

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)



November 16, 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

In my homilies this weekend, I mentioned the importance of funeral planning. We are offering an unique opportunity this week, and I hope you will attend *Planning Ahead: Your Final Gift of Love* on Wednesday, November 19 at 1:00 pm. Tammy Schafer has arranged this informative meeting with local funeral homes and other key personnel to assist the faithful in preparing for their funeral liturgy, and other important factors surrounding dying and death. With your pre-planning, be sure to have "safeguards" in place so that you receive the Catholic funeral rites upon your death. Remember, just because a child/next of kin does not practice their faith, we should not have to lose our faith. Believe me, the astounding number of times in my 32 year priesthood (over 1,000 funerals) that I have witnessed long, faithful Catholics - mothers and fathers who actively practiced their faith their entire lives - who upon their death are denied a funeral Mass because their kids say, *'well, we don't go to Church!'* Some were not even given prayers in a funeral home setting. In your planning, you should absolutely tie the funeral rites, of which you are privileged to have, with your estate details. Faithful Catholics are to be given pastoral care to prepare for death (*the Sacrament of Anointing with the Apostolic Pardon and Viaticum, if possible*), a funeral vigil (*preferably with a Rosary*), and a Funeral Mass with burial in a blessed grave, despite any disposition of the children/next of kin. In recent years, a few of the most commonly raised questions concern cremation. Yes, cremation is permitted; the Church issued an instruction in 1963 permitting cremation. In 2016, the Church reiterated its permissibility and stressed that the conservation of ashes of the departed in a domestic residence is not permitted, ashes may not be divided among various family members, and ashes must be buried/interred in a sacred place. These are not "rules" made up by parishes, priests, or staff when families gather at a funeral home to plan after death; these are directives from the Roman Catholic Church to ensure the sanctity and dignified respect of the body. This is also the reason jewelry with ashes is not allowed (*a growing practice outside of the Catholic Church*). As faithful Catholics, it is our responsibility to understand the Church's teaching and to solidify our wishes into our end-of-life planning; it truly is a *final gift of love*.

As we pass through the middle of November what else do we have to do? • In this "month of the dead," we should focus on remembering our deceased loved ones and the holy souls in Purgatory through attending Mass, visiting cemeteries, offering the Eternal Rest prayer, and having Masses offered. • Begin preparing for Christmas so your Advent is a time of personal growth and reflection, and you can avoid the December scramble - do something today that doesn't need to be done today. I'm getting there; my Christmas shopping is almost done and my Christmas cards are already printed!

~Have a great week! Msgr. Patrick A. 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: November 22-23	November 22, 2025		November 23, 2025		November 23, 2025		November 23, 2025	
	4:00 PM		8:30 AM		10:45 AM		5:30 PM	
Hospitality	1		1		1		1	
	2		2		2		2	
	3		3		3		3	
	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	Jackie Mrachek	1	Dustin Fritel	1	Jane Link	1	Gerri Weisgerber
	2		2	Brennan Quintus	2	Heather Bullinger	2	
Servers	1		1	Avvy Quintus	1	Ben Miller	1	Evan Hinnenkamp
	2		2	Fletcher Edinger	2	Jake Miller	2	
Eucharistic Min		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST
	R-1	Evelyn Spangler	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	Margie Schiff
	4	Mary Winbauer	4	Pam Mathern	4	Rachelle Massemo	4	
	5	Bill Kopp	5	Bess Deutsch	5	Kay Williams	5	
	6	Judy Kopp	6	Carl Jackson	6	Craig Schaaf	6	
	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon
	8		8	Laurie Vanderpan	8	Lynde Pesirla	8	
	9		9		9	Justin Reisenauer		
	10		10		10			
	11				11			
At 4:00*	D12				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., Nov. 17 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Rosemary Schmaltz

Tues., Nov. 18 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Arlyss Thelen

Wed., Nov. 19 - Collective Intention

(12:10 p.m.) - ✠Angie Geiger

✠Bob Harvey

✠Steven Gross

Thurs., Nov. 20 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠Jerry Fischer

Fri., Nov. 21 (12:10 p.m.) - ✠LaVerne Wrede

Sat., Nov. 22 (4:00 p.m.) - ✠Lucretia Silbernagel

Sun., Nov. 23 (8:30 a.m.) - ✠Danny Herauf

(10:45 a.m.) - ✠Robert Schempp

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



When Corpus Christi switched to a "direct-to-office" phone system, each staff was assigned an individual phone number (they all have the format 701-975-98XX and are listed on the front of the bulletin). When you receive a call, it will show that particular

direct-to-office number, not the parish's home number 701-255-4600. For instance, the receptionist desk is 701-975-9805 and the parish manager is 701-975-9803. As you receive calls, please consider adding these numbers into your contacts. Thank you!



**Planning Ahead:
Your Final Gift of Love
Wednesday, November 19
1:00 p.m., Community Room**



Join us for an informational meeting to explore the Catholic theology of death and funeral rites, practical steps in pre-planning, funeral home and legal considerations, as well as time for Q & A. This meeting will be facilitated by Tammy Schafer, Director of Outreach Ministry, and include parish clergy, Bismarck Funeral Home, Eastgate/Parkway Funeral Home, and others. All are invited!

We are in need of additional adorers.

- If you would be interested, please call Tracy Kraft at the Parish Office, 975-9803, to visit about your availability and to commit to a time.
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is every Tuesday, immediately following the 12:10 p.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:00 pm.



CONTRIBUTIONS (General Fund) - (2,470 households)	
Adult Envelopes (249 Envelopes)	\$15,959.84
Youth Envelopes	\$311.35
Total Received (Nov. 9)	\$16,271.19
1 st Sunday Nov 2	\$20,878.80
Online Giving Week (Oct 27-Nov 2)	\$7,992.15
Electronic Contributions (Nov 5)	\$12,893.68
2 nd Sunday Nov 9	\$16,271.19
Online Giving Week (Nov 3-9)	\$7,270.00
3 rd Sunday Nov 16	\$0.00
Online Giving Week (Nov 10-16)	\$0.00
Electronic Contributions (Nov 20)	\$0.00
4 th Sunday Nov 23	\$0.00
Online Giving Week (Nov 17-23)	\$0.00
5 th Sunday Nov 30	\$0.00
Online Giving Week (Nov 24-30)	\$0.00

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

Stewardship Thought: Today's readings paint a somewhat frightening picture of the end of time. But the Gospel ends with the assurance to faithful stewards that those who persevere will be saved. Those who commit to stewardship as a way of life look to Jesus as the model of the perfect steward. He spent time in prayer; he used his talents in service to others; and he made the ultimate sacrifice for the redemption of our sins.

Men's Group Breakfast Wednesday, November 19

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

Breakfast followed by discussion.
All Corpus Christi men are invited!

Corpus Christi Men's Group



The Catholic Church must be exemplary: clergy, employees, whether diocesan, parish or Catholic school and volunteers are held accountable for their behavior. To enable the highest level of accountability, there must be a clear and unambiguous definition of appropriate behavior. To this end, this *Code of Conduct* (bismarckdiocese.com/safe-environment-program) is defined for the Diocese of Bismarck and it provides a foundation for implementing effective and enforceable standards for all clergy, educators, employees and volunteers in contact with children and youth.



Please join us!

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Thursday, November 27 at 9:00 a.m.

There is a Liturgical Minister sign-up sheet in Usher Room.

THANKSGIVING OUTREACH 2025

*"The Lord has anointed **ME** to bring good news to the poor..." Isaiah 61:1*



Thanksgiving Food Basket Sponsorship

Sponsor a local family in need:

\$15 / Family of 1		\$75 / Family of 5
\$30 / Family of 2		\$90 / Family of 6
\$45 / Family of 3		\$120 / Family of 8
\$60 / Family of 4		\$150 / Family of 10

Scan the QR Code or visit www.corpuschristibismarck.com

Monetary donations, in any amount, are welcome now - or at any time.

Did you know? Last year we distributed 190 Thanksgiving Baskets and there is greater need in 2025. Please help as you are able.

Every donation helps!



Thanksgiving Food Drive November 22 - 30

The annual Thanksgiving Food Drive (when items are placed in the center of the Church) is scheduled for November 22-30.

The following items are especially needed:

Peanut Butter (Regular size jars)	Pancake Mix & Syrup
Soup (Tomato, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable)	Hamburger Helper
Cream Soup (Chicken, Mushroom)	Pasta Noodles & Sauce
Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken)	Instant Potatoes
1 lb Bag of Rice	Cold Cereal

Non-Food items are appreciated also:

- Hand Soap / Dish Liquid / Laundry Soap / Facial Tissues
- Toilet Paper / Paper Towels / Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body Wash / Personal Hygiene Products

THANK YOU for supporting the Food Pantry!

What's Going on at Corpus Christi this Week

- Sun. 11/16** Faith Formation **Group A**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
SNAC, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 140
- Mon. 11/17** Family Table, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Faith Formation **Group B**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
OCIC, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Conference Room
Eucharistic Minister Training, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Church
OCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m., South Hospitality Room
Cursillo Ultreya Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Community Room
- Tues. 11/18** Caring Hearts Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-7:00 p.m., Church
- Wed. 11/19** Men's Breakfast, 6:30-7:45 a.m., Parish Hall
Planning Ahead: Your Final Gift of Love, 1:00 p.m., Community Room
Family Table, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Faith Formation **Group E**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Middle School Youth Group (**6-7-8**), 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Sat. 11/22** *Pray for our students!*
First Reconciliation Retreat, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
First Reconciliation, 11:00 a.m. - Noon
- Sun. 11/23** Faith Formation **Group D**, 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, Nov. 16: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Topic: *Grief & Loss with a guest speaker from Soul 57.*
Parents are welcome to join.

Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

Wednesday, Nov 19: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Topic: *Summit - Promise of Healing & Forgiveness*

Youth Ministry Summer Trip Registration:

High Schoolers (entering freshmen through exiting seniors)

- Restore Mission Camp (offered by Life Teen) in St. Louis, MO
- Steubenville Conference in Rochester, MN

Middle Schoolers (entering 6th-8th Grade)

- Summer Camp on Lake Metigoshe, Bottineau, ND

Children's Liturgy of the Word

November 23 - 10:45 a.m. Mass

Lessons are geared for preK - 2nd Grade.

No registration required.



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.

November 23 & 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.



**Thank you for your support of
BACEF Foundation Sunday 2025.**

There is still time to donate -
scan the QR Code.





Advent 2025
 Corpus Christi
 Adult Faith Formation

Waiting Well

with Fr. Mike Schmitz

Most of us are bad at waiting and if we admit it, we really dislike having to wait. Advent is the liturgical season of waiting, making it an ideal time to sit in the often uncomfortable part of our hearts where we wait on the Lord.

This Advent at Corpus Christi we will be using Fr. Mike Schmitz's *Waiting Well* daily prayer journal to guide us in our Advent journey. Fr. Mike helps us learn how to encounter the Lord in times of waiting. As Fr. Mike says in the journal preface:

"We are going to strive to resist rushing through this season and forgetting the purpose of Advent, instead we're going to allow ourselves to take these next few weeks to refocus ourselves on prayer, reflection, and action, redirecting our hearts toward Christ."

Cindy Anderst, Director of Adult Faith Formation, will be facilitating two *Waiting Well* discussion groups as follows:

Monday Evenings ~ December 1, 8, 15

7:00-8:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Thursday Afternoons ~ December 4, 11, 18

1:00-2:30 p.m., Community Room



Cost \$5/person.

Register by November 26

Scan the QR Code OR

Visit corpuschristibismarck.com

• If you prefer to do the study on your own, there will be a limited supply of books available for purchase in the Parish Office.

• Each week during Advent, Fr. Mike Schmitz's Sunday homily will support this study. We will listen to his homilies in our discussion groups. If you are participating from home, or would like to re-listen, you can listen on the Ascension App, the Hallow App, or other podcast sites.

• Fr. Mike will also be providing a daily Advent reflection on the Ascension App as part of the Premium Content. Ascension is offering complimentary access to the Ascension app for seven days or access for three months at \$4.99/month (for new subscribers). Another option if you are already using the free version of the app, is you can get one-month access for \$8.99 or a years subscription to the Ascension app for \$59.99.

• If you have any questions, contact Cindy Anderst in the Parish Office, 255-4600.



Corpus Christi Women's Group

No meeting in the months of November or December

Next meeting: January 28, 2026



Light of Christ Catholic Schools

~ News from Light of Christ Catholic Schools ~

• **Taste of Kindergarten:** This event is designed for students and parents considering Kindergarten for 2026-27:

Cathedral Elementary School - Friday, November 21

Currently enrolled PreK students at our grade schools will attend this event with their class and parents are encouraged to attend with their child. If you are not currently enrolled in one of our Pre-K classes, an RSVP and parental supervision is required. For specific details or to RSVP, please contact: Shannon Indovina, 701-354-7067, sindovina@lightofchristschools.org.

• **2026 Carnival – Jan 30-31-Feb. 1**

NEW silent and live auction items or gift cards can now be donated. For more details, contact John Herold, 701-751-8719, or email jherold@lightofchristschools.org.

Turkey Bingo: The Saint Anne's Knights of Columbus is hosting their annual Turkey Bingo on November 16, 2:00-4:30 p.m. in the Saint Anne School gym (use the south gym door). At least 30 games will be played. Proceeds will benefit the local soup kitchen and Ministry on the Margins. There will also be a bake sale after all weekend Masses, November 15 & 16.

Corpus Christi Knights of Columbus Events:

Blood Drive



Blood Drive



Friday, November 21

To sign up, visit corpuschristibismarck.com and click on the rolling slide or contact Alan Hoerner at 220-3566.



KC Breakfast

Sunday, November 30

9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Parish Hall
 Everyone is invited!

Congratulations, November Knight of the Month:

Clarence Brendel

children's
 program



Children's Christmas Eve Program Program is on December 24 at 3:30 pm

The sign-up for the Christmas Program is open.

The practice times are scheduled for December 15 & 22 from 3:30-4:45 p.m. Children must be able to attend **both** practices.

To sign up, scan the QR Code.

Sign up deadline is **Friday, December 10.**

No late registrations will be accepted.

For more information call Melanie at 701-975-9809.

Sunday, Nov 16, 2025

Here's some good news

If you pay attention to the news, it wouldn't be too much to think the world is going to you-know-where in a handbasket. Violence, crime, corruption, illness, poverty, ignorance, and plain old self-centeredness seem to rule the day. In Jesus' time some said those kinds of things were signs of the end of the world. Christ himself knew the list: "powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place." But he also urged caution: "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified . . . it will not immediately be the end." In other words, whatever is going on in the world, we are not to be afraid. We can trust in God and do what we can for the cause of goodness.

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19 (159).
"For you who fear my name, there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays."

Monday, Nov 17, 2025

The royal treatment at its best

Not too many princesses looked beyond the walls of their palaces to notice the poor—the people who more than likely made up most of their realm. But Elizabeth of Hungary did. Married in 1221 to Louis of Thuringia, a pious husband, she lived simply and devoted herself to works of mercy even though she was the wife of a ruler. After the death of her husband in battle, she left court, arranged for the care of her three children, and associated herself with the Franciscans. She established a hospital and cared for the sick until her early death at the age of 24. The symbols of her sainthood include bread and a pitcher. May Elizabeth inspire us to provide a royal welcome to those in need with abundant charity.

MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY,
RELIGIOUS
1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Luke 18:35-43 (497). *"A blind man was sitting by the roadside begging He shouted, 'Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!'"*

Tuesday, Nov 18, 2025

No need to go out on a limb

Zacchaeus the tax collector is the only person in the gospels who has their height mentioned. But in the end, it is not for his smallness that Zacchaeus is remembered but the bigness, the boldness, and the determination of his desire to see Jesus and turn his life around. Doubtless Mr. Z.'s antics in climbing a tree got Jesus' attention, but what was really impressive was that desire for faith, so stunning that Jesus invites himself to the tax collector's house for dinner, bringing salvation along with him rather than a bottle of wine for the host. To get closer to Jesus we don't need to climb a tree but open the door from within to find Jesus eager to enter.

2 Maccabees 6:18-31; Luke 19:1-10 (498). *"Today salvation has come to this house."*

Wednesday, Nov 19, 2025

Frailty, thy name is not woman

Womanly is a word that too often has been used by our culture to suggest weakness or inadequacy. Worse, these negative connotations can sometimes lead to derision and oppression. Phrases such as "throws like a girl," though harmless-sounding, reflect this negativity. Yet when we look at the women around us, in the Bible, and in our Catholic tradition, we find women who exhibit a womanliness that is synonymous with courage, strength, boldness, and savvy. They have led countries, built schools and

hospitals, led people to God, and sacrificed their lives for what they believed in. Indeed, Venerable Bishop Fulton Sheen said, "The history of civilization could actually be written in terms of the level of its women." Time to survey our own language to make sure it accurately reflects the nature and gifts of women.

2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31; Luke 19:11-28 (499). *"Most admirable and worthy of everlasting remembrance was the mother."*

Thursday, Nov 20, 2025

Make a fast retreat

Gone on a retreat lately? Most areas have places to make retreats, often run by religious orders or dioceses. Retreats come in all shapes and sizes: individual or group, programmed or unstructured, a day or a week. You can use them to get back in touch with what's most important spiritually or just to get some rest. Going on a retreat, though, doesn't have to mean blocking out time, making a reservation, and hitting the road. One retreat you can always make is in the silence of your heart. "For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him," says Psalm 62:5. Wherever you are, you can take a few minutes each day to stop what you're doing, clear your mind, and place yourself in the silence of God.

1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Luke 19:41-44 (500). *"Many who sought to live according to righteousness and religious custom went out into the desert to settle there."*

Friday, Nov 21, 2025

Shout out to Mary

While not recorded in the Bible, this day celebrates God's choice of Mary to play a role in salvation history and her presentation at the Temple as a child to be offered to God. Francis of Assisi celebrated Mary with his "Salutation of the Virgin," which includes these lovely acclamations of Mary: "Hail, O Lady, Holy Queen, God's Holy Mother Mary! You have been made the Virgin Church and chosen by the most Holy Father in heaven./ You has he consecrated with His most holy beloved Son and the Holy Spirit the Paraclete./ In You there has been, and is, all fullness of Grace, and all that is good." Honor Mary today by striving to live in the joy and fullness of God's good graces.

MEMORIAL OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59; Luke 19:45-48 (501). *"There was great joy among the people."*

Saturday, Nov 22, 2025

Angels in our midst

Legend has it that Saint Cecilia (d. 117) wanted to dedicate her life to Christ as a virgin, but her parents married her to a Roman nobleman. She eventually converted her husband, Valerian, and his brother to Christianity by her belief in angels. "There is an angel who watches over me," she is said to have told her husband. When he asked to see the angel, Cecilia replied that he must be baptized first. Once baptized, Valerian witnessed an angel holding crowns of roses and lilies while Cecilia prayed. When Valerian's brother inquired about the flowers, he, too, desired to be baptized, and the brothers and Cecilia ministered to martyred Christians until their own martyrdom. Do you believe in angels? If so, you're not alone. According to a Baylor University study, 55 percent of respondents answered yes to the statement: "I was protected from harm by a guardian angel."

MEMORIAL OF CECILIA, MARTYR
1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Luke 20:27-40 (502). *"They can no longer die, for they are like angels."*

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



© 2025 TrueQuest Communications. All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from TakeFiveForFaith.com. Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. Sign up for free daily email available at TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe.