NOVENA TO <u>SAINT JOHN PAUL II</u>

DAY 9 – THE EUCHARIST

The Eucharist is the greatest gift and miracle because the mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ—the redemption of mankind—is made present in it.

The Church lives thanks to the Eucharist. This truth expresses not only the daily experience of faith but contains in itself the essence of the mystery of the Church. In many different ways the Church joyfully experiences the promise that is endlessly realized: "And behold I am with you always, until the end of the world." (Mt 28, 20). Thanks to the most holy Eucharist, in which occurs the transubstantiation of bread and wine into the Body and blood of Our Lord, the Church rejoices in this presence in a very special way.

The Church received the Eucharist from Christ, her Lord, as the greatest gift because it is a gift from His very Self, from His own Person in His holy humanity, as well as a gift of His redemptive act. It is not limited to the past since "He who is Christ, what He did and what He suffered for all of humanity, participates in the eternity of God, transcends all times and is constantly present in them"

Once again, I want to remind you of this truth, dear brothers and sisters, adoring this mystery with you: a great mystery, the mystery of mercy. What greater good could Jesus do for us? Truly, love that moves itself "to the very end" (Jn 13:1) – love that reveals itself to us in the Eucharist, love that knows no limits.

John Paul II, Encyclical Ecclesia de Eucharistia April 17, 2003

Let us pray:

God our Father, your Son loved us to the end and remained with us in the Eucharist. May the AMEN that we utter in the presence of the Body and Blood of our Lord dispose us to a humble service to our brothers starving for love. May You be praised in the bright example of this love as demonstrated by your Saint John Paul II, and through his intercession grant us this favor ... Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Litany....

