

**Committee of recommendation for
an Eucharistic Congress in 2014:**

- Mgr. Sebastiano Corsanego,
director of the international illustrated magazine
'Confraternite Oggi', Rome;
- Mgr. J.G.M. van Burgsteden, s.s.s.,
episcopal delegate of national
Eucharistic congresses;
- Zr. Immaculata Franken OSBap,
prioress Benedictines of the Holy Sacrament;
- Dr. M.A.M.E Gielis, church historian,
Faculty of Catholic Theology,
University of Tilburg.

750 years Corpus Christi

1264 - 2014



Collegium Sancti Sacramenti Niervaertensis
Catharinastraat 45
4811 XE Breda – Netherlands
www.niervaertgilde.nl



Loving God,

We pray You: send us Your Spirit and make us into a people, which does right for justice; make life, love and well-being greater and stronger than war, hunger, sickness and death; and let us be people who work together with many of good will to transform this world to Your city of peace, where all suffering is suffered and all our evil has been forgiven. Strengthen our hope and enlarge our love. Kindle in us the fire of Your Spirit. Amen.

“Freely derived from the communion-epiclesis”

As from approximately the third quarter of the 12th century an until then unprecedented prosperity of spiritual life in Western Europe began, with the Southern Netherlands as a concentration area, of which especially women were the bearers. Many women chose for the monastic life or a life as a Beguine. In Flanders and Brabant, for this time very urbanised regions and moreover prosperous, numerous foundations took place from which monastic and Beguine communities originated..

These women formed an environment in which Eucharistic piety took an important place and from which the Augustinian nun Juliana of Cornillon originated. At the beginning of the thirteenth century she was charged in a vision with the task to introduce a new feast for the Church, a Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ: Corpus Christi. With the assistance of equally devoted theologians Juliana worked for ten years to write the liturgy for this newly created feast, the words as well as the hymns.

After the archdeacon Jacobus Pantaleon of the de Diocese Liège had been elected as pope Urbanus IV, he declared Corpus Christi as Feast for the Universal Church. He subsequently asked Thomas of Aquino to write the text and the hymns for the Feast's liturgy.

In 2014 it will be 750 years ago that pope Urbanus IV proclaimed the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ with the bull 'Transiturus the hoc mundo' for the Universal Church.

It is a great desire of the Guild of the Holy Sacrament of Niervaert that this jubilee will be combined with an Eucharistic Congress.

Source: Dr. C.M.A. Caspers 1992: 'De Eucharistische vroomheid en het feest van Sacramentsdag in de Nederlanden tijdens de late middeleeuwen.' p. 36 ff