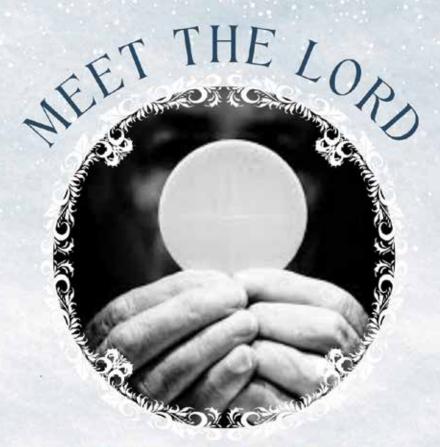
PARISH VISITOR



REAL PRESENCE

The Parish Visitor

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate Contemplative—Missionaries Door-to-Door & Catechists

In this issue Mother Maria Catherine explains the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild. Membership in this association helps us to promote our Foundress' Cause for Canonization. She also introduces us to a group of young men who have found in Mother Mary Teresa the inspiration for their own way of life.

During her lifetime, Mother Mary Teresa would bring together the members of her newly founded Community for quarterly conventions. At these gatherings she continued to form them in the spirit and ideals she envisioned as the means to live out the contemplative-missionary charism she received from God. For her, and for us, formation didn't end with the profession of perpetual vows. In more recent years, the Sisters of the Congregation gather at Marycrest twice a year, in the Winter and Spring for on-going formation and to strengthen one another. You will see some of the highlights, and lighter moments of our recent Winter Convention.

The Holy Father invites us to see the Liturgy as the place of encounter with Christ in his Apostolic Letter on the Liturgical formation of the People of God.

May the Holy Family watch over you and your family throughout the coming year.

Editor: Sr. Mary Josita, PVMI Subscription: \$5.00

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Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild

By Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

In 2012 our Congregation began the process for Beatification/ Canonization of our Foundress, Mother Mary Teresa Tallon. In these past 10 years much has happened and much has yet to be accomplished.

A few months ago, we received word from our Postulator, Dr. Waldery Hilgeman, that the *Positio* (the document presenting the position that Mother, indeed, practiced heroic virtue) was completed, approved and ready for printing and presentation to the Historical & Theological Commissions of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints. Of course, we were overjoyed at the news, for this means another step closer to the goal!

It has been our aim to publish at least two Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild Newsletters each year. However, since we have not been able to do that for some time, I am taking this opportunity to appeal to our Guild members – and to all of you, our families and friends – to either renew your membership in the Guild or to join the Guild.

What is a Guild? It is a group of persons united for the purpose of promoting the Cause of someone who is being proposed to the Church to be added to the ranks of the officially recognized saints. Members of the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild promote her Cause by promoting knowledge of her to others; praying through her intercession for specific needs – especially for

healings; supporting the process of the Cause by their donations. The spiritual benefits of membership in the Guild are: the Sisters' daily prayer for Guild members; the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception in Monroe, NY twice a month for your intentions.

Members of the Guild are highly encouraged to:

- Promote Mother's Cause by sharing Guild brochures and prayer cards with your family, friends and parishioners
- Pray for the spiritual success of Mother's Cause
- Pray for the intentions of the Members
- Pray for the miracle God intends for the advancement of Mother's Cause
- Support the Cause financially
- Ask your pastor to allow information about Mother Mary Teresa to be published in your parish bulletin

There are many persons praying to Mother Mary Teresa for healings – both physical and spiritual! If you would like to receive a prayer card with a 3rd class relic, please contact: Mother Maria Catherine, (845) 783-2251.

Physical miracles are a proof that the person prayed to is, indeed, in Heaven! We have had many persons tell us of answers received to their prayers through Mother Mary Teresa's intercession: many spiritual healings, and some physical healings, as well. For beatification & canonization, physical miracles are necessary! It should be instantaneous, irrefutable and irreversible. If you have prayed for Mother's intercession and received answers to your prayers, PLEASE: (a) keep records. This would include a timeline, what was the diagnosis, what was the prognosis, what treatment, if any, was given, what was the expected outcome of the treatment; (b) ask the doctors for statements saying that this recovery was not due to scientific means and is inexplicable; (c) collect copies of all the hospital/doctor records; (d) write to: Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Mother Mary Teresa, P.O. Box 658, Monroe, NY 10949.

Please fill out the following and return to: The Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild; P.O. Box 658, Monroe, NY 10949, to become a member of the Guild, or to renew your membership.

Subscription/Renewal Form to the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild

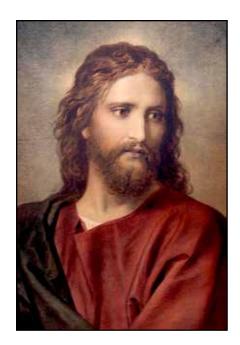
Please check all that apply:		
	Individual Membership	\$10.00
	Family Membership	\$25.00
	Individual Mass Offering	\$10.00
	I'm feeling generous. Here's my additional donation of	
	\$	
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Contact Number(s)		
E-mail address		
Prayer Requests		
Individual Mass Offering Intention:		

Weekend of Baskets

Once again, our Marycrest Associates prepared a Weekend of Baskets as a fundraiser for us. There were over one hundred baskets to choose from with gifts for men, women and children. A fifty-fifty raffle and refreshments were also offered. A special "shout out" to Associates Janet Scarpa, who assembled most of the baskets from items that were donated, and Mary Kalmanowitz, who organized everything for the event.







WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

Twice a year the Parish Visitors return to Marycrest for a convention. A tradition carried on from the early days of the Congregation when Mother Mary Teresa would gather all the Sisters four times a year to form them in the contemplative — missionary charism she received from the Lord, we gather less frequently, but for the same purpose — on-going formation.

The Sisters from the Bronx, Pennsylvania and Ohio were able to be present in person, while those in Arizona and the Philippines joined us via Zoom. Poor networks in Nigeria prevented our Sisters there from participating.

Taking our cue from the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops who have inaugurated a three-year initiative aimed at Eucharistic Revival, we began by going to the foundational Source of our individual vocations and our participation in the Eucharistic Mysteries.

Mother Maria Catherine opened the convention with a talk that set the stage for all that would follow. She envisioned that the path to a Eucharistic Revival for us would come from contemplating the face of Christ – starting afresh from that relationship that drew us to respond to our vocational call.



Our focal point was the question Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" In small groups we shared how the answer to that question shaped our relationship with the Lord before we entered, during the first fervor of our religious lives and later in challenging times.

"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."

From the document

 These words of Jesus, with which the account of the Last Supper opens, are the crevice through which we are given the surprising possibility of intuiting the depth of the love of the persons of the Most Holy Trinity for us. #2 From Mother Mary Teresa

 By these words He gives the strongest expression of His love and affection. And He instituted the Holy Eucharist with a great deal of joy, for Jesus and the Apostles sang a hymn together before He went out to His Passion.

- Spiritual Directory p. 47

We had the opportunity to unpack a few paragraphs from Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Desidario Desideravi*. The English translation of the opening words of that document are: "I have greatly desired"- words that Jesus spoke at the Last Supper. On more than one occasion we were able to see a parallel between the Holy Father's word and Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa's. We were inspired by both to recall the "depth of love of the Persons of the Most Holy Trinity for us."

"The world does not know it, but everyone is invited to the supper of the wedding of the Lamb." Rev. 19:9

Invitation

Before our response to his invitation – well before! - there is his desire for us. We may not even be aware of it, but every time we go to Mass, the first reason is that we are drawn there by his desire for us. For our part, the possible response – which is also the most demandina asceticism – is, as always, that surrender to this love, that letting ourselves be drawn by him. Indeed, every reception of communion of the Body and Blood of Christ was already desired by him in the Last Supper. #6

We were also encouraged to renew our efforts to help all those we meet to know that they are invited not because of any initiative on their part but because of the Lord's earnest desire to encounter them.

In her closing talk Mother Maria Catherine reminded us that the Eucharist is relational: Jesus is giving Himself to us and we receive, we give ourselves back to Him – it is a giving, receiving and giving – a true relationship. Our Community life is meant to be a witness to this Eucharistic relationship.

During our evening recreations we were treated to skits, musical renditions by our mission Sisters and a puppet show by our very creative Junior Sisters with Sr. Mylene Rosemarie.



SEEK23

Recently, Sister Theresa Marie and Sister Jhoan Marie travelled to St. Louis to attend the Seek 23 Conference. There they hoped to meet young women who would be drawn to seek with us the lost and strayed. The Sisters shared with us a few highlights from their time among the roughly 17,000 college-aged participants.





Sister Jhoan Marie pins a prayer request to the Prayer Wall. The Sisters offered to pray for the intentions of those who stopped by their table and gave them the opportunity to take the name of one of our Sisters to pray for in a sharing of spiritual goods.





At the student celebration



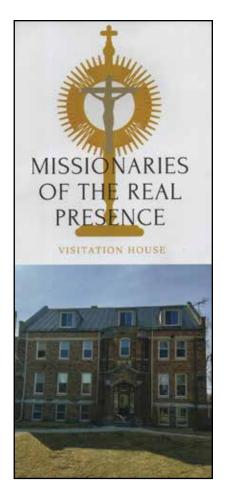
And visiting the Cathedral in St. Louis

Missionaries of the Real Presence

By Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

When you least expect it – God reveals His plans in such unexpected ways!

Some time last year I received an email from a gentleman asking for a prayer card of Mother Mary Teresa, as he wanted to take her as his intercessor and patron. Since I needed an address, I asked for it, and because I was curious, I asked: "Why have you taken Mother as your intercessor?"



I was NOT ready for the response – but was THRILLED to hear it! After having picked up one of Mother's books in the Marquette University Library, and reading through it, her words touched the heart of this young man whose spiritual aspirations were realized in her spirit.

He told me that there were three young men living in community, in Milwaukee, discerning their vocation to either the priest-hood or religious life. They called themselves: "The Missionaries of the Real Presence." They describe themselves as contemplative-missionaries, whose missionary apostolate is to the poor in the inner city of Milwaukee through street evangelization. These

young men also pray the Liturgy of the Hours in the parish Church, inviting their neighbors to join them.

Each day, after Midday prayer, they provide a meal at their home (a former convent), called "Visitation House." However, they don't just feed the body – they feed the soul through their catechetical lessons before the meal.

On feast days, they provide breakfast and all-day recreation for anyone who joins them! That means catechesis, games, meals, and fellowship.



Chess, a meeting of the minds that may lead to a meeting of the soul.

Sister Jhoan Marie and I were privileged to spend some time with the Missionaries in November. We saw first-hand the impact they are having on the people in their neighborhood. There are some persons who are now under instruction to be received into the Church; they have their "regulars" who join them for prayer/meals and for Feast days & catechesis. They also have one or two who join them in their street evangelization. Sister and I joined them, on the coldest day of the year! We shared with them the Parish Visitor way of doing door-to-door evangelization!



Sr. Jhoan Marie tries her hand at pool with Robert, one of the missionaries.

"COMMUNION LEADS TO MISSION, AND MISSION ITSELF TO COMMUNION." – St. John Paul II



Griffen Rain and the missionaries go out into the streets and engage those they meet in conversation and prayer.

OUR FOCUS

Life of Prayer

Prayer is the cornerstone of the life in Christ, that same life in Christ that we live within our community and share in our missionary outreach. We pray the complete Liturgy of the Hours daily, which helps structure our day around Christ. We attend daily Mass, Adoration and lead devotions: Way of the Cross (Friday) and a Daily Rosary. Our daily prayer is in the church so that our rich prayer life can be shared with every parishioner and neighbor.

Community Life

United by our common faith and mission, we build up a community of faith by praying, working, living, eating, and evangelizing together. As we live in community and grow in faith and virtue, we witness Christ to our neighbors and invite them to live in Christ too. Our work is in operating the Visitation House hospitality center where we allow our neighbors to form relationships with us, learn about the faith, share a meal, learn a skill, and most importantly witness Christian living.

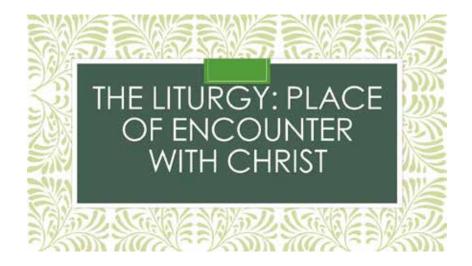
Evangelization

Whether meeting people on the street, on their doorstep, or in the hospitality center, missionaries take up the challenge of preaching the Gospel. We work alongside the parish to invite our neighbors to pray with us, we walk alongside our neighbors to meet their needs and foster their life of faith, and we encourage them to encounter Christ in the Catholic Church and become Catholic.

They seek to carry out the saving mission of the Catholic Church by building up local parishes in highly non-Catholic areas. They live a life of prayer and community as Catholic men seeking to follow Christ. Their communal life of prayer and common goal of salvation enables them to witness a genuine Christian life to their neighbors as they open the doors of our hearts and our home to reach out to them and invite them to participate in the life of their community and the life of the Church.

One look at their website would make you think they were Parish Visitors! How truly they share the spirit of Mother Mary Teresa with us! For many years we have been talking about a men's branch of our Community, but have left it to God to take the initiative. Might this be His answer to our question? Only He knows! But we are so grateful for the gift of these young Missionaries of the Real Presence, and we keep them in our prayers. Won't you join us in praying for them?

If you are a young man, desiring to give your whole being to God as a contemplative-missionary, please write to Griffin Rain, Missionaries of the Real Presence, 5135 W. Center St., Milwaukee, WI 53210; (414)235-7307; admin@realpresencemissionaries.org



"Giving priority place to spirituality means starting afresh from the rediscovered *centrality of the Eucharistic celebration*, a privileged place of encounter with the Lord. There He once again makes himself present in the midst of the disciples; He explains the Scriptures; He warms the hearts and enlightens the mind; He opens eyes and allows Himself to be recognized." – Starting Afresh from Christ

From frequently asked questions on the USCCB website we learn that one of the goals of the National Eucharistic Revival is to "form, inspire, and launch missionary disciples, filled with love of God and neighbor that comes from an encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, to the margins of the Church and the world."

Called the Sacrament of Charity, the Eucharist enables us to be united with the God who is love. If we are conscious of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and allow that encounter to transform our lives to become more like His then we will want to draw others to Him as well.

Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa said, "Not only is the Holy Eucharist our personal comfort, strength and victory, but it is also the greatest gift we have to offer others in our efforts for their salvation and sanctification.... Make others realize the stupendous attainment of receiving a God into their very souls. Such a favor is a prize well worth working for. Make them look at the great

affair in this way. Do not simply say, 'You will receive the Blessed Sacrament,' but tell them 'You will receive Jesus, the God-Man, if you will try to be good and faithful.' What an incentive to the holiest and strongest endeavor!"

She continued in *The Spiritual Directory*, "So, for the love of Jesus in the Tabernacle, try to get as many of your people as you can to visit Him, also to receive Holy Communion. Jesus longs to reach their souls. It is the purpose of every consecrated Host to reach a human heart, to rest there and fulfill in each soul all the ends of the sublime mission for which Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist. Help Jesus to do this and He will bless you."



"In the offering of the Holy Mass it is the Body and Blood of Jesus-Eucharistic that is lifted up to God. Jesus is interceding with the Father. The thought of the Holy Eucharist ought to be with us all day. We ought to humbly beg Our Lord's pardon that we are not more like Him. Jesus is always absorbed in God, always devoted. He gave us that wonderful Gift with His Heart overflowing with love in the night of His Passion. His example is a great encouragement for us to rise above all human feelings."



TWO FOR ONE

By Sister Mary Emmadoña, PVMI

I was visiting the homes in the city. The apartment building I was in had five floors and there was no elevator. I always go to the top-most floor first then work my way down.

At one apartment I knocked and a woman answered the door. She was a bit aloof but didn't shoo me away. She was courte-ous enough to answer all my questions. She told me she was not married in the Church and decided not to go to Church anymore. Her husband died a few years back but she never returned to Church. I also found out that her son, a 22-year-old who had the mental capacity of 7 or 8, was baptized but never received any other sacraments.

I told her I could prepare her son to receive his First Communion. She seemed interested but quickly said it might be too much trouble for me. I reassured her I'd be happy to do it and I scheduled classes with her son every Saturday, right there in the dining room.

The following Saturday, I knocked at her door and when she opened the door and saw me, she was so surprised. This puzzled me but as she ushered me in, she said, "I never thought you'd come back, Sister. It was too good to be true that you would instruct my son personally. But I'm so glad you came." Deep in my heart, I was very glad myself.

A few months later, her son received his First Holy Communion. His mother also received Jesus again after so many years of being estranged from the Church. What a gift to have both mother and son back in the Church!

The Power of the Real Presence to Evangelize



By Sister Mary Eileen, PVMI

Several years ago, when I was serving in campus ministry at Arizona State University, Sister Margery Therese, with whom I lived, sent a young man to see me. He knew nothing about the Faith but was seeking something more. As I showed him around the Newman Center and then took him into the Adoration Chapel he spontaneously fell to his knees before the Blessed Sacrament...not even knowing that Jesus was truly present.

I waited, and the Lord made Himself known to this young man. After a time, he looked up at me and asked, "Can I stay here for a while?" Jesus did the rest.

Bishop Andrew Cozzens testified to this in a Foreword he wrote for "Becoming Eucharistic People," by Timothy P. O'Malley. "After years of service in parishes and institutions and working with various evangelistic movements, I'm convinced that the renewal of the Church will not come through programs but through a deeper encounter with the Eucharistic Lord. I am con-

vinced we need this, not just because studies show many Catholics don't understand the Eucharist, but because Jesus Christ in the Eucharist has the power to transform lives, if we invite people to encounter Him."



Parish Visitor Priest Associates

by Sister Mary Josita, PVMI

Several years ago, Mother Maria Catherine and some formation Sisters went to Alliance Ohio at the request of Fr. Donald Feicht to conduct a Vacation Bible School in his parish. He was attracted to the charism of the Community and Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa's spirit which he saw lived out in the lives of the Sisters. He knew of Religious Congregations that offered an opportunity for non-members to be affiliated with them and wondered if the Parish Visitors had any such organization. That question led, a number of years later, to the formation of Parish Visitor Priest Associates.

We began to explore the idea of PV Priest Associates after prayer and reflection. In the Book of Customs our Foundress, Servant of God Mother Mary Teresa, wrote of Associates, Affiliates and Volunteers, envisioning ways that each group could share in our mission and share spiritual benefits.

Parish Priests are a natural fit. As Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate we work in parishes at the request of the pastors, seeking those who may have strayed away, or who never knew the love of the Good Shepherd. On their behalf, we visit the homes of their parishioners, often door-to-door. Our goals are the same – to reclaim the lost and to strengthen those who are striving to live their Catholic Faith.



In Mother Mary Teresa's own words the core of the Parish Visitors vocation is three-fold:

- Greater spiritual perfection
- · Contemplative spirit
- Go out in search of lost

The spirituality of Parish Visitor Priest Associates, like Parish Visitor Sisters, is Eucharistic and Marian. They are encouraged to have a Eucharistic Holy Hour every day and have some form of Marian devotion, like the Rosary. They help the Sisters to make Mother Mary Teresa's charism known and join us in praying for and working to promote her Cause.

When and where possible they assist the Sisters by celebrating Mass for them. They are invited to make their annual retreat at Marycrest and to bring their parishioners to meet the Sisters and pray with them.

All of our current Parish Visitor Priest Associates have worked with the Sisters in some way. From them they came to know about the life of the Foundress and the charism of the Community she founded.

The first to be enrolled was Father Tom Byrnes, the former pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Monroe, NY. When our resident chaplain retired, Father Tom and his associate offered Mass, confes-



sion, anointing of the Sisters who were ill, celebrating with professions and funerals, and Community feast days. Father Tom present when Mother Mary Teresa's body was exhumed as part of her process for beatification and canonization and it was he who presided over enclosing her casket in the sarcophagus in the Chapel at Marycrest.



Father Francis O'Connor worked with the Sisters in Albany, NY. He saw, firsthand, their outreach to the poor and the prayer-life that sustained it. He has maintained a close affection for the Sisters, often coming to celebrate jubilees of the Sisters who served in Albany.





Father Joseph Clemente, former pastor of St. John the Baptist, Rome, NY got to know the Parish Visitors from Sr. Mary Elise who spoke to him often about Mother Foundress. He has a complete set of her books and has often been the homilist at the jubilees and funerals of Sisters who served in Rome, NY.

Father Donald Feicht was enrolled last summer on a visit to Marycrest. He was present when we opened our new mission in Warren, Ohio. His question those many years ago was the catalyst for the formation of the PV Priest Associates.



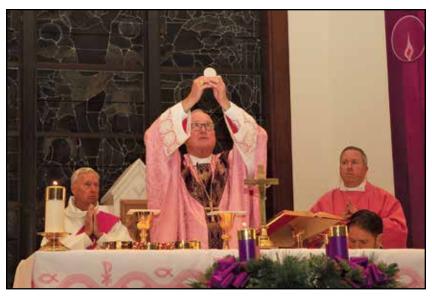
We are grateful to him and to each of our Priest Associates, but also to the many priests with whom we have served over the years and who have served us as chaplains, confessors, retreat directors, and spiritual directors. Prayer for priests is a treasured heritage from Mother Mary Teresa.



Something More is Required

During the October 4-6 National Meeting of the Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, Hartford Archbishop Leonard P. Blair, shared reflections on Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi*. He asked the question: "What is at the heart of liturgical participation?" and tied his remarks to the theme of the Assembly which was "Ars Celebrandi: Something More is Required."

After noting several areas of importance in the art of celebrating liturgy well, the Archbishop went on to say that according to Pope Francis, "something more" is needed for an integral encounter of the Church with the mystery of Christ and his saving work. That "Something more" is *astonishment*.



Deacon Peter Brockmann, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Rev. David Rider "Christ manifested in the flesh, adored by angels, believed in throughout the whole world". (cf. NT Canticle)

Pope Francis and Pope St. John Paul II have used words like wonder, astonishment, amazement. What do they mean? We, the Church, need to stand in awe before the mystery of Christ's saving work — to marvel, quoting Archbishop Blair, that "the Word has become flesh and dwelt among us. The Word has given up his body and poured out his blood for us. He has died and risen and now sits at the Father's right hand. By the power of the Holy Spirit, everything of the Incarnate Word has passed into the sacraments – his every word, his every gesture, glance, and feeling." In every liturgy, in every sacrament, we have the opportunity to be in the very presence of the Word made flesh! Yet, we can miss it.

Archbishop Blair went on to propose that we need to prolong "the prayer of liturgy with the quiet of personal prayer." In adoration, "when we silently stand before the Eucharist and bask in the humble, discreet and hidden presence of the Lord" we have the opportunity to deepen our wonder and awe before so great a mystery.

Archbishop Blair's talk was included in the October 2022 issue of USCCB NewsLetter from the Committee of Divine Worship.



Photo credits: Pam McAssey

Donations for the Beatification/Canonization Process of Mother Mary Teresa would be greatly appreciated.

PRAYER(for private use only)



Heavenly Father, through the example of your Servant Mary Teresa Tallon, you summon all your faithful to become apostles to the most spiritually deprived. Through your loving kindness, we pray that you heed this special favor which would confirm the holiness of your faithful Servant: (here make your request).

We ask you this in the name of Jesus Your Son, loving Shepherd of us all. Amen.

With Ecclesiastical Approbation

+Timothy Cardinal Dolan Archbishop of New York

27 December 2012

For any favor obtained, kindly notify The Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate PO Box 658, Monroe, NY 10949

E-mail: mothertallon@gmail.com

January 10 Sr. Mary Evelyn Penimber, 1993 10 Sr. Patricia Ann Moore, 1982 11 Sr. Laura Anne Brouillet, 1993 12 Sr. Mary Loyola Cooney, 2004 13 Sr. Mary Emily Crosby, 1958 17 Sr. Marian Corinne Langan, 2015 23 Sr. Mary Jane Quinn, 1981 26 Sr. Mary Euphrasia O'Connor, 1976 26 Sr. Mary Edna Granahan, 1980 In this life 29 Sr. Mary Leona Markano, 2002 and in 30 Sr. Henrietta Maire French, 1999 the next. February 1 Sr. Jean Marie Feeney, 1930 we pray 1 Sr. Mary Lois Eiseman, 1994 for you. 4 Sr. Marvalice Aubrey, 1982 6 Sr. Mary Joseph McLees, 1953 11 Sr. Mary Veronique Chambers, 1967 12 Sr. Mary Dorothy Reynolds, 1964 13 Sr. Norbert Marie Molitor, 2013 15 Sr. Mary Catherine Kerwin, 1959 19 Sr. Agnes Cecilia Ford, 2020 Please 20 Sr. Mary Lucretia Benthey, 1984 21 Sr. Alice Sweeney, 1991 pray 23 Sr. Mary Cepha Euell, 2020 for us. 25 Sr. Mary Martina Stoerzinger, 2004 Thank 26 Sr. Mary Elizabeth McCarthy, 1990 you! March 3 Sr. Marie Cecile Godreau, 2020 5 Sr. Mary Irene Fitzpatrick, 1988 7 Sr. Mary Ethel Cahill, 1951 7 Sr. Mary Therese Clark, 1973 8 Sr. Mary Valery Geppner, 1990 9 Sr. Mary Louise Coffey, 1987 9 Sr. Mary Martine Dotzler, 1996 10 Mother Mary Teresa Tallon, 1954 12 Sr. Eleanor Dillon, 1990 14 Sr. Mary Helene Schumacher, 1982 15 Sr. Mary Aurelia Titra, 1965 19 Sr. Mary Rosanne Grinnell, 1999 22 Sr. Mary Pauline Lenherr, 1990 23 Sr. Mary Regis Haskell, 1985

24 Sr. Mary Perpetua Herrick, 199228 Sr. Alice Genevieve Showalter, 1988

Eucharistic Amazement

By Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

I often reflect on the recent pew survey which said that the majority of Catholics, even those who attend Mass regularly, do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist! While I don't doubt that the pew research is accurate, I am here to tell you that I don't believe any person in our Parish of Sacred Heart in Monroe, New York has any doubt about the Real Presence.

When Father David Rider, our Pastor, shared with the parishioners his ardent desire for Perpetual Adoration and all it meant to accomplish it: adorers, finances to prepare a suitable Adoration Chapel, the response on the part of the parishioners caused Father – and all of us Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate – to experience a true "Eucharistic Amazement"!

In a matter of two weeks, Father had an abundance of volunteers as well as finances to complete the project!

I would like to share my own experience as an adorer. I have signed up for one hour on a Saturday morning. Usually, when I arrive there are at least 3 other persons in adoration. Then, my partner and I are there for our time with the Lord. What has been the "eucharistic amazement" for me is this: the manner in which many of the adorers take their leave of Jesus when their hour is completed. Not only do many of them genuflect on both knees, or prostrate themselves, but the most beautiful expression of their belief in the Real Presence of Jesus is the way they walk out of the Chapel: many of the adorers walk out of the Chapel with their body facing the Monstrance, their eyes on Jesus! In other words, they walk out of the Chapel backwards! This just blew me away the first time I saw it done! What reverence, what love, what FAITH in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist!

This is Eucharistic Amazement!

I would encourage every priest to begin daily adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in your parish. Who knows what miracles the Lord will perform?

If we desire to lead our people back to Christ, our Life, we can do no better than to use all the means we can to draw them to the Eucharist – for it IS Jesus, Himself. Pope Saint John Paul II said: "The Eucharist thus appears as both the *source and the summit* of all evangelization, since its goal is the communion of mankind with Christ and in Him with the Father and the Holy Spirit." (Ecclesia de Eucharistia #22)



Perpetual Adoration Chapel, Sacred Heart, Monroe, NY

– photo credit Maureen Kussard

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate invite you to





Save the date

AUGUST 5, 2023

CAN'T GET TO LISBON? COME TO MARYCREST FOR HIGHLIGHTS OF WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

Prayer for Vocations

By Rev. Victor Perez

Lord Jesus, we ask You with confidence for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Your Church.

Aided by the intercession of Immaculate Mary, let there be a rich harvest of vocations.

Let men be enlightened and strengthened to follow Your call to serve as priests and brothers. Let seminaries overflow, and bless their formators and teachers with a wisdom not of this world. Let Your daughters feel an irresistible pull to a life of contemplation and service

Let there be a new flowering of religious orders which seek the path of holiness.

Let men and women You call to marriage see the importance of this vocation, and like Tobias, seek their spouses for a noble purpose.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



as sisters and nuns.

Vocation Ministry.com



What more can I do for God?

4 Steps to discern GOD'S WILL

Prayer / Eucharist Sacred Scripture Holy Mass & Adoration

Call us at Marycrest Convent (845) 783-2251 We are here for you!

> Visit us! Spend time with us!

Be open! Go wher<u>ever He leads!</u>

