

Come Let Us Adore Him – III

The scripture selections and the prayers of the liturgy for the Season of Advent reflect on two themes:

1. From the beginning of Advent until December 16 the focus is on preparation for the coming of God's Kingdom. The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent concerns Christ's coming at the end of time. John the Baptist is the subject of the gospel for the Second and Third Sundays.
2. From December 17 to December 24 the theme shifts to the anticipation of the birth of Jesus and his ministry. The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday addresses the events that happened right before the birth of Jesus.

We are being asked to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. We do this by being aware of the presence of Jesus in our lives and how are we being transformed into Jesus.

Archbishop Sheen in his autobiography stated his third reason for being faithful to Adoration "is to grow more and more into His likeness ... We become like that which we gaze upon ... Looking at the Eucharistic Lord for an hour transforms the heart in a mysterious way as the face of Moses was transformed after his companionship with God on the mountain..."

Before The Blessed Sacrament, something else is happening to us. Adoration enables us to have a "Heart Transplant". Over time the Heart of Jesus is transforming our heart. How often do we struggle and think, Jesus just give me your heart and make me like you. It seems so impossible, but in Adoration here before Jesus, we are becoming more like Him. Just like when we spend a lot of time with our spouse or close friend, we become more like them and get to know them so much more. This happens to us with Jesus, the closer we are to Him the more we take on His fragrance. The Closer we get to God, the Kinder we are to each other.

Just as you cannot be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in The Blessed Sacrament without receiving the Divine Rays of His Grace, His Love, His Peace.

"Christ is truly the Emmanuel, that is, God with us, day and night, He is in our midst. He dwells with us full of grace and truth. He restores morality, nourishes virtue, consoles the afflicted, strengthens the weak." (Pope Paul VI, Mysterium Fidei)



Sometimes we are faced with problems, troubles, or are in need of healing. We come before the Lord in Adoration and we cannot be still. Our minds are being flooded and we feel so much anxiety. We need to ask The Holy Spirit to quiet our heart and mind so we can pray for healing. Just as Jesus calmed the violent storm upon the sea with the disciples, He can also calm us in our unrest and give us His peace.

Adoration gives us a time to settle down. Here before Jesus in The Most Blessed Sacrament, we see things more clearly and we feel more at peace. When we have completed our Adoration, and are ready to leave, we genuflect before Jesus in the Monstrance. Jesus feels such pleasure for each person as He lays His hands upon them. He takes such delight that we have been present with Him and He was able to touch us.

Each moment you spend with Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament brings joy, pleasure, and delight to His Sacred Heart!

"My joy, My pleasure, My delight is to be with you." (Prov 8:31)

For the Third Week of Advent, let us ask ourselves if during this busy season we have taken time to give ourselves a present? When we wish to hold our child or someone special to us, they must first give us permission to hold them. Jesus wants to hold us each and everyday, but we must first give Him permission. We have to visit Him and be present to Him so he can hold us.

In Adoration before The Most Blessed Sacrament, may you enjoy the precious present as you are in His precious presence.

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus. Come! Lord Jesus come! Maranatha!

Deacon Michael DeVivo

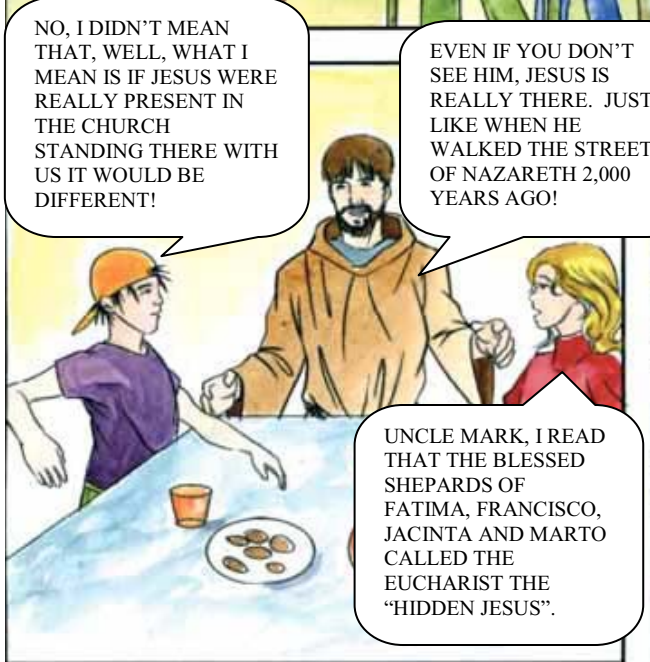


WELL, TODAY THERE WAS A GREAT MOVIE OUT AND WE HAD FUN! EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ON THE OTHER HAND IS A BIT BORING!

SO, YOU WERE SAYING THAT YOU DIDN'T GO TO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?



DOES BEING WITH JESUS SEEM BORING TO YOU?



NO, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT, WELL, WHAT I MEAN IS IF JESUS WERE REALLY PRESENT IN THE CHURCH STANDING THERE WITH US IT WOULD BE DIFFERENT!

EVEN IF YOU DON'T SEE HIM, JESUS IS REALLY THERE. JUST LIKE WHEN HE WALKED THE STREETS OF NAZARETH 2,000 YEARS AGO!



I EVEN CALL IT THAT TODAY!

UNCLE MARK, I READ THAT THE BLESSED SHEPHERDS OF FATIMA, FRANCISCO, JACINTA AND MARTO CALLED THE EUCHARIST THE "HIDDEN JESUS".

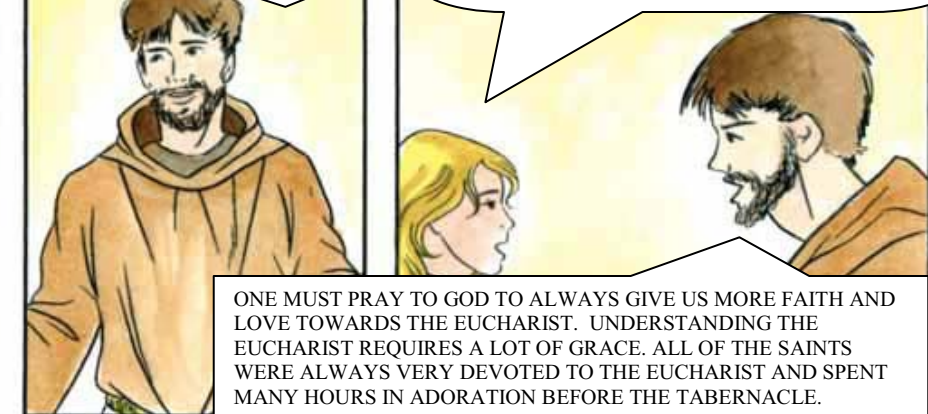
WE ARE LUCKIER THAN THOSE WHO LIVED IN JESUS' TIME AND GOT TO KNOW HIM IN PERSON. THINK ABOUT IT: BY ENTERING ANY CHURCH WE ALWAYS FIND THE TRUE PRESENCE OF JESUS IN THE TABERNACLE! WE CAN VISIT HIM WHENEVER WE WANT AND HE IS ALWAYS THERE TO WELCOME US. WE HAVE GOD ALWAYS WITH US, JUST LEAVE HOME AND GO INTO ANY CHURCH!



SURELY, THE LORD IS VERY AUTHENTIC, BUT HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

JESUS IS GOD AND HE IS OMNIPOTENT. JUST AS HE CREATED EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING, HE WAS ALSO ABLE TO REMAIN AMONG MEN BY DECIDING TO INSTITUTE HIMSELF INTO THE EUCHARIST!

IT IS MARVELOUS! BUT WHY IS IT THAT SO MANY PEOPLE DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT, UNCLE MARK? THEY ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH SO MANY THINGS, THEY STAND IN MILE LONG LINES TO GO TO MUSEUMS, SPORTING EVENTS, CONCERTS AND MOVIE THEATERS, BUT THEY WON'T GO FIND JESUS?



ONE MUST PRAY TO GOD TO ALWAYS GIVE US MORE FAITH AND LOVE TOWARDS THE EUCHARIST. UNDERSTANDING THE EUCHARIST REQUIRES A LOT OF GRACE. ALL OF THE SAINTS WERE ALWAYS VERY DEVOTED TO THE EUCHARIST AND SPENT MANY HOURS IN ADORATION BEFORE THE TABERNACLE.