

# *A Call to* Pray & Fast FOR OUR BISHOPS

JANUARY 2-8, 2019

*Our US Catholic bishops will gather for a historic seven-day spiritual retreat at Mundelein Seminary in suburban Chicago.*

**W**hile our Bishops are in prayer we are calling all Catholics to intercessory prayer and fasting so their time spent on retreat will be truly guided by the Holy Spirit. As we pray and fast let us contemplate that reparation is needed and in humbling ourselves before Jesus truly present, body blood soul and divinity in the Eucharist, we *ask*, we *seek* and we *knock* at the door of His Divine Mercy.

At Fatima, Our Lady addressed the power of prayer and fasting in a very particular way as she encouraged the child visionaries to offer sacrifice in reparation for the sins of the world. In response, all three visionaries, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, took her message to heart and practiced fasting and prayer at a heroic level. Saint Jacinta, one of the three visionary children at Fatima said this shortly before she died, *"If men only knew what eternity is, how they would make all possible efforts to amend their lives ... mortification and sacrifice give great pleasure to Our Divine Lord."* Amazing words from a 10 year old!

**FASTING** is an ancient spiritual practice that helps us detach ourselves from certain desires or vices and awaken a deeper desire for God in our lives. Prayer and fasting help us to live a truly Christian life and draw closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Both are essential in the spiritual battle our Church is facing so we invite all the faithful to participate in this life giving call-to-action.



To coincide with the Bishops' retreat, Marytown, Relevant Radio and the *Saint John Paul II Eucharistic Adoration Association* have teamed up and invite the faithful to spend time in Eucharistic Adoration at Marytown from **January 2-8, 2019** or at your Parish Adoration Chapel.

Spend time adoring Jesus and praying for our Bishops in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Marytown's chapel is open for adoration 24/7. To plan Adoration time visit [www.KolbeShrine.org](http://www.KolbeShrine.org) and check the Marytown chapel schedule, as the normal liturgy schedule will be honored during this time.

**TO SIGN UP FOR ADORATION TIME VISIT:**  
[www.kolbeshrine.org/pray-fast-for-our-bishops](http://www.kolbeshrine.org/pray-fast-for-our-bishops)



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