

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)



October 5, 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):

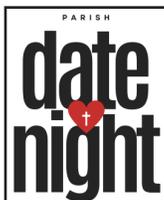
Download the app for any smart device.

Text the word *App* to 55321.

Or scan the QR Code.

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

As I mentioned in my homily of September 20/21, "I often like to think about commonalities. Particular people, objects, and even ideas and particular events have things in common. I'm a priest - I should be interested in what successful priests have in common. What do successful parents have in common? Successful schools? Successful businesses?" Here, I'd like to add one more to consider. What do successful couples have in common? Having worked with many couples over the years (dating, engaged, married, separated, divorced), I see many commonalities. In fact, I've shared my top four tips (for a successful marriage) with nearly every couple I have married in my priesthood: it takes a lot of giving; never forget to pray; protect your friendship; and express your love every day. St. Thomas Aquinas said, "true love is not merely and emotion but a deliberate choice to prioritize the well-being of others." Any relationship - friendship, significant other, familial, and our relationship with God - thrives and survives because of communication and the prioritization of spending time together. Time spent together is crucial for nurturing commonalities to ensure a healthy, dynamic and engaging relationship. If you are not intentionally connecting, relationships quickly drift, fade, or can become mundane.



In an effort to support and foster relationships, Parish Date Night was established. It is an exciting new program that Melanie Konieczka has spearheaded and is an opportunity for couples (dating, engaged, married) of all ages to nurture their relationships while connecting with other faithful and with the parish. These nights are for couples who have just started dating to those who have spent a lifetime together! It is an opportunity to carve out time for one another. Parish Date Night includes a delicious meal, a short presentation or activity, and time with your significant other. Not only is it a fun event, but it is also only \$10 a couple - where else can you get good food and good content for that?! At the end of the night, couples can stay for a time of Praise and Adoration if they would like. Our staff is always thinking of ways to have greater reach within our parish and our community, and I commend Mel for her work on starting the Parish Date Night. The program kicked off last fall (2024) and our first event for the 2025-2026 season is next Friday, October 10. Our Responsorial Psalm says this weekend, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." If this new ministry has piqued your interest, I invite you to attend the next event; register by Wednesday, October 8. And, Melanie is also hoping for a few people to assist in the planning and the facilitating of this program. Consider this stewardship opportunity today and contact Melanie if you are interested.

Lastly, October is Respect Life Month. There are many special events within the Diocese; check out bismarckdiocese.com for the latest news and events. ~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: October 11-12	October 11, 2025		October 12, 2025		October 12, 2025		October 12, 2025	
	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	Beverly Larson	2	
	3		3	Kort Krebsbach	3		3	
	4		4		4		4	
Ushers	1	Helen Berger	1	John Saiki	1	Nancy Haunz	1	Tim Rivinius
	2	Sam Theurer	2	George Simek	2	Dennis Mastel	2	Bernie Rivinius
	3	Derek Theurer	3	Pius Ternes	3	Chuck Holzer	3	
	4		4		4	Bernie Holzer	4	
			5					
Lectors	1	Sarah Bengtson	1	Dale Kasowski	1	Claudia Dietrich	1	Christopher Knudson
	2	Joyce Hinman	2	Timothy Click	2	Christine Elzenga	2	Bob Willenbring
Servers	1	Conner Lundeen	1	Carsten Schmidt	1	Ben Miller	1	Everyn Knudson
	2	Olivia Lundeen	2	Elsa Brash	2	Jake Miller	2	Kyan Knudson
Eucharistic Min	BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST	
	R-1	Clare Auble	R-1	Dale Kasowski	R-1	Kathy Feist	R-1	Tim Bohan
	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father
	3	Bob Clooten	3	Gerard Mathern	3	Steven Mittelsteadt	3	Mary Nelson
	4	Sandy Wald Clooten	4	Pam Mathern	4	Charlie Holzer	4	Margie Schiff
	5	Carol Thompson	5	Jerome Werlinger	5	Cec Reetz	5	
	6	Heather Lundeen	6	Danell Becker	6	LaVerne Kaufman	6	
	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon
	8	Connie Kalanek	8	Mike Hilbert	8	Gary Feist	8	
	9		9	Ron Torkelson	9	Karen Stahl	11	
	10		10	Virginia Torkelson	10		12	
	11				11	Justin Reisenauer		
At 4:00*	D12				12			
	LG		LG	Mary Kasowski	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

CONTRIBUTIONS (General Fund) - (2,470 households)	
Adult Envelopes (231 Envelopes)	\$19,464.94
Youth Envelopes	\$252.29
Total Received (Sept. 28).	\$19,717.23
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	\$16,252.75
Online Giving Week (Sept 15-21)	\$8,645.00
Electronic Contributions (Sept 20)	\$10,185.68
4 th Sunday Sept 28	\$19,717.23
Online Giving Week (Sept 22-28)	\$3,428.15

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

Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon., Oct. 6 (12:10 p.m.) - †Anton Becker
Tues., Oct. 7 (12:10 p.m.) - †Agnes Jennings
Wed., Oct. 8 - Collective Intention
 (12:10 p.m.) - †Edward Selensky
 †David Erhardt
 †Josephine Erhardt
 †Irene Elter
Thurs., Oct. 9 (12:10 p.m.) - †Duane & †Isabel Aune
Fri., Oct. 10 (12:10 p.m.) - †Bobbie Schauer
Sat., Oct. 11 (4:00 p.m.) - †Lucretia Silbernagel
Sun., Oct. 12 (8:30 a.m.) - †Ottmar C. Barth
 (10:45 a.m.) - Pro Populo
 (5:30 p.m.) - †Charles Olmsted

Stewardship Thought:

When will I have given enough? Today's Gospel suggests that only total stewardship will do. Stewardship calls us to generously share what we have with others as members of one Christian community.

PARISH

date night





Parish Date Night is back!

- For couples of all ages
- Dating - Engaged - Married yesterday or 50 years ago!
- 3 Parish Date Night Events (Fall - Winter - Spring) • 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Delicious food, great conversation, and quality time together.
- Registration (\$10/couple) is required for food preparation.
- Questions or want to help? Contact Melanie Konieczka, 975-9809.



Don't miss it!

Friday, October 10, 2025 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Register by October 8 - Scan the QR Code.

Theme: "Connections"

Praise & Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration with Praise & Worship Music

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

All are invited!





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.



All creatures great & small are invited!

Blessing of the Pets

Sun. Oct. 5, 4:30 p.m., Upper East Parking Lot

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

All animals must be leashed or crated and monitored.

Bella Health + Wellness

This weekend - October 4 & 5

At all Masses, Bella Health + Wellness will speak on who and what Bella is, funding and opening date, and some exciting updates for the community! Please financially support the construction and opening of the clinic; there will be envelopes in the pews for your donations - simply put the envelope in the collection basket as it is passed around. If you'd like more information about Bella, please email amychang@bellawellness.org or see the Bella Bismarck website: <https://www.bellawellness.org/bella-bismarck>.



Food Pantry Needs:

Peanut Butter (*regular size jars*)

1 Pound Bags of Rice

Prefer not to shop? Monetary donations are always accepted.

Thank you for your support.



Thank you for supporting the annual appeal for
Catholic Charities of North Dakota!
 If you would like to donate and support these important programs: <https://app.theauxilia.com/pay/CCNDdonation>.

Special Masses offered by Bishop Kagan in October:

All Masses are open to the public and held at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Mass:

Wednesday, October 15 at 5:30 p.m.

All are welcome to attend, especially those who grieve the loss of a child resulting from miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion or early infant death.

Red Mass: Monday, October 20 at 5:30 p.m.

The Red Mass celebrates with those involved in the administration of justice—judges, attorneys, law professors, law students and government officials.

White Mass: Monday, October 27 at 5:30 p.m.

The special Mass honors healthcare professionals, active and retired.

Annual N.D. Rally for Life: Friday, October 10

Take the opportunity to stand up for the unborn at the **N.D. Rally for Life** on Friday, October 10 at the Bismarck Event Center (use door A1) followed by the rally at the same location. *With safety as the concern, the march from the Bismarck Event Center to the state capitol lawn has been cancelled. All events will take place at the Bismarck Event Center main arena.*

Schedule:
 9:30 a.m. – Door A1 open to attendees
 10:30 a.m. – Mass with Bishop Kagan
 After Mass - Lunch (served until gone)
 12:30 p.m. – Rally for Life

The public is invited. Register at bismarckdiocese/ndmfl to help ensure an accurate lunch count. Bishop Kagan will lead a Holy Hour on the eve of the **N.D. Rally for Life** on Thursday, October 9 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.



<https://www.respectlife.org/>

*Please pray this daily prayer, specifically during the month of October:
 Jesus, you came that we might have life — and have it in abundance.
 Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity. As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable. For you are God, forever and ever. Amen*

World Mission Sunday: October 19

"Missionaries of Hope among the Peoples"

Envelopes are located at the church entrances.

World Mission Sunday is an effort to help over 1,100 dioceses that cannot sustain themselves because they are poor, young or actively persecuted.

Text MISSIONS25 to 53555 to give online.

What's Going on at Corpus Christi this Week

- Sun. 10/5** Faith Formation **Group D**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
 Blessing of the Pets, 4:30 p.m., Upper East Parking Lot
 Faith Formation Kick-Off, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Papa's Pumpkin Patch
 Confirmation Rehearsal & Reconciliation, 6:30 p.m.
 No SNAC (due to the Lifeline Trip)
- Mon. 10/6** OCIC, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Conference Room
 OCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m., South Hospitality Room
- Tues. 10/7** Caring Hearts Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
 Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-7:00 p.m., Church
 Food for the Soul, 5:30 p.m., Community Room
 Sacrament Track **Tuesday A Group**, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Parish Hall
- Wed. 10/8** 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, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Room 140
- Fri. 10/10** Parish Date Night, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Parish Hall (**Register by 10/8**)
 Praise and Adoration, 8:00 p.m., Church
 Emmaus Young Adults, 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Sat. 10/11** Sacrament Track **Saturday Group**, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Parish Hall
- Sun. 10/12** Faith Formation **Group A**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
 Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:45 a.m. Mass
 Confirmation Mass, 2:00 p.m.
 SNAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 140

High School SNAC (Grades 9-12)

Sunday, Oct. 5: No SNAC

Pray for the youth attending the Lifeline event in MN.

Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

Wednesday, Oct 8: 7:00-8:30 p.m. - Oasis

Topic: Hope is Real

Search for Christian Maturity is a weekend retreat experience which provides youth an opportunity to 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 at the Badlands Ministries Camp, south of Medora. Cost for the weekend is \$75. Partial scholarships are available. Upcoming weekends are:

2025 ~ October 10-12, November 14-16

2026 ~ January 16-18, March 6-8, April 17-19.

Register at bismarckdiocese.com/search1.

Corpus Christi will assist with the registration cost for *registered parish members* attending their *first* Search weekend. Contact Tracy Kraft at the Parish Office when you register.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

October 12 & 26 - 10:45 a.m. Mass

Lessons are geared for preK - 2nd Grade.

No registration required.



A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend will be held in beautiful Medora, November 7–12, 2025. This retreat is designed for couples who want to enhance an already good marriage, deepening communication, love, and understanding. The weekend takes place at the Rough Riders Hotel. Cost is just \$75. Registration deadline is two weeks before the event. For details or to register, visit wwme.org.

Come enjoy a night of faith and fellowship at Real Presence Radio's Fundraising Banquets! Join us in Dickinson (*Thursday, October 30*) or in Bismarck (*Tuesday, November 4*). Reserve your spot today! <https://realpresenceradio.com/banquets/> or contact Corpus Christi parishioner, Karen Selensky, at 701-318-5467.

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.

The Knights of Columbus Council #2760 of St. Joseph, Mandan, will be hosting their 10th Annual KC Festival on October 25 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mandan Eagles. The night will consist of wine and beer tasting, a meal of barbecue ribs, pulled pork and the fixings, live music, a silent auction, and a live auction. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door. For more info or to purchase tickets, please contact: Pat 701-202-9103 or Clint 701-721-3638.

Mark your calendars!



**Caring Hearts Quilters
Quilt Show & Sale**

October 18: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
October 19: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lower Gathering Space & Parish Hall

KC Breakfast

Sunday, October 19
9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Parish Hall



Knights of Columbus Membership Drive: The Knights of Columbus in our parish are dedicated to the church in promoting faith, family, community, and life. We need your help. Can you donate just one hour a month to your faith and church? The Knights of Columbus will be holding a membership drive (after all Masses) on October 18 & 19.

**Gospel PraiSing Fiesta
Nourish your soul & body!**

Christian music presented by Colleen Reinhardt, Julie Ternes, and guest musicians.

Mayas Mexican Restaurant ~11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

October 5 & 19, November 9 & 23 and December 21

Mayas is located at 1601 W. Century Ave, Bismarck. Lunch is available for purchase off the menu and free-will donations accepted for local charities. Presented by Gospel PraiSing (GPS) Ministries. For information, call Julie Ternes, 701-226-0356.

The Knights of Columbus #1604 of the Pro-Cathedral of St. Mary's, Bismarck, is seeking participants for this year's **Trunk-or-Treat** event taking place on Sunday, October 26. If you are interested in sponsoring a spot, please reach out to Brent and Laura Horner at 605-957-5619.

Catholic Daughters: Members are invited for our Mexican potluck on Tuesday, October 7 at 5:45 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Our Rosary and meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. For more info call Karen, 701-527-4203. *PLEASE NOTE the change in the meeting time. Bring a guest.*



Wonderful opportunity for women!



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).

When? Thursday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m., **Oct. 30 - Nov. 20**

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

Cost? A donation box will be available for those who wish to contribute.



Food for the Soul

Tuesday, October 7

5:30 p.m. in the Community Room

Eating alone after the loss of a spouse could be called the "6th Stage of Grief." Corpus Christi has created a community of friendship and support to assure you that there is always room at the table. Food for the Soul is a once-a-month meal for those who have lost a spouse; for more information, contact Tammy Schafer, 701-975-9816.

Rosary Rally with song and prayer on Saturday, October 11 at 11:00 a.m. Meet at the corner of 6th Street and Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck. Sponsored by the former Fatima membership of the World Apostolate of Fatima, Bismarck Diocese. The public is invited.

Beginning Experience, a non-denominational peer ministry, is offering "The Weekend," November 21-23 in Richardton. This weekend is a comprehensive program for those struggling with the loss of a love relationship due to divorce, separation or death. Interested people are invited to contact Elaine at 701-400-1941. Registration is due before November 7. For more information, go to www.beginningexperiencewesternnd.com.

Sunday, Oct 05, 2025

Time is on your side

Time is one of the great mysteries of the human experience. It has many qualities and dimensions. There is the inexorable, relentless public time of clocks and calendars, schedules, and appointments. Then there is private time, the internal time of our thoughts and experiences. This kind of time is unique to each individual and, like a bird, alternates between flight and perching. When we are doing something we love or spending time with someone we care about, the minutes slow down and we experience something akin to God's time, the eternal now. In this dimension there is no pain or suffering, worry or anxiety; no fear of the future or regret for the past—all is well and on time. Spend a few moments in God's time today.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10 (141). *"If it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late."*

Monday, Oct 06, 2025

Get ready for your close-up

Who is my neighbor? A man learned in Israelite law posed this question to Jesus. He asked neither what a neighbor was, nor how to treat a neighbor. The law had taught him that much. Rather he sought to know whom he needed to love. "Love thy neighbor" is a rule easy to understand and accept intellectually. Yet when we are face to face with other people, we are much more prone to excuse ourselves from this obligation. Thus, the Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote: "It's possible to love one's neighbor abstractly, and even occasionally from a distance, but hardly ever close up." Try to see your neighbors in those faces most difficult to love.

Jonah 1:1-2:2, 11; Luke 10:25-37 (461). *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart . . . and your neighbor as yourself."*

Tuesday, Oct 07, 2025

Choose the better part

We all know the gospel story of Martha and her sister Mary of Bethany. During a visit from their friend Jesus, Martha got a little steamed because she was stuck with the cooking and serving while Mary got to sit at the Master's feet and listen to his words. Like many an aggrieved sibling before and since, she took her gripe to a higher authority, in this case Christ himself: "Tell her to help me." But note: Jesus responded with neither condemnation nor praise. He merely said that Mary had "chosen the better part"—in other words, Mary realized the importance of taking time out of the busyness of everyday life for hearing the words and teachings of the Lord. You can, too.

Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42 (462). *"There is need of only one thing."*

Wednesday, Oct 08, 2025

More than words

Think about the Lord's Prayer: It sounds as if it's mostly about what God does, but it's just as much—maybe more—about what we are to do. "Hallowed by your name, your kingdom come" is not only praise of God but also a prayer for God's name to be known and God's kingdom to be fulfilled on Earth—both of which involve our cooperation. "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those indebted to us" reminds us of the uncomfortable truth that scripture

proclaims loud and clear: God will forgive us to the extent we forgive one another. Next time you pray the Our Father, don't only say the words: Resolve to fulfill them.

Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4 (463). *"Lord, teach us to pray."*

Thursday, Oct 09, 2025

A perfect example

Most of us who have children and all of us who were once children carry some regrets about the whole parenting process. Even the most devoted parents fall short. The good news is that love covers a multitude of flaws. When children know they are truly loved, they can forgive much. As Saint John Chrysostom advises, "If from the beginning we teach children to love true wisdom, they will have greater wealth and glory than riches can provide." Parenting will never be perfect, but love, humility, and a desire to lead children toward wisdom can go a long way. And for all our shortcomings, we can always look to the greatest parent of all, God, for guidance and grace.

Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13 (464). *"How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"*

Friday, Oct 10, 2025

Cast your demons out

Demons can make for great supernatural thrillers in the entertainment world, but they can also wreak havoc on our lives. We bump into them all the time—an unkind word, a sense of entitlement, a disparaging attitude toward ourselves or others. Our demons may not be the apocalyptic creatures of *The Walking Dead* or the latest "survival horror" video game, but they are very real and very deadly nonetheless. They can rob us of our conscience, of our God-given capacity to move toward the good, foster right relationships, and seek God always. What demons are you tangling with and how might you, in the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (no. 385), be vigilant in shifting your focus to God and trusting in the "superabundance" of God's grace?

Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26 (465). *"Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste and house will fall against house."*

Saturday, Oct 11, 2025

Blessed are those who share the Good News

One day a female follower of Jesus, apparently touched by his words, was moved to shout out a blessing on him: "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed," perhaps wishing that she herself should have such a son. Yet Jesus demurs and turns the blessing back upon her and all like her. While Jesus' mother and her womb are indeed blessed as we pray in the "Hail Mary," Jesus takes even greater delight in those of either gender who allow his words to take root in their hearts, their inmost being—those who keep that word alive by nourishing it and sharing it with others. Jesus blesses us for laboring and bringing the Good News to birth today.

MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28 (466). *"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."*

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



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