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Council of Catholic Women-Archdiocese of Washington
Virtual Tea & Reflection
Sunday, May 22 at 3:00 p.m.



Mary

“Woman of the Eucharist”

Based on St. John Paul II's Encyclical, *On The Eucharist in its Relationship to the Church*.
We will explore our Blessed Mother's relationship to the Holy Eucharist and how:
Mary guides us to the Eucharist;
Our Lord's presence in the Eucharist can shine through us;
Mary's Magnificat can express our spirituality.

Please join us and share your reflections.



Today's Program

Welcome

Cheryl Holley, President

Meeting Notes

Michelle Dorsey, Online Meeting Manager

Opening Prayer

Shelia Parker

Presentation

Mary, Woman of the Eucharist

Discussions

Closing Remarks

Closing Prayer

Mary Leibolt

Notes for Today's Program

Welcome!

**All participants will be muted once
the program begins.**

**If your name and parish are under
your picture, we can say hi more
easily.**

**If you have any questions, please
write them in CHAT.**

We hope you enjoy your tea!

Opening Prayer

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament

*O Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the
glory of Christians, the joy of the universal church, and the
hope of the world, pray for us.*

*Kindle in all the faithful a lively devotion to the
Most Holy Eucharist
so that they may all be made worthy to receive Holy
Communion every day.*

*V. Pray for us, O Virgin Immaculate,
our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

*R. That the Eucharistic Kingdom of Jesus Christ may come
among us!*

Amen.

In a recent letter printed in Our Lady of Lourdes bulletin, Cardinal Wilton Gregory wrote: “Our Church is currently encountering an enormous challenge that reaches across the entire globe in the wake of the pandemic. We must determine how to best welcome and to urge our people to return to our regular Sunday Eucharist.”

In addition to the pandemic the Church faces the challenge that only 30 percent of Catholics believe that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist.

Now is the time to rediscover in all its richness the profound relationship between the Church and the Holy Eucharist—to energize our faith in Christ present in the Eucharist. For this purpose St. John Paul II wrote in his encyclical on the Eucharist that we cannot neglect Mary, Mother and model of the Church.

Devotion to Mary enhances our adoration of the Holy Trinity; it enhances our adoration of the Holy Eucharist. Mary can guide us toward the Most Blessed Sacrament because Mary has a profound relationship to it. This afternoon we are going to contemplate how Mary’s relationship to the Holy Eucharist can help deepen our relationship to this Blessed Sacrament.

We are going to break into small discussion groups. Each group will consider a specific question and reflection. Following the small group discussions we will come together and share our thoughts and reflections. We will then have an open discussion on the final question.



▶1) How can Mary our Blessed Mother guide us toward the Holy Eucharist? (Chapter 6, #53)

▶References: Redemptoris Mater #21; John 2:5

▶**Reflection:** Mary is our example of true discipleship—always following God’s will with faith, hope, and love. God entrusts us to Mary. As our guide and intercessor, Mary draws us gently to her Son Jesus Christ our Savior who gives us himself in the Holy Eucharist.

▶Mary guides us by example, embracing the way, the truth, and the life of Jesus. As Mary said to the wine servers at the Wedding Feast at Cana, “Do whatever he tells you.” [John 2:5] Christ tells us to eat his body and drink his blood for the sake of our salvation. Therefore, when we accept the Holy Eucharist into our bodies, we also accept Mary’s call to trust and obey her Son without hesitation.



►2) To understand Mary's relationship with the Eucharist, describe her interior disposition. (Chapter 6, #54)

►References: Redemptoris Mater #14; CCC 492

►Reflection: Mary is a “woman of the Eucharist” in her whole life. Without the stain of sin, Mary was pure of heart and mind, body and soul. Unwavering in faith and trust, Mary believed the Word of God would be fulfilled.

►With Mary’s yes at the Annunciation, God entrusted Mary with the Son of Man by way of the Holy Spirit. Within Mary, humanity and divinity united. The Word became flesh through Mary’s body and blood.

►Therefore, our Blessed Mother has a profound relationship with the Eucharist as her relationship with Jesus is Mother to Son. That bond is a forever bond with full faith, hope, and love.



▶3) **Compare Mary's acceptance of Christ in her womb with our acceptance of the Lord's Body and Blood in the Eucharist. (Chapter 6, #55)**

▶**References: Luke 1:38; CCC 506**

▶**Reflection:** Mary accepted Jesus into her body, her womb, with an open, loving heart. From that moment, Mary is forever united with Jesus by way of the Holy Spirit and the power of the Most High. Mary became a conduit for the Holy Trinity to do its work of salvation in the world.

▶When we accept Jesus in the Eucharist into our bodies, we welcome him--Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Within us, humanity and divinity unite. Like Mary, we too can be conduits for the Holy Trinity's work. We do a disservice to the Holy Eucharist if we do not allow its power to augment our bond with the Lord, separate us from sin, and strengthen our charity.



▶4) Describe how you can be a “tabernacle” for Christ. (Chapter 6, #55)

▶References: Luke 1:41-45; CCC 484; CCC 485; CCC 489

▶Reflection: In Church, the tabernacle holds the Holy Eucharist—Jesus is present. By receiving the Holy Eucharist into our bodies, Jesus is present within each of us. Remember, Mary became the first tabernacle, holding the Body and Blood of Jesus within her.

▶Although Jesus was out of sight, he radiated through Mary at the Visitation. There, our Lord shined upon Mary’s cousin Elizabeth and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. May our Lord’s presence shine through us with every person we meet.

**We will now break
into small group
discussions for 15
minutes.**

**Then resume for
Open Discussion**



Final Discussion

▶ **5) Describe how Mary's Magnificat can become a Magnificat that expresses our spirituality? (Chap. 6, #58)**

▶ **References: CCC 494**

▶ **Reflection:** Through him, with him and in him. This is the Eucharistic attitude. The Eucharist has been given to us so that our life, like that of Mary, may become completely a Magnificat.

▶ The gift of the Holy Eucharist increases the gift of the Holy Spirit within our soul. Our soul animates our lives. When we are truly open to our Lord and all of his graces, we proclaim the greatness of the Lord. We have reason to rejoice!

▶ Through the Eucharist, we are given the way to hold Christ within us. By living within us, Christ lives through us. Christ radiated through Mary during her visitation with her cousin Elizabeth and Elizabeth recognized her Savior through Mary. Can we recognize Christ among ourselves and through one another?

▶ Yes the Almighty has done great things for us. He came down from heaven and became man to live among us, to heal us, and to show us the way to eternal life. He sacrificed himself to conquer sin for our sake. He humbled himself to be present within the tiniest particle of the Holy Eucharist to nourish our soul. He truly fills the hungry with good things. He fills us with himself. He gives us his Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity so that our lives can shine the Lord's light in our world that desperately needs God's love.

Mary's Magnificat

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on
his lowly servant.*

*From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.*

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

*He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.*

*He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.*

*He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.*

*He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered
his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.*

Closing Remarks

Thank you for participating in our May 2022 Tea & Reflection
Mary: Woman of the Eucharist

Please join us for CCW-ADW's nightly Rosary call at 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week.
Call 605-468-8016, access code 357090#

To learn more about the council and how you and/or your parish can get involved,

Email us: archdiocesecw@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WashACCW>

Website: <https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com>

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Real Presence: What Does It Mean and Why Does It Matter?

The Archdiocesan Office of Family Life is co-sponsoring a virtual spiritual series for women with the Council of Catholic Women, exploring the mystery of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We will be using the book and discussion guide: *Real Presence: What Does It Mean and Why Does It Matter?* by Timothy P. O'Malley, published by Ave Maria Press

Hybrid sessions on Wednesday evenings: May 25, June 1 and June 8, 2022, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. ET, June 15, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. ET All in-person meetings will be held at: St. Matthias Catholic Church 9475 Annapolis Rd, Lanham, MD 20706

Hybrid sessions, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

MAY 25: Obstacles to Real Presence

JUNE 1: Real Presence in Scriptures and in the Fathers

JUNE 8: Eucharistic Devotion and Real Presence

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. JUNE 15: In-person final meeting: adoration, dinner, conclusion and reflections

Register online at <https://realpresenceseries.eventbrite.com> The fee for all sessions is \$15.00, which includes dinner.

Participants are responsible for getting their own book through the following link:

www.avemariapress.com/products/real-presence or by calling (800) 282-1865. **For more information, contact the Office of Family Life at 301-853-4546 or visiblesign@adw.org**

The Council of Catholic Women- Archdiocese of Washington

Invites all Catholic women to join us for the
CCW-ADW “2022 Meet and Greet”



Come and share your interests and how we can work together to make it happen!!

Saturday, June 25, 2022

10:00 a.m. Opening Prayer & Welcoming

11:00 a.m. Complimentary Brunch

1:00 p.m. Closing Mass

Optional Garden Tour after Mass

Franciscan Monastery

1400 Quincy St., N.E., Washington, DC 20017

Reserve your seat at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com

Closing Prayer

*Heavenly Father, increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son
Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.*

*We are obliged to adore Him, to give Him thanks and to make
reparation for sins.*

We need your peace in our hearts and among nations.

We need conversion from our sins and the mercy of Your forgiveness.

*May we obtain this through prayer and our union with the
Eucharistic Lord.*

*Please send down the Holy Spirit upon all peoples to give them the
love, courage, strength and willingness to respond to the invitation to
Eucharistic Adoration.*

*We beseech You to spread Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed
Sacrament in parishes around the world.*

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Help us to spread the glory of Your Son through Perpetual Adoration

St. Pope John Paul II