

The Emperor of Austria and the International Eucharistic Congress of Vienna



THIS Majesty the Emperor of Austria, Apostolic King of Hungary, has made known through Mgr. Nagl, Prince-Archbishop of Vienna, to the committee of preparatory organization of the coming Eucharistic Congress convoked at Vienna, that he takes upon himself the patronage of this grand international Catholic manifestation.

This is an act worthy of Ferdinand II, Ferdinand III, and Leopold I, Emperors of the House of Austria. It does great honor to the aged Sovereign whose name of Francis Joseph recalls one of the religious manifestations of his grand-father, Leopold I, making a vow to the Blessed Virgin to give the name of her spouse to the first born Archduke. This Emperor, already married a third time, had not yet a male heir. In consequence of this vow the Archduke Joseph was born, July 26, 1678. He was elected King of the Romans, January 24, 1690, and proclaimed Emperor under the name of Joseph, May 5, 1705.

Since that vow the name of Joseph has always been borne by one or several princes of the Most Serene Archducal House, of which an entire branch bears to-day the title of "Branch Josephine." It comes down from the Archduke Joseph of Austria-Tuscany, Palatine of Hungary, younger brother of the Emperor Francis II of Germany, Francis I of Austria, a branch which resides in Hungary.

The Emperor Francis Joseph's act is one of homage to the Divine Eucharist. From his tenderest youth he loved to take part in public manifestations in honor of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Every year he piously joined

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