

# 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, S.T.L., 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  
Cole Jones, Youth Ministry..... 255-4600  
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



## March 3, 2024

## **SACRAMENTS**

**Reconciliation** - Reconciliation is 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 701-255-4600 to register or do so online at [corpuschristibismarck.com/baptism](http://corpuschristibismarck.com/baptism) prior to your delivery date and the program coordinator 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 Tuesdays (*typed format*).

**PRAYER TREE:** 255-4600



## **CORPUS CHRISTI APP:**

Download the app for any smart device.  
Text the word *App* to 55321.  
Or scan the QR Code.

**We welcome you to Corpus Christi!**

To become a registered member, stop by the parish office, or scan this QR Code.



**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**

**Mon., Mar. 4** (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Barbara & ✠Tony Klein

**Tues., Mar. 5** (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Eugene Walters

**Wed., Mar. 6** (12:10 p.m.) - **Collective Mass Intention:**

✠Gene Volk

✠Georgiana Hoirup

**Thurs., Mar. 7** (12:10 p.m.) - *Diocesan bishops & priests*

**Fri., Mar. 8** (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Vince Tobin

**Sat., Mar. 9** (4:00 p.m.) - ✠Lucretia Silbernagel

**Sun., Mar. 10** (8:30 a.m.) - ✠Bernie Haman

(10:45 a.m.) - ✠Jim Kosteletzky

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

**Easter Flower Offering** envelopes are available by the Church entrances or in your monthly envelope packet. Honor a loved one this Easter celebration and help beautify our worship space.

**2024 LENTEN RESOURCES**

**Word Among Us** - Daily Mass readings & reflections

**The Little Black Book** - Daily reflections (Suggested \$1 donation)

**Returning to God** - Lenten booklet/spiritual guide

**Stations of the Cross Prayer Card**

**LENTEN ALMSGIVING**

**Corpus Christi Food Pantry Needs:**

**Week 3:** Spaghetti Noodles &

March 3 Spaghetti Sauce

**Week 4:** Pancake Mix &

March 10 Pancake Syrup

**Week 5:** Peanut Butter &

March 17 Canned Fruit

**Week 6:** Instant Potatoes &

March 24 Cold Cereal



*Place items in the boxes in the upper or lower gathering spaces.*

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:**

**March 10 at the 10:45 a.m. Mass.**

For children in Preschool - 2nd Grade.

*Lessons are geared for this age group.*



**CONTRIBUTIONS (General Fund) - (2,465 households)**

Adult Envelopes (232 Envelopes) ..... \$15,003.10

Youth Envelopes ..... \$344.10

**TOTAL RECEIVED (Feb. 25)** ..... \$15,347.20

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday* ..... \$15,255.24

*Online Giving Week 1 (Jan. 29-Feb. 4)* .... \$6,658.00

*Electronic Contributions* ..... \$13,663.68

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday* ..... \$17,579.40

*Online Giving Week 2 (Feb. 5-11)* ..... \$5,510.00

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday* ..... \$13,574.59

*Online Giving Week 3 (Feb. 12-18)* ..... \$5,735.00

*Electronic Contributions* ..... \$10,490.68

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday* ..... \$15,347.20

*Online Giving Week 4 (Feb. 19-25)* ..... \$2,945.00

*Electronic Contributions* ..... \$13,663.68

*We are grateful for your generosity, which is part of being a faithful steward of Corpus Christi.*

**Stewardship Thought:** "You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that all is gift help us be less resentful of the gifts of others. We must look upon others through the eyes of God and find the presence of Jesus in them. When we do this, how easy it is to give of our time, talent and treasure in service to others!



**Corpus Christi Women's Group**

**No Meeting March 14**



**Only 3 Fish Fries Left!**

**LENTEN FISH FRIES: March 8, 15, 22**

5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Adults: \$14, Children: \$8, Family: \$50

**Menu:** Baked & fried fish, fried shrimp, french fries, green beans, noodles, applesauce, coleslaw, beverages and homemade desserts.



**Helpers are needed:** fish cutters, servers, table setters, table cleaners, dishwashers, and desserts. Scan the QR Code or contact Melanie Konieczka, 975-9809, to help.

**Did you know?** The Fish Fries are a fundraiser for the Corpus Christi Youth Ministry Programs. Help support our youth, enjoy a great meal, and volunteer in a fun environment!

**Don't Miss it!** Live Music at every Fish Fry!



*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. Francis of Assisi*

**Corpus Christi Lenten Reconciliation Schedule:**

***Regular Confession Schedule:***

**Monday-Friday: 11:30 a.m. - Noon**

**Saturday: 3:00-3:45 p.m.**

***Additional Times for Lent:***

**Monday, March 18 & Monday, March 25: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 26 & Wednesday, March 27: 11:00 a.m. - Noon**

**Bismarck Parishes Lenten Reconciliation Night:**

**Tuesday, March 26: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (8 priests)**

***Our Lady of Victory Chapel at St. Mary's Central High School***

**Bismarck Catholic Daughters** will meet on Tuesday, March 5 at the Cathedral. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. For info, call Marella @226-4076.

Bismarck Catholic Daughter's **Card Party and Family Bingo** on Sunday, March 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Event is open to the public. Prizes and a light lunch will be provided. Bingo: \$20 admits the whole family. \$5 for single ticket. For questions: Johanna, 223-4929 (Pinocle Card Party) or Karen, 527-4203 (Family Bingo).

*In the Parish Phase of the **USCCB's Eucharistic Revival**, the **Diocesan Office of Continuing Education**, under the direction of **Msgr. Patrick Schumacher**, welcomes:*

**DR. LAWRENCE FEINGOLD**

for a special **Eucharistic Presentation**  
for the lay faithful of the Bismarck Diocese  
**Tuesday, April 9 - Corpus Christi Church**  
**7 - 8 p.m. - Free and open to the public**

*Dr. Feingold is an author, speaker, and a Professor of Theology & Philosophy.*

The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit will be available.

**WEEKLY LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Monday-Friday:**

**Confessions - 11:30 a.m. - Noon**

**Daily Mass - 12:10 p.m.**

**Lenten Lunch - 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall (Free-Will donation)**



**Friday Evenings:**

**Fish Fry - 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

**STATIONS of the CROSS Stations of the Cross (Times below)**



***Don't miss this special presentation!***

**March 8 - 5:30 p.m.**

*Shadow Stations presented by the Middle School Youth Group*

**March 15 - Stations of the Cross led by a Deacon, 5:30 p.m.**

**March 22 - Living Stations of the Cross presented by the High School Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: March 22 Living Stations will be at 7:00 p.m.**

*(No Stations of the Cross on March 22 at 5:30 p.m.)*

**What's Going on Here This Week**

**Sun. 3/3** Faith Formation **Group A**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.  
Shepherds of the Good Shepherd Sales, after all Sunday Masses, Lower Gathering Space  
Shadow Stations Practice, 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Room 140  
Living Stations Practice, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Room 140  
SNAC, 6:30 p.m., Room 140

**Mon. 3/4** Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall  
The Family Table Meal, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall  
Faith Formation **Group B**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.

**Tues. 3/5** Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room  
Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall  
Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-7:00 p.m.  
Food for the Soul, 5:30 p.m., Community Room  
Sacrament Track **Tuesday A Group**, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

**Wed. 3/6** Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall  
The Family Table Meal, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall  
Faith Formation **Group C**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Choir Room  
Shadow Stations Practice, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Room 140  
**7th Grade** Faith Formation, 7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Middle School Youth Ministry (**Grades 6 & 8**), 7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Thurs. 3/7** Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

**Fri. 3/8** Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall  
Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Parish Hall  
Shadow Stations Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.  
Shadow Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m., Church

**Sat. 3/9** Sacrament Track **Saturday Group**, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

**Sun. 3/10** Faith Formation **Group D**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.  
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:45 a.m. Mass  
Living Stations Practice, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Room 140  
SNAC, 6:30 p.m., Room 140

**Corpus Christi Youth Ministry:**

**High School SNAC (Grades 9-12)**

*SNAC: Sunday Nights After Church*  
Sunday, March 3: 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Topic: Community



**Middle School Youth Ministry**

Wednesday, March 6: 7:00-8:30 p.m. (**Grades 6 & 8**)  
Topic: Disney's "Onward" Movie Night

**2024 African Mission Appeal: March 2-3**

***"Come, See, Experience our Brothers and Sisters in Christ"***

This weekend is our 35th Annual African Mission Appeal collection. Please be as generous as you can in supporting the important work of Fr. David Morman, and Wes and Kathy Pepple, as they minister on our behalf in Kisii, Kenya, East Africa.



### **Help Needed - Church Cleaning:**

Vacuuming the upper and lower gathering spaces on Monday mornings before 8:00 a.m.

**For information, contact Tracy Kraft, 975-9803.**

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### **Shepherds of the Good Shepherd**

**Religious Olive Wood items from Bethlehem**

**March 2 & 3, 2024**

After all Masses, in the lower gathering space.

Proceeds directly help Christian families in the Holy Land who struggle to survive in the city of Bethlehem.

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### **Spring 2024 40 Days for Life Campaign**

**February 14 - March 24, 2024**

**7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the State Capitol**

Praying can be done at home or at the capitol grounds. Signs are available to use while you pray or to place in your yard. Call Diane at 701-527-3265 with questions or to sign up or visit [www.40daysforlife.com/bismarck](http://www.40daysforlife.com/bismarck).

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High school and college-aged students are invited to **Praise and Worship Nights** in the chapel of Annunciation Monastery (address: 7520 University Dr., Bismarck) on the following Fridays: March 15 and April 19, from 7:30-9:00 p.m. These praise and worship nights are coordinated by the *Crossroads Ministry Team* and hosted by the *Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery*. These evenings will include Eucharistic adoration, prayer and silence, songs of praise, testimonies and sharing, and refreshments. No charge to attend. For more information, contact Sister Idelle Badt, 701-255-1520.

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### **Employment Opportunities:**

**Bismarck Diocese:** Full-time Administrative Assistant; Full-time Fiscal Office Accountant. Visit <https://bismarckdiocese.com/job-openings>.

**Spirit of Life Catholic Church:** Full-time Business Manager. Visit <https://bismarckdiocese.com/news/full-time-business-manager-bismarck>.

**Light of Christ Catholic Schools:** Part-time Pre-K Teaching Position; Full-time Theology Instructor; Full-time Business Education Instructor; Elementary Teaching Positions; Full-time Lead Food Service Worker; Full-time Custodian; Director of Mission Advancement. To apply, visit [lightofchristschools.org/employment](http://lightofchristschools.org/employment). For more information please contact Randy George at [rgeorge@lightofchristschools.org](mailto:rgeorge@lightofchristschools.org).

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**Beginning Experience**, a non-denomination peer ministry, is offering a weekend on March 22-24 for those who struggle after the loss of a love relationship by death, separation or divorce. Contact Elaine at 701-400-1941 for more information.

### **Your stepping stones back into life...**

**SOS** (*Sounds of Silence*) is a suicide support group which provides compassionate support and grief education with the hope that family members and friends will find guidance on the path of healing. Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, March 5. Topic: Who am I now? Identity Change

**Sea Glass** is a grief support group to help children and teens learn their own ways of smoothing out their grief. Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, March 5. Please RSVP via call or text to Mardee at (701) 880-0422 or Brenda at (701) 426-1021.

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### **Food for the Soul**

**Tuesday, March 5**

**5:30 p.m. in the Community Room**

Eating alone after the loss of a spouse could likely be called the "6th Stage of Grief." Corpus Christi has created a community of friendship and support within our beautiful, Catholic family to assure you that there is always room at the table.

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

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Are you or someone you know struggling in a marriage? The diocesan program for troubled marriages called **Corazon** (*Spanish for heart*) is available the weekend of April 19-21. Couples who are in a marriage in crisis are encouraged to attend. All confidences are kept and privacy for anyone inquiring about or attending a Corazon weekend is a priority. For questions, contact Amanda at 204-7205. For registration or additional information, visit [bismarckdiocese.com/corazon](http://bismarckdiocese.com/corazon).

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### **Embark on a transformative spiritual journey!**

The Bismarck Diocese and the University of Mary warmly invite you to join us on a seven-day pilgrimage (July 16-22, 2024) to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. Register today at [www.umary.edu/NEC](http://www.umary.edu/NEC).

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The Parishes of Saint Ann's of Hebron and Sacred Heart of Glen Ullin, invite you to a **Lenten Parish Mission**, March 8-10. The mission speaker will be Fr. Dominic Bouck. Presentations will be: March 8, 7:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Parish; March 9, 8:00 p.m., Saint Ann's Parish; March 10, Noon, Sacred Heart Parish. For more information, visit <https://sacredheartchurchglenullin.org>.

## From the Desk of Msgr. Patrick A. Schumacher, S.T.L., Pastor

The third Eucharistic Encounter on February 27 was well attended and historic - as bishops commonly only visit parishes outside of the Cathedral for the Sacrament of Confirmation. As I said that evening, I am grateful to Bishop Kagan for his presence during the 90-minute event and it was a good Lenten experience for all of us in attendance. If you haven't read *"It is the Lord!"* (Bishop Kagan's Pastoral Letter), we have copies available in the literature rack by the Parish Office. And, if you missed the Encounter Night, it was livestreamed and is available on YouTube.

After the Bishop spoke on his most recent pastoral letter, I addressed those in attendance. One of the things I mentioned is how so many Divine Realities are often hidden until we see them differently over time; how the wisdom of God's Providence is hidden until we see how things work out over time. The divinity of Christ was hidden until the event of the Transfiguration. The meaning of the "resurrection from the dead" was hidden until St. John exclaimed, "It is the Lord" (John 21:7). And the mystery of the Holy Eucharist, His true, real, substantial presence is hidden in the appearance of bread and wine until we witness Eucharistic miracles! The popularity of the Eucharistic Miracles exhibit is intriguing to me. The exhibit, which we had onsite the evening of February 27, was the brainchild of Blessed Carlo Acutis, an English-born Italian who died in 2006 at the age of 15 after battling leukemia. During his life, Carlo created a website documenting Eucharistic Miracles, a project that took him two and a half years to complete. Carlo's information has since been curated into a traveling exhibit made of 166 display panels. For the Eucharistic Congress hosted by the Bismarck Diocese (June 2023), 60 panels were chosen and are available to parishes to display. We will display the exhibit a total of three times and each time different miracles will be included. The exhibit will again be available at two upcoming events for the Eucharistic Revival. On April 09, Corpus Christi will host Dr. Lawrence "Larry" Feingold. Dr. Feingold teaches at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary and comes recommended by Fr. Obrigewitch. Dr. Feingold will be in Bismarck for the Spring Clergy Conference and has graciously agreed to offer an evening for the lay faithful of the Diocese, presenting on the Eucharist. Larry and his wife are both converts to Catholicism from Judaism, and I am looking forward to his presentations at both the Clergy Conference and here at Corpus Christi. Then, on April 18, we will have our fourth and final Encounter Night. Hope to see you at both of these events!

As we continue through the Parish Phase of the USCCB's 3-year Eucharistic Revival, let's remember that receiving the Holy Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, is the first and greatest act of faith!

*~ Have a great week! Msgr. Patrick Schumacher*

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Please review the schedule and contact the office to let us know if you are willing to serve as a minister next weekend. If you are not scheduled and would be willing to help, call Tracy Kraft at 701-975-9803.

Date: Mar 9-10		March 9, 2024		March 10, 2024		March 10, 2024		March 10, 2024
		4:00 PM		8:30 AM		10:45 AM		5:30 PM
Hospitality	1	Mary Ann Grossman	1	Jason Krebsbach	1	Rita Mastel	1	Mary Nelson
	2	Evelyn Spangler	2	Abbie Krebsbach	2		2	
	3		3	Kort Krebsbach	3		3	
	4		4		4		4	
Ushers	1	Helen Berger	1	John Saiki	1	Phil Kambeitz	1	Tim Rivinius
	2	Ron Hopfauf	2	George Simek	2	Dennis Mastel	2	Bernie Rivinius
	3	Sam Theurer	3	Pius Ternes	3	Chuck Holzer	3	
	4	Derek Theurer	4		4	Bernie Holzer	4	
	5		5		5		5	
	6		6		6			
Lectors	1	Nikki Ferderer	1	Amy McKay	1		1	Christopher Knudson
	2	Heather Lundeen	2		2		2	Bob Willenbring
Servers	1	Chloe Lundeen	1	Anna Brash	1		1	Joelle Knudson
	2	Olivia Lundeen	2	Warren Miller	2		2	Kyan Knudson
Eucharistic Min		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST
	R-1	Carol Thompson	R-1	Gerard Mathern	R-1	LaVerne Kaufman	R-1	Tim Bohan
	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father
	3	Heather Lundeen	3	Danell Becker	3	Gary Feist	3	Mary Nelson
	4	Bob Clooten	4	Mike Hilbert	4	Kathy Feist	4	Margie Schiff
	5	Sandy Wald Clooten	5	Pam Mathern	5	Steven Mittelsteadt	5	
	6		6	Amy McKay	6	Cec Reetz	6	
	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon
	8		8	Jerome Werlinger	8	Karen Stahl	8	
	9		9		9		11	
	10		10		10		12	
	11				11			
At 4:00*	D12				12			
	LG		LG		LG		LG	





Invest time each week to  
expand your vocabulary and  
deepen your faith.

03 March 2024

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### Anointing of the Sick

\ə-ˈnɔɪnt-tɪŋ ˈæv ˈθə  
ˈsɪk\

A sacrament for the recovery and salvation of a critically ill or injured person formerly called Extreme Unction ("last **anointing**"). No longer reserved for those near death, one may be **anointed** before surgery, in extreme age or illness, after losing consciousness, or when no longer coherent.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-anointing-the-sick>

## CONTEXT

**Anointing of the Sick** permits us to touch with our hands God's compassion for humanity.

—Pope Francis

When the church **anoints** a sick person, it **anoints** a member of its own body.

—Sister Susan Wood, S.C.L.

By the grace of the sacrament of **Anointing of the Sick**, the sick person receives the strength and the gift of uniting more closely to Christ's Passion.

—Catechism of the Catholic Church

## WHY IT MATTERS

The mercy of God extends to the body as well as soul of each person. Jesus ministered to the sick and suffering both physically and spiritually. The church continues this ministry in its care for the whole person.

From *Rites of the Catholic Church as revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council*: The Church obeys Jesus' command to care for the sick by visiting those in poor health but also by raising them up through the **sacrament of Anointing** and by nourishing them with the Eucharist during their illness. The church offers prayers for the sick to commend them to God, especially in the last crisis of life.

## RELATED WORDS

Extreme Unction | Consecration | Holy Oils | Chrism

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

### What is the Anointing of the Sick?

One of the seven sacraments of the church, **Anointing of the Sick** recalls the healing presence and power of Jesus when we touch our mortality most vulnerably. From ancient times oil was valued for its healing and beautifying properties and in preparing bodies for burial.

The ordinary minister of the sacrament is the priest. However, it's presumed that others share the event: family, friends, caregivers. Elements of the ritual include prayers, scripture, laying hands on the recipient, and **anointing** of the head and hands. A water sprinkling rite may be included, and affected areas of the sick person's body may also be **anointed**. When in danger of death, additional sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion (*viaticum*, or "on the way with you") are also administered.

—Alice Camille, from *Questions Catholics Ask* <http://tinyurl.com/QCA-anointing-the-sick>

## REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

MEMORIAL OF SAINT JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS (MARCH 8)

### Power players in prayer

When it comes to your health, you can always turn to the saints for help. Feeling sick? Ask Saint John of God, patron of the sick and hospitals, to intercede on your behalf. Suffering from arthritis? Invoke Saint Alphonsus Ligouri. Have a headache? Entreat Saint Teresa of Ávila. Catholics also have the sacrament of **Anointing of the Sick**, to bring further healing.

READINGS: 1 John 3:14-18; Matthew 25:31-40 (539 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/0308-memorial-john-god.cfm>). "Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth."

## FAITH IN ACTION

No matter the physical outcome, remember that the primary purpose of our petitionary prayer is to draw us closer to God, which will truly and wholly heal us.