

Saint Jude Perpetual Adoration Chapel Handbook



Our Mission

To ensure the adoration of Jesus Christ,
present in the Holy Eucharist, at every hour of every day.



Dear Adorer,

Thank you for your commitment to Jesus Christ and to worshiping him in the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a wonderful and powerful way to grow in your relationship with God. Not only does it offer a chance to see and speak directly with our Lord, but your weekly commitment can do wonders for your spiritual life. Like any commitment, it may not always be easy to keep your appointed hour with Christ. But, though your self-sacrifice, you will become a person who is more loving and giving. By loving and giving to Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament, you will renew your daily life.

I know that you take this commitment seriously and I appreciate that you are being faithful to your commitment. I am also committed dedicating and offering an hour every week. It is not always the easiest thing to keep in my schedule. But, it has become an essential part of my spiritual life. In fact, I now look forward to my hour as a needed break from daily struggles and a chance to just sit in the presence of the Lord. May this hour have the same impact in your life. It takes consistency and commitment, but the rewards are literally “out of this world.”

This manual has been assembled as a way to make available some important information about adoration of the Blessed Sacrament here at St. Jude. Please read it over and let us know if you have any questions.

May God bless you!

Msgr. Robert C. Schulte
Pastor

A Short History of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

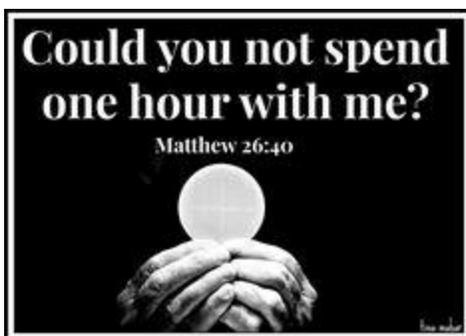
In 1984, parishioners approached St. Jude Pastor at that time, Father John Pfister, about opening a Perpetual Eucharistic Exposition Chapel. When asked, Bishop John D'Arcy gave permission after just a few minutes of discussion. Originally the suggestion was made to convert part of the cry room in the church for this purpose, but Father Pfister suggested using the Sisters' chapel in their convent. The sisters were very enthusiastic about this prospect, so the room was modified, painted and furnished. Father Lucia came to speak at weekend Masses and time slots were filled quickly. On October 28, 1984 – the Feast Day of Saint Jude – the Perpetual Adoration Chapel was opened.

Mary Derheimer, a St. Jude parishioner, had passed away from cancer four years before and her parents wanted to use funds from her estate for St. Jude Parish. Meanwhile, the Sisters of St. Clare in Evansville, Indiana built a new monastery which was smaller than its predecessor. Having a single chapel, these sisters required only one monstrance, and sought to donate their second large monstrance to the Cathedral Museum in Fort Wayne. This monstrance had been used in the public chapel of the old monastery for Sunday Benediction and Rosary devotions. It is believed that this monstrance is close to 100 years old. Father Widman, Curator of the Cathedral Museum, and Mary Derheimer's father began discussing the subject of obtaining this monstrance. Subsequently, Mary's family covered the cost of obtaining it and a few years later the gold was replated to enhance its appearance. Mary Derheimer's family considers it "a blessing" to know that Mary "provided the resting place for Jesus in our Chapel."

Years later, the original altar in the chapel was reduced in size to more appropriately display the monstrance and Blessed Sacrament. In 1999, the chapel was carpeted, repainted, and a ramp was added to make it more accessible. The chapel is located in the Parish Center building with the entrance on the north side, across the parking lot from the church.

Benefactors included Bert and Catharine Dahm who were original charter members of St. Jude in 1929, as well as son Ed Dahm and Betty Niedermeyer who both worked hard to establish and maintain the chapel.

We are grateful to all who have contributed over the years to the ongoing ministry of the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel at St. Jude Church.



What is Perpetual Adoration?

Perpetual Adoration is a Eucharistic devotion whereby members of a given parish (or parishes) unite in committing hours of adoration before the exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, both during the day and throughout the night, seven days a week.

The Eucharist is displayed in a special vessel called a monstrance. The word monstrance comes from the Latin word "*monstrare*" which means "to show". The consecrated host is exposed behind a small glass case within the monstrance so that visitors to the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration may see Jesus visibly present under the appearance of the white host.

A visitor to the chapel is called an "adorer" because they come to adore the Lord Jesus in his Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. This experience of adoration is more conducive to an intimacy with the Risen Lord where the adorers and the Lord gaze at one another in love.

While other parishes in Northern Indiana have adoration, Saint Jude is the only parish that observes Perpetual Adoration 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Some very committed adorers are members of area parishes including St. Patrick, Queen of Angels and St. Charles. Their dedication is a great support to the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

What is a committed adorer?

An individual who commits to a specific hour on a specific day of each week to be present in the chapel and adore before the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is called a committed adorer.

What is expected of a committed adorer?

A committed adorer is asked to arrive at the scheduled time and remain present in the chapel until the next person arrives, one hour later (within reason). A committed adorer should message for a substitute adorer in the event that they are not able to keep their hour. They may find a sub themselves by asking friends or family, or they may use our website, adorationpro.org/judein

How does one Adore?

Within the chapel there are certain rules which are observed to maintain the proper atmosphere of adoration:

- Upon entering the Perpetual Adoration Chapel vestibule, one should "sign in" at the front entrance kiosk.
- In the aisle, before entering the pew, please genuflect on the right knee. Or one may kneel on both knees for a moment as a sign of respect for Our Lord.
- After entering the pew, kneel or sit.
- Cell phones are to be silenced when one is in the chapel.
- The chapel maintains the rule of "grand silence" which is a monastic practice.
- Each person prays in silence. There are no communal prayers celebrated within the chapel. Please respect the atmosphere of prayer and those in adoration.
- Praise, pray, read or just be silent with Our Lord.
- In the aisle, upon exiting the pew, again genuflect on the right knee or kneel on both knees for a moment as a sign of respect for Our Lord.

- Please wear modest attire when visiting the chapel so as not to distract others who are in prayer

To enhance prayer and meditation time, please find a variety of spiritual reading material both in the library room behind the chapel and in each pew. These materials are meant to assist ones growth and formation as a Catholic. Labels on certain books state that they are to be kept in the Adoration Chapel, but some books may be borrowed for a time.

Please do not add books to the shelves since they must be reviewed before being made available to the faithful who visit the Adoration Chapel.

Within the Adoration Chapel, one will also find various items to enhance prayer and devotion such as: the holy water font, a crucifix, statues of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Joseph as wells as a Divine Mercy image. Relics of St. Pope Pius X and St. Catherine Laboure are mounted on small crosses hanging on either side of the sanctuary.

In the library, silence is also maintained, but this space can be used by adorers with young children whose movement may disturb adorers in the chapel itself. A restroom is available next to the library.

Who is a substitute adorer?

A substitute adorer is an individual who is available to substitute for a committed adorer. One may state what days/time frames work best. If you'd like to become a substitute adorer, visit our website: adorationpro.org/judein. Click on the "Become a Sub" tab.

Who maintains the Chapel?

A Chapel Committee made up of committed adorers meets regularly to maintain and support the ongoing needs of this ministry. They advise the Pastor of St. Jude Church on all matters relating to the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why is it beneficial to have Eucharistic adoration in our parish?

The benefits of prayer go well beyond what we can see, hear, and feel. Having a parish that is committed to Eucharistic adoration will be a parish whose members are focused on God. They will be a people who are growing in the spiritual life. They will have a place to turn when difficulties come and a place to offer thanks for God's many blessings. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Catholic faith. Worship of the Blessed Sacrament helps us to grow as disciples of Christ. Additionally, St. Jude is able to offer a Perpetual Adoration Chapel of prayer as a blessing for the whole city of Fort Wayne. The Adoration Chapel is not only good for St. Jude Parish, but it is good for all of Fort Wayne. This is one of our important ministries.

Why should we have at least two committed adorers at all hours?

Simple fact: the exposed Sacrament should never be left unattended. Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist is too valuable to be left alone in a vulnerable situation. Further, if we are to offer

exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, there has to be someone present to worship and adore. In order to gain approval of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel, the Church asks that at least two people be assigned to every hour. This ensures that someone will always be present and that the Blessed Sacrament will be accompanied at all times.

Why do I need to sign up for my hour, when others are usually in the chapel?

The reason why those people can pray in the chapel is because someone else is there. We need two people committed as adorers to ensure the chapel can be open for those who drop in without notice and for shorter periods of prayer. If two people are not committed for the hour, it is irresponsible to leave the chapel open. If we had to close the chapel, no one would be able to stop in at any time of day or night to pray. So, committed adorers are important.

What do I do if someone comes into the chapel or even in the parking lot asking for money or a ride?

While our Lord certainly wants us to love our neighbor, we ask that you do not give money or services to anyone who might stop into the chapel. Please direct them to the St. Jude Parish Office. If the Parish Office is closed, tell the person to contact the office the following business day. We have methods and courses of action to help people in difficult situations, but it is not prudent to give anyone cash. Nor is it prudent to allow a stranger into your home or your car. Kindly direct the person to the Parish Office, include that person in your prayers, but do not hand out money or other items. Another suggestion might be to direct the person in need after business hours to Parkview Hospital, as their security division could offer assistance.

What do I do if there is a medical emergency or some other emergency?

Call 911 if it is an emergency. Also, Parkview Security has offered to provide support for the adoration chapel. You can find the number posted on the wall near the sign in kiosk.

How is night adoration different than daytime adoration?

The entrance door is locked from 12:00am to 6:00am and requires a pin # to enter. Adorers can refuse entry to visitors during that time period if one feels unsafe.

Why do I need to sign in?

Be sure to sign in. This is our only record that our Lord was not left unaccompanied. Please remember to touch the box marked "Scheduled Adorers".

What do I do if I cannot attend my scheduled hour?

Please try to find a substitute. You can find your own sub on your own (please remind them to sign in under your name), or you may use the sub finder at adorationpro.org/judein. Then choose the "find a sub" tab. Password: subpass

How do I report a problem with the chapel?

Feel free to call the parish office (484-6609) or email Tera Hogan, the Secretary at thogan@stjudefw.org to notify us if there is some kind of problem.

Is the chapel ever closed or locked?

The chapel is open 24/7 with the exception of the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday evening), locked from the hours of midnight to 6:00am (must use pin # to enter), and occasionally due to weather. If the Chapel is closed due to weather, we will notify adorers via email and on the chapel website.



Perpetual Adoration Prayer:

Prayer for the Spread of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Heavenly Father, increase our faith in the Real Presence of Your Son
Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

We are obliged to adore Him,
to give Him thanks and to make reparation for sins.
We need Your peace in our hearts and among nations.

We need conversion from our sins
and the mercy of Your forgiveness.

May we obtain this through prayer
and our union with the Eucharistic Lord.

Please send down the Holy Spirit upon all peoples
to give them love, courage, strength and willingness
to respond to the invitation to Eucharistic Adoration.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament help us to spread the glory of
your Son through Perpetual Adoration.

~ Pope St. John Paul II

BENEFITS OF ADORATION:

Jesus gives us His graces.

Jesus stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament, calling out to each one of us: "Come to me all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you."

Jesus stays with us in mind, heart, and spirit by lavishing on us those graces that encourage us, console us, strengthen us, guide us, and inspire us to place all of our trust in His Sacred Heart. Place your trust in Jesus and watch as the power of His Love casts out every fear, doubt, worry, and anxiety.

It builds community.

Perpetual Adoration builds community because the Eucharist is the Sacrament of Unity. When one person unites themselves with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, Jesus brings everyone closer together through the power of His Divine Love.

The secret to knowing the love of Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis has said, "One cannot know the Lord without being in the habit of adoring, of adoring in silence," yet "I believe, if I am not mistaken, that this prayer of adoration is the least known among us; it is the one we engage in the least-to waste time-if I may say it-before the Lord, before the mystery of Jesus Christ. He is the Lord and I adore Him."

"We come to know Christ by reading the Gospel and all of us do this, at least we hear the Gospel when we go to Mass. We also come to know Christ by studying the Catechism. The Catechism teaches us who Christ is, but this is not enough. In order to understand the breadth and length and height and depth of Jesus Christ we need to enter into prayer saying, 'Father, send me the Holy Spirit that I may know Jesus.'" Our Holy Father advises us that we need to pray and listen in order truly to know Christ.

Everyone can participate.

Everyone can participate because everyone can find at least one hour each week to spend with Jesus. Whatever hour you choose will please the Lord, but He is eminently pleased by the sacrifices of those who keep Him company in the middle of the night. And it is these sacrifices that make Perpetual Adoration a reality.

It is the way to a personal relationship with Jesus.

Perpetual Adoration helps us to become personally involved with Jesus Christ because it makes the Holy Eucharist a centerpiece of our lives. By spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist, you can establish a truly personal relationship with Him.

"If we did not have the adorable Eucharist here below, Jesus our God-with-us, this earth would be much too sad, this life too hard, and time too long. We must be grateful to the divine goodness for having left us this hidden Jesus, this pillar of cloud and fire in this desert."

St. Peter Julian Eymard

HOW TO MAKE A HOLY HOUR:

There are a number of books, rosaries, and other materials that should aid you in making your weekly holy hour. Adoration is an especially good time to read the Bible. Become acquainted with this holy book and you will hear God's voice more clearly in your prayer. When in the chapel some begin by praying from the Psalms, then pray the rosary. Then they spend some time in mental prayer and read a chapter from a prayer book. You may spend some more time in mental prayer and conclude by kneeling and giving thanks. Make sure you spend part of the hour just speaking to Christ from your heart and then listening for Christ's inspiration to you.

Two outlines are shown below (A & B). The important thing is to use the hour as a way of growing closer to our Lord.

A) Divide the hour into 4 segments of 15 minutes:

For some, thinking of the hour all at once can seem overwhelming. But, if you divide the time into 4 segments and have a plan for each segment it can be less intimidating.

Choose a different devotion for each segment:

- First 15 minutes: read the Bible. Get to know the story of salvation. Become especially familiar with the four gospels. These pass on to us the words of Christ himself. In adoration we are literally sitting at the feet of Jesus. What better way to do so than to hear his voice in the gospel?
- Second 15 minutes: pray the rosary. Mary is the guide and model for followers of Jesus her son. Praying the rosary helps to open our minds and hearts to hear the voice of Christ as he wants to speak to us in the Blessed Sacrament.
- Third 15 minutes: mentally pray. Bring God your cares and concerns. Thank him for his blessings. List each one by name. Be specific. Open your mind and heart to the good God and don't be afraid to let him in to your heart.
- Fourth 15 minutes: read a spiritual book. There are many good books in the chapel. Open one up and read a few pages. Lives of the saints can be especially helpful. They were friends of Jesus, and they can help us to be friends of Jesus as well.

B) Use **ACTS** to spend an hour in prayer:

- **A** stands for Adoration. Prayers of adoration speak to God's glory and majesty. Give God praise for being God. Recognize Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
- **C** stands for Contrition. Remember your sins and shortcomings. Ask for continued mercy, love, and forgiveness. Recalling our sins reminds us of our need for a savior. Also, spend some moments offering yourself to God in atonement for your sins.
- **T** stands for Thanksgiving. Thank God for his blessings: life, faith, our family, air, water, food, our jobs, our hobbies, everything. Literally everything comes from God. Giving thanks helps immensely to grow in the spiritual life.
- **S** stands for supplication (asking). Don't be afraid to ask God for your needs. He knows us better than we know ourselves, but bring them before the Lord anyway. It will help us. No case is too hopeless to bring to the Lord. God always listens to our prayers. They may not always be answered in the way we would choose, but our prayer changes us and God does respond.

The key is to find a plan that works for you. Having a plan is really helpful to making the Holy Hour a fruitful experience. May our good Lord bless you abundantly!

"When we are before the Blessed Sacrament, instead of looking about us, let us shut our eyes and open our hearts; and the good God will open his. We will go to him, and he will come to us, the one to give, and the other to receive. It will be like a breath passing from one to the other."
-St. John Vianney

"Society is dying because it has not center of truth and charity. ...Each one is isolated, turned inward, self-sufficient. A breakdown is imminent. But society will be reborn full of vigor when all its members come to be reunited around our Emmanuel. ...What must be done? Return to the source of life: not merely to Jesus of history in Judea or to Jesus glorified in heaven, but to Jesus [present] in the Eucharist. ...With the Eucharist we can actually come and adore him like the shepherds; we can prostrate ourselves before him like the Magi; we need no longer regret our not having been present at Bethlehem or Calvary."
-St. Peter Julian Eymard

