

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, 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 10, 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 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.

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. 11 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Agnes Eckroth
Tues., Mar. 12 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Dean & ✠Dale Schmaltz
Wed., Mar. 13 (12:10 p.m.) - **Collective Mass Intention:**
 ✠Leland Krein
 ✠James Hammes
 ✠Mike Kosteletzky
Thurs., Mar. 14 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Andrew Tran
Fri., Mar. 15 (12:10 p.m.) - Al Schmaltz
Sat., Mar. 16 (4:00 p.m.) - ✠Sylvester Wald
Sun., Mar. 17 (8:30 a.m.) - ✠Orvin & ✠Bernadette Engelhard
 (10:45 a.m.) - ✠Julia & ✠Leo Mattern
 (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. Donations received by March 27 will be included in a special insert.

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 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 & 24 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 (224 Envelopes)	\$21,527.78
Youth Envelopes	\$281.50
TOTAL RECEIVED (Mar. 3)	\$21,539.28
1 st Sunday	\$21,539.28
Online Giving Week 1 (Feb. 26-Mar. 3)....	\$6,700.15
Electronic Contributions	\$13,663.68
2 nd Sunday	\$0.00
Online Giving Week 2 (Mar. 4-10)	\$0.00
3 rd Sunday	\$0.00
Online Giving Week 3 (Mar. 11-17)	\$0.00
Electronic Contributions	\$0.00
4 th Sunday	\$0.00
Online Giving Week 4 (Mar. 18-24)	\$0.00
5 th Sunday	\$0.00
Online Giving Week 4 (Mar. 25-31)	\$0.00

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

Stewardship Thought: The blind man in today's Gospel was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees? God has taught us that you cannot love without giving. Would you like to establish a permanent scholarship fund in memory of a loved one? Call Bismarck Diocese Vocations Director, Fr. Jordan Dosch, 701-204-7197, to find out how you can make a big difference in educating our seminarian students.



Only 2 Fish Fries Left!

LENTEN FISH FRIES: March 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.

~ The Fish Fries are a **fundraiser** for the Corpus Christi Youth Ministry Programs.

~ **Live Music** at every Fish Fry!

~ **Credit Cards** are accepted.



Corpus Christi Women's Group
No Meeting March 14

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

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.



Corpus Christi Men's Group



Men's Group Breakfast

Wednesday, March 20

6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

Breakfast followed by discussion.

All men are invited!

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)

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.)



**Eucharistic
Revival**

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! www.umary.edu/NEC.

What's Going on Here This Week

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

Mon. 3/11 Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

RCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Tues. 3/12 Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room

Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-7:00 p.m.

Sacrament Track **Tuesday B Group**, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Community Room

Wed. 3/13 Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Choir Room

Confirmation Faith Formation, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Middle School Youth Ministry (**Grades 6 & 7**), 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Thurs. 3/14 Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

Fri. 3/15 Lenten Lunch, 12:40 p.m., Parish Hall

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

Stations of the Cross, 5:30 p.m., Church

Sun. 3/17 Knights of Columbus Breakfast, 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

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 10: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Topic: Holiness



Middle School Youth Ministry

Wednesday, March 13: 7:00-8:30 p.m. (**Grades 6 & 7**)

*Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Are you an adult Catholic who would like to receive Reconciliation, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation? **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** might be for you. Classes are held Sunday evenings from 4:00-8:00 p.m. (this will include a short supper break). Classes begin April 7th and continue for 6 weeks. For questions, contact Tracy in the Parish Office, 701-975-9803. You can sign up online by visiting our website, <https://corpuschristibismarck.com>, and clicking on the rolling slide.*

2024 African Mission Appeal

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Team with your prayers and gifts to the African Mission Appeal last weekend. If you were unable to give a gift last weekend, please do so today. Envelopes are available at the church entrances.



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

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 701-204-7205. For registration or additional information, visit bismarckdiocese.com/corazon.

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 Friday, March 15 and Friday, April 19, from 7:30-9:00 p.m. No charge to attend. For more information, contact Sister Idelle Badt, 701-255-1520.

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. For more information please contact Randy George at rgeorge@lightofchristschools.org.

Check out the **MASS INTENTION CALENDAR** and the **PRAYER LIST** at the West Entrance to see who is in need of prayers for healing and strength.

Special intentions can be placed in the **PRAYER 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.

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.

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. The men meet from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The women meet from 1:00-2:00 p.m. The next session will be on March 12. Topic: Identity Changes: "Who Am I Now?"

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 March 12. Topic: Does It Ever Get Better?

Corpus Christi Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus Christmas Youth Contests: The Knights of Columbus Christmas Youth Contests are complete. The entries received for the *Christmas Coloring Contest*, *Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest* and the *Young Essay Contest* were judged by the Corpus Christi Council 9589 of Bismarck last month. There were entries from the three parishes associated with the council: Corpus Christi in Bismarck, St. Pius V in New Salem and St. Martin of Tours in Center. **Thanks to all who took the time to enter the contests!** Winning entries have been sent to the North Dakota State Council to be judged to select the state winners.

Christmas Coloring Contest:

Kindergarten Division winner: Issac Erhardt, St. Martin of Tours Parish
1st & 2nd grade Division winner: Lillian Vandermay, Corpus Christi Parish
3rd & 4th grade Division winner: Addisyn Vandermay, Corpus Christi Parish
5th & 6th grade Division winner: Brea Haertley, St. Martin of Tours Parish

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest:

3rd-5th Grade winner: Addisyn Vandermay
6th-8th Grade winner: Abigail Vandermay

Young Essay Contest winner: Abigail Vandermay

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Knights of Columbus Meeting:

Tuesday, March 12
7:00 p.m., Community Room

Knights of Columbus Breakfast:

Sunday, March 17
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Parish Hall



Caramel Roll Sale:

Saturday, March 24 & Sunday, March 25
After all Masses, Lower Gathering Space

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

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. John 3:16

In my homilies this weekend, I described this verse as one of the most beloved sentences in the world, and also described how it is easily found on jewelry, spray painted on bridges, at sporting events, in funeral brochures, and even the subject of tattoos. As an example, I showed a picture I have in my office of me and my friend, Johnny Van Zant (the lead singer of Lynyrd Skynyrd) who has John 3:16 on his arm. On this Laetare Sunday - *Joyful Sunday* - it obviously brings him and all who love John 3:16 much joy as this verse is called the "Essence of Christianity." What I did this weekend is look at it through Catholic Theology; ultimately with a Pope Francis reflection directing us to the Crucifix. "As St. Thomas Aquinas stated, 'this love of God is the greatest and our eternal life is only obtained for us through his death on the cross.'" Remember, all of our homilies are online for your access.

Fr. Obrigewitch and I have been busy with Lenten Confessions and it will soon be Holy Week. With only two Lenten Fridays left (March 15 & 22), be sure to attend the last Fish Fries and Stations of the Cross. The High School Youth Group will present the Living Stations to close out our Lenten Season; thank you to their group for their preparation and presentation.

~ Have a great week! Msgr. Patrick Schumacher

Has something gone missing and you think it may have been left at the church?

LOST & FOUND can be found near the elevator doors on the main level of the church. If you lost glasses, we have a large collection in the parish office. Items of greater value, such as wallets, purses, and phones are generally turned into the office.

"Tony, Tony, come around, something's lost that must be found." Prayer to St. Anthony, Patron Saint of Lost Things



Have you tried Online Giving? It is easy, convenient, and secure. You have the option to give weekly, monthly or even annually. Changes can be made at any time. Visit www.corpuschristibismarck.com and click on the "Online Giving Button" on the home page.

Please note: Weekly envelopes are not automatically cancelled when you sign up for Online Giving because of the special collection envelopes that are included in your mailed envelopes. If you participate in Online Giving and do not wish to receive envelopes, contact the Parish Office, 255-4600. Thank you for your financial support Corpus Christi!

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 16-17	March 16, 2024	March 17, 2024	March 17, 2024	March 17, 2024
	4:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:45 AM	5:30 PM
Hospitality	1 Bob Deutsch	1	1	1 Karen Gaydos
	2	2	2	2
	3	3	3	3
	4	4	4	4
Ushers	1 William Kopp	1 Tim Kuntz	1 Milissa Kelly	1 Mark Gaydos
	2 Judith Kopp	2 Linda Feist	2 Dennis Kelly	2 Joel Streitz
	3 Larry Thelen	3 Charles Jaskowiak	3 Joel Meyer	3
	4 Rick Kramlich	4 Catherine Williams	4 Maggie Meyer	4
	5	5 Francis Williams	5 Briana Feist	5
	6	6	6	6
Lectors	1 Sandy Wald Clooten	1 Irene Goetz	1 Rose Krukenberg	1 Bart Brackin
	2	2 Dale Kasowski	2 Joyal Meyer	2 Mary Soucie
Servers	1	1 Annabelle Scholand	1 William Schmidt	1 Braden Roehrl
	2	2	2 Carsten Schmidt	2 Kate Masset
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 Jane Wolf	3 Brenda Bergan	3 Bill Marion	3 Margie Schiff
	4 Joseph Wolf	4 Teddie Herner	4 Cec Reetz	4
	5	5 Kermit Herner	5 Reyne Richter	5
	6	6 Mike Hilbert	6 Brenda Weisz	6
	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon
	8	8 Judane Ohlhauser	8	8
	9	9 Adriana Thein	9	11
	10	10 Laurie Vanderpan	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.

10 March 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Joy \jɔɪ\

A fruit or mark of the activity of the Holy Spirit in the life of the faithful. While pleasure comes through the senses and happiness from human interaction, Christian **joy** is experienced in loving God and neighbor.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-joy>

CONTEXT

Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls.

—Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Joy, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter.

—Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

The gospel is a proclamation of **joy**. Ideologies don't make people smile, but the gospel is a smile. It makes you smile because it touches your soul with the Good News.

—Pope Francis

WHY IT MATTERS

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen once divided the world into those who have found God and those who are still hungering, thirsting, and seeking. Religious practices in themselves may or may not bring a person to genuine holiness. But the life that exhibits true **joy** proves to be radiant with the life of God.

From *Gaudium et spes*, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World: "The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of history and of civilization, the center of the human race, the **joy** of every heart and the answer to all its yearnings."

RELATED WORDS

Rejoice | Alleluia | Fruits of the Spirit

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Will my faith make me happy?

The biblical idea of happiness is linked to *beatitude* (Latin for "bliss"). Jesus offers beatitudes in his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel. Often the primary word of each beatitude is translated as *blessed*. A more literal rendering might be the cry, "Happy you!" who are just, pure of heart, merciful, a peacemaker, and so on. God is the source of happiness, therefore doing as God does brings bliss.

So, the short answer to the question is, yes, living according to God's will makes you happy. It's the only thing, in fact, that does; or as Saint Thomas Aquinas declared, "God alone satisfies." Saint Paul lists **joy** as one of nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. Saint Francis de Sales went so far as to warn against giving in to excessive sadness as it's a counter-witness to the **joy** that comes in the life of faith.

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

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, LAETARE SUNDAY (MARCH 10)

Rejoice and be glad

Most of us aren't crazy about being told to "cheer up." Yet today is called Laetare ("rejoice") Sunday because even though it's Lent, the church urges us to cheer up in the words of Isaiah 66:10: "Rejoice with Jerusalem all you who love her." We may feel affection for the memory of biblical Jerusalem or concern for the current sorrows of the city. But it's the heavenly city, where justice and peace reign, that gives us reason to rejoice.

READINGS: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21 (32 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/031024-YearB.cfm>). "Whoever lives the truth comes to the light."

FAITH IN ACTION

Remember our **joy** and hope lies in the land where Christ rules.

One Minute Meditations

Pope St. Zachary

Born to a Greek family in Calabria, Italy, St.

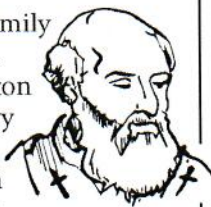
Zachary was deacon to Pope Gregory III before succeeding him as pope in 741.

As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy several times, most notably with the Lombards and the Franks. St. Zachary supported St. Boniface's German mission, ransomed slaves sold by Venetian merchants, and supported the restoration of churches. He carried the Church through troubled times with charity, prudence, and skillful leadership.

Trust

St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta refused donations beyond the current needs of her community. Accepting such help would mean she didn't trust God to provide for their needs. When we rely on God, we demonstrate our faith, just as Mother Teresa did.

"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it"
(1 Corinthians 10:13).



Finish Lent strong

The last weeks of Lent can feel like the last yards of a marathon. We're just pushing ourselves to reach the finish line of Easter. Instead, think of Lent as a time of silence, simplicity, and sacrifice that helps us become the people God wants us to be. That's the real point of Lent.

Silence:

Prayer is oxygen for the soul. It is during prayer when God speaks to our hearts. Lent done right removes distractions so that our prayer is richer and our focus more attentive. It is critical to find time to be with Him in attentive silence each day.

Simplicity: Avoid material clutter. Consider the six month rule – if you haven't worn it or used it in the last

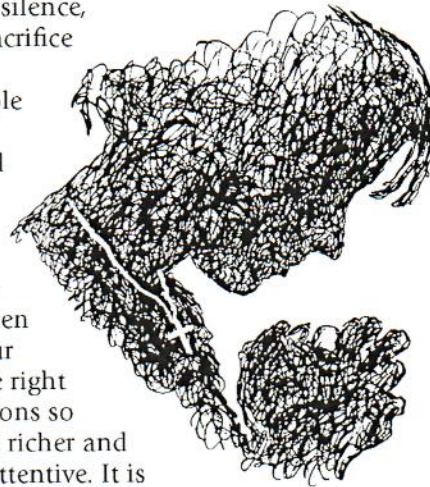
six months – give it away. Not only will you help those in need, decluttering creates room in our homes and hearts for God.

Sacrifice: Through sacrifice we give back to God what we owe Him. While we can't repay Him for His gifts in equal measure, we can express gratitude with small sacrifices that show our return back to Him in gratitude and love.

Sacraments:

Sacraments are the fuel for fighting evil. During Lent, these spiritual battles intensify. Weekly

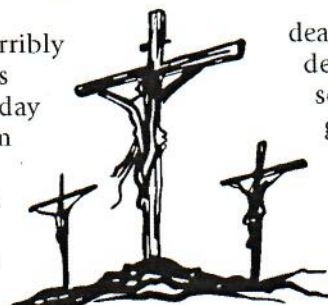
Mass and monthly Confession keep up our spiritual strength. Don't fight on fumes. Fuel up with the Sacraments.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Good Friday "good"?

Although it recalls a terribly sad event, Good Friday is "good" because it is the day when Jesus saved us from our sins, reconciled us with God, and reopened Heaven. Out of what seemed like defeat, God brought victory. By His

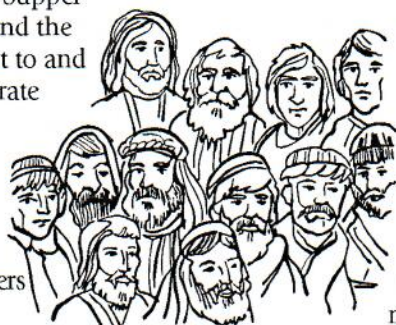


death, Jesus conquered sin and death. On Good Friday, we see more clearly God's goodness, justice, wisdom, power, and love. *"God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8).

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples..."

Each Triduum begins by recalling the Last Supper during which Jesus gave us the priesthood and the Eucharist as His means of remaining present to and in His Church. On Holy Thursday, we celebrate discipleship and are all asked to renew our commitment to following Jesus.

Disciples act with love. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). True followers of Jesus know that how we treat others proves that we know Him and follow Him.



Disciples answer the call. God chooses us first, but we must answer the call. If Peter had not dropped his nets and followed Jesus, he would not have been a disciple. Discipleship involves a choice to drop everything for Him.

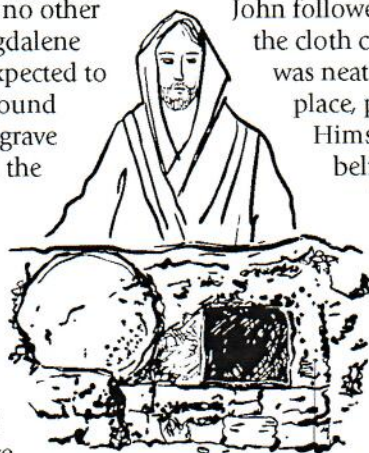
Disciples make other disciples. Ultimately, we need to do what Jesus did, which is to make more disciples. This was His final command, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). The Catholic Church's mission is to make disciples who make disciples.

from Scripture

John 20:1-9, Jesus - not death - has the last word

The Resurrection is the keystone of our Faith, making a claim no other faith can. When Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, she expected to find a body. Instead, she found the stone rolled back, the grave clothes neatly folded, and the tomb empty. She concluded, wrongly, that thieves had taken the Lord's body, and she ran to tell Peter and John.

When Peter and John arrived, Peter entered first and also saw that the grave clothes had been left behind, not left in a heap, but neatly arranged. No grave robber would have taken the



body and left the clothes behind.

John followed Peter and saw that the cloth covering Christ's face was neatly folded in a separate place, perhaps by Christ Himself. He saw and believed.

The Resurrection proves that Christ is who He says He is. Therefore, we must give Him our final allegiance. Because Jesus rose from the dead in glory, we also have the hope of rising

in glory with Him on the Last Day. Christ - not death, sin, or evil - has the last word.

Q & A What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?

As followers of Christ, we're encouraged to care for each other. Jesus' parable of the judgment of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46) lists the ways we can care for those in physical need: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matthew 25:35).



These are the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit the sick and imprisoned, to shelter the homeless and to bury the dead. Essentially, "it is by what they have done for the poor that Jesus Christ will recognize His chosen ones" (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2443).

The Corporal Works of Mercy are about being aware of others' needs and responding to them. Living the Corporal Works of Mercy is how we can make our love for God and others visible and effective. "Whatever you did for one of these...you did for me" (Matthew 25:40).

Feasts & Celebrations

March 8 - John of God (1550). Moved to repentance by a homily of St. John of Ávila, St. John left his career in the Portuguese military to establish a hospital for the sick and poor. After his death, his assistants formed the Brothers Hospitallers.

March 19 - St. Joseph, Husband of Mary (1st century). Jesus' earthly father and husband to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph is a model of fatherhood and a protector of families.

March 24 - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). On

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by cheering crowds waving palms. This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

March 26 - St. Margaret Clitherow (1586). St. Margaret converted to Catholicism soon after she married, when Catholicism was illegal in England. Margaret continued to practice her faith, even hiding priests in her house so they could say Mass. She remained joyful, faithful, and peaceful until her martyrdom.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)