



MALTRAIT MEMORIAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"CELEBRATING 66 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION"

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AN INVITATION TO EUCHARIST ADORATION

MMCS staff and students want to welcome and invite our Maltrait families and friends to join our students in Eucharist Adoration. This special Adoration Program is part of our daily Religion Instruction. Through Adoration, the students and their families will learn and understand the importance of adoration and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

An Adoration Schedule, which will take place at Holy Rosary Church, is attached for each school grade. Adoration begins after the regular School Mass on Thursdays. We would like for you to consider joining us and help spread the word of this wonderful program of devotion. The Program will continue to be held in the Adoration Chapel or the classroom if Holy Rosary Church is not available on Adoration Day.

"The purpose of the Holy Hour is to encourage a deep personal encounter with Christ. The holy and glorious God is constantly inviting us to come to Him, to converse with Him, to ask for such things as we need and to experience what a blessing there is in fellowship with Him." Archbishop Fulton Sheen

TENTATIVE ADORATION SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAYS

MMCS MASS 8:15 – 9:00 a.m.

From 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., we ask that Family Members, Grandparents, Friends, and Parishioners to remain in church for Adoration until the 6th Grade Class arrives. Thank you.

RECESS 9:50 – 10:05 a.m.

6th GRADE 10:05 – 10:55 a.m.

2nd and 4th GRADES 10:55 – 11:45 a.m.

7th GRADE 11:45 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

3rd GRADE 12:35 – 1:15 p.m.

1st and 8th GRADES 1:15 – 2:05 p.m.

RECESS (Lower Grades) 2:00 – 2:10 p.m.

5th GRADE 2:10 – 2:50 p.m.

“God, Children, and Learning are Our Priority”

The following information is provided to assist you as you prepare for the Adoration Program.

WHAT IS ADORATION?

Adoration is a Eucharistic devotion whereby members of a given parish (or other entity) unite in taking hours of adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament (in most cases, exposed). Adoration is a sign of devotion to and worship of **Jesus Christ**, who is believed by Catholics to be present Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, under the appearance of the **consecrated host**. Official Catholic teachings consider the exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament an important practice which "stimulates the faithful to an awareness of the marvelous presence of Christ and is an invitation to spiritual communion with Him.

Why do we genuflect upon entering and leaving the church while the Blessed Sacrament is exposed?

We must enter the church **very reverently and quietly**. When we get before the altar, we must go down on our right and left knee briefly and reverently bow with hands joined. Double genuflection before the exposed Blessed Sacrament shows we truly believe Jesus Christ is truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

Why is exposition in the monstrance (the vessel which holds the consecrated Host) preferred?

To see Jesus visibly present is much more conducive to intimacy than hidden away in the tabernacle. Moreover, it adds an extra responsibility on the adorers to be sure to be faithful to the hours they are scheduled, since the suggested norm for having Jesus exposed in the monstrance is that there should be at least two adorers present, and He must never be left alone. Could not these words of our Lord be applied today: "Indeed, this is the will of My heavenly Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son, and believes in Him, shall have eternal life? Him I will raise up on the last day."

How does one spend an hour before Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament?

This hour Jesus wants you to spend with Him, is spent any way you want. You may bring your own prayer books, use the books in the church, read the Bible, pray the rosary, or just sit and relax and enjoy the sweet peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. You may feel that you can't pray well. Don't let this discourage you. The mere fact that you take time out at a specific time each week to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament pleases Him very much and is in itself a prayer of great faith. **In silence is when we really encounter Him.**

What spiritual benefits and graces can be attributed to Adoration?

- an increase in Mass attendance and reception of the sacraments;
- return of fallen-away Catholics and increase in the number of conversions;
- increase in religious and priestly vocations;
- renewal of Catholic family life;

- spiritual level of the people is raised with a resulting desire and courage to spread the "good news" to others;
- a greater community spirit, centered as it is on the heart of the parish, Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament.