

# THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH CHARISMATIC RENEWAL THE FLAME



August 2022 issue

## Charismatic Renewal of Diocese of Raleigh Presents: "Christ in Us" Conference 2022 at St. Joseph's Parish, Raleigh, NC

September 2nd-September 3rd, 2022



**Guest Speaker** 

## Fr. James Blount

(With veneration of authentic Padre Pio and St. Charbel Relics)

With Praise and Worship led by The Surrender Band



Two-Day Event: September 2nd 6pm-9m and September 3rd 9am-4:30pm
St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Monica Hall
(5:30pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph Church)
\$35 per person\* students free\* Online Registration now open
\*Cash/Check only at door-limited seating

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Complimentary light refreshments and beverages will be served throughout our two-day conference. A lunch break will occur on Saturday. \*You may provide your own lunch or go to a local restaurant during the Saturday lunch break.

#### **Tentative Schedule**

THEMES: Our Eucharistic Lord -Christ In Us

-The Flame of Love

#### Friday Sept 2, 2022

**5:30-6:00pm** Registration/ Light refreshments

6:00-6:10pm Introduction

**6:10-6:30** Rosary

**6:30-7:00pm** Praise and Worship *The Surrender Band* 

7:00-8:00pm Fr. Blount Talk #1

8:00-9:00pm Healing Prayer Service led by Fr.

Blount

\* NOTE: evening service may run overtime

#### Saturday Sept 3, 2022

9:00-9:30am Registration and light refreshments

9:30-9:40am Introduction and Opening Prayer

**9:40-10:00am** Rosary

10:00-10:30am Praise and Worship *The Surrender* 

Band

10:30- 12:00pm - Fr. Blount Talk #2

12:00-1:30pm Break for Lunch

1:30-2:00pm Praise and Worship The Surrender Band

2:00-3:00pm Fr. Blount Talk #3

3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:15-4:15pm Adoration/Healing Prayer

**4:15-4:30pm** Final remarks/conclusion of Conference

5:30pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph Church

\*Schedule times are subject to change by Fr.

**Blount** 

Many Thanks to John McNally who has written about The Eucharistic Revival! This information ties in well with one of the talks Fr. Blount will be giving called "Our Eucharistic Lord" Enjoy!

#### **Eucharistic Revival**

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, now and forever!

The bishops of the United States have initiated activities to facilitate a National Eucharistic Revival in the United States and you are invited to be a part of this revival!

Activities started on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (June 19, 2022) and will continue through the Feast of Pentecost in 2025.

As Bishop Andrew Cozzens has stated, "We want to start a fire, not a program."

**Mission:** To renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

**Vision:** To inspire a movement of Catholics across the United States who are **healed, converted, formed, and unified** by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and who are then sent out on mission "for the life of the world."

You can find much more information about the activities planned and additional resources at the following website: <a href="https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/">https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/</a>

However, we don't need to wait for planned activities to increase our focus, our devotion and our gratitude for God's greatest gift, Jesus in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is God's greatest gift because it is the gift of Himself.

One of the treasures we have available to us is the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Shown below are some brief statements from the Catechism that we can reflect on and pray about to increase our devotion, our gratitude, and our wonder and amazement regarding the gift of the Eucharist.

#### From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

The Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of that <u>communion in the divine life</u> and that <u>unity of the People of God</u> by which the Church is kept in being. (CCC 1325)

By the Eucharistic celebration we already <u>unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy</u> and <u>anticipate eternal life</u> when **God will be all in all.** (CCC 1326)

The sacrament of the Eucharist is called the *Holy Sacrifice*, because it **makes present the one sacrifice** of Christ the Savior and includes the Church's offering. (CCC 1330)

The sacrament of the Eucharist is called *Holy Communion*, because by this sacrament we unite ourselves to Christ, who makes us <u>sharers in his Body and Blood to form a single body</u>. We also call it: **the medicine of immortality**. (CCC 1331)

## The FLAME – August 2022

#### **Eucharistic Revival Cont'd**

The Eucharist is also **the sacrifice of praise** by which the Church sings the glory of God in the name of all creation. **This sacrifice of praise is possible only through Christ: he unites the faithful to His person, to His praise, and to His intercession**, so that the sacrifice of praise to the Father is offered *through* Christ and *with* him, to be accepted *in* him. (CCC 1361)

The lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayer, and work, are united with those of Christ and with his total offering, and so acquire a new value. Christ's sacrifice present on the altar makes it possible for all generations of Christians to be united with his offering. (CCC 1368)

The mode of Christ's presence under the Eucharistic species is unique. It raises the Eucharist above all the sacraments as "the perfection of the spiritual life and the end to which all the sacraments tend." In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained." "This presence is called 'real' - by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a *substantial* presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present." (CCC 1374)

"That in this sacrament are the true Body of Christ and his true Blood is something that 'cannot be apprehended by the senses, but only by faith, which relies on divine authority.'

Seeing, touching, tasting are in thee deceived;

How says trusty hearing? that shall be believed;

What God's Son has told me, take for truth I do;

Truth himself speaks truly or there's nothing true. (CCC 1381)

**Holy Communion augments our union with Christ**. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist in Holy Communion is an intimate union with Christ Jesus. Indeed, the Lord said: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." **Life in Christ has its foundation in the Eucharistic banquet** (CCC 1391)

What material food produces in our bodily life, Holy Communion wonderfully achieves in our spiritual life. Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, a flesh "given life and giving life through the Holy Spirit," preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion, the bread for our pilgrimage until the moment of death, when it will be given to us as viaticum. (CCC 1392)

As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins. By giving himself to us Christ revives our love and enables us to break our disordered attachments to creatures and root ourselves in him. (CCC 1394)

Those who receive the Eucharist are united more closely to Christ. Through it Christ unites them to all the faithful in one body - the Church. Communion renews, strengthens, and deepens this incorporation into the Church, already achieved by Baptism. In Baptism we have been called to form but one body The Eucharist fulfills this call. (CCC 1396)

In an ancient prayer the Church acclaims the mystery of the Eucharist: "O sacred banquet in which Christ is received as food, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the soul is filled with grace and a pledge of the life to come is given to us." If the Eucharist is the memorial of the Passover of the Lord Jesus, if by our communion at the altar we are filled "with every heavenly blessing and grace," then the Eucharist is also an anticipation of the heavenly glory. (CCC 1402)

#### **Eucharistic Revival Cont'd**

There is no surer pledge or dearer sign of this great hope in the new heavens and new earth "in which right-eousness dwells," than the Eucharist. Every time this mystery is celebrated, "the work of our redemption is carried on" and we "break the one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live forever in Jesus Christ." (CCC 1405)

Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, **He is to be honored with the worship of adoration**. "To visit the Blessed Sacrament is . . . a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord" (Paul VI, *MF* 66). (CCC 1418)

Having passed from this world to the Father, Christ gives us in the Eucharist the pledge of glory with him.

Participation in the Holy Sacrifice identifies us with his Heart, sustains our strength along the pilgrimage of this life, makes us long for eternal life, and unites us even now to the Church in heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints. (CCC 1419)

In addition to the Catechism, there have been many church documents written about the Eucharist. One example of this is the document written by Pope Benedict, The Sacrament of Charity. Here are a few powerful quotes about the Eucharist from that document which can provide food for meditation and prayer.

"The Eucharist, since it embraces the concrete, everyday existence of the believer, makes possible, day by day, the progressive transfiguration of all those called by grace to reflect the image of the Son of God (cf. Romans 8:29)" (paragraph 71)

"The Eucharist is Christ who gives himself to us and continually builds us up as His body." (para. 14)

"It is our participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice which perfects within us the gifts given to us at Baptism" (para 17)

"The Eucharist inexhaustibly strengthens the indissoluble unity and love of every Christian marriage." (para. 27)

"It is not the Eucharistic food that is changed into us, but rather we who are mysteriously transformed by it. Christ nourishes us by uniting us to Himself; he draws us into Himself" (para. 70)

It is important to understand that our disposition in approaching the Sacrament does make a difference. The Sacrament is not to be received by a person who is not in a state of grace. If someone has committed a grave sin, they need to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. For those in a state of grace, the information below should be helpful in understanding the role of our disposition when approaching the sacrament.

#### **Proper dispositions**

A sacrament gives (offers) grace of and by itself, by its own power.

This is because Jesus attached grace to the outward sign, so to speak, so that the outward sign and grace always go together.

But our own attitude (disposition, degree of surrender, degree of docility, conformity of our <u>will</u>) does matter. Our interior dispositions have an effect on the amount of grace we receive. The more perfect is our sorrow in the sacrament of Reconciliation, the more ardent our love in receiving the Holy Eucharist, the more lively our faith in receiving Confirmation—then the greater will be the grace we receive.

Our dispositions do not cause the grace; they simply remove the obstacles to the freer flow of grace and, in a sense, make more room for grace. We might illustrate this by saying that the more sand we empty out of the pail, the more water the pail will hold.

Source: <a href="http://www.beginningcatholic.com/sacraments">http://www.beginningcatholic.com/sacraments</a>

There are many beautiful quotes by the saints about the Eucharist.

Below is one quote from Saint Angela of Foligno:

"O God, O Creator, O Spirit of Life overwhelming Your creatures with ever new graces! You grant to Your chosen ones the gift which is ever renewed: the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ!

"O Jesus, You instituted this Sacrament, not through any desire to draw some advantage from it for Yourself, but solely moved by love which has no other measure than to be without measure. You instituted this Sacrament because Your love exceeds all words. Burning with love for us, You desired to give Yourself to us and took up Your dwelling in the consecrated Host, entirely and forever, until the end of time. And You did this, not only to give us a memorial of Your death which is our salvation, but You did it also, to remain with us entirely and forever."

• St. Angela of Foligno

A good location to take a look at other quotes from the saints about the Eucharist is:

http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/tes/a7.html

Hope the above has enkindled in you a desire for increased fervor for the Most Holy Gift of the Eucharist! Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of Endless Glory!



## **Upcoming Events**

August 19th 7pm-9pm Holy Mass, Adoration, and Healing Service

St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Church

804 High House Rd. Cary, NC

September 2nd-3rd Catholic Charismatic Services Diocese of Raleigh

2022 Conference "Christ In Us" Guest Speaker Fr. Jim Blount

St. Joseph Catholic Parish, St. Monica Hall

2811 Poole Rd. Raleigh, NC

Please visit our website for more information and how to register at:

Www.ccsraleigh.weebly.com

#### **About Fr. Jim Blount**

Fr. James Blount is an internationally known Exorcist Priest of the Society of Our Lady of the Trinity (SOLT) – Georgia Mission. A gifted Spiritual Director and Confessor, Fr. Blount is a bold, charismatic preacher endowed and empowered with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He speaks of living a life in relationship with each of the Persons of the Holy Trinity. His teachings depict his deep love for the Eucharist. His intimate relationship, love, and devotion to Jesus and Mary draws many souls to also fall in love with them. Father is a powerful instrument of the Holy Spirit as evidenced by so many stories of miracles, healings, and conversions. His talks increase awareness of the intense spiritual battle in our present world where evil has waged war against the Sacred thus aiming toward the destruction of holy family life. His humble boldness and untiring drive to minister to the lost and ill are particularly noteworthy.