



A Newsletter from the Missions Office/Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States
Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio

The Real Presence of the Lord!

**To monthly mission donors:
Thank you for your support!**

On behalf of His Excellency Robert J. Brennan, the Bishop of Columbus, and Very Rev. Father Andrew Small, OMI, the National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, I would like to thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and financial support for the missions.

As our Diocese takes part in 40 Days of Adoration in 50 parishes as a sign of involving the Evangelization campaign of "Real Presence, Real Future." His Excellency, Bishop Brennan said, "That's one of our key personal goals for each of us is to grow in discipleship, to sit at the feet of the Lord, to know Him well ... be so on fire with that encounter with Jesus that we're sharing His joy everywhere."

The Eucharist is called *Panis Vitae*, the Bread of Life. Jesus identifies himself with this bread and giving us deeper understanding of eternal mystery. What can bring us greater peace than draw near to the real presence of our Lord in the Holy Eucharist?

Jesus Himself instituted the Holy Eucharist on Holy Thursday during the celebration of the Last Supper with His disciples and continued His Sacrifice of the Cross on Calvary. Jesus freely gave His body and blood for the remission

of our sins. In St. John's Gospel, Jesus Himself made this solemn revelation: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh. (John 6:51).

The King Solomon states a very significant passage in the first Book of Kings: "Is God indeed to dwell on earth? If the heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain you, how much less this house which I have built!" (1Kings 8:27).

The Heavenly Bread which is Jesus Christ, satisfies the deepest longing of our hearts. Jesus reveals His real presence and Holy Communion is the treasury of all graces that we need, which we receive Him with awe and

adoration and let us console Him with our love.

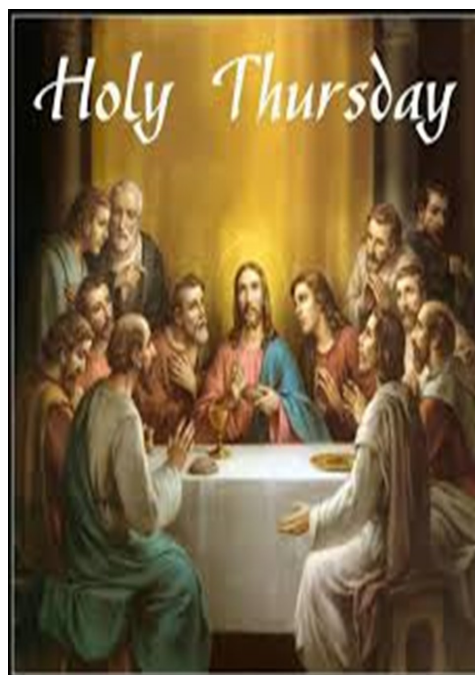
St. Faustina, the first saint of the Jubilee Year reveals the private revelation that she received from Jesus: "When I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, My hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul, but souls do not even pay attention to Me. They leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things... They treat Me as a dead object"(St. Faustina's Diary,1385).

As we are in the grips of the Covid-19 global pandemic, let us recall the message of Pope Francis on Holy Thursday, at the beginning of this Pandemic: "It is a difficult time for everyone. For many, very difficult. Let us try, if we can, to make the best use of this time: let us be generous; let us help those in need in our neighborhood; let us look out for the loneliest people, perhaps by telephone or social networks; let us pray to the Lord for those who are in difficulty in Italy and in the world.

Even if we are isolated, thought and spirit can go far with the creativity of love.

This is what we need today: the creativity of love." (Pope Francis, Holy Thursday, 2020).

The Holy Father reminds us of the need for collaboration to alleviate the sufferings of wounded hearts.



We are obliged to reach out to others as we can in either a physical or spiritual way. Through our creativity of love, we can be a hope for the hopeless in these difficult times. God awaits the good deeds of His children specially love and comfort which does lots of good for those whom we encounter every day.



Increasing the presence of Christ throughout the Diocese and upholding the Faith for future generations.

www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org

Pope Francis' April Prayer Intention:

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

A Moral Story ... A Good Act Comes Back



He almost didn't see the old lady, strained on the side of the road. But even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled up in front of her car and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her.

Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. He knew how she felt. It was that chill which only fears can put in you. He said, "I'm here to help you ma'am.

Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm? By the way, my name is Bryan."

Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two.

Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt. As he was tightening up the lug nuts she rolled down the window and began to talk to him.

She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid.

Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. She asked him how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped.

Bryan never thought twice about the money. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty who had given him a hand in the past. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance they needed, and Bryan added, "and think of me.

He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight.

A few miles down the road the old lady saw a small café. She went in to grab a bite to eat, and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant. Her waitress came over and brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn't erase.

The lady noticed that the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger.

Then old lady remembered Bryan. After the old lady finished her meal and the waitress went to get change for her hundred-dollar bill, the old lady slipped right out the door.

She was gone by the time the waitress came back. The waitress wondered where the lady could be, then she noticed something written on the napkin under which were four \$100 bills. There were tears in her eyes when she read what the old lady wrote: "You don't owe me anything, I have been there too. Somebody today helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here is what you do: Do not let this chain of love end with you." She thought in her mind, I can't wait to let my husband, Bryan know this surprise.

Surprisingly, the waitress was the wife of Bryan who helped the old lady. A good deed comes back to the giver!



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