



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival



Interview with MaryJo Majors

Blessings to you all! My name is Mary Jo Majors and I have the privilege of serving at both the St John the Baptist parish in Johnstown as well as the St Nicholas parish in Platteville.

What has your experience been with the Eucharist?

I was raised on a farm in Ohio with 5 brothers and 4 sisters. Our parents were strong Catholics and as a family we said the rosary every night, the little ones often falling asleep on their knees and being carried off to bed, one by one, by dad.

My grandfather on my mother's side was also one of 10 children – 5 boys and 5 girls. His 5 sisters all joined a convent (2 joined the Franciscan order and 3 joined the Ursuline order). Three of his brothers were ordained priests and his 4th brother took his vows as a Benedictine monk at the St Anselm's Abbey in Washington, DC. Needless to say, there was a whole lot of praying going on in our family.

Mom and Dad worked hard to pay the tuition for all 10 of us to graduate from 12 years of Catholic schooling. Unfortunately, several of us strayed away from the Church and our faith after leaving home and getting married. However, when I would return home to visit with my family, I always attended Mass with them but did not receive the Sacraments. I will admit there was sadness, and sometimes tears, when remaining in my seat while they received Communion.

It took many, many years to find my way back to the Church and my faith. I am most certain that my parents, and all those great aunts and uncles, played a big part in my return. I'm sure their prayers were powerful and many.

Do you have a favorite Eucharistic miracle?

I believe the greatest Eucharistic miracle happens at each Mass with the consecration of the bread and wine. What also brings great joy to my heart is a prayer by Saint Therese that I say each time I receive communion:

How sweet it is, the first kiss of Jesus to my soul. Yes, it is a kiss of love. I feel I am loved, and I too say: "I love Thee, I give myself to Thee forever!" Jesus asks nothing of me, demands no sacrifice. Already for a long time past, He and I have watched and understood each other. This day our meeting is no longer a simple look but a fusion. No longer are we two, I have disappeared as the drop of water which loses itself in the depths of the ocean. Jesus alone remains: the Master, the King.

I deeply regret all those years I failed to act according to my faith, and I feel a great remorse for the time I did not make Jesus the center of my life. I'm ever so grateful, and thankful, that the dear Lord has granted me extended years in my life so that I may reform my ways and rebuild my relationship with Him. I want desperately to spend each day growing my love and devotion for the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, hear our prayers.