

Daring To Do All We Can

Eucharistic Lives in the Revitalization of the Church and the World



Fr. Roger J. Landry • St. Hildegard Lecture

University of Mary, Bismarck, North Dakota • January 30, 2023



Daring to Do All We Can

- Jubilee of St. Thomas Aquinas:
 - 2023 – 700th anniversary of his canonization
 - 2024 – 750th anniversary of his death
 - 2025 – 800th anniversary of his birth
- He wrote in the Sequence for Corpus Christi in 1264:
 - “*Quantum potes, tantum aude: quia maior omni laude nec laudare sufficis.*”
 - “However much you can, so much dare: for you will never praise enough What is greater than all praise!”
- Church of St. Jean Baptiste in New York City.



Pope Benedict XVI

○ Eucharistic Transformation

- “My first recollection is of a [Corpus Christi] feast day, when the expression Thomas Aquinas coined in one of his Corpus Christi hymns was taken absolutely to the letter: *Quantum potes, tantum aude*: dare all you can and give Him due praise.”
- “Jesus Christ was greeted,” he wrote, “like a head of state, indeed, like *the* supreme head, like the Lord of the world. The uninterrupted presence of Christ was celebrated on this day, as if it were an official State visit ... that took in even the smallest village.”
- This is the most profound meaning of the couplet: *Quantum potes, tantum aude*,” he said: “to exploit all the splendor of beauty ... [to express] the joy of all joys, [that] love is stronger than death; in Jesus Christ, God is among us.”



Pope Benedict XVI

- Eucharistic Daring (WYD 2005)
 - “Like inducing nuclear fission in the very heart of being.”
 - “The Body and Blood of Christ are given to us so that we ourselves will be transformed in our turn. ...
 - “God no longer simply stands before us as the One who is totally Other. He is within us, and we are in him. His dynamic enters into us and then seeks to spread outwards to others until it fills the world, so that his love can truly become the dominant measure of the world.”

Drawing Our Life From the Eucharist

- September 23, 1988: The most consequential decision in my life
- The Martyrs of Abitene (d. 304):
 - “*Sine Dominico non possumus!*” “Without the Lord on Sunday, we cannot live.”
- Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan
 - If you appreciate the value of the Eucharistic Celebration, you will participate in it no matter how far away or difficult it is. The greater the sacrifice involved, the more evident is your love for God.”

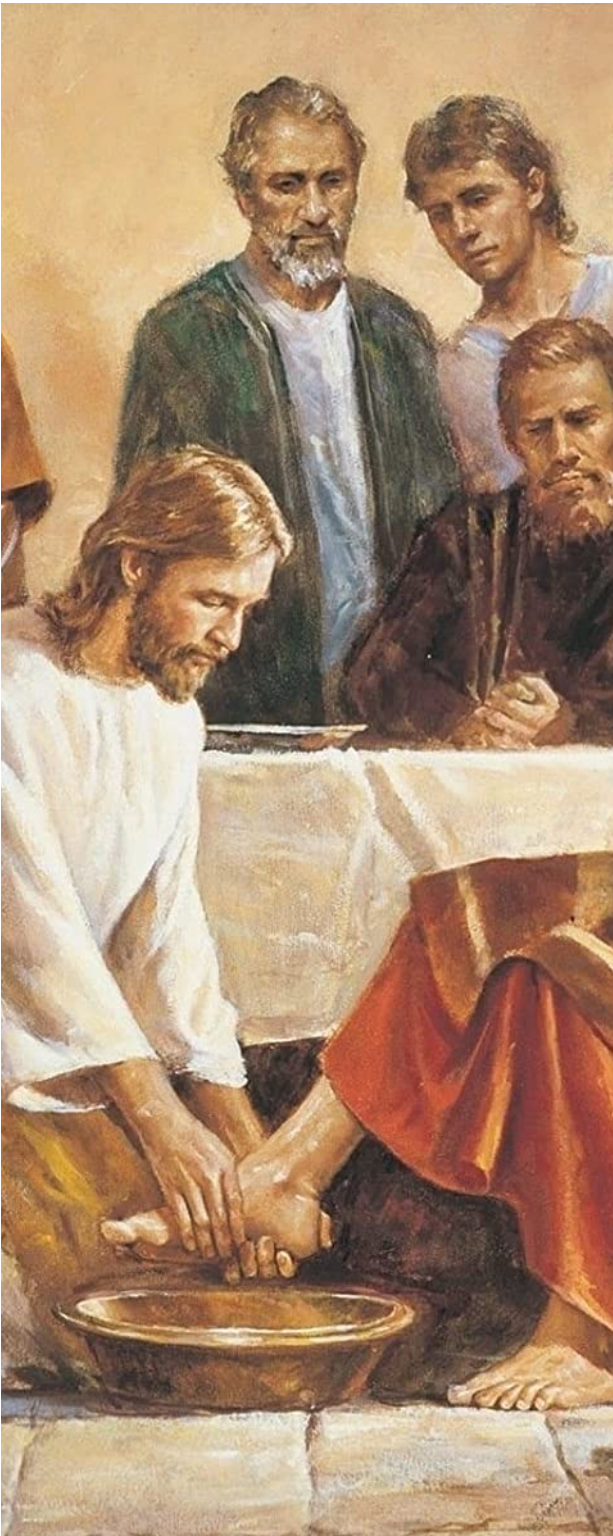


Eucharistic Adoration



- St. Manuel Gonzalez Garcia (1877-1940), one of the two co-patrons of the Eucharistic Revival, is known as the “Bishop of the Tabernacle” for spreading devotion to the Eucharist and encouraging frequent communion. He was beatified in 2001 and canonized in 2016.
- Finding Jesus abandoned in the tabernacle in the parish of Palomares del Rio in 1902, the year after his ordination.
 - “All my illusions about the kind of priest I would be vanished.”
 - “This would be a beautiful priesthood!”

Eucharistic Charity



- Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday
 - “I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.”
- Pope Benedict: “The Eucharist thus compels all who believe in him to become ‘bread that is broken’ for others.”
- St. Teresa of Calcutta: “The One who said, ‘This is my body’ is the same one who said, ‘I was hungry and you gave me to eat.’”

Eucharistic Apostolate

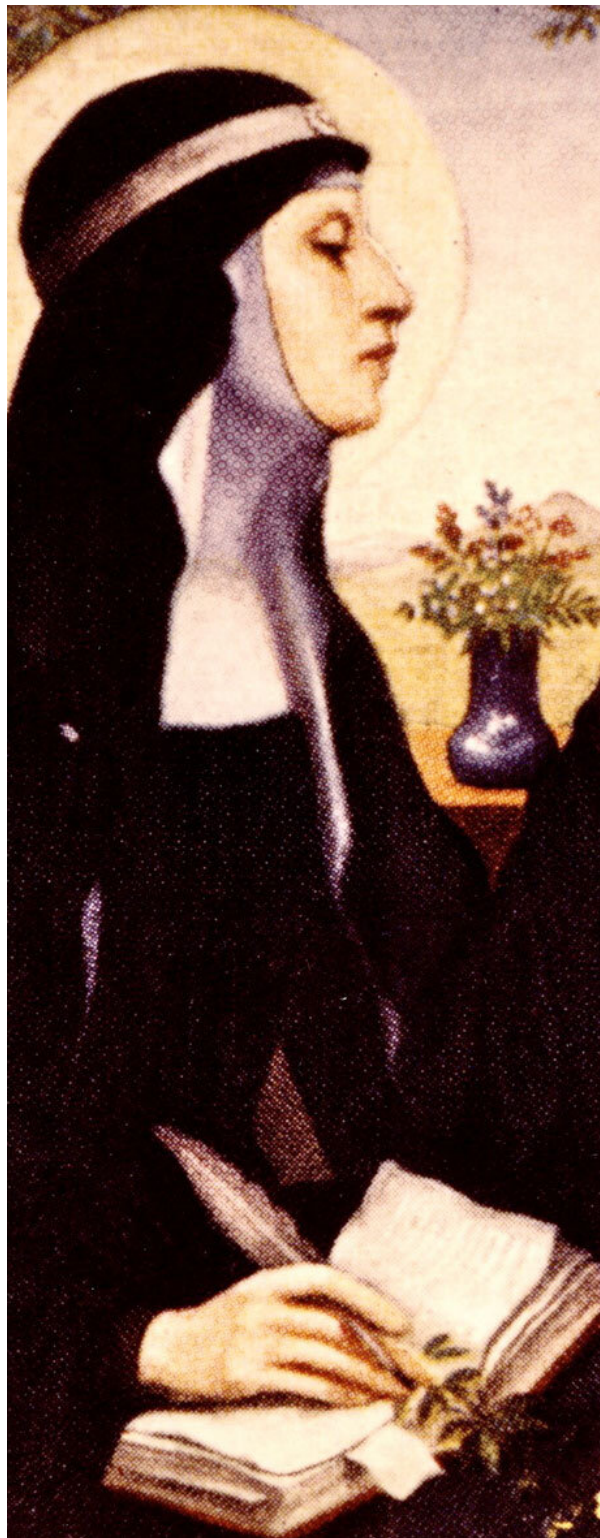
- St. Peter Julien Eymard (1811-1868), the Apostle of the Eucharist.
- “Be the apostle of the divine Eucharist, like a flame that enlightens and warms, like the Angel of his heart who will go to proclaim him to those who don't know him and will encourage those who love him and are suffering.”
- The “Mystery of Faith” at Mass.
- St. John Paul II: “A charge given to Christians.”
- Pope Benedict: “The Eucharist is the source and summit not only of the Church’s life but also of her Mission.”
- Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006)





Eucharistic Plan of Life

- “Pray brothers and sisters...”
- St. Josemaria Escriva and making one’s life a continual Mass and “totally Eucharistic.”
- “Keep struggling, so that the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar really becomes the center and the root of your interior life, and so your whole day will turn into an act of worship – an extension of the Mass you have attended and a preparation for the next.”



St. Hildegard of Bingen

- Receiving Holy Communion:
 - “And all these received the same sacraments; and as they did, some were bathed in fiery brilliance, but the others were overshadowed by a dark cloud.”
 - “As a fire is stirred to blaze by the wind, they are inspired by this sacrament to burn with celestial love”

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