

March 25, 2004
The Annunciation

My dear Parishioners:

We here at St. Mary Help of Christians Church have been blessed during the past eight years with the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar of St. Claire Chapel. At least one adorer has been with Our Lord in the Chapel for every hour of the day for fifty-two weeks for the entire eight year period! This is quite a record – one which I am certain pleases Our Lord and his Mother and of which we can be proud.

I am writing to you during this Lenten season to let you know how much we need new adorers. Presently there are 170 parishioners and others from the Aiken Catholic Community covering all 168 hours of the week. Some of these have been faithful during the entire eight year period. Others have served for a shorter time, but are just as faithful. Many former adorers have left our area. Others have died. Some have suffered medically and are no longer able to come to the chapel. Whatever the reason, we now find ourselves terribly short of people to be with Christ in the chapel.

During the Lenten season our goal is to provide at least two persons to be with Christ for all the hours of the week for the entire year. Even better, we would like to have three or more per hour. Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because of His infinite love for us. He said, “Behold I will be with you always even to the end of the world. I have loved you with an everlasting love and constant is my affection for you.” (Mt 28:20; Jer 31:3)

As your pastor, I ask you to consider giving one hour per week in St. Claire Chapel to adore Our Lord. I assure you your presence is welcome and blessings will abound for you, your family and friends, and all our community because of your sacrifice. Please complete the attached form and drop it in the collection basket, bring it to the parish office, or send it to one of the divisional leaders listed in this week’s bulletin. If you cannot commit to one specific hour, please sign up to be a substitute, a person who could be called upon when a regular adorer cannot keep an assigned hour. May the Lord bless you for your sacrifice and generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. James L. LeBlanc