

“Jesus, I love you in the Blessed Sacrament!”

By Father Libby

“Jesus, I love you!”

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What differs between these two aspirations that we should often have on our lips? God becomes Incarnate. A miracle of love. God becomes Incarnate and then promises to never leave us alone even after He has Ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father. A miracle of faith! Certainly, the Consoler, the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, is given to us to abide with us, and we cry out, ‘Abba! Father!’ because of His presence. But Jesus wasn’t kidding. Even though ‘He’ is ‘I’ in the gift of the Holy Spirit abiding in us by His presence and power since each one of the Trinity is God/is identical with God, He really meant that He was going to abide *substantially* with us, ‘remain with us always’ *substantially*, until the end of time in the Blessed Sacrament. This is the ‘thousand-year reign’ that many non-Catholics misinterpret because they do not have the Eucharist. The reign is happening *now* in the Blessed Sacrament (1000 years being a perfect number, not an exact one). How awful to not be Catholic and be so fooled, interpreting scripture with mental gymnastics to try to figure out how He can reign before He comes back...

So, this substantial presence in the Eucharist gave us a different plane, form, of love. Not only can we say ‘Jesus, I love you,’ but we can also specify that we love Him *in the Blessed Sacrament*. Here. Right in front of us. Not just in some nebulous way that we tell Him we love Him in the forest. We love Him *right here and now*. It is like when we love a particular person and tell them as much. It renews the spiritual union with that person. With Christ, it is that real-He is the Perfect person out there that we think we would love if we met the perfect person, and yet, ‘here He is’ the perfect person *really here!*

One of the epiphenomena out there these days right now is to watch a video of a person being surprised by the return of a loved one, unannounced, unexpected, thought to be in some far, distant, never-never land, and then all of a sudden, they are here! And the tears and hugs, disbelief all follow. That is a good analogy. I think of the difference between these two statements: “Jesus, I love you” and “Jesus, I love you (here) *in the Blessed Sacrament*’. *He is coming back* present tense-now. He is *in the process of coming back* right now! He is collecting those who acknowledge Him, worship Him, go to confession to Him not just out in the forest but in that other Sacrament of Love-the



Sacrament of Penance. Similarly, confession is not just a nebulous ‘sorry’ in the forest to some nebulous God; it is here and now, Him truly present in the confessional through the priest.

Have you ever walked into the chapel and had your breath taken away when you realize *He is really here* (there)? Why are we surprised? He told us that He wasn’t going to leave us after all. And yet that effect should hit us often when we make a good genuflection, acknowledge His presence, putting *ourselves in the presence of God* which is what practicing recollection throughout the day is—going back to ‘that memory’ that amnensis as we say in/about the mass making present that event that was once and for all, but nonetheless real for us. St. Theresa of Avila said that those who lived at the time of Christ *have no advantage over us who live now*. Those who walked and talked with Him in the body during those three years, thirty-three years on earth have no advantage to attain holiness—we have just as much so in the adoration chapel.

As we celebrate Vocations Week this week let’s ‘make present’ people’s vocations to the One who is present here. That’s what vocations work is—simply uncovering what is already there. We are all called to holiness, which means that we are all called to religious life. Many are called, few are chosen. Our job is to answer the call—that is discern, assume religious life is the norm, as it gives us the best chance for ‘success’ for eternal life, and since we know that God wants the best for us, well... But we also know he also tells people in scripture who want to follow Him to ‘go home and tell everyone about me’. So we try, and if God doesn’t provide the grace to continue, then fine, we’ve tried. But either way, we can love Him in the Blessed Sacrament.



St. Padre Pio Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Located in the Old Convent Building at HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
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For more information, contact: Dosie Kermode, 231-632-7834

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HOLY ROSARY PRAYER CORNER

Prayer feeds our lives. Prayer is a gift. It is a gift because Christian Prayer is based on knowing the Lord Jesus, and having the Holy Spirit stir and move through us in prayer. Please keep these intentions in your prayers.

Pray for those that are not able to attend Mass with us

Jill Anderson - Home
 Ted Bodus - Woodside Assisted Living
 Betty Flaska - Maple Valley
 Gerri Galla - Villa in Traverse City
 John King - Home * Loraine Kulanda - Home
 Ann Mazurek - Home * Kelly Priest - Woodside Asst Living
 Joyce Novak - Maple Valley * Elizabeth Randall - Home

Please call the office to correct & update this list.

FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

- Ken Artz — US Air Force
- Isaiah Belanger — US Navy
- Charles Berninger — US Coast Guard
- Nicholas Bryan — US Army
- John Bunek — US Navy
- Curtis Bunek — US Navy
- Keith Castle — US Marines
- Matthew Culver — US Navy
- Timothy Fisher — US Army
- Peter Freundl — US Coast Guard
- Joshua Harris — US Coast Guard
- Zachary Karpinski -Basic Training
- Jesse Kohler — MT National Guard
- Jacob Kunde — US Air Force
- Austin McQueer — US Marines
- Collin Platts — US Army Nurse Corp
- Ryan Tondreau — US Army
- Leif Vanderwerf — US Marines
- Capt. Daniel Weber, DO — US Army
- Tim Wigton — MI National Guard
- Andrew Zeits — US Army

Most of us will never know the sacrifices that our military servicemen and women make to serve and protect us all. But what is often overlooked is the tremendous sacrifice made by their families. Starting with the spouses, the sons & daughters - and all the way down to the parents & extended family of those that serve as well. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Prayer for The Vocations in Our Diocese

Seminarians:

Jake Belanger
 John Mawby
 Mark Steck
 David Witkowski

Candidates for Diaconate:

Jason Maday
 Neil Witkowski

Religious Life:

Sister Philomena Marie
 of Christ Crucified
 (Gianna Belanger)
 Margaret Foster
 Christopher Witkowski



O Lord Jesus Christ, lead our Seminarians & Diaconates in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may serve as models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice. Teach them generosity and service; but above all, teach them to know You and to love You. ~ Amen

In Our Thoughts & Prayers Recent Prayer Intentions

Margaret Siemiantkowski - Ongoing Health Issues
 Geri Brzezinski - recovery from heart surgery * B & P - Marriage Challenges
 Tim Weber - Hand injury * JT & Husband - Both Serious Illnesses
 Jake & Family - Serious Challenges * Judy LaCross - Health Issues
 Ron Novak - Leg Injury from Accident * Joel - Health * Gerri - COPD
 Sarah (Dick Dell'Aqua's daughter) - Hurricane Victims * Vince Zywicki
 Stephanie - Blood Issues * Joshua - a young man who had a stroke
 Joanne Skipski - Heart Issues * Ivan McKenna - knee surgery & recovery
 Francis & Louise - 2 Babies with Health Struggles * Ben - Cancer Diagnosed
 Joe Paladino - Serious Health Problems * Leonard Dezelski
 BW - Physical & emotional healing * Rich Hounzel - serious issues * Loren Wilson
 Therese Drzewiecki Rosinski - Brain Tumor Surgery Rehab
 Sr. Aquinas Weber - 101 yr. old GR Dominican - healing from shoulder surgery
 Jan Wigton * Laurie Plichta * GF - stress issues * Dorian

For the recently deceased & their families

Don Darga * Gil Bogley
 Keith Burnham * Joanne Lehr

Cancer Patients:

Leonard Couturier * Peter Freundl * Martin Gallagher * Tim Keilty
 Christopher McGlynn * Arthur McCormack - stage 4 lung
 Chris Napolillo - Continued progress * Jan Novak - Continued progress
 Erin Richards Rashy * Shelby Richter
 Francis Rosinski * Therese Rosinski * Tom Savage * Craig Stallman
 Ruth Trotsky - Cancer & Parkinsons * Kelly Winowiecki Florip
 Mark VanderWeurff - Pancreatic * Tina VanderWulp * Ben * Christi
 Danielle - breast cancer * Dan S. * Gabby - melanoma * Kathleen
 Lori * Marissa * Patricia - lung cancer * Randy * Steve

* Ongoing Prayer Intentions *

* Chris Berkey - Neurological issues *
 * Ed Budd - Diagnosed with Agent Orange Complications *
 * Delores (Ditto) Couturier - stroke recovery *
 * Toddler Henry Gauthier - Continued progress in mobility & normal development *
 * Lucas P. - teen - serious food allergies and EOE *
 * Conor Rigan - age 5 - recovery from surgery for brain tumor #7 at Boston hospital (Nov. 4) - that he is finally cancer free. Prayers for his dear family also, Patrick & Sarah Rigan and two sisters. (GTACS family)
 * Hailie Tondreau - Hypermobility Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome *
 * Randy W. (Buckley) - Parkinson's *
 * Rich Zywicki - healing from serious head injuries (accident) *

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Call Rita Wilson 231-228-5838 * Judy LaCross 231-883-1212