

After returning from time with my family and a Spiritual Retreat I was so happy to celebrate, on Corpus Christi Sunday, Thirty Years of Eucharistic Adoration at IOP.

We gathered at the Parish Hall for a potluck meal and fellowship at 1:30pm beginning with opening remarks from Carrie Albright. We then heard Adoration testimonials and stories from (Barbara Lawrence, Arnulfo Reyes, and Bob Blick). Your pastor added his own personal experience.

We then moved to the Church at 2:45pm for Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. During which time Deacon Jim Marapoti and Tom Bell spoke of our history (Father Doug Lawson started Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in Jacksonville in 1995). Your pastor followed with a talk on a simple Biblical and Theological overview on Eucharistic Adoration and the concept of a “Holy Hour.”

I will add: Many priests who have set up Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration in their parishes testify to a growing demand for the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a fruit of Eucharistic Adoration. This fruit has allowed us to grow in holiness, virtue, and to become an evangelizing and welcoming parish with continued spiritual zeal and growth in our ministries of all ages. I have witnessed this joy since I have been here at IOP these past six years. I often receive positive comments from visitors noting this presence of the Holy Spirit.

Thus, we came together this past Sunday to praise the Lord for allowing us to have this great gift in our small town for over thirty years.

I spoke on the concept of a “Holy Hour” and mentioned I would leave you with a few two links. First: Our Parish Website is a great place to start.

1.From our Parish Website: <https://www.iopnc.org/perpetual-adoration>

Then:

2. <https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-holy-hour/>

This Hallow App link is similar to my talk on: What is a Holy Hour - Origin.” (St. Margaret Mary’s visions in 1674 / and Matthew 26:36-40...)

**Vivat Jesus,
Father Vic Gournas**