



PRAYERS IN THE PEW™

National Eucharistic Revival Supplement – July 2024

Like the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, we have journeyed a long way to arrive at the National Eucharistic Congress **which takes place this month!** Together, we make a deep act of faith in our Eucharistic Lord.



THE NECESSITY OF FAITH AND MORAL LIVING

Eucharistic Saint



St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1275 AD) is called the Eucharistic Doctor of the Church. His main work, the *Summa Theologica* contains a sublime summary of the Church's teaching on the Eucharist. In 1264 he was asked by Pope Urban IV to compose the prayers and hymns for the Church's primary Eucharistic feast: Corpus Christi.

Back to Basics

THE MIRACLE OF TRANSUBSTANTIATION: Transubstantiation is a miracle, pure and simple, and we witness it at every single Mass. It occurs at the consecration when the bread and wine become the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus through the words and actions of the priest.



At that moment, the inner substance of bread and wine becomes Christ Himself, while the external or "accidental" forms remain the same. This is a spiritual change which we cannot see with our eyes, so we must believe it with faith, as Jesus said to Thomas: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). The Church tells us:

"It has always been the conviction of the Church of God... that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood." (CCC, 1376)

Calls to Action



Faith – There is a sad moment in John's Gospel when some of Jesus' disciples abandon Him because they could not accept His claim that He was the "living bread that came down from heaven" (Jn 6:51, 66). We must not walk away from our Lord but rather make a pure act of faith in His words each time we receive the Eucharist.

Worthiness – Even then, *mere belief* is not enough. We must reform our lives, live in full communion with the Catholic Church (CCC, 1395), and be in a state of grace in order to receive the Eucharist worthily. These are the basics of our Eucharistic faith.

"There are two things the devil is deadly afraid of: fervent Communion and frequent visits to the Blessed Sacrament." ~ St. John Bosco

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!