



From the Pastor  
11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in  
Ordinary Time - A  
June 18, 2023

**DO YOU REGULARLY VISIT  
THE BLESSED SACRAMENT?**

In Part 29 of our years-long series on the **2022-2025 National Eucharistic Revival**, we look, once again, at **Eucharistic Adoration**. As mentioned

last week, the **Blessed Sacrament** is reserved in most **Catholic churches** and other places; the 'sign' or 'signal' that the **Lord Jesus' Real**

**Presence** is in the **Tabernacle** is a **Sanctuary Lamp** or **Candle** burning nearby. There, He waits for us to stop by, to spend even just a few moments in prayer, so He can refresh, renew and restore us. However, there are times when we must make more time for Him ...

**HOLY THURSDAY/GOOD FRIDAY.** From the end of **Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper** until the start of **Good Friday's Celebration of Lord's Passion and Death**, we also 'Keep Watch' with the **Blessed Sacrament**, though without solemnity, as prescribed, at the **Place of Repose**. The **Tabernacle** is left empty from before **Holy Thursday's Mass** until the end of the **Easter Vigil Mass**. We urge all to spend some time in prayer on this most sacred night.

**FUTURE ADORATION AT SJM?** In the past, we have had special opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration. You may recall that when we were finally able to return to Church after the pandemic shutdown, we had several weeks of Eucharistic Adoration. Over the summer, we will consider other opportunities for **EA: Eucharistic Adoration**. In summer of 2024, during the **Cycle 'B'** series of readings, 5 weeks [*the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*] are devoted to the '**Bread of Life Discourse**' from **Saint John's Gospel, Chapter 6**. [In **Cycle 'B'** we read from **Saint Mark's Gospel**, which is the shortest **Gospel**, so we are treated to a chapter of **Saint John's Gospel** which inspired the beloved hymn, '**I Am the Bread of Life**' by Suzanne Toolan, RSM. We offer four versions of **EA**: 1] in the large **Ciborium** in which the reserved **Sacrament** is usually kept, with a **traditional** chant; 2] the same, with a **modern Eucharistic** hymn and incense; 3] in a **Monstrance** with a **simple** hymn; 4] the same, with the **Solemn** Benediction, or **Blessing, incense, venerable Latin chant, 'Tantum Ergo,'**

during which the **Priest** wears the festive **humeral veil**, similar to a **Jewish Prayer Shawl**.

On the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), I was at a special afternoon Mass in which Monsignor Sam Sirianni was the homilist. Monsignor Sirianni is the rector of our diocesan co-Cathedral, St. Robert Bellarmine, in Freehold. He is also the former Director of Worship for the Diocese of Trenton and has much knowledge of liturgy. Monsignor spoke not only about the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Faith, but also about the necessity of properly receiving the Body and Blood of Our Lord when we come forward for Holy Communion.

People are given two options to receive the Body of Christ. They can receive the Body of Christ in their hands or they can receive the Body of Christ on the tongue.

Monsignor stressed the importance of properly receiving no matter which option we choose. If we opt to receive in the hand, we must make a throne for the Lord. It is never proper to grab the host. If we opt to receive on the tongue, we must stick out our tongue. It is never proper to have the host put into your mouth as if the minister of Communion were putting it into a slot machine.

Monsignor gave many good insights which I will do a catechesis on in the future. He did say it is proper to ask people to receive properly. I must commend Monsignor Sirianni for bringing attention to this important point. If you have never heard Monsignor talk, he is a very good speaker. He blends humor with serious subject matter. Look forward to hearing from me in the future some of the points he made.

**Happy Father's Day;** may our **Adoration** of the **Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar** bring us all closer to the **Lord** and to His **Church**.

In Christ,

*Father Mark*

Rev. Mark A. Kreder, Pastor