On Friendship with Jesus (Part IV of VII)

+

Last Sunday, we accompanied Jesus into the desert & witnessed His demonic temptations. Noting the desert is a place of emptiness, we applied His three temptations to detaching ourselves from creatures to be more attached & more a friend, to God.

One way to grow in friendship with God is Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Today, The Second Sunday in Lent, Jesus is transfigured atop Mount Tabor where "His face did shine as the sun: His garment became white as snow."

The radiance of Jesus, witnessed today by the three apostles, was not a miracle but the natural consequence of God having a human nature; again, when Jesus walked this earth 2000 years ago, He *naturally* would have glowed had God not veiled this by a miracle.

What is Adoration?

Adoration is time spent with Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, housed in the monstrance atop the tabernacle. Again, adoration is adoring the same Jesus Who, 2000 years ago, walked this earth, gave sight to the blind, cured the lame, multiplied the loaves, raised the dead; and His Eucharistic face would even now "shine as the sun" had God not veiled this by a miracle.

The Council of Trent states our Lord instituted the Blessed Sacrament for two reasons: to perpetuate His one sacrifice & to communicate His Life to men. In the book, *In Sinu Jesu*, after lamenting His neglect in the Blessed Sacrament, Jesus gives a third reason:

"I am treated like a thing, like a commodity kept in reserve in case of need. This was not My intention in instituting the Sacrament of My redeeming love. My intention was threefold. It was to first perpetuate My one sacrifice through all ages… It was to nourish souls with My Body & Blood for their healing, sanctification & union with Me & with all the members of My mystical Body… I had a third reason as well: it was to offer souls – especially My priests – the companionship, light & warmth of My Real Presence… until the end of time." (p.85)

Again, Adoration is time spent with Jesus Who craves our companionship.

What should I do during Adoration?

"There are many ways of expressing friendship & of responding to the love of one's friend, but the one most satisfying to the heart is the simple act of companionship, of presence, of being together. Experience has taught you this in human relationships, but you have yet to apply this in your relationship with Me as generously as I desire. Come to Me, remain with Me. Seek me out in the Sacrament of My love &, by remaining with Me, adore Me with tenderness & give Me your heart's friendship & affection." (p.153)

Is an "active participation" needful at Adoration?

"It is enough for Me that you seek Me out & remain quiet in my presence & content to be with Me. I have no need of your thoughts, no need of your words. It is enough for Me that you should offer Me an adoring heart full of love & grateful for My abiding presence in the Most Holy Sacrament." (p. 47)

"It is enough for you to be here. I do not ask anything else of you. It is your adoring, loving presence that My heart wants from you. In this way, you will console Me & make reparation for so much coldness, ingratitude & indifference. I am here for you. Be here for Me." (p.68)

What if I get distracted or sleepy at Adoration, will I not offend Jesus?

"It is enough for them to come to Me, even if they are weary & without words or affectionate thoughts. By the simple act of coming to Me, they demonstrate their love for Me." (p.113)

"Weariness & fatigue are no obstacle to a fruitful time of adoration. They are incidental; what matters is the desire to seek My Eucharistic Face & abide in My company." (p.158)

continued infra

St Francis de Sales Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in the Archdiocese of Atlanta preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls according to the liturgical books of 1962.

587 Landers Dr SW
Mableton, GA 30126
770-948-6888
www.fsspatl.com

Second Sunday on Lent

March 1, 2026, A.D.

Pastor: Fr Chris Hathaway, FssP – pastor@fsspatl.com

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Joseph Favole, FssP – assistant@fsspatl.com

Fr. Brian Austin, FssP, - in residence

Rev. Mr. Doug Anderson, Deacon

Office Manager: Ms. Julieta Sanchez – secretary@fsspatl.com

Director of Religious Education: Thomas Cole- DRE@fsspatl.com

Church Office Hours: 8:15 am to 4:15 pm, Monday – Friday

Bookstore – open Sundays after the 8 am & 10:30 am Masses and 1st Saturdays after the 9 am Mass.

Baptism: Contact the parish at least three months before birth.
Marriage: Contact the parish at least six months before the wedding.
Inquiring about the Catholic Faith? Call the office.

Daily Mass Times
Mon. & Wed.: 6:30 am & 9 am.
Tues. & Thurs.: 6:30 am & 12 noon.
Fri.: 6:30 am & 7 pm (followed by Holy Hour).
Sat.: 7 am & 9 am.

Sunday Mass Times
7 am low Mass (at the church)
8 am low Mass (at the gym)
10:30 am high Mass (at the gym)
1 pm low Mass (at the church)
Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before each Mass.

Church Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 6 am - 7 pm

Fri.: 6 am - 9 pm

Sat.: 6:30 am -7 pm

Sun.: 7 am - 7 pm

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
8:15 am – 4:15 pm.

Closed on Holy Days

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 03-01	2nd Sunday of Lent	1/V	
Mon 03-02	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Tues 03-03	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Wed 03-04	Feria of Lent	3/V	St Casimir, St Lucius
Thu 03-05	Feria of Lent	3/V	
Fri 03-06	Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	Feria
Sat 03-07	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W	Feria , St Thomas
Sun 03-08	3rd Sunday of Lent	1/V	

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

Sun 03-01	(7 am) *Pro-populo* (frh)	
	(8 am) Victoria Kurlinski intention (frf)	rb C Kurlinski
	(10:30 am) Fr Austin's intention (fra)	
	(1 pm) Khalil J Williams (frh)	rb R T Glover
Mon 03-02	(6:30 am) Landon Chancey	rb D Chancey
	(9 am) Ian Ian Fincher	rb C Kurlinski
Tues 03-03	(6:30 am) Brian Gertz +	rb Shryock family
	(12 noon pm) Sarai Estelle Travino +	rb B&B Trevino
Wed 03-04	(6:30 am) Jerry Richmond	rb R T Glover
	(9 am) Dominic Napolitano +	rb K Hanlon
Thu 03-05	(6:30 am) Arely Sanchez	rb M Acosta
	(12 noon) Charles Klosek +	rb Shryock family
Fri 03-06	(6:30 am) Dominic Napolitano +	rb K Hanlon
	(7 pm) Rebecca Fidero	rb J Hufford
Sat 03-07	(7 am) Brian Kindzia +	rb Shryock family
	(9 am) Cathy Longtin	rb M Diaz
Sun 03-08	(7 am) *Pro-populo* (frh)	
	(8 am) Fr Austin's intention	
	(10:30 am) Waclav Jagiella +	rb C Jagiella
	(1 pm) Satarah Radford & family	rb R T Glover

This week, Monday, staff meeting (1 pm); Wednesday, Inquiry Class (7:30 pm, frh); 1st Thursday, Vespers (5 pm), Adoration (5:30-8 pm), Confessions (6-7 pm); 1st Friday, normal Masses & devotions; 1st Saturday, normal Masses & devotions, St Stephen's Guild (10 am), Inquiry Class (10 am, frh).

Last week's collection: cash $7,695.59; online $5,890.00 total: $13,585.59.
Attendance: 7 am-66; 8 am-154; 10:30 am-280; 1 pm-120; 620 total souls.

2026 AAA status at SFdS as of Feb. 25, 2026: $58,975.50 assessment; $6,720 pledged; $8,845.00 paid; from 15.46% of 402 households;. ***Thank you for your support!***

Fr. Hathaway is looking for someone who has the profession or the hobby of small engine repair e.g., chainsaw, push lawn mower etc. If this is you, and you would like to help, please email him.

Please know that we are low on Mass intentions. Fr Hathaway will permit 5 Mass intentions per person and record intentions up to six months out.

Thank you to the 24 souls who offered to serve on our new Parish Council. Scott Calta, Michael Brons, Nathan Summers, Christan Villarreal, Jeff Graebner, Yoly Insinga & Lisa Hagerty were selected.

SFdS has received permission to host a homeschool co-op beginning the Fall of 2026. If this interests you, please attend a meeting on March 15 from 9:15 to 10:15 in the social hall.

What if I cannot come to Adoration?

"If you cannot come before My Eucharistic Face, you can be transported there spiritually by an act of desire coming from the depths of the soul. Ask Me to transport you before those tabernacles of the world where I am most forgotten, neglected, and even despised." (p. 153)

To end, two thousand years ago, on Mount Tabor, the face of Jesus "did shine as the sun," Moses & Elias appeared, the voice of God the Father boomed from heaven, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased: hear ye Him."

Today, at every Mass, the same Jesus appears, less the special effects.

Said again, if, at the Consecration or receiving Holy Communion or beholding the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance, we saw a "radiant" Host & praising angels & heard the voice of God, would we then believe? Would we believe more? Would we then say with Peter, "This is awesome!" (in Aramaic: "It is good to be here!")?

One day, Jesus told the monk during a moment of Adoration: "I was really no more present to My Apostles than I am to you at this moment in the Sacrament of My love. Do you believe this?" (p.132)

Indeed, this is a question for all of us: "Do we believe this?" If we truly believed, what could keep us from Adoration?

A thought to bring with you to Adoration:

The thing that confuses us so much is that we are constantly thinking about ourselves: What am I going to do for the world? What am I going to do for my neighbor? You've got the wrong question.

The question is: What is God going to do through you? That's the question. How much are you going to let Him do? When you begin to ask the right questions you will get the right answers. You are nothing; and until you come to that realization, you will stumble and crawl through all of life. There is absolute freedom in the thought that you are nothing. Only then are you free to be used by God for His ends, the ends for which you have been created. ~ Mother Angelica

Maxim of St Francis de Sales

So, no matter how God treats you, it is all the same to you, you tell me. ...Ah! How suddenly self-love insinuates itself into our affections, however devout they may appear.