

**Column050723**

**Companions on the Journey**

May 7, 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

The finishing touches have been applied to the new Chapel of Perpetual Adoration and also completed for the renovated Padua Room. They are going to be open during the day this coming week including the weekend coming for you to stop in and get a sense of what has taken place. Both spaces have been beautifully enhanced and will serve you well in the coming years. I encourage as many of you as possible to apply for a keypad numerical code. That is the only way you will be able to enter the Adoration Chapel. Once the Blessed Sacrament is placed in the Tabernacle and the adoration begins on a regular basis you will need to have your own digital access number to enter.

We do not have the finalized information for you yet as to how to apply but by next week we should have instructions about how you can obtain a number and how you can use it to enter the Chapel. There will be two digital numbers. The first one allows you to enter the Pastoral Center Lower Door and the second number allows entrance into the Chapel.

We will be asking you for your name and address and phone number. Also, your parish (because many Catholics who are devoted to Eucharistic Adoration often visit surrounding parishes who have such devotions). For the purpose of security, I thank you for your help in providing this information. It will serve everyone well. It is very important to us here at Saint Anthony's that we establish a way that those who believe can come to pray, enter safely, experience the solitude and quiet of prayer and then be able to return to their homes safely.

There are security cameras on the outside of the building but not in the Chapel itself. These are the times in which we live, and we must provide our own due diligence in such circumstances.

The renovated Padua Room will be a wonderful midsize meeting/conference room that enables us to have meetings for groups of approximately forty people. Too small for Friendship Hall but too large for the meeting room as you enter Friendship Hall.

In addition, there is a new Powder Room to serve those in either of these venues. It is your dedication and devotion to our parish that has allowed such wonderful projects such as these to move forward and add new dimensions to the parish facilities both for prayer, for congregating, for socializing and play. I am so grateful to the good Lord for all you do and all your faith, and all your support.

Peace,  
Msgr. McHenry