



Eucharistic Congress 2024

ORDER OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FORWARD

The Second Vatican Council teaches that taking part in the Eucharistic sacrifice is the “source and summit of Christian life” (*Lumen Gentium 11*) and that the “other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch” (*Presbyterum Ordinis 5*). In short, for Catholics the Eucharist is essential to our life of faith and fuels and informs our participation in the world.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a form of Eucharistic cult which is particularly widespread in the Church and earnestly recommended to her Pastors and faithful. Its initial form derives from Holy Thursday and the altar of repose. This adoration is a most apt way of expressing the connection between the celebration of the memorial of the Lord's Sacrifice and his continued presence in the Sacrament of the Altar. The reservation of the Sacred Species, so as to be able to administer Viaticum to the sick at any time, encouraged the practice among the faithful of recollection before the tabernacle and to worship Christ present in the Sacrament.

Indeed, this worship of adoration has a sound and firm foundation, especially since faith in the Lord's real presence has as its natural consequence the outward and public manifestation of that belief. Therefore, the devotion prompting the faithful to visit the blessed sacrament draws them into an ever deeper share in the paschal mystery and leads them to respond gratefully to the gift of him who through his humanity constantly pours divine life into the members of his Body. Abiding with Christ the Lord, they enjoy his intimate friendship and pour out their hearts before him for themselves and for those dear to them and they pray for the peace and salvation of the world. (*Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy 164-164*)



Archdiocese of | Archidiocèse d'
Halifax-Yarmouth

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

When Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately follows Mass:

- A new host for the Monstrance is to be consecrated during the Mass.
- While the distribution of Holy Communion is underway, ministers should prepare the altar with the monstrance, the stand (if one is used), and four to six candles.
- Following the distribution of Holy Communion, the presider may purify the vessels, though it is preferred if this can be done following the celebration. The presider exposes the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance and is then seated.
- Following a period of sacred silence, the presider stands and leads the Prayer after Communion, after which, the concluding rites are omitted. The presider kneels before the Blessed Sacrament and all join in singing an appropriate hymn.
- Incense is ordinarily used, and the Blessed Sacrament is incensed three times from a kneeling position.

When Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament happens apart from the celebration of Mass, the following is observed:

- The altar is prepared with the monstrance, the stand (if one is used), and four to six candles.
- The presiding priest, deacon or acolyte retrieves the Blessed Sacrament from the tabernacle and exposes the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance.
- Then all kneel for the singing of the hymn.
- Incense is ordinarily used, and the Blessed Sacrament is incensed three times from a kneeling position.

HYMN: O Salutaris Hostia – CBWIII 689

O salutaris hostia

Quae caeli pandis ostium

Bella premunt hostilia;

Da robur fer auxilium

Uni Trinoque Domino

Sit sempiterna gloria:

Qui vitam sine termino,

Nobis donet in patria. Amen.

O Saving Victim, op'ning wide

The gate of heav'n to us below!

Our foes press on from ev'ry side:

Your aid supply, your strength bestow.

To your great name be endless praise,

Immortal Godhead, One in Three;

O grant us endless length of days

When our true native land we see. Amen.

TIME OF PRAYER

- *During expositions, there should be prayers, songs and readings from scripture to direct the attention of the faithful to the worship of Christ the Lord. This might include the Rosary or the Divine Mercy Chaplet.*
- *A homily or a brief exhortation may be given to develop a better understanding of the Eucharistic mystery.*
- *A reading from one of the Church Fathers may be read, or poetry from the Breviary.*
- *Part of the Liturgy of the Hours, especially morning or evening prayer may be celebrated before the Blessed Sacrament.*

- *Intercessory prayers may be offered by the community.*
- *Adequate periods of sacred silence should also be observed.*
- *Where exposition is extended over a lengthy period, special times for communal prayer should be identified.*
- *Benediction may only be given after a suitable period of silence and prayer with the community.*

CONCLUDING RITES

At the appointed time the presiding minister kneels before the monstrance and the hymn is sung. Incense is ordinarily used, and the Blessed Sacrament is incensed three times from a kneeling position.

HYMN: Tantum Ergo Sacramentum – CBWIII 688 or 68

Tantum ergo Sacramentum	Come adore this wondrous presence,
Veneremur cernui:	Bow to Christ the source of grace.
Et Antiquum documentum	Here is kept the ancient promise
Novo cedat ritui;	Of God's earthly dwelling place.
Praestet fides supplementum	Sight is blind before God's glory,
Sensuum defectui.	Faith alone may see His face.

Genitori Genitoque	Glory be to God the Father,
Laus et jubilatio;	Praise to His co-equal Son.
Salus, honor, virtus quoque	Adoration to the Spirit,
Sit et benedictio;	Bond of love, in Godhead one.
Procedenti ab utroque	Blest be God by all creation
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.	Joyously while ages run. Amen.

RESPONSORY

*O Praise the Lord, all you nations, **acclaim him, all you peoples!***

*Strong is his love for us; **he is faithful for ever.***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The minister stands and prays:

Oremus.	Let us pray.
Deus, qui nobis sub sacra-	Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us
mento mirabili, passionis	the Eucharist as the memorial
tuae memoriam reliquisti:	of your suffering and death.
tribue, quaesumus, ita nos	May our worship of this sacrament
corporis et sanguinis tui	of your body and blood

sacra mysteria venerari,
ut redemptionis tuae fructum
in nobis iugiter sentiamus.
Qui vivis et regnas in
secula seculorum.

R. Amen.

help us to experience the
salvation you won for us
and the peace of the kingdom
where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

- A presiding priest or deacon gives the Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. The minister dons the humeral veil, goes to the altar and with veiled hands blesses the people by making the sign of the cross over them with the monstrance. (During the Benediction, acolytes may ring bells and/or incense the Blessed Sacrament).
- *When a duly appointed lay person presides, they do not give the Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament but continue with the Divine Praises following the Responsory.*
- After the benediction, the presider genuflects, then kneels, and leads the people in the Divine Praises.

THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.
Blessed be His Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.
Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His saints.

PRAYER FOR EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Lord Jesus, in the Eucharist, you nourish us with your Body and Blood
and you are truly present to us. Help us to recognize you more clearly in the breaking of the
bread, and to appreciate your sacrificial love.

Through the Eucharist we are brought into a Holy Communion with You and with our
neighbour. May this Communion help to break down the obstacles and divisions that separate us,
heal the wounds that divide us and fill us with your peace.

As a Eucharistic people, help us to go out to all the world as witnesses to your divine love,
so that through our ministries of outreach we might show care and concern

for those most in need, especially the disadvantaged and the homeless.
May this time of our Eucharistic Congress bring the curious, the seeking, the drifted, and the struggling, into a Holy Communion that will bring healing to the world.

May we always experience the Eucharist as food for the journey,
so that nourished by the Bread of Angels, we might journey together to eternal life.

All of this we ask of you, in communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.

- A presiding minister reposes the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle. Then all stand and sing a hymn.

HYMN: Holy God, We Praise Your Name – CBWIII 555

Or another suitable hymn of praise.

Holy God, we praise your Name; Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim; All in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite Your vast domain; Everlasting is Your reign.
Infinite Your vast domain; Everlasting is Your reign.