

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 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

*Holy Days as scheduled and may differ than below.
See the inside of the bulletin for details.*

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.

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. John Paul Gardner, Parochial Vicar..... 975-9802
Rev. Dinoy Rebera, Parochial Vicar 975-9818
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..... 975-9804
Melanie Konieczka, Faith Formation 975-9809
Tammy Schafer, Pastoral Care..... 975-9816

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

PRAYER TREE: 255-4600

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Tuesdays (typed format
sent to info@corpuschristibismarck.com)



September 21, 2025

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. 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 Bismarck Diocese at 701-222-3035 or www.bismarckdiocese.com/nfp.

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



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH REGISTRATION

To become a registered member, stop by the Parish Office or scan this QR Code.



CORPUS CHRISTI APP (MyParish APP):

Download the app for any smart device.

Text the word *App* to 55321.

Or scan the QR Code.

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

Soon the *2024-2025 State of the Parish Report* will be arriving in each registered household. An annual financial report is mandated by the diocese, and we use the opportunity to share a broader view of all the stewardship tenants of time, talent, and treasure. We create the report in house and then have it printed and mailed via the USPS. The report was sent to the printers on September 12 and should arrive in your homes before the October 01 deadline. In that report, and all my homilies this weekend, I referenced Luke 16:10: **"The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones..."** Corpus Christi is a great parish; thank you for all the ways you fulfill this scripture. This scripture is also good encouragement. Ask yourself, what can I do for the Lord? I am pleased with the way the State of the Parish Report turned out. I thank the staff for their input and to Sarah Bengtson for designing the report. I think you will enjoy it as well - watch your mailboxes!



I would also like to commend the entire staff of Corpus Christi for their commitment and dedication to their work and ministries. Whenever we host an event at the parish or a gathering at the rectory, the common sentiment from our guests is that Corpus Christi *"does things well"*. I am proud of our parish family and the entire staff! I do not micromanage, but I do expect a spirit of teamwork and strong work ethic as I lead by encouraging the staff to use their particular gifts to the best of their ability. Corpus Christi is the largest (parish) staff I have worked with as a priest and it is a positive experience to witness their ideas, passion, and faith *"ad majorem Dei gloriam"* - *For the glory of God!*

Lastly, the Knights of Columbus will host a traveling icon image of the Sacred Heart, and they have planned a special Holy Hour for the faithful to pray in its presence on Thursday, September 25. In addition to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fr. Gardner will speak and Colleen Reinhardt will offer the Divine Mercy Chaplet in song. If you are able to attend, I encourage you to do so!

~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: September 27-28	September 27, 2025		September 28, 2025		September 28, 2025		September 28, 2025	
	4:00 PM		8:30 AM		10:45 AM		5:30 PM	
Hospitality	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Ushers	1 Bob Clooten	1 Jerome Werlinger	1 Donald Williams	1 Darcy Neigum				
	2 Joyce Hinman	2 Jim Volk	2	2				
	3 Gisele Thorson	3 Mike Hilbert	3	3				
	4 Mary Barbere	4 Travis Heick	4	4				
	5	5 Tammy Heick	5					
	6	6	6					
Lectors	1 Rod Kuhn	1 Dustin Fritel	1 Jane Link	1 Gerri Weisgerber				
	2	2 Brennan Quintus	2 Heather Bullinger	2				
Servers	1	1 Avy Quintus	1	1 Evan Hinnenkamp				
	2	2 Fletcher Edinger	2	2				
Eucharistic Min	BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST	
	R-1 Clare Auble	R-1 Catherine Williams	R-1 Rita Mastel	R-1 Darcy Neigum				
	2 Father	2 Father	2 Father	2 Father				
	3 Curt Carik	3 Gerard Mathern	3 Cec Reetz	3 Blaine Nelson				
	4 Mary Winbauer	4 Pam Mathern	4 Rachele Massemo	4 Margie Schiff				
	5 Evelyn Spangler	5 Bess Deutsch	5 Kay Williams	5				
	6	6 Carl Jackson	6 Craig Schaaf	6				
	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon	7 Deacon				
	8	8 Colleen Fyling	8 Lynde Pesirla	8				
	9	9	9 Justin Reisenauer	9				
	10	10	10	10				
	11		11					
At 4:00*	D12							
	LG	LG Andrea Jackson	LG	LG				

Livestreaming Schedule:

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 12:10 p.m.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

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

Holy Days as Scheduled

Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon., Sept. 22 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠ Frank & ✠ Mary Mormann

Tues., Sept. 23 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠ Donna Stair

Wed., Sept 24 - Collective Intention

(12:10 p.m.) - ✠ Angie Geiger

✠ Don Spijs

✠ Eugene Volk

Thurs., Sept. 25 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠ Bobbie Schauer

Fri., Sept. 26 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠ Sandy Thompson

Sat., Sept. 27 (4:00 p.m.) - ✠ Myron Schell

Sun., Sept. 28 (8:30 a.m.) - ✠ Danny Herauf

(10:45 a.m.) - ✠ Donald & ✠ Emily Weightman

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



Sacred Heart Holy Hour

A traveling icon of the Sacred Heart will be on display

Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m.



The Corpus Christi Knights of Columbus will be hosting a special prayer opportunity that will include:

- A talk about the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Fr. John Paul Gardner
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy in song with Colleen Reinhardt
- Time for silent prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

All are invited, including families with children.

Any prayer intentions can be offered, but a particular focus of this event is prayer for those in need of healing, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. Please join us.



Catholic Charities Sunday will be **September 27-28**. Each of the programs offered by Catholic Charities helps a different vulnerable demographic within North Dakota. Catholic Charities ND relies

on the generous support from parishioners and community members to continue to offer the much needed services to those who need them most. Programs include: *Counseling Services; Adults Adopting Special Kids; Guardianship Services - Vulnerable; Guardianship Division - Intellectual Disabilities; Pregnancy, Parenting, and Adoption Services.*

CONTRIBUTIONS (General Fund) - (2,470 households)	
Adult Envelopes (264 Envelopes)	\$20,702.66
Youth Envelopes	\$314.18
Total Received (Sept. 14).	\$21,016.84
1 st Sunday Sept 7	\$19,543.25
Online Giving Week (Sept 1-7)	\$9,020.00
Electronic Contributions (Sept 5)	\$12,868.68
2 nd Sunday Sept 14	\$21,016.84
Online Giving Week (Sept 8-14)	\$4,085.00
3 rd Sunday Sept 21	\$0.00
Online Giving Week (Sept 15-21)	\$0.00
Electronic Contributions (Sept 20)	\$0.00
4 th Sunday Sept 28	\$0.00
Online Giving Week (Sept 22-28)	\$0.00



Thank you for your generosity and for being a faithful steward of Corpus Christi!

Stewardship Thoughts:

- The dishonest manager in today's parable knew how to manipulate money to his own advantage. But the Gospel warns that no one can serve both God and money. Which do I serve? Is my stewardship such that anyone can tell?
- Those who practice stewardship see themselves as caretakers of God's gifts. They are grateful for what they have received and are eager to share their gifts out of love for God and one another.



Parish Date Night

Save the Date - October 10, 2025

Join us for dinner & great conversation!

Register by scanning the QR Code



Can you help? We are creating a team to assist in the planning and the facilitation of Parish Date Night. Would you consider being a part of this exciting parish program? Contact Melanie Konieczka at 975-9809 or email her at melanie.konieczka@corpuschristibismarck.com.

Young Adult Late Night

Friday, October 10

8:00 p.m. Praise & Adoration

8:45 p.m. Octoberfest Gathering

Homemade Pretzels, beer cheese dip, and Trivia! Open to anyone ages 21-39.



Praise & Adoration

Corpus Christi Church

Eucharistic Adoration with Praise & Worship Music

Friday, October 10 ~ 8:00 p.m.

All are invited - please join us!



Catechetical Sunday: September 21

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life... her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis" (no. 7). This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity and it is fitting that the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) sets aside a day to highlight this ministry and invites the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others. It is also a day to offer a prayer of blessing to our Catechists:



Lord God, source of all wisdom and knowledge, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to live among us and to proclaim his message of faith, hope, and love to all nations. In your goodness bless our brothers and sisters who have offered themselves as catechists for your Church. Strengthen them with your gifts, that they may teach by word and by example the truth that comes from you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.



God our Father, let your peace settle within the hearts of these mothers, fathers, and guardians. Give them strength and wisdom as they care for their children. Show them how to raise their families with patience and tenderness. Give them strength during the times of greatest difficulty and help them recognize the little joys that are part of each day. May they grow in wisdom, understanding, and grace. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.



Corpus Christi Women's Group
Wednesday, September 24
9:30-11:00 a.m., Parish Hall

Join us for a light brunch, followed by presentation by Tammy Lofrano, "Caring for Ourselves Physically and Spiritually." Fall is always a wonderful time to renew our motivation to take better care of ourselves as women. Hope you can join us for this wonderful morning of good food and friendship with other women while listening to a motivational presentation. No registration required - all women are invited! For more information, contact Cindy Anderst at the Parish Office at 255-4600.

Knight of the Month
September 2025
 Congratulations, Jim Luptak!



What's Going on Here This Week

- Sun. 9/21** Altar Server Training, 1:00 p.m., Church
SNAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Rectory
- Mon. 9/22** OCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m., South Hospitality Room
- Tues. 9/23** Caring Hearts Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-7:00 p.m., Church
- Wed. 9/24** Family Table, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Faith Formation **Group C**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Middle School Youth Ministry (**Oasis**),
6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 140
- Thurs. 9/25**  Sacred Heart Holy Hour, 7:00 p.m., Church
~ Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus - All are invited! 
- Fri. 9/26** Wedding Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.
- Sat. 9/27** Nuptial Mass, 1:30 p.m.
- Sun. 9/28** Faith Formation **Group A**, 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:45 a.m. Mass
SNAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 140

High School SNAC (Grades 9-12)

Sunday, Sept. 21: SNAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 Topic: Grill the Priest Q & A (Meet at Rectory)

Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

Wednesday, Sept. 24: Oasis, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
 Topic: Game Night



Volunteers needed for 2025-2026!

Select the Sundays that work for you!

Children's Liturgy of the Word
September 28 - 10:45 a.m. Mass

Lessons are geared for preK - 2nd Grade. No registration required.



***** RESCHEDULED *****

Faith Formation Fall Kick-Off
Papa's Pumpkin Patch

Sunday, October 5 ~ 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Please see your email correspondence from Melanie Konieczka.



Light of Christ Raffle Tickets: September 20 & 21

Students from *Light of Christ Catholic Schools* will be selling raffle tickets to support their tuition assistance program and annual classroom needs. There will be a drawing for \$25,000 in cash prizes, with a grand prize of \$10,000. The students will be available in the Lower Gathering Space after weekend Masses.

Corpus Christi Food Pantry Needs:
Pancake Mix, Syrup & Instant Potatoes
 Thank you for your support!





SoulCore Prayer and Exercise

SoulCore is a prayer experience that combines the rosary with core strengthening, stretching and functional exercises; a sensory experience combining candlelight, music, scripture, reflections and movement to nourish the body, mind and soul, and encourage deeper meditation on the mysteries and virtues of the rosary.

Who is SoulCore for? Adult women (16 years & older). Registered parishioners will be given priority to sign up for the program.

When? Thursday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Two four-week sessions (you can sign up for one or both sessions): **Session 1 = October 2-23 and Session 2 = October 30 - November 20.**

What? Bring an exercise mat and be dressed for exercise.

Cost? A donation box will be available at each class for those who are able to contribute.

Note: Class size is limited. Registration is required. Out of consideration for everyone involved, if you register and are unable to attend, please notify Cindy Anderst so your spot can be made available to someone else.

The Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary, Bismarck, will host **Hope and Healing Grief Support Sessions** on Thursday evenings, October 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, 6:30-8:00 p.m. The sessions are led by Fr. Jared Johnson and Nancy Darling. Registration required by September 30 at www.stmarysbismarck.org/hopeandhealing. Contact Nancy Darling, (701) 712-2926, with questions.

Are you interested in enriching your marriage along with other Catholic couples? **Teams of Our Lady** is a lay movement for Catholic married couples which helps them grow in holiness through the graces of the Sacrament of Marriage by enjoying fellowship with a team of five to seven couples. Teams meet monthly to share a simple meal, pray together, and discuss topics focusing on faith and marriage. A no-obligation information session will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 28 in the basement cafeteria of Cathedral Church for those interested in learning about Teams of Our Lady from couples who have found joy through their involvement in the movement. Dessert will be served! If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to learn more, please contact Pat & Sue Forster at bismarckndsector@gmail.com.

Priesthood Sunday is September 28

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of our priests, especially those who care for Corpus Christi -

Msgr. Patrick Schumacher, Pastor

Fr. John Paul Gardner, Parochial Vicar

Fr. Dinoy Rebera, Parochial Vicar

We also pray in a special way for:

- all of our past parish priests
- all retired priests
- all men ordained to the priesthood

Without priests, the Mass could not be offered and the Sacraments could not be received.

St. Serra Vocations Apostolate of Bismarck-Mandan

Fundraising Breakfast and Bake Sale for Religious Vocations

Sunday, September 21, St. Mary's Academy Cafeteria (1025 N. 2nd St.)
The meal is served 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee and juice. Soft serve ice cream will also be available with an assortment of toppings. Cost is \$10/adults; \$5/children (10 and under); free for children under age 3.



Great Food, Great Fun!

Annual Fall Dinners around the Diocese

Scan the QR Code for ALL the local events!

The list is also included in the September DCA.

Take the opportunity to stand up for the unborn at the **North Dakota March for Life** on Friday, October 10. The day begins with Mass (*celebrated by Bishop Kagan*) at 10:00 a.m. at the Bismarck Event Center (*use door A1*). After Mass, all are invited to march to the N.D. capitol building south mall for a rally. The rally is set to begin at 12:30 p.m. The N.D. March for Life is an annual event in October to coincide with **Respect Life Month**. Bishop Kagan will lead a holy hour on the eve of the N.D. March for Life on Thursday, October 9 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. The public is invited to attend both events and **registration is open**. Please click the link below to register yourself and/or your group. Sign up as soon as you are able, as registration will close on October 1. <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/57686aed-aa84-4cfa-b102-eea6280249dc>.



Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 5, 4:30 p.m.,

Upper East Parking Lot

Please arrive early. Blessing will be at 4:30 p.m.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Friends of the Poor 5K Walk

Sunday, September 28

Sertoma Park Community Shelter



3:30 p.m. Registration & 4:00 p.m. Walk

• The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus will provide a picnic meal following the walk. • Scan the QR code to register. • There is no registration fee, a free will donation is encouraged. • All funds stay local to help the poor in our community.

As part of the Jubilee Year of Hope, the Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary in Bismarck will be hosting a special Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. **During the Mass, only those individuals whose health is seriously impaired by either sickness or advancement in years are invited to receive the Anointing of the Sick.** Individuals who are planning to receive the Anointing of the Sick are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Penance beforehand. Confessions will be offered before Mass beginning at 6:00 p.m. All are invited to attend, whether it is to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick or to pray for those in our community who are sick.

Sunday, Sep 21, 2025

Set an intention

Most of us know intuitively what prayer is, but how do we pray at all times and “in every place,” as scripture says? One way is to set an intention for each task before us. For example, we might pray: “May this report I am writing be a sign of gratitude for my job.” Or: “May these dishes I am washing be a sign of my love for my family.” Or: “May this cover letter and résumé be a sign of my hope for the future.” By setting an intention for each part of our day, we become more fully aware of our relationship to God. Our actions become steeped with meaning and therefore more loving, peaceful, and compassionate. And isn’t that what prayer is for?

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13 or Luke 16:10-13 (135). *“I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone.”*

Monday, Sep 22, 2025

Shine your quantum light

In her *Revelations of Divine Love*, 14th-century mystic Julian of Norwich describes how she came to understand that God is light, “our endless Day.” Seven centuries later, physicist Bernard Haisch came to the same understanding: “The solid, stable world of matter appears to be sustained at every instant by an underlying sea of quantum light,” which Haisch concludes gives “Let there be light” profound meaning and a clue to the nature of God and the mysteries of the universe. The light that shines within you is God. Let others see that light in everything you do.

Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18 (449). *“No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather, he places it on a lampstand.”*

Tuesday, Sep 23, 2025

Suffering through the eyes of love

Pope John Paul II canonized Padre Pio of Pietrelcina on June 16, 2002. More than 300,000 people braved excessive heat to fill St. Peter’s Square and nearby streets for the ceremony. They heard the Holy Father praise the new saint for his prayer and charity and for Padre Pio’s witness to the power of suffering. If accepted with love, the pope stressed, such suffering can lead to “a privileged path of sanctity.” There is meaning in the suffering in your own life. Search for it with a loving gaze.

MEMORIAL OF PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST

Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21 (450). *“My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it.”*

Wednesday, Sep 24, 2025

Help freedom reign

The church has not always been on the right side of history when it comes to slavery. In fact, for centuries the “right side” meant justifying slavery because it was an accepted social institution. The ancient Israelites were enslaved people, and the early Christians—and lots of Christians afterwards—took it for granted. Judaism, however, believed the law of God protected enslaved people from mistreatment, and early Christianity thought the differences between enslavers and the enslaved evaporated in the kingdom of God. While just about all people of faith today reject slavery outright, it is still very much alive in forms like human trafficking. A number of Catholic women’s religious communities are involved in the fight

against trafficking. Learn more about what you can do to bring freedom and justice to enslaved people.

Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6 (451). *“For slaves we are, but in our servitude our God has not abandoned us.”*

Thursday, Sep 25, 2025

Gains and losses redefined

The people of Israel, it seems, had more important things to do than rebuild the temple of the Lord—there was wealth to be made, food and drink and fine clothes to enjoy, and comfortable homes to build. Recent economic history echoes this pattern: Vast fortunes have been amassed, often at the expense of basic moral and ethical principles. In both prosperity and hardship, the divine call to justice, mercy, and love remains unchanged. If you seek lasting joy, disregard the shifting trends of society, and follow the eternal values God sets before us. As Saint Theresa of Ávila reminds us: “Our greatest gain is to lose the wealth that is of such brief duration and, by comparison with eternal things, of such little worth.”

Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9 (452). *“You have sown much, but have brought in little.”*

Friday, Sep 26, 2025

Treasure the word

Considering the enormous flow of words we can encounter with nothing more than the movement of a finger on a computer screen, it is difficult to imagine the ordeal required for a library in the Middle Ages to acquire even a single new book. Monks would often spend their entire careers traveling between monasteries and at each stop transcribing by hand whatever text their home library was in want of. The English monk Saint Ceolfrith (642-716) was renowned in his time for his tortuous travels and prolific transcribing efforts. His protégé, the famous Saint Bede, writes that Ceolfrith alone doubled the holdings of their monastery’s library, which was already considered sizeable. Draw on the wisdom of ancient monks as you contemplate how can you expand the treasury of God’s word today.

Haggai 2:1-9; Luke 9:18-22 (453). *“Take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD, and work! For I am with you.”*

Saturday, Sep 27, 2025

Improve your attention span

The early 20th-century French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil had much to say about the value of attention. “Attention is the highest and purest form of generosity,” she said. “Prayer is made of attention.” “There is never a case when an effort of attention is lost. It will always be spiritually effective.” Learning to pay attention—to focus and concentrate on what is at hand—is and has been a neglected practice. No doubt multitudes who lived at the time of Jesus rushed right by him as he preached in the synagogues and healed in the streets, too caught up in the day’s affairs to see the savior right in front of them. How about you? If Jesus were to come again today, would you be too “crazy-busy” to pay attention?

Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45 (454). *“Pay attention to what I am telling you.”*

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



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