

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 Hours:

Monday - Thursday ~ 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
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)



March 1, 2026

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



I recently received a beautiful replica of the Marian statue on the top of the dome of the chapel at Our Lady of Victory (St. Mary's Central High School), as a symbol of gratitude from Light of Christ Schools during Catholic Schools Week. The dome at SMCHS replicates that of the famed golden dome at University of Notre Dame, Indiana. In 1844, Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., had a dream to start a great Catholic University and the story goes that while the board opposed covering the dome and statue in gold leaf, Sorin said, *"When this school, Our Lady's school, grows a bit more, I shall rise her aloft so that, without asking, all men shall know why we have succeeded here. To that lovely Lady, raised high on a dome, a Golden Dome, men may look and find the answer."* This quote embodies our own St.

Mary's High School, which was established in 1878, dedicated to Our Lady. In 2019, the new school opened on the north side of town with Our Lady soaring atop the golden dome. I will find a special spot for this gift, likely in the chapel at the Rectory.

From time to time, I like to share the books I've read or am reading. While I do read novels from time to time, I tend to prefer autobiographies and non-fiction for my leisure reading. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer details the tragic 1996 Mount Everest disaster in which eight climbers were killed and many others stranded by a blizzard. I share this title because it is a book which gives us a new perspective, as our Gospel today gives us a new perspective on a mountain. My homily referred to these perspectives.

This will be a busy week; we begin hearing Faith Formation confessions. As we begin the second week of Lent, may these youth be an example and source of inspiration for you to enter into the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Now is the time! Go to confession early, if possible. We have a list of Lenten confession times for the area parishes posted on the prayer board on the west side of the upper gathering space, in the case you would like to receive the Sacrament at a different time than Corpus Christi offers. And don't forget the confessions at Our Lady of Victory Chapel (SMCHS) on Tuesday, March 31. There will be at least 10 priest available.

Lastly, a quick encouragement regarding next weekend, March 7 & 8. "Shepherds of the Good Shepherd" will be here for the weekend Masses with olive wood and other goods produced in the Holy Land for your purchase. I've personally traveled to the Holy Land twice (and was scheduled to go with 100 pilgrims prior to the war) and know how important your support is to the Christians in the Holy Land. Please stop and take a look at what they have to offer.

~ *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: Mar 7-8		March 7, 2026		March 8, 2026		March 8, 2026		March 8, 2026
		4:00 PM		8:30 AM		10:45 AM		5:30 PM
Hospitality	1	Mary Ann Grossman	1	Jason Krebsbach	1	Rita Mastel	1	Mary Nelson
	2	Evelyn Spangler	2	Abbie Krebsbach	2		2	
	3		3	Kort Krebsbach	3		3	
	4		4		4		4	
Ushers	1	Helen Berger	1	John Saiki	1	Phil Kambeitz	1	Tim Rivinius
	2	Sam Theurer	2	George Simek	2	Dennis Mastel	2	Bernie Rivinius
	3	Derek Theurer	3		3	Chuck Holzer	3	
	4		4		4	Bernie Holzer	4	
Lectors	1	Nikki Ferderer	1	Dale Kasowski	1	Rose Krukenberg	1	Christopher Knudson
	2	Heather Lundeen	2	David Klym	2		2	Bob Willenbring
Servers	1	Chloe Lundeen	1	Elsa Brash	1	Ben Miller	1	Joelle Knudson
	2	Olivia Lundeen	2	Carsten Schmidt	2	Jake Miller	2	Kyan Knudson
Eucharistic Min		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST		BODY OF CHRIST
	R-1	Carol Thompson	R-1	Gerard Mathern	R-1	LaVerne Kaufman	R-1	Tim Bohan
	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father	2	Father
	3	Heather Lundeen	3	Danell Becker	3	Gary Feist	3	Mary Nelson
	4	Bob Clooten	4	Tammy Heick	4	Kathy Feist	4	Margie Schiff
	5	Sandy Wald Clooten	5	Pam Mathern	5	Steven Mittelsteadt	5	
	6	Clare Auble	6	Dale Kasowski	6	Cec Reetz	6	
	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon	7	Deacon
	8	Connie Kalanek	8	Jerome Werlinger	8	Karen Stahl	8	
	9		9	Mike Hilbert	9		11	
	10		10		10		12	
	11				11			
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 & Holidays as Scheduled

Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon., Mar. 2 (12:10 p.m.) - Duane Hartzel

Tues., Mar. 3 (12:10 p.m.) - †Joseph Hager

Wed., Mar. 4 (12:10 p.m.) - **Collective Intention**

†Donald F. Mizera

†Wilfred Sauer

Gloria Vigil

Thurs., Mar. 5 (12:10) - †Tillie Becker

Fri., Mar. 6 (12:10 p.m.) - †Mona Hague

Sat., Mar. 7 (4:00 p.m.) - †George Volk

Sun., Mar. 8 (8:30 a.m.) - †Karen Preskey Glover

(10:45 a.m.) - †Kay Sehn

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

Corpus Christi Lenten Schedule

Monday-Friday:

Confessions - 11:30 a.m. - Noon

Rosary - 11:40 a.m.

Daily Mass - 12:10 p.m.

Lenten Lunch - 12:40 p.m. (Free-Will)

Tuesdays:

Adoration - 12:40 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday Evenings:

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

Stations of the Cross - As Scheduled

The Middle School
Youth Group
will present

Shadow Stations

Friday, March 6

7:00 p.m.

Please join us!



**Lent is the perfect opportunity to
visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is every
Tuesday, immediately following the 12:10 p.m.
Mass until Benediction at 7:00 p.m.

*Want to make more of a formal commitment?
We are in need of additional Adorers!*

- Sign up for a 30-minute slot. For a "Holy Hour," sign up for two consecutive slots.
- Please call Tracy Kraft at the Parish Office, 975-9803, to commit to an Adoration time.



CONTRIBUTIONS (General Fund) - (2,470 households)	
Adult Envelopes (245 Envelopes)	\$16,401.50
Youth Envelopes	\$311.60
Total Received (Feb. 22)	\$16,713.10
1 st Sunday Feb. 1	\$16,754.98
Online Giving Week (Jan. 26-Feb. 1)	\$6,832.15
2 nd Sunday Feb. 8	\$16,462.85
Online Giving Week (Feb. 2-8)	\$5,111.00
Electronic Contributions (Feb. 5)	\$13,333.68
3 rd Sunday Feb. 15	\$18,190.36
Online Giving Week (Feb. 9-15)	\$7,315.00
4 th Sunday Feb. 22	\$16,713.10
Online Giving Week (Feb 16-22)	\$4,010.00
Electronic Contributions (Feb. 20)	\$9,905.68



**Thank you for supporting the
Church of Corpus Christi ~
your generosity and stewardship
gifts are appreciated!**

Stewardship Thought:

- St. Paul tells Timothy in today's second reading, "Bear your share of the hardship which the gospel entails." What sacrifice is asked of me for the sake of the Gospel? How willing am I to bear my share?
- Stewardship is not job-oriented or project-minded. It is a way of life for a lifetime.



Food for the Soul

Tuesday, March 3, 5:30 p.m., Community Room

Food for the Soul is a once-a-month gathering/potluck meal for those who have lost a spouse. For more information, contact Tammy Schafer, 701-255-4600. No RSVP is needed.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Regular Confession Schedule at Corpus Christi

Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. — Noon

Saturday, 3:00 — 3:45 p.m.

Additional Lenten Confessions at Corpus Christi

Monday, March 23:	4:30 — 7:00 p.m. (4 priests)
Tuesday, March 24:	11:00 a.m. — Noon (2 priests)
Wednesday, March 25:	11:00 a.m. — Noon (2 priests)
Thursday, March 26:	11:00 a.m. — Noon (2 priests)
Monday, March 30:	4:30 — 7:00 p.m. (3 priests)
Tuesday, March 31:	11:00 a.m. — Noon (2-3 priests)
Wednesday, April 1:	11:00 a.m. — Noon (2-3 priests)

No Confessions will be available at Corpus Christi:

Monday, March 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Holy Triduum, April 2-3-4

City-wide Confessions

(Multiple priests will be available)

Tuesday, March 31: 6:30 p.m.

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

The *SMCHS Leo Lions and Saints for Life* will be hosting a **Benefit Breakfast for the St. Gianna and Pietro Molla Maternity** home on Sunday, March 1, at St. Mary's Central High School (5802 Ridgeland Drive) from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Adoration for Life on the Prairie - 24 hours of prayer to combat the encroachment of abortion in our State. KC Council 2760 invites you to St. Joseph Church, Mandan, for 24 hour perpetual Adoration beginning on March 13 at 4:00 p.m. and concluding on March 14 at 4:00 p.m.

Shepherds of the Good Shepherd Religious Olive Wood items from Bethlehem March 7 & 8, 2026

After all Masses, in the lower gathering space Proceeds directly help Christian families in the Holy Land who struggle to survive in the city of Bethlehem. This is a tangible way to help our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land; please support as you are able.

Bismarck CDA will meet on Tuesday, March 03, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit for a St. Patrick's Day potluck and meeting. Wear green and join the fun! For information on the CDA, contact Karen at 527-4203.

The Bismarck Diocese has an immediate opening for an as-needed cook (averages 1, 8-hour day a week) at the Emmaus Place, a priest retirement facility in Bismarck. This cook position offers a very competitive wage and is on an as-needed basis when there are scheduling conflicts with our full-time and part-time cooks. Job duties include grocery shopping, preparing, and serving meals for the residents, and clean-up. Must possess a valid driver's license and be able to lift and carry 20 pounds. Prior cooking knowledge and experience is desirable. *Please contact Kim Kleinknecht, the coordinator of "Priest Services" for Emmaus Place if you are interested in this wonderful opportunity. Kim's email is kkleinknecht@bismarckdiocese.com.*



Children's Liturgy of the Word

March 8 & 22 - 10:45 a.m. Mass

Lessons are geared for preK - 2nd Grade.

No registration required.

Holy Thursday Lock-In: April 2-3, 2026

The CCYM Holy Thursday Lock-In is a yearly high school event that takes place from Holy Thursday through Good Friday. It is a night of fun games, music, meaningful discussion, and powerful encounters with the Lord as we prepare for His death on Good Friday. Check-in is at 4:30 p.m. on Holy Thursday. Lock-In participants attend both the 5:30 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass and the 12:10 p.m. Good Friday Service. Lock-In concludes/pick-up is after the 12:10 p.m. Good Friday Service. Cost is \$30; which includes meals, snacks, supplies, and t-shirt. Grades 9-12 can register by scanning this QR Code. →



What's Going on at Corpus Christi this Week

- Sun. 3/1** Faith Formation **Group A**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
~ Reconciliation, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
City Wide Youth Night (Grades 6-12) - *contact Cole for more info!*
- Mon. 3/2** Daily Mass with Lenten Lunch to follow, 12:10 p.m.
Family Table, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Faith Formation **Group B**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
~ Reconciliation, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
OCIA, 7:00-9:00 p.m., South Hospitality Room
- Tues. 3/3** Caring Hearts Quilters, 9:00 a.m., Community Room
Daily Mass with Lenten Lunch to follow, 12:10 p.m.
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
Shadow Station Practice, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Youth Room
- Wed. 3/4** Daily Mass with Lenten Lunch to follow, 12:10 p.m.
Family Table, 4:45-5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Faith Formation **Group E**, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
~ Reconciliation, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Middle School Faith Formation (**Grades 6-7-8**), 7:00-8:30 p.m.
~ Reconciliation, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Thurs. 3/5** Daily Mass with Lenten Lunch to follow, 12:10 p.m.
Shadow Station Dress Rehearsal, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Church
- Fri. 3/6** Daily Mass with Lenten Lunch to follow, 12:10 p.m.
Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Parish Hall
Shadow Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m., Church
- Sat. 3/7** Sacrament Track, **Saturday Group**, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Parish Hall
Sale of Religious Goods from the Holy Land,
after 4:00 p.m. Mass, Lower Gathering Space
- Sun. 3/8** Sale of Religious Goods from the Holy Land,
after all Sunday Masses, Lower Gathering Space
Faith Formation **Group D**, 9:30-10:45 a.m.
~ Reconciliation, 9:30-10:30 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, March 1: City-wide Youth Night
Grades 6-12; Contact Cole for details!

Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

Sunday, March 1: City-wide Youth Night
Grades 6-12; Contact Cole for details!

Wednesday, March 4: No Youth Ministry - *Faith Formation Night*

Middle School Shadow Stations of the Cross Schedule →

Practice - March 3, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Youth Room

Dress Rehearsal - March 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Church

Stations - March 6, 7:00 p.m. (Arrive by 6:00 p.m.)

High School Living Stations of the Cross: SNAC will present the Living Stations on Friday, March 20. *Mandatory practices are March 17 & 19, and the presentation is March 20.* All youth grades 9-12 are invited to participate

← Scan the QR Code!





2nd Sunday of Lent - In today's Gospel (Mt. 17:7), God spoke to Peter, James, and John, "This is my beloved Son...listen to him." The disciples were overcome with the Fear of the Lord and Jesus said, "Do not be afraid." God deserves our profound respect and awe, and we should fear offending Him because He is all good and deserving of our love. But we should not be afraid of God. He created us – He loves us – He forgives us. **LIVING LENT** idea: Abandon your fear and return to the Lord through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-Noon; Saturday, 3:00-3:45 p.m.; or at a scheduled time by contacting the Parish Office.*

Lenten Food Pantry Almsgiving

Items may be placed in the boxes in the upper or lower gathering spaces.

Week 1	Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup
Week 2	1 lb. Bag of Rice, 12 oz. Canned Chicken
Week 3	Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce
Week 4	16 oz. Peanut Butter, Hamburger Helper
Week 5	Instant Potatoes, Cold Cereal
Week 6	Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup

• **Prefer not to shop?** Monetary donations are accepted to purchase the perishable items (milk, eggs, bread, meat) as well as other non-perishable staples as needed.



• **Easter Meal Food Baskets** - scan the QR Code or visit corpuschristibismarck.com to sponsor a family



\$15 = Family of 1	\$90 = Family of 6
\$30 = Family of 2	\$105 = Family of 7
\$45 = Family of 3	\$120 = Family of 8
\$60 = Family of 4	\$135 = Family of 9
\$75 = Family of 5	\$150 = Family of 10



STATIONS of the CROSS

March 6 - 7:00 p.m. Shadow Stations

Presented by the Middle School Youth Group

March 13 - 5:30 p.m. Traditional Stations led by a Deacon

March 20 - 7:00 p.m. Living Stations

Presented by the High School Youth Group

March 27 - 5:30 p.m. Traditional Stations led by a Deacon



2026 African Mission Appeal: March 7 & 8

"Providing a Future Filled with Hope"

This special appeal gives you the opportunity to join our Mission Team in ministering to our brothers and sisters in Kisii, Kenya, East Africa. Envelopes are found in this bulletin. Informational brochures and prayer cards are at the church entrances. Please prayerfully consider a generous gift to this year's appeal and return your envelope next weekend.



Wondering how much to donate or how your donations are used?

[Examples] - Shoes (\$18), Backpack (\$23), Uniform (\$18-38), Books (\$83-166), Post Secondary College (\$2,500/yr), Water Filter (\$75), Chicken (\$8), Goat (\$45), Heifer (\$750), House (\$600), Glasses (\$125), Doctor/Consult Fee (\$10-25).

Donations at every gift level make an impact!

If you are interested in learning more about the Bismarck Diocese African Mission, contact Tracy Kraft, Director of the African Mission, 657-268-9000 or tkraft@bismarckdiocese.com.



All photos were taken by the Corpus Christi African Missionary Team who traveled to Kenya last June (2025).



Lenten Fish Fries are a fundraiser for the Corpus Christi Youth Ministry program. All proceeds stay at the parish to assist our youth. Thank you for your support!

Lenten Fish Fries Every Friday during Lent

- 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall
- Adults: \$14, Children: \$8, Family: \$50
- Credit Cards accepted

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, 701- 975-9809.

Enjoy live music at every Fish Fry:

- March 6 — Sebastian Haboczki & Colleen Reinhardt
- March 13 — Leah Woodke & John Weber
- March 20 — Clarence Sayler & Colleen Reinhardt
- March 27 — Julie Ternes & Colleen Reinhardt

Sunday, Mar 01, 2026

The three-tent solution

Saint Peter's idea at the Transfiguration charms us with its reasonableness. When blessed with the sturdy foundation of the law of Moses, the strong prophetic tradition of Elijah, and the kindly ministry of Jesus, why not build an institution that encompasses all three? Peter's plan wasn't faulty, because the church does honor all these roads to truth in its scripture. But Peter's architectural model envisioned these men as leaders of equal merit. God, the voice that speaks from the cloud, clearly differentiates between the three, calling Jesus alone "Beloved Son." The paths of law and prophecy both lead at last to Jesus.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9 (25). *"If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."*

Monday, Mar 02, 2026

This, too, is almsgiving

The word *alms* literally means mercy, so we might think of our charitable giving as mercy in action. We give relief to the poor without conditions: Not because they have earned it, but simply because they need it and we have it. As Dorothy Day used to say, we cannot discriminate between the "deserving" and "undeserving" poor. In the same way, we are called upon to forgive those who cause offense or injury to us. We don't forgive others because they have made themselves worthy of forgiveness, but simply because they need it. And once again, we are the ones who "have" forgiveness to give, because we have been shown mercy first by the God of mercy.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38 (230). *"Forgive and you will be forgiven."*

Tuesday, Mar 03, 2026

You've got this!

It's not hard when you're a parent to inflict authority on your children—and it can be the same with bosses, principals, pastors, and others in leadership roles. We don't mean to do it; it just sort of happens. It's the model for "being in charge" that we inherited. The problem is that it doesn't seem to work. What if we turned it around and served the goodness that is already in our kids and others entrusted to our care? Praise for the good things people do is a more powerful tool than criticism. "Kind words can be short and easy to speak," says Saint Mother Teresa, "but their echoes are truly endless." A good discipline for Lent might be to lay off the tsking and scolding and concentrate on encouragement.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12 (231). *"The greatest among you must be your servant."*

Wednesday, Mar 04, 2026

The lowly path to greatness

The mother of the apostles James and John doted on her sons and demanded the best for them, the way most parents would. Yet she soon learns that sharing the glory of Jesus means sharing his sacrifice as well. We are not to "be served but to serve," Jesus tells his disciples; not to grab for the brass ring but for the polishing

cloth of a slave. Service and humility pave the path to greatness. "For leadership there is only one road: service," says Pope Francis, "There is no other way." A lesson we'd do well to remember and to pass along to the next generation.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28 (232). *"Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left, in your kingdom."*

Thursday, Mar 05, 2026

Do more with less

Common Lenten practices include donations to the poor (which coincides nicely with spring cleaning) or service to those in need. In either case, if you're debating on what to give away or just what you should do, consider this compelling insight from Saint Basil the Great: "The bread which you do not use is the bread of the hungry; the garment hanging in your wardrobe is the garment of the naked; the shoes which you do not wear are the shoes of one who is barefoot; the money that you keep locked away and do not need is the money of the poor; the acts of charity that you do not perform are so many injustices that you commit." Time to clean out those closets.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31 (233). *"There was a rich man lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus."*

Friday, Mar 06, 2026

Get the message

Many times in scripture we hear of messengers being mistreated—beaten and killed or, in the case of Joseph, sold into slavery by his brothers. What is it about messengers that we are afraid of? It's true that sometimes the message they carry is painful—at first. Yet the truth always has the potential to set us free. As these readings reveal, all types of people can be messengers. This Lent, be aware of the many messengers you encounter in the course of a day. Can you be open to their message, no matter how uncomfortable initially? Remember the words of Nelson Mandela: "The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (234). *"The Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."*

Saturday, Mar 07, 2026

Don't answer pain with pain

One of the hardest things our faith asks us to do is forgive others, especially when they have really hurt us. Shouldn't I be angry, hold a grudge, and maybe even retaliate? Isn't that what the person who hurt me deserves? Isn't that what our current culture promotes? But Jesus calls us to love our enemies, to pray for those who persecute us. He's not asking us to be doormats, but he is asking us to stop the spiral of damage one hurt can cause when we return pain for pain. Why? Because God forgives us. How can we refuse to let go of a hurt when God has let go of so many hurtful things we have done? Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, we pray.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (235). *"The Lord is kind and merciful."*

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



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