



BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART



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

First Sunday of Lent –February 22, 2026

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

Rector: Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Assoc. V.E., V.F. - dhiggs@dwc.org
Associate Rector: Rev. Prakash Kerketta - pkerketta@dwc.org
Permanent Deacon: Rev. Mr. Michael A. Kawash

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



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
Tuesday, 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 <https://dwc.org/home/mass/>

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

EUCCHARISTIC 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

Bookkeeper: Pam Acevedo 342-8175
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

EDUCATION

Director of OCIA: Rev. Mr. Michael 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 414-5757
Andrea Stover, Director
Sacred Heart Child Development Center: After School Care 344-1125
Grace Holden, Coordinator
Sacred Heart Grade School: K-5/Pre-School (ages 3-4) 346-5491
Niki Kurten, Principal
Charleston Catholic High School: 6-12 342-8415
Colleen M. Hoyer, Principal

SACRAMENTS

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

MUSIC

Music Director: Rosemary Severn rsevern@shccwv.us
Principal Organist: Gregory Gray 380-4786

OTHER PARISH GROUPS OR MINISTRIES

Catholic Charities Office-Family Life Center 380-0162
For information on Catholic Charities
Contact: Karen or Sam Gross 346-2608
Knights of Columbus -St. Michael the Archangel #771
Dick Fauss, Grand Knight 965-6872
Sam Gross-Faithful Navigator-Fr. Boniface Assembly #1188 346-2608
Ministry to Sick/Elderly
Sr. Ida Chikara, SJ 1-304-709-0026
Mount Olivet Cemetery/Mausoleum 342-8175
John Blake
St. John XXIII Pastoral Center 342-0507
St. Joseph Men's Group: Mike Tupta 541-5177
Sean Whelan 859-457-2861
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 - 2/15/2026

Regular Collection: \$17,397 Candles: \$146
SMILE (Sisters): \$680 Social Concerns: \$40
Partners In Hope: \$465 Heating: \$30 (\$1453)
Initial Offering: \$16 (\$296) Needy Student: \$270
U.S. Missions Black & Native Amer. \$224 (\$774)

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica

First Sunday of Lent - February 22, 2026

02/21 Sat. 5:30 pm + People of the Parish
02/22 Sun. 8:00 am + John D. Sadd
10:30 am + John Ruddick
5:00 pm + Kathleen Fitzmaurice
02/23 Mon. 8:15 am + Laura Ann Wiersteiner
02/24 Tues. 12:00 pm + Ruth, Joe & Jay Mullen
02/25 Wed. 12:00 pm For the Intention of Pelagio Zamora
02/26 Thur. 12:00 pm COMMUNION SERVICE
02/27 Fri. 8:15 am + Dr. Felize Jugo
12:00 pm + Tim Godby
5:00 pm Pray the Rosary
5:30 pm Stations of the Cross
02/28 Sat. 8:15 pm + Rita Mills Williams
02/28 Sat. 5:30 pm + Keith C. Smith - First Year of Eternal Life
03/01 Sun. 8:00 am + Lissa Bolles
10:30 am + Msgr. Ed Sadie & Family
5:00 pm + People of the Parish

The Pope's Monthly Intention

February-For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Ministry Schedule February 28/March 1, 2026

Lector Schedule

5:30 PM-John Willson
8:00 AM-Karen Gross
10:30 AM-Mike Tupta
5:00 PM-Jason Pizatella

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM-Kerri Grant, John Willson, 4 volunteers
8:00 AM-Karen Gross, Blair Johe, Joel Weese, 3 volunteers
10:30 AM-Bob Parker, Andrew & Heather Workman, 3 volunteers
5:00 PM-Debra Basham, Ann Knebel, Jason Pizatella, 3 volunteers

Our Parish Seminarians Addresses

**Send them a card of
encouragement and the
promise of prayers.**

Michael Aiello
Mount St. Mary's Seminary
16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd.
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Birthday: 9/16/1990

Timothy Kawash
Pontifical College Josephinum
7625 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43235
Birthday: 7/22/1999

Michael J. Tupta
Pontifical North American College
Via del Gianicolo 14
00165 Rome (RM)
ITALY
Birthday: 4/24/1995

A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Greetings on this First Sunday of Lent!

This weekend, we are very happy to welcome Bishop Mark for our Sunday morning Masses and for the Rite of Election. Beginning at 3pm, Bishop Mark will preside at the Rite of Election for the Catechumens who are preparing to be received into our Church through the Sacrament of Baptism at the Easter Vigil. Bishop Mark will also celebrate the Rite of Continuing Conversion for those who are already baptized (Candidates) and are wishing to enter our Church. With Joy, our Bishop will call them to the Easter Sacraments. Please keep in your prayers our Catechumens, Eric Leftwich, Breanna Leslie, Clarence Mack Pruitt, Christopher Tucker, and Vivian Valentin. Also remember in your prayers our Candidates, Kristin Winfree, Dani Burgess, Michael Shane Fisher, Travis Hysell, Benjamin Lee-Polston, John Leslie, Gregory McVey, Kaidence Neeb, Courtlandt Smith and Derek Vance. I am very grateful for Deacon Michael Kawash, the Director of our OCIA, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults in preparing these adults for full membership into the Roman Catholic Church. May the Lord bless him for this important and life changing ministry.

You are invited to join us during the Fridays of Lent to pray the Rosary beginning at 5pm followed by the Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm. After-which join us for the Fish Fry offered by our Knights of Columbus from 6pm until 7:30pm in our Grade School cafeteria.

Have a grace-filled Lent. I remain,

In Christ,
Fr. Don

Lenten Reflections

This Lent, please join us for presentations and reflections based on the FORMED program "Wilderness Within." In this program, Sr. Josephine Garrett invites us to explore the interior wilderness of our hearts to expand our love as we prepare for Easter. Sessions will begin on Sunday February 15, and continue through Wednesday, April 1.

We will have 3 sessions each week on the same material-Sundays at Noon in the Gathering Space, Tuesdays at 10:00 AM in the Cordis Center, and Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Space.

Please attend any sessions whenever you are available. Make this Lent your best ever as we prepare for Easter!

Please keep in your prayers Laura Wiersteiner who died this past week. Our prayers and condolences for her daughter Teresa Ansell, family and friends. Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord.



K of C Fish Fry

When: Fridays through March 27, 2026.

Location: Sacred Heart Grade School Cafeteria.

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Cost: \$15 per person

Tickets on sale at the door.

In the spirit of community we are asking for those who are able, to contribute a dessert for our fish fry each week. We are estimating we will need around 8 donations per week. We will do the sign-up via a Flocknote email each week. Thank you all in advance!

The Knights will also be raffling a donated quilt. Tickets will be \$1 each or \$5.00 for 6. The winner of the quilt will be announced at the last fish fry on March 27th.



Lent at the Basilica

- Regular Sunday and Weekday Schedule
- Friday's during Lent: Starting February 20th Members of the Christian Service Committee will Pray the Rosary at 5:00 pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm.
- Our Lenten Penance Service will be March 12th at 6:30 PM

LENTEN GUIDELINES FOR ALL CATHOLICS

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by everyone 18 years and older, who has not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, enough to maintain strength, may be taken, according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but consuming liquids, including milk and juices, is allowed. Abstinence is observed by everyone 14 years of age or older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or the ability to work is affected, the law does not apply. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays during Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence. If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged.

JUNE 12, 2026
FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS
HOLY MASS • PARISH DINNER

JUNE 13, 2026
SACRED HEART PARISH FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 160 YEARS OF
SACRED HEART PARISH AND SCHOOLS



“O, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
 Font of Every Blessing”



Spaghetti Dinner for HOPE

Charleston Catholic’s HOPE Project will host a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, 5:30-7:30, on Sunday, March 8th and the CCHS Commons. Tickets are \$15 a plate. Children, age 5 and under, eat for free. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time at the school office or at the door on March 8th. All of the proceeds from the dinner will go toward the costs for the week-long project in June. HOPE participants commit to raise \$25,000 so that the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission can build a house for a family in need. Students and adult volunteers spend the week repairing homes and helping with the new construction. HOPE has the dual purpose of improving the quality of housing for low income folks in need and instilling the habit of service in students with a commitment to living the works of mercy.



New Ministry Opportunity at Sacred Heart Basilica

I wish to establish an Environment and Arts Ministry for our parish. We are very blessed to have a beautiful Basilica with wonderful grounds. This new ministry will be responsible for the design and implementation of art and the decorations during the Liturgical Year. This ministry will also include the grounds which include our fountain and meditation gardens. If you would like to be part of this ministry and express your creativity or would like more information, please contact me by email dhiggs@dwc.org or by phone 304-685-2367.

LAETARÉ

Charleston-Area Young Adults Group

Our Charleston-Area Young Adult Group consists of members from all across the Charleston area. Please consider joining if you are interested in forming quality friendships with other Catholic Young Adults in the area!

Why Join???

- Active Community
- Bible Studies
- Cookouts
- Game Nights
- Volunteer Opportunities

JOIN NOW!



Use your camera to scan the QR code if you want to keep up to date through our GroupMe chat!

Join us at Camp Carlo 2026 to
ENCOUNTER
 God in the mountains.

REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN!



Camp Carlo 2026
 Our Catholic Youth Adventure Camp

High School Week:
 June 28th – July 4th

Week 1: July 5th – 11th

Week 2: July 12th – 18th

Week 3: July 19th – 25th

Go to: campcarlowv.org



Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

1311 BYRON STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 230
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

Message for Lent, 2026

Dear faithful of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston,

We have begun the holy season of Lent with ashes on our foreheads and hope in our hearts. Lent's goal is to prepare us spiritually for the great feast of Easter, when we celebrate the Lord Jesus' resurrection from the dead in which we find our own hope for immortality.

We know from experience how easy it is to succumb to temptations to sin and let our spiritual lives sink into routine or indifference. We need a wake-up call and Lent gives us one. Like the baseball players who brush off the rust of a lethargic winter to get back into shape for the new season, we practice prayer, fasting and almsgiving in Lent to open our veins to God's grace and allow it to transform us into more faithful disciples of Christ.

If you have a habit of daily prayer, keep it up and consider how you might extend it either by spending more time with the Lord or enriching your prayer by meditating on Scripture. If you have not been praying, start now. Give the Lord at least 15 or 20 minutes a day at the time you find most convenient. (For many of us, that time is early in the morning before daily work or study begins.) Just place yourself before God, briefly present to him your concerns and projects of that day, invoke him slowly and repeatedly by saying "Father," "Jesus" or "Spirit", and then be quiet. God's Spirit in you will do the rest.

As for fasting, Pope St. Gregory the Great said, "The principal fasting in Lent is fasting from sin." Reflecting this understanding, Pope Leo XIV in his Lenten message for 2026 urges us to "refrain from words that offend and hurt our neighbor:" harsh words, slander, rash judgments and speaking ill of others when they cannot defend themselves. Bodily fasting is useful, not as an end in itself – a Lenten fast is not for the purpose of losing weight! – but for curbing our desires for the things of this world and moving us to *hunger and thirst for righteousness* [Matthew 6:6]. Pope St. Leo I said: "What we forego by fasting is to be given as alms to the poor," underscoring our responsibility in charity to share what we have with those in need.

Almsgiving may take many forms. Giving money to a poor family to help them buy groceries or to a pantry which offers them a bag of food is one form but so is tutoring a child struggling with math or reading, visiting or calling a sick neighbor or relative or befriending an immigrant afraid of being separated from his or her spouse and children. The heart of almsgiving is overcoming self-concern in order to do good to others. *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you* [Matthew 7:12].

If these counsels for keeping a good Lent sound familiar, they are from the Lord's words in the Gospel we heard on Ash Wednesday. Jesus himself gives us the way to make our Lent fruitful in holiness and good works. Commit now, if you have not already done so, to give your soul a vigorous workout in the gymnasium of Lent so that you will be in good shape when Easter comes. Then you, with the newly baptized and confirmed, will rejoice in the power of God's love to make his divine life pulsate more vibrantly in you.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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Wayne Johnson, Director
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Larry J. Kalaskey III,
D.D.S., M.S.

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Kelly Hughart, C-NP
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Phone: 304-720-5000

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Gregory T. Lagos, FAOCD,FAAD

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South Charleston WV 25309 Fax (304) 766-9139

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Sacred Heart Early Learning Center
Ages 6 Weeks to 2 Years open to children of all faiths,
located at 204 Leon Sullivan Way. Hours of operation are
Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, year round.
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.



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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.

The New Mausoleum at Mount Olivet Cemetery is the only Catholic Cemetery in Kanawha County.
To purchase or learn more about arrangements for above ground entombment or inurnment, please contact Tim White at 304-395-4824. Brochures available in the gathering space.
"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 bodies" – Rite of Committal



A LEGACY TO SECURE OUR FUTURE
Leaving a bequest in your will to the Church or School allows you to leave your legacy to an institution that has meant so much to you. The West Virginia Catholic Foundations (WVCF) is a nonprofit 501(c)3 charity of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Sacred Heart Parish and Grade School has partnered with the WVCF to establish endowment funds to provide a perpetual and reliable source of income to support the general operations and expansion of the parish and school.
When preparing your Will or planning your Estate, we suggest the following language:
I give \$ _____ to the Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and his successors in office, for the benefit of the General Endowment for:
The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston, West Virginia.
Or Sacred Heart Grade School, Charleston, West Virginia
Or Sacred Heart fund for Catechesis and Evangelization
For more information please contact the parish office, 304-342-8175.