



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There are few moments in life more humbling than when we realize God is calling us—not just in general, but personally, by name. And more often than not, that call comes not through lightning or noise, but through stillness. Through restlessness. Through a gentle stirring in the soul. Through a quiet nudge that says, “Come. Be with Me.”

That’s what Eucharistic Adoration is.

It’s not just another devotion. It’s not a pious extra for those with time to spare. It’s an encounter. A meeting with the living God, who waits for you—silently, lovingly, faithfully—in the Blessed Sacrament.

Inside the quiet of the church, exposed upon the altar, Jesus is truly present—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. And He is not there in silence because He has nothing to say—but because His presence speaks what words cannot.

We are blessed to have a place to adore Him continually here at St. Mary, where the Blessed Sacrament is kept and adored. But like any true gift, it needs to be cherished, nurtured, and shared. We need hearts willing to watch and wait with Him—especially in the overnight hours, when the world sleeps and few are stirring. Those hidden hours are some of the most sacred of all. And right now, they are the ones we struggle most to fill.

Let me share a story from one of my former parishes—one that continues to echo in my own heart.

A young father there—a good man, busy, tired, like so many of us—signed up for an hour at 2 a.m. in the middle of the week. He took it because no one else had, and truthfully, he thought he might try it for a month and then quietly back out. But something happened in those early hours. Something changed. He told me, “That hour became the one place where I didn’t have to fix anything or perform for anyone. I could just be. I wasn’t a boss or a husband or a dad—I was simply a son. A son in the presence of his Father.”

Over time, the fruits began to show. He became more patient at home. His marriage deepened. His anxiety lessened. His heart softened. “I thought I was doing something for God,” he said, “but He was doing something for me.” That’s what happens when we spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist. He gently reorders our lives. He reawakens our dignity. He renews our tired spirits and brings peace to places we didn’t even know were wounded.

And this invitation is not only for one man. It’s for you.

Maybe you’ve been feeling restless at night. Maybe you’ve woken up for no reason at all—at 2 a.m. or 3 a.m.—just lying there, unable to fall back asleep. That may not be chance. That may be the voice of the Lord calling you, just as He called the young Samuel in the temple.

“Samuel, Samuel!”

And Samuel responded, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” (1 Samuel 3:10)

Perhaps your name is being called in the night, too.

I want to especially encourage our families:

- Spouses, pray for one another.
- Parents, offer an hour for your children, especially those who have drifted away.
- Grandparents, pray for your grandchildren and the faith of generations to come.
- Students and young adults, bring your questions and uncertainties to Jesus.
- Those carrying grief or hardship, come rest your burdens before the One who carried the Cross.

Let us be a parish that watches and waits with the Lord. Let us be known not by programs or buildings, but by prayer—prayer that rises from the heart of our parish, day and night.

Adoration can change everything.

It can heal broken hearts.

It can restore fractured families.

It can purify the Church.
It can sanctify this community.
It can rekindle the flame of faith in a world grown cold.

And it begins with one hour. One quiet “yes.”

If you’ve never committed to a Holy Hour, I lovingly ask you to take the leap. Just try. Give the Lord a chance to love you in silence. And if you already have an hour, perhaps now is the time to consider another—or to sign up as a substitute. Even one extra hour a month can help keep the chain of prayer unbroken.

To sign up, simply visit:

👉 <https://sciotocatholic.weadorehim.com/>

✉ Or email: adorationsccp@gmail.com

We’ll help you find a time that fits your schedule. And if overnight hours are what the Lord is calling you to, I promise you—you will never regret that “yes.”

He is waiting for you. Not with demands. But with love.

Let us fill our parish with hearts that say, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”
Let us keep Christ at the center of our homes, our parish, our culture, and our lives.

With love in Christ and deep gratitude,

Fr. Stephen M. Smith
Pastor