

December 17, 2023

ST. PAUL the APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

511 N. Conrad Street
Peotone, IL 60468-9290

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE: 708 258-6917

CHURCH OFFICE FAX: 708 258-3061

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulOffice@att.net

PASTOR: Rev. Roger D. Kutzner
708 989-0565

DEACON: Mr. James Kelly
708 373-0311

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PARISH BUSINESS MANAGER: Paula Prium

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

CCW PRESIDENT: Maura Culver

GRAND KNIGHT of K of C: Patrick Frencl

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Steve Maltese

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON:

WORSHIP COMMISSION: Paula Prium

CHRISTIAN FORMATION / EDUCATION COMMISSION:

SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR: Mary Ann Battermann

MINISTERS OF CARE: Barb Egelski

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dcn Jim Kelly

RE OFFICE E-MAIL: StPaulRE@att.net

RE OFFICE PHONE: 708 258-9580

FAITH FORMATION (RELIGIOUS ED) CLASSES:

Grades K through 8: Sunday from 8:45am-10:15am

Find us—

Facebook: "St. Paul the Apostle Peotone"

Website: StPaulPeotone.org

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: By appointment
RECONCILIATION: Thursday: 7:30pm to 8pm
Saturday: 3pm to 3:45pm
Any time by appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION: t / b / a
FIRST COMMUNION: Sunday, April 28, 2024

CONFIRMATION: Saturday, May 11, 2024

MARRIAGE: By appointment only
Please call at least 6 months in advance

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Call anytime
Please call the parish office to inform us of an illness or hospitalization of a parishioner or family member. Privacy laws prohibit hospitals from releasing information to clergy about hospitalized church members without the specific consent and request of the patient or their immediate family.

ORDINARY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 4pm
Sunday: 10:30am
Daily Mass: Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 7:15am
Communion Service: Tuesday 7:15am

Holy Days of Obligation: Please see the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 6pm to 8pm

Communion Calls: If you or someone you love is ill or homebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office to make arrangements for regular visits.

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 12:30pm to 5pm
Regular time to make appointments, registrations, etc.

Regular bulletin deadline: Wednesday by 12pm

A very special guest of the Knights of Columbus will be at St. Paul after 10:30am Mass. Come enjoy coffee, donuts, and a visit with Santa! Bring your camera—Santa is waiting to hear all of your Christmas wishes!



The Mission Statement of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
As disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to grow in relationship with Him, live the Faith, and share His Good News with others.

COLLECTION SUMMARY: December 9—10, 2023

Sunday Offertory*	\$2,876.00
Budgeted	\$3,365.38
Minus	\$ 489.38
Envelopes used / distributed	59 / 528

***Includes 9 Online Givers**

Advent / Christmas Environment	\$ 185.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 681.00
Providing for Our Future	\$ 20.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 779.15



Secure and convenient **ONLINE GIVING** is available at [GiveCentral.org](https://www.GiveCentral.org).

Please put in zip code 60468 to find the St. Paul portal.

Are you a Catholic man 18 or older? Do you want to volunteer for your church and community? Are you ready to put your Faith into Action? Come learn about the Knights of Columbus! You can obtain information by contacting Membership Coordinator Dan Mott at 708 277-7086 or mottd@rushenterprises.com; contacting Grand Knight Patrick Frencl, visiting with any current member of the Knights or visiting our website at www.kofc.org.



Christmas time, do not forget a gift to the **Helping Hands Food Pantry**. The pantry does their best in providing more than food during the holidays. Your donations have a big impact on the community. The donation box and envelopes are located in the Religious Education entrance. Every dollar in cash equals \$8 of purchasing power for the pantry.



There will be a **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting this Monday, December 18 at 6:30pm. If you have an interest in serving our parish on this Council, please contact the parish office or Fr. Roger. The meeting is open to all parishioners.



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Mary Jo Fry, Ann Nagel, Gerald Adcock, Pope Francis, Laura Valenti, Samantha Digiacomio, Julie Szudarski, Joe Ladislas, Owen Ruhbeck, Sharon Andrews, Sue Gomez, Joan Olsen, CJ Ogalla-Arebalo, Aris Tomac, Joe Rojas, Terry & Mary Urbanek, June O'Flynn, Bob Johnson, Pete Henrisey, Claudia Merrifield, Harry & Pam Carpenter, Ray Romito, Francesca Librera Biondo, Mike Wilczynski, Fran Rewers, Harry & Geri Mokry, Carole Reichert, Deacon Milt Leppert, Pastor Richard Young, Joseph Terri, John Fahs, Jeanne Vinezeano, Frances Librera, Mary Ann Librera, the Adamsick Family, Cassidy Novak, Lavergne Sigrist, Charlie Kooy, Rita Hall, Rose Bailey, Julie Hayes, Emily Klamkin, Lorianne Mihelic, Irene Manning, the Robert Polacek family, Rich Harms, TJ Stefanski, Linda Galica, all affected by COVID-19 and those that go unnamed.

Please note that only names given with permission of the person or family member will be added to the list.



- You are invited to sign-up on the poster in the lobby to light the **ADVENT WREATH CANDLES**;
- LITTLE BLUE BOOKS**—Daily 6-minute reflections on the Infancy Narrative of Luke are available in the lobby;
- OPLATKI** is available for a \$3 donation/packet in the lobby or from the church office;
- KEEP CHRIST in CHRISTMAS** car magnets are available in the lobby for a \$3 donation.



Mass Intentions

Sat	12/16	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Ellen T. Kelly</u> req by Kim Walker and <u>People of the Parish</u>
Sun	12/17	10:30 am—	+ <u>James O'Grady</u> req by Family
Mon	12/18	7:15 am—	+ <u>Jacob Willett</u> req by the Knickrehm Family
Tue	12/19	7:15 am—	<u>Communion Service</u>
Wed	12/20	7:15 am—	<u>104th Birthday Blessings on Mrs. Carole Reichert</u>
Thr	12/21	7:15 am—	+ <u>Robert Schwiesow</u> req by Family
		6:30 pm—	<u>RE/ PARISH PENANCE SERVICE</u>
Fri	12/22	7:15 am—	+ <u>Shirley Kulish</u> req by Family
Sat	12/23	3:00 pm—	<u>CONFESSION</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Steve J. Potaczek, Sr.;</u> <u>Eugene J. Potaczek</u> req by Family
Sun	12/24	10:30 am—	<u>People of the Parish</u>
		3:45 pm—	<u>POSADA BEGINS</u>
		4:00 pm—	+ <u>Deceased Members of the John & Myra Thatcher Family</u> req by Gary & Janet Hase
		10:30 pm—	<u>R.A. Brass Ensemble begins</u>
		11:00 pm—	+ <u>Walter Stumbris</u> req by Family and <u>Tom Adamsick;</u> <u>Rudy & Rosemary Adamsick;</u> <u>Wilbur & Estelle Zirzow</u> req by Family
Mon	12/25	10:30 am—	<u>People of the Parish</u>

If you are attending a Mass that you requested an intention to be said for, please sign the gift bearer book in the rear of the church and let an usher know you are here if you wish to bring up the gifts.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS for DECEMBER 2023: For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Would you like to remember your living or deceased loved ones at one of our Masses? Perhaps for the anniversary of their death, to celebrate their birthday, wedding anniversaries or for their health. We have Mass cards, on request. For more information, please call the office at 708 258-6917.

Our Women and Men Religious Offer Gratitude

A sister shares, *"I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them."* Thank you for giving \$779.15 to the ***Retirement Fund for Religious*** last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious.

To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

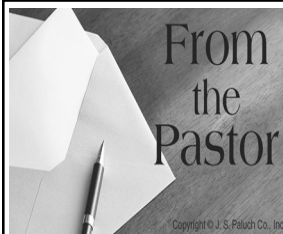
WEDDING BANNERS

1

Kevin Marc Davis
and
Angelina Rose Raymond



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



I believe we are all busy preparing for just another celebration of our Lord's Birthday. I myself have plenty of time to get ready spiritually, because I don't have so much to do as you do regarding getting ready all the stuff that are associated with Christmas (putting up decorations, making arrangements for family gatherings, cooking, buying and wrapping gifts, cleaning the house, just to name some of them). I pray every day not just for you as members of my parish family, but for you to also find time to slow down and spend some time with the Lord either in private prayer, or going to confession, or adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, reading the Bible and spiritual books.

As many of you know, I like to share a story that can lift our spirits or give us opportunity to dig deeper into our souls. Here is just another one. It speaks of how important for us the friendship with Christ should be. It's a story about the priest who lives in Latvia. His name is Viktors. He had to go through difficult times when, after World War II, the Soviet communists forcibly imposed their communist rule on Latvia and other surrounding countries. Part of their policy was the systemic elimination of all religion. They arrested Protestant pastors, as well as Catholic priests and bishops, intimidated them, bribed them, and did everything they could to separate them from spreading faith in God among people. They even made it a crime to possess the Bible, which was considered an anti-Communist book.

Fr. Viktors was arrested for possessing the Bible. When they arrested him, the Soviet agents threw the Holy Scriptures on the floor, right in front of the priest. Then they ordered the priest to step on it as a sign of scorn for the Christian faith. But the priest refused. Instead, he knelt down and kissed the sacred book. For doing this, he was condemned to 10 years of hard labor in Siberia.

Ten years later, when Fr. Viktors returned to his parish and celebrated the holy Mass, he read the Gospel. Then he held up the lectionary and said, "The Word of God!" The parishioners cried and thanked God in the silence of their hearts - they did not dare to applaud him, because that would be taken as another provocation. Fr. Viktors understood that the only lasting joy in life, the only thing worth living for, is friendship with Jesus Christ, which is nourished by God's inspired Word, and nothing was going to make him compromise that.

I am not worried about you who have friendship with Christ, a good relationship with Triune God. I am more concerned about all the others. Message of Christmas is especially for them. Some of them have never heard the Gospel - they think Christmas is about parties with big punch bowls and presents with big credit card debts. Others used to have faith, but they left it aside. For them, Advent and Christmas are bittersweet seasons: surrounded by so many signs of joy, when they look into their hearts they don't find any reason for joy, because they don't know Christ. God wants to do for them what he has already done for us; and he wants us to help Him. We can do this first of all by stirring up our own Christian joy - the devil wants to keep us so busy that we can't do that; let's outsmart him. Let's also reach out to someone who needs our joy so they can find hope in their troubled lives. Christmas acquires much more meaning to me when I witness people coming to their senses and find peace in returning to God and his Church.

Rev. Roger D. Kutzner

St. Boniface Confessions: Wednesday, December 20, 2023 from 7pm to 8pm

RE / Parish Penance Service: Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 6:30pm

4th Sunday of Advent, December 24, 2023: Vigil Mass at 4pm / 10:30am

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2023:

Posada begins at 3:45pm / Mass begins at 4pm

RA Brass Ensemble begins at 10:30pm

Mass begins at 11pm

Christmas Day, December 25, 2023: Mass at 10:30am

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (not a holy day of obligation)

January 1, 2024 Mass at 7:15am



CMAA Pledge Report for St. Paul the Apostle

Monthly pledge payments for CMAA pledges should continue to be made. It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will fulfill our pledges. Since we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

As of December 10, 2023:

PARISH GOAL:	\$16,700
AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$31,645
AMOUNT PAID:	\$30,355
REMAINING BALANCE:	\$ 1,290
# of DONORS:	117
2023 REBATE:	\$ 9,559

Thank-you for your generosity!

The EUCHARISTIC MINISTER / LECTOR schedule until December 31, 2023 is in the rear of the church.

Please sign-up where you can—especially for the Christmas liturgies!

The **Peotone Senior Assistance Center** serves clients by appointment only this **Thursday, December 21**, from 10am—3pm. This is part of our Respect Life Ministry, whose mission is to protect the vulnerable and provide seniors, low income and disabled persons with assistance from county, state and federal programs, including Medicare, Social Security, IL License Plate Discounts, and services offered through Catholic Charities. We are also a certified SHIP site (Senior Health Insurance Program). The center is staffed by volunteers who serve the community without cost. For information on specific services, please leave your name and phone number at 708-258-6917 then press 5.

Please make an appointment.

PARISH—RE / FF (grades 3-8) ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE this Thursday, December 21 at 6:30pm. Fr. Roger and Fr. Nugent will be available for confession.



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The *Sacrament of Reconciliation* is offered on Saturday from 3—3:45pm, on Thursday from 7:30—8pm **or** by other arrangements with Father. Please call the parish office at 708 258-6917 or e-mail StPaulOffice@att.net.

This year, the Advent season is short! The 4th Sunday of Advent is the same day as Christmas Eve, so we wanted to publicize our Mass schedule to give everyone time to make plans. See below for the Mass schedule.

Did you know? Both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas are holy days of Obligation! That makes things a little tricky this year since they are back-to-back. So, it's like a "You Pick Two" special!

Pick One—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23 at 4:00pm

Sunday, December 24 at 10:30am

Pick One—Christmas

Sunday, December 24 at 3:45pm

Sunday, December 24 at 11pm

Monday, December 25 at 10:30am

Regardless of which **two** Masses your family chooses to attend, we look forward to seeing you there!

St Patrick Parish
SHRINES OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE

October 29 — November 8, 2024

\$3499* Per Person Double Occupancy From Chicago Trip Waiver/Insurance \$449

Next Info Meeting Date at St Patrick Church, 406 Walnut St, Yorkville, IL

Sunday Jan. 7, 2024 at 2:00 PM - An Excellent Christmas Present

Join Deacon Dale Metcalfe & Father Jim McCormack MIC



Register Early Save \$300*

Featuring:

Rome - Papal Audience - Assisi - Loretto

Padre Pio - San Giovanni Rotondo

Montecassino - Madonna del Rosario

Pompeii - St. Peter's Basilica

Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel

St. Mary Major - St John Lateran - More

Now Accepting Registrations - Singles - Couples - Families - Friends

Contact Deacon Dale 630.334.5065

DeaconDaleItaly@gmail.com www.DeaconTravel.com

If you have adult children (who are not in college) who attend St. Paul the Apostle and have not registered themselves as parishioners, please have them contact the parish office to complete a parishioner registration form.

Birthday



Wishes

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MRS. CAROLE REICHERT will celebrate her **104th birthday** this Wednesday, December 20! Greetings can be sent to:

30915 S. Egyptian Trail / Peotone, IL 60468

Today is **Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday** also known as "**Rose Sunday**" is the third Sunday of Advent in the liturgical calendar of Western Christianity, including the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion, Lutheran Churches, and other mainline Protestant churches. It can fall on any date from December 11 to December 17. On this Sunday, we recognize the joyful anticipation of the season that will culminate in the birth of Christ on Christmas by changing the liturgical color to rose. Rose-colored vestments may be worn because rose is a liturgical color; a "brightening" of the ordinary violet and thus symbolizes joy

There will be no RE / FF classes on Sunday, December 24 and Sunday, December 31. Classes resume on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Sunday, January 7, 2024. *We hope to see all families at Mass during the Christmas season and beyond.*

Bishop Hicks' Column

December 2023

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL AND SYNODALITY, TOGETHER



ARE YOU A CUBS FAN? OR ARE YOU A WHITE SOX FAN? If you have any roots in Chicagoland, you instinctively understand that you must declare one or the other. It is common practice to choose one team — one is never a fan of both!

During these past two years, throughout our country and within the Catholic Church, that same principle seems to have been applied to the National Eucharistic Revival and the Synod on Synodality. As you know, the Eucharistic Revival is a three-year initiative of the Church to enkindle a living relationship with Jesus Christ in the holy Eucharist. The Synod on Synodality is an international, multiyear undertaking during which Catholics give feedback and deeply listen to each other — so, as a Church, we can all discern together where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

Curiously, many people seem to be taking sides; they are in favor of one, but not the other.

The week before Thanksgiving, I joined over 250 bishops in Baltimore for a week of meetings hosted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. We began the meetings with prayer, adoration, benediction, and Mass. The first address to the assembly was given by Cardinal Christophe Pierre, the Papal Nuncio. When it comes to the Eucharistic Revival and the Synod, he encouraged us to move away from an “either/or” approach, and to instead embrace and promote both. The special connections between the Eucharistic Revival and the Synod prevailed through our week of meetings.

At one point, Cardinal Pierre beautifully reflected on the road to Emmaus story from the Gospel of Luke (24: 13–35). Along their journey, the disciples debated their theological points of view while Jesus listened to them. “Listening, corresponds to the humble style of God,” said the cardinal, quoting Pope Francis. “God loves humanity: that is why he addresses his word to them, and why he ‘inclines his ear’ to listen to them.”

You see, *listening* is essential for a synodal Church because it is a dimension of love. Through this Emmaus moment, Jesus accompanies, listens, and discerns with His disciples. Then, their hearts were set on fire because they recognized His true presence in the Eucharist. After this Eucharistic encounter, they go

back to the other disciples and proclaim that Jesus is alive and — with missionary zeal — are committed to sharing the risen Christ with the world.

Cardinal Pierre concluded his presentation with these moving insights: “Our people need us to be adventurers for the Lord. They need us to be united with one another. They need to see how our diversity, harmonized, displays the beauty of the Church and of the Catholic faith. They need to be reminded that salvation comes not from one idea or another, but through a shared encounter with the living person of Jesus, who is love.”

Most of us can agree we are a stronger Church when we both listen *and* keep the Eucharist as our source and summit. Let’s look for ways to stay united with each other and with Christ.

From the onset, I announced that the Diocese of Joliet was going to participate in both the National Eucharistic Revival and the Synod on Synodality. Walking in numerous Eucharistic processions and attending many talks about the Eucharist, I am proud of how robustly our clergy and parishioners have promoted and embraced this Eucharistic Revival. I look forward to participating in our continued celebrations of the Eucharist in the Diocese of Joliet, and will joyfully attend the Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis in July 2024. That event will launch us into the next phase of the revival by enthusiastically taking the Eucharistic Lord into the world and putting our faith into action as missionary disciples.

At the same time, I am also proud of how we have participated in the Synod on Synodality. For over six months, groups gathered throughout every deanery of our diocese to listen intently to each other. The themes from these listening sessions were gathered and compiled into a report sent to Rome. The first half of the synod concluded in the Vatican this October. With faithful hope, we await the next steps for the second half next October.

As a baseball fan, I am fiercely loyal to my team, while politely ignoring the other. Gratefully, that’s not what our Church does when it comes to the National Eucharistic Revival and the Synod on Synodality. Like you, I love Jesus so much — especially in the Eucharist — *and* at the same time — through Him, with Him, and in Him — I desire a *listening* Church that calls us to be on mission! With faith and trust in God, I look forward to walking on this all-connected journey with you ahead.

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Columna del Obispo Hicks

Diciembre de 2023

AVIVAMIENTO EUCARÍSTICO Y SINODALIDAD, JUNTOS



¿ERES FAN DE LOS CUBS? ¿SIGUES A LOS WHITE SOX? Si tienes alguna raíz en la región metropolitana de Chicago, instintivamente comprenderás que debes inclinarte por uno u otro. Elegir uno de estos equipos es una práctica habitual, ¡no es posible seguir a ambos!

Durante estos dos últimos años, en todo nuestro país y en el seno de la Iglesia Católica, parece haberse aplicado ese mismo principio al Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional y al Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad. Como saben, el Avivamiento Eucarístico es una iniciativa de tres años de duración que lleva adelante la Iglesia para promover una relación viva con Jesucristo en la Sagrada Eucaristía. El Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad es una iniciativa internacional de varios años durante los cuales los católicos dan a conocer sus opiniones y se escuchan atentamente entre sí —para que, como Iglesia, podamos discernir juntos hacia dónde nos guía el Espíritu Santo.

Extrañamente, muchas personas parecen tomar partido; están a favor de uno, pero no del otro.

La semana anterior a Acción de Gracias, me reuní con más de 250 obispos en Baltimore durante una semana de encuentros organizados por la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos. Comenzamos las reuniones con oración, adoración, bendición y misas. El primer discurso ante la asamblea estuvo a cargo del Cardenal Christophe Pierre, nuncio papal. En lo que se refiere al Avivamiento Eucarístico y al Sínodo, nos propuso alejarnos de un enfoque de “uno u otro” y, en su lugar, abrazar y promover ambos. Las conexiones especiales entre el Avivamiento Eucarístico y el Sínodo prevalecieron a lo largo de nuestra semana de encuentros.

En un momento dado, el Cardenal Pierre hizo una hermosa reflexión sobre la historia del camino a Emaús que se menciona en el Evangelio según San Lucas (24:13–35). A lo largo de su viaje, los discípulos debatieron sus puntos de vista teológicos mientras Jesús los escuchaba. “La escucha corresponde al estilo humilde de Dios,” dijo el cardenal, citando al Papa Francisco. “Dios ama al hombre: por eso le dirige la Palabra, por eso ‘inclina el oído’ para escucharlo.”

Como ven, *la escucha* es esencial para una Iglesia sinodal, porque es una dimensión del amor. En este fragmento sobre el camino a Emaús, Jesús acompaña, escucha y discierne con sus discípulos. Entonces, sus corazones ardieron porque reconocieron su verdadera presencia en la Eucaristía. Tras este encuentro eucarístico, regresan con los demás discípulos y proclaman que Jesús está vivo y —

con celo misionero— se comprometen a compartir a Cristo resucitado con el mundo.

El Cardenal Pierre concluyó su presentación con estas conmovedoras reflexiones: Nuestro pueblo necesita que seamos aventureros para el Señor. Necesita que estemos unidos unos con otros. Necesita ver cómo nuestra diversidad armonizada refleja la belleza de la Iglesia y de la fe católica. Necesita que se le recuerde que la salvación no proviene de una idea u otra, sino de un encuentro compartido con la persona viva de Jesús, que es amor.

La mayoría de nosotros está de acuerdo en que somos una Iglesia más fuerte cuando escuchamos y mantenemos la Eucaristía como nuestra fuente y cumbre. Busquemos formas de permanecer unidos entre nosotros y con Cristo.

Desde el principio, anuncié que la Diócesis de Joliet iba a participar tanto en el Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional como en el Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad. Al participar en numerosas procesiones eucarísticas y asistir a muchas charlas sobre la Eucaristía, me siento orgulloso de la firmeza con la que nuestro clero y nuestros feligreses han promovido y abrazado este Reavivamiento Eucarístico. Espero participar en nuestras continuas celebraciones de la Eucaristía en la Diócesis de Joliet y asistiré con alegría al Congreso Eucarístico que se llevará a cabo en Indianapolis, en julio de 2024. Ese acontecimiento nos lanzará a la siguiente fase del avivamiento, llevando con entusiasmo al Señor Eucarístico al mundo y poniendo en práctica nuestra fe como discípulos misioneros.

Al mismo tiempo, también estoy orgulloso de la manera en que hemos participado en el Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad. Durante más de seis meses, los grupos se reunieron en todos los decanatos de nuestra diócesis para escucharse atentamente unos a otros. Los temas de estas sesiones de escucha se recabaron y recopilaron en un informe que fue enviado a Roma. La primera mitad del Sínodo concluyó en el Vaticano el pasado mes de octubre. Con fe y esperanza, esperamos los próximos pasos para la segunda quincena del próximo mes de octubre.

Como seguidor del béisbol, soy ferozmente leal a mi equipo, mientras cortésmente ignora al otro. Afortunadamente, eso no es lo que hace nuestra Iglesia cuando se trata del Reavivamiento Eucarístico Nacional y del Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad. Como ustedes, amo tanto a Jesús — especialmente en la Eucaristía — y al mismo tiempo — por Él, con Él y en Él — ¡deseo una Iglesia *a la escucha* que nos llame a estar en misión! Con fe y confianza en Dios, espero seguir caminando con ustedes en este viaje en el que todo está conectado.

DIÓCESIS DE JOLIET

