

Eucharistic Congress Frequently Asked Questions

[What is the Eucharistic Congress?](#)

[Where does the idea for a Eucharistic Congress come from?](#)

[Who is allowed to take part in the procession?](#)

[What if it rains?](#)

[What services will be offered to the handicapped?](#)

[What age children will be able to participate in the Kid Track?](#)

[What is being done to provide a secure environment for the children?](#)

[Will there be a Mass at the Eucharistic Congress?](#)

[Where can I park?](#)

[What does it cost?](#)

[Will food be served?](#)

Q.What is the Eucharistic Congress?

A:

The Eucharistic Congress is a teaching and worship event that is centered on the Eucharist, the source and summit of Catholic life. The Congress begins Friday evening, September 25, 2009, with a program of Sacred Music at the Charlotte Convention Center. After the program, the Eucharist will be available for adoration throughout the night at the St. Peter Catholic Church at 501 South Tryon Street in Charlotte.

The events of Saturday, September 26, 2009, begin at 9 :00 am with the Eucharistic Procession forming at St. Peter Church on South Tryon St. Congress attendees are asked to position themselves along the Procession Route and to join the procession behind the Church banners.

Programs, or "Tracks," are designed for different audiences: General, Hispanic, Children and Teens. During the day, the Eucharist will be available for adoration in a special chapel in the Convention Center. Priests will be available for confessions all day and there will be an area for vendors selling religious merchandise and offering information about Catholic schools, vocations, etc.

The Congress concludes with a Vigil Mass that begins at 4:30 p.m.

[Top](#)

Q: Where does the idea for a Eucharistic Congress come from?

A:

The first Eucharistic Congress was held in Lille in France in 1881 under the direction of Msgr. Gaston De Se`gue. In time the congresses developed to their present international character. The congress of 1908, which met in London, was the first occasion on which a representative of the pope entered England since the Reformation. Two international Eucharistic Congresses were held in the United States -- Chicago in 1926 and Philadelphia in 1976.

[Top](#)

Eucharistic Congress Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who is allowed to take part in the procession?

A:

Everyone. Leading the procession will be altar servers, sodalities like the Knights of Columbus and the clergy and then, most importantly the Eucharist. Following the Eucharist will be banner carriers representing churches, schools and organizations in the Diocese. The faithful are invited to join the procession as the banner for their church or organization passes.

[Top](#)

Q: What if it rains?

A:

The Eucharistic Congress will be held rain or shine. The procession may be moved into the Convention Center depending on the weather.

[Top](#)

Q: What services will be offered to the handicapped?

A:

The Charlotte Convention Center is handicapped accessible. For those who are hearing impaired a sign language interpreter will sign all joint services in Hall A as well as the General Track speakers in Hall A. Seating in the front rows will be reserved for the hearing impaired.

[Top](#)

Q: What age children will be able to participate in the Kid Track?

A:

Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to participate in the Kid Track.

All children in the Children's Track must be registered. Registration will be available online at www.GoEucharist.com. Seating in the Children's Track will be limited. Children in the kid track will be involved in age-appropriate activities and will be served lunch.

[Top](#)

Q: What is being done to provide a secure environment for the children?

A:

The Diocese of Charlotte is committed to "The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" as adopted by the U.S. bishops. All adult volunteers at the Congress who will have supervisory contact with children will be required to attend the

Eucharistic Congress Frequently Asked Questions

diocesan training, "Protecting God's Children." Background checks will also be performed on any adult having supervisory contact with children.

[Top](#)

Q: Will there be a Mass at the Eucharistic Congress?

A:

Yes. A Sunday, Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 pm on Saturday afternoon.

[Top](#)

Q: Where can I park?

A: The uptown area of Charlotte offers ample weekend parking. Visit the Congress website www.GoEucharist.com for details

[Top](#)

Q: What does it cost?

A:

There is no charge for any of the events associated with the Eucharistic Congress. Everyone who desires a closer relationship to the Eucharist is encouraged to attend and participate.

It costs approximately \$30 per person to provide the event. The Diocese of Charlotte is accepting contributions to defray this cost. Checks made payable to The Diocese of Charlotte Eucharistic Congress can be mailed to: 1123 South Church St., Charlotte, NC 28203

[Top](#)

Q: Will food be served?

A:

The Charlotte Convention Center will offer a variety of foods for sale throughout the day Lunch will be provided for the youth attending the Children's Track, Middle School Track and the High School Track at no charge.

[Top](#)