

# CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

1919 North 2nd Street, Bismarck, ND 58501-1735

email: [info@corpuschristibismarck.com](mailto:info@corpuschristibismarck.com)

website: [www.corpuschristibismarck.com](http://www.corpuschristibismarck.com)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/CorpusBismarck](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusBismarck)

parish app: Text "app" to 55321

Parish Office .....255-4600

Parish Fax..... 255-4616

Food Pantry.....255-3104

Parish Office is open 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Monday-Thursday

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

***For Sacramental Emergencies after office hours,  
please call 701-425-1483 and leave a voicemail.***

***We will return your call in a timely manner.***

## WEEKLY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday (Vigil of Sunday) .....4:00 p.m.

Sunday ..... 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday.....12:10 p.m.

(Holy Days as scheduled)

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

***As disciples of Jesus, we live our faith  
through Word, Sacrament, and Service.***

Msgr. Patrick Schumacher, Pastor ..... 255-4600

Rev. Logan Obrigewitch, Parochial Vicar. .... 975-9802

Tracy Kraft, Parish Manager..... 975-9803

## **PASTORAL MINISTERS**

Cindy Anderst, Adult Formation ..... 975-9810

Sarah Bengtson, Pastoral Care ..... 975-9805

Sebastian Haboczki, Music Ministry..... 975-9806

Melanie Konieczka, Faith Formation ..... 975-9809

Tammy Schafer, Pastoral Care..... 975-9816

Sr. Ivo Schoch, Outreach Ministry ..... 975-9808

**DEACONS:** Bob Wingenbach, Brian Lardy, Michael Fix,  
Lonnie Grabowska, Rex McDowall (Retired)

## **PARISH SUPPORT STAFF**

Jane Bosch, Kitchen Manager..... 255-4600

Niel Heinze, Maintenance Technician ..... 975-9815

Colleen Reinhardt, Food Pantry, Music Assoc. ... 975-9807

Beverly Everett, Organist in Residence ..... 255-4600



**July 2, 2023**

***Happy Independence Day!***

*The Parish Office will be closed July 3 & 4, 2023*

## **SACRAMENTS**

**Reconciliation** - Reconciliation will be offered behind a screen weekdays from 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and from 3:00-3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Or by appointment by calling the parish office at 701-975-9803. No Reconciliation prior to Communion Services. Also, schedule may change on Holy Days or Special Liturgies.

**Baptism** - The Baptism Preparation Program and Schedule are by arrangement. Please call the office at 701-975-9805 to register or register online at [corpuschristibismarck.com/baptism](http://corpuschristibismarck.com/baptism) prior to your delivery date and the program director will return your call. Parents must be registered at Corpus Christi or have permission from their parish.

**Marriage** - Couples planning to be married should contact the parish office at 701-975-9805 at least **12 months** in advance for completion of Diocesan requirements.

**Natural Family Planning Classes** are offered by the Bismarck Diocese. The methods offered are Billings Ovulation Method, Creighton Model Fertility Care System, Marquette Model and Sympto-Thermal Methods. If you have questions about NFP please contact the Diocese of Bismarck at 701-222-3035 or [www.bismarckdiocese.com/nfp](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com/nfp).

**RCIA Classes** - Persons wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith may call Tracy Kraft at 701-975-9803.

**PARISH BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Articles must be received by noon on Wednesdays (*typed format*).

**PRAYER TREE:** 255-4600

## Livestreaming Schedule:

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 12:10 p.m.

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:45 a.m.

### Weekly Mass Intentions

*Monday, July 3- †Don Herbel (12:10 p.m.)*

*Tuesday, July 4- †Michael Hinman (12:10 p.m.)*

*Wednesday, July 5- Clara Dela Cruz (12:10 p.m.)*

*Thursday, July 6- †Francis & †Burnetta Barth (12:10 p.m.)*

*Friday, July 7- †Kathy Knudson (12:10 p.m.)*

*Saturday, July 8- †Tony Klein (4:00 p.m.)*

*Sunday, July 9- †Doug Gietzen (8:30 a.m.)*

*†Mildred Graner (10:45 a.m.)*

*Pro Populo (5:30 p.m.)*



**Happy Independence Day!**

The Parish Office will be closed on July 3 & 4 for the holiday. The church building will be open 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for daily Mass. There will be 12:10 p.m. Mass on both July 3 & 4. No Eucharistic Adoration on July 4.

### **Food Pantry Needs for July: Cream Soups & Rice**

Thank you for supporting the Food Pantry and helping your neighbors in need.

**Stewardship Thoughts:** Both the first reading and the Gospel today speak of hospitality and welcome. Our ministers of hospitality are the most visible example of using one's time and talents to welcome the people of God. But the Gospel assures us that all who give even just "a cup of cold water" to one of His lowliest ones will be rewarded. As Catholics we are not to focus only on ourselves but are called by our baptism to reach out and share our time, talent and treasure with our brothers and sisters.

**Vocation Views:** How do you welcome others into your heart? Are you willing to give of yourself for others? Let your heart lead you to follow Jesus. (Matt. 10:37-42)

### CONTRIBUTIONS (GENERAL FUND) - (2,463 households)

Adult Envelopes (207).....\$12,015

Youth Envelopes .....\$247.00

TOTAL RECEIVED (June 25) ..... \$12,262.00

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday ..... \$16,384.34

Online Giving Week 1 (May 29-June 4) ... \$ 5,770.00

Electronic Contributions ..... \$14,008.68

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday ..... \$13,806.84

Online Giving Week 2 (June 5-11) ..... \$4,569.00

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday ..... \$13,581.21

Online Giving Week 4 (June 12-18) ..... \$5,785.00

Electronic Contributions ..... \$10,365.68

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday ..... \$12,262.00

Online Giving Week 4 (June 19-25) ..... \$4,450.00

*We appreciate your generosity which is part of being faithful stewards of Corpus Christi.*



### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**\*NO Adoration on July 4, 2023**

Tuesdays 1:00-7:00 p.m. (private, quiet time, incense free). **All are welcome to spend time in Jesus' Eucharistic presence.** During Adoration, the exposed Blessed Sacrament is not to be left unattended and at least two committed adorers are needed at all times. If you are

unable to come to your committed time, please contact Tracy in the Parish Office at 701-975-9803. Thank you for your commitment to our Lord!

### **Experience Eucharistic Revival!**

Did you miss the Diocese of Bismarck's Eucharistic Congress on June 2nd? Or, did you attend and want to re-listen to the keynote talks?

You can access the audio talks at

**[www.bismarckdiocese.com](http://www.bismarckdiocese.com)** and go to the **Events Tab** and click on **Presentations/Talks**.

### **Adult Faith Formation Opportunities for Fall 2023 at Corpus Christi**

At the entrances of the church, you will find a flyer with the Adult Faith Formation opportunities for Fall 2023. To register, use the QR Codes on that flyer or go to the Corpus Christi website at [www.corpuschristibismarck.com](http://www.corpuschristibismarck.com) and look under the Formation & Education tab and select Adult Education. If you have any questions, contact Cindy Anderst at the parish office, 255-4600.

**We are thankful  
for those who remember the  
Church of Corpus Christi in their will.**

*Don't miss important messages and  
stay engaged with the parish!*

**Get the Corpus Christi *myParish App*  
for any of your smart devices**  
Text the word **App** to **55321**

**Support the works of the Holy Father  
Peter's Pence Collection  
July 1-2, 2023**

*Envelopes available at the church entrances.*

The Peter's Pence collection is a gesture of solidarity through which every member of the faithful can participate in the activity of the Pope as Pastor of the universal Church. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection are destined to Church needs, to humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

**Let's help the Holy Father to help others!**  
**Your contribution is important.**

**We welcome you to Corpus Christi!** To become a registered member, stop by the parish office to fill out a registration form, visit the *About tab* at [www.corpuschristibismarck.com](http://www.corpuschristibismarck.com), or scan this QR Code.



Light of Christ Catholic Schools

Light of Christ Catholic Schools is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year in the following positions:

**Fourth Grade Teacher** (Cathedral of the Holy Spirit School)

**Elementary Counselor** (24 Hours per week)

**Instructional Aide** (Full-Time)

**Lead Food Service Worker** (Saint Anne School)

**Lead Kids Club Aftercare Staff** (Part-Time-2023-2024 school year)

**Kids Club Aftercare Staff** (Part-Time-2023-2024 school year)

Full-Time positions qualify for Light of Christ benefits, including a tuition discount for employee's children.

To apply for one of these positions, please go to [lightofchristschools.org/employment](http://lightofchristschools.org/employment).

For more information, please contact Randy George at [rgeorge@lightofchristschools.org](mailto:rgeorge@lightofchristschools.org) or 701-425-0793.

## What's Going on Here This Week

- Mon 7/3 Parish Office Closed  
Church building open, 11am-1 pm for the 12:10 pm Mass
- Tues. 7/4 *God Bless America! Happy 4th of July!*  
Parish Office Closed  
Church building open, 11am-1 pm for the 12:10 pm Mass  
No Quilters  
No Eucharistic Adoration
- Sun. 7/9 Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:45 am Mass  
SNAC, 6:30 p.m., Room 140

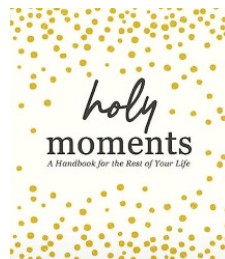


*"Let no one look down on you because of your youth, but set an example in conduct, love, faith and purity." 1 Timothy 4:12*

**Corpus Christi Youth Ministry  
High School SNAC (Grades 9-12)**

(SNAC: Sunday Nights After Church)

**July 02: No SNAC**



## Holy Moments Book Study

Monday afternoons

July 24

July 31

August 7

1:00-2:30 pm

Community Room



Do you ever despair as you watch the evening news or browse the news feed on your phone or tablet? Has the thought, "What can be done in this world to make it a better place for my children or grandchildren?" struck you or made you lie awake at night?

The book, *"Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life"* by Matthew Kelly challenges us to create change in our world by becoming aware of simple and astonishingly practical ways to create Holy Moments each day. It's time to let Holy Moments show you what is possible and what one person can do to make a difference.

If you would like to explore this, consider joining Cindy Anderst for a three-week book study. There is no cost, but registration is required by July 21. To register, use the QR Code, or go to [www.corpuschristibismarck.com](http://www.corpuschristibismarck.com) and click on the picture. Books will be provided on the first afternoon. If you have questions, please contact Cindy Anderst in the parish office, 701-255-4600.





## No Food for the Soul in July or August

*See you in September!*

Food for the Soul is a once-a-month gathering and potluck meal for those who have lost a spouse. For more information, please contact Tammy Schafer at 701-255-4600. All are welcome!

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Check out the Mass Intention Calendar and the Prayer Wall at the West Entrance to see who is in need of prayers for healing and strength.

If you or someone you know (with permission) needs to be added to the Prayer List, call the Parish Office or visit the *Prayer Ministry* tab at <https://corpuschristibismarck.com/prayer-ministry>.

### PRAYER BASKET

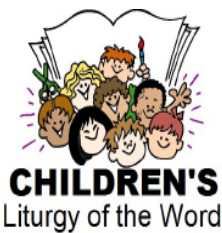
Special intentions can be placed in the wicker basket located by the font. All of the intentions are prayed for during our Masses. Please write the name of a person and/or special intention on the provided slip and place it in the basket.



### PRAYER TREE MINISTRY

The Prayer Tree Ministers are a group of parishioners who pray for special intentions. The names of the requests are not made public, but they do receive purposeful, intentional prayers by committed members of our parish.

Prayer Tree volunteers receive notifications about prayer requests through a simple email notification or phone call. If you would like more information about becoming a PrayerTree Minister for our parish go to **[corpuschristibismarck.com](https://corpuschristibismarck.com)** and click on the ***Prayer Tree Ministry*** link.



### Children's Liturgy of the Word: July 9 & 23

Who is this for? Children in **Preschool through Second Grade** (lessons are geared for this age group specifically). No registration necessary, come when you are able. After children have received their First Eucharist, they are to stay in Mass.

The **Magnifikid** is a wonderful resource to aid them in this transition. You can pick these up at the entrances of the Church.



***Did you know that you can listen to the homilies from previous Masses on our Website?*** Just click on the Homily Podcast button on our home page at **[www.corpuschristibismarck.com](http://www.corpuschristibismarck.com)**. We also have a Homily Archive so you can go back and listen to homilies from previous months.

### ***Grow in your Faith!*** ***Catholic content at your fingertips!***

**FORMED:** The Catholic Faith on Demand  
Get thousands of enriching Catholic movies, programs, audio, and books instantly on FORMED.

A generous donor of Corpus Christi has gifted the parish with an annual subscription so FORMED is free!

To sign up for free:  
Visit **[signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org)**  
Enter our parish zipcode or name

The Augustine Institute is proud to introduce **Amen**, its latest offering. Amen is the free Catholic app that brings you daily Mass readings, beautiful prayers, faithful meditations, including bedtime meditations, and nourishing Scripture to draw your mind, body, and soul to rest in God.

Go to the Apple App store or Google Play to download the free Amen app from the Augustine Institute.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

This week we will celebrate the 4th of July and commemorate the Declaration of Independence. It is my favorite secular holiday and I love celebrating, especially in the Bismarck/Mandan area. No matter what you have planned, have a safe and patriotic day. Let us pray together this prayer from the USCCB, found in the *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*:

God, source of all freedom,  
 this day is bright with memory  
 of those who declared that life and liberty  
 are your gift to every human being.  
 Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.  
 Make our vision clear and our will strong:  
 that in human solidarity will we find liberty,  
 and justice in the honor that belongs to every life.  
 Turn our hearts toward the family of nations:  
 to understand the ways of others,  
 to offer friendship,  
 and to find safety in the common good of all.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

~Happy 4th of July!

Monsignor Patrick A. Schumacher, S.T.L.

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY

Please review the schedule below and contact the office to let us know if you are willing and able to serve as a minister next weekend. If you are not scheduled but would be willing to help, call Tracy at 701-255-4600.

Date: Jul 8-9		July 8, 2023 4:00 PM		July 9, 2023 8:30 AM		July 9, 2023 10:45 AM		July 9, 2023 6:30 PM
Hospitality	1	Mary Ann Grossman	1	Helen Dauenhauer	1	Rita Mastel	1	Mary Nelson
	2	Evelyn Spangler	2	Jason Krebsbach	2		2	
	3		3	Abbie Krebsbach	3		3	
	4		4	Eva Krebsbach	4		4	
			5	Kort Krebsbach				
Ushers	1	Helen Berger	1	John Saiki	1	Nancy Haunz	1	Tim Rivinius
	2	Sam Theurer	2	George Simsek	2	Dennis Mastel	2	Bernie Rivinius
	3	Derek Theurer	3	Pius Ternes	3	Chuck Holzer	3	
	4		4	Bob Dauenhauer	4	Bernie Holzer	4	
	5		5	Melvin Schoepp	5		5	
	6		6		6			
Lectors	1	Sarah Bengtson	1	Francis Ziegler	1	Claudia Dietrich	1	Christopher Knudson
	2	Joyce Hinman	2	Dale Kasowski	2	Christine Elzenga	2	Bob Willenbring
Servers	1	Olivia Lundeen	1	Anna Brash	1	Ben Miller	1	Joelle Knudson
	2	Conner Lundeen	2	Warren Miller	2	Jake Miller	2	Kyan Knudson
Eucharistic Min		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST
	R-1	Clare Auble	R-1	Dale Kasowski	R-1	Steven Mittelstaedt	R-1	Tim Bohan
	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father
	3	Bob Clooten	3	Mike Hilbert	3	LaVerne Kaufman	3	Mary Nelson
	4	Sandy Wald Clooten	4	Helen Werlinger	4	Karen Stahl	4	Margie Schiff
	5	Connie Kalanek	5	Jerome Werlinger	5	Cec Reetz	5	
	6	Heather Lundeen	6	Pam Mathern	6	Gary Faist	6	
	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon
	8	Carol Thompson	8	Gerard Mathern	8	Kathy Faist	8	
	9		9	Ron Torkelson	9		9	
	10		10	Virginia Torkelson	10		10	
	11				11		11	
At 4:00*	D12				12		12	
	LG		LG	Amy McKay	LG		LG	

Sunday, Jul 02, 2023

### Say what you see

Upon winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, Elie Wiesel was named a "messenger to mankind." The *Los Angeles Times* called him the "most important Jew in America." A Holocaust survivor, Wiesel didn't speak of his experiences for 10 years after his liberation from the camps. Eventually he understood the world needed his witness: "We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.... Wherever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must—at that moment—become the center of the universe." Tell the truth from where you stand.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42 (97). *"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."*

Monday, Jul 03, 2023

### A twin to us all

Three times in the Gospel of John, the apostle Thomas is also called Didymus. Both names mean "twin"—in Aramaic and Greek respectively. He is referred to in some non-biblical historical texts as "Judas Thomas"—a.k.a. "Judas the Twin." It's likely "the twin" was his nickname and he was known by it among Jews and Greeks. But there's no explanation of whose twin he was. Today, Christians mostly know him as "Doubting Thomas" because he didn't believe Jesus had risen until he saw for himself. While we don't know the identity of Thomas' biological twin, do we resemble him in our disbelief from time to time? Ask Jesus for the grace of faith and the same graciousness he showed to Thomas.

FEAST OF THOMAS, APOSTLE

TODAY'S READINGS: Ephesians 2:19-22; John 20:24-29 (593). *"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."*

Tuesday, Jul 04, 2023

### Born on the Fourth of July

*Born on the Fourth of July* is the best-selling memoir of Ron Kovic, Catholic Vietnam vet turned peace activist. On the fourth of July, in 1336, Saint Elizabeth of Portugal was born into eternal life. Like Kovic, Elizabeth threw herself into peacemaking—twice intervening to avert war. Like Kovic, the queen bucked authority: When her husband forbade her from giving royal wealth away to the poor, Elizabeth smuggled contributions out of the castle in her robes. As Americans celebrate our good fortune this day, may the rights enshrined in the Declaration of Independence—"life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"—be tempered by Elizabeth's example: "God made me queen so that I may serve others."

OPTIONAL MASS FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 19:15-29; Matthew 8:23-27 (378). *"He said to them, 'Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?'"*

Wednesday, Jul 05, 2023

### Be an island of justice

On this day in 1868, Rafael Cordero was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, one of three children in a free black family. Throughout his life he was a passionate advocate for equitable education on the island, opening a free school for children in his home—the pupils of which would later include some of the most influential figures in Puerto Rican history. A devout Catholic, Cordero was also known

for his charity to the poor. He also fought for the abolition of slavery in Puerto Rico, which was achieved in 1873. Following his death, his schoolhouse became a historic site, and the archbishop of San Juan opened his cause for canonization. He was declared venerable by Pope Francis in 2013. May his legacy of justice live on in our own works of mercy.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 21:5, 8-20a; Matthew 8:28-34 (379). *"God was with the boy as he grew up."*

Thursday, Jul 06, 2023

### Girl power

Today's saint, Maria Goretti, died a difficult death at age 12 after being stabbed for resisting a rape. She is one of several patron saints of rape survivors. Traditional hagiography about Goretti focuses on her concern for chastity during her resistance, but women who have survived similar ordeals might see saintliness in Goretti's resistance itself. They might reclaim Goretti's story as one of female empowerment, a refusal to be degraded, and a rising above violence when Goretti—on her deathbed—forgave her tormentor. Her act of mercy lives on as a triumph over evil. Saint Maria Goretti, pray for all who have been hurt by sexual violence.

MEMORIAL OF MARIA GORETTI, YOUTH MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 22:1b-19; Matthew 9:1-8 (380). *"He then said to the paralytic, 'Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home.'"*

Friday, Jul 07, 2023

### Make a wish come true

When asked what he wished for his birthday on July 7, 2008, the Beatle's drummer Ringo Starr replied, "Peace and love." That simple wish grew into International Peace and Love Day celebrated around the world and even in outer space when a message of peace and love was sent from the International Space Station in 2020. Of course, wishing doesn't make it so. Start small. A little show of mercy and forgiveness will go a long way toward creating a world of peace and love.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Matthew 9:9-13 (381). *"Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice."*

Saturday, Jul 08, 2023

### New wine for modern minds

Do you know anybody who sews patches on an old coat or drinks wine out of a wineskin? And that's exactly the point of the Lord's teaching. It is the work of preachers, teachers, and translators to rearticulate the ancient truths of Christianity in terms that 21st-century learners can understand. Otherwise, much of the language and images of the ancient texts just keeps getting recycled. Pray for the preachers and teachers who have positively influenced you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29; Matthew 9:14-17 (382). *"People do not put new wine into old wineskins."*

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time*



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# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

July 2023

Church of Corpus Christi

## One Minute Meditations

### Room for God

"Make room therefore for Christ, and refuse entrance to all others. When you have Christ, you are rich and have need of (nothing) else."  
Thomas À Kempis

### Give love

One way to give thanks to God for all the gifts He has bestowed on you is to work for the poor and vulnerable. Sharing your gifts with those less fortunate is how God intends you to use what He gives you. *"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more"* (Luke 12:48).

### Say, "Amen!"

The proper form when receiving Communion is to reply "Amen" when the Eucharistic minister raises the Host or Chalice and pronounces it, "The Body (or Blood) of Christ." By responding this way, you openly state your belief in the presence of Christ in the Eucharistic bread and wine, as well as in His Body, the Church.



## Respond to the gift of the Holy Spirit

God loves us so much, He gives us what He values most – His only Son (John 3:16) and His Holy Spirit in Baptism (Romans 5:5) so we can have access to God's divine life and love. The Holy Spirit's presence with the entire Church throughout the centuries is as a comfort, consolation, leader and guide. To accept this gift, we can ...

**Listen for Him:** Spending time with Scripture can help tune our hearts to hear the *"still small voice"* (1 Kings 19:12) of the Holy Spirit. The better we are attuned to God's voice, the more likely we'll hear Him amidst the noise of the world.

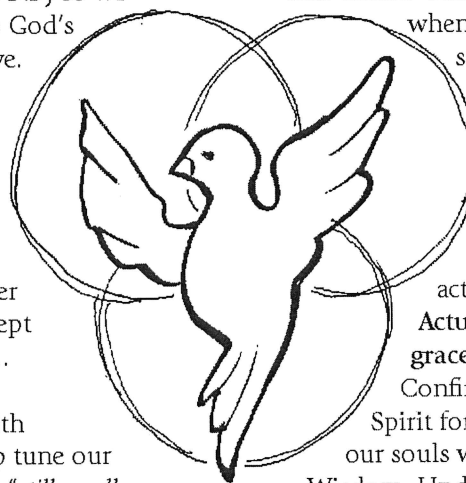
**Consult Him:** Jesus promised to send

the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, to lead His disciples to truth (John 14:6). He helps us to see, evaluate, and choose like Christ. Call on the Holy Spirit when you're facing a difficult situation or decision.

**Take refuge in Him:** Every day, entrust yourself to the Holy Spirit and dedicate your day to His service. Let Him guide your actions.

**Actualize Confirmation graces:** Upon our Confirmation, the Holy Spirit fortified and empowered our souls with His seven Gifts:

Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2). When we rely on the Holy Spirit, we can overcome temptations to fear, distrust, and selfishness with His powerful gifts.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics fold their hands when they pray?

The custom of folding our hands comes from ninth century Europe where folded hands symbolized obedience by those subordinate to the lord or king. This gesture was also used by priests to show respect to bishops. The faithful adopted it to signify obedience to



God's will.

In some cultures today, such as India and other parts of Asia, clasped hands are also a sign of reverence. In fact, Mother Teresa was often photographed greeting people with this gesture.

## Use the Bible well

There's a saying, "Bibles that are falling apart usually belong to people who aren't." The Church wants us to read the Bible daily because it contains everything we need to know to live a full, Christian life. Try these ideas to use your Bible well.

**Choose the right version.** We hear the New American Bible during Mass but any of the approved Catholic translations will do. Most important is having a modern edition that you can understand. If you need advice, ask your pastor or priest.

**Use the aids.** The Bible contains customs and terms that are foreign to us. Read the introductions and footnotes for helpful explanations.

**Focus on passages.** The Bible will make more sense if you read the sections that are grouped together rather than sentence by sentence.

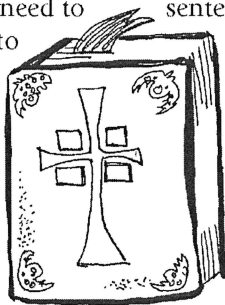
**Mark it up.** Underline passages and make notes in the margins as you read to make your book more useful.

**Read aloud.** The Bible began as an oral tradition. Hearing the passages may help them become clearer than just reading them.

**Read slowly.** Let the words sink in.

**Place yourself in the scene.** What would you do? How would you react?

**Put it to use.** What you read in the Bible will help you find strength to meet the challenges of life. Don't just read it. Live it.



### from Scripture

### Matthew 13:44-52, The only thing worth everything

Jesus used the parables in this Gospel passage to emphasize the life-changing value of the Kingdom. In the first parable, a man discovers – seemingly by accident – a treasure buried in a field. Recognizing its value, he sells everything he has to buy the field. In the second story, a merchant finds a valuable pearl after diligent searching. He also sells everything to possess the precious pearl.

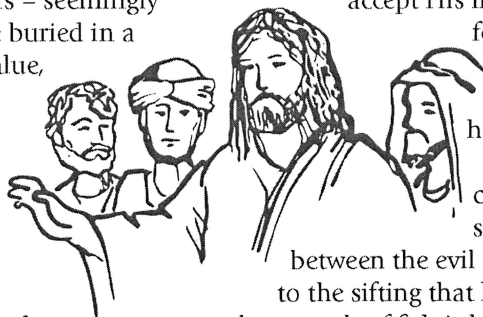
By these parables, Jesus taught that being part of God's Kingdom – accepting His love for us and loving others as He loves – is the only way

to live that will completely fulfill our hearts. God's unconditional love is worth everything we have. If we accept His invitation (He

forces no one), our lives may change as our hearts change.

Finally, Jesus compared the separation

between the evil and righteous to the sifting that happens when a large catch of fish is brought ashore. When we put our whole life in service to God's love, then the individual pieces fall into place around that love, and anything contrary to it falls away.



### Q & A Is there a special prayer I can pray for healing of a serious illness?

Jesus knew that sickness can bring misery and isolation, and He dedicated much of his ministry to healing every kind of illness – physical or spiritual. He wanted us to see in His healing ministry God's saving power and concern for His children.

The Church continues Jesus' concern for the sick in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It is administered by a priest to a baptized person who may be in danger of death because of illness or old age, through prayer and the anointing of the body with special oil. The effects of the sacrament include a special grace of healing and comfort, and the forgiving of the person's sins.

Anyone baptized Catholic, regardless of age, can receive the sacrament if his or her health is seriously impaired. It can also be administered before surgery and can be received more than once if the original illness gets worse or if another serious sickness is diagnosed. Please see your pastor or parish priest to receive this important Sacrament.

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### Feasts & Celebrations

**July 16 – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1251).** The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock in England, carrying the brown scapular, a sign of her favor of the Carmelite Order, and promised whoever wore the scapular until death would avoid the fires of hell.

**July 23 – St. Bridget of Sweden (1373).** Born in Uppland, Sweden to nobility, she was a wife, mother, reformer, and mystic. She is known for founding the Order of the Most Holy Savior, which was approved in 1370.

**July 25 – St. James the Apostle (1st**

**Century).** When Jesus called St. James and his brother, St. John, to become apostles, they promptly left their father in a fishing boat. He was one of the three apostles to witness Jesus' Transfiguration.

**July 29 – Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus (1st Century).** These holy siblings often hosted Jesus at their house in Bethany.

Although Martha was corrected for being anxious about many things, Jesus rewarded her tremendous faith by raising Lazarus from the dead.

