

Corpus Christi Procession

Fennimore

From the desk of Fr. John

Many may ask why we have the "Corpus Christi Procession". Processions are a way in which we give great witness to our faith and God blesses us abundantly for them. It is a way in which we mutually support the faith of each other, and thereby strengthen our own faith. As I mentioned last week Sr. Adele Brise asked the priests and people to do a procession to the chapel that Our Lady of Good Help had asked to be built. As the threat of the Peshtigo Fire bore down upon them. God granted the graces of deliverance from the fire for all of those who participated in the procession and remained praying at the shrine. This year I invite all of you to the procession in Fennimore which will begin about 11:30am.

Christ himself points out that when Moses lifted the bronze serpent on the staff to save the Jews who had been bitten by the plague of serpents sent as a punishment for their idolatry (symbolic of the sting of sin from Satan which kills our souls and the possibility of happiness after death), those who looked upon the serpent on the staff were healed. Jesus says in these following passages that this was a prefiguring of the eternal salvation he would bring to those who looked up to him on the cross.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that those who believe in him may not perish, but may have life everlasting." John 3:14

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all things to myself." John 12:32

Our Lord's passion, death and resurrection made the Eucharist possible and all of the superabundant graces in it flow from his sacrifice. Now in the procession Our Blessed Lord is lifted up for all to look upon him and hopefully begin a path towards salvation. The procession goes through all four quadrants of the city (divided by Lincoln and 12th street), The procession pauses at least one altar, and the monstrance is placed on the altar, there is a gospel reading, prayers and benediction. Thus each of the four quadrants of the city receive a special blessing from the Lord, and this represents the four principle directions (North, South, East, West) and the "four ends of the earth" over all of which Christ the King reigns and all of whose inhabitants he seeks to save. So please come out and walk and pray with us, to pay homage to Christ the King!!! If participation is high enough from our parish this year maybe next year we could organize our own procession.