

Day 29. The 5th day of Novena Consecration to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Day 29 = The 5th day of Novena Consecration

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament

✚ In the name of the Father, Elohim, Elohim, Elohim, our Abba, and of the Son Jesus, our Yehoshua-ah-ah-ah, and of the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, Ruach Hako'desh, Amen.

🙏 Let us pray

"And I—whisper in Your ear: 'Jesus, I—lay at Your feet the adoration, the subjection of the whole human family; I—place in Your Heart the "I love You" of all; on Your lips I—impress my/and our kiss in order to seal the kiss of all generations; I—clasp You with my/and our arms in order to clasp You with the arms of all, to bring You the glory of all the works of all souls. (DW Prayer Book)

🗣️ My composed Prayer

🎵 Song 29  
The bread of life

YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/lvD0XJzOWQ4?si=q-YkjDGSPvkv7u2z>

Novena Prayer: Day 5

"O Jesus, my Eucharistic Lord and King, I love You, I adore You, I worship You, and I desire to consecrate myself totally to You in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Lord, You know all the ways I hide from You and all the ways I try to satisfy my hungry heart with things that don't truly satisfy. But most of all, You know the deepest desire of my heart is to console You in the best way possible by becoming one of Your great Eucharistic saints. Therefore, through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux and St. Augustine, I ask You, Jesus, for the gifts of faith and hope, and I beg You, to prepare my hungry heart to be totally Yours on this most special day. Amen."

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Today, I want to finish the story I began yesterday about the battle between the starvation diet, the fast-food gospel, and the Heavenly Banquet option. My sadness about the last roll, Tyler, one of the members of our youth ministry group, without losing a beat, replied, “Fr. Rich, there are no last rolls in Heaven!” Yes! That’s it. Brilliant. Right in that moment of sadness, when pleasure was coming to an end and I desired more, Tyler invited me to think about the Heavenly Banquet option. Rather than say “no” and stare at the empty plate of the starvation diet or say “yes” and give in to the fast-food gospel, Tyler invited me to say “wait” and treat the pleasures of this world as appetizers of the endless joy of Heaven, where there are no last rolls!

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Could I rejoice in the food I just ate? Yes, of course. Appetizers are delicious. But was I supposed to treat this appetizer as the actual Banquet Meal that my hungry heart is made for? Definitely not. That would only lead to confusion and overindulgence.

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

Instead, I could turn the desires of my hungry heart for “more” in life into a hopeful prayer of longing for Heaven. Rather than give into despair, I could lift up the empty plate of my hungry heart in hope for a taste of the satisfying Banquet Meal of Heaven. That’s the “appetizer approach” to life.

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

To succeed in living out this “appetizer approach”, we need to undergo another “conversion of mind to a sacramental vision of the world.” As mentioned on Day 2, the more we intentionally choose to live with this sacramental vision of the world, the more we will discover not only clues of Jesus’ immediate presence in our life but also appetizers that allow us to truly taste the future joys of Heaven.

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 How so? Well, since a sacrament is a sign and “a sign always signifies something,

points to something real beyond itself," a sacramental vision of the world means that everything good and beautiful in creation signifies and points to everything good and beautiful in Heaven. And on an even deeper level, living with a sacramental vision of the world means that we get to actually participate in the very life of God now on earth. Amazing, isn't it!?

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 What are some of the best appetizers that Jesus has given you throughout your life?

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Think about the moments in your life in which you experienced something truly good (like seeing an amazing act of charity), or something truly beautiful (like gazing down from a mountain top) or something delightful (like eating ice cream on a hot summer day). If you're only able to make the connection now between these past experiences and the current spiritual perspective that these events were meant to serve as appetizers to sustain you in hope for the Banquet Meal of Heaven, that's great! Often, we can only connect the dots going backward in the story of our lives.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 See how many appetizers you can discover before tomorrow's reflection and record them.

🧠 My Meditative Response

Day 30. The 6th day of Novena Consecration to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Day 30 = The 6th day of Novena Consecration

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament

✝️ In the name of the Father, Elohim, Elohim, Elohim, our Abba, and of the Son Jesus, our Yehoshua-ah-ah-ah, and of the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, Ruach Hako'desh, Amen.

🙏 Let us pray

"My/and our beloved Jesus, I—love You, but my/and our love is small, So I—love You in Your love, to make it big. I—want to adore You with Your adorations, I—want to pray in Your prayers, I—want to thank You in Your thanksgivings. Jesus, I—abandon myself to You I—give You full dominion. You, Jesus, do not abandon me/and us as I—am a nothing, and as nothing I—cannot be without You who are my all. Take care of everything." (DW Prayer Book)

🧠 My composed Prayer

🎵 Song 30  
O saving Victim

YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/g6LL-dWIDnw?si=Ac5cY2F2DwZJRxeF>

Novena Prayer: Day 6

"O Jesus, my Eucharistic Lord and King, I love You, I adore You, I worship You, and I desire to consecrate myself totally to You in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Lord, You know all the ways I hide from You and all the ways I try to satisfy my hungry heart with things that don't truly satisfy. But most of all, You know the deepest desire of

my heart is to console You in the best way possible by becoming one of Your great Eucharistic saints. Therefore, through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux and St. Augustine, I ask You, Jesus, for the gifts of faith and hope, and I beg You, to prepare my hungry heart to be totally Yours on this most special day. Amen.”

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 We have reflected upon how we are called to lift up the empty plate of our hungry hearts to Heaven in hope for fulfillment. And, while we wait, sometimes Jesus sends down a heavenly appetizer to sustain us in hope for our journey to the Banquet Meal of Heaven. Today, I want to clarify that choosing the Heavenly Banquet option and pursuing the appetizer approach to life will be one of the most difficult and challenging tests of hope we can ever face in life. But, if we persevere and give it our best effort, it will also be one of the most rewarding and enriching adventures ever.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Christopher West writes: Think about it: if “the banquet”–infinite satisfaction of our desire in God–is real, then there’s no need to repress desire as the “starvation-diet gospel” would have us do, and there’s no need to reduce desire to addicting, finite pleasures as the “fast-food gospel” would have us do. Rather, if the banquet is real, we can and must learn how to unleash desire so God can fill us full. That’s what the journey of prayer is all about.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Rather than repress or reduce our desires, Jesus is inviting us to unleash our desires by lifting up the empty plate of our hungry hearts in a prayer of longing to Heaven–trusting that He can “fill us full.” And guess where Jesus wants us to hold nothing back in unleashing all our desires for fulfillment?, to Him in the Eucharist Banquet of the Mass.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Christ’s entire mission is to save us from the lie that the satisfaction of our fundamental hunger is up to us. And to what lengths he goes! “You don’t believe in ‘the gift’ of God?” Christ asks. “This is my body given for you.... And his flesh is real food see 📖 John 6:55 “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day”

This is the full-bodied Christian proposal in a nutshell: infinity has become food for

us in order to satisfy our hunger for the infinite.

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 To receive one hundred percent of Jesus in Holy Communion, and experience zero percent of the feelings that we would hope would accompany such an event of receiving God into our bodies, poses to us a great test of hope. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry" 📖 John 6:35 "Then Jesus said to them: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst"

Yet, 99.99 percent of the time, receiving Holy Communion gives us no felt experience of fulfillment. What's the deal? Is there something wrong with us? No.

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 The insight of Peter Kreeft that we usually think that there is something wrong with us when the Eucharist does not register on our feelings. It does not register not because we are making a mistake but because God is not making a mistake. He is training us in [hope], taking His fatherly hand off our two-wheeler bike so that we can learn to move ahead on the wheels of [hope] rather than on the helping hand of feelings.

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 He knows all our weaknesses, so He knows our addiction to feelings, and mercifully refuses to satisfy it. He will not give us a spiritual sweet tooth. Since "hope," in the words of Peter Kreeft, "is faith directed to the future," we are right to believe that God is training us through the Eucharist not only in faith but also in hope—in hope for a future fulfillment that will satisfy every desire of our hungry hearts.

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 In fact, the more we seek Jesus as our "first thing" in life, the more we will recognize our hunger for Him as the only "end" who will truly satisfy us. Remember, God Himself is the object of the theological virtue of hope—not our feelings or experience. That's why Jesus "is training us in hope." Although he might give us "sweet feelings" of hope at certain times in our life, Jesus "will not give us a spiritual sweet tooth." No. He is too good for that. He is "training us in hope" for something greater in life—to become Eucharistic saints!

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 Write down points you want to remember from our this exercise.

💡 My Meditative Response

Day 31. The 7th day of Novena Consecration to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Day 31= The 7th day of Novena Consecration

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament

✝️ In the name of the Father, Elohim, Elohim, Elohim, our Abba, and of the Son Jesus, our Yehoshua-ah-ah-ah, and of the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, Ruach Hako'desh, Amen.

🙏 Let us pray

"Prisoner of love, You are here abandoned and alone, and I——have come to keep You company. And while keeping You company I——intend to: love You for those who offend You, praise You for those who despise You, thank You for those in whom You pour graces, but do not render You the tribute of thanksgiving; console You for those who afflict You, and repair for any offense against You." (DW Prayer Book)

🗣️ My composed Prayer

🎵 Song 31  
O salutaris hostia

YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/ntv3BjxkpGk?si=p4AaegAbJ55yl48a>

Novena Prayer: Day 7

"O Jesus, my Eucharistic Lord and King, I love You, I adore You, I worship You, and I desire to consecrate myself totally to You in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Lord, You know all the ways I try to hide from You, all the ways I try to feed my hungry heart on things that don't truly satisfy, and all the ways I try to fill the God-sized hole in my heart as a consumer. But most of all, You know the deepest desire of my heart is to console You in the best way possible by becoming one of Your great Eucharistic saints. Therefore, through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Augustine,



and St. Faustina, I ask You, Jesus, for the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to prepare my consoling heart to be totally Yours on this most special day. Amen.”

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 One Advent during my homily on the First Sunday of Advent, I literally emptied our parish manger out of all its straw and gave everyone Ziplock bags full of little pieces of straw, with instruction guides outlining the Advent Straw Challenge. Every weekend, in preparation for Christmas, parishioners would have an opportunity to come forward during the Offertory at Mass and place their “straws” in the manger—a “straw” being any intentional act of love that they had performed throughout the week to console Baby Jesus. From difficult things like walking to Mass during a heavy snowfall or fasting from a meal, to easier things like getting out of bed in the morning or smiling at a stranger, the key thing for any “straw” was not necessarily the action you did but rather the intention in doing it. “I don’t want to get out of bed this morning,” a child would say, “but I want a straw to console Baby Jesus, so I’ll do this for Him.”

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 The Advent Straw Challenge was actually a deliberate attempt to fight back against a perennial problem in the world today. Our culture has pushed God to the periphery of modern life, and with Him, our concern for others in a very selfish and consumeristic environment. At times, it can feel like a “spiritual black hole, space that sucks everything into it. Yeah, a black hole, a never-ending and overwhelming desire for more stuff to fill that “God-sized hole” in our hearts.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Even worse, we can often get sucked into this consumer way of thinking in our relationship with Jesus, treating Him like a cosmic Santa in the hope He’ll give us “gifts” if we make His “nice list.”

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 The Advent Straw Challenge was a bold invitation to approach Christmas in a radically different way. Rather than live as “consumers,” the challenge was to live as “consolers.” Providentially, the word “consoler” is derived from the Spanish *con sole* (“with the sun”) – providing clarity for this new approach, in which we choose to

console Jesus with the light and warmth of our loving deeds.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 I was blown away by the response of hundreds of Corpus Christi parishioners, who filled up our parish manger with thousands of “straws” every weekend to console the Christ Child; especially the little children. We can use the same consoling mindset daily through our interior life of Eucharistic devotion.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Think about it. When we prepare to receive Holy Communion, we are preparing the manger of our hearts to receive Baby Jesus. When we have prepared the manger of our hearts well with many “straws” of love, we can provide great consolation to Him.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Today’s invitation is to get a little manger and some straw. Tomorrow, we will use this manger and straw for a challenge—so try your best to get them, even if it’s just a bowl for a manger and paper for straws. Just as the key is a symbol of our seeking hearts and the empty plate a symbol of our hungry hearts, so now the manger is a symbol of our consoling hearts. And thus, the three symbols for our interior life of Eucharistic devotion are now complete. In your relationship with our Lord, are you more like a consumer or a consoler?

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Think about how you approach prayer, for example. Does your prayer life consist mostly in asking God for things?

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Do you give up on prayer if God does not seem to answer your prayers?

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 If the answer is “yes” to either of these questions, you might be approaching Our Lord prayer more as a consumer rather than a consoler. If so, Praise God for an opportunity to change and deepen your relationship with Christ!

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Based upon the life of St. Faustina, what are some ways you might deepen your consoling spirituality?

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 And how might the manger be a symbol for us in our call to “be proactive” in relating to our Eucharistic Lord?

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 What are some straws you could place in the manger of your heart before your next reception of Holy Communion? record your thoughts.

💡 My Meditative Response

Day 32. The 8th day of Novena Consecration to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Day 32 = The 8th day of Novena Consecration

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament

✝ In the name of the Father, Elohim, Elohim, Elohim, our Abba, and of the Son Jesus, our Yehoshua-ah-ah-ah, and of the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, Ruach Hako'desh, Amen.

🙏 Let us pray

"In a word, I—intend to do for You all that souls are obliged to do for You, for having remained in the Most Holy Sacrament. And I—intend to repeat this for as many drops of water, for as many fish and grains of sand as are in the sea." (DW Prayer Book)

🗣️ My composed Prayer

🎵 Song 32  
Pia Jesu

YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/7twC9aSHQMU?si=NJb92Zr5gHAZKneF>

Novena Prayer: Day 8

"O Jesus, my Eucharistic Lord and King, I love You, I adore You, I worship You, and I desire to consecrate myself totally to You in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Lord, You know all the ways I try to hide from You, all the ways I try to feed my hungry heart on things that don't truly satisfy, and all the ways I try to fill the God-sized hole in my heart as a consumer. But most of all, You know the deepest desire of my heart is to console You in the best way possible by becoming one of Your great Eucharistic saints. Therefore, through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Augustine, and St. Faustina, I ask You, Jesus, for the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to prepare my consoling heart to be totally Yours on this most special day. Amen."

## 🧠 1 My Meditative Response

👉 One of my favourite straws, is praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This prayer was given by Our Lord to St. Faustina to pray “unceasingly.” Vinny Flynn, states the Chaplet is like a ‘Mini-Mass: an extension of the Eucharist to each moment.’ We are offering Christ Himself – His entire humanity together with His Divine Person, and simultaneously uniting ourselves with Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross two thousand years ago, with His Eucharistic presence now in all the tabernacles of the world, and with His eternal presence in Heaven, where He perpetually offers His once-for-all sacrifice to the Father.

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 For us who desire to consecrate ourselves totally to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy can be a very practical and powerful way to console Our Eucharistic Lord on a daily basis. By offering up the “Mini-Mass” of the Chaplet, we are choosing to “be proactive” to intercede for the salvation of souls and this act of love consoles Our Lord greatly

📖 Matt. 18:14 “Even so, it is not the will before your Father, who is in heaven, that one of these little ones should be lost”

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Pray at least one Chaplet of Divine Mercy with the intention to console Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Visualize placing another straw in the manger of your heart to prepare for your next reception of Holy Communion.

## 🧠 My Meditative Response

Day 33 The 9th day of Novena Consecration to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Day 33 = The 9th day of Novena Consecration

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament

✝ In the name of the Father, Elohim, Elohim, Elohim, our Abba, and of the Son Jesus, our Yehoshua-ah-ah-ah, and of the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, Ruach Hako'desh, Amen.

🙏 Let us pray

"Jesus, my/and our Love, in Your Will I——find all generations; and in the name of the whole human family, I——adore You, I——kiss You, I——repair You for all. I——give Your wounds and Your Blood to all, so that all may find their salvation. And if the lost souls can no longer benefit from Your Most Holy Blood, nor love You, I——take It in their place, in order to do what they should have done. I——do not want Your love to remain defrauded in anything on the part of souls. I——want to compensate, repair You, love You for all, from the first to the last man.' (DW Prayer Book)

🧠 My composed Prayer

🎵 Song 33  
Take and eat

YouTube link:

[https://youtu.be/9DQT3ytbeT4?si=qgfNGt\\_G8oWcPcZ5](https://youtu.be/9DQT3ytbeT4?si=qgfNGt_G8oWcPcZ5)

Novena Prayer: Day 9

"O Jesus, my Eucharistic Lord and King, I love You, I adore You, I worship You, and I desire to consecrate myself totally to You in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Lord, You know all the ways I try to hide from You, all the ways I try to feed my hungry heart on things that don't truly satisfy, and all the ways I try to fill the God-sized hole in my heart as a consumer. But most of all, You know the deepest desire of my heart

is to console You in the best way possible by becoming one of Your great Eucharistic saints. Therefore, through the intercession of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Augustine, and St. Faustina, I ask You, Jesus, for the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to prepare my consoling heart to be totally Yours on this most special day. Amen.”

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 I was inspired to hear how children’s excitement to come to Mass every Sunday grew, so that they could place all their straw in the manger to show their love for Baby Jesus. Since the Eucharist is the “summit of the Christian life,” we are right in imitating these little ones’ excitement and making our reception of Holy Communion the most important event of our day.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 In a certain way, everything we do prepares us for our next reception of Holy Communion. That is what it means to live a life of Eucharistic devotion. To prepare a nice and cozy bed for Jesus in Holy Communion, here are five “straws” I desire to get every morning before Mass and the reasons why I think they console Jesus:

1. Getting out of bed immediately – to console Jesus for everyone who is not grateful for the gift of another day.
2. Taking a cold shower – to console Jesus’ Sacred Heart, which is burning out of love for us and is pained at those who do not love Him in return.
3. Genuflecting every time I pass in front of Our Eucharistic Lord – to console Jesus for everyone who does not acknowledge His Eucharistic Presence.
4. Praying with the Scripture readings of the day – to console Jesus for the pain He feels towards everyone who does not read and pray with Sacred Scripture, which is His daily love letter to us.
5. Asking Mary to give me her Immaculate Heart before I receive Holy Communion – to console Jesus for all the times I have so unworthily received Him in the Eucharist.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 By intentionally choosing to fill up the manger of my heart with “straws” to prepare a comfortable bed for Jesus, my mornings have been filled with a new sense of purpose and excitement to receive Jesus in Holy Communion. Some days, I feel like a five-year-old awaiting Christmas morning because receiving Jesus, “wrapped” under the appearance of bread, is the best present anyone could request.

🧠 My Meditative Response

👉 Write down points you want to remember from this exercise

💡 My Meditative Response

👉 To help prepare for tomorrow's special day, today's bonus challenge is to try to get as many "straws" as possible before you consecrate yourself to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Remember, "straws" can be small things, like pausing right now to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy or big things like fasting from a meal. Whatever it might be, the key thing for any straw is that it's an intentional act of love done to console Jesus – to prepare a nice and cozy bed for Him when He arrives at Holy Communion. You might not perform these sacrificial acts normally, but the idea of consoling Jesus –enables you to do so. Write down the "straws" you placed in the manger of your heart

💡 My Meditative Response