

## ST. OSCAR ROMERO PARISH ESTABLISHES PERPETUAL ADORATION



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament leads to the salvation and sanctification of souls.

Our organization helps parishes to start or expand Eucharistic or perpetual adoration.

Fr. Jay Donahue of St. Oscar Romero parish in Canonsburg PA, contacted us in August of 2024 to request assistance establishing round the clock perpetual adoration. He wanted to ensure that effective practices were adhered to.

Two dates were set – one for the sign-up weekend date and another for the perpetual adoration start-up.

Having witnessed the incredible fruits and blessings of perpetual adoration in his former parish, Fr. Jay and his fellow clergy at his

new parish were enthusiastic about launching perpetual adoration. These dynamic and dedicated priests were key.

Our organization provided comprehensive digital Do-It-Yourself resources and some remote assistance. Our prayer team and his parish were asked to pray and do some kind of mortification or fasting for a successful launch of perpetual adoration.

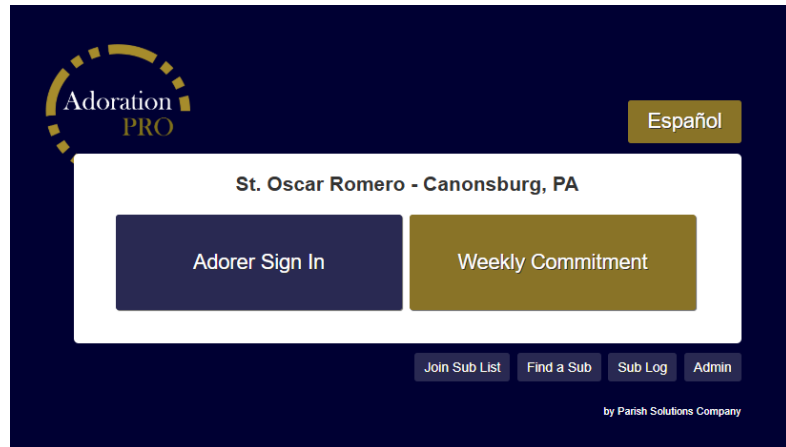
The parish began preparing a place for adoration in their St. Patrick Center. Fr. Jay began networking and rallied together a group of parishioners to form a coordinating team to help organize adoration. Other volunteers indicated on sign-up weekend form that they also wanted to help.

The parish did a tremendous job promoting the adoration in their bulletins, on their website, in emails and through networking efforts. For pre-evangelization before the weekend, in addition to our sample bulletin inserts and ideas, parish clergy began preaching about the reasons for perpetual adoration and making a weekly holy hour, based on Sacred Scripture and Church teachings.

We encouraged them to enroll for, [AdorationPro](#), an automated adoration scheduling. They were able to receive a discount [through our website here](#). Some brief training videos were provided on our website to show coordinators and adorers the ease of online sign-up with [AdorationPro](#), which does not necessitate the use of a password. In

November, prior to the paper and pencil sign-up weekend, the parish launched [AdorationPro](#) and parishioners began signing up online.

The parish added [a webpage on adoration to their website](#). This promoted their upcoming perpetual adoration, contained particulars about the launch date, the link to sign-up online, chapel information, and answers to frequently asked questions.



During Advent, Adoration was offered on Fridays to give people a taste of Heaven, and they encouraged everyone people to sign-up online through [their parish website](#) using [AdorationPro](#). Parish bulletins also contained a QR code (an individual hovers their mobile phone's camera over code for a moment to access the online sign-up).

By September, Fr. Jay had forty people fired up to volunteer and they held a two-day conference on the Eucharist. Approximately 50 people signed up online using [AdorationPro](#) before the Sign-Up weekend.

Another 250 people signed up during the paper and pencils sign-up weekend. As a bonus, on the weekend after, a lay-person gave a testimony about adoration after Holy Communion during Masses with another paper and pencil sign up that resulted in about 83 more people signing up.

There was a tremendous and generous response with a total of 383 signing up for a weekly holy hour which covered the 24/7 adoration schedule.

An invitation to PERPETUAL ADORATION form. The form is titled 'An invitation to PERPETUAL ADORATION' and features an illustration of a monstrance on the left. The form is divided into three numbered sections. Section 1 asks 'Yes, I am willing to spend one hour a week with Jesus, who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.' and includes fields for NAME, PHONE, and EMAIL. Section 2 asks 'Please check which time of day you prefer.' and includes four radio button options: MORNING (6AM-NOON), EVENING (6PM-MIDNIGHT), AFTERNOON (NOON-6PM), and NIGHT (MIDNIGHT-6AM). Section 3 asks 'Please check if you are willing to help organize Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.' and includes a checkbox.

The most effective method, the paper and pencil Sign-Up, took place at all Masses on the first weekend of February. The parish went all out and even printed the Invitation to Sign-up for a Weekly Holy Hour forms in color on cardstock. Fr. Jay and another priest in the parish preached an inspiring sign-up sermon instructing people to fill out the form, at both the English and Spanish Masses.

Volunteers/ushers handed out pencils and the sign-up forms, which were completed and collected at the end of the sermon during each Mass. Almost 30% of adults receiving Holy Communion signed up to make one or more weekly holy hours.

On the Thursday evening following the weekend, when the coordinators' training meeting people took place, volunteers were pumped up to help to get things organized.

A few weeks before the chapel opening date, our Adorer Welcome kit was handed out and presented. This includes the chapel particulars, organizational structure, duties, guidelines for chapel conduct, procedures for finding a substitute, and policies related to inclement weather and chapel closing.

Two creative initiatives served to further promote their adoration - a billboard with a Monstrance erected on a nearby major highway and a digital sign in front of the church.

The adoration was launched on Sunday, March 9, 2025, after a solemn [Vespers service with a chapel dedication and Benediction](#). For this event, they printed a program that included this section on their parish patron saint: "On March 23rd, 1980, Archbishop Romero delivered a sermon in which he called on Salvadoran soldiers, as Christians, to obey God's higher order and to stop carrying out the government's repression and violations of basic human rights. Romero spent March 24th in a recollection organized by Opus Dei, a monthly gathering of fellow priests led by Fernando Sáenz Lacalle... That evening, he celebrated Mass at a small chapel... Romero finished his sermon, stepped away from the lectern, and took a few steps to stand at the center of the altar. As he finished speaking, a red car came to a stop on the street in front of the chapel. A gunman emerged from the vehicle, stepped to the door of the chapel, and fired one, or possibly two, shots. Romero was struck in the heart, and the vehicle sped off. He died at the chapel.... We invite you to adore our Eucharistic Lord in silence, until the bells chime at 6:26 p.m., marking the exact time St. Oscar Romero was murdered at the foot of the altar. St. Oscar Romero, pray for us!"



Fr. Jay comes from a family of seven children. His vocation story is [posted on YouTube](#). He comes from a large family, with five sisters and two brothers. As a junior in high school, while on a plane with his family, he met and conversed with a priest who told him that he thought that he would become a priest. At the time, Jay said "I would rather jump

off a plane than become a priest.” During college, he considered a career on Wall Street, but wondered if he would be truly happy if he chose this route and at what price?

Shortly after that, when he was present at an event with Pope St. John Paul II, who knew it was the love of God that really mattered, the Pope looked right at him and Jay grabbed his hand. Experiencing John Paul II’s joy for life and peace, prompted him to invest the rest of his life in the priesthood - so he jumped into Jesus arms and the thrill of a lifetime as a priest. Before proceeding to jump during a skydiving expedition, he also recalled what that priest had said on the plane many years ago, who predicted that he would become a priest.

Let us praise God that at this parish people are adoring Him. Let us unite in prayer for more parishes to offer adoration.

Our organization would be delighted to help other parishes to expand Eucharistic or perpetual adoration and can be reached at:

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION [www.perpetualeucharisticadoration.com](http://www.perpetualeucharisticadoration.com) 1-800-784-9550.

