

The second gathering was at Avignon, in 1882, and the third at Liege, in the following year. When from the 9th to the 13th of September, 1885, the fourth congress met at Fribourg in Switzerland, under the presidency of the famous Msgr. Mermillod, Bishop of Lausanne and Geneva, his influence and example drew to the platform members of the Cantonal Government, officials of the municipality of Fribourg, officers of the army, judges of the courts, while thousands of Catholics from all over Europe joined in the formal procession. Toulouse, in the south of France, was the place of meeting of the fifth congress from the 20th to the 25th of June, 1886, and about 1,500 ecclesiastics and 30,000 laymen were present at the closing exercises.

The sixth congress met in Paris, July 2-6, 1888, and the great memorial church of the Sacred Heart on Montmartre was the centre of the proceedings. Antwerp, in Belgium, entertained the next congress, August 15-21, 1890; an immense altar of repose was erected in the Place de Meir, and it was estimated that 150,000 persons were gathered about it when Cardinal Goossens, Archbishop of Mechlin, gave the solemn Benediction. Bishop Doutreloux of Liege, was then president of the permanent committee for the organization of Eucharistic Congresses, the body which has charge of the details of these meetings.

Special importance was attached to the eighth congress, which went to Jerusalem to hold its sessions from the 14th to the 21st of May 1893. Pope Leo XIII. sent as delegate, Cardinal Langenieux, Archbishop of Reims. Here the reunion of the Orient was advocated, and an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was preached on the very spot where tradition says the Agony in the Garden took place. Next year the congress was held at Reims, July 25-29, and the different churches of the East were largely represented. A place was given in the deliberations for the first time to the study of social questions affecting the working classes.

Paray-le-Monial, the city of the Sacred Heart, September 20-24, 1897, was the scene of the tenth congress; and the eleventh, the best organized and most numerously