



Church of the Sacred Heart

Founded 1878

**76 Broad Street
Bloomfield, NJ 07003**

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May 16, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, June 23rd we are holding our first Eucharistic Procession from Sacred Heart in Bloomfield, to the Cathedral Basilica in Newark. On the insistence of our laity, whose hearts are inflamed with the desire to spread Eucharistic devotion, we have petitioned His Eminence, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, CSsR, and been granted permission to have a Eucharistic Procession. On the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 23 at 2pm (leaving from 76 Broad Street in Bloomfield) to approximately 4PM (ending at 89 Ridge Street, Newark). In an age of divisiveness, and polemics this is a reminder that we must all be united by the “source and summit of Christian Life” found in the Holy Eucharist.

We would like to invite your participation and accompaniment of the Most Holy Blessed Sacrament in this solemn procession. We will have one escort from the Essex County Sheriff's office along the route, and have received support from the local Knights of Columbus for their assistance and accompaniment. Because this is our first annual (hopefully) procession, we have no idea how to estimate the number of participants. In order to give a good estimate to law enforcement personnel, we need to know an approximate number of individuals who will be attending from your parish/school or Catholic group. If you are interested in participating, please send me an email with your name, parish information. You can send me the information to either my email address or fax number listed below.

We will begin at approximately 2pm, after the Novena to the Sacred Heart at 1:45 from 76 Broad Street, Bloomfield NJ, Fr. Sasin, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in Newark has agreed to allow pilgrims to seek rest and facilities use of his parish which is halfway down the procession route. We anticipate arrival of the group at the Cathedral Basilica at or before 4PM, at which point we will be observing solemn Benediction. The procession will occupy the sidewalk of Bloomfield Avenue and then continue south on Ridge Street to the Cathedral Basilica. All those we encounter along this 3.3 mile route will have the opportunity to adore the Lord and witness the public profession and beauty of our Catholic faith.

All parishes, parish schools, organizations within parishes and Catholic ministries are invited to carry a banner in the Eucharistic Procession. Please carefully review the information below regarding acceptable banner design and display.

Guidelines to follow when creating your Banner

- At a minimum, banners should include the name of your parish or organization.
- Banners should be made using a lightweight material, given that heavy cloth will risk making the banner too heavy to carry for the full route of the procession.
- As you design your banner, remember that many people will be seeing it from a distance and in order to make it readable, it should feature large lettering.

•The **message and any imagery in your banner** MUST be in keeping with the teaching of the Catholic Church. Banners should NOT include a political message, an endorsement of an individual, or otherwise include a message not respectful of Gospel values.*

•Please remember to take your banner and stand with you when you leave at the conclusion of the Assembly!

**Planners of the Eucharistic Procession reserve the right to reject any banner that endorses an individual or otherwise is contrary to Church teaching or the spirit of the event.*

As this is a solemn procession of our Blessed Sacrament, all are welcome to come and walk with us. No musical instruments, nor amplification of any kind can be used, the Sacred Heart Choirs will be leading the singing of traditional Eucharistic procession songs for the duration of the route. Music booklets will be available from the route's beginning, mid and end points. In order that we have enough of these booklets, please let us know a ballpark number of attendees.

Yours in Christ,

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