



*Year of Eucharist pins available at Wheaton Religious.
A smaller version of the pin will soon be available as well.*

This Issue

[Events for Catechist and Leaders](#)
[Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross](#)
[Prayers to the Archangels](#)
[Saint of the Month](#)

Diocese of Joliet

Year of the Eucharist

April 1, 2010 – June 26, 2011

Bread of Life—Covenant of Love

www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye

[In Español](#)

September 2010 Newsletter

Events for Year of the Eucharist for Catechists & Leaders

By Joyce Donahue

As part of the Year of the Eucharist, Bishop Sartain has invited the Dominican Sisters of Nashville from the College of Aquinas to present workshops in our diocese for all Directors and Coordinators of Religious Education, Catechists of children, Catholic School Principals and Teachers.

Sr. Mary Michael Fox, OP, Director of the Office of Catechesis for Aquinas College, will open the gatherings with a general presentation on the nature and mission of catechists: "Catechesis in the Mind and Heart of the Church." Sister Mary Michael has a lively, personable style sure to be enjoyable.

Sr. Mary Ann Zuberbueler, O.P., Director of Teacher Education for Aquinas College, will offer the second session: "Draw Near: the Transforming Power of the Eucharist," in which she will highlight the sublime mystery of the Eucharist and give practical ways to "draw near" to Jesus in the Eucharist and to invite Him to "draw near" to us. Using stories, she will show why letting the Real Presence "transform" us is important in our personal lives as well as in the work we do as catechists.

Attendance at one session of this event is MANDATORY for all Directors and Coordinators of Religious Education, and we ask that you stress to your catechists that Bishop Sartain is encouraging their attendance as well.

To make attendance as convenient as possible, the Religious Education Office (REO) has arranged three opportunities:

Thursday, October 7 (7 – 9:30 pm) - St Charles Borromeo Pastoral Center in Romeoville

Saturday, October 9 (8:30 am – 12:00 pm begins with 8:30 am Mass) - St. James in Glen Ellyn

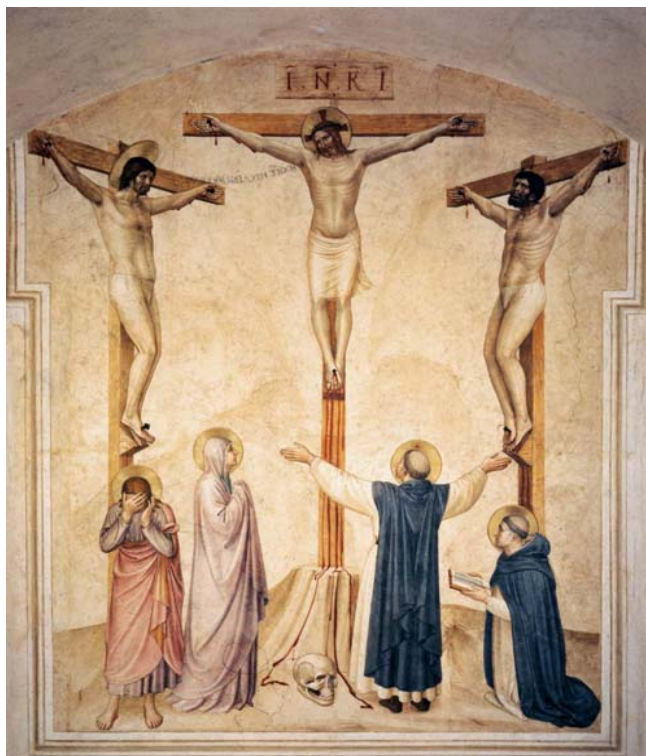
Sunday, October 10 (1 – 3:30 pm) - St. Martin in Kankakee



An event registration form is available from [Joyce Donahue](#). Since Bishop Sartain directed that this event be mandatory, please know that if we do not receive a registration from ALL DRE's and CRE's, by September 15, we will be contacting you. The deadline for your parish catechist count is September 30th.

There's a related article, "How To Receive Communion" in the September issue of *Christ is Our Hope Magazine* that is a helpful reference for parish catechesis on the Eucharist and receiving Communion at Mass. The Diocesan Implementation plan for the new translation of the Roman Missal will be sent to parishes soon and will be included in the October newsletter.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross



The Cross — because of what it represents — is the most potent and universal symbol of the Christian faith. It has inspired both liturgical and private devotions: for example, the Sign of the Cross, which is an invocation of the Holy Trinity; the “little” Sign of the Cross on head, lips and heart at the reading of the Gospel; praying the Stations (or Way) of the Cross; and the Veneration of the Cross by the faithful on Good Friday by kissing the feet of the image of Our Savior crucified.

We remember Our Lord’s words, “He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake shall find it” (Mt 10:38 - 39). Meditating on these words we unite ourselves—our souls and bodies—with His obedience and His sacrifice; and we rejoice in this inestimable gift through which we have the hope of salvation and the glory of everlasting life.

Here’s some ideas for marking the feast annually:

- ❖ Placing a crucifix (the cross with an image of Christ’s body upon it) in churches and homes, in classrooms of Catholic schools; (at the beginning of each school year, I led my students in a special prayer service) if it’s already there...take it down and gather the family and pray together before the cross is re-mounted.
- ❖ Wearing this image is a constant reminder and witness of Christ’s ultimate triumph, His victory over sin and death through His suffering and dying on the Cross. Buy a cross or crucifix for someone who needs your prayers.

Christians “exalt” (raise on high) the Cross of Christ as the instrument of our salvation. Adoration of

the Cross is, thus, adoration of Jesus Christ, the God Man, who suffered and died on this Roman instrument of torture for our redemption from sin and death. The cross represents the One Sacrifice by which Jesus, obedient even unto death, accomplished our salvation. The cross is a symbolic summary of the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ all in one image and we make special effort to honor it on this feast.

Prayers for the Feast of the Archangels

September 29 we celebrate the Feast of the Archangels. The following prayers to the Archangel Michael (English and Spanish), as well as prayers for the intercession of Archangels, Raphael and Gabriel. October 2, 2010 is the feast of guardian angels and that prayer is also included.

A Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael, Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

A Prayer to Saint Gabriel

Blessed Saint Gabriel Archangel, we beseech you to intercede for us at the throne of divine mercy: as you did announce to Mary the mystery of the Incarnation, so through your prayers may we

Oración a San Miguel

San Miguel Arcángel, Defiéndenos en la batalla; Sé nuestra protección contra la maldad y los engaños del diablo. Que Dios lo reprenda, es nuestra humilde oración. Y puedas, O príncipe de los Seres Celestiales, por el poder de Dios, echar a Satanás al infierno, así como a todos los demás espíritus que vagan por el mundo buscando la ruina de las almas. Amen.

A Prayer to Saint Raphael

Blessed Saint Raphael, Archangel, We beseech you to help us in all our needs and trials of this life, as you, through the power of God, did restore sight

receive strength of faith and courage of spirit, and thus find favor with God and redemption through Christ Our Lord. May we sing the praise of God our Savior with the angels and saints in heaven forever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer to Saint Raphael

Blessed Saint Raphael, Archangel, We beseech you to help us in all our needs and trials of this life, as you, through the power of God, did restore sight



and give guidance to young Tobit. We humbly seek your aid and intercession, that our souls may be healed, our bodies protected from all ills, and that through divine grace we may be made fit to dwell in the eternal Glory of God in heaven. Amen.

Child's Prayer to Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom His love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen

Angele Dei

Ángele Dei, qui custos es mei, me, tibi commíssum pietáte supérna, illúmina, custódi, rege et gubérna. Amen.

YE Saint of the Month – St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)



I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. (Lk. 22:15)

Padre Pio knew that he was going to be a priest since he was five years old. Not only did Pio become a priest, but he also became one of the greatest mystics of the modern age. To this holy man God would give many supernatural graces. He had the ability to read souls, bilocate, and levitate; he had the stigmata, the gift of healing, the smell of sanctity, etc. His gifts were numerous, but what was most awe inspiring were his faith in God despite countless sufferings and rejections and his great love and devotion to the Holy Mass.

It was at the altar of sacrifice that one sees most clearly the mystical life of Saint Pio. At the altar he would be present in an extraordinary way, opening a window into the mystery of faith. As the faithful looked on in awe, it was as if Padre Pio was truly seeing and experiencing all the sorrows of the passion and crucifixion. The pain and sorrow on his face and his copious tears turned many sinners away from leading sinful lives and return back to the Church and the Eucharist.

The two pillars of Padre Pio's life were Our Lady and the Eucharist, motivating this humble friar to spend his life in prayer, celebrating Mass, and hearing confessions. Speaking of Padre Pio's commitment to the Eucharist and confession, Pope Benedict XVI said, "a total willingness to accept the faithful, especially sinners, flowed from love for the Eucharist" (June 21, 2009). Padre Pio suffered the stigmata, the bleeding wounds of Christ, for fifty years. The wounds vanished after his death. Padre Pio died on Sept 23, 1968. For lesson plans and more information (with children's version, list of family activities and teacher/catechist lesson plans), go to <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/ye/patrons.asp> . Also on the website - resources for planning a parish 40 hours devotion celebration as well as a list of speakers for parish adult formation.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends

[Subscribe](#) to the YE newsletter

[Unsubscribe](#) to YE newsletter

[Nosotros Hablamos El Español](#)

This newsletter is [available online](#) – listed in right hand column