



The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila

121 Arzobispo Street, Intramuros

P. O. Box 132

Manila, Philippines

Dear Brothers in Christ,

August 8, 1988

A priest is one who leads, not only by the sincerity of his words, but, especially by the witness of his example. When the people see their priest in silent prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the priest speaks more eloquently to them on the importance of faith than all the homilies ever given.

The most compelling sermon a priest can give to inspire people to commit their lives to Jesus, Our Lord, is one not delivered from the exalted position of the pulpit, but rather one that comes from the humble disposition of a priest in prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

A priest in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament tells the world that Jesus is really there, and that it is Jesus Himself who is the real Pastor of the parish, the Good Shepherd and the Divine Physician of every soul. Jesus Himself sets the example of the need for personal prayer as we read in the gospel how often He spent the whole night in prayerful communion with His Heavenly Father. Through this holy hour book entitled "Come to Me in the Blessed Sacrament", I pray that the beloved priests of my Archdiocese learn to appreciate more and more the love and consolation that awaits them in the Blessed Sacrament.

This is my birthday gift to all of the beloved priests of my Archdiocese, with a fervent prayer that it helps each one develop a true Eucharistic Spirituality.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the parish priests in the Archdiocese who have established perpetual Eucharistic adoration in their parishes, where there is permanent exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7 days a week, twenty-four hours a day. There are over seventy parishes in the Archdiocese that have already established perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.

To know that Jesus is being loved, honored and adored every moment of every day and night in each of these parishes is the consolation of my pastoral ministry and the cause of my optimism for a better and brighter future for our Church and for our country.

My birthday wish, my fervent prayer, indeed, my appeal is that every Church open its door to the Redeemer, Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, so that soon there will be perpetual Eucharistic adoration in all of the parishes of the Archdiocese.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ Jaime Cardinal Sin
JAIME L. CARDINAL SIN
Archbishop of Manila