



*Blessed Miriam Teresa
League of Prayer Bulletin*



Volume 79 No. 3

Convent Station, N.J.

December 2024



**Eucharistic Congress 2024
July 17-21**



APOSTOLIC POSTULATION

for the cause of Canonization
of the Blessed

Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, SC
of the

Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth,

**His Eminence
Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, CSSR**
Archbishop of Newark

The Most Reverend Kevin J. Sweeney, D.D.
Bishop of Paterson

The Most Reverend Kurt Burnette
Bishop of Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic

Dr. Silvia Correale, J.C.D.
Postulator

Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC
Vice Postulator



THE BLESSED MIRIAM TERESA LEAGUE OF PRAYER BULLETIN

Purpose of the League: To honor the Blessed Trinity through the Immaculate Heart of Mary by spreading the knowledge of Blessed Miriam Teresa's life and mission, and by working for her cause.

President.....Sister Maureen Shaughnessy, SC

TEAM

Sister Mary Canavan, Sister Maureen Corcoran, Doctor
Mary Mazzarella and Linda Amitrano. Consultants: Father
Terrence Moran and Sister Noreen Neary.

Obligations: 1. Daily recitation of 26 Glorias in honor of the Most Holy Trinity for the success of the cause. (an Our Father may be substituted.) 2. A small sacrifice daily.

Spiritual Privileges: for the intentions of League Members.
1. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered 100 times each year. 2. Special private prayers are offered every day by the Sisters of Charity.

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As we enter into the holy, expectant time of the season of Advent may each of us ready ourselves for the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ.

The Eucharistic Congress held during the summer of 2024 in the United States reached out to the participants to be embraced by God's love for us and the gift of Himself to us. Those who attended from laity to the hierarchy were enriched by what they heard and what they experienced. All of us are deeply blessed if we allow God's grace to flow into our hearts.

It was a pivotal and unifying moment in our church's history in the United States challenging each of us to be evangelizers. Bishop Robert Barron urges us as "the Body of Christ" "to share the joy of the gospel. If you are interested, you can search for Eucharistic Congress 2024 on your computer and experience the event and the follow-up.

October 4 was the 10th Anniversary of Blessed Miriam Teresa's beatification. We celebrated this awesome moment in various ways, and you will be reading about it in the next bulletin. Hopefully you pray the prayer for her canonization on a daily basis.

In September our congregation began a year of celebration commemorating the 165th Anniversary of our foundation. Join us in prayer as we faithfully live our Mission.

May all of us rejoice and be glad with each other as we live into the future that beckons us.

~ Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC

Celebrating 165 Years



Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

National Eucharistic Congress

by Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC

Indianapolis, Indiana was the convergence of four pilgrimages:

one from the North: Marian Route

one from the East: Seton Route

one from the South: Juan Diego Route and

one from the West: Serra Route

for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress on July 17, 2024. Sixty thousand-plus pilgrims attended this five-day event and received a fresh outpouring of grace with: “Jesus setting all ablaze with Eucharistic love.”

Two Auxiliary bishops of the Archdiocese of Newark, Bishop Michael A. Saporito and Bishop Elias Richard Lorenzo, OSB participated at the Congress. Bishop Saporito said, “the singing, joy and desire to learn, grow and heal was palpable even in the large setting. The Masses were joyful and full of life and reminded me of what could be if we all brought our very best and even our hurts to the table of the Lord. It was also heartwarming to see a sizable youth population taking part in all the activities.

Bishop Lorenzo was deeply moved by the “unbridled zeal and devotion of the pilgrims throughout the Eucharistic Congress.” He said the congress was a powerful witness to the unity and hope among faithful disciples of Christ. The following are

the top 10 quotes from the Eucharistic Congress speakers.

1. “Knowledge can make one great, but only love can make you a saint... You can never have a revival without repentance.” **Father Mike Schmitz**

2. “The love of God has been poured into our hearts, and it’s the kindness of God that leads us to life-giving repentance.” **Sister Bethany Madonna**

3. “Your Christianity is not for you. Christianity is not a self-help program, something designed just to make us feel better about ourselves. Your Christianity is for the world.” **Bishop Robert Barron**

4. “The Eucharist, for me, is healing. The Eucharist, for me, is peace. The Eucharist, for me, is my grounding. The Eucharist, for me, is His heart within me.” **Jonathan Roumie**

5. “The Lord is not overwhelmed by you. He loves you, and He sees you, and He’s not deterred by anything.” **Sister Miriam James Heidland**

6. “It’s time for faithful Catholics to stop trying to live for God. Instead, we should start living from Him. The body and blood of the Lord are the

source of our life, our energy, and our joy. So, let's eat and drink here and every day to our heart's content, and then let's rush out into a starving world and tell everybody we meet, "Starving people, listen! We found where the food is!" **Monsignor James Shea**

7. "We need a new Pentecost. We need to be filled with boldness. We need to be filled with intrepidity. We need to be filled with love, with generosity to be able to sacrifice everything for the sake of the kingdom." **Mother Adela Galindo**

8. "He who has made the promise is true, and so we can be people who repent with courage and joy. What a contradiction to be people who say, "I'm broken and I'm sinful, and I'm joyful and I'm hopeful." What would the world do with a pilgrim people like that?" **Sister Josephine Garrett**

9. "Those who choose to stay with Jesus will be sent by Jesus...Let us go to proclaim Jesus zealously and joyfully for the life of the world." **Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle**

10. "Brothers and sisters, we believe that God desires to renew His Church and that this renewal will happen through you. And that in renewing His Church, He will renew the world." **Bishop Andrew Cozzens**

As I read through these ten quotes Blessed Miriam Teresa came to mind several times.

I encourage you to read and reflect on each of these ten statements. As I took time to contemplate them, I realized that some of them truly speak to us about Blessed Miriam Teresa's spirituality. Only love (our Triune God) can make a person a saint; we can't become one by ourselves. Blessed Miriam Teresa certainly stayed close to her Creator, Savior and Sanctifier who constantly fed her with life and love as she deepened her relationship with the one who is abiding and sustaining love.

As you take some time to connect insights from these ten people who shared them with us in 2024 and link them to the wisdom Blessed Miriam Teresa gave us a century ago, please forward your thoughts to me at mcorcoran@scnj.org so they may enrich each of our lives.

10th National Eucharistic Congress reflected by Deacon Kevin Regan

My wife Carole and I attended the 10th National Eucharistic Congress this past July 17-21, in Indianapolis: the last Congress held was 83 years ago. We joined 60,000 pilgrims, that included 150 Bishops, 1500+ Priests, 400+ deacons, over 800+ Religious Sisters and 1000 Seminarians. It was a proud moment for our Catholic church: to be a part of this tremendous outpouring of love for our church and, most important, the love and belief in the body, blood, soul and divinity, the Real Presence of Christ.

Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich's writings deeply resonate with the themes of the National Eucharistic Congress, especially as the Church seeks to rekindle a devotion to the Eucharist that moves beyond ritual to personal transformation and communal renewal. As an American-born, member of the Sisters of Charity, and now she is Blessed, she left behind spiritual reflections that capture the essence of Eucharist wasn't merely a sacrament to be received; it was the heartbeat of her entire existence and her deepest source of strength, love, and inspiration.

The speakers were so inspiring, recounting stories of how our Lord through the Eucharist changed lives. Speakers such as Bishop Robert Barron, Sr. Josephine

Garrett (Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth), Fr. Rocky Hoffman, Sr. Bethany Madona (The Sisters of Life), Mother Olga (Daughters of Mary of Nazareth), Fr. Michael Schmitz, Jonathan Roumie, and many others, shared their journey with Christ through the Eucharist, and challenged us to open our hearts to our Lord Jesus Christ.

In her writings, Blessed Miriam often described the Eucharist as the ultimate act of God's love, a sacrificial love that should inspire us to sacrifice ourselves for one another. This perspective closely aligns with the Congress's emphasis on seeing the Eucharist as not just an individual act of piety but a communal bond that unites us with Christ and with each other.

The five days of this Congress gave us a path to be truly holy; it starts with allowing Christ into our hearts. The body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ is who we are as Catholics. Everywhere we walked in the city we saw Christ. Everyone was filled with joy, friendship and love. We spoke with many of the Religious Sisters and were in awe of their compassion for what they believe. So many of them were young, energetic, filled with the Holy Spirit and spread the joy throughout the city of Indianapolis and beyond.

The thousands of young people that

attended, high school and college aged, truly lifted the spirit of the attendees with their passion and love for the Lord; they gave us hope that the future of our Church will be in good hands. As they left sessions designed for them, they would break out in song as they walked through the convention center bringing smiles and hope to us.

I was blessed to be part of the Masses each morning, distributing Holy Communion to the faithful. On Saturday morning, the main Mass was the Eastern Rite Liturgy: Syro-Malabar Holy Quarana. The Mass presider was a Bishop of this rite. It was very interesting to be part of this and see how others from a different rite that are in communion with the Roman Church celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The agreement was to distribute Communion as is done in the Roman Rite.

Carole and I attended many retreats and spiritual weekends over the years, but nothing compared to what we experienced during our five days at the Congress. The morning Masses with Cardinals presiding were inspiring, especially Sunday morning with Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, who was the Pontifical Legate, Pope Francis' personal representative to the Congress. His homily was inspiring and holy asking us to take our struggles and allow the Holy Spirit and our Lord in the form of Holy Communion to help us respond to the call and to express our faith

now in Jesus: His Presence among us.

The National Eucharistic Congress's focus on revitalizing this sense of Eucharistic mission across the United States can draw inspiration from Blessed Miriam Teresa's vision. She saw a personal encounter with Christ in the Eucharist as not something that should remain private or static. Rather, it's powerful source of unity for the entire Church and a profound wellspring of courage to enable one to live a life of active charity, humility and service.

As Catholics gathered in congress to deepen our appreciation of the Eucharist, Blessed Miriam Teresa's writings serve as a timeless reminder that this devotion calls us not just to adore Christ but to imitate Him. The Eucharist is both a mystery to be cherished and a mission to be carried out. By following her example and allowing ourselves to be transformed by the Eucharist, we too, can become beacons of faith, hope, and love in our communities, answering the Congress's call to renew and deepen our connection to this extraordinary gift of grace.

The Congress was a life-changing event for both Carole and me. We were changed in a way that would be difficult to describe.

May our Lord always be your guide for all things.

Blessings,
Deacon Kevin Regan

BLESSED MIRIAM TERESA

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Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, died at the age of 27 leaving us with an enduring legacy. One day Sister Frances Maria Cassidy was cleaning out a filing cabinet, she discovered at the bottom between two hanging folders an envelope marked “save for later”. She went running down the hallway with the contents of the envelope; it was a letter written decades earlier by a woman who believed she had witnessed a true miracle through the intercession of Blessed Miriam Teresa.

The cause for canonization of Blessed Miriam Teresa was authorized in Rome in 1945 and had been searching for decades for a verifiable miracle that could lead to her beatification. In 1970 Barbara Mencer had written to the Miriam Teresa Office, but her letter remained hidden until its discovery in 1998.

The letter related the cure of her son, Michael, who as a young boy suffered from macular degeneration resulting in 20/400 vision. An ophthalmologist who examined him determined that he had a congenital problem. Glasses would not help him. With having vision only out of the sides of his eyes, he struggled in school and in life – even getting hit by a car – so the Sisters

of Charity, the children at the school and the neighbors began praying to Sister Miriam Teresa specifically for Michael that his eyesight might improve.

His third-grade teacher at the time fortuitously happened to be the director of the Miriam Teresa League. One day she sent Michael home with a pamphlet and a round memento containing a relic – a tiny piece of hair from the head of Sister Miriam Teresa – to give to his mother. Michael recalled, “I was trying to look at it, trying to focus, with my peripheral vision I couldn’t get details on it.” He walked home with it clutched in his hand and kept struggling to see it and suddenly everything changed: “I looked up and saw an orb, but it didn’t hurt my eyes – I thought it was the sun – but when I looked back down and moved my finger over it I could see the hair in the memento!”

His mother was cooking dinner and when Michael got home; he came up to her to explain that Sister had given their family the memento and was looking directly at her. She knew immediately that he was healed. When they returned to the doctor, he could not explain the impossible change and simply smiled and said, “somebody has been praying.”

Dr. Mary Mazarella, the medical consultant to the cause, researched all the available medical records including those at the renowned Wills Eye Institute, a famous ophthalmological center in Pennsylvania that treats especially difficult cases. The doctor asked Michael's mother why she brought a child with 20/20 vision to the clinic. The cause initially sought the input of four doctors – two pediatric ophthalmologists and two general physicians – and after consulting with colleagues, medical journals, and other sources, each of them reported that they had no knowledge of anyone ever being cured of macular degeneration.

The report was sent to Rome, where it was examined by the Vatican's Medical Commission for the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Ultimately 19 doctors examined the medical record with all of them declaring it to be medically unexplainable. After the Congregation then determined it was of the singular intercession of Sister Miriam Teresa, the report was sent to Pope Francis, who declared on December 17, 2013, that this was truly a miracle. This set the stage for the next step of sainthood process.

PRAYERS FOR FAVORS

FOR Brain Cancer (2), Cystic Fibrosis, Peace of Mind (6), Sisters of the Holy Family, Conversion (10), Miracle (3), Unborn Babies (2), Cancer (7), Heart Attack, Mental Health (2), Healing for Family (5), Humility, Living Out God's Will, Anxiety Disorder (2), Neurological

Disease (2), Healing of Eyes (3), Marriage, Healing, Protection from Evil, Success in Start Up Business, Family (2), Addiction, Healing from Potts Disease, America, Holiness, Prayers, Loss of Memory, Pope Francis, Special Intention (2), Digestive Tract (feeding tube).

PRAYERS FOR DECEASED



SISTER BARBARA CONROY, SC
SISTER ANNE MARIE MORONEY, SC
SISTER CAROL WILLIAMS, SC
SISTER MARGARET NULTY, SC
SISTER JANE TERESA CULLIGAN, SC
SISTER MARY FALLON, SC
SISTER TERESA REGINA CONFROY, SC
SISTER PATRICIA BEAUMONT, SC
SISTER CLARE MARY RODEN, SC
SR. THERESA KANE, RSM
FR. CONOR EDMUND HARDY
JOHN MICHAEL MARKEL
DAVID RYAN
MARGARET O'HARE
KIMBERLY MAOEL

LOIS SPITALETTO
JOYCE CASSIDY
NORMA LYONS
PEGGY PLATT
ARILSS SAGE
RAUL RAMIREZ
DR. ERNEST E. FEDERICI, M.D.
JOHN DESCHAIINE
CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM
PASCRELL, JR.
PAT DILLMAN
PETER MOORE
FRANCES BROWNLIE
MAURICE SULLIVAN
LORRAINE DELEZENSKI



Prayer for Canonization

Most Holy and Blessed Trinity,
Whom Blessed Miriam Teresa
loved so ardently,
grant that we like her
may become ever more conscious of Your
Divine presence within our souls.
We implore You to continue
to show signs that your Humble servant enjoys
glory with you in Heaven,
and to hasten the day when we may render her
a lasting tribute of our veneration and love.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in
the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

AMEN.





SISTERS OF CHARITY OF SAINT ELIZABETH

BLESSED Miriam Teresa League of Prayer

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Celebrating 165 Years



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