

**Task Team**  
**Priority: Eucharistic Life**

**Our Vision**

To live a Christ-centered fellowship, on fire with the love of God and neighbor, to see individuals, families, parishes, and our schools working together to build up the Kingdom of God in West Tennessee.

**Our Mission**

*Living the anointed life in Word and Sacrament.*

**Priority**

**Eucharistic Life:** Living a life of prayer, worship, and thanksgiving, and celebrating the Sacraments of Christ with reverence and fervor, born of the Holy Spirit's presence within us.

**Suggested Ideas**

**Action Step #1:** Include time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in all educational functions of the diocese (e.g. R.C.I.A., Sacramental preparation, religious education, Catholic schools, adult faith formation, etc.).

It is one thing to teach people—children and adults alike—about the Eucharist and quite another to bring them into a Personal Encounter with Our Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist. Most often, the most important places of Encounter are the “hard to reach” places: those places in our lives that we keep hidden in the shadows of our hearts through shame. Those places within our hearts are of the greatest importance precisely because they are the places within us that are most in need of Personal Transformation through Jesus. If our educational initiatives fail to draw students into that Personal Encounter—a Personal Encounter that welcomes Our Eucharistic Lord into those “hard to reach” places—then we have failed. Thus, given that the Most Holy Eucharist is “the Source and Summit of our Faith,” all of our educational initiatives should be ordered around promoting that Personal Encounter. It is strongly encouraged that time should be set aside on a regular basis in our Diocese to bring students into the Real Presence of the Lord (in the Tabernacle when Exposition is unavailable) and to proactively invite students to welcome our Lord into those places in their lives and in their heart, especially those “hard to reach” places where they find it hard to discuss with their family members or friends.

**Accountability:** Faith Formation Office

**Timeline:** Either with the new semester (January 2025) or new academic year (August 2025)

**Cost:** \$0

**Action Step #2:** Form a group of well-trained liturgists, cantors, and musicians at the diocesan level, that can travel to parishes in the diocese from two to four times per year to host a beautiful Mass, Holy Hour, and/or other Liturgy (e.g. Vespers).

To quote Pope Benedict XVI: “The liturgy is inherently linked to beauty: it is *veritatis splendor* (the splendor of truth).” Many of our faithful have not been exposed to the rich treasury of liturgical beauty within the Deposit of our Faith. This extends to sacred music that has moved souls to Christ since time immemorial: Gregorian Chant and Polyphony. At the heart of all of these liturgical expressions is Our Eucharistic Lord, as the Eucharist is indeed “the Source and Summit of Our Faith.”

As our Diocese accompanies her faithful through this Eucharistic Revival—seeking to stir greater devotion and reverence for the Eucharist—the Church has with this proposal a golden opportunity to draw her faithful into a renewed romance with God, by and through the language of liturgical beauty. It is our hope that parishes will gather with great excitement to experience these expressions of liturgical beauty with the same joy and anticipation that a bride might experience as she awaits her wedding day.

It will be a labor of love for the clergy and laity who come together to make this proposal possible—a labor of love for our Eucharistic Lord and His Bride. And we hope that, by their efforts, they will enkindle anew a fire of love for our Eucharistic Lord, just as the Eucharistic Revival seeks to accomplish.

**Accountability:** Office of Worship

**Timeline:** Group could be organized and ready for its first liturgy by Lent/Easter 2025

**Cost:** Stipend for priest or deacon (\$150 per liturgy), singers (volunteer), director and other musicians (\$150/liturgy), travel expenses, programs, candles, and other miscellaneous items. It is difficult to estimate accurately the cost for each liturgy, but \$1,500-\$2,000 should cover it. We believe that a generous benefactor(s) would be willing to cover the cost of such a worthy effort.

**Action Step #3:** Schedule a date for the next Diocesan Eucharistic Congress and assemble a team to begin planning it.