

# Worship Programs

## History of the Whole Day Adoration

- Brief History of the Whole Day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Shrine
  - The Morning Adoration
  - The Afternoon Adoration and Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
  - First Friday Adoration, then Thursday before First Friday
  - Corpus Christi Whole Day Adoration
  - The Declaration of the Archdiocesan Shrine of the Holy Eucharist
  - Plenary Indulgence is Granted to those who Adore
  - The Tuesday Nocturnal Adoration
  - The Mass and Adoration for the Sanctification of Priests
  - The Whole Day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
  - One Final Note: The Adoration is Liturgical and not a Private Prayer
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- It has been a long dream of the Shrine since the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament first came here in 2003 to start a whole adoration. It was introduced to the people as an afternoon adoration at 5:00 o'clock with vespers, which ended with a simple benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays and Sundays at 5:40 pm. Fr. Mark del Rosario, SSS was the chaplain of the then, Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Sacred Heart and the Local Superior of the Blessed Sacrament Community (SSS).
  - Early in 2006, Fr. Joel Lasutaz, SSS who was already the chaplain of the newly elevated Sacred Heart Chaplaincy (in 2005), added another schedule in the morning after

the 6:00 am Mass: 6:30-7:30. Within the morning adoration, the Lauds, which is a celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours in the morning, is prayed together with the people even until now. The attendance has gradually increased. By this time, the Blessed Sacrament was reposed at 7:30 am.

- The afternoon schedule was moved to an earlier time from 5:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the same year with daily Solemn Benediction after the 5:15 vespers. However, early 2012, the vespers was transferred after the 6:00 pm Mass with the Blessed Sacrament exposed. The Solemn Benediction follows after the vespers at around 6:50 pm.
- Since the time the congregation came to the Shrine, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed the whole day during first Fridays where the organizations took turns to adore from 6:30 am to 12 midnight. This is an expression of the parishioners' devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Because of the first Friday Masses, in 2008, this was transferred to Thursday before first Friday which is only until 7:30 pm.
- During the celebration of the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, in 2003, the Blessed Sacrament is processed around RER Drive Subdivision. It was only in 2006 that the Blessed Sacrament is exposed the whole day in between Masses for adoration with the same practice of Corpus Christi Procession. However, in 2009, with the cooperation of Msgr. Columbus Villamil, SSJV, the parish administrator of St. Augustine Cathedral, the procession is done after the Corpus Christi Evening Mass of Saturday with Abp. Antonio Ledesma, SJ, DD, archbishop of Cagayan de Oro, as the presider, from the Shrine to the Cathedral. At the Cathedral, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed the whole night until 3:45 am. Each parish in the city take turns to adore. The Sacred Heart Parishioners adore at the last hour at 2:30 am. The Solemn Benediction ends the nocturnal adoration at the Cathedral at 3:30 am. The whole day adoration

during this great feast is continued here at the Shrine in between Masses.

- The zeal and passion to schedule the whole day adoration was intensified when the Sacred Heart Church was dedicated and formally declared as the Archdiocesan Shrine of the [Holy Eucharist](#) and the chaplaincy was canonically erected as Sacred Heart Parish by Abp. Ledesma during the same celebration in August 2, 2008. Yet, the planned whole day adoration was not initiated.
- In 2009, Abp. Ledesma, for the first year Dedication Anniversary of the Shrine, granted indulgences to the pilgrims after fulfilling the obligations to obtain the grace. One major work to obtain a plenary indulgence is to make an [adoration of the Blessed Sacrament](#) for at least half an hour. There are, nonetheless, other works to obtain the indulgences.
- In 2008, some adorers from the Cathedral came to the Shrine to adore Jesus exposed on the Altar during the night. This started the nocturnal adoration which is done every Tuesday from 10:00 pm to Wednesday at 5:50 am. The Blessed Sacrament is reposed for the Eucharistic Celebration at 6:00 am.
- In 2010, to celebrate the Year for Priests, the adoration for the Sanctification of Priest was started. This is done every Thursday after the 6:00 pm Mass, which is also offered for the same intention. This Mass and Adoration for Priests is still done until today. Each Thursday, the clergy of one arch/diocese or one religious congregation is offered together with the weekly offering for the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro and the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

The People's Eucharistic League and the Whole Day Adoration

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Eucharistic League (PEL), an association of adorers founded by St. Peter Julian Eymard in 1859 in France, to handle the whole day adoration was conceived but was not materialized. It was only in August 18 of this year during the conference on "Eucharist, Adoration of Love" (by Fr. Joseph Matitu, SSS) that the association was introduced. By the request of Fr. Joel, Fr. Arnel Martinez, SSS, our Local Superior, gave a short presentation about the PEL during the conference with the idea of starting the whole day adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Series of PEL orientation seminars were then given by Fr. Joel and Fr. Arnel. This orientation is now scheduled every 4th Saturday of the month at 8:30 in the morning. The PEL associates, now numbering to more or less 100, commit to adore 1 hour each week. Other members adore every day.

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- The way we do our adoration here at the Shrine is by having the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the Altar of the Celebration to make its connection with the

Eucharisticcelebration obvious and can readily be meditated. The Sacred Host is changed every day during the morning Mass except Sundays. The Blessed Sacrament that is exposed is a broken Host to emphasize its connection with the Lamb of God that is introduced before communion. Whenever there is a Wedding, Funeral Mass or Eucharistic Conference inside the Shrine, the Blessed Sacrament is transferred in a prayer room to continue the adoration. After these activities, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed back on the Main Altar. With all these, we understand that the Adoration flows from the Mass and leads back to it. It makes our Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament liturgical.