

PERPETUAL ADORATION NEWSLETTER

Congratulations to St. John the Apostle Church for maintaining a Parish Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration chapel which on the 8th of December will have celebrated 26 years of continuous 24 hours a day, 7 days a week adoration of our Lord in the Eucharist!

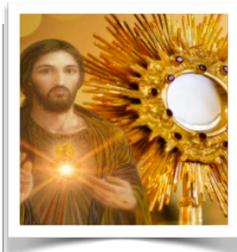
Pope John Paul II

Pope John Paul II started Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the Vatican in 1981. He spent an hour of adoration each day, prostrate before the Holy Eucharist.

More Quotes:

"When I came to the adoration, I felt within my soul that I had entered the Temple of the living God, whose majesty is great and incomprehensible. And he made known to me what even the purest spirits are in His sight. Although I saw nothing externally, God's presence pervaded me. At that very moment, my intellect was strangely illumined." (St. Faustina Kowalska, Diary, 135)

"When you adore the Blessed Sacrament consider yourself the representative of the whole human race with Jesus... That He may give strength to the weak, light to those who live in darkness. That souls may flee from sin, that sinners repent, that those consecrated to God be filled with zeal and holiness." (Blessed Father Giacomo Alberione)



Catechesis on the Real Presence

In Father Mauro's catechesis on the Real Presence, he references quotes on Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration from Pope John Paul II, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and other saints to illustrate the importance of prayer. He affirms that we are fortunate to have the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel; it is a grace for each one of us.

First, he encourages us to have a relationship with God as a person, an intimacy with Jesus Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament. From the words of Mother Teresa, *"The best time you will spend on earth is the time you spend with your best Friend, Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament"* (St. Teresa of Calcutta). At the same time, spending time with the Blessed Sacrament allows us to recharge. He refers to Pope John Paul II, *"Visit the Lord in that 'heart to heart' contact that is Eucharistic Adoration Day after day, you will receive new energy to help you bring comfort to the suffering and peace to the world."* (St. Pope John Paul II)

Second, Fr. Mauro quotes Mother Teresa, *"The doctor (in Russia) came to me (Mother Teresa) and said: 'What's happening in my hospital? Doctor, you know that is happening. After 70 years Jesus came to this hospital... There, in that little chapel, He is living. He is loving. He has brought His joy and peace'... He said, 'Oh'... He couldn't believe that great change came with us and the Blessed Sacrament"* (St. Mother Teresa to priests in Rome, Oct. 1984). Fr. Mauro stated that we all have a history of wounds, and imparted to us that we need to go to the Lord. Only God is our ultimate Healer.

Third, based on a Benedictine monk's journal, In Sinu Jesu – When Heart Speaks to Heart, the message of Jesus said, *"It is no little thing for a poor human creature of Mine to prefer My Eucharistic love to an hour of sleep in the night... By nocturnal adoration you will obtain from My Heart things which cannot be obtained from Me in any other way"* (In Sinu Jesu, Nov. 12, 2012, Imprimatur). Fr. Mauro explained that praying in the middle of the night, when it is most silent, is when Jesus speaks to us in silence. From a Benedictine monk, *"Listen to Me. It is in silence that I speak to souls. Those who flee silence will never hear My voice... It is in silence that the Holy Spirit descends... I love those who follow Me into the silence of My Eucharistic presence."* (In Sinu Jesu, May 17, 2012, Imprimatur).

At the end of his catechesis, through the quote of Saint Dominic Savio, he asked, "Do you want many graces? Go and visit the Blessed Sacrament often. Do you want few graces? Visit the Blessed Sacrament rarely. Do you want none at all? Then never pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament." Finally, he calls all of us to visit the adoration chapel to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

What is Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration ?

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament "offers the opportunity to the people of God for prayerful reflection on their call to a deeper devotion to the Holy Eucharist and a more faithful living of the Christian life. It provides them with an opportunity to become more aware of Christ's presence with His people and invites them to a spiritual communion with Him." (Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist)

25th Anniversary Eucharistic Celebration



Last year, we celebrated our 25th Anniversary with a Eucharistic Mass on December 12, 2021, the Third Sunday of Advent. Fr. Joseph Meagher, who was the Parochial Vicar for 13 years, and Fr. Luke Tran, who served for 12 years, concelebrated the Mass together. Fr. Luke delivered a heartfelt homily, speaking about how the Adoration Chapel had touched his own life. Being himself called to conversion, he shared that he prayed in the chapel for 10 years so his parents would receive the Sacrament of Baptism before they passed away. He became a witness of the Holy Spirit when God enabled him to baptize both his parents. He attested that the real joy is to accept what God gave us, and share with others what we have.

At the end of the Mass, Chantal Lamberti, Overall Coordinator, and Barbara Malandro, Division Leader, presented Michelle Krystofik with 25 red roses thanking her for starting the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel with Monsignor McGuinness. Michelle described the planning and excitement of initially setting up the chapel. They decided on the date of December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mother Mary, and asked that Our Lady be patroness of the adoration chapel. She described the daunting task of sorting all the adorers and coverage of the hours. However, she was happy to see that the adoration chapel is just as beautiful as it was when it first started, simple with Jesus as the centerpiece and focus. She described that the chapel is going so smoothly because of the support of our Pastor, Fr. Mauro, our faithful adorers, coordinators, and maintenance crew. She said adorers enjoy the amazing benefits of the chapel with the real presence of Jesus touching their hearts. She further highlighted that the benefits were that people in the chapel praying were there to intercede for others, including everyone at St. John the Apostle Church.

Before the final prayer, Fr. Joseph Meagher spoke about the difference between showing up and signing up, comparing it to the difference between being engaged versus being married. He described how a man, after visiting the chapel, was changed in that he was able to deal with the challenges of his daily life, which led him to a change of heart. Fr. Joe also noticed that after the chapel opened, more and more people came to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He equated that the time spent for the holy hour is like making an investment, and sets a precedent for future adorers. He blessed in a special way all the regular adorers. He encouraged all to keep persevering in the Lord. Fr. Joe explained that this adoration chapel is a lay ministry which depends on lay people in order to keep the chapel open.

Finally, Deacon Mike, Moderator of the Adoration Chapel, invited all to partake in a delicious lunch that was offered to celebrate the 25th Anniversary. To watch the 25th Anniversary, 3rd Sunday of Advent online Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6yDwOO-DGU>

For more information or to serve as an adorer,
please visit our website or contact Overall Coordinator, Chantal Lamberti at 908-265-6667.