



CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE LENDING LIBRARY

WINTER 2024 - NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

To provide Christian resources that will spark spiritual growth and development for every St. Luke parishioner.

Our Community Library Policies

Our Lending Library works on the honor system. Choose a book that you are interested in reading, log it out on the sign-out sheet and once read, return the book in the BOOK RETURN basket.

- Books can be signed out for up to a month, but we ask that you return them once read (extended time frame allowed for Lent and Advent book selections).
- Because we are a small library with a limited number of books, we ask that you only take one book out at a time.
- Each book contains a Lending Library bookmark. There is a space at the top of the bookmark where you can write the date that the book should be returned by.
- Please do not underline, highlight or write in the books.

We honor you by providing the best of Catholic reading. Please honor us by returning the books promptly so that they can be shared among all parishioners.

Winter 2024

The Divine Encounter - Meeting Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration

by Mark Hart

Pope St. John Paul II reminds us that “Jesus waits for us” in the Eucharist. With busy schedules, full-time jobs, and family responsibilities, it can be hard to carve out time for Adoration in our day or week. But how might the Eucharist draw us to the heart of God when we encounter stress or are looking for guidance in our lives?

Even little pockets of time each week to adore the Lord can radically transform your week--and your life. Before you know it, Adoration will go from something to help you get through the week to something you yearn for. Take *The Divine Encounter* with you when you go to meet the Lord, and accept his invitation for a deeper relationship.

Praying Constantly - Bringing Your Faith to Life

by Fr. Benedict J. Groeschel, C.F.R.

In this perceptive and timely book, celebrated spiritual teacher Benedict Groeschel demonstrates how the combination of grace with enduring Christian truths and practices will enable you to experience a deep, rewarding prayer life that in effect permeates everything that you do.

This remarkable book uses the testimonies of Scripture and of the lives of the saints through the ages to show how you can make your words and actions a river of unceasing prayer.

January's Devotion:

The Holy Name of Jesus

The month of January is dedicated to the **Holy Name of Jesus**. Christ's name is chosen in heaven and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation. It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means “savior.” The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission and His infinite love for us.

The Pope's Intention for January

For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

January Dates to Remember

- 01/01/24: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
- 01/02/24: St Basil the Great-Patron of Monks, Tailors
- 01/03/24: *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*
- 01/06/24: St. André Bessette-Patron of the Sick
- 01/08/24: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**
- 01/09/24: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**
- 01/17/24: St. Anthony of Egypt-Patron of Skin Diseases
- 01/21/24: St. Agnes-Patron of Girls
- 01/22/24: *Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*
- 01/24/24: St. Francis de Sales-Patron of Writers, Deaf
- 01/25/24: Feast of Conversion of St. Paul, the Apostle**
- 01/27/24: St. Angela Merici-Patron of Sick/Disabled
- 01/31/24: St. John Bosco-Patron of Schoolchildren

What is Eucharistic Adoration?

Our world today offers never ending opportunities to keep us occupied and distracted. Eucharistic Adoration provides Catholic's the exact opposite, a means to step away from the noise. It is a time to enter into a quiet and sacred space to deepen our relationship with Jesus.

There are two types of Eucharistic Adoration, the first type is often scheduled for one hour on a weekly basis in parishes. The second type, Perpetual Adoration, differs in that as the name implies, it is continual and takes place throughout all twenty-four hours of each day. This type of Adoration most often is part of the practices of Religious Orders and even some parishes. During Eucharistic Adoration, the priest takes a consecrated host from the Tabernacle, and places it in a Monstrance. The word "Monstrance" means to show. The Monstrance is then placed on the Altar. This allows everyone in the church to see Jesus who is present and waiting for each of us in the Consecrated Host, the Blessed Sacrament.

What do you do during Eucharistic Adoration? Bishop Fulton Sheen encouraged people to bring their Bibles and practice *Lectio Divina*, which means divine reading. This is when you read a paragraph, or perhaps even a chapter from the Bible and reflect on it. In the book, *Pocket Guide to Adoration*, Father Josh Johnson discusses the five steps of divine reading:

1. **Read:** What does the Scripture Text say in and of itself?
2. **Meditate:** What does the Scripture say to me?
3. **Pray:** Converse with the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ about what the Scriptures are saying to me.
4. **Contemplate:** Allow myself to be in the stillness of the gaze of Christ as I look at him.
5. **Resolve:** What concrete action will I take in my daily life in response to *Lectio Divina*?



However, what manner each individual chooses to spend time with Jesus during Eucharistic Adoration is up to them as long as it is done in a quiet and reverent manner. Bring a religious book and use the time to read and reflect. Pray the Rosary or other special devotional prayers. Use this time to converse with Jesus privately and engage in active listening before the Consecrated Host. Spend the time in quiet Adoration. It is not a requirement to stay the entire hour, stop in and stay as long as your schedule allows. You do need to be aware that the priest, and parishioners who are present, will say a set of prayers at the beginning, and at the end of Adoration. These prayers are located on the back, inside cover of our missalette.

Many saints have attested to the strength and guidance they received when engaging in Eucharistic Adoration. Two contemporary Saints, Saint Mother Theresa and Saint John Paul II, stated they went to Adoration daily and always said it was how they were able to persevere in God's work. If you are looking for a way to strengthen and deepen your faith, attend Eucharistic Adoration.

Join Us for First Thursday Adoration - January 4th from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

We will be showing *Hostia: The Power and Presence of the Eucharist*. Join us and learn about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the value of Adoration in our Catholic Life. The movie will be followed by 15 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. If you have never been, this would be the perfect time to learn and experience Adoration first hand. Please plan on joining us on January 4th at 7:00 p.m.

February's Devotion:

The Holy Family

"Let us love Jesus above all, let us love Mary as our mother; but then, how could we keep from loving Joseph, who was so intimately united to both Jesus and Mary? And how can we honor him better than by imitating his virtues? Now, what else did he do in all his life but contemplate, study, and adore Jesus, even in the midst of his daily labors? Behold, therefore, our model."

The Pope's Intention for February

For the Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

February Dates to Remember

02/01/24: St. Brigid-Patron of Ireland
02/02/24: *Presentation of the Lord*
02/03/24: St. Blaise-Patron of Throat Ailments
02/05/24: St. Agatha-Patron of Nurses / Breast Cancer
02/10/24: St. Scholastica-Patron of Cloistered Nuns
02/13/24: *Holy Face of Jesus (Shrove Tuesday)*
02/14/24: **Ash Wednesday**
02/18/24: St. Bernadette Soubirous-Patron of Illness
02/21/24: *Ember Wednesday*
02/22/24: **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter**
02/23/24: *Ember Friday*
02/24/24: *Ember Saturday*
02/25/24: St. Walburga-Patron against Thunderstorms
02/29/24: St. Oswald-Patron of Soldiers