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Diocese of Joliet

Year of the Eucharist

April 1, 2010 – June 26, 2011

Bread of Life—Covenant of Love

www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye

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JULY 2010 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first Year of the Eucharist Newsletter!

We plan on e-mailing a newsletter each month to alert readers about upcoming events, new materials available on the Year of the Eucharist webpage, as well as other pertinent articles and information. We hope you will find these updates helpful for yourself as well as assisting you in promoting this celebration in your parish, ministry or organization. Let us continue to pray for God's blessing on this diocesan effort to deepen our love and reverence for the Holy Eucharist.

Lord Jesus, Bread of Life and Covenant of Love - Nourish us with Your Body and Blood.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament - Pray for us!

Bishop Joseph Siegel and the Year of the Eucharist Steering Committee

Approved and Recommended Parish Resources List Now Available

A compilation of materials and resources for all age-groups, with a focus on assisting Catholics to know and love the Sacraments of Eucharist and Penance (Reconciliation) are now available at the [Diocese of Joliet Year of the Eucharist website](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye). This pdf-document was prepared by the Year of the Eucharist Catechetical Action Committee, in association with the Religious Education Office, Diocese of Joliet. The resources come from a variety of methodologies and perspectives faithfully representing the doctrine of the Church; include

- Internet Resources
- Books
- Supplemental Texts for Children
- Youth Ministry
- Large-or Small-Group Process (Adult)
- Intergenerational Catechesis
- Media (All Ages)
- Retreats, Missions and Events
- Bulletin Inserts/ Brochures/Pamphlets

Approved by Bishop J. Peter Sartain, June 1, 2010

<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye/documents/YECatecheticalResources.pdf>



New Logo for Pilgrimage Sites



In an effort to promote our pilgrimage sites established for the Diocese of Joliet Year of the Eucharist 2010 - 2011, Bishop Siegel has approved a decal designed to be displayed at each pilgrimage site. It includes a beautiful rendition of our Blessed Mother and the Infant Jesus elevating the host and chalice. In the background we can see the spire of St. Raymond Nonnatus Cathedral. The design also includes the official seal of the diocese and the logo for the year-long celebration of the Eucharist. Look for this beautiful design at our pilgrimage sites throughout the Diocese of Joliet.

Mystical Prayer in the Holy Spirit

[The Feast \(liturgical memorial\) of](#)

This reading on mystical (contemplative) prayer, taken from Bonaventure's Omnia, 5, 312

Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, Like the *throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant*, and the *mystery* hidden from the ages. A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope and charity, devoted, full of wonder, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a *pasch*, that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulcher, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: *Today you will be with me in paradise*.

For this passover to be perfect we must suspend all the operations of the mind and we must transform the peak of our affections, directing them to God alone. This is a sacred mystical experience. It cannot be comprehended by anyone unless he surrenders himself to it; nor can he surrender himself to it unless he longs for it; nor can he long for it unless the Holy Spirit, whom Christ sent into the world, should come and inflame his innermost soul. Hence the Apostle says that this mystical wisdom is revealed by the Holy Spirit.

St. Bonaventure is on July 15.



If you ask how such things can occur, seek the answer in God's grace, not in doctrine; in the longing of the will, not in the understanding; in the sighs of prayer, not in research; seek the bridegroom not the teacher; God and not man; darkness not daylight; and look not to the light but rather to the raging fire that carries the soul to God with intense fervor and glowing love. The fire is God, and the furnace Jerusalem, fired by Christ in the ardor of his loving passion. Only he understood this who said: *My soul chose hanging and my bones death*. Anyone who cherishes this kind of death can see God, for it is certainly true that: *No man can look upon me and live*.

Let us die, then, and enter into the darkness, silencing our anxieties, our passions and all the fantasies of our imagination. Let us pass over with the crucified Christ *from this world to the Father*, so that, when the Father has shown himself to us, we can say with Philip: *It is enough*. We may hear with Paul: *My grace is sufficient for you*; and we can rejoice with David, saying: *My flesh and my heart fail me, but God is the strength of my heart and my heritage for ever. Blessed be the Lord for ever, and let all the people say: Amen. Amen!*

A Eucharistic Prayer - Grant that my soul may hunger after Thee

St. Bonaventure

Pierce, O most sweet Lord Jesus Christ, mine inmost soul with the most joyous and healthful wound of Thy love, with true, serene, and most holy apostolic charity, that my soul may ever languish and melt with love and longing for Thee, that it may yearn for Thee and faint for Thy courts, and long to be dissolved and to be with Thee.

Grant that my soul may hunger after Thee, the bread of angels, the refreshment of holy souls, our daily and supersubstantial bread, having all sweetness and savor and every delight of taste. Let my heart ever hunger after and feed upon Thee, whom the angels desire to look upon, and may my inmost soul be filled with the sweetness of Thy savor. May it ever thirst after Thee, the fountain of life, the fountain of wisdom and knowledge, the fountain of eternal light, the torrent of pleasure, the richness of the house of God. May it ever compass Thee, seek Thee, find Thee, run to Thee, attain to Thee, meditate upon Thee, speak of Thee, and do all things to the praise and glory of Thy Holy name, with humility and discretion, with love and delight, with readiness and affection, and with perseverance unto the end.

Be Thou alone ever my hope and my whole confidence, my riches, my delight, my pleasure and my joy; my rest and tranquility; my peace, my sweetness and my fragrance; my sweet savor, my food and refreshment; my refuge and my help; my wisdom, my portion, my possession and my treasure, in whom may my mind and my heart be ever fixed and firm, and rooted immovably. Amen.

YE Saint of the Month – Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha



Kateri was born near the town of Auriesville, New York, in the year 1656, the daughter of a Mohawk warrior. She was four years old when her mother died of smallpox. The disease also attacked Kateri and transfigured her face. She was adopted by her two aunts and an uncle. Kateri became converted as a teenager. She was baptized at the age of twenty and incurred the great hostility of her tribe. Although she had to suffer greatly for her Faith, she remained firm in it. Kateri went to the new Christian colony of Indians in Canada. Here she lived a life dedicated to prayer, penitential practices, and care for the sick and aged. Every morning, even in bitterest winter, she stood before the chapel door until it opened at four and remained there until after the last Mass. She was devoted to the Eucharist and to Jesus Crucified. She died on April 17, 1680 at the age of twenty-four. She is known as the "Lily of the Mohawks". Devotion to Kateri is responsible for establishing Native American ministries in Catholic Churches all over the United States and Canada. Kateri was declared venerable by the Catholic Church in 1943 and she was Beatified in 1980. Work is currently underway to have her Canonized by the Church. Hundreds of thousands have visited shrines to Kateri erected at both St. Francis Xavier and Caughnawaga and at her birth place at Auriesville, New York. Pilgrimages at these sites continue today.

Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be declared a Blessed. Her feast day is July 14. She is the patroness of the environment and ecology as is St. Francis of Assisi.

<http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye/patrons.asp>

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