



# ORDER OF CORPUS CHRISTI

[www.orderofcorpuschristi.org](http://www.orderofcorpuschristi.org) [orderofcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:orderofcorpuschristi@gmail.com)

Siblings in Christ,

I am writing to extend to you an invitation to join us for our annual retreat, May 28-31 at the Jesuit Retreat Center, in Parma, OH. I have attached a registration form.

In addition to time for worship, prayer, and jovial conversation, we will be discerning and electing a new Abbot who will succeed me. Whether or not you can attend, I ask that you join us in prayer through this important time of discernment.

I invite you to use the following questions as prompts for your prayer.

- 1. God, where is your Spirit leading us next as the Order of Corpus Christi?**
- 2. God, what are the most significant situations, challenges, or opportunities that a prophetic leader will need to address?**
- 3. God, what kind of leadership (qualities, style, competencies, gifts, skills) is needed to respond to God's call for the Order of Corpus Christi at this time and into the future?**

Please reflect on this excerpt from the Rule of the Order of Corpus Christi

The Abbot shall be the Spiritual Leader and Chief Shepherd of the Order. The Abbot shall be elected by Ecclesiastical ballot for a five-year term. The primary responsibilities of the Abbot include:

- To be responsible for oversight of all aspects of the life of the Order,
- To keep before the Order the vision of its stated mission and witness to be leaven within the loaf within the church,
- To provide pastoral care to the brothers and sisters of the Order, and to assume the role of confessor when requested
- To represent the Order in various councils of the ecumenical church and related organizations (e.g. The Mercersburg Society)
- To be principal preacher and celebrant for the Order's worship and to delegate those responsibilities to others given the occasion,
- In consultation with the Superiors, to attend to serious violations of the Rule and Discipline that require pastoral care and confidentiality and, in maintaining that confidentiality, shall recommend appropriate remedies for Consistory's approval,
- To convene and preside at gatherings of the Superiors, of Consistory, and the Annual Synod of the Order.

I took forward to greeting you at retreat and trust that God, through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit will continue to guide and direct our path as each of us endeavors to be the people of God, the body of Christ on earth.

On the journey,

Br. Bob

Rev. Dr. Bob Gross, Abbot