

# Eucharist Jesus With Us



**A new catechetical and adult formation tool for your parish!**

On the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, June 10, 2004, Pope John Paul II announced the Year of the Eucharist (October 2004 - October 2005). To assist in this Church renewal, St. Anthony Messenger Press will publish *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*, a new monthly, 12-issue, 4-page newsletter series by Father Thomas Richstatter, O.F.M., S.T.D. Father Tom is a sacramental theologian who teaches at Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana.

*Eucharist: Jesus With Us* will be published from March 2005 to February 2006. The first issue will be delivered to subscribers early in Lent (February) 2005. This newsletter series offers a basic nuts-and-bolts explanation of the Eucharist/Mass. Pope Paul VI promulgated the current New Order of the Mass in 1969. Yet many Catholics of every age group still do not understand the meaning of the basic parts of the “new” rite, the history of the Eucharist and the roots of the Mass. St. Anthony Messenger Press understands the real need for contemporary catechesis on the Mass. *Eucharist: Jesus With Us* will fill that need.

## *Eucharist: Jesus With Us* Overview of the Series

The 12 issues of *Eucharist: Jesus With Us* will explore every aspect of the sacrament. The key to understanding the Eucharist, says Father Tom, is to balance three metaphors: “A good way to describe the Mass is to say that it is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday made present today in ritual. It is not merely a meal which reminds us of the Last Supper, or a Passion play which helps recall Good Friday, or a sunrise service which celebrates the Lord’s Resurrection. It is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.”

Father Tom’s new series will focus on the basic fourfold shape of the Mass: gathering, storytelling, meal sharing and commissioning.

## Topics of the 12 issues:

**March 2005**

### **Toward the Mystery**

Father Tom introduces the series by discussing our conscious and unconscious ideas about the Eucharist.

**April 2005**

### **The First and Greatest Sacrament**

“Each of the other sacraments is an aspect of the central, primal, eucharistic mystery. Liturgically, the Eucharist is the model of all the sacraments.”

**May 2005**

### **The Community Gathers**

Coming together or assembling is at the heart of our Sunday worship. In this issue, Father Tom explains the Gathering Rite.

**June 2005**

### **Do This in Memory of Me**

Father Tom explores the storytelling part of the Mass, what we more commonly know as the Liturgy of the Word.

**July 2005**

### **The Lord’s Supper**

After the readings, we move to the table. The next three issues explain meal sharing. In this issue, we focus on the Preparation of the gifts and explore the metaphor of Holy Thursday.

**August 2005**

### **Our Greatest and Best Prayer**

The Eucharistic Prayer is the center of the Mass and the heart of our faith. Father Tom helps us understand the richness of the Eucharistic Prayer.

**September 2005**

### **Communion With the Lord and the Church**

In this final issue on meal sharing, we focus on elements of the Communion Rite.

**October 2005**

### **Source and Summit of Catholic Life**

This issue brings us to the fourth part of the Mass: commissioning. We are sent forth to be the Body of Christ in the world.

November 2005

### The Sacrifice of Good Friday

Father Tom shares the metaphor of Good Friday and the relationship between meal and sacrifice.

December 2005

### Presence of the Risen Lord

Father Tom explores the final metaphor of the Eucharist: Easter Sunday.

January 2006

### A Short History

We offer a brief history of the Mass including its Jewish roots, the Last Supper, the Mass of Thomas Aquinas, the Council of Trent, the liturgical movement and Vatican II.

February 2006

### Beyond the Mass

Father Tom writes about eucharistic devotions and practices: Communion for the sick, adoration, reservation, viaticum and 40 hours devotion.

EVERY ISSUE ALSO INCLUDES:

### Living Bread

Explores the stories of contemporary Catholics who are answering the call to be the Body of Christ for others.

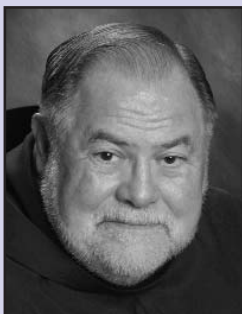
### Did You Know?

Looks at different cultural celebrations of the Mass around the world, fascinating tidbits about key people and moments in the history of the Eucharist, and the reasons behind some of the changes in the Mass over time.

### Question Corner

Offers questions for reflection and discussion.

All issues will have the *imprimatur* of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.



REV. THOMAS RICHSTATTER, O.F.M., S.T.D., has a doctorate in liturgy and sacramental theology from the Institut Catholique of Paris. A popular writer and lecturer, Father Richstatter teaches courses on the sacraments at Saint Meinrad School of Theology in Indiana. He is the author of numerous *Catholic Updates*, including *A Walk Through the Mass*, which has sold more than one million copies.

# Eucharist: Jesus With Us Questions and Answers

**Q.** What is *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** *Eucharist: Jesus With Us* is a 12-month, 4-page (11" x 17" folded to 8 1/2" x 11") publication to help Catholics understand the Mass and celebrate the Year of the Eucharist with the Church.

**Q.** What is contained in each issue of *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** Each issue contains a major article to help readers understand the Mass. In addition, each issue includes these helps:

- **Living Bread:** Explores the stories of contemporary Catholics who are answering the call to be the Body of Christ for others.
- **Did You Know?** Looks at different cultural celebrations of the Mass around the world, information about key people and moments in the history of the Eucharist, and the reasons behind changes in the Mass over time.
- **Question Box:** Offers questions for reflection and discussion.

**Q.** When will I receive *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** The first issue (dated March 2005) will be mailed in February. We will mail 11 more issues in the following 11 months. The series ends in early 2006.

**Q.** Who will benefit from *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** *Eucharist: Jesus With Us* is written for the average Catholic and is especially suitable for parish-wide distribution. It will help all Catholics, old and young, understand the Mass. It is also a wonderful resource for new Catholics and people entering the RCIA.

**Q.** What is the cost of *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** Inexpensively priced for distribution to groups large and small, a single subscription is only \$13.00. Bulk subscriptions are available for as little as 12 cents a copy. See the next page for complete pricing information.

**Q.** Can I purchase extra copies of *Eucharist: Jesus With Us*?

**A.** All back issues will be available for ongoing parish teaching and ministry needs, including small groups.