

# GUIDE TO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOLLOWING MASS

Before a period of lengthy exposition is observed in a church, it is preferable for Mass to be celebrated at which the host to be used for adoration is consecrated. Before Mass the monstrance, luna, thurible, incense, and charcoal should be prepared and placed on the credence table or some other unobtrusive place near the altar.

The Mass of the day may be celebrated; optionally, the Mass of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ or the votive Mass of the Most Holy Eucharist may be celebrated, except on:

- Sundays in Advent, Lent, and Easter
- solemnities
- days within the Octave of Easter
- All Souls Day
- Ash Wednesday
- the days of Holy Week

Mass is celebrated in the usual way until the distribution of Communion. The charcoal is lit (if incense has not been used in the Mass) and, after all have received, the monstrance is placed on the altar. The deacon (or, in his absence, a priest) places the host in the monstrance. The celebrant then returns to the chair and sits. After a brief period of silence the celebrant stands and says the Prayer after Communion.

The concluding rites of the Mass are omitted. Instead, the celebrant goes to the altar, puts incense in the thurible, incenses the Blessed Sacrament, and departs or joins the people in adoration. The people may sing a suitable hymn.

After the period of exposition and adoration, Benediction may be celebrated in the usual way.



## References

*Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass*, no. 93-94  
*Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist*, no. 28-33



DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA  
Office of Divine Worship  
2300 South 9th Street  
Lafayette, Indiana 47909-2400  
[www.dol-in.org/worship](http://www.dol-in.org/worship)

The ministries of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana are supported by generous contributions to the Catholic Ministries Appeal.