



14 July 2014

Eucharistic adoration

It fascinated Father Kolbe that Jesus becomes our food in the Blessed Sacrament. He often repeated: “What a fortune for the religious to be able to live with Jesus, under the same roof or very near... the “greatest Brother and Bridegroom of souls, present in the Eucharist!”

He encouraged a true and frequent visit to the Most Blessed Sacrament because “the King of love cannot be honored if not through love.”¹ In 1918, a month after his priestly ordination, he noted: “The love of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is above everything. He is all.”²

Brothers testify that “he showed a very living faith in the Most Holy Sacrament.”³ Father Quirico Pignalberi recalled that he frequented the chapel outside the usual times. “He made very short visits to Jesus in the Sacrament during breaks and between classes.”⁴ He also interrupted his work to go to the chapel and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. A fellow student noted that he “would often find him alone, even in the dark, in a state of devotion...The Blessed Sacrament was for him a true attraction.”

Father Giuseppe Pal, an intimate friend, said that “the love towards Jesus in the sacrament touched the depths of his heart. We can be certain that he visited every hour the Most Blessed Sacrament because before or after every hour of study or recreation he visited Jesus in the Tabernacle, and in the evening was almost always the last one in the chapel...Father Kolbe registered for perpetual Adoration in reparation for the injuries made to the Lord and entreated his companions to do likewise.”⁵ In front of the Eucharist, he strengthened his faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He wrote, “Confide everything to the Lord, thank him, pray to him...Suffer in union with the sufferings of Jesus.”

Friars from **Niepokolanow** said that Father Kolbe “would celebrate with the maximum recollection and emotion.” He often adored the Most Blessed Sacrament and vividly suggested it to his brothers, calling these visits “the audience with the Great King.” About Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, Father Kolbe pointed out: “Here is our strength; here is the font of our sanctification.”

Also in **Nagasaki**, he visited the Most Blessed Sacrament during the day or night. The Japanese were edified by his Eucharistic devotion. The bishop Gennaro Hayasaka affirms: “He had a strong faith in the Holy Eucharist. Usually, before receiving a person to speak with, he meditated in front of the Most Blessed Sacrament.”¹¹

Many more testimonies confirm that Father Maximilian adored Jesus in the Sacrament, from whom he was strengthened for his great missionary life.

Angela *for the community*

¹Conference, October 27 1940.

²Kolbe Writings 987B.

³Pos. p.37: p. Domenico Stella.

⁴Ibi p.62: mons. G. Palatucci.

⁵Pos. p.820: father G. Pal.

⁶Pos. p.497.

⁷Fr. D. Klunejko.