

Lent 2018 Opportunity: Try Eucharistic Adoration for 6 weeks!

Stop by the table in the Narthex next weekend, Feb 10-11 after Mass to select an hour & for more information on how to get started.

An Invitation to Eucharistic Adoration – He is Waiting!

A reflection by St. Teresa of Calcutta



and Jesus alone.

Jesus wants me to tell you again...how much love He has for each one of you – beyond all you can imagine. I worry some of you still have not really met Jesus – one to one – you

We may spend time in chapel, but have you seen with the eyes of your soul how He looks at you with love? Do you really know the living Jesus, not from books but from being with Him in your heart? Have you heard the loving words He speaks to you? Ask for grace; He is longing to give it.

Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear Him saying, “I thirst” in the hearts of the poor. Never give up this daily intimate contact with Jesus as the real living person, not just the idea. How can we last even one day without hearing Jesus say, “I love “– impossible! Our soul needs that as much as the body needs to breathe the air. If not, prayer is dead and meditation only thinking.

Jesus wants you each to hear Him speaking in the silence of your heart. Be careful of all that can block that personal contact with the living Jesus. The devil may try to use the hurts of life, and sometimes our own mistakes to make you feel it is impossible that Jesus really loves you, is really cleaving to you. This is a danger for all of us. And so sad, because it is completely opposite of what Jesus is really wanting, waiting to tell you. Not only that He loves you, but even more, He longs for you. He misses you when you don't come close. He thirsts for you.

He loves you always, even when you don't feel worthy. When not accepted by others, even by yourself sometimes; He is the one who always accepts you. My children, you don't have to be different for Jesus to love you. Only believe that you are precious to Him. Bring all you are suffering to His feet: only open your heart to be loved by Him as you are. He will do the rest.

“Have you seen with the eyes of your soul how He looks at you with love?”

“He loves you always, even when you don't feel worthy.”

Over for more...

One Adorer's Journey to Eucharistic Adoration

Francine & Kevin White signed up for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration a few months ago. Francine talked about her experience recently so that it could be shared with others.

Francine's family joined Saint Cecilia Parish nine years ago, arriving without knowing what Eucharistic Adoration (EA) was. During her first few years here, Francine heard and read testimonials offered by regular adorers, gradually gaining an understanding of what EA is. That knowledge, along with some priestly advice to try it out using increasing increments of time (beginning with 5 minutes), gave her the courage to spend some time in EA. She intentionally identified times to stop by the chapel, beginning with the time between dropping her son off for school and attending 9 am Mass on Wednesday mornings. After being faithful to this routine for a while, she began to feel like something was missing if she was unable to spend time in EA regularly. The desire to spend time in the chapel more often began to grow, a desire Francine said was the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

The presentations and practices that were part the Called & Gifted process that Francine participated in two years ago placed the tools of discernment in her spiritual toolbox. Spiritual discernment before the exposed Blessed Sacrament in EA gave Francine the ability to sort things out and release control where needed. In general, she found that EA is where her life begins to make sense. Francine also experienced the power of EA when she chaperoned teens at NCYC and at parish high school retreat. Witnessing the impact of EA on a large group of our parish's youth helped cultivate the desire to spend more private time in Adoration. It also sparked a longing to bring similar "large group" EA opportunities to St. Cecilia.

A few months ago, Francine checked Facebook, discovering a post by another parishioner who said that her family was changing their weekly hour of Adoration to a time that would work better for them. Francine discussed this with her family and they concluded that the time being vacated seemed do-able. These months of weekly time spent before the Blessed Sacrament in Eucharistic Adoration have only increased the spiritual benefits she, Kevin and their children are experiencing.

Since committing to their hour, Francine has also taken on a lead role in the monthly First Friday Encounters (an hour of EA that includes music, reflections, scriptural readings). All her preparation for Encounter takes place in the chapel, before the Blessed Sacrament. She firmly stated, "I can listen to God's prompting in EA, I can think, feel, and sense my direction for ministry here in the church."

One senses that Francine and Kevin are grateful for their hour and for the journey that led them there. They see no reason to change their course. And they hope that others will find the courage for this journey too!

Directions to the Chapel: As you come through the front doors of the Narthex, turn left and go through the first set of double doors; enter the chapel through any doorway on the left side of that hallway.

For more information or to schedule an hour for Eucharistic Adoration contact

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Or visit the parish website:

<http://www.stceciliaparish.org>