



Interview with Chuck Portz

My name is Chuck Portz. I have 2 daughters and 4 granddaughters. I moved to the Milliken-Johnstown area in 2003. I attended Mass in the old Church and now in the current St. John.

What has your experience been with the Eucharist?

My main reason to go to Mass is to participate in the liturgy and receive the Body and Blood of Christ. I have been an altar server since I was 10 years old in Nebraska when the Mass was in Latin, and I am as happy to serve now as I was then. As a helper I feel very blessed to be close to the altar during the consecration because it is a miracle that bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! I thank God for the Eucharist because it is the bread of Life, the Body of Christ.

I attend the Eucharist out of gratitude. I am thankful that I am still around and that God saved me when I was a child. When I was 2 or 3 years old, I had whooping cough. My mother told me that to save my life, the doctor gave me goat milk and kerosene. I don't know that this combination would have tasted good, but I am sure glad that the Lord saved me from dying. Thanks be to God! I am grateful that I get to participate in the Mass, which is a thanksgiving celebration. I remember the miracles that God has done in my life and I thank Him for them when I go to Mass.

If I have problems, I know that I can speak with God and He will help me. That puts me at ease and I can be calm regardless of what the problem is. After I receive Communion, I feel like woohoo; it's a good day no matter what. I used to go to Adoration a lot but not as much now. However, because of the testimonies in other interviews, I think I will go back to Adoration. Also I believe that we should say the Apostles' Creed and the Rosary when we receive Communion because both prayers speak about the life of Christ.

Do you have a favorite Eucharistic miracle?

My favorite Eucharistic miracle is the one when Jesus fed the crowd of 5,000 with the 5 loaves of bread and 2 fisher it is my favorite because it reminds me that Jesus is still feeding us today in the Eucharist. Just as He saved them from starving then, Christ can do anything for us now. Glory be to God.