1919 North 2nd Street, Bismarck, ND 58501-1735
email: info@corpuschristibismarck.com
website: www.corpuschristibismarck.com
facebook: www.facebook.com/CorpusBismarck

Parish Office ......................... 255-4600
Parish Fax ............................... 255-4616
Parish Office is open 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday

For Sacramental Emergencies after office hours,
please call 701-425-1483 and leave a message.
We will return your call in a timely manner.

WEEKLY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday (Vigil of Sunday) ............... 4:00 p.m.
Sunday ....................... 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Spanish Mass (3rd Sunday) ............... 3:00 p.m.
Monday ............................. 12:10 p.m.
Tuesday ........................... 12:10 & 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday-Friday .............. 7:00 a.m. & 12:10 p.m

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Tuesdays (12:45-3:15 p.m.); Thursdays (7:00 p.m.)

MISSION STATEMENT
As disciples of Jesus, we live our faith through Word, Sacrament, and Service.

Rev. Paul D. Becker, Pastor ............ 255-4600 (ext. 203)
Rev. Raphael Obotama, Parish Vicar 255-4600 (ext. 211)
Rev. Terry Wipf, Parish Vicar ....... 255-4600 (ext. 218)
Tracy Kraft, Parish Manager .......... 255-4600 (ext. 212)

PASTORAL MINISTERS
Cindy Anderst, Pastoral Care .......... 255-4600 (ext. 205)
Jennifer Braun, Music Ministry .. 255-4600 (ext. 209)
Mary Janusz, Pastoral Care .......... 255-4600 (ext. 220)
Melanie Konieczka, Faith Formation 255-4600 (ext. 219)
Sr. Idelle Badt, Pastoral Care ....... 255-4600 (ext. 207)
Sr. Ivo Schoch, Outreach Ministry .. 255-4600 (ext. 208)

DEACONS: Michael Fix, Lonnie Grabowska, Rex McDowall

PARISH SUPPORT STAFF
Loretta Arntz, Bookkeeper .......... 255-4600 (ext. 201)
Jane Bosch, Kitchen Manager ....... 255-4600
Niel Heinze, Maintenance Technician 255-4600
Bridget Johnson, Administrative Secretary .... 255-4600
Kathy Silbernagel, Receptionist .... 255-4600

PARISH BULLETIN DEADLINE: Articles must be received by noon on Wednesdays (typed format).

SACRAMENTS
Reconciliation is offered:
Saturdays: 3:00-3:30 p.m.
Mondays - Fridays: 11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Tuesdays: 5:05-5:20 p.m.
Wednesdays-Fridays: 6:35-6:50 a.m.

If you are unable to make these times, you can call the pastor at 701-255-4600 for an appointment.

Baptism - The Baptism Preparation Program and Schedule are by arrangement. Please call the office at 255-4600 to register prior to your delivery date and the program director will return your call. Parents must be registered at Corpus Christi or have permission from their parish.

Marriage - Couples planning to be married should call the parish office at 255-4600 at least 12 months in advance. Completion of required paperwork and taking the FOCCUS premarital inventory is also needed this early. There will be no December FOCCUS.

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

RCIA Classes - Persons wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith may call Tracy Kraft at 255-4600.

PRAYER TREE: 255-4600
**Stewardship Thoughts:** We are all stewards - managers of the many gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our challenge as Christians is to make good use of those gifts.

**Vocation Views:** Open your mind and heart and listen to God's wisdom spoken in dreams, signs, and wonders. Mary and Joseph trusted and let God work through them. What about you? (Matthew 1:18-24)

**CORPUS CHRISTI OUTREACH**

Thank You for your generosity with the stocking stuffers, purchasing of Christmas Food baskets and presents for needy families in the area. We were able to help out 129 families in some capacity this past week!!

**“The Mass” with Bishop Robert Barron**

**Sunday Mornings, 9:40-10:30 a.m.**

January 5th, 12th & 26th in the Parish Hall

Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron's DVD teaching and be transformed by his insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. You will never experience Mass the same. This class is offered conveniently, between the Sunday morning Masses. For some of you it is when your children are in Sunday morning Faith Formation. No cost or registration required. For additional questions, contact Cindy Anderst in the parish office at 255-4600.

**CONTRIBUTIONS (GENERAL FUND) - (2,337 households)**

- Adult Envelopes (365) .................................................. $19,519.95
- Spanish Mass ................................................................. $  60.00
- Our Lady of Guadalupe ............................................... $  59.36
- Youth Envelopes ......................................................... $  249.25

**TOTAL RECEIVED (December 15) ................................ $20,388.56**

1st Sunday ................................................................. $16,099.96
Electronic Contributions (141) ........................................ $14,510.68
2nd Sunday .............................................................. $21,453.85
3rd Sunday ............................................................... $20,388.56
Electronic Contributions (101) ........................................ $10,945.68
4th Sunday ................................................................. $     0

We appreciate your generosity which is part of being faithful stewards of Corpus Christi.

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Tuesdays 12:45-3:15 p.m. (private, quiet time, incense free) with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 p.m. All are welcome to spend time in Jesus’ awesome Eucharistic presence. Eucharistic Adoration (Benediction, Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy) is also available Thursdays with Father Raphael from 7:00-8:00 p.m. There will be NO Tuesday afternoon Eucharistic Adoration on December 24th or December 31st.

**The Parish office will be closed to observe the Christmas Holiday on Wednesday, December 25th.**

**Lost and Found**

Have you lost your scarf, coat, gloves, or maybe some other item of value to you? Did you know that there is an area by the elevator in the upper gathering space where these items are collected? Well, you may be in luck. MAYBE, your lost item was FOUND!!
What’s Going on Here This Week

Tues. 12/24  Christmas Eve Mass, 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass, 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass, 10:00 p.m.

Wed. 12/25  Christmas Day Mass, 8:30 a.m.
Christmas Day Mass, 10:45 a.m.

Thurs. 12/26  Toastmasters, 6:30 a.m., Community Room
Eucharistic Adoration, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Marriage Moments: In the northern hemisphere, Christmas coincides with the longest nights of the year. Let darkness be your friend. Pause with your honey amidst your busy preparations to go outside (even in the cold) and look at the sky. Ponder your smallness in this universe, but also the warmth of your love for each other.

Parenting Pointers: December 21st is the longest night of the year - and not only because kids are getting antsy about Christmas. Celebrate the darkness with candles. Perhaps make a "pilgrimage" through your home carrying a candle and reflecting on the holiness of each room and person.

MEALS ON WHEELS:  The Church of Corpus Christi is responsible for delivering Meals on Wheels in January. If you can help, please call Karen today at 701-221-2774.

The Magi Appeal

The Catholic Foundation of Western North Dakota is proud to announce the 2019 Magi Appeal to support endowment funds for the parishes. If you would like to donate to the Church of Corpus Christi Parish Endowment Fund, your donation will go into a long-term investment with interest that our parish can use each year. You can donate by visiting cfwnd.org/magi and click on the “Donate Now” tab, or by calling the Catholic Foundation office at 701-204-7229.

K.C. Breakfast at Corpus Christi
Sunday, December 22nd
(9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)
Serving pancakes, sausage and eggs.
Proceeds will benefit ND Right to Life.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.  Corpus Christi is in need of volunteers to help out with some of our ministries. Please call the office at 701-255-4600 if you are interested in giving of your time to serve Corpus Christi.

Sacristory Linen Care.  A volunteer to wash and care for the Sacristory linens once a week on a rotating schedule during the month of February.

Sacerstain.  We are in need of a deacon assistant who would be willing to arrive 20 minutes early to help prepare the sacred vessels for one of our weekend masses each month. Training would be provided.

Ushers.  Extend hospitality, take up collection and assist with seating people at a weekend Mass. Training provided. Rotating schedule. Flexible.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE JOB OPENING

The Church of Corpus Christi is seeking a full-time parish pastoral associate. Responsibilities for this position include coordinating the parish wedding ministry and baptism preparation programs. This position will also work closely with our pastoral ministry team to visit hospitalized parishioners, assist with outreach ministry, plan for liturgical seasons and celebrations including church decorating, and assist with communal penance service coordination. The ideal candidate should be knowledgeable in Catholic doctrine and beliefs. They must have excellent leadership, communication and organizational skills and have a demonstrated proficiency with Microsoft Office.

The selected applicant must successfully pass a criminal background check. Please send your resume and three professional references to Tracy Kraft, 1919 N 2nd St., Bismarck, ND 58501 or email at tracy.kraft@corpuschristibismarck.com.
The Holy Father Speaks... Lukewarm Christians have two attitudes about God. They are putting God in a corner and washing their hands of Him. These attitudes are dangerous because they are like challenging God. If God did the same with us we would never enter Paradise. Jesus taught, exhorted, and healed people. This caused consternation among the chief priests and the elders because Jesus’ kindness and care led all people to Him. So the religious leaders challenged His authority. Jesus wisely returned the favor by asking about the authority of John the Baptist, whom they did not believe but did not oppose out of fear of his supporters. Their middle of the road position was a mediocre attitude and one taken by liars of the faith. It was not only Pilate who washed his hands of Jesus; these men did so too: "We do not know!" Not entering into relationship with others, not getting involved in their problems, not fighting for their rights, not fighting to heal the many people who are in need, saying "It's best not to. Let's not dirty our hands with this." Jesus refused to answer His interrogators with their same song: "Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things." These are two attitudes of lukewarm Christians. Christians without substance. One puts God in a corner: 'Either you do this for me or I won't go to Church anymore'. Many Christians wash their hands when faced with the challenges posed by society, history, or people of their time, even regarding the smallest difficulties. How often do we hear about cheap Christians who refuse to give alms to the ones who ask for it: "No, I won't give anything because he will just get drunk." They wash their hands... Putting God in a corner and washing one's hands are two dangerous attitudes, because they are like challenging God. Can we imagine what would happen if the Lord put us in a corner?

Welcome! Thank you for choosing to worship with us today and we hope you will return often. If you do not belong to a parish, please consider choosing Corpus Christi as your church home. You may call the parish office at 255-4600 to register.

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<td>If you are available to help out for the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day masses, please sign up on the sheets in the usher's room.</td>
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Can you help? The blank spaces mean we need more help in that ministry. Please come to the ushers room and sign in on the schedule to help. Thank You.
**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!**

**Tuesday, December 24th**  
(NO 12:10 p.m. daily Mass)

3:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Program

4:00 p.m. Mass (Children's Choir) - Fr. Paul, Fr. Raphael

6:00 p.m. Mass (Praise & Worship Choir) - Fr. Al Bitz

10:00 p.m. - Evening Mass - Fr. Raphael  
(Preceded by caroling & organ at 9:30 p.m.)

**Wednesday, December 25th**  
Christmas Day

8:30 a.m. Mass - Fr. Raphael

10:45 a.m. Mass - Fr. Paul  
(Preceded by caroling & organ at 10:15 a.m.)

**Tuesday, December 31st**  
(NO 12:10 p.m. daily Mass)

Solemnity of Mary Vigil

5:30 p.m. Mass - Fr. Paul

**Wednesday, January 1st**  
Solemnity of Mary

7:00 a.m. Mass - Fr. Raphael

12:10 p.m. Mass - Fr. Paul

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**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

You are once again invited to buy/bring a poinsettia to the church as a memorial for use in the Christmas environment; or you can make a donation toward a poinsettia. Please bring your donation by Sunday, December 22nd. Write on a card who is donating the plant or money and the name of the person(s) in whose memory it was donated. Bring plants to the table on the upper level (by the elevator).

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Please sign up for all the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day masses on the sheets in the usher’s room. The Parish Hall and Community Room will be used for an overflow crowd at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. We will need two hospitality ministers, four ushers and four Eucharistic Ministers for the Parish Hall and two Eucharistic Ministers for the Community Room. Thank You for your help.

**BRING YOUR BABY JESUS!!**

We will once again be blessing the baby Jesus at the 4:00 p.m. Children’s Liturgy on Christmas Eve. Please bring the baby Jesus from your Nativity Scene at home. The children will be called forward during the Mass and Fr. Paul will offer a blessing over all the baby Jesus'.
Sunday, Dec 22, 2019
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Finding our place in Joseph’s story
You had every intention of doing it. You’d thought it all out, weighed pros and cons, and made your decision. It was reasonable, practical. Family and friends were behind you all the way. But then something happened. A dream, a phone call, a look from a stranger on the bus—something that maybe wasn’t even related to your decision, but it spoke to you. It said: Don’t do that, do this instead. And all these years later, you can’t even explain it to yourself. Only that you trusted your intuition, and you’d do the same thing today.

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). “Joseph her husband . . . decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, beheld, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.”

Monday, Dec 23, 2019
MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF KANTY, PRIEST
Rising above sin and division
Today is the memorial of John of Kanty. A 15th-century Polish scholar and priest, he was known for his simple lifestyle and generosity to the poor. He had enemies, however, who schemed to have him demoted from professor at the University of Krakow to parish priest (a job he felt unprepared for). It took him years to win over his flock, but eventually he did, and eventually he was reinstated as a professor. Sin and division within the church caused harm to John of Kanty, yet he persisted in living a good life. Take a moment to draw hope from people you know who persist in living generously and lovingly in today’s imperfect church.


Tuesday, Dec 24, 2019
ADVENT WEEKDAY
Light it up!
The longest night of the year took place on the winter solstice, December 21, and just a few days later, we await the coming of the Light of the World. Tonight the anticipation reaches its peak as people gather to celebrate—in some cases with very bright festivities indeed! Take Las Parrandas de Remedios, Cuba’s famous fireworks festival on Christmas Eve. Parranda is a street party, and travel guides will tell you this is one not to miss. Make your own fireworks of joy—in your church, home, and heart—because your Savior is born.

TODAY’S READINGS: Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 (200). “The dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness.”

Wednesday, Dec 25, 2019
SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)
Hope is born!
Saint Augustine wrote these beautiful words describing the Incarnation of Jesus: “God so loved us that for our sakes he, through whom time was made, was made in time. Older by eternity than the world itself, he became younger in age than many of his servants in the world. God, who made man, was made man. He was given existence by a mother whom he brought into existence. He was carried in hands which he formed; he was nursed at breasts which he filled. He cried like a baby in the manger in speechless infancy—this Word without which human eloquence is speechless.” Let us rejoice in a God who loves to use what’s small and meek to accomplish great things. Merry Christmas!


Thursday, Dec 26, 2019
FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR
Let the children lead the way
In religious art, Saint Stephen, first martyr and one of the first seven deacons in the church, is pictured as a very young man. He must have taken to the new Christian faith in a big way, because despite his youth he was already said to be filled with the Holy Spirit and a miracle worker. Look around our world today. Once again we find deeply committed young people, not only animating the church through events such as World Youth Day, but taking the lead on many of the most pressing issues of global concern, such as climate change. Lend an ear to what young people in your life are saying—you may find some ageless wisdom there!

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). “They could not withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he spoke.”

Friday, Dec 27, 2019
FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST
Testify with your life
Sometimes a platoon of veterans will get together every five years, until their numbers dwindle to a few lone survivors. Or a group of college girlfriends will have an annual reunion—until one is left with no one else to reunite with. John the evangelist, a.k.a., the beloved disciple, was said to have outlived all the other apostles. Perhaps it felt lonely—or perhaps it drove him to spend every last day recounting and recording for posterity the incredible events that he witnessed firsthand. Keep your eyes open and pen at hand—God is at work in your own life and you are the living testament!

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). “We have seen it and testify to it.”

Saturday, Dec 28, 2019
FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS
Children first
The Holy Innocents’ only crime was that they were the same age as the baby Jesus. The local king, Herod, was a jealous man who had few scruples about killing people. When he heard that wise men from the east were en route to honor a newborn king, Herod was beside himself. He demanded that they tell him where he did the unthinkable and ordered that all of Bethlehem’s male children first be put to death. Say a prayer today for the children of our world who have had their innocence robbed from them through war, grinding poverty, or abuse. Let their protection be our highest priority.

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698). “A cry was heard at Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation: Rachel bewailing her children.”