

Dead Theologians Society Chapter Tips

From Eddie Cotter, Jr., National Director

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Incorporate Eucharistic Adoration into your DTS schedule!

DTS utilizes the lives and writings of the Saints to help form young people to be Christ-like. In countless of these examples, one can see the integral connection of the Eucharist with a life of heroic virtue. To imitate the Saints, as DTS challenges young people to do, is to have a life centered in the Eucharist. Having Eucharistic Adoration in your DTS chapter can really help connect our young people to the Real Presence.

We suggest that you incorporate Eucharistic Adoration into your regular rotation of chapter meetings and use it to replace the usual format for that week. This can be done once per month, or in intervals that you best see fit. Here we've included a suggested format. It is from the DTS website on the "Other Teachings" page.

Eucharistic Adoration "DTS Style"

This is a format for Eucharistic Adoration that was used at St. Francis de Sales Church in Newark, Ohio which is the place that the Dead Theologians Society was first put into practice. It was very popular and is now

Teens in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

used in several churches with DTS chapters. At Saint Francis de Sales this was the summer replacement for the regular DTS meetings. This was the set up there and we hope it inspires you to try something like it for your young people.

Setting The Environment: Set up time 15-20 minutes

In the hot summer months the Church was comfortably air-conditioned! The Blessed Sacrament was in a monstrance which was placed on the altar. The only lighting used were candelabras, which flanked the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance, and a spotlight placed in the back of church, which provided a nice tight spot of light on the monstrance. When available, our priest would be in a far corner of the church to be available to hear confessions. An incense bowl with some incense burning in front of the altar really makes a nice effect. Have some music playing on a CD through the church sound system. Some highly recommended music is Gregorian Chant, Celtic Requiem (if you can find it), Traditional Latin Classics, or any number of rich, prayerful soundtracks. Believe it or not, a great soundtrack is the music

CD from the movie Braveheart! Have the music

at a suitable volume. Invite the teens to spread out and find a comfortable place in the church. Invite them to bring a rosary, Bible, or any devotional book or books they like. Some just like to pray and gaze upon Our Lord without any other devotionals. At the conclusion of the Holy Hour, the Blessed Sacrament is reposed.

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