

CHURCH OF CORPUS CHRISTI

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

email: info@corpuschristibismarck.com

website: www.corpuschristibismarck.com

facebook: www.facebook.com/CorpusBismarck

parish app: Text "app" to 55321

Parish Office255-4600

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



September 10, 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 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.

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, Sept. 11 - Cecelia Vianden (12:10 p.m.)

Tuesday, Sept. 12 - †Donald Aune (12:10 p.m.)

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - †Jim Miller (12:10 p.m.)

Thursday, Sept. 14 - Sherry Parrish (12:10 p.m.)

Friday, Sept. 15 - †Jim Miller (12:10 p.m.)

Saturday, Sept. 16 - †Shannon Gangl (4:00 p.m.)

Sunday, Sept. 17 - †Ervin Emter (8:30 a.m.)

†Ron Dressler (10:45 a.m.)

Pro Populo (5:30 p.m.)



Our priests/clergy will NEVER email, text, or call to solicit gift cards or gift certificates.

This is a SCAM!

If you get a message:
delete it, report it -
do not respond!

*Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
and grow in relationship with Him!*

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays 1:00-7:00 p.m.

During Adoration, the monstrance is not to be left unattended and at least two committed adorers are needed at all times. ***If you would be interested in being a regular, committed adorer, we would love to have you! Please call the Parish Office to sign up.*** If you are unable to come to your committed time, please contact Tracy Kraft at the parish office, 701-975-9803. ***Unable to commit to a regular, committed time of Adoration?*** You are always welcome to stop by Adoration on Tuesdays or spend time in prayer in the Chapel, which is open 24/7.

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and possibly joining the church? Rite

of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) might be for you! Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. beginning September 11th. For more information or to register, call Tracy Kraft at 701-975-9803.



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

Adult Envelopes (214 Envelopes) \$13,761.96

Youth Envelopes \$273.06

TOTAL RECEIVED (Sept. 3) \$14,035.02

1st Sunday \$14,035.02

Online Giving Week 1 (Aug. 28-Sept. 3) . . . \$6,665.00

Electronic Contributions \$13,588.68

2nd Sunday \$0.00

Online Giving Week 2 (Sept. 4-10) \$0.00

3rd Sunday \$0.00

Online Giving Week 3 (Sept. 11-17) \$0.00

Electronic Contributions \$0.00

4th Sunday \$0.00

Online Giving Week 4 (Sept. 18-24) \$0.00



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

Vocation Views: Do you know the power of prayer within a group? Join with others to pray for an increase of vocations to ordained ministry and the consecrated life. (Matthew 18:15-20)

Stewardship Thought: Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!" The heart grateful to God needs to find a way to express that gratitude. Some important ways to do that are through prayer, service, and giving of one's resources.

Parenting Pointers: September 10 is Grandparents Day. Most grandparents would appreciate a call, visit, or homemade expression of affection more than a store bought gift. This could be an occasion to hear about their history - ask a grandparent to tell stories about how they raised their family. (susanvogt.net)

Marriage Moments: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Romans 13:9) Of course a married person's closest neighbor is their spouse and spouses can sometimes be irritating. Is there a complaint you have about your beloved? Try to avoid criticizing each other for one week. (susanvogt.net)

Food Pantry Needs:

Canned Fruit

Tomato Soup

Chicken Noodle Soup

Did you know?

Monetary donations to the Food Pantry are accepted and make it possible to purchase pantry staple items like meat, bread, eggs, and milk.





Share your musical gifts!

Choir rehearsals (adults, teens, and children 3rd-8th grade) are held on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome!

For complete information, contact Sebastian Haboczki, 701-945-9806.

Did you know your God's Share Appeal donation supports:

Funded by your contributions to the Annual God's Share Appeal, the Office of Communications and Media Services is in charge of seeing that the Sunday Mass airs each Sunday on television. People who are unable to attend Mass because of poor health or inclement weather enjoy it on the FOX television network. The Office of Communications is also responsible for arranging all the news conferences for Bishop Kagan, preparing the *Dakota Catholic Action*, and maintaining the diocesan website (www.bismarckdiocese.com) and the diocesan social media accounts.



Eucharistic Revival

Experience Eucharistic Revival - Encounter Christ's True Presence

Corpus Christi will initiate the formation/teaching pillar of the parish year of the Eucharistic Revival with *The Eucharist: Source of our Healing and Hope*, a video produced by the Knights of Columbus that features a variety of Catholic presenters, including: Bishop Cozzens, Dr. Edward Sri, Dr. Tim Gray, Scott Hahn and Mother Teresa. Each of the following events will feature the video and discussion:

October 5: 7:00-8:30 p.m., Women's Group

October 8: 9:45-10:30 a.m., Open to everyone

October 15: 9:45-10:30 a.m., Open to everyone

October 18: 6:30-7:45 a.m., Mens' Group

November 8: 1:00-2:00 p.m., Open to everyone

All above events will be held in the Parish Hall and, with the exception of the Men's group, will be facilitated by Cindy Anderst, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator.

The full schedule of upcoming events can be found in the latest edition of *The Corpus Christi Connection*, the newsletter that is mailed directly to the homes of registered parishioners. Or, the newsletter can be found on our website or parish app.

What's Going on Here This Week

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Sun. 9/10 | Faith Formation Group A , 9:30-10:45 a.m.
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:45 a.m. Mass
Faith Formation Fall Kick-Off, 4:00-6:30 p.m.,
Papa's Pumpkin Patch
SNAC Kick-Off, 6:30 p.m., Room 140 |
| Mon. 9/11 | Faith Formation Group B , 5:30-6:45 p.m.
RCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m., South Hospitality Room |
| Tues. 9/12 | Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
Eucharistic Adoration 12:45-7:00 p.m., Church
Middle School Mentor Meeting, 6:00-7:00 p.m.,
Corpus Christi Rectory
Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00-9:00 p.m.,
Community Room |
| Wed. 9/13 | Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Faith Formation Group C , 5:30-6:45 p.m.
6th Grade Faith Formation, 7:00-8:30 p.m.,
Community Room
Middle School Youth Ministry, 7:00-8:30 p.m.,
Room 140 |
| Thurs. 9/14 | Women's Group (RSVP needed), 6:00-8:30 p.m.,
Corpus Christi Rectory |
| Sun. 9/17 | Faith Formation Group D , 9:30-10:45 a.m.
9th Grade Confirmation Retreat, 12:00-6:30 p.m.,
Parish Hall
SNAC, 6:30 p.m., Room 140 |

Corpus Christi Youth Ministry:

High School SNAC (Grades 9-12)

SNAC: Sunday Nights After Church

Sunday, Sept. 10: SNAC Youth
Ministry Kick-Off, 6:30 p.m.

Middle School Youth Ministry

Wednesday, Sept. 13: 7:00-8:30 p.m.



Corpus Christi Women's Group

Thursday, September 14th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

For this particular meeting an RSVP was needed by September 6th to prepare for the meal. Women who RSVP'd will gather at the Rectory, please use the main entry at 1931 N. 3rd Street.

Have you downloaded the Corpus Christi app?

It's free! Text the word App to 55321.

Search for Christian Maturity is a weekend retreat experience which provides youth an opportunity to think, talk, question and dive deeper into their faith. The weekends are for high school or college age persons at least 15 years old. The program is both rooted in the Catholic faith and open to young people of any denomination or creed. Search weekends are held five times a year at the Badlands Ministries Camp, south of Medora. Cost for the weekend is \$75. Partial scholarships are available. Weekends for the 2023-24 season are: Oct. 13-15; Dec. 1-3; Jan. 12-14; Mar. 1-3; and Apr. 12-14. Visit bismarckdiocese.com/search1.

Corpus Christi Youth - did you know? The Church of Corpus Christi will cover the registration cost for registered parish members attending their first Search weekend.

RPR Real Presence Radio
NETWORK Annual Fall Fundraising Event
Real Presence Radio
Your Family of Faith and Hope **September 13-15th**

Join us as we broadcast from throughout our five-state listening area and bring you inspiring stories of faith and hope. RPR is 100% listener supported and our mission continues only because of you!! Live Drive phone lines will be open daily from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. CT! Donate and you will be entered into a drawing for one of the many great prizes awarded throughout the drive. Call in with your support to 877-795-0122 or donate online at RealPresenceRadio.com/donate.

40 Days for Life: Sept. 27 - Nov. 5, 2023

Individuals are needed to sit at the capitol grounds (6th Street and Boulevard) from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., daily. To sign up or request signs, call Diane at (701) 527-3265 or via email at 40daysbisnd@gmail.com. Always go with another person and thank you for protecting the unborn.

ND March for Life: In January of 2023, it was announced that the ND March for Life will be moving to October (instead of January) every year to increase the observance of Respect Life Month. A Holy Hour, led by Bishop David Kagan, will be held on Thursday, October 5 at 8:00 p.m., at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop Kagan, for the ND March for Life will be on Friday, October 6 at 10:45 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Immediately following Mass, the ND March for Life will march from the Cathedral to the ND State Capitol steps. The rally is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Please register by September 27 at <https://bismarckdiocese.com/ndmfl>.

Your stepping stones back into life...



LOTUS (*Looking Onward to Understanding and Serenity*) is a group for men, women and young adults who have experienced a death. LOTUS meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of every month at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway at 10:00 a.m. for men, 1:00 p.m. for women, or 7:00 p.m. for both. The next session will be on Tuesday, September 12. Please bring a photo so we can get to know your loved one.



Healing Hearts *Grief Support Group*. Healing Hearts is a group for anyone who has experienced the loss of a child and provides guidance on the path to healing. This group is made for miscarriages, infant, toddler, youth, teen and adult loss. This grief support group is open to the public and held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway. The next Session will be on September 12. Please bring a photo so we can get to know your loved one.



Sea Glass is a support group to help children and teens learn their own ways of smoothing out their grief. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 3. The topic will be "Rocks & Explaining Our Emotions." Please RSVP via call or text to Mardee, (701) 880-0422 or Brenda, (701) 426-2021.

St. Anthony Catholic Church, Linton, ND, will be holding their annual **Fall Festival** on Sunday, September 17, 2023, at the Linton Our Club Hall. Doors open at 3:45 p.m. and serving supper from 4:00 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. The meal will consist of fried chicken, ham, hamburger rice, mashed potatoes, all the trimmings and delicious pies and desserts. Silent Auction and Bingo starting at 5:15 p.m. Raffle drawing at 7:30 p.m.

Pastoral Assistant for Home On The Range - Home On The Range (HOTR) is a qualified residential treatment program for youth ages 12 to 19. We are under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Bismarck. We are looking for a Pastoral Assistant who likes to work with teens. HOTR accepts children of all religious backgrounds. Most of the children have had no exposure to God and His great love for us. This is a very rewarding and challenging ministry. The Pastoral Assistant would work with our Chaplain, Father Nick Vetter. Please visit our website: www.hotrnd.com, we are an Equal Opportunity Employer. For a job description or more information, call (701) 872-3745, ext. 7102. Send your resume to dianes@hotrnd.com.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

The Fall Clergy Conference went well as we welcomed Fr. Scott Brodeur SJ as our guest presenter. Fr. Brodeur is a professor at the Gregorian University in Rome and his presentation was entitled, "St. Paul of Tarsus: The man, his culture and theology, and his missionary journey." He also presented on Romans Chapter 8: 9-11. Also at the conference, the clergy received copies of Bishop Kagan's most recent Pastoral Letter, "It is the Lord!" Fittingly, this Pastoral Letter comes to us during the parish phase of the Eucharistic Revival. We have 100 copies and they are available in the upper gathering space in the literature rack under the television on the west wall, near the Parish Office door. They are free and available on a first come, first serve basis - I hope you will take one. On another note about the conference, I was once again elected the Light of Christ (LOC) chairman. As you know, all the pastors of the Bismarck parishes are assigned to the LOC board anyway.

I will go to Wilton this Sunday for a morning Mass to help out Msgr. Lindemann. This weekend, I am also working with the Pre-Marriage Seminar program. I try to assist once a year and have been doing so for years. I like to work with the married couples who organize it; this weekend Corpus Christi parishioners, Mike & Buffy Motschenbacher, are running the seminar. It is also a good opportunity to connect with the engaged couples, some who will be married here at Corpus next year. Mike and Buffy not only help with the Pre-Marriage Seminar program, but they also assist with the facilitation of the FOCCUS instrument, which the Diocese also requires of engaged couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. We have a number of great couples who assist with this ministry and I am grateful to all of them - many who have been helping for many years. Deacon Lonnie & Kathy Grabowska, Deacon Brian & Tammy Lardy, Mike & Buffy Motschenbacher, Leon & Audrey Uhrich, Bill & Mary Jo Wocken, and Rod & Brenda Zastoupil are the current, trained facilitators. I do have an additional couple who is planning to be trained and I would like at least one or two more couples to assist. If this ministry might be of interest to you, please let me know. Engaged couples are also required to complete a Natural Family Planning course and those facilitators do a great job as well. I have prepared many couples for the Sacrament of Matrimony and I know those who organize and assist are vital to the process as set by the Bishop. The mentorship and example these couples offer cannot be replicated by a priest. It is only together that the whole beauty and meaning of the Sacrament can be encouraged.

We are currently in a very exciting time for the Faith Formation program. • Last Wednesday, the Middle School Youth Ministry program got under way. I introduced Mr. Cole Jones at the Masses last weekend and I know he is excited to be here at Corpus Christi. All 6-7-8th graders are invited to participate in Middle School Youth Ministry activities - don't miss it! • This Sunday, Faith Formation will have their kick-off event at Papa's Pumpkin Patch for all registered Faith Formation families, which has become a fun, annual tradition. • The High School Youth Ministry program (SNAC) will start their new fall programming on Sunday evening. • This Monday, September 11, the adult RCIA program begins. • The Corpus Christi Women's Group will resume their scheduling for the fall with a meeting and meal hosted at the Rectory on Thursday. It is good to have the church busy again!

~Have a great week! 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 701-975-9803.

Date: Sep 16-17	September 16, 2023	September 17, 2023	September 17, 2023	September 17, 2023
	4:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:45 AM	5:30 PM
Hospitality	1 Lorraine Hoffman	1	1	1
	2 Bob Deutsch	2	2	2
	3 Beverly Larson	3	3	3
	4	4	4	4
Ushers	1 Larry Thelen	1 Tim Kuntz	1 Melissa Kelly	1
	2 Rick Kramlich	2 Linda Feist	2 Dennis Kelly	2
	3	3 Charles Jaskowiak	3 Joel Meyer	3
	4	4 Catherine Williams	4 Maggie Meyer	4
	5	5 Francis Williams	5	5
	6	6	6	6
Lectors	1 Sandy Wald Clooten	1 Irene Goetz	1 Joyal Meyer	1 Mary Soucie
	2	2	2 Rose Kruckenberg	2 Bart Brackin
Servers	1	1 Annabelle Scholand	1 William Schmidt	1 Kate Masset
	2	2 Gabby Schell	2 Carsten Schmidt	2 Braden Roehrl
Eucharistic Min	BODY OF CHRIST	BODY OF CHRIST	BODY OF CHRIST	BODY OF CHRIST
	R-1 Helen Berger	R-1 Bill Knudson	R-1 Joyal Meyer	R-1 Jackie Buckley
	2 Father	2 Father	2 Father	2 Father
	3 Clare Auble	3 Dave Schmitz	3 Bill Marion	3
	4 Kathy Sailer	4 Teddie Herner	4 Cec Reetz	4
	5 Gisele Thorson	5 Kermit Herner	5	5
	6 Jane Wolf	6 Brenda Bergan	6	6
	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon
	8 Joseph Wolf	8 Mike Hilbert	8	8
	9	9 Anriana Thein	9	11
	10	10 Linda Schmitz	10	12
	11		11	
At 4:00	D12		12	
	LG	LG	LG	LG

Sunday, Sep 10, 2023

The long loneliness

"Church" means assembly: It is not good for us to be alone. Today's Suicide Prevention Day reminds us that loneliness is an unhealthy condition. More than 700,000 people die by suicide each year: about 132 a day in the United States. For every suicide, there are more than 20 attempts. Mental illness and substance abuse contribute to the crisis, but marginalized groups are at highest risk: migrants, indigenous people, those who identify as LGBTQ+, and prisoners. The feeling of alienation is real but also preventable. Call or text the crisis hotline at 988 to seek help for yourself or someone you love.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20 (127). *"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."*

Monday, Sep 11, 2023

A day to remember those who gave everything

Today, the anniversary of the largest terrorist attack in American history, is a day to call to mind those who rushed in to help, at great cost. The first certified fatality of the attacks was Father Mychal Judge, Franciscan friar and New York City Fire Department chaplain, who rushed to the World Trade Center to help. During his life, he was known for ministering to the marginalized and for the words on a prayer card he often distributed: "Lord, take me where you want me to go. Let me meet who you want me to meet. Tell me what you want me to say. And keep me out of your way." Honor his legacy and make his humble prayer yours today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 1:24-2:3; Luke 6:6-11 (437). *"Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?"*

Tuesday, Sep 12, 2023

On Earth we your children invoke your sweet name

Names are a big deal in the Bible. More than a moniker, the names of people—and God—capture, convey, and even conjure a being's very essence. It's why the Hebrews refused, out of respect, to speak God's holiest name and why "taking the Lord's name in vain" is forbidden. We see in biblical history how life-changing experiences prompt a person's change of name, as when Sarai becomes Sarah and Saul becomes Paul. When Jesus talks of acting "in my name," he affirms a power and presence invoked by simply uttering his name. Today, heed Venerable Bruno Lanteri, founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, who instructed: simply "think of Mary, call on Mary."

MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 6:12-19 (438). *"He chose Twelve, whom he also named Apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, ..."*

Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023

Always speak the words of light

With seemingly never-ending revelations of ministerial misconduct, today's feast of Saint John Chrysostom is a sight for sore eyes. The eminent fourth-century preacher and teacher—whose name is a transliteration of the Greek for "golden mouth"—was surely a product of his day. But he was also guided by the Holy Spirit, who inspired him to be baptized as an adult and denounce corruption in the church while serving as a priest and

later as archbishop of Constantinople. As we remember his legacy today, let's take courage to also stand for truth and against all that dishonors the call of the gospel.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 6:20-26 (439). *"Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."*

Thursday, Sep 14, 2023

By the wood of the cross

Today's feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross goes back to early days in church history. Saint Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine (the first Roman emperor to embrace the faith), and Helena is said to have found the actual crucifix of Jesus in Jerusalem in the fourth century, spurring significant devotion to the Holy Cross. This devotion has had staying power perhaps because it helps believers to reflect upon the saving power of Jesus' death. Today when something presents itself as a "cross" to you, take a few moments to contemplate the cross of Christ.

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17 (638). *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish."*

Friday, Sep 15, 2023

I feel your pain

Anyone who loves will experience sorrow. It can't be helped. When a loved one suffers, we suffer. The church looks to Our Lady of Sorrows during those difficult times. Mary has been pierced by the sword of sorrow many times, including the seven noted by tradition: The prophecy of Simeon, the Flight into Egypt, the lost child Jesus later found in the Temple, meeting Jesus on the road to Calvary, the Crucifixion, and Jesus' removal from the cross and his burial. Listen to the aching beauty of the Stabat Mater hymn recited each year on this memorial and know that you are not alone in your suffering. Mary's empathy is one of the saving graces of our faith. She knows how we feel, and sometimes that's all it takes to get us past the pain.

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14 (441); John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35 (639). *"And you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."*

Saturday, Sep 16, 2023

Care for the creation God entrusts to us

High above our heads the ozone layer of the stratosphere absorbs enough of the sun's deadly ultraviolet radiation to make possible life on Earth. But just a few decades ago an alarming depletion of the ozone layer generated worldwide concern over resulting increases in skin cancer, cataracts, and other health issues. These concerns led to the adoption of the Montreal Protocol in 1987, celebrated today, which bans the production of chemicals that cause ozone depletion. In his 2015 encyclical *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis applauds the Protocol for helping to protect the Earth, our common home. What can you do for our Earth today?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 6:43-49 (442). *"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I command?"*

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



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