

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FEBRUARY 1, 2008

The following information and guidelines were compiled on January 31, 2008 by Associate Pastor, Fr. Steve Giljum; Liturgy Coordinator, Jan Parker; and the Eucharistic Adoration Committee, after consultation with Bishop Robert Hermann and Fr. William McCumber.

BASIC INFORMATION:

- **Blessing of New Chapel:** All are invited to process to the New Blessed Sacrament Chapel after the 8:00 Mass on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 6th, and join in prayer as we bless this new space. Our expanded schedule of adoration will begin at this time and be ongoing!
- **Schedule for Adoration:** Adoration will be 24 hours a day; Monday morning through Saturday morning. Bishop Hermann strongly encouraged 24 hour adoration. Particulars of the current schedule are given in detail below.
- **Place of Adoration:** Adoration will take place in the new Blessed Sacrament Chapel Monday through Thursday. On Fridays we will continue the practice of Adoration in our Main Chapel from the time after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday until 7:45 on Saturday morning. This allows room for the greater numbers that are currently present on Fridays and it also allows for groups of ICD day school children to participate.
- **All Are Welcome:** We want to emphasize that the Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open to ALL who wish to visit at any time in accord with the hours listed below. Although the parish will set up a schedule, in no way does this limit anyone from coming to pray at any time.
- **Exposition and Reposition:** In the Archdiocese of St. Louis only Priests and Deacons may expose or repose the Blessed Sacrament. Exceptions are made only in the case of great need, and the directives to be followed in those cases are outlined below.
- **Tabernacle:** We have been told there is no need for a tabernacle in our new Blessed Sacrament Chapel, nor is it recommended that we have one. The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed in the tabernacle in the Main Chapel.

- **Catechesis on Eucharistic Adoration:** Bishop Hermann strongly encouraged parish wide catechesis on Adoration. To accommodate his request, information will be made available to the parish at large on an ongoing basis. Speakers on this topic will be scheduled at regular intervals both to educate and unite us regarding our approach to adoration and to remind us of the fruits of this form of prayer. It is important to note that Eucharistic Adoration is never a private devotion. Where even two or three gather for prayer, the celebration of a Sacrament, or a Liturgy, they are always representative of the entire Body of Christ.
- **Number of persons scheduled:** It is strongly recommended that there be two persons scheduled for each hour of adoration. This is not so as to have a “back-up” person. If someone cannot make their hour it is still important to try to find a substitute so as to have two persons present. Only if all means have been exhausted to find a substitute is it allowable to have only one person during that hour.
- **Suspension of Adoration:** After consultation with Bishop Hermann, it was determined that the Blessed Sacrament Chapel is a separate room from the Main Chapel with its own outside entrance, therefore it is not necessary that adoration be suspended when the Main Chapel is being used for a funeral or wedding Mass or even for a special Mass such as a “Christ Renews His Parish” Retreat Mass. However, it was recommended that we suspend adoration during the times of our regularly scheduled daily Masses, including our monthly Respect Life Mass. When the Main Chapel is being used for other events, such as wedding rehearsals, confessions, wedding validations, music rehearsals, Bible study, etc., adoration will continue. For ease of reference in scheduling you can refer to the chart below.
- **Cleaning of the New Chapel:** The Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be cleaned by our regular Chapel Cleaners on Thursday morning after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. This room will be done first so that adoration may resume as soon as possible.

Unscheduled Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament: If by chance there is only one person in the chapel during a scheduled adoration time and it becomes necessary that they leave the chapel, that person should call the phone number posted on the wall near the podium. This number will be answered by one member of a team of Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. This team member will contact a priest or deacon OR will come up immediately to either repose the Blessed Sacrament or to remain in prayer until the next scheduled adorer arrives.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADORERS:

What do I do when I arrive for my hour? Please enter the Blessed Sacrament Chapel from Hanley Rd. You will find the door up a few steps just beyond the side door of the chapel. A handrail will appear soon. If you have trouble with steps you may enter through the side door into the chapel, if it is unlocked.

Please sign in each time you attend, and encourage visitors to sign in as well. Next, it is appropriate to genuflect upon entering the Lord’s presence, if able.

If you have prayer intentions or would like to pray for the prayer intentions of others, you will find a separate red and gold binder with prayer intention requests and blessings received. As to what you do during your hour... you can pray, read, say the rosary, listen, sit, journal, meditate on scripture. You will find what works for you, and you may be amazed at the peace you feel after your hour!

What if I have to use the restroom? The door into the sanctuary will remain unlocked while adoration is taking place should you need to access the restroom at the back of the chapel.

What about a phone? You may want to have your cell phone with you, on silence. Please step outside if you must take or make a call. The phone in the vesting sacristy may also be used in emergency situations.

What happens when there are more adorers than the Blessed Sacrament Chapel can hold? While we hope the expanded schedule will allow for everyone to spread out and find a quiet time that suits them, we realize there may be certain hours, especially at first, when the number of adorers exceeds the capacity of the room. In this instance, those wishing to may go out and pray before the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle of the main chapel.

What do I do if I cannot attend one week? If there are other people who attend at the same time, check that at least two of them will be there. If not, please find a substitute for yourself. If you cannot think of friends or family members to invite to experience the hour, check next with the people on the substitute list, then with regularly scheduled adorers that have said they will also substitute. You can also ask that your captain send out an email to all substitutes to try to find a replacement that way. You will be given your captain's name as we assign them. Please let us know if you are interested in helping.

What if I am the only one present and I cannot wait till the next scheduled person appears? See "Unscheduled Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament" above.

Why is no one scheduled from 6-9 a.m. during the week? Due to our daily Mass schedule in the chapel, exposition is suspended during this time. Our adoration of the Blessed Sacrament flows out of and leads us back to the celebration of the Eucharist. Those signed up for the previous 8:30-9:30 am Friday slot or for the current 9-10 am slots are welcome and encouraged to start adoration as soon as the 8:00 am weekday Mass is over.

If you or your friends would like to sign up for a daytime hour, but have children at home during the day, you may be interested in an adoration playgroup of sorts. If your children are not old enough to attend with you and you are available Mondays or Tuesdays from 9-10 am, call Lise Hippe or Jessica Ramirez. We will be taking turns watching each others children while the other moms do adoration.

Please, no food, drink, or chewing gum in either chapel, unless of medical necessity.

MONDAY - SATURDAY ADORATION SCHEDULE

Please note that the doors to the Main Chapel will be locked each night around 9:00 p.m. as usual by Fr. John. The door to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (on Hanley Road side) will remain unlocked at all times from Monday at 8:45 through Saturday at 7:45 a.m.

Monday at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will take place immediately following the 8:00 Morning Mass, regardless of whether that Mass takes place in the Chapel or the Church.

Tuesday morning at 6:15 a.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the tabernacle of the Main Chapel.

Tuesday at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will take place immediately following the 8:00 Morning Mass, regardless of whether that Mass takes place in the Chapel or the Church.

Wednesday morning at 6:15 a.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the tabernacle of the Main Chapel.

Wednesday at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will take place immediately following the 8:00 Morning Mass, regardless of whether that Mass takes place in the Chapel or the Church.

Thursday morning at 6:15 a.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the tabernacle of the Main Chapel.

Thursday at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will take place immediately after the Church Cleaners have finished cleaning. This is following the 8:00 Morning Mass, regardless of whether that Mass takes place in the Chapel or the Church.

Friday morning at 6:15 a.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the tabernacle of the Main Chapel.

Friday at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the altar of the MAIN CHAPEL will take place immediately following the 8:00 Morning Mass, regardless of whether that Mass takes place in the Chapel or the Church.

Saturday morning at 7:45 a.m.

The Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the tabernacle of the Main Chapel and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel door is locked.

Adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be suspended during these times:

- From the beginning of the 6:30 a.m. Daily Mass until the conclusion of the 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass
- Monthly Respect Life Mass

Adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel will be ongoing during these times:

- Funeral or Memorial Masses
- Weddings, whether within a Mass or not (Wedding parties will obviously not be able to use the Blessed Sacrament Chapel as a “dressing area”)
- “Christ Renews His Parish” Retreat Masses or other “special” Masses
- Wedding Validations
- Confession (unless there is a great need for the use of that room for an additional confession area)
- Stations of the Cross during Lent
- Bible Study
- Rehearsals of any sort
- Special Prayer Services
- Concerts
- Cleaning and Maintenance of Main Chapel
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Of Special Note:

On the second Monday of each Month an Opus Dei Group meets in the Main Chapel for Adoration. During their meeting adoration will be moved to the Main Chapel provided a priest or deacon is available to move the Blessed Sacrament. (Note that this group usually has their own priest with them.) The person scheduled for adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel during this time slot may join adoration in the Main Chapel if they so choose.