



# NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

## Parish Small Groups Series

**Catch the Fire!**

**Catch the Love!**

**May we live lives transformed by Jesus' love and ready to witness to His love in the world.**

The real spiritual impact of the Church always comes through individuals, through saints. Saints are people like you who, seeking deep conversion, begin to commit themselves to holiness and mission. May our time together, honoring and celebrating the gift of our Eucharistic Lord, lead us to live deeply Eucharistic lives – lives transformed by His love and ready to witness to His love in our world. May many people like you surrender their lives to the Holy Spirit to be offered for the glory of Christ in the Eucharist. May you become His Eucharistic missionaries to our broken world.... Come, Holy Spirit!

The Most Reverend Andrew H. Cozzens, S.T.D., D.D.  
Chairman of the Board, National Eucharistic Congress

### Session 7: "To the Ends of the Earth"

Speakers inspire hope for God's plan in this historic Year of Mission, and explain how to be part of this exciting new chapter.

1. **Opening Prayer:** Pray Psalm 139, from the heart. A sheet with Psalm 139 is downloadable from the website.
2. **Personal Testimony by Colonel Mike Hopkins, Colonel U.S. Space Force**  
Colonel Hopkins received special permission from the Bishop of his Diocese to bring the Body of Christ – Holy Communion – in a pyx for his mission on September 16, 2013 to the International Space Station.



3. In listening to Mike Hopkins personal testimony, it is helpful to note **What Makes a Good Story?** Most of us tell stories in our daily lives. Stories make it easier to remember something that is important.
  
4. Now we want to identify key moments and themes of our personal story with God. Read through the handout entitled **“My Story with God: Charting My Story with God on a Timeline.** Each of us has a personal story with God. Each life is a drama, a journey, with many chapters. The story of your life may seem confusing at times, but God has always been present, even if sometimes obscured, like the Sun hidden behind clouds. It’s your life story, written by you and the Divine Co-Author, God, Who called you into existence, by name. God has been with you on every page of your story, from the first moment of your life, whether you knew it or not. Your story is absolutely unique, and it is still in the process of being written, even this very day.  
If you can identify key moments and themes in your story with God, it can help and encourage you and those with whom God may call you to share it.
  
5. **Draw a timeline of your story**, using the reverse side of the handout from number 4, which is labeled **“My Story with God” Timeline.** Indicate key moments or “chapters,” and noting how they related to God.  
Identify 3 of the moments or chapters that were/are especially key to your story (positively or negatively).
  
6. **Tell your story to one other person** in 5 – 8 minutes and then listen to them tell their story to you (men with men, women with women). Each person is to give a couple of minutes of feedback on what struck them in listening to their partner.
  
7. **Summarize what the entire group just did - the importance of telling our Story with God.**
  
8. **Closing Prayer in church (if convenient)**  
“Holy Spirit, come! Lead us to all truth. Grant us a faith that is not afraid to be bold. Enkindle in us a flame of hope that sets our hearts ablaze with love for You. Father, in the Name of Jesus, we ask that You would raise up saints, prophets, and martyrs to meet the needs of our day, and may we be numbered among them. Amen.”

If you would like to re-watch Colonel Mike Hopkins personal testimony , visit <https://diolc.org/eucharist/parishioners>. Click the **Video: July 21 Revival Session**. Move the timer at the bottom of the screen with your mouse to **30:39**, and then click the arrow to begin, and then click on the arrow to stop with the words “God saw everything that He had made and it was very good. Thank you” at **42:50**.

