

Announcing a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in 2025

Fostering Eucharistic Encounters across the Country and Celebrating the Graces of the National Eucharistic Revival

Washington, D.C., October 9, 2024 —The National Eucharistic Congress, Inc. invites the Church to come together once again for another National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the summer of 2025. The response from the people of God throughout the 2024 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage was overwhelmingly positive, and the desire for ongoing Eucharistic encounters across our nation was evident.

The 2025 Pilgrimage will kick off in the heart of Indianapolis, where our nation gathered for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in July, and journey west to Los Angeles, CA, over six weeks. Our pilgrims will be walking the Drexel Route 2025 under the guidance and protection of St. Katharine Drexel, who will be the route's patroness. This Pilgrimage will celebrate the conclusion of the National Eucharistic Revival, continuing the healing work our Lord has begun in our nation during this three-year movement.

“We must not cease the work of revival that Christ began on the Cross, to draw every heart to his Eucharistic heart,” said Jason Shanks, President of the National Eucharistic Congress, Inc. “We are called to respond to this greatest act of charity, the salvation of souls, and answer his invitation to participate in this saving work. This Pilgrimage is a reminder of your baptismal call to commit yourself once again to the mystical body of Christ, uniting yourself to his Eucharistic heart and drawing all souls to him.”

- The Pilgrimage will begin on Sunday, May 18, 2025, following a Mass of Thanksgiving on Pentecost Sunday in Indianapolis.
- The Drexel Route will cover the southwestern states before reaching Los Angeles for the Feast of Corpus Christi.
- The Pilgrimage will have multiple stops, including the Tomb of Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun in Wichita and the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City.
- Eight young adults, guided by two chaplains, will serve as Perpetual Pilgrims who will accompany the Blessed Sacrament throughout the route.
- The Perpetual Pilgrims will partake in weekly service projects to serve local communities.

- In Los Angeles, the National Eucharistic Congress, Inc. will host an event to conclude the Pilgrimage and celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ with a citywide Eucharistic procession.

Sr. Sophia Grace with the Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R., when reflecting on “the one thing necessary” that Jesus reveals in Scripture, had this to say about the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage: “Jesus might not be walking through every street or even every state, but he is walking across our nation, and he is bringing his light, and as he walks, this light is fanning out behind him. We might not be able to see it right now, but grace is being poured out on our country as never before, and hearts are being changed, healed, and reignited! And those who encounter Jesus or participate in the Pilgrimage are hopefully witnessing that *nothing matters more than worshiping him.*”

Applications are now available for those interested in serving as Perpetual Pilgrims and are due by Friday, November 1, 2024. As with the 2024 Pilgrimage, events associated with the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be open to the public, and all are invited to participate in this prayerful moment. There will be a series of Eucharistic events, including daily Mass, Eucharistic adoration, witness talks, and panels about the Eucharist. Day pilgrims will have the opportunity to join segments of the procession and will be able to register with their local diocese. More detailed information will be shared in early 2025. Further information about the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage can be found at eucharisticpilgrimage.org.

Maria Benes, Director of Pilgrimages, and Joel Stepanek, Vice President of Programming and Administration, are available for comment. To schedule an interview, contact us at media@eucharisticcongress.org.