



## PRAYERS IN THE PEW™

# National Eucharistic Revival Supplement – August 2023

Brothers and Sisters, this month we fully unite ourselves with the US Bishops in the National Eucharistic Revival and pray for the grace to increase our devotion to Christ in the Eucharist.

### THEME FOR AUGUST: THE EUCHARISTIC HEART OF OUR LADY

#### Eucharistic Saint



**St. Maximilian Kolbe** (1894-1941). Few saints in the history of the Church were more devoted to Our Lady, but St. Maximilian's Marian devotion was imbued with a profound love for the Eucharist. Kolbe believed that *"Eucharistic Adoration is the greatest power in the universe, capable of transforming us and changing the face of the world."* The saint died a martyr in the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz, **sacrificing his life for others**, in imitation of our Eucharistic Lord.

#### Back to Basics

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the very **Sacrifice offered on Calvary**. It is not a symbol or an acting out of the drama. It is the same Act of Christ offered in an unbloody way by the priest at Mass who stands at the altar and acts *in persona Christi* – "in the person of Christ."



The *Catechism* tells us that Our Lady's intercession for the sins of humanity originated right there, at Calvary: *"In the Eucharist, the church is as it were at the foot of the cross with Mary, united with the offering and intercession of Christ"* (CCC, 1370).

#### Teaching



The last of Pope John Paul II's fourteen papal encyclicals was on the Eucharist, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, in which he used a profound analogy to speak of **Mary's participation in the Eucharistic Mystery**. It's a stunning metaphor:

Mary also anticipated, in the mystery of the incarnation, the Church's Eucharistic faith. When, at the Visitation, she bore in her womb the Word made flesh, she became in some way a "tabernacle" – the first "tabernacle" in history – in which the Son of God, still invisible to our human gaze, allowed himself to be adored by Elizabeth, radiating his light as it were through the eyes and the voice of Mary. (*EdE*, 55)

#### Calls to Action

**Personal:** Try to find time this week to sit in church or in an adoration chapel and adore our Precious Lord for a few moments at least. **Communal:** Research the Eucharistic Pilgrimages that will be taking place prior to the Eucharistic Congress next year and consider joining in. (*See the link below*). Please spread our Eucharistic faith with the *Prayers in the Pew Prayer Cards*.

*"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."* ~ St. Padre Pio

#### National Eucharistic Revival News and Info

Source for [Eucharistic Pilgrimage](#) info and PDF of [Eucharistic Revival Timeline, 2022-2025](#).