

Dear Parishioners,

A good number of you have been asking for more time of Adoration in our parish. This is pleasing to my ears, as it is very near and dear to my heart. I have always found it fruitful in my spiritual life, so I try my best to encourage it in our parishes.

For those of you who may not know much about Adoration, it takes its inspiration from Scripture passages such as Revelation 7:11 where it says,

"All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

At Adoration the Priest exposes Jesus in the monstrance for everyone to come and adore Him. It is the closest we can get to seeing God face to face here on earth. We all have this desire, as we see it expressed in Psalm 27: 4,

"One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in his temple."

We also take inspiration from Moses meeting God in Exodus 33:11 "The Lord would speak with Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend."; St. John at the Last Supper leaning close to the heart of Christ to hear an answer to his question; and the Lord Jesus pulling back the veil covering over His Divinity for His Apostles to adore Him at the Transfiguration.

Adoration allows us to come face to face with the living God so that we might adore Him, but also that we might hear His voice. We always ought to desire His Presence as in it is immense peace, wisdom for our life, and His love for us which bring us to life, heals us, and strengthens us to go back out into the hardships of the world. This is why Jesus chided Martha, in Luke 10:41-42 "'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her". As Mary sat at the feet of Christ listening to Him, and others sought God's presence in various ways in the Bible, so we do in Adoration.

During this past stricter lockdown we added some new Adoration time on Saturdays from 9am-Noon. It was well attended. People have asked whether we can continue this practice. My answer is "Yes", but with a condition: there must always be someone present if the Lord is exposed in the Monstrance. In other words, we need commitment.

There is someone who has volunteered to organize this Adoration time, and I am willing to commit myself to it, but there has to be enough interest for us to make it a reality. The next two Saturdays will be the litmus test to see if there is enough interest for this to go forward. For those who come, you will find a sheet of paper on the back counter of the church asking for commitment. Please see below.

In Christ,
Fr. Matthew Chojna

