



PRAYERS IN THE PEW™

National Eucharistic Revival Supplement – February 2024

The Church in America is journeying with our bishops to the National Eucharistic Congress in July. We are on the Road to Emmaus with them, our hearts burning with love for the Eucharistic Lord!



THE PRIESTHOOD IS ESSENTIAL TO THE MYSTERY

Eucharistic Saint



St. Philip Neri (1515-1595) In a period of great upheaval, the Roman priest St. Philip Neri ministered to the people of his diocese, particularly the youth, whom he cared for diligently. St. Philip was so devoted to the Eucharist that he would fall into ecstasy during his celebration of the Mass, remaining in that state for long periods. He has been called the “pilgrim of Eucharistic joy”!

Back to Basics

MINISTERIAL PRIESTHOOD: The priest who stands at the altar expresses the very essence of his priesthood in a Eucharistic way, *through sacrifice and intercession*. These are the essential elements of the High Priesthood of Jesus Christ Himself:



1. The Book of Hebrews says that Jesus, “has a priesthood that does not pass away [so] he lives forever to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25-26).
2. The Catechism reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are *one single sacrifice*: “The victim is one and the same: [Christ] offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different.” (CCC, 1336)

In short: our priests pray and sacrifice for us, which is their way of imitating Christ the High Priest.

Calls to Action



Prayer for Vocations – Pope Paul VI said that religious vocations are “the fruit of communities united in prayer.” This means that families and parishes must “*pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest*” (Mt. 9:38).

Encouragement – Young men and women who feel attracted to religious life need much encouragement to embrace the call. Make sure to reach out to vocations prospects in your family and community to let them know how much they are appreciated and needed.

“If I were to meet a priest and an angel, I should salute the priest before I saluted the angel. The latter is the friend of God; but the priest holds His place.” ~ St. John Vianney

National Eucharistic Revival News and Resources

Make sure to keep up to date on the National Eucharistic Revival at the Bishops’ central website: www.EucharisticRevival.org. For news on the upcoming Eucharistic Congress, please see www.eucharisticcongress.org. You can also get the *Eucharistic Revival Edition Prayer Cards* at www.SitStandKneel.com for great evangelization resources to spread the Eucharistic fire!