

# *24 Hours for the Lord*

St. Joseph Parish ~ designated site of the Western Deanery  
211 Church Street, St. Joseph

"As we prepare to embrace once again the Season of Lent, it is important to be reminded, both for ourselves and for those in our care, of the appropriateness and necessity of receiving the Sacrament of Penance. Lent gives each of us a chance to reflect upon our own weaknesses and sins before the Lord, and, at the same time, to remember and take comfort in the infinite Mercy of our Heavenly Father, Who is more eager to forgive our sins than we are to repent of them, as St. Catherine of Siena and others remind us. Making the Sacrament of Penance much more available during the forty days of Lent is itself an extension of the mercy of God, and we remember that maxim from our seminary days that the best confessors are those who are good and regular penitents.

Over the past few years, Pope Francis has designated a beautiful "moment" for the Lenten Season, in which particular attention is given to creating a special opportunity for penitence, prayer, and worship of our Lord in the Eucharist. The Holy Father writes in his Lenten Message for 2018:

*"One such moment of grace will be, again this year, the "24 Hours for the Lord" initiative, which invites the entire Church community to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic Adoration. In 2018, inspired by the words of Psalm 130:4, "With you is forgiveness", this will take place from Friday, 9 March to Saturday, 10 March. In each Diocese, at least one church will remain open for twenty-four consecutive hours, offering an opportunity for both Eucharistic Adoration and Sacramental Confession."*

In light of this, the Bishop asked the Presbyteral Council for their advice on this matter, and, at their suggestion, it was decided to designate one church in each Deanery, rather than just one church in the Diocese, in order to make it more convenient for the faithful to participate. They also recommended a modification of the hours for better participation and security, recognizing the fact that not that many would likely come during the early morning hours. "

## *24 Hours for the Lord*

St. Joseph Parish, 211 Church Street, St. Joseph ~ designated site of the Western Deanery

Eucharistic Adoration will be available in the Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel with the door remaining open for those who may wish to attend at any hour.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available:

Friday, March 9th  
6:00 a.m. - midnight  
Saturday, March 10th  
6:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*Friday and Saturday Masses and Stations of the Cross will remain in the Church as scheduled, with at least one Confessional open during the hours listed above.*