



THE GREATEST LOVE STORY YOU KNOW THIS! DO YOU CARE?



The message of Father Mike Schmitz, most commonly known for his “Bible in a Year” and Ascension Presents podcasts, was delivered to the 50,000-plus crowd at the National Eucharistic Congress (NEC), but it is for all 70 million Catholics in the US: You know the greatest love story. You know Jesus. You know the Real Presence. Do you care?

If we are going to have a revival, reform, renewal, we must repent, he said.

His speech at the NEC is timely for Sunday’s Gospel – Jesus says to his disciples, “I am the bread of life. (John 6:24-35).” Love him!

The following are excerpts of that talk that brought the crowd to their feet after a delivery that was funny, sincere, point blank, common sense, reverent, honest, loving, compassionate, and thought-provoking all rolled into one.

You know this! We know this already.

This whole conference we are talking about the real presence of Jesus. Amen!

Yes, Jesus is truly present – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – in every Eucharist, in every Mass, in every tabernacle around the world.

Is the point of the Mass the Presence of Jesus? No.

It’s the Presence of Jesus that makes the point possible!

The Real Presence makes the sacrifice possible.

We fall into a big trap when we say like, ‘oh no, the point is that you are here’; or ‘the point is I get to receive You’. Those are amazing things, but what saves us is the sacrifice of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus to the Father in humble obedience.

And where does that happen? I’ll tell you this right now.

Here’s an analogy, when the priest says, this is My Body given for you (he raises his hands in elevation of the Bread of Life). This is My Blood given for you (elevation of the Cup of Salvation) that’s the incarnation! God is present among us, but it’s this moment where the priest holds the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ in his hands and says, Through Him, with Him, in Him.’

Who’s HIM? Jesus – you know this – in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is

yours Almighty Father forever and ever!

You guys (he said in a loud voice, and then full of genuine emotion, voice cracking, he goes on)! That moment! That moment is the moment where Jesus on the cross says, ‘Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit!’ (The crowd was silent as the huge screens across Lucas Oil Stadium zoomed in on the face of Fr. Mike, eyes full of tears, nose red, hands shaking, and he continues,) That moment is what’s happening!

Then he cries out in a loud voice and breathes His last. And with that last ounce of breath, He offers on the Cross His Body, Blood,



Soul, and Divinity!

In the Mass, you guys, it’s not just about looking at Jesus, when you see the Lord lifted up like this (elevated hands). You are looking at Calvary. (Again, raising his hands in elevation) When you see the Lord lifted up like this you’re participating in His restoration of the world.

When you get to go to Mass and here is the



priest holding up our Lord like this (elevated hands as if holding chalice and paten) and saying, 'God, Father, this is for You', you get to be a part of redemption of humanity, because every time that happens the Father is glorified – Jesus this is for You, Father – and the world is sanctified, the world is restored.



The world is renewed.

Amen? (and the crowd answered confidently 'AMEN!')

You know this. (He went on to say our problem may be deeper than ignorance, it may be similar to what Jesus unveiled in the Book of Revelation Chapter 2).

Talking to the church in Ephesus, Jesus says, 'Hey church in Ephesus, paraphrasing, I know your works and your labor, I know your endurance and you cannot tolerate the wicked. You're great. You're doing the right things. You've tested those that call themselves Apostles but are not. You discovered they're imposters. Moreover, you have endurance

and have suffered for My name, and you have not grown weary. Good job!'

I believe that Jesus could be speaking to every person at this Revival: 'Hey, you're holding fast to the faith. Hey, you're struggling, I know you're struggling. I know you're striving to be faithful. I know it's hard out there, but I also see your endurance. I see your perseverance' and also, he goes on to say 'I know you believe the right things. I know that you know. You know this.' But then he says, 'yet I hold this against you – you have lost your first love.'

Sometimes our problem is ignorance, what we need is knowledge. The road to knowledge is truth.

And sometimes our problem is indifference. So, sometimes it's 'I don't know.' Too often is 'I don't care.'

The remedy for this indifference is love, and the road to love is repentance.

We have Jesus. We have to reform our ways.

He doesn't exist to help us win whatever battle we want to win. He's in our midst to transform our hearts, so we can be close to him.

I need to repent, but I'm faithful I go to Mass, but Jesus is telling us you lost your first love and the road to love is repentance.

If I lost my love for the Lord - the fire of love for God - I don't need more knowledge, but I need more love.

Knowledge can make someone great.

But only love can make a saint

God help us love!



Watch the entire talk on EWTN's YouTube channel or click: [EWTN-FR. MIKE SCHMITZ'S FULL SPEECH.](#)



WV faithful eager to see Fr. Mike Schmitz

GOSPEL CAME TO LIFE AT NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

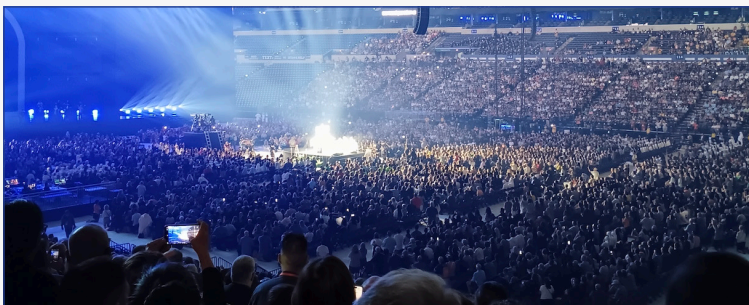


Rise Up!

Editor's note: The following is from the July 28, 2024 Homily by Deacon Harry Evans at St. Francis de Sales, Beckley. He compared the awe from the Old Testament reading 2Kings 4:42-44 (Elisha feeding a crowd with plenty left over) and the Gospel story of John 6:1-15 (Jesus and his disciples fed the crowd of hundreds of followers with 5 loaves and 2 fish) to the AWESome moment for the Church at the National Eucharistic Congress.

I was pleasantly surprised to see the themes of scripture for (July 28th) because I think they fit well with what went on in Indianapolis this past week. As we just heard, Elisha has just served 100 people a meal and Jesus has just fed 5000 of his followers, both with meager provisions... and everyone was satisfied, with leftovers to boot.

Imagine the same scenes except in the Lucas Oil Stadium, home of NFL's Indianapolis Colts. Try to imagine the stadium near full capacity with Pilgrims. Needless to say when we came into the stadium we were in awe! The question that day as it relates to the readings would be... where are we going to get enough food to feed 50,000 people?



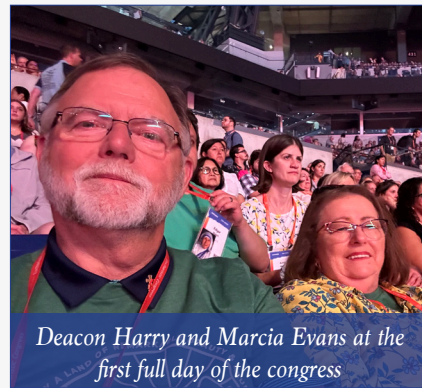
The moment the WV delegation arrived at Lucas Oil Stadium the evening of July 17th

The people in the Gospel that came to see Jesus were attracted to his message, his healing and hoped to be fed. The people who came to Indianapolis, this past week were attracted for the many of the same reasons.

Many came out of curiosity, for healing, for reconciliation and the messages that would be conveyed by the speakers in the many programs that were presented during the Congress.

But I believe that most that were there in Indianapolis were attracted because they wanted to praise, honor and adore and to be fed with the body, blood soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

The National Eucharistic Revival has been in progress now for over three years. The Revival was born of the fact that several major opinion polls asking people who identified as Catholic, whether or not they believed in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.



Deacon Harry and Marcia Evans at the first full day of the congress

Sad to say a majority polled indicated that they felt the Eucharist was only a symbol. The purpose of the Revival was to renew people's belief in the fact that the Eucharistic species that we worship and receive is indeed not just a symbol, but the real

presence of Jesus Christ.

The Revival has gone through several stages in the national, diocesan, and parish levels to help people understand the truth about the Eucharist, and to give them opportunities to exercise their faith in a way that confers the full effect of Grace contained in the sacrament. With this background, we turn our attention to the event of the past week... what we saw, how we felt and how we responded to this wonderful opportunity.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston chartered two buses and there were many who came on their own. We met our bus in Charleston and left early Wednesday morning for Indianapolis. The atmosphere on the bus trip was entertaining, enthusiastic and one of anticipation.

We typically started our days on the bus at 7:30 in the morning and returned back to the hotel at 10 o'clock at night. To me time passed quickly, it seemed like the days were a blur. As we moved from event to event, there was considerable walking, negotiating the crowds with little time to take a break if you desired to see something in particular.

On Wednesday evening, we arrived at Lucas Oil Stadium for the first of several inspirational evening Revival sessions. These included procession and exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament, beautiful music, inspiring talks by many well-known speakers... too many to mention... and finally closing with benediction each night.

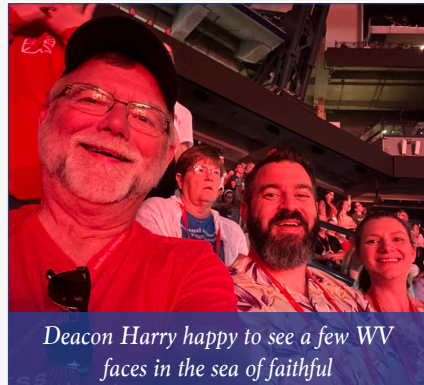
Every morning before Mass, they held what was called a family rosary. They invited individuals and families to come forward to state their prayer intentions before each decade of the Rosary.

As people streamed in for Mass the stadium filled with the sound of beautiful music. There were people of all ages, color and cultures.

The entrance procession which opened each Mass took over 20 minutes to accommodate the many priests, bishops, religious and finally the celebrant. Timothy Cardinal Dolin, the Archbishop of New York was the celebrant the first morning Mass we attended,

Mass continued in the usual way with a rousing and humorous message from Cardinal Dolin. Following the liturgy of the Eucharist my original question came to mind...how do you feed 50,000 people?

The answer...Communion was distributed by a very organized army of priests, deacons, seminarians and religious. Communion stations were available throughout the stadium and it was amazing to me how well the process flowed. We came to be fed with the body of Christ and to see it on such a grand scale was quite a miracle. As (July 28th's) psalm response suggests "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs."



Deacon Harry happy to see a few WV faces in the sea of faithful

suggests "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs."

Throughout the day, there were presentations and exhibits and other activities that were held in the Indiana Conference Center and several connected hotels, which were adjacent to the stadium. There were so many people in these venues that it was very hard to navigate to our breakout sessions and to view many of the exhibits. The lines were long for the exhibits, food and transportation,

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians he asks that we act in a manner with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love. People we encountered at the Congress were friendly, cordial and focused. Although very crowded we didn't sense the discourteous attitudes and actions that sometimes come with being in a large gathering.... Patience was the key virtue of the day.

On Saturday afternoon we lined up for the Eucharistic procession. The procession was very well organized, and the weather was perfect. We were able to greet our clergy and

seminarians as they lined up.

As we walked along the streets of Indianapolis, you could hear the different groups of pilgrims singing and praying and interacting with spectators on the walks and in the buildings along the way.

The procession ended with adoration and benediction at the Indiana War Memorial park. It was very moving to see thousands of pilgrims on their knees in homage to the Blessed Sacrament on display at this outdoor venue.

The closing mass on Sunday was beautiful with music by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and presided by the Papal Delegate Cardinal Luis Tagle. His message was interesting and occasionally humorous, but in summary, he reminded us that in receiving the body of Jesus, we have a mission to go and make disciples of all nations. That the Eucharist we receive is not only for us for the whole world.

Overall, the Congress was a wonderful experience and I am glad we were able to participate in this event. You know, we all live in our own little world. Sometimes we think that wherever we are is the center of the universe. Seeing such an outpouring of humanity from many different places, with one purpose as the Body of Christ, gave me a whole new way of looking at the Church.

Even though we are one small part of the body of Christ, we all have a mission and the Eucharist sustains us to grow in our faith and fills us with the spirit necessary to fulfill that mandate to go and make disciples of all nations. In the first reading and the Gospel it mentions that there was some food left over... Like the people in the Gospel today... we got our fill of Jesus and were surely satisfied....But having been fed once, we will need the leftovers and more because there is still work to do. This Eucharistic Congress was not an end... but a new beginning for a continuing Eucharistic Revival.



Holding high his Source and Summit bandana, Deacon Harry Evans is ready for the Eucharistic Procession in downtown Indianapolis



CURSILLO MINI-RETREAT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

ST. JOHN XXIII PASTORAL CENTER
CHARLESTON, WV

The Cursillo leadership group, of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, is planning a mini retreat, for all Cursillistas (individuals who have already attended a Cursillo weekend) who are interested in gathering together, in the name of Jesus Christ and the Cursillo Movement, in our diocese.

It will be held at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, in Charleston, on Saturday, August 17th. We will begin at 8:00 AM, with Mass, and finish by 4:00 PM. We plan to do groupings, discuss the needed roles of the Secretariat, as well as pray a rosary, have Eucharistic Exposition, and provide the opportunity for individual Confessions to be heard.

Free lodging, on Friday evening, August 16th, will be available for those individuals and couples who come from a great distance.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided, during the retreat.

For more information please visit

DWC.ORG/2024-CURSILLO

To register for the retreat or receive more information, please contact Daniel Maul at dmaul@dwc.org, or 304-233-0880, ext. 376



Celebrate
Five with 5

for Bishop Brennan's Fifth Anniversary

As we honor the fifth anniversary of the installation of Bishop Mark Brennan as the Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, we call upon the faithful to **Celebrate Five with 5!** This is an opportunity for us to commemorate Bishop Mark's milestone year with gifts Christ taught us were the greatest to give – prayer and works of mercy. Starting Tuesday, August 6th and throughout the year faithful will be able to go online to DWC.ORG/CELEBRATE-FIVE and gift their five.

As we learned on his installation day on August 22, 2019, the motto Bishop Mark chose for his Coat of Arms, "Living the Truth in Love," emphasizes that it is in the love of Jesus Christ that we receive the strength to live as God called and Jesus instilled in us.

Gift of Prayer: Choose to mirror the prayers of Bishop Mark. His daily prayerful habits include: praying the rosary during a road trip, praying for pregnant women as well as the husband/father; praying for engaged/newly married couples; praying for the intentions of the faithful of the diocese; and praying for Vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.

Gift of Deed: opportunities abound through Catholic Charities WV and our local parish and Catholic organizations' efforts. Corporal Works of Mercy: Feed the hungry; Give Drink to the thirsty; Shelter the homeless; Visit the sick – the present of your presence with the sick physically, mentally, and spiritually; Visit the prisoners – if not in person do it through ministry of cards/prayers/Mass intentions; Bury the dead – Respect for life God created through prayer, in Mass intentions, or by visiting a cemetery; and Give alms to the poor – gifts of treasure in a way that is pleasing to God.

Watch next week's FaithInWV e-bulletin and the digital Catholic Spirit for more information from the Diocese and Catholic Charities of WV.

20/20 VISION SERIES

A YEAR WITH THE SAINTS

Join us as we journey throughout the year focusing on various Saints and their legacies, presented by those among us who live out these legacies in their lives and in their communities.

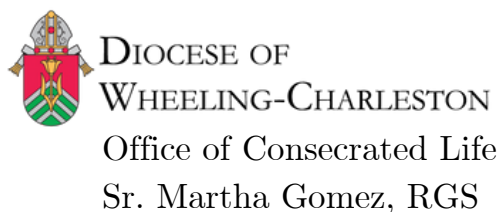
Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

January 29	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Sr. Mary Clark, SC
February 26	St. Brigid of Kildare – Sr. Karen Kirby, CSJ
March 18	St. Joseph – Sr. Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
April 29	St. Mary Euphrasia – Sr. Martha Gomez, R.G.S.
May 20	Blessed Virgin Mary – TBD
June 24	Marcellin Champagnat – Brother John Byrd, FMS
July 29	St. Ignatius of Loyola – Lou Volpe
August 26	St. Dominic – Sr. Ellen Dunn, OP
September 30	St. Lorenzo Ruiz – Fr. Carlos Melocoton
October 28	Jesuit Martyrs – TBD
November 18	Servant of God Dorothy Day – Kate Marshall
December 16	St. Stephan – Deacon John Yaquinta

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

Cost for complete series: \$120.00 Or \$15.00 per session.

RSVP – Anna Marie Troiani: atroiani@csjoseph.org



Finding Hope in Community

**Come join us for a day of reflection and integration.
This will be an opportunity for a time of respite and peace.**

**Saturday, August 24th
10:00 AM to 3:30 PM**

(a simple soup lunch will be served)

Bead Making—in the morning we will create colorful polymer beads to share. Each participant will create enough beads for everyone gathered. These will be used to create bracelets—a remembrance of the gathering and community created.



Contemplative Doodling-- In the afternoon, we will share an experience of mindfully creating unique works of art using simple drawing and coloring materials.

No previous art experience is necessary. These art as prayer experiences are about entering into a process of creative expression for self-discovery.

**Location: St. Joseph
Retreat Center**

**Cost: \$50.00
(partial scholarship
available)**

**To register, contact:
Anna Marie Troiani**

Phone: 304-907-0171

**Email:
atroiani@csjoseph.org**

Facilitators: Mary Slattery, HM and Carrie Vall, CSJ

Mary is an art therapist and counselor who has a heart for helping others to “discover their artist within.” Mary currently ministers with Humility of Mary Housing sites in Akron, Ohio where she shares the healing gift of art with clients and residents.

Carrie is a board-certified art therapist who works with individuals and groups in a variety of settings. She is a co-director of the Women’s Outreach Center, in Cleveland, Ohio, which serves women who have experienced homelessness.



18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12, 15

I will rain down bread from heaven for you.

Responsorial: Psalm 78

“The Lord gave them bread from heaven.”

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

Put on the new self that has been created in God’s way.

Gospel: John 6:24-35

Christ said, “I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never hunger.”

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world by our word and deed, we may satisfy the spiritual hunger of believers and nonbelievers, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For peace throughout the world, that nations may resolve their differences and invest together on quality of life instead of destroying it, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we the faithful are strengthened through the Eucharist to WALK WITH ONE and INVITE ONE into the Church, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That as we honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary in this month of August, we all look to the Blessed Mother as an example of steadfast faith and obedience to God to help us through all of our trials and temptations, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

Berkeley Springs - Hancock, MD	FM	96.3
Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City -Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.9

~Listen on LoL Stream at www.rdo.to/WLOL~

ENROLL TODAY

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by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.*



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Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.