



Faithful Footsteps

Walking Together in Faith on a Lifelong Journey

Road Trip!

At the invitation of Fr. Ben Wanner, I took a road trip through our diocese in early November! The main event was the 3rd Annual Murder Mystery at St. Joseph’s Church in Williston but I had a lot of fun driving there and coming home. I was able to make many stops along the way!



Richardton

Belfield

Williston

Ray

- I stopped at a number of churches along the way to visit with DREs and priests about the happenings in their parishes.
 - I meet with parish and school administrators, catechists and teachers about the happenings of their schools and parishes.
 - I shared my personal faith testimony to adults in attendance at St. Joseph’s Catholic Keynote session.
 - I lit candles and prayed for my office ministries, your faith formation programs and those involved in the upcoming events.
 - I learned about “Altar De Muertos”-Altar of the Dead in Mexico as I visited the parishes with many Spanish-speaking parishioners.
 - I took in the beauty and diversity of God’s creations—seeing prairie and badlands - as I drove almost 500 miles in 36 hours.
- I am looking forward to doing this again soon!
Where should I go next?



Do you have a past event you would like to highlight or an upcoming event you would like to share? Email all the information, photos, quotations and more to dhuck@bismarckdiocese.com to be including in the upcoming issues of Faithful Footsteps.

Walking Together in Faith to these

UPCOMING EVENTS

Emmaus Youth Retreat

Dickinson: Sunday, February 22, 2026, Trinity High School
 Bismarck/Mandan: Sunday, March 22, 2026, St. Mary's Central

All retreats run from 12:30 - 6:00 pm local time
 with 5:00 pm Mass included

2025-26 SEARCH WEEKENDS

Don't wait until the last minute, the deadline to register is 2 weeks before.

- JAN 16-18, 2026
- MAR 6-8, 2026
- APR 17-19, 2026

WEEKEND COST: \$75⁰⁰

PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY BASED ON FINANCIAL NEED.

REGISTER ONLINE
SearchinMedora.com



A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST BE PRESENT WHEN REGISTERING ONLINE IF UNDER 18.

Prairie Sheepfold

Catechist Gathering 2025-2026

Freedom, Responsibility and Art

Thursday, February 12 7-9:00 PM
 Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, 519 Raymond St., Bismarck

We welcome CGS catechists/aides of all levels to gather for continuing education followed by time for sharing the insights of children in our atria and uplifting fellowship.
 Register at bismarckdiocese.com/goodshepherd



Carolyn Kohlaas is a nationally recognized Formation Leader for CGS at all three levels of formation. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology and in Religious Education from Franciscan University of Steubenville and her AMI Primary (3-6) and Elementary (6-12) Level Certifications from the Montessori Training Center of Minnesota. Carolyn has a Master of Education degree (Loyola College, Maryland) as well as a Master of Arts in Theology (St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity). She has worked with children in atriums in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since 2006 and with adults in formation courses across the U.S. since 2009.



The United States Association of The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd




MARCH FOR LIFE 2026

January 19 - 24

Washington, DC


Pilgrimage Cost:
 \$350 – current high school freshman through seniors
 \$150—Chaperones (21+)

Only 40 spots available! Register today by clicking this QR Code!




* a non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due with registration. The cost includes participation in the annual March for Life in Washington, DC, local sightseeing, transportation, lodging and some meals. Participants will need to bring money for additional meals and personal spending.

Registration deadline: November 15, 2025
 FMI: Diane Huck at 701-204-7206 or dhuck@bismarckdiocese.com



GOD WILL NOT BE MOCKED
THE WHITE ROSE RESISTANCE



STEP UP TO THE PLATE: SAY YES TO GOD'S CALL!

A Catholic Vocations Day for 4th & 5th Grade All-Stars



TICKETS ONLY \$20 **SATURDAY 18 APRIL 2026**

SPONSORED by THE BISMARCK DIOCESE OFFICE OF CATECHESIS AND YOUTH

ST. MARYS ACADEMY
 1025 N 2nd St. Bismarck, ND

GATE OPEN AT 9:30 A.M.
EVENT STARTS AT 10 A.M. - ENDS AT 3:00 P.M.

FREE DRINKS • FREE FOOD • DOORPRIZES



WWW.BISMARCKDIOCESE.COM/VOCATIONSDAY

You are invited to celebrate with all those who will be entering the Catholic Church this Easter season through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist



RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUED CONVERSION

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
 BISMARCK, ND

"Sought and Summoned" Retreat 12:00 - 2:45 PM for catechumens, candidates and their sponsors

Rites with the Bishop 3:00 PM
 Open to the Public Reception to follow

Thanksgiving Through a Catholic Lens

From <https://www.catholicworldmission.org/post/thanksgiving-through-a-catholic-lens>

When we think of Thanksgiving, most of us picture golden-brown turkeys, pumpkin pie, and family gatherings. But for Catholics, this holiday can be much more than a festive feast—it's a perfect opportunity to reflect on gratitude, faith, and God's blessings.

The story of Thanksgiving in America often begins in **1621**, when the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, celebrated their first successful harvest. They shared a meal with the Wampanoag people, who had helped them survive the harsh winter. While the first feast wasn't a formal holiday, it was a heartfelt celebration of community, survival, and thankfulness for God's provision.

Over the next two centuries, different colonies observed "*days of thanksgiving*" at various times. It wasn't until **1863**, during the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a **national holiday**, calling for a day of "*Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.*"

In **1941**, Congress officially set Thanksgiving on the **fourth Thursday of November**—a tradition we continue today.

Interestingly, the first Thanksgiving meal probably didn't include turkey and pumpkin pie. Instead, the Pilgrims likely ate deer, fish, corn, beans, and squash. The foods we now associate with Thanksgiving developed over time, but the heart of the holiday—gratitude—remains the same.

At its core, Thanksgiving is about giving thanks. Catholics are called to gratitude every day:

in prayers before meals, in the Rosary, and especially in the Eucharist, which literally means "thanksgiving." The holiday is a chance to pause, reflect, and recognize God's blessings—family, friends, health, faith, and even challenges that help us grow spiritually.

Thanksgiving is also an invitation to **live out generosity**. Volunteering at a local shelter, donating to a food pantry, or simply offering a kind word to someone who's lonely are all ways to share God's love and make gratitude tangible.



LOOK WHO'S WALKIN'

Celebrating fun and educational events in our Diocese that are spreading the Love of Jesus!



St. Joseph's Parish - Williston, ND 10h · 🌐

At the UMary Center at WSC, we hosted our 28th Proverbs Pub, hearing a Wisdom Testimony from Aaron Monson, a Lab Chemist! We also got a preview of Radiating Joy, Michelle Duppong's Documentary and taked about the FOCUS Seek Conference opportunity.



Bishop Ryan Catholic School 2h · 🌐

Mrs. Bohl's 6th Grade Religion class brought a whole new spin to the Journey of Abraham, giving the "flight" Top Gun wings. Our three flight engineers (Gavin, Titus, and Kingston) manned the controls as the class followed Abraham's faith travels from Ur of the Chaldeans north to Haran, than heading south into the Land of Israel. Famine in the land of Cannan forces Abraham and Sarah into Egypt. After reconciling with Pharaoh, the return trip to The Land of Israel sets down in Beersheba. Since walking was out of the question (considering our time limitations), a flight and paper airplane contest in the skies allowed a bird's eye view of the biblical scene. A ROAR of thanks to Mrs. Willson and the generous crews at the Minot Air Force Base for lending us the right gear for our mission!

#FaithfulHearts 🥰 #lionpride



SUMMIT

"JESUS SAID TO THEM, 'I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE; WHOEVER COMES TO ME WILL NEVER HUNGER, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER THIRST.'" JOHN 6:35

Promise of Forgiveness & Healing

DETAILS

Grades 6-8
6:30-8:30 PM
Corpus Christi Parish Hall

MEAGAN KLINE
November 19

City-Wide night of Eucharistic Adoration, fun games, engaging speaker, and live music!

FUTURE DATES
 January 14 February 25 April 15

📧 cole.jones@corpuschristibismarck.com

📞 (701) 975-9804 @cymbismarck

🌐 www.corpuschristibismarck.com/youth-ministry

St. Josph's in Dickinson plays "Where are they? Wednesday" on their Facebook page!

The first Wednesday of each month they post a photo! The goal is to identify where tiny Jesus and Mary are hanging out in the church, on the church grounds, what item they are pictured with, or place that is associated with St. Joseph's Church, then put your guess in the comments! If it is really hard, you might get a clue. The first person to guess the location wins a prize!

