

PRAYERS IN THE PEW™ MONTHLY

FAITH IN ACTION CALENDAR / HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY JULY 1	St. Junipero Serra, Priest
SUNDAY JULY 14	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
TUESDAY JULY 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Faith Formation Companion to Prayers in the Pew™

→ MONTHLY SYNOPSIS ←

July 2024 – July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, which is echoed in our Eucharistic themes this month. In the midst of the summer season, let us strive to develop virtue and cultivate a sense of prayer in all we do.

TANTUM ERGO

In the year 1264 AD, Pope Urban IV established the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (often referred to simply as *Corpus Christi*) as the preeminent Eucharistic feast of the Church. In fact, it was the first papally-imposed feast to be entered into the liturgical calendar.

In doing so, Urban didn't settle for a second rate theologian to help him. He commissioned the Church's greatest living theologian, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1275) to compose the prayers and hymns for the feast. St. Thomas was living near the pope in Orvieto, Italy at that time, and they were both aware of the Eucharistic miracle that had taken place in a nearby city, Bolsena, just the year before (1263).

The *Tantum Ergo* is actually an excerpt from a longer hymn entitled "Pange Lingua Gloriosi," of which the *Tantum Ergo* comprises the last two verses. The hymn extols and explains in poetic language the miracle ↗

— THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS —



"The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble, because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation, because it gives us the Author of Grace; it is the sweetest, because the Lord is Sweetness Itself." ~ *Pope St. Pius X*

"Oh most sweet and bountiful Jesus, what a great reverence, what giving of thanks, with perpetual praise, is due to you for the reception of your sacred Body and Blood, whose dignity no man is able to sufficiently express." ~ *Thomas à Kempis, Imitation of Christ*

of transubstantiation that takes place at each celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

The "Pange Lingua" is normally sung on Holy Thursday and Corpus Christi during the Eucharistic processions. The *Tantum Ergo* is most familiar to the faithful from its use as the hymn that is sung during Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Eucharistic Adoration.

TANTUM ERGO

*Down in adoration falling,
Lo! the Sacred Host we hail,
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing
Newer rites of grace prevail;
Faith for all defects supplying,
Where the feeble senses fail.*

*To the Everlasting Father,
And the Son Who reigns on high
With the Holy Ghost proceeding
Forth from Each eternally,
Be salvation, honor, blessing,
Might, and endless majesty.
Amen.*



"I write mostly confessional non-fiction."

CALENDAR OF FAITH | July

JULY 1 <i>Mon</i>	St. Junipero Serra, Priest
JULY 3 <i>Wed</i>	St. Thomas, Apostle
JULY 6 <i>Sat</i>	St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
JULY 9 <i>Tue</i>	St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions, Martyrs of China
JULY 11 <i>Thu</i>	St. Benedict, Abbot
JULY 13 <i>Sat</i>	St. Henry, Confessor
JULY 14 <i>Sun</i>	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
JULY 15 <i>Mon</i>	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor
JULY 16 <i>Tue</i>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
JULY 18 <i>Thu</i>	St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
JULY 21 <i>Sun</i>	St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Dr.
JULY 22 <i>Mon</i>	St. Mary Magdalene
JULY 23 <i>Tue</i>	St. Bridget, Religious
JULY 24 <i>Wed</i>	St. Sharbel Makhlof, Hermit
JULY 25 <i>Thu</i>	St. James, Apostle
JULY 26 <i>Fri</i>	Sts. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary
JULY 29 <i>Mon</i>	St. Martha
JULY 30 <i>Tue</i>	St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Dr.
JULY 31 <i>Wed</i>	St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

FAITH FUNDAMENTALS



Eucharistic Adoration

Catholics regard the Eucharist as the very Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ Himself, offered in sacrifice on the altar of the Cross. What an amazing gift of God to the human race! Our teaching about this Blessed Sacrament has never changed and never will change.

1. The Sacrament of the Eucharist was instituted by Christ as a perpetual memorial of His Passion and Death. We “do this in remembrance” of Him (Luke 22:19).
2. The Eucharist is *not a symbol* but is the actual Body and Blood of Christ offered in an unbloody (that is, sacramental) manner on the altar each day.
3. Not only do we participate in the celebration of the Eucharist, but most importantly, we *worship* the Eucharist as divine and holy.

This last point explains the reason why we maintain tabernacles in our churches and why we are able to worship the Eucharist outside of Mass. It is Christ we worship, not just when He is present at Mass but also wherever the sacred Host is reserved or displayed for public worship. Many parishes even have adoration chapels so that the faithful may pray in silence before the Eucharist and continue the angelic work of adoring the Lord in His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity.

BIBLE BASICS



Psalm 78:24-25 God rained manna upon them for food; grain from heaven he gave them. Man ate the bread of the angels; food he sent in abundance.

John 6:34-35 So they said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

CATECHISM CONNECTION



1324 The Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life.” The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.

Praying with the National Eucharistic Revival

The long-anticipated **National Eucharistic Congress** will occur this July 17-21 in Indianapolis. Even if we cannot attend this wonderful event, let us pray in union with the participants and with the intention of our bishops who seek to revive faith and love for the Eucharist in our nation and in our world.

Prayer Before Benediction

This prayer is offered by the priest with responses from the people who attend the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Eucharistic Adoration. It comes immediately after the *Tantum Ergo* and before the priest ascends the altar for Benediction:

V. Thou hast given them bread from heaven.
R. *Having within it all sweetness.*

V. Let us pray: O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament left us a memorial of Thy Passion: grant, we implore Thee, that we may so venerate the Sacred Mysteries of Thy Body and Blood, as always to be conscious of the fruit of Thy Redemption. Thou who livest and reignest forever and ever.

R. Amen.

[Prayers concerning the Eucharist can be found on the Official *Prayers in the Pew Eucharistic Revival Edition Prayer Card.*]

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