



EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION DOWN THE OHIO RIVER FROM A PHOTOGRAPHER'S FOCUS

Editor's note: Today, we share an account of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Eucharistic Procession down the Ohio River and along its banks of WV and Ohio from Sunday, June 23, by Jeffrey Bruno, an international award winning professional Catholic photographer.

I MISSED THE BOAT!

Well, I didn't actually miss it, but some issues made it impossible for me to be on it.

Thankfully.

I don't know what the boat was like, but I now know what it's like to chase a boat in a pickup truck.

It began at the car rental place.

The cheapest vehicle was a full-size Dodge Ram pickup. I asked the girl helping me how it was that this behemoth was cheaper than the subcompact sitting beside it which could easily fit in its bed.

She shrugged.

And so I drove off to meet up with the Seton Route Pilgrims. I'd be trailing was an old sternwheeler. Aboard would be Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, two Bishops, Fr. Roger Landry, and the pilgrims.

They'd sail down the Ohio River about 30 miles blessing groups and locations along the river's banks.

I traveled from location to location and met communities all awaiting Jesus on the banks of the Ohio River.

Stunningly scriptural, I thought.

One stop was at a bridge.

It would have been a long walk to the center of the span.

But no signs read No Stopping.

So as the boat approached, I pulled over mid-span, hopped out, stood up in the skyscraper-high truck bed, and gazed at the majestic view.

The photo wasn't so majestic, but it's undoubtedly one of a kind.

Realizing that this was now officially an adventure, I stopped for a cheeseburger and shake because adventures like oversized pickup trucks require fuel.



Winds along the Ohio River were whipping the garments of Bishop Mark Brennan into Seminarian Michael Tupta as Seton Route Perpetual Pilgrim Dominic Carstens click's a photo on his personal phone. Photo is Courtesy of EWTN/ Jeffrey Bruno

Hours later the pickup-boat chase ended.

As the gathered awaited the boat's arrival, I looked around. Countless folks were kneeling out of a soul-deep love and adoration for Christ.

The boat docked, and a procession began.

We were now all walking the same road following Jesus.

I'll leave it at this.

You'll never be let down when you give your heart to Christ.

Sometimes, it may be beautiful, which draws us into His Joy.

Sometimes, it may be painful, which draws us into His Passion.

And sometimes, it may be unpredictable and uncertain, which binds us closer to Him.

And sometimes that's the best part.

Because you know what else is filled with unpredictability and uncertainty?

Adventures.

And who doesn't love an adventure, especially when your guide is Jesus Christ.

To learn more about Jeffrey Bruno and his work go to: www.jeffreybruno.com/home/



PILGRIMAGE ARRIVAL



On June 23rd, Bishop Mark welcomed the arrival of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's Eucharistic Procession to the Northern Panhandle and down the Ohio River to the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling.

The first reading at the liturgy celebrated that evening is a fitting narrative of the arrival and Monday's Mass and Eucharistic procession, and benediction at St. Alphonsus in Centre Market, Wheeling.

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

They cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb."

All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed:

"Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?"

I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows."

He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason, they stand before God's throne and worship him day and night in his temple. The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. They will not hunger or thirst anymore, nor will the sun or any heat strike them.

For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Revelation 7:9-17





Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Pilgrimage

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION



SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL MOMENT - our National Pilgrimage and Eucharistic Procession passes by the West Virginia Independence Hall - the true birthplace of the state. Built in 1859, it was in June of 1861, when delegates from 34 counties of then Virginia met in the third-floor courtroom and called for a separation from Virginia. On June 20, 1863, West Virginia became the Union's 35th state. God Bless our Mountain State. The procession began at the Cathedral of St. Joseph and concluded at St. Alphonsus, before the perpetual pilgrims and Seton Route followers continued their journey towards Columbus, Ohio, and ultimately Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21.





HAPPY Fourth of July

To direct our thoughts in thanksgiving to God this Fourth of July we share prayers from six different faith leaders given at various presidential inaugurations.

Dear Lord, we pray...

We look gratefully to the past and thank You that from the very foundations of America You granted our forefathers courage and wisdom, as they trusted in You. So, we ask today that You would inspire us by their example; where there has been failure, forgive us; where there has been progress, confirm; where there has been success, give us humility; and teach us to follow Your instructions more closely.... Give to all those to whom You have entrusted leadership today a desire to seek Your will and to do it.*1

Help us to deal with others as equals, seeking advice as well as giving it, receiving help from them as well as lending them our aid. Teach us that the only abiding influence we can ever have in the world is the influence of a good example. We ask Thy forgiveness for those sins that marred our national character and impaired the effectiveness of our government in recent times. Help us as a people to confess our sins, not to blame our politicians alone for them. In their evil and wrongdoing, thou dost hold before our face a mirror in which we see our own misdeed writ large.*2

Give us wisdom, for we are your servants, weak and short-lived, lacking in comprehension of judgment and of laws. Indeed, though one might be perfect among mortals, if wisdom which comes from you be lacking, we count for nothing. Send her [wisdom] forth from your holy heavens, from your glorious throne dispatch her, that she may be

with us and work with us, that we may grasp what is pleasing to You. For she knows and understands all things and will guide us prudently in our affairs and safeguard us by her glory.*3

We remember before you the members of the armed forces. We commend them to your care. Give them courage to carry out their duties and courage to face the perils which beset them and grant them a sense of your presence in all that they do. We pray for their families. Support them and hold them in the palm of your hand while their loved ones are absent from them.*4

Make us all of one heart, O God, so that together as one people we may move forward unafraid to the tasks and challenges of the inscrutable years which lie ahead.*5

Pour forth, we beseech, O Lord, Thy grace into the hearts of all of us, that we may be always true to Thee and to our country, so richly endowed with all Thy blessings. Amen.*6

*1 Billy Graham, *Christian Evangelist*, 1997 inaugural prayer.

*2 Rev. William Cannon Bishop of the United Methodist Church for Georgia, 1977 inaugural invocation.

*3 Cardinal Dolan prayed Solomon's Prayer in the ninth chapter of the Book of Wisdom, 2017 inaugural prayer.

*4 Rev. Dr. Luis León, St John's Episcopal Church, Washington D.C., 2005 inaugural invocation.

*5 Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, *The Temple*, Cleveland (formerly served for two years in Wheeling), 1953 inaugural prayer.

*6 Father Patrick O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, 1953 inaugural invocation.

13TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Wisdom 1:13-15

God formed man to be imperishable... of His own image. The Devil created death, those who belong to him experience it. - Let us believe in God the Almighty and have eternal life with Him!

Responsorial: Psalm 30

"I will praise you, Lord, for. You have rescued me."

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7,9, 13-15

Christ's sacrifices have made us rich in ways that we always have a means to help others.

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

She touched his clothes in order to be cured. She knew that she was indeed cured. Then Christ said, "Who touched me?" She appeared before him, and he said to her, "Daughter your faith has saved you."

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may bring the riches of love from our faith into the world, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those suffering from chronic illness or long-term disabilities, that they may find the strength to persevere with the help of the loving care provided by family, friends, and caregivers, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That as we celebrate our nation's independence this week, we may also recognize our dependence on one another and on God, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we may share our faith in God without hesitation as we are strengthened by Him united with us in the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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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.