



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of Love

"I am the Bread of Life which came down from heaven"
(John 6:41)

On July 18, 1901, the Servant of God Silviano Carrillo Cardenas, founder of the **Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament**, suffered the pain of a desecration to the Blessed Sacrament in his parish, and since that day, his whole being was overturned in acts of love and reparation to Christ. Because of his profound Eucharistic spirit, together with the first Sisters, he offered the newly found Congregation as a perpetual act of reparation of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

By vocation, the Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament consecrate ourselves to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist; therefore, a deeply Eucharistic spirituality should be the hallmark that characterizes us. Our life and mission are directed toward **increasing the love of Jesus in the Eucharist and Mary, His Mother**, through the ecclesial ministry of Catholic education. Therefore, we have the special duty of promoting the knowledge and love of encountering Jesus in the silence of **Eucharistic Adoration**, according to the wishes of our Father Founder, who said, "I hope, that wherever the Sister Servants may be, an increase of faith and love for the Eucharist will be felt."



What is Eucharistic Adoration?

*"Come to me, all you grown weary and burdened,
And I will refresh you."*

Eucharistic Adoration is adoring or honoring the Eucharistic Presence of Christ. In a deeper sense, it involves "the contemplation of the Mystery of Christ truly present before us."

During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist. By worshiping the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, the Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us. In its fullest essence, Eucharistic Adoration is "God and Man reaching out for each other at the same time!"

Immersing oneself in silent Eucharistic adoration is the secret to knowing the Lord. Pope Francis said, "One cannot know the Lord without being in the habit of adoring in silence."

*The Eucharist is:
Jesus truly present –
Body, Blood, Soul, and
Divinity!*

The Church draws her life from the Eucharist, a priceless treasure: both by celebrating it and by praying before it outside of Mass, we are enabled to connect with the very wellspring of grace. In a variety of ways, the Church joyfully experiences the constant fulfillment of the promise: "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt. 28:20).

At the moment of Consecration, during the Mass, the "gifts" of bread and wine are transformed (transubstantiated) into the actual Body and Blood of Christ, at the Altar. This means that they are not only spiritually transformed, but rather are actually (substantially) transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. The elements retain the appearance of bread and wine but are indeed the actual Body and Blood of Christ. This is what is meant by Real Presence: the actual, physical presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The Blessed Sacrament is given the same adoration and devotion that is accorded to Christ.



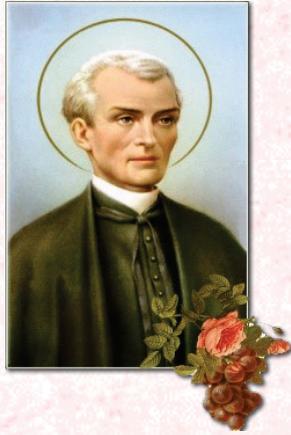
"Could you not watch one hour with Me?"

The (reserved) Blessed Sacrament serves as a focal point of devotion

At the beginning of the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a priest or deacon removes the sacred host from the tabernacle and places it in the Monstrance on the Altar for adoration by the faithful. "Monstrance" is the vessel used in the Church to display the consecrated Eucharistic Host, during Eucharistic adoration or benediction. The word monstrance comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, meaning "to expose". It is known in Latin as an *Ostensorium*. When a consecrated host is placed in the monstrance, it is said to be a solemn exposition. Adoration ceremonies traditionally include Scripture readings, hymns, prayers and time for silent adoration.

Eucharistic exposition and benediction is a complete liturgical service in its own right and is celebrated as part of the Church's official liturgy.

Jesus waits for us in the Blessed Sacrament. He waits for the little **Acts of faith, adoration, love, thanksgiving, repentance, reparation, and charity** that we can offer Him as we contemplate -- His Divine Majesty -- in the Blessed Sacrament.



The Four Great Homages of Eucharistic Adoration

Saint Peter Julian Eymard, a great Eucharistic saint and whose spiritual writings were an inspiration to Fr. Silvano Carrillo, recommended four great homages of Eucharistic Adoration that will increase our love for Jesus and greatly assist our neighbor.

1. ADORATION

“The Object of Eucharistic adoration is the divine Person of our Lord Jesus Christ, present in the Blessed Sacrament. There is nothing *greater or holier* we can do on earth than this adoration. Eucharistic adoration is the *greatest of actions*. To adore is to share the life of the saints in heaven who never cease to praise, bless, and adore the goodness, the love, the glory, the power, and the divinity of the Lamb immolated for the love of men and the glory of God the Father. Eucharistic adoration is the holiest of actions, the perfect exercise of all the virtues (including Faith in the hidden Jesus veiled in the Sacred host, the Piety of self-annihilation before Jesus, Love of God, and Charity by praying for your neighbor in adoration.) To adore well we must, above all, talk to our Lord; He will answer us. Everybody can talk to our Lord” (pp. 177-78, 81, *In the Light of the Monstrance*).

2. THANKSGIVING

“Every gift calls for Thanksgiving; and the greater the gift, the greater also gratitude should be. The Holy Eucharist is the Savior’s Gift of gifts. It is the greatest of all His marvels, the sacramental glorification of all the mysteries of His life. In the presence of so much goodness on the part of Jesus Christ, what should not be the gratitude of the heart of man, who sees himself as the end of the Eucharist! What thanksgiving can measure up to such a gift? What love can repay so much love?” (*Handbook*, pp.158-59, as edited).

3. REPARATION

“[This] is, first of all, a reparation of honor made to Jesus Christ for the ingratitude and the outrages directed to Him in His Sacrament of love; it is also the satisfaction of mercy, pleading for the forgiveness of sinners. The soul should make an act of solemn reparation to this divine Victim; from a sentiment of joy your heart must turn to sadness, to the deepest sorrows on considering the ingratitude, the indifference, the impiety of most men towards the Eucharistic Savior. This is your mission, adorers: to weep at the feet of Jesus despised by His own friends, crucified in many hearts, abandoned in so many places. Your mission is to beg forgiveness for the guilty, to ransom them from divine mercy, to become victims of propitiation with the Savior Jesus” (*Handbook*, p. 160 and *In the Light of the Monstrance*, pp.188-89, as edited).



4. PETITIONARY PRAYER

“Not everybody can preach Jesus Christ by word of mouth, but every adorer has the mission of Mary at the feet of Jesus; the apostolic mission of prayer, of Eucharistic prayer at the foot of the throne of grace and mercy.

Eucharistic prayer has an excellence all its own; it goes straight to the Heart of God like a flaming dart; the adorer prays through Jesus Christ and unites himself to our Lord’s role as Intercessor with the Father and divine Advocate for His redeemed brethren. Pray that the light of truth of Jesus Christ may enlighten all men. Pray for Jesus’ Kingdom of holiness in His faithful, His religious, His priests. Pray for the Sovereign Pontiff. Pray for the powers of the world. Pray for the poor souls that suffer in Purgatory. Thus, adorers at the foot of the Most Blessed sacrament carry on a universal and perpetual mission of prayer, and thus render to God, along with their adoration, thanksgiving and reparation, the most perfect homage He can receive from a creature” (*In the Light of the Monstrance*, pp. 189-191).

Let us make our own the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas, an eminent theologian and an impassioned poet of Christ in the Eucharist, and turn in hope to the contemplation of that goal to which our hearts aspire in their thirst for joy and peace:

*Bone pastor, panis vere,
Iesu, nostri miserere...*

*Come then, good Shepherd, bread divine,
Still show to us thy mercy sign;
Oh, feed us, still keep us thine;
So we may see thy glories shine
in fields of immortality.*

*O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,
Our present food, our future rest,
Come, make us each thy chosen guest,
Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.*

O, SACRAMENT MOST HOLY!
O, SACRAMENT DIVINE!
ALL PRAISE AND ALL THANKSGIVING
BE EVERY MOMENT THINE!



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Blessed be God!