

ST. JOSEPH'S EUCHARISTIC ADORATION NEWSLETTER

December 2019

Issue 6

**St. Joseph Catholic Church
Mandarin, Florida**



**Presented by the
Eucharistic Adoration Committee**

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THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

The Month of
December is dedicated
to the Immaculate
Conception



OUR MONTHLY THEME FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of December are:

1. First Sunday of Advent, Sunday
3. Francis Xavier, Memorial
6. Nicholas, Opt. Mem.
7. Ambrose, Memorial
8. Second Sunday of Advent, Sunday
9. Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America , Solemnity. **NB: Immaculate Conception, which is ordinarily celebrated on December 8 but since it falls on a Sunday, the feast has been transferred to December 9.**
11. Damasus I, Opt. Mem.
12. Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA), Feast
13. Lucy, Memorial
14. John of the Cross, Memorial
15. Third Sunday of Advent, Sunday
21. Peter Canisius, Opt. Mem.
22. Fourth Sunday of Advent, Sunday
23. John of Kanty, Opt. Mem.
25. Christmas, Solemnity
26. Stephen, Feast
27. John, Feast
28. Holy Innocents, Feast
29. Holy Family, Feast
31. Sylvester I, Opt. Mem.

This information on the special feast days were obtained from Catholic Culture.org.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTION TO THE
LITURGY OF THE HOURS IN THIS
NEWSLETTER**

"The Eucharist, in the Mass and outside of the Mass, is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and is therefore deserving of the worship that is given to the living God, and to Him alone" (St Pope John Paul II, Opening address in Ireland, Phoenix Park, September 29, 1979).

THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

In honor of Our Blessed Mother under the title of Immaculate Conception we will provide you a glimpse into a very special church in Washington, D.C. Just imagine if you will, the power of the statement which was made when the Catholic Church in the US proclaimed the Blessed Virgin Mary the Patroness of the United States of America, under her title of Immaculate Conception. We should be thankful that the hierarchy of the Catholic Church in the US had the vision and wisdom to recognize the need for our Blessed Mother to be named the Patroness of the US.



Following are a few facts on the Shrine: The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is a large Catholic national shrine located in Washington, D.C., United States of America. The shrine is the largest Catholic church in the United States and in North America. **The basilica houses 81 chapels honoring Mary** and reflecting the origins of the Catholic immigrants and religious orders whose generosity erected them. Its Greek-styled interior is crowned with numerous domes decorated in mosaics, similar to the Basilica of St. Mark in Venice, Italy, but much larger. The mosaics feature American renditions of traditional Catholic images. Artist Jan Henryk De Rosen, who presided over the shrine's iconography committee was also responsible for much of its decor, including composing the large mosaic over the northern apse.

The exterior of the basilica is 459 ft (140 m) long,[1] 240 ft (73 m) wide,[1] and 237 ft (72 m) tall[1] to the top of the cross on the dome. The diameter of the main dome (the Trinity Dome) of the basilica is only 7 feet (2 m) smaller than that of the dome of the United States Capitol. The shrine was built in the style of medieval churches, relying on masonry walls and columns in place of structural steel and reinforced concrete. It was designed to hold 10,000 worshipers and includes modern amenities such as a basement cafeteria, hidden public address speakers to carry speech at the altar to the rear of the building, air conditioning and the largest (in 1959) radiant heating slab in the world.

In all, 81 chapels and sacred images flank the sides of the Great Upper Church and the Crypt Church. It contains many works of art. There are arches outlined with iridescent Pewabic Pottery tile, large ceramic medallions set in the ceiling, and fourteen Stations of the Cross in the Crypt Church.

The following 2 Youtube videos will give you a brief look at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception:

https://youtu.be/hQD_rEKqu3o

<https://youtu.be/MkLZdmEnhal>

We have posted the link for you to experience more information about the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception;

<https://www.nationalshrine.org/>

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

As the Thanksgiving Weekend is right upon us, my personal reflection is how awesome Our God is to me, my family and our St. Joseph Family. While many of us have been faced with any number of challenges, it is comforting to know that Our Lord and Savior and His Blessed Mother are always with us to comfort us. Not only can we pray directly to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, but we also have the Holy Rosary to pray and to reflect on the many beautiful mysteries.

Attending Eucharistic Adoration is such a gift and privilege. It is that special one-on-one time with Our Lord who knows all... He knows our needs before we do, He suffers with us, He walks with us in our daily struggles and conflicts, and He is always there to pick us up when we ask Him. His Mother is one of the best conduits to Our Lord. Praying our Blessed Rosary is like having a direct link to Our Lord, without any interference, no gatekeeper, no obstacles, nothing but a direct line to adore, and have a personal relationship with Our Lord, with the help and guidance of His Blessed mother.

We are so blessed at St. Joseph to be able to Adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and lay our life before him at the Altar. As I reflect the many blessings we have, the one which stands out is our freedom to worship when and where we want to worship. I am reminded by watching the daily news how many people do not have the freedom to worship around the world.

Advent is this coming this weekend and what a wonderful time in our Catholic faith and calendar to prepare for Our Lord's Birth. Advent as you know is the time in our religious calendar which affords us the time to prepare for His birth. If you can, take some extra time this advent season to better understand what He wants you to do to prepare for His birth.

In closing, many thanks for your continued dedication to the Eucharistic Adoration Ministry. Your dedication to attend Eucharistic Adoration Hours allows the entire St. Joseph Parish to just pop in and visit Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. As you continue to attend your appointed hours, the Eucharistic Adoration Committee would like to ask you to pray for us, as we try to implement some future steps to grow the ministry.

Thank You and God Bless,

Rod

THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Continuing our educational series on various forms of prayer, this month we are highlighting the Liturgy of the Hours. Our Catholic faith is full of rich prayer methods and traditions.

To Pray Always: the Liturgy of the Hours

by Mary Bazzett

Mary Bazzett recounts the history of the Liturgy of the Hours in this article, and encourages more lay Catholics to participate in it. This prayer of the Church has its roots in certain Jewish rituals, including the morning and evening sacrifice at the Temple. Similarly, the principal periods of prayer for the Liturgy of the Hours are in the morning and evening. In this way, the early Christians sanctified both the day and the night, obeying Christ's command to "pray always and never lose heart." Under Emperor Constantine, who permitted Christianity under his rule, the faithful began to gather around their bishop in order to pray the "cathedral office." This, in turn, developed into the "monastic office," and Bazzett explained how the modern version of the Liturgy of the Hours was eventually formed. Found in the "Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., September/October 1997."

The Liturgy of the Hours is further proof of the Catholic Church's deep Jewish roots. Formerly more commonly known as the "Divine Office" or "breviary," these prayers have a long and venerable history that stretches back to apostolic times. In the early days of the Church, the first Christians were Jewish, and the Acts of the Apostles depicts them not only participating in the breaking of the bread, but also going to the synagogue and Temple to worship. This included traditional prayer services at the third, sixth and ninth hours of the day, our 9 o'clock in the morning, noon and 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Pentecost—the Holy Spirit descending on the apostles—was at the third hour (Acts 2:15). Peter prayed on the housetop at the sixth hour (Acts 10:9). And Peter and John went to the Temple to pray at the ninth hour (Acts 3:1). These hours of prayer were adopted by the early Christians and correspond to prayer times for what was later called the Divine Office, specifically to Terce, Sext and None, respectively (coming from the Latin for third, sixth and ninth).

But the Divine Office's major hours for prayer were morning and evening "Lauds" and "Vespers"—which corresponded to the morning and evening sacrifice in the Temple. The early Christians adopted these two times which, since then, have been principal daily periods of prayer. In fact, at the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), they were called the "two hinges upon which the daily office turns." That's why "they are to be considered as the chief hours." The word Lauds literally means "the praises." The name comes from the last three psalms (148-150, known as the "laudate psalms") which—for centuries—were prayed each morning. Among the themes of Vespers is "the evening sacrifice." Psalm 140 reads, "Let my prayer rise like incense before you, the lifting of my hands like an evening sacrifice," referring to Jewish Temple worship.

Because of their belief in Christ, the early Christians eventually were expelled from the Temple and synagogues. That was when they developed their own prayers around the same times, said individually or in common, to sanctify the hours of the day and night. In this way, the early Church obeyed Christ's directive to "pray always and never lose heart" (Lk 18:1), as well as St. Paul's exhortations to "pray always" (1 Thes 5:17), and "with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired canticles to God" (Col 3:16).

From earliest times, the Church has done exactly that, using psalms and other biblical texts. The best known of these is the prayer of Christ himself, the Our Father, which the Didache, an early Church document, instructed Christians to say three times a day. But they prayed not only during the day but also at night. Paul and Silas prayed and sang songs of praise to God in prison at midnight (see Acts 16:25). This time of prayer corresponds to matins, originally prayed between the first and second hour of the day, or midnight and 1 a.m. The theologian Tertullian (c.160-c.222) advised Christian women to be careful to marry men who also were Christians, because pagan men would not understand their getting up in the middle of the night to praise God.

The history of the early Church's prayer times is difficult to follow after the first century, largely due to the periodic destruction of documents during persecutions. By the fourth century, however, under the Roman emperor Constantine (d. 337), practices of the faith—including communal daily prayers—became legal and, because of that, public. The persecution of Christians had ended, and the faithful found themselves free to gather without fear around their bishop for what became known as the "cathedral office." This name comes from the Greek word "cathedra," meaning seat. It referred to the official seat that a bishop occupied, symbolizing his teaching authority. (Today a diocese's cathedral has a special chair for its bishop.) Since lay people had daily work and families to care for, the cathedral office was by necessity brief, consisting of perhaps a psalm, antiphon (short verse from a psalm or sentence from the Bible), Scripture reading, homily and intercessions.

A later development was the "monastic office." The rise of the monastic movement—first with the desert Fathers and later with Western monastic orders, such as the Benedictines—resulted in a much longer and more elaborate Divine Office. (St. Benedict, the "father of Western monasticism," died around 550.) Monks had more time than lay people for formal prayer and their early offices were very lengthy, the entire 150 psalms being prayed every day in some cases.

Over time, the cathedral office as a communal liturgical celebration died out in the Western Church. Monasteries in urban centers became closer to the dominant influence on liturgical development, and the office consequently became the long, complex monastic office. It was seen more and more as the exclusive duty of priests and Religious, and among the former was not usually prayed in common. The increased demands of clerics in the Middle Ages made the need for a shorter, reformed office evident.

In "monasteries, it was common for monks to use a number of large books for the Divine Office. They might have a psalter (book of psalms), another book for antiphons, a Bible, a hymn book and yet another volume containing the non-scriptural readings required. This worked fine for clerics who lived and prayed in one location, but the newer, more mobile clerics, such as the Franciscans, needed to travel light. (St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscans, died in 1226.) For them the Vatican devised a condensed version of the office. Its name—"breviary"—comes from the Latin word for "abbreviated." The Franciscans spread the use of the breviary throughout Europe and beyond.

Over time, the breviary came to be regarded more as a prayer book for Religious than as a liturgical form of prayer for the whole Church. The reform of the Liturgy of the Hours has been ongoing since the 1500s, with Pope Pius X utilizing the liturgical-renewal movement, and the Second Vatican Council eventually revising and streamlining the office, resulting in a simpler, more flexible liturgy.

Canon law still requires priests to recite the Liturgy of the Hours each day: Lauds, Vespers and three other sets of prayer.

Now those two major "hinge" prayers include an "invitatory" psalm, a hymn, the reading of a number of psalms and a passage from Scripture (which vary depending on the liturgical season), the Our Father, antiphons, intercessions, a blessing and dismissal. Lauds has the Canticle of Zechariah (from Lk 1:68-79) and Vespers has the Magnificat (based on Lk 1:46-55).

Since the council, the Church has reaffirmed the public, communal nature of the Liturgy of the Hours as the prayer of the entire Church and has underlined the need for lay participation in it. (One-volume editions, and even shorter versions of the office, are available in Catholic bookstores.) In fact, since the revision of the Divine Office after Vatican II, lay people have been encouraged to participate in the Liturgy of the Hours, either with the priest, among themselves or even individually. When they do, they join with the entire Church throughout the world in its common prayer, sanctifying the day and night, giving praise and worship to God in a rich and beautiful tradition of our Catholic heritage.

MORE INFORMATION

- If you would like additional information about the Liturgy of the Hours, please consult:<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgy-of-the-hours/index.cfm> This information comes from the website of the United States Conference of CATHOLIC BISHOPS.
- If you are interested in purchasing a set of the Liturgy of the Hours, this can be found at amazon.com. Then just search of "liturgy of the hours."
 - Note: There are multiple prices, ranging from about \$185 (bonded leather) to \$109 (imitation leather) for four distinct volumes (Advent and Christmas Season, Lenten and Easter Season, Ordinary Time Weeks 1 – 17, and Ordinary Time Weeks 18- 34).
 - Note: There are also lower prices for the liturgy of the hours prayer books which include all seasons in one comprehensive volume.
 - Note: Please take your time in reviewing all your buying options. Some Religious Orders also sell Liturgy of the Hours, through Amazon.
 - Special Note: The paperback magazine "Magnificat" is a great starter for those just beginning the Liturgy of the Hours. The Magnificat can be ordered directly through Amazon for \$47.00.
- Special Note: You can also go to ***divineoffice.org*** and register on the website. By doing this you will have access to all the prayers online and through an app on your cell phone

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME OF THE LINKS PROVIDED FOR YOU MAY NOT ALWAYS BE ACTIVE. FROM TIME TO TIME, THE OWNERS OF THE LINKS MAY TAKE THE LINKS OFF LINE.

PRINTABLE VERSION OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

<https://www.saintanneshelper.com/support-files/stations-of-the-cross.pdf>

LIVE STREAMING EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

We are providing a link for “**LIVE STREAMING**” of Eucharistic Adoration by a Catholic Church which has provided this as an opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration from home in case a person is ill, cannot travel and/or has other issues preventing him or her from traveling to a chapel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZo47JHtFu0>

COMPLETE HOLY ROSARY IN FORM OF GREGORIAN CHANTS

For those of you who enjoy the Gregorian Chants of Our Catholic Church we have provided a number of beautiful videos and/or recordings.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gPan_INmjE

EVENING PRAYER AT CONCEPTION ABBEY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wolWoiWLtg&t=36s>

PANGE LINGUA GLORIOSI - CATHOLIC HYMNS, GREGORIAN CHANT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uXZujhL2eA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3H5f7oePOE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnrOwiYqTcc>

LITANY OF THE SAINTS SUNG IN LATIN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKWRuFjIRFo&t=267>

SCHEDULES AND MORE

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph's is held at the Cody Enrichment Center, located at:

4152 Loretto Rd, next to the Historic Church.

The current schedule for Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph's can be found at:

<https://stjosephsjax.org/eucharistic-adoration>

REGULAR ADORATION HOURS

ADORATION TIMES (Adoration is SILENT with the exceptions shown below under Vocal Prayers.)

Monday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Second Thursday: 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. (Friday)

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

First Friday/Saturday: 9:00 a.m. (Friday) with 7:00 p.m. Mass in Historic Church while Adoration continues in Chapel until 7:45 a.m. (Saturday); followed by 8 a.m. Mass in Historic Church

ADORATION TIMES (VOCAL PRAYERS)

Daily: Rosary - 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Daily: Divine Mercy Chaplet - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday: People of Praise - 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Thursday: Children's Holy Hour - 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Thursday: Shepherds of Christ: 7:00-8:15pm (beginning June 6)

Second Thursday: Knights of Columbus - 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (rosary)

First Friday: Holy Hour of Reparation (Entire Red Book) - 5:00 - 6:00 pm (in chapel prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass in the historic church)

First Friday: Alliance of the Two Hearts - 9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Last Friday: Adoration for Vocations: 7-8 p.m. (in chapel); March 22 (one week early due to Eucharistic Congress)

Please e-mail me (adoration@stjosephsjax.org) if you have any concerns or questions about online sign-up.

God's peace and love, St. Joseph's Eucharistic Adoration Ministry
Angela Fisher (Scheduler)

TEAM CAPTAINS
St. Joseph's Catholic Church: Eucharistic Adoration
Day/Evening Captains

Day	Name	Phone No.	Email
Monday – day (9am – 6pm)	Bernadette & John Hashtak	904-268-2686	jbhashtak@bellsouth.net
Monday – night (6pm – 10pm)	David Britt Linda Salvatore	904-268-9978 904-524-9329	Dwbritt@comcast.net linda@salvatorefamily.com
Tuesdays -- day (9am-6pm)	Susana Suarez Lisa Pohlgeers	904-629-2693 904-994-8226	susanassuarez@gmail.com lpohlgeers@aol.com
Tuesday – night (6-10pm)	Matt Reese	904-333-8018	Reeseroof@aol.com
Wednesday – day (9am-6pm)	Susan Rezsonya	904-268-7741	Srezsonya@bellsouth.net
Wednesday – night (6 – 10pm)	(open, need volunteer)	773-504-2750	margimaclean@hotmail.com
Thursday -- day (9am-6pm)	(open, need volunteer)	(open)	(open)
Thursday –night (6-10pm)	Matt Reese	904-333-8018	Reeseroof@aol.com
Friday – day (9am-6pm)	Janet LaFrance	904-880-1422 904-910-5739	jjlafrance@comcast.net
Friday -- night (6-10pm)	Angela Fisher (6-10pm) 1/2019	904-600-6369	angelafisher365@gmail.com
First Friday/Saturday Second Thursday/Friday & Subs	Rod Cruz	904-477-3114	drrodacruz@yahoo.com

This section of the Newsletter is dedicated to questions we receive from Adorers and our answers.

If you have a question specifically related to Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph's, our schedule or our current procedures, please do not hesitate to pose those questions. You may send your questions to drrodacruz@yahoo.com.

We will do everything we can to provide you an answer, and we will post the Q & A in this section the following month.

Thank you, Rod Cruz