



A Rite of Eucharistic Devotions

Prepared by

Society of Catholic Priests,
European Province

INTRODUCTION

This Rite of Eucharistic Devotions is designed to be led by an authorised lay person, such as a lay reader or eucharistic minister with permission from the Vicar.

You may wish to gather at the location of the reserved sacrament (such as a side chapel) or utilise the main altar of the church for this service. A corporal cloth should be laid on the altar with two or more candles lit.

When the service begins, perhaps signified by a bell, the lay minister takes the Blessed Sacrament from the tabernacle or aumbry and places it on the altar. People may choose to kneel or stand for this.

A hymn may be sung, such as:

**O saving victim opening wide
The gate of heaven to man below,
Our foes press hard on every side-
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.
All praise and thanks to thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three;
O grant us life that shall not end
In our true native land with thee.**

The Lord's Prayer may be prayed, followed by:

Lay Minister: Like as the hart longs for flowing streams,
so longs my soul for you,
O God: Lord, have mercy

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lay Minister: O send out your light and your truth,
that they may lead me:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lay Minister: May we come to your altar,
O God, the God of our salvation:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lay Minister: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

All:

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have
given us the memorial of your passion:
grant us so to reverence
the sacred mysteries of your body and blood
that we may know within ourselves
and show forth in our lives
the fruits of your redemption;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Scripture

Eucharistic readings could include John 6: 51-58 or Matthew 26: 17-30 for example. It should be noted however that reading any scripture in the presence of Christ in the Sacrament is appropriate.

Reflection

There is a time of led or silent reflection before the Blessed Sacrament. This could be accompanied by music.

This time is for devotion: being with the Lord, listening to Him, for worshipping Him.

Prayers

The prayers could be formal intercessions or a period of open prayer started and ended by the lay minister allowing anyone to offer a short intercessions.

The lay minister may introduce the prayers with:

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them.

The prayers may end with the following acclamation:

Lay Minister: I am the bread of life,
anyone who comes to me shall not hunger,
anyone who believes in me shall never thirst.

All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.

Lay Minister: The bread of God comes down from heaven,
and gives life to the world.

All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.

Lay Minister: Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood
has eternal life and I will raise them up on the last day.

All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.

Lay Minister: It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail.
The words I speak, they are spirit and they are life.

All: Alleluia. Lord, give us this bread always.

A hymn may be sung, such as 'Sweet Sacrament Divine' or 'Ubi Caritas'.

Ending

People may stand.

Lay Minister: Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

All: Amen

The Blessed Sacrament is returned by the lay minister to the tabernacle or aumbry during which people may kneel and the following may be said once or sung three times:

**Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**