

IOP Eucharistic Adoration – re-establishing Perpetual Adoration

IOP has been blessed with Eucharistic Adoration for nearly 25 years, starting with a Commencement Mass celebrated by Father Douglas Lawson, OFM 2 August 1995. It was Perpetual Adoration, 24 hours a day, (except during Masses) until 2013, when it became difficult to get adorers between midnight Saturday night and 8am Sunday (Mass). We wish to return to Perpetual Adoration here at IOP.

What is Adoration? The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes the Eucharist as the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord and Our Lord, Jesus, and the Source and Summit of our Faith. The sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation (Penance), Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick, all are connected to The Holy Eucharist. The Holy Eucharist is the hub of all sacraments.

The simplest way to describe Eucharist Adoration is the worship of the Eucharist outside of mass. The Eucharistic Host is displayed in a monstrance on the altar so that all can see and pray in the presence of Christ.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that, “*Adoration* is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the “King of Glory,” respectful silence in the presence of the “ever greater” God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications.” (CCC 2628)

We can show our adoration to God in many ways, but in Eucharistic Adoration, we spend time adoring the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Surprising Things Happen to Eucharist Adorers. Finding time can be difficult, especially at night/early morning. But, Adorers say their time spent with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration provides them with surprising gifts - blessings. Some include:

- development of a sense of awe and wonder being in the presence of our creator
- receiving needed graces from our Lord to navigate thru the challenges in our lives;
- experiencing peace in areas of our lives;
- realizing how fortunate we are as Children of God, and Disciple of Christ;
- wanting to become closer to God in our daily lives; and,
- learning to speak to Him as the eternal, loving, infinitely merciful friend that He is.

And the big surprise: we fall in love just letting Christ love us. That love will define us and allow ourselves to just be ourselves, “I came that they may have life, life in all its fullness.” (John 10:10).

Please consider helping our Parish reestablish Perpetual Adoration by having Adorers from Saturday midnight and 7 am Sunday. We also wish to have two Adorers each evening/early morning hour, 9pm thru 7am, (for safety and security), as well as Substitute Adorers willing to fill-in during those hours - if the need arises.

For further information, please contact Maureen Fiorello, 910-353-0085.

Thank You.

In His Name,
Father Vic