

Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church

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[Visit Fr. Gray Bean on YouTube](#)

Office phone: 205-352-3741

Rectory phone: 205-702-6356

Daily Mass: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00AM, Weekend Masses: Saturday, 5:00PM, Sunday, 8:00AM, 10:30AM & 2:00PM (Spanish language), Confessions: Saturday, 3:30PM & Sunday, 7:30AM, Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday, 6:00PM,

The Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 30 minutes before each Mass

The Week of June 1

Ascension Sunday

Weekly Mass Intentions: Saturday, June 1, 5:00PM: Robert Bessette (RIP), Sunday, June 2, 8:00AM: Clay Reynolds (RIP), 10:30AM, for the People of the Parish, Tuesday, June 4, 9:00AM: Sister Helen Louise Roth, R.G.S. (RIP), Wednesday, June 5, 9:00AM: John Clyde McLendon (RIP), Thursday, June 6, 9:00AM: Kristie Thorne (SI), Friday, June 7, 9:00AM: Tille and Mugs Giasomo (SI)

Fr. Bean's Book Club will meet on Wednesday, June 4, 10:00AM (PLC Library): The Light of Christ by Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P. (CUA Press)
Please continue reading Chapter 2, "God and Trinity"

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING FOR NEW SERVERS....MONDAY, JUNE 3, 6:00PM

BINGO IS BACK! EVERY 1ST AND 3RD FRIDAY IN THE PLC HALL
5:30PM (FOOD), 6:30PM (GAMES)

NOTICE: There is a "Food Basket" for the Holy Rosary Parish Food Pantry in the church foyer. Please donate non-perishable food items for the ministry. Thanks!

PRAYER AND ADORATION: Due to the good response on May 22-23 we will have another "24 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration" in June. Hopefully this can become a regular monthly event. Our next "24 Hours" will be from 7:00PM on Tuesday, June 18 until 7:00PM on Wednesday, June 19. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer.

LOOKING AHEAD: Due to the Eucharistic Congress there will be no 5:00PM Mass in the parish on Saturday, June 29.

- We need 2 host families for the Missionary College Students from our Totus Tuus program. July 21-27. One family for the girls (2) and another for the boys (2). Host families will need to provide a simple breakfast such as cereal, bagels, eggs, etc. Most of their time is spent at the Church, from 8 AM-10 PM Monday-Thursday If you are interested in hosting please contact Samantha, phone number below. We also need volunteers to provide lunch and supper meals for the missionaries and helpers. If you can provide a meal and drop off at the Parish Hall please contact Samantha, phone number below.
- Our PSR program will have lots of changes this year. We are super excited and will be announcing the changes shortly! We are in need of Catechist including 2 First Communion teachers. Please contact Samantha Wadsworth if you are interested 205-362-9899.

What is a Eucharistic Congress?

By Alex Kubik, Mission & Discipleship Coordinator

The story really begins in the 16th Century in Spain. St. Paschal Baylon, a Franciscan Friar, grew up a shepherd boy with an intense devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament. After joining the Friars, he was sent to France and spent much of his religious life debating French Calvinists regarding Jesus' true presence in the Eucharist. Fray Paschal drew his strength to face dangerous, angry mobs and threats from his unwavering love of the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. This devotion was deepened by countless hours spent in Adoration. In the late 17th Century Fray Paschal Baylon was canonized a saint, and Pope Leo the XIII later declared him the "Seraph of the Eucharist" and the patron of all Eucharistic Congresses and Associations. Between his canonization in 1690 and Pope Leo's declaration, we find the first International Eucharistic Congress.

During this time, the Church was deeply entrenched in battles on two ideological fronts: preserving the dignity of the human person in the recently industrialized world, and Modernism. The secular world seemed to be attempting to "move beyond" faith in God and the moral values it brought, and the effects on the poor and underprivileged were devastating. Bishop Gaston de Ségur saw in the devotion to Jesus' sublime yet humble presence in the Eucharist a source of focus, clarity, and strength during troubled times. For ten years, a lay woman named Marie-Marthe-Baptistine Tamisier had been lobbying the Bishop and his clergy to establish the event. Bishop Ségur convened the first ever International Eucharistic Congress on June 21, 1881, in Lille, France. Tamisier went on to organize many of the following Congresses over the next twenty years. If their Marie-Mathe was anything like our own Martha Maria Morales in the Office of Hispanic Ministries, I am sure she was known as a woman you could go to when you wanted things to really get done.

The International Eucharistic Congresses continued annually until the outbreak of World War II, across France, Germany, Belgium, and even in Jerusalem. In 1910 the Congress came to Montreal, and then to the United States in 1926, when George Cardinal Mundelein brought it to his Archdiocese of Chicago. For this event, a new train station had to be built, as well as what is now the campus of Mundelein Seminary and the Marytown Shrine. In 1932, the Congress was convened in Dublin, Ireland, and solidified the Catholic and social identity of the newly independent Irish nation. Everywhere International Eucharistic Congresses were held, great graces abounded, and Catholics grew in their presence in the public sphere and participation in their communities at-large. Following World War II, they have continued every 5 years or so, with the next one being held in 2020 in Budapest.

Now we know some of the history of the Eucharistic Congress. But what exactly is a Eucharistic Congress, and what happens there? All of the Eucharistic Congresses have been marked by very large, public gatherings of Catholics. The events are typically too large to be held in a single church, so they are most often held outdoors or in a public arena. Common elements include a procession with the Eucharist in a public setting, a significant amount of time for Eucharistic Adoration, significant availability of the sacrament of reconciliation, talks and catechesis on important matters of faith, and a Holy Mass with the bishop or bishops with all in attendance. It is an opportunity for Catholics to bring those things which usually happen behind closed doors, in our small communities, out into the wide open with the larger community.

In addition to these International Congresses, it has become customary for national, regional, or diocesan Eucharistic Congresses to be called by local bishops and their conferences. Our nearby neighbors in New Orleans hosted the first National Congress, and the dioceses of St Augustine, Atlanta, and Knoxville all have Diocesan Eucharistic Congresses with some regularity.

Bishop Baker has asked that we begin to prepare for our own Eucharistic Congress to be held on June 28-29, 2019 at the BJCC. He has chosen the theme: The Eucharist and Missionary Discipleship.