

JOLIET DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST  
AND  
EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

**Update - March 2010**

**I. Pastors' Survey** – A survey was sent to all pastors regarding their views on various issues regarding the Year of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Congress (YE/EC). About one third of pastors completed all or part of the survey. The information we received will help prepare a list of parishes that provide some form of Eucharistic Adoration as well as assist us in our planning for the Congress. Pastors were also asked to designate a person to serve as the contact person for the YE/EC.

**II. Spiritual Formation**

- A. Motto – The motto for the YE and EC will be **“Bread of Life – Covenant of Love.”** This phrase was suggested by Michael Daley, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader from St. Jude School in New Lenox.
- B. Prayer – An “official” prayer of the YE/EC has been selected. Cards with the prayers will be sent to all parishes in time to be distributed at Easter. Parishes will be asked to offer that prayer at Masses after Communion. The prayers will be translated into Spanish and Polish (and other languages if requested).
- C. Patrons – The Blessed Virgin Mary, under her title “Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament,” will be the overall Patroness of the YE/EC. Each month will also have a designated patron. A brief biography, picture and suggested corporal and spiritual work of mercy for each patron will be provided to parishes for their bulletin and will be available on the webpage. Monthly patrons were chosen from various vocations, states of life and ethnicities.

The monthly patrons are:

**April, 2010** – St. Faustina and Venerable John Paul II

**May** – St. Damien of Molokai

**June** – Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

**July** – Blessed Kateri Tekawitha

**August** – St. Francis and St. Clare

**September** – St. Padre Pio

**October** – St. Therese (the Little Flower) and her parents Blessed Louis and Zele Martin

**November** – St. Martin de Porres

**December** – St. Juan Diego and Blessed Miguel Pro

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**January, 2011** – St. John Neumann

**February** – St. Isidore the Farmer and his wife St. Maria (de la Cabeza)

**March** – Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

**April** – St. Gianna Beretta Molla

**May** – Blessed Jacinta and Francisco Marto (Fatima seers)

**June** – St. Juliana of Liege (promoted the Feast of Corpus Christi)

- D. Pilgrimage Churches/Chapels – Various churches and adoration chapels in the different regions of the diocese have been designated pilgrimage sites. It is hoped that a plenary indulgence can be granted for pilgrimage to those sites.

- E. Parish speakers – a list of suggested speakers for parish missions and/or presentations is being prepared.
- F. Eucharistic Devotions – Guidelines and suggestions are being prepared to assist parishes who would like to institute various devotions during the year, such as 40 Hours Devotion, Corpus Christi Procession and the Holy Thursday Seven Church Visitation. These guidelines will be available on the YE/EC webpage.
- G. Parish Eucharistic Adoration – A listing of the locations and times of Eucharistic Adoration around the diocese is being prepared and will be available on the YE/EC webpage.
- H. YE/EC pins – Pins with a Eucharistic symbol or the YE/EC logo are being planned. These pins will be distributed to all parishes for their people, especially those receiving their First Eucharist during the Year.

### **III. Catechetical Formation**

The Committee is preparing a list of the best texts and resources for sacramental preparation that are solid both theologically and pedagogically. They are also working with the Diocesan offices and agencies integrate the themes of the YE in their various programs. During the coming year, there will be regional meetings to update teachers, catechists, youth ministers and others on catechesis and sacramental preparation. They will also be providing bulletin articles and inserts for parishes on the Eucharist and Penance.

### **IV. Liturgical Formation**

The Diocese will be involving the Liturgical Institute from the University of St. Mary of the Lake in providing a program to introduce the new translation of the Roman Missal to priests, deacons, musicians, liturgy coordinators and others.

### **V. Speaker Series**

The Committee will sponsor of series of four talks on various topics during the year. These talks will be hosted in the various regions of the diocese. Bishop Sartain will kick off the series in April. The Committee is in the process of lining up other well known speakers. The plan is to have different presentations in English, Spanish and Polish.

### **VI. Publicity**

A webpage for the YE/EC is being prepared and will be accessed from the Diocesan Website. All information regarding the celebrations for the year and the congress will be available on the site along with other resources. Hope magazine and other forms of media will also be utilized in promoting the various efforts of the YE/EC.

A logo for the YE/EC is being prepared and will be used on all the material prepared for these observances as well as parish banners.

### **VII. Eucharistic Congress**

**The Eucharistic Congress has been scheduled for Sunday, June 26, 2011 at Lewis University.**

While the schedule is in the process of being set, the plan is to begin around noon with talks and presentations for various language groups and ages and conclude with Mass and Eucharistic Procession later in the afternoon. The presenters for the talks are being finalized.