring your children to see Jesus before the Blessed Sacrament. The graces received will get them through those young teenage years when peer pressure seems to sway them from the Faith. Just introduce them to a few minutes at each visit...Learning young to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will foster a life-time practice.

Tip #2: Say a daily rosary with your children; it will show them that you are serious about prayer and our Blessed Mother Mary will be pleased—She will protect them from harm.

Have a safe summer, remember the Lord, and look for our next newsletter in September! God bless you!



**“Real Presence”
Newsletter**

Published seven times a year by

Apostles of the Real Presence
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Cranston RI 02920
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*This newsletter is given
without charge, however,
donations are most welcomed.
Thank you.*

“APOSTLES” NEWS . . .

Adoration attendance at St. Cecilia Parish in Pawtucket is thriving. At last visit by a member of this apostolate, 100 people had visited the adoration chapel. Look for a feature article about St. Cecilia Parish and Pastor Francis Santilli in our next newsletter.

With the summer fast approaching, look for us at the various parish feasts in RI. We hope to be evangelizing; stop by and say hello.

Just a reminder that we have Spiritual Mass cards available. Just call us, and we will be glad to send one or more to you. †



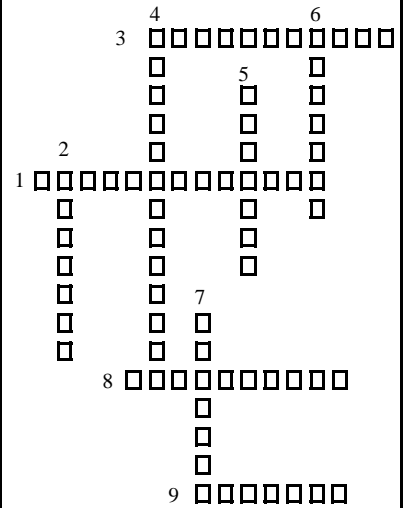
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“Miracle at *Bolsena*”

After beating her, tying a large stone around her neck, throwing her into Lake Bolsena, tradition is that the stone absorbed all the water in the lake, and Christina was found standing in the empty lake on the stone, her feet imprinted in the rock. That rock is embedded in the altar of the Church of Santa Christina, where the Eucharistic Miracle of 1263 took place and where the remains of St. Christina are contained. The Church is now a minor basilica and contains Sacred Marble pieces on which the Precious Blood from the Miracle stained right through.

Pope Urban IV took up residence in Orvieto, where he kept the Sacred Corporal. Prior to the miracle, the wealthy residents of Orvieto had no interest in the cathedral; afterwards money poured in and today an entire side chapel houses the reliquary containing the Eucharistic Corporal of the miracle at Bolsena.

Lastly, St. Thomas Aquinas composed the Liturgy for the Mass and the beautiful hymns, *O Salutaris*, and *Tantum Ergo*, for the feast of Corpus Christi at the request of Pope Urban IV. Just five years after the Miracle at Bolsena, St. Thomas wrote a treatise after being asked by St. Louis IX, King of France, to settle an argument about the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. After writing this treatise, St. Thomas received an apparition from Our Lord, saying “You have written well of the Sacrament of My Body.” At this, St. Thomas went into ecstasy and levi-

“APOSTLES” CROSSWORD



(answers given in next newsletter)

Across

- 1. Feast instituted by Pope Urban IV to honor the Holy Eucharist
- 3. Papal Bull by Pope Urban IV, instituting the Feast of Corpus Christi
- 8. Hymn written for the Feast of Corpus Christi
- 9. 4th Century Saint and Early Church Father who wrote “On the Mysteries”

Down

- 2. Italian city where Pope Urban IV brought the Sacred Corporal of Bolsena.
- 4. 13th century Doctor of the Church who wrote hymns at Pope Urban IV’s request.
- 5. Belgian nun who received a message from Jesus
- 6. 13th century Pope who instituted the Feast of Corpus Christi.
- 7. Italian city where a miraculous host turned to flesh and started bleeding.



**Answers to Crossword
Feb/Mar 2001**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Across: | Down: |
| 1. conscience | 1. sin |
| 2. venial | 2. St. Tarcisus |
| 3. St. Peter
Julian Eymard | 3. indulgence |
| 4. Penitential | |
| 5. mortal | |

(Created by Ari T. Foster)

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: ANSWER TO FR. RANDALL'S PRAYER

cont'd from page 1...

end, explaining the project at all the Masses. Enough people were moved to sign up and we were able to start with three days and one night of adoration," Fr. Randall recalls.

"It was wonderful and began to bring instant blessings to the parish. As time went on, we added more and more hours of adoration until finally at Pentecost, 1996, we bravely launched out into perpetual adoration in the lovely chapel at St. Charles which accommodates about 35 people. It continues with incredible blessings until this day," exclaims Fr. Randall.

Praising God for gracing St. Charles, Fr. Randall says "Let me point out just a couple of the innumerable blessings that have happened. Our first 3:00 AM night adorer entered the seminary and will soon be ordained. Since then, seven other young men and women have entered the seminary or religious life, and our people are constantly praying for vocations."

Fr. Randall strongly encourages every pastor to consider Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration as he witnesses: "The other blessing is that I have less requests for counseling because people are finding peace and answers before Jesus while in adoration. They don't need to come to the rectory so often!"



For those who want to assist Apostles of the Real Presence in reaching souls with the good news of the Eucharist, meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at 7:45 p.m. at St. Bartholomew Church's Rectory Basement, following the 7:00 p.m. Novena in the Church.

"I Myself Am the Living Bread come down from heaven." (Jn. 6:35)

SPIRITUAL CORNER

Our essential commitment in life is to persevere and advance constantly in Eucharistic life and piety to grow spiritually in the climate of the Holy Eucharist."

- Pope John Paul II

Sunday, June 17th is the Feast of Corpus Christi. Fittingly it is also Father's Day. Thank the Father for the precious gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. Remember your earthly father and spiritual fathers, the priests!

The remains of Pope John XXIII have been found totally incorrupt. Though the church is not declaring it a miracle, many saints were found incorrupt.

Saint Peter Julian Eymard said that "today solemn exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is the grace and need of our



"Our Lord does not suffer alone on the Cross; He suffers with us. That is why He united the sacrifice of the thief with His own."

"Our Lord finished His work, but we have not finished ours. He pointed the way we must follow. He laid down the Cross at the finish, but we must take it up. He finished Redemption in His physical Body, but we have not yet applied it to our souls."

"(Mary was) called to be not only the mother of God, but also the Mother of men, not only the Mother of holiness, but also the Mother of those who ask to be holy."

(Excerpts from *Calvary and the Mass*, Fulton J. Sheen, 1936)

Eucharistic Teaching Aids

Be sure to view our new website:

www.
ApostlesOfTheRealPresence.com

There you will find 12 teachings of the Catholic Church, such as: the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, the significance of the Mass, developing a personal relationship with Jesus, confession and much more.



NEEDED

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Thank you. †

