



"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 5: 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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Website: www.ApostlesOfTheRealPresence.com

E-mail: Info@ApostlesOfTheRealPresence.com

PO Box 8260
Cranston RI 02920
(401) 943-4171

JESUS, OUR SAVIOR - MARY, THE TABERNACLE

Maranatha! During Advent, that word rings loudly. Come, Lord Jesus, come! We anticipate the joy and celebration of the season, recalling the event that changed the world! Spiritually uniting ourselves with St. Joseph and Mary, the Mother of all Mankind, we express the events of the birth of the Christ child in our everyday lives.

In our homes, we use advent candles in the spirit of "lighting the way" for St. Joseph and Mary on their difficult journey to Bethlehem, searching for a place where Jesus, our Savior would be born.

We visualize Jesus in the stable, lying in a manger. In His meager surroundings, He makes us rich and presents to us a model for our lives. We see the many poor lowly shepherds visiting our Lord with presents of earthen goods, an example to give alms to the poor. *"Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me."* (Mt.25:40)

In this tradition, we fondly present our family and "neighbor" with presents, imitating the Three Magi who visited the Holy Family with three gifts: frankincense (a resin which burned in the Temple as prayer and sacrifices were offered to God the Father); gold, a precious metal fit for our King; and myrrh, an incense, mixed with wine as a soothing balm offered to Jesus which He refused as He was crucified on the Cross—a reminder of the suffering He willingly endured for us.

We remember St. Joseph, a model for fathers whose trust in God surpasses his own will, and Mary, the first tabernacle, whose womb gave warmth and nourishment to the Word Made Flesh, Jesus Christ, our Eucharist, our Lord! Mary's life was one of self-

sacrifice and love, giving her body so that we may know our Savior. And standing at the foot of the Cross, Mary remained as a witness to her only Son's Ultimate Sacrifice—Death on the Cross—in expiation for all our sins.

In this season of expectant joy, let us bring the Good News of Jesus' birth, Sacrifice and Love to all we meet, reminding them that Jesus is still with us at every Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, where we may receive Him in the Blessed Eucharist, nourishment for our souls.

Jesus has left us with many sacramental gifts; let us adore Him, making visits to the tabernacle and before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. There we will be spiritually united with Mary, the first tabernacle—a "tent" for Jesus in her womb, and St. Joseph, their protector and the great protector of the Church. Come, Lord Jesus!

A Joyous Advent and Blessed Christmas to everyone!



Tabernacle: a tent sanctuary used by the Israelites during the Exodus; a receptacle for the consecrated elements of the Eucharist

Monstrance: a vessel in which the Consecrated Host is exposed for the Adoration of the faithful

Miriam-Webster Dictionary, 1974)

"As often as the sacrifice of the Cross by which 'Christ our Pasch has been sacrificed' is celebrated on the altar, the work of our redemption is carried out. ... In the Eucharist, Christ gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross, the very blood which he 'poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'... The Eucharist is thus a sacrifice because it re-presents (makes present) the sacrifice of the cross, because it is its memorial and because it applies its fruit ..."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 1364-1366.)

EARLY CHURCH FATHERS, THE REAL PRESENCE AND A MIRACLE

St. Cyprian of Carthage, the Lord's Prayer, 252 A.D., chapter 18:

As the prayer proceeds, we ask and say: 'Give us this day our daily bread.' This can be understood both spiritually and simply, because either understanding is of profit in divine usefulness for salvation. For Christ is the bread of life and the bread here is of all, but is ours. And as we say 'Our Father,' because He is the Father of those who understand and believe, so too we say 'our Bread,' because Christ is the bread of those of us who attain to His body. Moreover, we ask that this bread be given daily, lest we, who are in Christ and receive the Eucharist daily as food of salvation, with the intervention of some more grievous sin, while we are shut off and as non-communicants are kept from the heavenly bread, be separated from the body of Christ as He Himself declares, saying: 'I am the bread of life which came down from heaven. If any man eat of my bread he shall live forever. Moreover, the bread that I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world.' Since then He says that, if anyone eats of His bread, he lives forever, as it is manifest that they live who attain to His body and receive the Eucharist by right of communion, so on the other hand we must fear and pray lest anyone, while he is cut off and separated from the body of Christ, remain apart from salvation, as He Himself threatens, saying: 'Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood, you shall not have life in you.' And so we petition that our bread, that is Christ, be given us daily, so that we, who abide and live in Christ, may not withdraw from His sanctification and body.

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

St. Ephraim *Homilies* [4,6] A.D. 338-373:

"After the disciples had eaten the new and holy Bread, and when they understood by faith they had eaten of Christ's body, Christ went on to explain and to give them the whole Sacrament. He took and mixed a cup of wine. Then He blessed it, and signed it, and made it holy, declaring that it was His own Blood, which was about to be poured out . . . Christ commanded them to drink, and He explained to them that the cup which they were drinking was His own Blood: 'This is truly My Blood, which is shed for all of you. Take, all of you, drink of this, because it is a new covenant in My Blood. As you have seen me do, do you also in My memory. whenever you gather together in My name in Churches everywhere, do what I have done, in memory of Me. Eat My body, and drink My Blood.'" †

MIRAE CARITATIS (On the Holy Eucharist) Pope Leo XIII

Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII promulgated on 28 May 1902

7. ... Now nothing can be better adapted to promote a renewal of the strength and fervour of faith in the human mind than the mystery of the Eucharist, the "mystery of faith," as it has been most appropriately called. For in this one mystery the entire supernatural order, with all its wealth and variety of wonders, is in a manner summed up and contained: "He hath made a remembrance of His wonderful works, a merciful and gracious Lord; He hath given food to them that fear Him" (Psalm CX, 4-5). For whereas God has subordinated the whole supernatural order to the Incarnation of His Word, in virtue whereof salvation has been restored to the human race, according to those words of the Apostle; "He hath purposed...to re-establish all things in Christ, that are in heaven and on earth, in Him" (Eph. I., 9-10), the Eucharist, according to the testimony of the holy Fathers, should be regarded as in a manner a continuation and extension of the Incarnation. For in and by it the substance of the incarnate Word is united with individual men, and the supreme Sacrifice offered on Calvary is in a wondrous manner renewed, as was signified beforehand by Malachy in the words: "In every place there is sacrifice, and there is offered to My name a pure oblation" (Mal. I., 11). And this miracle, itself the very greatest of its kind, is accompanied by innumerable other miracles; for here all the laws of nature are suspended; the whole substance of the bread and wine are changed into the Body and the Blood; the species of bread and wine are sustained by the divine power without the support of any underlying substance; the Body of Christ is present in many places at the same time, that is to say, wherever the Sacrament is consecrated. It is plain that by this Sacrament faith is fed, in it the mind finds its nourishment, the objections of rationalists are brought to naught, and abundant light is thrown on the supernatural order.



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P.O. Box 8260
Cranston RI 02920
(401) 943-4171

Website: www.ApostlesOfTheRealPresence.com

Email: Info@ApostlesOfTheRealPresence.com



**"O Sacrament Most Holy,
O Sacrament Divine,
All Praise and
All Thanksgiving
Be Every Moment Thine."**



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This newsletter is given without charge, however, donations are most welcomed. Thank you. †

"APOSTLES" NEWS . . .

We wish to thank each and every one of you who have made this apostolate a reality—our spiritual advisors, our board of directors and members, the many volunteers who deliver the newsletter, our contributors and those who use our Mass cards and most of all Jesus and Mary who make it possible for us to do Their Work. Blessed Christmas and a holy New Year!



If you would like copies of the Schedule of Adoration in the Diocese of Providence and/or any other of our written materials for your parish, prayer group or ministry, please contact us, and we will be pleased to supply you with copies.



We have spiritual Mass cards available. Resurrect someone's soul today! Offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for your friends and loved ones, and at the same time support this apostolate with your donation for the Mass offering. You will also be supporting the diocesan priest who receives part of the donation to say the Mass. Call us today at (401) 943-4171 for your Mass cards. Thank you for supporting this apostolate. God bless! †

Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament

Lord, Jesus, as I kneel before Your hidden presence, help me respond to Your graces so that I may be as really present to You, as You are to me, in the most Blessed Sacrament of Your love and mercy. Allow your radiant presence to re-ignite the fire of Your Spirit within me, so that I may be Your Sacrament of love and mercy and all. Amen. †

Hope for the Journey, Fr. Jack Spaulding, (Queenship Publishing Co. Santa Barbara CA)

"APOSTLES" CROSSWORD

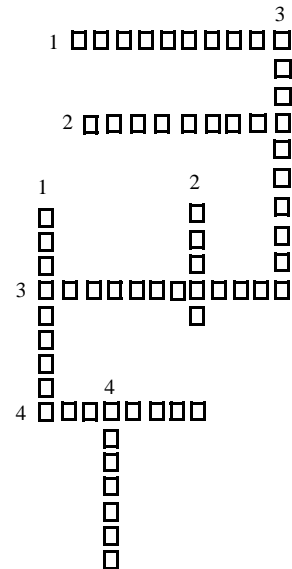
Across

1. Jesus left us with seven signs and instruments by which the Holy Spirit spreads the grace of Christ
2. In the Gospel of John, Jesus calls the Holy Spirit this...
3. Resin used traditionally for Christmas and for burning incense at Holy Mass
4. Name meaning "God is with us."

Down

1. Prayer that Jesus gave us to recite daily
2. "Christ our _____ has been sacrificed."
3. receptacle for the Consecrated Host
4. our father in faith; sacrificed his son Isaac

(Answers given in next newsletter.)



Crossword answers to Vol. 2 Issue 4: 2001

Across:

1. Sanctifier
2. Pyx
3. Alleluia
4. Martyr
5. Jerome

Down:

1. Thanksgiving
2. Thomas More
3. Luke
4. Mystery of Faith

Created by A. T. Foster †

EYMARD...In His Own Words

Translated from the original French and Introduction by Sr. Catherine Marie Caron, S.S.S.
St. Peter Julian Eymard to the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, focuses on something essential in our lives.

"The spirit of Eucharistic love will make you refer everything to the holy Eucharist, for the Eucharist is the *summary of all marvels*. It is the *permanent mystery* in which we find all others. If you have this Eucharistic spirit, if your thoughts are tuned continually toward the Eucharist, the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament will never leave you. God is immense, the universe is filled with God's presence, but the Eucharistic soul prefers to search and find God where he is sacramentally. Just as the eagles assemble where the body is, so also Eucharistic souls are attracted instinctively, easily, and habitually to the holy Eucharist. Therein is their happiness, their peace; there they find a supernatural knowledge of all things. That is why after holy Communion we often understand some things which before were incomprehensible to us." "Put yourselves, then, dear sisters, in the holy Eucharist, and you will be in a center of light." †

"COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?" (Mt. 26:40)

DOMINICAE CENAE (On The Mystery And Worship Of The Eucharist)

Pope John Paul II

Promulgated On 24 February 1980

6. The authentic sense of the Eucharist becomes of itself the school of active love for neighbor. We know that this is the true and full order of love that the Lord has taught us: "*By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.*" (Jn.13:35) The Eucharist educates us to this love in a deeper way; it shows us, in fact, what value each person, our brother or sister, has in God's eyes, if Christ offers Himself equally to each one, under the species of bread and wine. If our Eucharistic worship is authentic, it must make us grow in awareness of the dignity of each person. The awareness of that dignity becomes the deepest motive of our relationship with our neighbor. †

SPIRITUAL CORNER. . .

"This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in my blood."
(Lk 22:19-20)

As faith in the real presence of Christ in his Eucharist deepened, the Church became conscious of the meaning of silent adoration of the Lord present under the Eucharistic species. . . . To prepare for worthy reception of this sacrament, the faithful should observe the fast required . . . Bodily demeanor (gestures, clothing) ought to convey the respect, solemnity, and joy of this moment when Christ becomes our guest."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1375, 1377, 1379, 1387)

† † † † †

Eucharistic Teaching Aids

Be sure to view our new website:

www.
ApostlesOfTheReal-Presence.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.



WISH LIST

This apostolate has a special "wish" for Christmas. We have our hearts set on purchasing a printer that will greatly aid the needs of our readers. It costs \$1,800. We are very near attaining a non-profit status. If you can help us, please call us at (401) 943-4171 or write us at: P.O. Box 8260, Cranston RI 02920. Thank you very much. Blessed Christmas.†

