

Independence Day

I invite you to do something different this year for Independence Day. Every year on July 4th we celebrate as a country the gift of our country. We celebrate independence and the hope of perfect freedom. We celebrate with parades and cookouts, days at the beach and pool parties. All of these things are wonderful, but this year I'd like to ask the Catholics of Michigan City to do something different this year for the 4th of July.

We have been preparing for our National Eucharistic Congress for about 2 years now and the date is quickly approaching. As part of the preparation for this event, four different groups of pilgrims have been processing with the Eucharist from four different corners of the country in order to gather for the Eucharistic Congress. One group is from California another from Florida. One group is from the Eastern Seaboard and finally one group is from Minnesota. These groups of pilgrims have been walking from different areas of the country where they will converge for the final days of the Congress. On July 4th, one of those groups will be passing through Michigan City.

We will receive our Eucharistic, pilgrim Lord on July 4th in order to celebrate Eucharistic Revival in our country and I hope that all of the Catholic families of Michigan City will come out to participate. I know there are many traditions that all of you have on the 4th of July, but this pilgrimage will happen only once in our lifetime.

I would like all the Catholics to come out and celebrate our true independence with comes – not from revolutionary war – but from the victory of Christ Jesus who ransomed us from slavery and sin. Please come and celebrate our true independence from the clutches of sin and hatred. For those who are interested we have clothing items available to enhance the day. These items will be sold “at cost” so that as many of you as would like can wear clothing with our Eucharistic logo.

Our day of celebration will proceed according to the following schedule:

- 9:00 AM Mass at QAS
- 9:45 AM Eucharistic Procession on the parish grounds
- 10:15 AM Holy Hour with Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 11:00 AM Speaker - Fr. David Kime “True Freedom” with Sacrament of Confession
- 12:00 PM Lunch at QAS
- 1:30 PM Shuttle Bus service to Franciscan Hospital Grounds
- 2:00 PM Eucharistic Procession to the Franciscan Hospital Chapel
- 2:30 PM Adoration and prayers for the sick, medical staff, etc.
- 3:35 PM Benediction at the Hospital Chapel
- 4:00 PM The Missionary Team leaves for St. John, IN (from Franciscan Hospital)

If you cannot come for the entire day, please make an attempt to participate in at least part of this day. It will be a great moment for us to witness to the *REAL PRESENCE* of Jesus in the Eucharist. Our Blessed Lord wants to renew our faith and what better way for that to happen, than through adoration and praise?