

Dear Brother Priests and Deacons in Christ,

As you may know, the Bishops of the United States are calling for a National Eucharistic Revival, culminating in the first National Eucharistic Congress in the United States in almost fifty years, a once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage toward the “source and summit” of our Catholic faith.

A Diocesan core committee and subcommittees have been established to promote this initiative for the three year phases: diocesan, parish and evangelical.

More information regarding the National Eucharistic Revival and our Diocesan year one participation are available on our Diocesan Website you may refer directly to <https://eucharisticrevival.org/>

To inaugurate this National Event the USCCB is highly encouraging the following:

- **Corpus Christi Sunday Eucharistic Processions** (6/19/2022) in your parish or joining together with sister parishes of your deanery. The Diocesan Eucharistic initiative with Bishop Monforton will be at the FUS Youth Rally for those registered.
- **Eucharistic Adoration**: If Eucharistic Adoration has not begun in your parish, (perpetual, weekly or daily), adding this Eucharistic encounter with Our Lord to your parish calendar is highly encouraged.
- **Promoting reverence for the Eucharist**: May the Holy Spirit grace your homilies, pulpit announcements and Eucharist centered bulletin columns or inserts which can be major areas for Eucharistic formation.

The Knights of Columbus are already involved Nationally. Reach out to your local Chapters and Apostolates in your area with an invitation to participate in all of the above beginning June 19, 2022 with Catholic parishes throughout the country. The Diocese of Steubenville is blessed to have you as OUR faithful clergy and pastors. Please know that we pray for you daily at our parish Masses. To assist you in any of the above suggestions you may choose to request a volunteer to be your parish contact person to assist you and also to share with us ideas that your parish is using that might benefit other parishes. Recalling Bishop Sheen speaking with clergy, he offers a suggestion: “*Spend an hour with Our Lord.*” We pray that our faithful will be healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist.

In 2019 a Pew survey showed just 30% of Catholics understand the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In the Pew survey, 69% of all self-identified Catholics said they believed the bread and wine used at Mass are not Jesus, but instead “symbols of the body and blood of Jesus Christ.” The results struck a nerve with many U.S. bishops, who saw a catechetical crisis in this lack of fundamental understanding about the Eucharist.

In November 2021, in addition to approving plans for a Eucharistic Revival and Congress, the bishops also approved a statement on “The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church.” It is addressed to all Catholics in the United States and “endeavors to explain the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of the church.”

The U.S. Catholic Church’s three-year Eucharistic Revival is about to get underway. It “is not a program but a movement,” an invitation to the faithful from God to go on mission and be compelling witnesses of our faith, said Tim Glemkowski, the newly named executive director of the National Eucharistic Congress. “We the church have to be clear about telling our story, getting to the core” of our faith, that “God is not just some distant someone who is not engaged,” he told Catholic News Service April 5. “He’s alive and real and can be encountered in the Eucharist, source and summit of the faith. ... This is where God is with us.”

The National Eucharistic Revival begins June 19, 2022, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, and culminates with the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis in 2024. Along the way, there will be parish, diocesan and regional events to increase Catholics’ understanding of the **Real Presence in the Eucharist** for all to participate.

2022-2023 - The first year will get underway at the parish and diocesan levels with initiatives such as Eucharistic adoration and processions, the development of parish teams of revival leaders and conferences on the Eucharist.

2023-2024 - The following year there will be regional revival events and plans for a Diocesan Eucharistic Revival leading to the Eucharistic congress in Indianapolis, on Pentecost 2024, the first to be held in nearly 50 years, which took place 1976 in Philadelphia. The Bishops’ expectation is that it will draw at least 80,000 from across the country.

Both the Revival and the Congress are being spearheaded by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, chaired by Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota. As chairman of the board of the National Eucharistic Congress Inc. Bishop Cozzens announced Glemkowski’s appointment April 4. “Tim is a real leader with a heart on fire for Jesus Christ and a desire to invite people to encounter His love in the Eucharist.” He brings a unique blend of skill sets to this important role — from strategic vision and operational excellence to theological insight and a missionary mindset. ... He lives and breathes the call of Pope Francis for a pastoral and missionary conversion of the church,” the bishop added.

“God is doing something important in His church through this multiyear National Eucharistic Revival,” At its core, I believe the congress is a critical moment for how we fulfill Pope Francis’ vision of becoming a more missionary church.” said Glemkowski. (edited from Catholic News Services: Editor’s Note: More about the U.S. Catholic Church’s National Eucharistic Revival and National Eucharistic Congress can be found at [https://eucharisticrevival.org.](https://eucharisticrevival.org/))