

Perpetual Adoration Newsletter

ST. JOHN THE
APOSTLE CHURCH



A Reflection on Eucharistic Adoration

Perhaps you have heard the story told about St. John Vianney. He often saw a farmer sitting in the back of the parish church. He noticed that the farmer would spend long periods of time there before the Eucharist. One day the saint asked him what he did during his time of adoration. The farmer simply responded, "I look at Him and He looks at me." This is what Eucharistic Adoration is all about. We focus exclusively on Jesus Christ present before us and He looks upon us with love. We are in a continuous exchange of love.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote in "Sacramentum Cartatis," #66: "As Saint Augustine put it: "nemo autem illam carnem manducat, nisi prius adoraverit; peccemus non adorando – no one eats that flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it." (191) In the Eucharist, the Son of God comes to meet us and desires to become one with us; eucharistic adoration is simply the natural consequence of the eucharistic celebration, which is itself the Church's supreme act of adoration. Receiving the Eucharist means adoring him whom we receive. Only in this way do we become one with him, and are given, as it were, a foretaste of the beauty of the heavenly liturgy. The act of adoration outside Mass prolongs and intensifies all that takes place during the liturgical celebration itself. Indeed, "only in adoration can a profound and genuine reception mature. And it is precisely this personal encounter with the Lord that then strengthens the social mission contained in the Eucharist, which seeks to break down not only the walls that separate the Lord and ourselves, but also and especially the walls that separate us from one another."

This is why the Church encourages everyone to spend time in weekly adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. One of the fruits of adoration is that through our encounter with the Eucharistic Lord, we increase our charity to our neighbor. Further, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament allows us to experience a fuller communion with Jesus and with others in our life, as stated above.

From my own experience, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament changes the focus from self to the other, specifically to the needs of others. How so you may ask? The encounter with Jesus Christ changes you. In this personal encounter with our Eucharistic Lord, one is led to conversion. Jesus reveals the condition of our hearts to us and invites us to seek Him in His mercy. We thank Jesus for this great gift of Eucharistic adoration.

Deacon Mike, Chapel Moderator

For more information or to serve as an adorer, please visit our website
<http://www.sjanj.net/pea>
 or contact Overall Coordinator, Chantal Lamberti at 908-265-6667



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2023 Year-at-a-glance



Sacred Heart Eucharistic Rosary Congress began and ended with Holy Mass, including Exposition, Benediction, and 24 hours of recitation of the Holy Rosary and litanies and prayers to the Sacred Heart on June 16-17, 2023.



We welcomed in the New Year 2024 with a 12-hour Eucharistic Vigil on the Feast Day of Mary Mother of God on January 1, 2024

Upcoming Events



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit
 Corpus Christi weekend
 June 1st & 2nd, 2024
 at St. John the Apostle Church



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Congress

July 17-21, 2024

INDIANAPOLIS, IN



Personal Witness to the Messages of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Medjugorje
 (reported apparitions since June 24, 1981 - awaiting approval from the Catholic Church)
 by Barbara Malandro



January 25, 2024, Monthly Message to the World through the Visionary Marija Lunetti
 "Dear Children, Let this time be a time of Prayer."

For me, it all started in the spring of 1978. I was in spiritual turmoil and my mother suggested I make a novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. I attended it every Monday night right here at St. John's. I enjoyed it so that I attended it for 9 months instead of 9 weeks. I asked Our Lady for two things: First, that I come to know, love, and adore Her Divine Son. I always loved Our Lady from childhood, but I was not so close to Jesus. Secondly, that I get a job with an airline if it were God's will. I wasn't able, at that time, to get a job in Speech Therapy, which is what my degree is in. Within six months, I was offered a job with Delta Airlines in New York City. I started my 30 yr. Career there in May 1979. By that fall, I came back to the sacraments and joined a prayer group led by Jimmy Mellito, my friend's father. He was an influence in my finding Jesus and reading the Sacred Scriptures.

I started to travel as the perks are great when you work for an airline. I was blessed to go to many beautiful spiritual places (including approved Marian apparitions), as well as wonderful sites in this country and throughout the world.

My mother read about Medjugorje in the Liguorian magazine in 1986. I went to speak with Fr. Philip Bronk at St. Joseph's shrine in Sterling, N.J. He had been there and advised me to go. I then was guided by my doctor, (Elissa Santoro) in January 1987, to go there as she had been chosen as one of the American Doctors to go there and examine the visionaries during their ecstasy. She said they put instruments into their shoulders that would cause anyone a great deal of pain. They didn't flinch.

So, I went to Medjugorje in May of 1987 for the first time. I met Fr. Slavko Barbaric (spiritual director for the visionaries at the time, and pastoral care for the pilgrims). Medjugorje is in former Yugoslavia and was under Communistic rule. As a result, the sites of the apparitions moved several times from the first spot, which is called Apparition Hill, to the sacristy in the church, to the rectory, to the choir loft and now to private apparitions wherever the visionaries are. I was standing outside the rectory and Fr. Slavko approached me and asked me if I would come back the next day, with my video camera, (which I was holding), he would let me into the Rectory during the time of the Apparition. He asked me to promise him that when I went home, I would tell people what I saw and heard there. There were about 5 of us in the room in the rectory when some of the visionaries entered. They prayed before a crucifix and then fell to their knees. They were speaking but you couldn't hear them, they were smiling and there was so much joy on their faces. I didn't see anyone or hear anyone, but that event changed my life forever. I felt a sense of purity and holiness in my soul. It wasn't an out of body experience but whoever that was, I was filled with a great sense of joy and peace. When it ended, I just wanted to receive Holy Communion and go with whomever that was. Heaven must be awesome. I don't think anyone would ever want to return to earth.

So, that began my pilgrimages to Medjugorje. I've been blessed to go there many times because of my free flight privileges. Between 1987 and 1989 alone, we went six times. Fr. Slavko had Adoration in the Church every Wednesday and Saturday night. Now they have a chapel that is open daily from 2-6p.m and have Adoration outside, after the evening mass is said, many nights a week. When I returned from Medjugorje in 1988, I said to Msgr. McGuinness, "Our Lady wants Perpetual Adoration." He said to me that it was already in the works, but it takes a long time to approve it. So, as you know, our Perpetual Chapel opened on December 8, 1996.

I first heard the Divine Mercy Chaplet being sung in St. James Church in Medjugorje in 1988. Pope John Paul II later declared the feast day of Divine Mercy to be celebrated the Sunday after Easter.

I was in Medjugorje when their civil war broke out and during the war. She protected that village from any enemy attacks. After the war was over, the area where Medjugorje is, became Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Through many joys, healings, as well as sorrows in my life, Our Heavenly Mother called me to her school of prayer and still does. Our last pilgrimage was October 2023.

There are basically five stones that Our Mother teaches us in Medjugorje.

1. Prayer with the heart: Rosary (All 4 mysteries daily)
2. Holy Eucharist (Receive as often as possible).
3. Holy Bible (Daily)
4. Monthly Confession
5. Eat only bread and water on Wednesdays and Fridays (if you can't fast on bread and water, then do some other form of fasting.)

Our Lady has said many times that prayer and fasting can stop wars.

Certainly, the times that we live in are crucial and can be frightening. She tells us not to be afraid.

December 25, 2023, Monthly message to Marija in Medjugorje

"Dear Children,

I am carrying my Son Jesus to you to fill your hearts with peace, because He is peace. Little children, seek Jesus in the silence of your heart that He be born anew. The world needs Jesus, therefore seek Him through prayer, because He gives Himself daily to each of you."

We, as the parish of St. John the Apostle under the pastorate of Rev. Mauro Primavera, were blessed to have Ivan (one of the visionaries who sees Our Lady daily since June 24, 1981) here in our parish on December 8, 2023. I'm sure that the Queen of Peace blessed each one of us that evening.

For many years, Our Lady has given a message to the world on the 25th of every month. My testimony began with the message from January 25, 2024: "Dear Children, this time is a time of prayer." Please listen to her request.

I promised Fr. Slavko Barbaric in 1987 that I would spread the messages from the Queen of Peace and by God's grace, I will continue to do so. Fr. Slavko, please intercede for us.



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