

Mary Help of Christians Church

5980 University Drive, Parkland, Florida 33067

A Call to a Stewardship Way of Life

September 2009

Dear Parishioners of Mary Help of Christians,

As you all know we are blessed to be celebrating our 20th anniversary this year. When we reach a major milestone in life we usually tend to look back and take stock of the journey that has brought us to this point. I feel very fortunate as pastor of our parish to have so many faithful, dedicated members in our congregation. Over the years we have grown from a small group in a home to a large complex which meets the needs of young and old alike.

One thing that has always been close to my heart is to be able to offer the Sacrifice of the Mass for the parish. To center ourselves before the Lord in the Liturgy helps us to center our lives. The extension of the Mass is the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Taking time for prayer and solitude with the Lord helps keep the rest of our lives in balance. It also helps our parish grow stronger spiritually as we take time to sit in silent prayer before the True Presence where we can pray for the good of the parish, our families and friends. In addition to our Thursday evening Adoration we are offering Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday mornings from 7:30 – 10:00 AM for those parishioners who wish to worship in the morning.

Of course we cannot do this without your participation. The Blessed Sacrament exposed in the Monstrance may never be left unattended. I am asking for people to commit to being here every week to sit prayerfully in the church. What we need from you is a commitment of an hour or even a half hour if that is all you can offer. The blessings in return will be well worth your time.

May God continue to bless you and your family - Fr. Tom

Pastor:
Fr. Thomas Wisniewski
Associate Pastor:
Fr. Manny Alvarez

I encourage Christians regularly to visit Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament, for we are all called to abide in the presence of God. In contemplation, Christians will perceive ever more profoundly the mystery at the heart of Christian life.

- Pope John Paul II

Around Our Parish...

Upcoming Spiritual Events:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursdays 7:30-10:00 AM and 5 - 7 PM
Rosary Mondays 7PM in Church
Parish Family Advent Night Nov 23
Mission Fr. Hugh Burns 11/29- 12/2
Advent Reconciliation - Dec. 14

Watch for other Spiritual Events

Emmaus Retreats 10/9, 10/10, 10/11
Women's Club Retreat
Men's Prayer Ministry Tues. 6AM P-A
Men's Bible Study Monday 7:30 P-A
Women at the Well Bible Study
Tuesdays at 8 AM

Upcoming Community Social Events

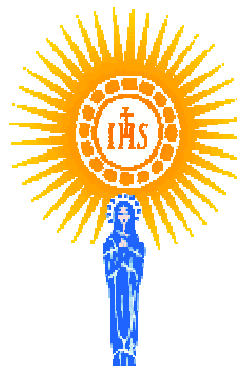
Women's Club 2nd Tue each month
School Picnic Sept. 12
Spaghetti Dinners Jan. 29, 2009
Fall Harvest Festival Nov. 19-22
Late Nite Catechism Christmas Show
December 11, 2009
Parish Picnic - February 14, 2010

There are many opportunities for you to come join us. Consider yourself invited!

What do you actually do during adoration?

You may sign up to be an "adorer" which allows you to schedule yourself for one or more hours per week to pray before the very presence of Our Lord, exposed in the monstrance. It means that you can have some time alone with Jesus to recite your favorite prayers, read the bible, contemplate acts of faith, hope, charity, thanksgiving, reparation, pray a rosary or do whatever type of prayerful devotion that suits you before Our Lord. You can just sit and say nothing simply keeping Him company, just as you would with a dear friend.

To sign up please call Fran Cunningham 954 752-2491



Eucharistic Adoration

Catholics believe that during the Mass which we attend each week (for some of us daily), the priest (during the consecration) speaks these words as he holds the communion host, "...He took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take this all of you, and eat it: this is my body which will be given up for you". When the priest says "this my body", it is at that instant when, through the miracle of transubstantiation, the bread and wine which we offer as the bloodless sacrifice to our Lord truly become the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus. It is His true Presence in the form of bread and wine. It is Christ.

Hospitality ~ Greeter Team

Do you like meeting people? Are you a secret host or hostess? Our Greeters team could use some friendly faces to welcome people to Mass on the weekends. Share your gift of warmth and friendliness with your parish community.

- Call Donna Bean at 954 554-7720



Eucharistic Adoration

Where: Mary Help of Christians Church

When: Every Thursday Morning

Time 7:30—10:00 AM

You are invited!

Each time we look upon Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, He raises us up into deeper union with Himself, opens up the floodgates of His merciful love to the whole world, and brings us closer to the day of His final victory "where every knee will bend and proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord". "The reign of God is already in your midst." The coming of Jesus to us in the Eucharist is assurance of His promise of final victory: "Behold, I come to make all things new."
—Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Twelve Reasons To Spend One Hour With Jesus In The Blessed Sacrament



1. **You are greatly needed!**
2. **This is a personal invitation to you from Jesus.**
3. **Jesus is counting on you because the Eucharist is the center of life.**
4. **Your hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament bring about true peace on earth, in Christ.**
5. **Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because you are the most important person in the world to Him!**
6. **Jesus wants you to do more than to go to Mass on Sunday.**
7. **You grow spiritually with each moment you spend with Jesus!**
8. **The best time you spend on earth is with Jesus, your Best Friend, in the Blessed Sacrament!**
9. **Just as you cannot be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the Rays of His Grace, His Love, His Peace.**
10. **If Jesus were actually visible in church, everyone would run to welcome Him, but He remains hidden in the Blessed Sacrament under the appearance of Bread, because He is calling us to faith, that we many come to Him in humility.**
11. **With transforming mercy, Jesus makes our heart one with His.**
12. **If the Pope himself would give you a special invitation to visit him in the Vatican, this honor would be nothing in comparison to the honor and dignity that Jesus Himself bestows upon you with the Invitation of spending one hour with Him in the Blessed Sacrament.**

What is Adoration?

Eucharistic Adoration is a posture of love, the placing of oneself in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, whether reposed inside the tabernacle, or exposed inside a special stand called a monstrance. Eucharistic Adoration (Adoration) is a time dedicated to personal prayer and reflection in the Presence of Jesus Christ. Generally, when a parish or organization holds a specific time of Adoration they are referring to a time where the Blessed Sacrament is visible in the monstrance for the people to pray before. Adoration is available to *all* parishioners.