

General Principals of Adoration and/or Exposition:

Adoration is:

- No rite or ritual involved;
- One or more people at their own discretion;
- Available anytime *the church or chapel* where the tabernacle is located is open or accessible; the tabernacle itself is not open, however.
- What my mother used to call, “Making a visit to Jesus.”

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is:

- A liturgical act; a rite of the Roman Catholic Church;
- The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a monstrance or ciborium (uncovered) for public veneration by the faithful;
- A public celebration that enables the faithful to perceive more clearly the relationship between the reserved Sacrament and the Mass;
- After the Blessed Sacrament has been exposed, a period of adoration containing readings of the Word of God, songs, prayers and sufficient time for silent prayer follows;
- At least two people must be present at all times when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed;
- During lengthy periods of exposition, the Blessed Sacrament must be reposed in the tabernacle when Mass is celebrated in the body of the church or chapel where exposition occurs;
- If interrupted because of too few worshipers, the Blessed Sacrament is to be replaced in the tabernacle at times announced beforehand, however this reposition may not take place more often than twice during the day and at predetermined times;
- The rite ends at a specific set time; it may end with Benediction if a priest or deacon is presiding.

Adoration—General Outline w/out Benediction (for a lay leader)

- Altar is set with cloth and two candles.

I. Procession to Altar

- Leader in humeral veil, with the monstrance; server carrying incense; and server carrying cross gather.
- Together they process to the altar (the musicians may begin a hymn as the cue for the procession to enter, or this can happen in silence):

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Server with incense
Server with cross
Leader w/Blessed Sacrament in monstrance

II. Adoration

- At the altar, Leader will set the monstrance on the altar.
- Server with incense will hold the censor out to the leader, who will put incense in the censor.
- Leader kneels and incenses the Blessed Sacrament.
- All will kneel for a period of adoration.
- Leader can remain in place for adoration, or move to another place for as long as adoration continues.
- Musicians can alternate music with silence during Adoration.

III. Procession with Blessed Sacrament (if desired)

- Toward the end of exposition, Leader will go to the altar, genuflect, stand, put on the humeral veil, and pick up the Blessed Sacrament.
- Preceded by the servers with cross and censor, he or she will process through the community.
- End up this procession back at the altar.
- There may be music for this, or silence.
- Back at the altar, leader places the Blessed Sacrament on the altar, genuflects, and kneels.
- Musicians and all sing “Tantum Ergo.”
- Leader will place incense into the thurible and, kneeling, incense the Blessed Sacrament.
- After this, and after the “Tantum Ergo” is finished, Leader will rise, put on the humeral veil, genuflect, and take the monstrance.
- Leader takes the Blessed Sacrament back to the chapel, preceded in procession by the server with the incense and the server with the cross.
- Musicians may play a recessional. This can also happen in silence.