

BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART



Pilgrimage Site for: Diocesan Shrine of Santo Niño "Annunciation" and "Tree of Life" Meditation Gardens

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time-January 21, 2024

Pastor: Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Rector: Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, VF Email: dhiggs@dwc.org Associate Rector: Rev. Rayappa Kurakula Email: rayappak@dwc.org In Residence: Msgr. P. Edward Sadie, P.A., S.T.L.



1114 Virginia St., East, Charleston, WV 25301, Telephone: (304) 342-8175/Fax: (304) 344-3907 E-Mail: sacredheartwv@gmail.com - Website: www.sacredheartcocathedral.com



Our Seminarians during Christmas break–If you wish to send them a note. Michael Aiello & Michael Tupta, Mount St. Mary's University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 & Timothy Kawash Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N High St, Columbus, OH 43235.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 8:15 am, Vigil 5:30 PM Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM Monday & Friday 8:15 AM Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 12:00 PM

Mass from the Basilica is live streamed on our Facebook & YouTube page, Sundays at 10:30 AM

Mass from the Diocese is being live-streamed at 6 p.m. on Saturday, where it remains online. The link is <u>https://dwc.org/home/mass/</u>

> Listen to EWTN on WLUX 1450 AM Dunbar|Charleston https://www.ewtn.com/radio/schedule

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday's 4:00-5:00 PM or by appointment. 304-342-8175

> EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Saturday's 4:00-5:00 PM.



Parish Mission Statement

"We, at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, are a diverse community of the poor, the disadvantaged and hungry, the well-to-do, the youth, elderly, visitors and those seeking refuge.

As a community of many cultures and races, we stand for unity in our diversity by expressing our love of God the Father through prayer and worship, through service to one another, through the ministry of welcoming, through evangelization and ecumenism. With the Bishop, we shall pursue this mission faithfully through the example of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit and the gifts and talents of our members." All are welcome today, especially visitors, guests and those who might be new to the community.

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart **TELEPHONE 304-342-8175** FAX 304-344-3907

ADMINISTRATION

242 0175

Bookkeeper: Pam Acevedo	342-81/5
email: pacevedo@shccwv.us	
Office Assistant: Angela Hodges	342-8175
email: ahodges@shccwv.us	
Property Manager: John Blake	342-8175
email: jblake@shccwv.us	
Secretary: Sheila Kerekes	342-8175
email: skerekes@shccwv.us	
0	

EDUCATION

	EDUCITION	
	Director of RCIA: Mike Kawash	549-6453
	Email: mak@ramlaw.com	
	Coordinator of Religious Education: Sr. Ida Chikara	1-304-709-0026
	Email: idachikara@gmail.com	
	Sacred Heart Early Learning Center: 6 weeks-2 years	
	Andrea Stover, Director	414-5757
Sacred Heart Child Development Center: After School Care		
	Crystal Ashcraft, Coordinator	344-1125
	Sacred Heart Grade School: K-5/Pre-School (ages 3-4)	
	Niki Kurten, Principal	346-5491
	Charleston Catholic High School: 6-12	
	Colleen M. Hoyer, Principal	342-8415

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick, Confession, Infant Baptism, Weddings For information/to schedule any of the above 304-342-8175

Music Director: Mark Haas	342-8175
Email: mhaas@shccwv.us	
Principal Organist: Gregory Gray	380-4786

OTHER PARISH GROUPS OR MINISTRIES

Boy Scouts: Sam Wilkes	546-0614
Catholic Charities Office-Family Life Center	380-0162
For information on Catholic Charities	
Contact: Karen or Sam Gross	346-2608
Cub Scouts: Adam Rohrig 27	6-274-8110
Girl Scouts: Deborah Harless 30	4-553-7021
Knights of Columbus -St. Michael the Archangel #12630	
Dick Fauss, Grand Knight	965-6872
Sam Gross-Faithful Navigator-Fr. Boniface Assembly #1188	346-2608
Ministry to Sick/Elderly	
Sr. Ida Chikara, SJI 1-30	4-709-0026
Mount Olivet Cemetery/Mausoleum	342-8135
Wayne Johnson or Sacred Heart Parish	
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Wanda Dettinger	344-1181
Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center	342-0507
SH Christian Service Committee: Ron Rushworth	382-7768
SH Finance Council: Cindy McGhee-Chair	342-8175
SH Gift Shop: Antonetta Stevens 415-8132 or Kathy Lamb	344-2011
SH Pastoral Council: Jack Walsh-Chair	533-2298

Sharing Our Treasure - 1/14/2024

Regular Collection: \$10,929 Partners In Hope: \$325 Needy Student: \$100 Israel Emergency Relief: \$2491

Candles: \$133 Smile (Sisters): \$175 Initial Offering: \$8 (\$400)

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time-January 21, 2024

01/20 Sat. 01/21 Sun.	5:30 pm + People of the Parish 8:00 am + Dreamma Guinn 10:30 pm + John Ruddick 5:00 pm + Nancy & Dick Long
01/22 Mon.	8:15 am For the Intention of the Zamora Family
01/23 Tues.	12:00 pm NO MASS 6:00 pm RED MASS
01/24 Wed.	12:00 pm + Ezra & Vivian Wyer
01/25 Thur.	12:00 pm + Cecilio Delgra
01/26 Fri.	8:15 am + Thomas Kerner, Jr. 12:00 pm + Tim Godby
01/27 Sat.	8:15 am + Holy Souls in Purgatory
01/27 Sat. 01/28 Sun.	1

Ministry Schedule week of January 27/28

Lector Schedule 5:30 PM-TBD 8:00 AM-Steve McElroy 10:30 AM-Maricel Bernardo 5:00 PM-Debra Basham

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule 5:30 PM-Sr. Ida Chikara, Kerri Grant, 4 volunteers 8:00 AM-Karen & Sam Gross, Jack Burke, 3 volunteers 10:30 AM-Debbie Barr, Jack Walsh, Andrew & Heather Workman, 2 volunteers

5:00 PM-Debra Basham, Angelita Zamora, 4 volunteers

The Pope's Monthly Intention

JANUARY-For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

FYI...The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated Saturday, June 8th at the 5:30 pm Mass.

TAX STATEMENTS-The 2023 contribution statements will be mailed by the end of January. If you do not receive yours within a reasonable amount of time please contact the parish business office, 304-342-8175.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity to our parish.

A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings in the Lord!

Happy Word of God Sunday! Pope Francis has established that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time will be devoted to the celebration, study, and dissemination of the Word of God. Pope Francis stated "that we need God's Word so that we can hear, amid the thousands of other words in our daily lives, that one word that speaks to us not about things, but about life" I very much agree that amid all the words that we will hear and say can bring peace and joy but also may bring confusion and despair. As the Church of the Word, I invite you to spend time studying and praying with the Word of God.

Loving God, anoint me with your Holy Spirit, so that as I read your Eternal Word, your Word may penetrate my whole being and transform me. Grant me the blessing to be a faithful disciple in believing the Word of God and that I may be a light shining upon all who are in darkness. Amen.

May the Word of God nourish and strengthen us and deepen our understanding and love. Make use of this prayer as you prepare to read the Word of God.

May you have safe and blessed week. I remain,

Yours in Christ, Fr. Don

ATTENTION MEN OF THE PARISH

All men of the parish are invited to attend the newly formed St. Joseph Men's group at Sacred Heart parish! We meet every Saturday morning at 7:15 am in the Cordis Center chapel for Liturgy of the Hours, morning prayer, and the Rosary. Also we meet every other Thursday evening in the Blue Room at the Cordis Center for Faith Formation. For more information please contact Mike Tupta 304-541-5177 or Sean Whelan 859-457-2861.

From our music director...

Dear Sacred Heart parishioners:

It has been a joy to serve you these last three and a half years. This coming June, my family and I will be relocating, as I will be starting a new position as the Director of Music at Ave Maria Parish in Ave Maria, FL.

Sacred Heart has been the most welcoming place for our family. It was with joy that we baptized three of our children in this parish! As your music director, I have been inspired during countless parish and Diocesan Masses and events. I am grateful for the friendships of Fr. Don, Fr. Roy, Greg Gray, the Sacred Heart Choir, musicians, parish staff, school students, faculty, and so many fellow parishioners!

Thank you for believing in me and my vision during our time here. Thank you for embracing Renae and I, and our seven children. Thank you for praying with us each weekend. Please pray for us now, as we will be praying for you. We will be most grateful for these final six months with you. May God bless the Sacred Heart community always!

-Mark Haas

Jesus and the Eucharist Study Series

As part of our Faith Formation program for the Parish year of the Eucharistic Revival, we will be presenting the 7-part study program "Jesus and the Eucharist". This program is being made available to all parishes in the US as part of the National Eucharistic Revival.

The program will begin on January 28, and continue for 7 weeks, ending on March 14. Each week, we will provide 3 sessions to cover the material for that week, as follows -

- * Sundays at 12:00 Noon in the Gathering Space
- * Wednesdays at 9:30 AM in the Cordis Center
- * Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Space

Each meeting will last approximately 2 hours or less, and will provide time for learning and sharing. The same material will be presented in each session of a given week – feel free to attend any one of the sessions that week. If you can't attend a given week, that's OK – please come whenever you can.

We think this will be a very rewarding and informative program for the parish, and will greatly increase our understanding of Christ's saving work in the Eucharist.

Please sign up using the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Space.

A Pilgrimage to Catholic Italy with Fr. Don

Fr. Don invites you to join him on a spiritually enriching 12-Day pilgrimage to Catholic Italy October 14-25, 2024.

Highlights include: Florence, Siena, Assisi, the Isle of Capri, Pompeii, Rome, The Vatican and an audience with the Pope. Flight to and from Charleston, W.V. included. Early Bird Discount of \$50 for those who register before February 3rd.

The cost of \$5899 includes breakfasts and dinners, tours, r/t flights, 4-5 star hotels, motorcoach, a farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome and memories to cherish forever. Don't miss this once in a lifetime pilgrimage to visit and pray at the Catholic places you have heard of all your life. Plus, you will see the world-famous sites of Italy as well.

For the itinerary, more details and the option to register online, go to: https://bit.ly/HiggsItaly or call Fr. Don at 304-685-2367.



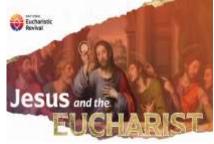
Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston cordially invites you to the celebration of the

RED MASS

The annual Mass, calling on the Holy Spirit to guide members of the local bar association, members of the court, and other civil officials in the administration of justice and good government.

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 - 6:00 p.m. Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart 1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston, WV

A light reception will immediately follow Parking is available at the parish lot on Virginia Street East



Sunday of the Word of God Hearing the Word of God

"When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the Gospel" (GIRM, no. 29).

These words from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) set before us a profound truth that we need to ponder and make our own. The words of Sacred Scripture are unlike any other texts we will ever hear, for they not only give us information, they are the vehicle God uses to reveal himself to us, the means by which we come to know the depth of God's love for us, and the responsibilities entailed by being Christ's followers, members of his Body. What is more, this Word of God proclaimed in the liturgy possesses a special sacramental power to bring about in us what it proclaims. The Word of God proclaimed at Mass is 'efficacious' that is, it not only tells us of God and God's will for us, it also helps us to put that will of God into practice in our own lives. How, then, do we respond to this wonderful gift of God's Word? We respond in word and song, in posture and gesture, in silent meditation and, most important of all, by listening attentively to that Word as it is proclaimed. Following each reading we express our gratitude for this gift with the words "Thanks be to God" or, in the case of the Gospel, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ," and it is appropriate that a brief period of silence be observed to allow for personal reflection. Following the first reading we sing the Responsorial Psalm, a meditation on God's word through the inspired words of one of the psalms from the psalter, the Bible's prayer book.

The Gospel is the highpoint of the Liturgy of the Word. The readings from the Old Testament tell us of God's promises and his preparation of his people for the coming of his Son; the epistles and other pre-Gospel New Testament readings offer the reflections of St. Paul and other contemporaries of the Lord on the life and message of Christ; in the Acts of the Apostles we have a history of the early Church. We believe that all Scripture, the Old and New Testaments, is inspired by the Holy Spirit, but the Church has always given special honor to the Gospel because in the Gospel we have not simply the preparation for and prefiguring of Christ, nor reflections on his message, but the words and deeds of Christ himself. The proclamation of the Gospel is surrounded with marks of respect and honor: the Gospel is read by an ordained minister, the deacon, or, when no deacon is present, by a priest; the Book of the Gospels is carried aloft with honor in the entrance procession and placed on the altar until the Gospel reading to show the unity of Scripture and Eucharist, of the table of the Word and the table of the Christ's body and blood; just before the Gospel is read the Gospel book is carried in procession to the ambo to the accompaniment of an acclamation sung by the people; it may be incensed before the reading and is kissed at its conclusion; finally, all stand as the Gospel is proclaimed. Through this posture and through the honor paid to the book containing the Gospel, the Church pays homage to Christ who is present in his Word and who proclaims his Gospel.

What, then, must we do to properly receive the Word of God proclaimed at Mass? The General Instruction tells us that "the readings from the Word of God are to be listened to reverently by everyone" (no. 29), and it provides that those who read the Scriptures at Mass must be "truly suited to carrying out this function and carefully prepared, so that by their hearing the readings from the sacred texts the faithful may conceive in their hearts a sweet and living affection for Sacred Scripture" (no. 101).

The key word in all of this is listening. We are called to listen attentively as the reader, deacon or priest proclaims God's Word. Unless one is unable to hear, one should not be reading along with a text from a missal or missalette. Rather, taking our cue from the General Instruction itself, we should listen as we would if Christ himself were standing at the ambo, for in fact it is God who speaks when the Scriptures are proclaimed. Carefully following along with the printed word can cause us to miss the gentle voice of the Holy Spirit, the message that the Spirit may have for us in one of the passages because we are anxious to "keep up," to move along with the reader.

Perhaps the best way to understand the readings at Mass and our response to them is offered by Saint John Paul II in his Instruction Dies Domini. He encourages "those who take part in the Eucharist—priest, ministers and faithful... to prepare the Sunday liturgy, reflecting beforehand upon the word of God which will be proclaimed" and adds that if we do not, "it is difficult for the liturgical proclamation of the word of God alone to produce the fruit we might expect" (no. 40). In this way we will till the soil, preparing our souls to receive the seeds to be planted by the Word of God so that seed may bear fruit.

The Word of God, then calls for our listening and our response in silent reflection, as well as in word and song. Most important of all, the Word of God, which is living and active, calls each of us individually and all of us together for a response that moves beyond the liturgy itself and affects our daily lives, leading us to engage fully in the task of making Christ known to the world by all that we do and say.

Fr. Sadie's "Cogitationes" 304-546-4330

With the death of life long neighbor and friend, Mrs. Harriet Beury, Sacred Heart Parish has lost a wonderful relationship. She knew for 35 years Sacred Heart wanted her property. She appreciated the fact I was not aggressive. Her brother-in-law's home housed Sacred Heart High School. Sacred Heart parish needs on her property a parish hall for receptions, fund raisers, school and parish activities (3-4 million).



Knights of Columbus

Fish Fries - Based on our two trial fish fries, the Knights have decided to host Fish Fries during Lent. Current plans are to have fish fries on Friday's during lent starting on February16 and ending March 22. We also may be asking for help with this new activity.

If you like the things that the Knights do, consider becoming a member. Knights participate in all manner of charitable activities to support families, the church community, faith and life. Our food drives, coats for kids and the hot dog and ice cream socials and fish frys are examples of just some of our activities. The first year of membership is still free if you join online at kofc.org/joinus The free code is now blessedmcgivney for online membership. After a year, we ask that you pay dues which go to support our Charitable activities. Please ask a Knight if you are interested.



DIOCESE OF WHEELING CHARLESTON

1311 Byron Street PO Box 230 Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

January 5, 2024 Pastoral Letter on the Elderly and Persons with Special Needs

Continuing my recent series of letters on life issues, I turn now to how we, as a society and a Church, treat the elderly and persons with special needs. They, too, form part of the "seamless garment" whose hem is respect for the embodied life of the human being. What does our Catholic faith have to say about them?

For most of history, a people's elders have been held in high esteem, sought out for their wisdom and cherished for their custody of the community's traditions. Handicapped persons, on the other hand, have more often been dismissed as a burden and judged incapable of contributing to the common good. Our Catholic faith agrees that elderly persons deserve great respect and have an important role to play in safeguarding a community's values but our faith also affirms the intrinsic worth of persons with special needs -- handicapped or disabled -- and welcomes their participation in the life of the community.

Men and women of advanced age have played a major role in our Judeo-Christian tradition. Abraham and Sarah, childless for so many years, were promised a son by God. Their faith was tested but they trusted God and He made them fertile in their old age. Through Isaac, their son, and Jacob, his and Rebekah's, the whole people of Israel descended. At the beginning of New Testament times, Zachariah and Elizabeth were old and childless but God gave them a son, John, who prepared the way for our Savior, Jesus Christ. Old Simeon and Anna prophesied about Jesus' saving mission when Mary and Joseph brought the child to present him to the Lord in the temple in Jerusalem.

Non-Christian cultures have also revered the elderly. When I was the parish priest for a Korean Catholic congregation just outside Washington, DC, I saw on display the centuries-old Korean custom of profound esteem for their elders *(sinbunim)*. Younger Koreans would make a deep bow before the *sinbunim* and their views were accorded much respect. The parish built a retirement home for the elderly parishioners, so important were they to the Korean community.

Today in the United States there is a fascination with youthfulness that undermines our respect for the elderly. I am not referring to young people themselves, who are a treasure and whose participation in community life we must foster. I refer, rather, to adults seeking to look and act as if they were many years younger than they actually are. We elders (I am a simbunim now) should "act our age" and fulfill the role that is proper to our stage of life. That role continues to be to serve as guardians of our community's most cherished values and to pass on to the young the wisdom those values express. With respect to how the young view the elderly, I remember a mantra popular when I was in college: "Don't trust anyone over thirty." Even at 2 twenty, I thought that was silly. Our professors were all over thirty! I would hope that most young people would feel confident in seeking the guidance that older people can offer them and trust that it is offered out of a genuine concern for their good.

A major concern for elderly persons is for their safety and overall wellbeing. Many of them prefer to remain in their own homes and can do so with appropriate help from their grown children and home-care services. Others are better served by assisted living situations or nursing homes. These decisions require prudence by the elderly themselves and by their families. In any case, the elderly should not be neglected or simply warehoused. Their needs can be met and their contributions can be received if we remember that they are still part of us. Pastors should arrange for homebound parishioners to be visited and parishes should organize teams to visit local nursing homes. In the Catholic Church more than in American society at large we respect the role of elders. Most bishops are past middle age but remain active and deeply committed to the spiritual good of their people. Pope Francis turned eighty-seven on December 17, 2023, yet continues to serve the Church. Many of our parishes depend on older parishioners to fill their pastoral and finance councils and other organizations. When new to the Diocese I needed a vicar general – the bishop's special assistant, whom canon law requires to be a priest -- so I turned to a retired priest, Msgr. Gene Ostrowski, and asked him for one year of service. He gave me three and a half. When I finally let him resume retirement, I asked another retired priest, Msgr. Joe Peterson, to take the position. He, too, graciously accepted. I can assure you that these generous men have given me wise counsel and undertaken important tasks for the good of our people.

Ominous clouds are gathering on the horizon for elderly Americans. Assisted suicide is now legal in ten states and the District of Columbia. Other countries show us where legalizing assisted suicide can lead. Canada allows both physician-assisted suicide and direct euthanasia. It applies not only to those whose death from a foreseeable, irremediable condition is near but also to those who suffer from chronic disabilities which are manageable but whose treatment the disabled person does not want. Canadian law will soon allow assisted suicide and euthanasia for mental illnesses. Belgium and the Netherlands allow minors to be euthanized at their request if they suffer from severe, incurable illnesses. The Netherlands allows doctors to euthanize patients with severe dementia without their consent. As Baby Boomers age in the US, the pressure to legalize assisted suicide will increase; the government will save money on Medicare and Medicaid and families will look forward to what their elderly relatives leave them. What does the Catholic faith say about this? Our moral teaching prohibits us from

directly intending or causing death but allows and encourages treatments meant to alleviate pain, even if those treatments might hasten death. Catholic teaching also allows a person to forego invasive and unpleasant treatments – formerly called "extraordinary means" – especially if they have no reasonable prospect of success. The Catholic approach to dying is humane and respectful of the person's God-given dignity, whereas assisted suicide capitulates to despair and direct euthanasia violates the most basic tenet of medicine: "Do no harm."

In contrast to assisted suicide and direct euthanasia, hospice and palliative care are positive responses to end-of-life challenges. The hospice movement began as a way to provide terminally ill persons with a safe and caring environment in which to live their last months and days before they died of natural causes. Every effort is made to keep the dying person comfortable and as pain-free as possible. Even more importantly, family members and friends are encouraged to visit the dying person to alleviate the fear of being alone, which can be a heavier burden than physical pain. It is lamentable that hospices in some states are now required to participate in assisted suicide and that some hospice personnel support it.

What about persons with special needs? (I use that term because the words "handicapped" and "disabled" refer only to the lack of some ability; we all have needs, so people with special needs are different only in degree and kind.) American society is better now at accommodating persons with special needs, especially since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. The ubiquitous ramps and sloping sidewalks at street corners are visible signs of the Act's impact; so is the publicity given to the Special Olympics. Medical science has enabled the physically and intellectually handicapped to participate in school and work programs and let their gifts shine. Those who were once considered useless make their contribution to the common good. Simple changes can make a big difference. For example, many Catholic churches provide access to persons in wheelchairs, some have large-print missalettes for the sight-impaired, radio-transmitted sound for the hearing impaired and signed Masses for the deaf.

Despite these advances, there is still a bias against persons judged to be less than "perfect." In the United States pre-natal ultrasound screening has resulted in between 60 and 90% of unborn children diagnosed with Downs Syndrome being aborted. In France, the reported rate is 77%, in Denmark 90% and in Iceland almost 100%. Yet Downs Syndrome children, who once had a life expectancy of ten years, can now expect to live fifty years. Medical advances, special education classes and sheltered workplaces allow them to lead fulfilled lives. Studies show that they are just as happy as other people. But many parents today think it will be an intolerable burden to care for them. I know it can be hard at the beginning because I have walked with families into which a special needs child was born, but I have also seen the love that blossoms in such families once they embrace that new child. The child and the whole family learn to give and receive love.

Here our Catholic Church could shine! The early Christians picked up babies left to die of exposure or by attacks of wild animals and took them home to raise. Could we not make it known that we will take in children with special needs when their parents cannot raise them? Are they not made in God's image like the rest of us? Could this not become a religious order's priority in today's society?

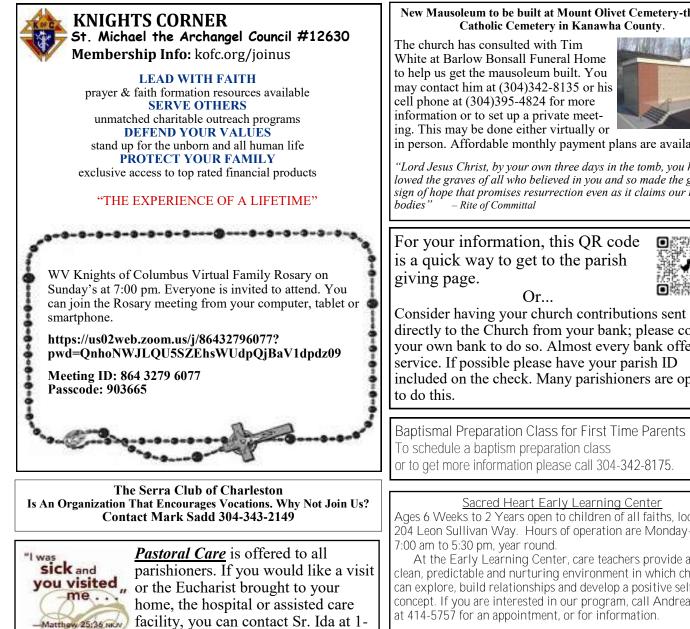
In a less dramatic vein, now that we can get handicapped persons into our churches, can we start inviting them to be readers and Extraordinary Ministers, according to their abilities? Could they not serve on parish pastoral councils and finance councils? I knew a blind man who was ordained a priest in my first diocese; we hope to have a blind deacon in ours. My point is: let's invite persons with different handicaps to take part as fully in the life of our parishes, schools and organizations as possible. Not only will they benefit from their service but the rest of 4 us, who may think we have no handicaps, will learn that it is not necessary to be "perfect" physically and mentally to be fully human and serve God's people.

Just as we should cherish and protect children, born and unborn, so we should cherish and foster the wellbeing of our elders and persons with special needs. We must forge bonds that transcend age and physical and mental boundaries. We must reject policies and practices that judge some people as disposable based on criteria that others decide. A person's fundamental worth does not depend on his or her age or physical or intellectual abilities; it comes from being a creature made in God's image and likeness. That is the bond that unites us all. May we recognize more fully that our love of neighbor must extend to those who are advanced in age and those who live with special needs.

Sincerely in Christ,

FMark E. Brownen

+Mark E. Brennan Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston



Now Hiring-Our Parish has full-time and part-time teacher positions for the Early Learning Center and After-school care programs. Diocesan benefits and salaries commensurate with experience and education. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma and clear a background check. WVIT and ACDS helpful but not required. Please contact Sheila Kerekes at 304-414-5757 or mail your resume to 1114 Virginia St. E., Charleston, WV 25301.

304-709-0026.

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.

New Mausoleum to be built at Mount Olivet Cemetery-the only



in person. Affordable monthly payment plans are available.

"Lord Jesus Christ, by your own three days in the tomb, you hallowed the graves of all who believed in you and so made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal



directly to the Church from your bank: please contact your own bank to do so. Almost every bank offers this included on the check. Many parishioners are opting



Ages 6 Weeks to 2 Years open to children of all faiths, located at 204 Leon Sullivan Way. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday

At the Early Learning Center, care teachers provide a safe, clean, predictable and nurturing environment in which children can explore, build relationships and develop a positive self concept. If you are interested in our program, call Andrea Stover at 414-5757 for an appointment, or for information.

SACRED HEART GRADE SCHOOL

A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE Applications may be downloaded from our website www.shgs.us. For information, or to schedule a tour, call 304-346-5491.

- Tiny Hearts-2 Year Old-Half or Full Day Program
- ECE-3 Year Old-Full Day Program
- PRE-K-4 Year Old-Full Day Program
- Kindergarten through Fifth Grade
- After School Care

Integrated Technology, Library, Music, Physical Education, Art & French, Emphasis on Academics, Spirituality, Personal Development and Community Service. All faiths welcome!

CHARLESTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL **EDUCATING THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF WEST VIRGINIA'S** Youth For Over 90 Years

Applications may be downloaded from our website www.charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, call 342-8415 or email admissions@charlestoncatholic-crw.org

