



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Office of the Bishop
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April 30, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During the past year, we have been observing a Eucharistic Revival through personal prayer and various celebrations that have enriched the spiritual life of our parishes and our diocese. We had the privilege of hosting the Eucharistic Revival Team that made its way from Baltimore to the national celebration in Indianapolis. I saw firsthand that was expressed in the Eucharistic processions held in our diocese.

It has been encouraging to hear from the national Eucharistic Revival team how they were blessed by the various groups and individuals of all ages who participate in our local celebrations, including the outdoor adoration and processions in the center of Johnstown and in Loretto. The priests that accompanied the Most Blessed Sacrament were edified at the devotion to the Holy Eucharist, and by the great numbers who arrived early to receive the Sacrament of Penance. They found a special joy in coming to Altoona where the Cathedral bears the name of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I am grateful for good work of the Eucharistic Revival committee in our diocese who reminded me to invite everyone to the closing Mass at **on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 22 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona**. The celebration will begin with Eucharistic Adoration at 3:00 p.m. and will include prayers for Priestly Vocations and for those who are away from the sacraments, and a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. Mass will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by a social in the lower level of the Cathedral to conclude the day. *Please mark your calendar and join us in this important celebration! Look for further information in your parish bulletin and on the PROCLAIM! Website.*

Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, and First Communicants from our parishes across the diocese are encouraged to participate in this special celebration. Also, First Communicants are invited to join wearing their First Communion Clothes. Altar Servers, likewise, are invited to wear their robes. The Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas are encouraged to attend as there will be special seating for them at this Mass.

When Jesus celebrated the first Holy Eucharist with the Apostles, he said "Do this in remembrance of me." Please come together on June 22 to give thanks and remember the abundant grace and blessings we have received during the Eucharistic Revival. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Mark L. Bartchak
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown