

# JOURNEY TO OUR FATHER

FULFILLING HIS DIVINE WILL ON THE PATH TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

*Discerning and Living the Authentic Faith and Moral Teachings of the Catholic Church in Our Modern World*

## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

By James P. Wasel

The majority of this material was taken from the wonderful book entitled "Letters to a Brother Priest" co-authored by Rev. Fr. Vincent Martin Lucia of the Missionaries of the Blessed Sacrament and Rev. Msgr. Josefino Ramirez (also known as Msgr. Pepe in the book) who is Vicar General and Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Manila, in the Philippines. The book was published by the Missionaries of the Blessed Sacrament, P.O. Box 1701, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 (Ph 518-561-8193). Cardinal Sin, Archbishop of Manila, has made his diocese the most Eucharistic diocese in the world, with over 100 chapels of perpetual eucharistic adoration. This is a tribute to a clergy most faithful to the Blessed Sacrament. It also includes quotes from Cardinal Vidal, Archbishop of Cebu, in the Philippines. Cardinal Vidal is working to bring about perpetual adoration in every one of his parishes. Any further supporting quotes from other sources have been specifically noted.

When we see the poverty, the disease and the pain in the world today, our hearts ache for suffering humanity. If we can feel this way, how much more so is the Heart of God moved by the cry of His children? We can be sure that God wants to put an end to this period of trial and tribulation. He wants to establish his Kingdom of peace and justice, but He is waiting for us to do our part. If we are willing only to do what is ordinary, then we can only expect God's ordinary blessings. Only when we are willing to do the extraordinary are we guaranteed of obtaining God's extraordinary blessings.

Perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is absolutely the extraordinary effort that God is asking for today in order that He may bestow upon mankind His extraordinary blessings. When we are willing to do on earth what is done in heaven, i.e., adore God perpetually, then God will create a "new heaven" and a "new earth".

This is the message of the Blessed Mother: The triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be the Eucharistic Reign of Her Son. And the Eucharistic reign of Jesus through perpetual adoration in every parish will bring about the New Era. Jesus will claim His Kingdom only when we proclaim Him King by giving Him the love and honor He truly deserves and desires through perpetual adoration.

Perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the solution to our problems of declining vocations,

disintegrating families, and the defection of many of our brethren to fundamentalist sects. Perpetual adoration is a clarion call to our people to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, our Savior, who is present in Person in the most Blessed Sacrament.

Jesus Himself revealed the following to St. Margaret Mary. She was in prayer when He appeared to her from the Blessed Sacrament and said: "Behold this Heart which loves so much and, yet, is so little loved in return." He explained that the thorns around His Heart are symbolic of the pain that He suffers because of the ingratitude and indifference of His priests and people toward His love in the Blessed Sacrament. Then, Jesus said that He suffers more now because of this indifference and ingratitude than He did during His entire passion.

For this reason Jesus makes this appeal to each of us: "I thirst with such a terrible thirst to be loved by you in this Most Blessed Sacrament." The Blessed Sacrament is the Sacred Heart of Jesus in our midst. Today He weeps as He wept over Jerusalem. Have perpetual adoration in your parish and you will change the thorns in His Heart to many flowers of consolation. Each holy hour will make reparation for all of the indifference and ingratitude of the world.

Pope John Paul II at the Eucharistic Congress in Seville Spain, called for perpetual adoration in every parish throughout the world. Like the star over Bethlehem, the Pope has put the spotlight on the Blessed Sacrament as the "Healer" of all of our ills, both in the church and in the world. The solution to all of the confusion and promiscuity in the world is intimacy with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Perpetual adoration is a door always open. It is a sign of the open arms of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament always inviting, welcoming and embracing each one who comes to Him. A door always open with the waiting, open arms of Christ, gives everyone a sense of belonging. A door always open exposing the light of Divine Love in the monstrance defines the true meaning of the Incarnation. In the Blessed Sacrament the Word continues to become flesh and dwell among us.

Pope John Paul II makes two holy hours of prayer each day and according to a cardinal close to him, makes at least another twenty visits to the Blessed Sacrament each day.

Pope John Paul II says: **"Our communal worship at Mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration in order that our love may be complete,"** He also says: **"our essential commitment in life is to grow spiritually in the climate of the Holy Eucharist."** (Pope John Paul II, Sept.29, 1979 Phoenix Park, Dublin, Ireland).

On December 2, 1981, Pope John Paul II began Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition in a chapel at St. Peter's in Rome, with the hope and prayer that every Catholic Church throughout the world would follow. In his opening prayer entitled, "Stay with us, Lord," the Pope urged all parishes to begin Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. He also proclaimed that, "The best the surest and the most effective way of establishing everlasting peace on the face of the earth is through the great power of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament."

Upon his arrival in Korea on October 7, 1989 for the 44th International Eucharistic Congress the Holy Father went to Good Shepherd Parish in Seoul. This is one of seventy-five parishes in Korea that has Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. During a period of Eucharistic Adoration there, the Holy Father gave a homily in which he said: "It is most fitting that my first stop among the Korean people should be in a Church such as this, where the minds and hearts of the faithful are constantly raised up in adoration before Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist." (*L'Osservatore Romano*, English edition, 16 October 1989).

This is why Our Holy Father said in his first encyclical, "Every member of the Church, especially Bishops and Priests, must be vigilant in seeing that this Sacrament of Love shall be at the center of the life of the people of God, so that through all of the manifestations of worship due It, Christ shall be given back, love for love; and truly become the life of our souls," (*Redemptor Hominis*, The Redeemer of Man).

One might ask why it is necessary for the Blessed Sacrament to be exposed in a monstrance? The difference between spending time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament exposed in a monstrance, rather than in the tabernacle, is the same as the difference between conversing with a friend face-to-face instead of having a closed door between you. Most adorers say that seeing Jesus under the appearance of the Sacred Host is much more conducive to intimacy than Him being hidden in a tabernacle. It helps adorers to be faithful to their scheduled hours because they know that Jesus cannot be left alone in the Blessed Sacrament exposed in a monstrance. The scheduled adorers are guardians of the Blessed Sacrament, so their presence is necessary. Yet, the most compelling reason for exposition is because the Holy Spirit asks for it. During his Eucharistic discourse, Jesus made this unmistakably clear:

"Indeed this is the will of My Heavenly Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him, shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day." (John 6:40) (Missionaries of the Blessed Sacrament)

Margo Woodward's fiancée Bill had been diagnosed with colon cancer. He was told to forget about chemotherapy since it would only extend his life a short time. But Margo wasn't about to give up. She signed up to spend an hour each week with our Lord. "At that time, I was in such a state of anxiety and stress that I was barely able to go to work," she said, "I prayed to Mary and Jesus that they would heal Bill if that was God's plan. My hour in the chapel was to become my sanctuary of peace and most important, a rebirth in my faith and trust in the Lord. I prayed every day that I could let go of worrying and put my trust in Jesus, and in a very short time, I was able to do just that." Her fiancée chose to go through chemotherapy anyway. While he is in remission now -- a great blessing in itself -- Margo says she herself was healed both emotionally and spiritually.

Through her new relationship with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, she was also able to open up communications and forgive her sister who she had not seen in nine years. Showing mercy to her sister as God had been merciful to her and Bill. (The Catholic Standard and Times, Philadelphia, PA, 3/14/2002)

A man named Richard, approximately six or seven years ago, was faced with a life-threatening illness, the fear of dying, malignant tumors in his throat, debilitating depression, substantial loss of weight, cancer treatments, etc., and things looked very bleak. (Doctors told him he had only 3 months to live) And through a set of circumstances, he began to go to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and tell Him his fears, and his anxieties. He talked to Him, sat with Him, and he found that over a period of time, this was not just once or twice, this was months and years, he found that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament gave him the help, the strength, the hope that he needed to cope with each and every hour of every day.

Fr. John Randall received a message from the Lord while in a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament. He opened the Bible up to Haggai and Zechariah and received this word. "When you become zealous for my glory in the sanctuary, then I will make the streets safe for the people." Fr. John took "zealous" to mean perpetual adoration. He was in a crime infested area in downtown Providence, Rhode Island. People were moving out of the parish because the area was not safe. The Bishop was thinking about closing the parish when Fr. John got this message. Now it is a thriving parish and the neighborhood has been made safe through perpetual adoration.

Cardinal Bevilacqua of Philadelphia says, "Because eucharistic adoration is an intense encounter with Jesus

## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Christ, many find that such extended periods of prayer make them somehow different, somehow better. People who pray regularly before the Blessed Sacrament become more tranquil, more patient, more charitable and more forgiving. Actually, they become more holy. No matter what attracts people to come to eucharistic adoration, many are learning that prayer before the Blessed Sacrament can and will transform them and make them more like Christ." (The Catholic Standard and Times, Philadelphia, PA, 3/14/2002)

If someone asked you if you are currently dealing with pain and suffering, fear and anxiety, any medical, physical, mental problems, loneliness and depression, dealing with difficulties with children and grandchildren and on and on...if they were to ask you if you were touched by any of these, to stand, I have a feeling that most people would be standing. For many of us of course, what we do when we're faced with trying to cope with such problems, we're running around all over the place filled with fear and anxiety, and most times we overlook going where we should go, and we forget just what Jesus told us, that is, "Come and bring those burdens to me; I will help you with them, I will refresh you." With each holy hour we make, He stretches out His hand and touches us, with His healing power.

In the book "Christ's Appeal for Love", Jesus tells Sister Josefa Menendez that: "If you seek happiness you will find it in me. If you desire peace, in Me alone is peace to be found. I am mercy and love. How often I have told you that my one longing is for souls to bring Me their miseries! Come ... and let love consume you. The more miseries I find in you, the more love you will find in Me. I require nothing of you beyond what is already yours. Give me an empty heart and I will fill it. Give it to me with all it's miseries and I will consume them. If you possess nothing but miseries and weaknesses these I desire. I beg you to give them to Me. Give them to Me, yes, give all to me and keep nothing, but trust My Heart: I forgive you, I love you, I will sanctify you Myself."

If you also sincerely go to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and resolve to make a change in your life, to make Jesus more the center of your life, to move Him up on your priority list, to where He belongs, you can grow in a deeper love of Jesus, and to better feel His love for you, and to get the help, strength and hope from Him that we all need on a day-to-day basis in our lives.

What is presently a negative attitude toward the Blessed Sacrament could become a positive attitude if only we would be willing to be more courageous, going from whispering to witnessing. Now is the time for all of us to return and say we know Him. We know Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We love Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Our life is dedicated to the fulfillment of His Eucharistic Reign. We should all work together for Eucharistic Evangelization,

that there may be a Eucharistic Renewal in the Church through Perpetual Adoration which will bring about the Eucharistic Reign of Christ and the New Era.

Denial of the Real Presence, ridicule of exposition, and especially, attacks on perpetual adoration, are common place. Read the Book of Revelations and the battle lines of war become clear once you know that the "woman" is Mary against the "Dragon", Satan, fighting the "Lamb," Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. There is only one war worth fighting for. "Standing up for Christ in the Blessed Sacrament today is like standing up for Christ when He was on the Cross!"

National polls conducted over the past several years have shown that an alarming 70% of church going Catholic people have lost their understanding and belief that Jesus Christ is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

Pope John Paul II in January 2002 said: "I want to stress the centrality of the Eucharist for the life of the world to which the Lord has sent us as the seed of renewal. If the Church returns to her Eucharistic source, she will recover her authentic nature and strength, and that will relativize the urgent debates over organizational issues while it will highlight consecration to God and fraternal sharing that will enable her to overcome fragmentation and division. Moreover; *the powerful presence of the sacrifice of Christ in the Eucharist* keeps the Mass from being reduced to a gathering for a festive meal. The Sacrifice *stands for ever as a sign of contradiction, and is the place where we can verify the degree of our conformity to the radical message of Christ, in our relationship with God and with our brothers and sisters.*"

Through our partaking of the Eucharist, we become one in Christ in union with the whole church. But in order to maintain this community, we must not lose sight of His divinity, nor overlook the adoration and reverence our Lord is due in the Holy Eucharist. The Mass is not solely a meal for the community, it is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross perpetuated throughout the ages in an unbloody manner in each and every Mass. Thus, the Mass is a sacrifice, as well as a celebration! As a Catholic community, we need to show signs of reverence to Our God as part of our worship which is due our God, and to fortify our faith and understanding in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In our quest for developing community, we must not lose sight of making Jesus Christ known, loved and adored in the Blessed Sacrament, and at all times show the respect and reverence that Our Lord Jesus Christ deserves. The Eucharist is essential for our Catholic faith to take substance and form. We must seek Christ in the Eucharist first and foremost, and cling to His presence in mind and heart.

After the Last Supper, Jesus went to the garden to pray. As He prayed, He began to sweat blood because He realized that the gift of the Holy Eucharist which He had

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

just given to humankind would be rejected by so many and appreciated by so few. He saw down through the ages how many would walk away from His Eucharistic love and not even bother to come to Mass on Sunday. He saw how, in so many tabernacles of the world, He would be left alone and forgotten. *He saw how few would believe in His Real Presence and fewer still would respond to His appeal to be loved day and night in the Blessed Sacrament.* He saw how most people would live their lives as if He were not here -- God living among His people in the Blessed Sacrament. He comes to bring so many graces and blessings, yet so few come to receive them. *"He came into His own, yet His own received Him not" (Jn. 1:11).*

By coming to Him in unceasing praise, we tell the world: This is Jesus, Our Adorable King of Love. Through perpetual adoration we proclaim Him King by giving Him the honor He truly deserves. We take Him off the cross of shame, and replace the crown of thorns with a throne of glory by surrounding Him with love day and night. **When the whole Church proclaims Him King through a Eucharistic Renewal where every parish has perpetual adoration, then He will claim His kingdom and renew the face of the earth.**

May we adore Him here on earth as He is adored in Heaven. We say in the Our Father: "Thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven". When we adore Him here on earth as He is adored in Heaven, then Christ will renew the earth and His Eucharistic Reign will prevail. We can do this by having Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in every Catholic church in the world. After all, why would He bring His Kingdom here on earth if He is not welcome?

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration will help bring back the faith and understanding of Jesus Christ being really and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, and accomplish a powerful spiritual renewal within the Catholic Church.

Jesus told St. Margaret Mary to tell the world that: "If you believe in My love, if you really believe in My love, then you shall see miracles of My love. I will reign in every heart and My victory shall be total and complete for I will reign through the omnipotence of My love in the Blessed Sacrament".

Be encouraged by the meaning of the miracle of the sun. Seventy-thousand people saw it May 13, 1917. It was raining hard. A sign of tears, the copious tears of mans inhumanity to man. Mud was everywhere, like the corruption of everything we see today. Then the sun started to spin with the splendor of many colors coming down upon the earth. This foretells the coming glory of the Blessed Sacrament. The rain stops, the mud disappears and everything is made radiant.

Seventy-thousand people witnessed the miracle of the sun, while the whole world will see this: "then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the

former earth had passed away.... Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race.... He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning or pain, for the old order has passed away" (REV 21:1-4)

Msgr. Pepe says: "I believe the Philippines has risen from the rubble of abuse and plunder because it has been lifted by abundant grace flowing from the Blessed Sacrament. What the world needs now is another revolution or a second Pentecost, one leading all humanity to the Heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. In a world of division, Eucharist means unity, not just with one's own family, but with the whole family of man. May the love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament be your courage, His power your weapon, and total faith in Him your armor."

As soon as there are enough chapels of perpetual adoration to satisfy God's divine justice, He will show the whole world His Divine Mercy by revealing what is concealed, making visible what is hidden, the light of His love in the Blessed Sacrament. It will be the glorious light of His love. It will have the power to penetrate every human heart, no matter how cold, no matter how cruel, and bring every human heart back to the Heart of God. Then, once mankind comes back to God through this Eucharistic Miracle, nature will come back to man. And then we will have a second, a new, and a more glorious earthly paradise.

Evil prevails throughout the world today because those who are against God are willing to make more sacrifices than those who are for God! There is a spiritual war going on today between good and evil. This is the greatest war in the history of humanity because the destiny of The Church and the world are in the balance. This is a spiritual "red alert." Who will awake from the complacency of indifference and become a soldier for Christ, a prayer warrior for peace? Who will be a man of God and take up the spiritual arms of prayer and sacrifice? Who will answer the appeal of Christ who calls out in the middle of the night: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Mt. 26:40). (Missionaries of the Blessed Sacrament)

Seek to grow in faith in the Eucharist. When Jesus walked the earth as "Emmanuel - God with us", it took faith to believe that our God was veiled in humanity. Jesus is now veiled in bread and wine. It also takes faith to recognize Jesus in the consecrated bread and wine. Pursue that faith; pray for that faith before the Eucharistic Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. If you can remove that veil that hides Jesus in the Eucharist, you will more easily find Him in other ways, such as in the poor and marginalized. You will also be able to believe and accept everything else Jesus taught.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Journey to Our Father Ministries**  
P O Box 24658,  
Jacksonville, FL 32241