



Sisters of Charity of Our Lady, Mother of the Church

54 West Main Street
Baltic, CT 06330-1300

Phone: (860) 822-6323 • www.sistersofcharity.com

Dear Friend,

When I was a child in Catholic School, devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament was a very important part of our lives. Do you remember those days? We went to Mass every month as a school on First Fridays. We had Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament frequently in the parish Church. Father placed a large, consecrated Host in the monstrance – the sacred vessel which held the Host – and we would kneel in silent adoration of Jesus fully present in the Holy Eucharist – body, blood, soul and divinity. We loved Benediction because it was a mysterious, holy time for all of us like no other time in our busy school days.

On Holy Thursday, we walked slowly in procession throughout the Church, following the priest who carried the Blessed Sacrament aloft in the monstrance for all to see, while we little girls dropped flower petals in Jesus' path. And, on special occasions, we sang hymns to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, telling Him of our love, asking for His blessing, pleading with Him to come into our souls.

Friend, today, so many decades later, I can still recall the sweet fragrance of the incense used during Benediction. Some parishes and university Catholic campus centers still have Eucharistic processions, regular celebration of Benediction, and even Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament so that the faithful can offer Jesus their gratitude for blessings received, possibly ask for the healing of a loved one or a relationship that's falling to pieces. But sadly, such practices of Eucharistic devotion are few and far between these days.



YOUR needs and special intentions are remembered each day in the prayers of our Sisters in adoration before Our Eucharistic Lord.



YOU help us provide for the needs of Sister Denise (l.), Sister Elizabeth and all our elder Sisters. They gratefully remember you each day in their prayers.

For the Sisters of Charity, the Eucharist is the heartbeat of our daily lives. Every morning, as we receive Our Eucharistic Lord in Holy Communion, we renew our commitment to live as Christ's hands and feet in the world. This sacred nourishment empowers us to serve the poor in our Food Pantry and Homeless Shelter, care for the sick and elderly in our healthcare facilities, educate the young in our schools with the love and compassion of Christ Himself, care for our elderly and infirm Sisters and provide for our young Sisters.

Friend, can we count on your support in this great mission? Your gift of \$10, \$20 or \$50 or whatever your means allow, will help us bring hope to those we are privileged to assist in our ministries.

During the time our Sisters spend daily in Eucharistic Adoration, we lay down our burdens, intercede for the needs of the world and for all YOUR petitions that you send us. Here we are renewed and filled with His grace to continue our mission with joy and perseverance. Here we receive the strength to offer ourselves in loving service, to be present to those in need, and bring the light of Christ to the world.

You too can receive these great blessings when you meet Our Lord in both the Sacrifice of the Mass and during Eucharistic adoration. Jesus is physically present with us in the Eucharist, the Sacrament of His love. How blessed we are! Adoration is a time to lay down our fears, our doubts, and our struggles, and to be filled with the love that only Jesus can give. In His presence, we find the grace to live each day with purpose, and the courage to face whatever challenges come our way.

As a reminder of Our Lord's presence in this great Sacrament of His love, we are sending you the gift of a beautiful key ring. On one side is the image of the Last Supper; on the other side is an image of Our Eucharistic Lord in the monstrance. We hope this gift will remind you that Jesus invites you to be with Him in both the Sacrifice of the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration. **Another gift for you is a tri-fold leaflet with prayers to help you open your heart in love to Our Lord when you are with Him in prayer.**

Many Catholics long for a return of the living faith in Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament that was so lovingly celebrated in the past. That is why the bishops recently launched a three-year Eucharistic Revival, leading up to the National Eucharistic Congress that was held in Indianapolis last July. We Sisters were privileged to be there. It was an experience precious to me and to all who took part.

But every day the beauty and splendor of the Eucharist is present in our convent Chapel where Jesus remains day and night, ready to hear the prayers of all who open their hearts to Him. He is in your parish Church as well. He waits for you there in this great mystery of His love. May the blessings of the Holy Eucharist draw you ever closer to Jesus and fill you with His peace.



YOUR goodness makes it possible for our Sister teachers to educate our students with the love and compassion of Christ, like Sister Mark, Guidance Counselor at the Academy of the Holy Family.



In Mary, Mother of the Church,
Mother Mary David, scmc
Mother Mary David, SCMC
Superior General

P.S. To deepen your love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, we are offering you two very special gifts enclosed: a beautiful Eucharistic-themed keyring and a tri-fold leaflet of Eucharistic prayers. We hope these gifts are very meaningful to you. **And we ask for your help, with your most generous offering, to support the Sisters in our mission of sharing the charity, holiness and love of our Eucharistic Lord with all God's people.**

