

A Short History of the 40 Hours Devotion

The Forty Hours Devotion, known traditionally as *Quarant'Ore*, is one of the Catholic Church's oldest and most cherished forms of Eucharistic devotion. Its roots reach back to the early 16th century in Italy, where Catholics began gathering before the Blessed Sacrament for extended periods of prayer, particularly during times of spiritual and civil crisis. By 1537, the practice was clearly established in Milan, where the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for approximately 40 hours before being transferred to another church, allowing prayer and adoration to continue.

The devotion soon spread throughout Italy, and saints and religious communities promoted it, including St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria, St. Philip Neri, St. Charles Borromeo, and the early Jesuits. In 1592, Pope Clement VIII gave the devotion a more organized form in Rome, establishing a continuous cycle in which different churches took turns holding 40 Hours.

The number '40' has profound biblical significance, recalling the forty days of Christ's fasting in the wilderness and, traditionally, the approximate 40 hours His Body lay in the tomb between His death and Resurrection. The devotion therefore invites Catholics to keep watch with Christ in prayer, repentance, thanksgiving, and reparation.

The Forty Hours Devotion eventually became deeply rooted in American Catholic life. In 1853, St. John Neumann introduced the practice in the Diocese of Philadelphia, and it subsequently spread throughout the United States.

Today, 40 Hours remains a beautiful expression of Eucharistic faith. For St. Joseph Parish Maumee, a 40 Hours celebration carries an especially profound meaning: **40 hours of keeping watch with Christ in thanksgiving for 40 years of His abiding presence in the Blessed Sacrament!**

Main Celebrations

Opening and closing 40 hours of thanksgiving.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

Opening Mass

6:30 PM

Exposition and procession follow.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving

11:00 AM

Celebration Reception

12:00 PM Noon

In the Family Center Fellowship, historical displays, and memories of forty years of adoration.

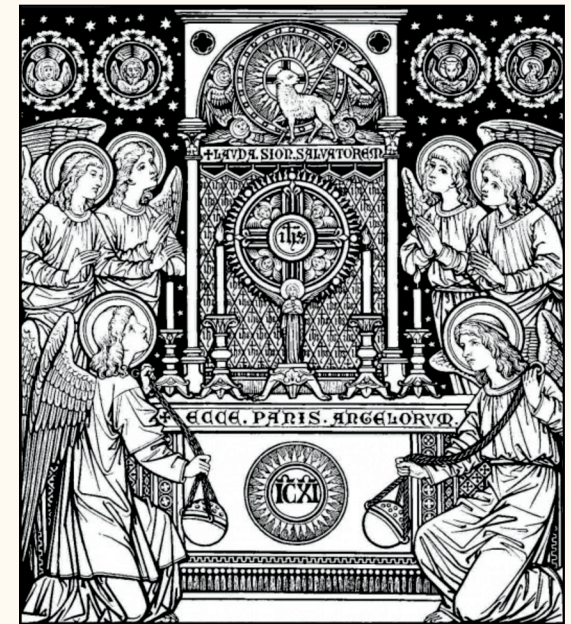
CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE

Thursday 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM

Friday 8:30 AM until line ends, and 4:00 - 5:30 PM

YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us in thanksgiving. Come with your family, invite a friend, and spend time with Our Eucharistic Lord.



40 HOURS BEFORE JESUS

To Celebrate 40 Years

A Traditional Forty Hours Devotion
Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of
the Perpetual Adoration Chapel

November 19th - 21st, 2026

St. Joseph Parish Maumee
Father Eric Schild • Pastor



"Could you not watch one hour with Me?"
Matthew 26:40

Thursday

November 19th, 2026

5:30 PM:
Confessions & Sacred Music

6:30 PM:
Opening Mass
*For past and present adorers;
Fr. Eric Schild, Pastor presiding.*

7:00 PM:
Exposition & Eucharistic Procession

8:00 PM:
Witnesses of the Power of the Eucharist

9:00 PM - 9:15 PM:
Night Prayer

9:15 PM - 12:00 AM Midnight:
Silent Adoration



*O Sacrament Most Holy,
O Sacrament Divine,
all praise and all thanksgiving be
every moment Thine.*

Friday

November 20th, 2026

12:00 AM Midnight - 7:00 AM:
Overnight Silent Adoration

7:00 AM:
Morning Prayer

7:30 AM:
Rosary

8:00 AM:
Mass
For deceased adorers and benefactors.

8:30 - 10:00 AM:
Adoration with Chant
Confessions at 8:30 AM until line ends.

10:00 - 11:00 AM:
**Holy Hour for the Sick, Caregivers,
and Deceased Parishioners**

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM:
**Holy Hour for Homeschool Children
& Family**

12:00 PM Noon:
Angelus & Midday Prayer

1:00 PM:
Holy Hour for School Children

2:00 PM:
Parish Outreach Ministries

3:00 PM:
Divine Mercy Chaplet

4:00 - 5:30 PM:
Adoration with Chant
Confessions available.

5:30 PM:
Vespers - Evening Prayer

6:00 PM:
Parish Holy Hour for Families

7:00 PM:
Contemporary Holy Hour
Praise and worship with Liam Brown.

8:00 PM - 8:15 PM:
Night Prayer

8:15 PM - 12:00 AM Midnight:
Candlelight Silent Adoration

Saturday

November 21st, 2026

12:00 AM Midnight - 7:00 AM:
Silent Adoration

7:00 AM:
Morning Prayer

7:30 AM:
Rosary & Marian Hymns

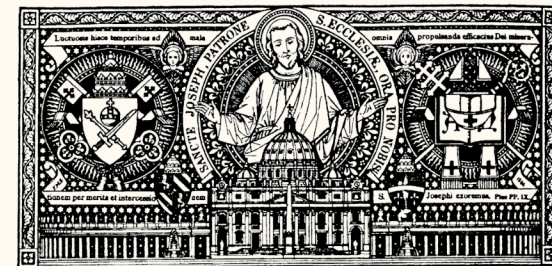
8:00 AM:
**Holy Hour for Founders
& Early Adorers**
*Remembering founders, early adorers,
and past pastors.*

9:00 AM:
**Holy Hour for Children in Religious
Education & Family**

10:00 AM:
**Anniversary Reflection &
Recognition**
*Honoring founding adorers and
benefactors.*

11:00 AM:
Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving
*Thanksgiving for forty years of
adoration; repossession in the chapel.*

12:00 PM Noon:
Celebration Reception
*Family Center; fellowship and historical
displays.*



St. Joseph, pray for us.