

His splendor, and we do not even so much as cast down our eyes, but rudely stare and gaze around! The Angels bow down to the earth, and we will not bend our knee! The Angels, full of awe, fold their hands upon their breasts, and we allow ourselves every freedom of attitude and movement! Oh, what a subject of confusion! What humiliating reflections! What an impressive lesson!

It is Jesus our Saviour who remains enclosed in the tabernacle, and who is lifted on high in the monstrance. It is the true Eternal God whom we receive in Communion. We must show by our works that we believe this.

We are bound at least to avoid offending our Divine Lord and dishonoring Him to His face. We are bound, when about to receive Holy Communion, carefully to prepare ourselves by a good Confession and thus avoid the dreadful peril of receiving Him in a state of mortal sin. We are bound to lay aside all unbecoming attire and scandalous behavior, especially in the House of God, and to be modest, reverent, and humble in attitude and deportment. We ought to regard all our members as in some way consecrated by Jesus Christ, whom we so often receive, or at least to whom we visit in the Church.

One day He will throw off His disguise and appear in His heavenly might and splendor. Oh, how happy will they be then who have kept Him company in His humiliation! They will not be confounded, but will "stand before Him with great constancy." They will "see His face" and rejoice forevermore.

(Excerpts from: The Blessed Eucharist, Our Greatest Treasure;
by Fr. Michael Müller, C.S.S.R.)

history of the Church. Not only did religious form an honor guard before the King of kings, but lay congregations of the Blessed Sacrament also sprung up all over Europe.

Today in our advanced space age with all its technological know-how, we have reverted to mass extermination of peoples and nations, through concentration camps run by the most ruthless atheistic political powers the world has ever seen, two world wars, abortion, along with the present day threat of nuclear holocaust. The corruption of our youth for material gain continues, while unchecked gang wars and juvenile suicide soars. Within the Church it seems we may be experiencing the mass apostasy predicted in Scripture for the latter days. Though one hesitates to bring up such negative aspects of our times, it is necessary to do so to get at the root problem, in order to supply a solution.

Few thinking Christians would deny that we are experiencing a general crisis in Faith. But somehow among most Catholics, the connection with this general crisis to a diminution of faith in the Real Presence hasn't been made. Yet, it is there. We have heard or experienced personally of cases where the Blessed Sacrament was kept in a filing cabinet, or the Precious Blood left over from mass was taken to the sacristy to add "more wine." And we know that vast numbers of our Catholic youth are not properly instructed in the Church's teaching on the Real Presence. Step into many Catholic churches today and observe the congregation, the positioning of the tabernacle, etc.; can one say that all the liturgical directives on proper reverence to the Eucharist coming from Rome are being properly followed? Yet, without exception, all of the recent popes have encouraged and pleaded for greater love and reverence to Christ's Presence in the Blessed Sacrament!