



BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART



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

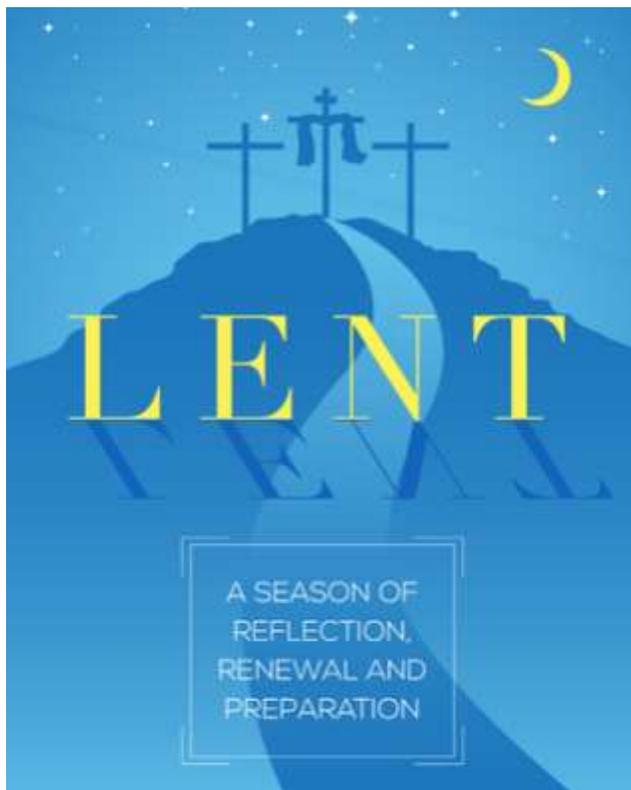
2nd Sunday of Lent-March 5th, 2023

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: Sede Vacante
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



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM
Monday & Friday 8:15 am
Tuesday No Mass
Wednesday & Thursday 12:00 Noon

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 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 Bias, 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)
Anne Davis, 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

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 276-274-8110
Girl Scouts: Sandi Greenhowe 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 1-304-709-0026
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 - 2/26/2023

Regular Collection: \$9102
SMILE (Sisters): \$145
Disaster Relief-Turkey/Syria: \$ 6448
Black & Native American: \$45 (\$190)
Catholic Home Mission: \$45 (\$926)

Candles: \$234
Partners in Hope: \$50
Social Concerns: \$26

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica
2nd Sunday of Lent-March 5th, 2023

03/04 Sat. 5:30 pm + Robert "Bob" Miller
03/05 Sun. 8:00 am + People of the Parish
10:30am + Arthur Thomas Keefe, III
5:00 pm + C.W. Moore
03/06 Mon. 8:15 am For the Intention of Sr. Ida Chikara SJI
03/07 Tues. No Mass
03/08 Wed. 12:00 pm + John D. Sadd
03/09 Thu. 12:00 pm + Tom Edwards Family
03/10 Fri. 8:15 am + For the Intention of Kelly D. Green
5:00 pm Pray the Rosary
5:30 pm Stations of the Cross
03/11 Sat. 5:30 pm + Dr. Angel Cinco
03/12 Sun. 8:00 am + Bahia & Nick Haddad
10:30am + People of the Parish
5:00 pm + Jim & Jane Wilson

Ministry Schedule-Week of March 11/12

Lector Schedule

5:30 PM-John Willson
8:00 AM-Jim Olson
10:30 AM-Maryrose Nair
5:00 PM-Jason Pizatella

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM Sr. Ida Chikara, John Willson
8:00 AM Janice Prince, Jim Weimer
10:30 AM Mike Tupta, Maria Rendinell
5:00 PM Debra Basham, Agnes Smith

Local Lenten Reconciliation Services

Sacred Heart Basilica
Monday, March 20th-7:00 PM

Our Lady of the Hills
Tuesday, March 21st-6:00 PM

St. Anthony
Wednesday, March 22nd-6:00 PM

Blessed Sacrament
Sunday, March 26th-3:00 PM



The Pope's Monthly Intention March-For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings on this Second Sunday of Lent.

I pray that you have entered well in this sacred time of Lent. Please join us in Lenten Reflections on the Mystery of the Eucharist, our daily Lenten scripture reflections, and the Friday devotions of the Rosary and Stations of the Cross. Check this bulletin for more information.

This past week, Bishop Mark has issued updated Liturgical Guidelines. Bishop Mark is reinstating the distribution of the Sacred Cup on April 6th, Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper. Bishop is also allowing tactile gestures for the sign of peace. Our bishop has lifted the requirement of wearing masks while distributing communion but continues to ask that we sanitize our hands after one receives communion on the tongue. Please read our Bishop's letter which explains the updates located in this bulletin.

May the Lord bless you. I remain,

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Don



Lent at the Basilica

- Regular Sunday and Weekday Schedule
- Friday's during Lent: Members of the Christian Service Committee will Pray the Rosary at 5:00 pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm.



Religious Education News...

With our new 10:30 Mass time, Religious Education classes will begin at 9:15 am.

Happy Birthday Sr. Ida Chikara Tuesday, March 7th

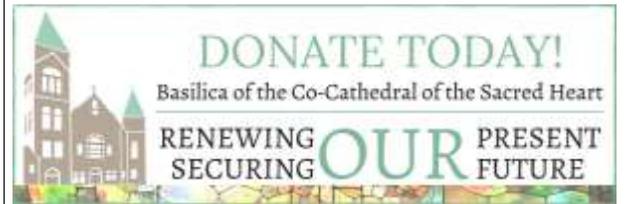
From Fr. Don, Msgr. Sadie, Staff, the Sisters and Parishioners. We thank God for the gift of your life.



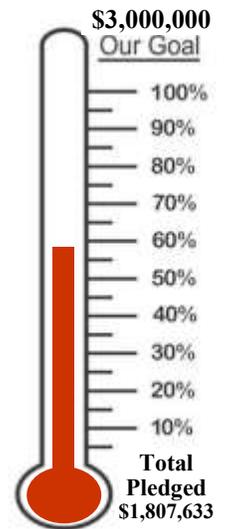
Blessings and congratulations to Kelley Pierce Smolder, Baptized Saturday, February 25th. He is the Son of Daniel P. & Brooke C. Smolder.

Priests' Health and Retirement Association Collection March 11/12

The **Priests' Health and Retirement Association (PHRA)**, is a fund that provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Please take a moment to reflect on the many years of service by our priests and how we can take this opportunity to thank them in a very particular way with a gift to the PHRA Collection.



Scan the QR Code to make a donation with your smartphone



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.



Sacred Heart Grade School News...

February ended and March started at SHGS this week. We had our first DEAR Day on Thursday- DEAR is Drop Everything And Read. All classes participated in Read Across America Day by having a designated DEAR time. We also celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday! Outside of all that fun, Kindergarten taught the Tiny Hearts how to sing "The Sign of the Cross" song and how to make the sign of the cross before and after prayer. It was beautiful! Second grade finished up all their President Presentations. So much was learned about the leaders of our great country. Be sure to spread the word about our wonderful school. We'd love to have many new faces for the new school year! *Anne Davis, Principal*



Now that we are into the Lenten season, we ask once again that the parishioners consider helping with our Knights of Columbus **40 Cans for Lent food drive** to Help the Risen Lord Food Pantry of Clay County.

The Food Drive will start the weekend of February 25 and run through Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023. We will accept "Cans" or other non-perishable food or some may wish to make monetary donations by check. \$20 will help buy a ham while \$35 [Inflation!] will provide a meal. Donations may be returned to Post Office Box 11578 Charleston, WV 25339-1578 or the Sunday Collection Basket. Father Thien is skillful in knowing how to purchase food in quantity and will certainly put any money donated to good use. If you prefer to donate food rather than money, Father Thien's most requested items are 1. Peanut Butter, 2. Canned Tuna Fish, 3. Canned Soup, 4. Any Canned Vegetable, 5. Canned Fruit. Crackers would also be appreciated.

In our combined Thanksgiving and Christmas food drive we collected donations amounting to \$5,046. Without the help of our generous parishioners this help for Clay County would not be possible. Thanks again to everyone who has helped in the past.

Dear Fellow Catholics,

It's an exciting time to be a young Catholic in West Virginia! The summer of 2023 is an incredible time to lead young people to Christ and His Church. The motto chosen by Pope St. Paul VI for his church life perfectly describes the goal of our camping ministry: to be "with Him on the mountain." Camp Carlo provides an exciting opportunity for young people to encounter Christ and His Church, adventure through God's creation, and grow in their Catholic faith alongside peers from all over the state of West Virginia. We're looking forward to meeting you and your families as we travel the state, work with your parishes, and, hopefully, welcome your children back to another faith filled summer at Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Camp!

In Christ Our King,
Deacon Raymond Godwin, Camping Director, rgodwin@frontiernet.net & Maggie Moran, Camping Assistant Director, mmoran@dwc.org Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Camp, 225 Catholic Conference Center, Huttonsville WV, 26273



2023 Camp Carlo Dates

- June 25th – July 1st – Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.
- July 2nd – July 8th – A "catch all week" from 3rd grade through 12th grade.
- July 9th – July 15th – Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.
- July 16th – July 22nd – A "catch all week" from 3rd grade through 12th grade.
- July 23rd – July 29th – "A Camp Carlo Summer Vacation" free program for 7-12 year olds who receive support from the government or Catholic Charities.

Registration Fee is \$275 Early Bird by June 1, 2023- If paying with PayPal, you will be redirected to PayPal once you hit submit. You can either pay with a credit card, or PayPal. There is a \$7.73 processing fee for using this option. If you have any questions feel free to contact Maggie at 757-995-4486.

If paying with a check, please send the registration fee as soon as possible. You can pay multiple registration fees with one check. In the memo, please put "Camp Carlo".

ROSE SOCIETY DINNER, Thursday, April 13, 2023 West Virginians for Life will hold its 25th Annual Rose Dinner on Thursday, April 13 at Lakeview Resort, 1 Lakeview Drive in Morgantown. The keynote speaker will be Jay Sekulow, Chief Counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice. He is an accomplished Supreme Court advocate, renowned expert on religious liberty, a no. 1 New York Times bestselling author, and a respected broadcaster. Reception begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Tickets are \$50 each or \$1,000 for sponsoring a table of eight. Other levels of financial support are available. There will be a silent auction. All proceeds go to the tax-deductible WVFL Educational Trust Fund. To register online, go to wvforlife.org. For more info, contact West Virginians for Life by emailing info@wvforlife.org or by calling 304-594-9845.

Fr. Sadie's "Cogitationes"

Pope Francis recently declared Matteo Ricci, the famous 16th-century Italian Jesuit missionary to China "venerable," i.e... on the path to sainthood. As a champion of the "culture of dialogue", a "man of encounters, who went beyond being a foreigner and became a citizen of the world."

Ricci made history in 1601 by becoming the first European to enter Beijing's Forbidden City; Wanli, emperor of China's Ming dynasty, had invited him because of his knowledge of astronomy and calendrical science. Known as "Li Madou" to the Chinese, Ricci produced scholarly works in optics, astronomy, music, geography, geometry and numerous other fields.

In an unprecedented honor, at his death he became the first Westerner to be buried on imperial ground in the capital city by a special decree of the emperor. The Chinese recognize Ricci as a bridge-builder between East and West and have honored him by commemorating him in the Millennium Monument in Beijing. The only other Westerner so honored is Marco Polo.

FISH FRY

Every Friday of Lent
St Francis of Assisi, St Albans
on the Corner of 6th Avenue &
Holley Street in the gym
5:00-7:00 pm
\$14/adult, all you care to eat
Children \$5 (under 12)
Dine in our carry out
St Francis School 5th grade
waits tables



HELP! Meals on Wheels is in need of a **Driver** on Monday's. Please consider giving a little of your time for this much needed service. For more information or to volunteer call Helen Scragg at 304-346-5104.

It's not to late to sign up! Eucharistic Revival Study Series "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church"

As part of the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival, we will be holding a series of discussion sessions on the Eucharist, using the USCCB document "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" as well as the Bishop Robert Barron video series on the Eucharist.

There will be two sessions, each lasting 4 weeks in March as follows:

- **Session 1** – Wednesday's at the Cordis Center from 10:30 am until 12:00 noon, to be held on March 1, 8, 15, and 22.
- **Session 2** – Thursday's in the Gathering Space from 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm, to be held on March 2, 9, 16, and 23.

Topics will include the Eucharist as Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, the Real Presence of Christ, the Communion of Christ and the Church, and our proper response, having received the Body and Blood of Christ.

Please indicate which session you will attend, and how many people will attend, by signing up for one of the sessions using the sign-up forms in the Gathering Space, by calling the Parish Office, or by responding at eucharisticrevival@gmail.com.

You can access "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" on the diocesan website at <https://dwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/The-Mystery-of-the-Eucharist-in-the-Life-of-the-Church.pdf>.

Please join us as we explore the meaning and significance that the Eucharist holds in our faith.



Eucharistic Retreat Weekend

March 10-12

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Road, Charleston

As part of the Diocesan Year of the Eucharistic Revival in the US, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will host a Eucharistic Retreat. Faithful around the state are invited to attend a weekend to bring our hearts closer to Christ in the Eucharist.

Agenda

- Friday** 8:00 pm - **Social** Participants are encouraged to attend
Those needing accommodations may also check-in at the retreat center prior to the social.
- Saturday** 8:00 am - **Breakfast** Registration and Mass will follow
The weekend will consist of inspiring talks, facilitated discussions, Liturgy, Reconciliation, music, and private prayer.
Keynote Speaker and Celebrant: Father John Finnell
- Sunday** Breakfast, concluding reflections, and Mass at 11 am

Cost

\$100/per person Price includes meals and accommodations at the retreat center.

To register go to <https://dwc.org/eucharistic-retreat-2023/>

For more information email the retreat center director
Gerri Wright at gwright@dwc.org or call her at 304-342-0507.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Help Us Hear

God of wisdom,
you offer words of loving guidance
to all ready to listen.
Help us follow the example of our Lord
and create time and space in our lives
for quiet prayer in your loving presence.
Speak your words of wisdom
to our hearts,
offer us the guidance
we need for our lives
and help us hear your voice today.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Listen to Him



Today's readings: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9. Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent we remember the transfiguration of Jesus. Placing ourselves in the narrative on that high mountain, new details might be noticed that draw us into deeper layers of meaning.

The readings leave three details for contemplation this week. First, whenever Jesus retreats to a mountain or quiet place in the Scriptures, he seeks prayer time with his Father. Second, this particular time of prayer between Jesus and his Father results in a *theophany*, an intense manifestation of God in visible form recognizable to the human eye. Jesus reveals his full divinity to Peter, James, and John, and subsequently to all of us through the written account.

Finally, God boldly breaks into the encounter and speaks words of confirmation to the disciples and to us, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5).

During Lent the Church invites us to be even more intentional about stepping away from our normal activities to meet God in prayer. Our response to this invitation will not disappoint because prayer never leaves us unchanged. When we follow the example of Jesus, make time and space for prayer, and quiet ourselves into a listening posture, we give God the opportunity to speak the words we most need to hear. How does God speak with love to you today through Matthew's portrayal of this pinnacle moment in Jesus' life?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 6

Follow the Signposts

Consider the directions from Jesus in Luke's Gospel today signposts. They are so pivotal that our Church built the entire Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2016 on their foundation. Be compassionate. Avoid judgment. Shun condemnation. Offer pardon. Give generously. Write these directions on note cards and place them around your home where you will see them as daily signposts from Jesus. *Today's readings: Daniel 9:4b-10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Luke 6:36-38.*

Tuesday, March 7

Live with Integrity

At the heart of today's Gospel is the call to live discipleship with integrity. To be a person of integrity means there is congruence between who we say we are and what we do. Speak with transparency. Act with authenticity. Strive for sincerity. Embrace the virtue of integrity as the doorway to holiness. *Today's readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, and 23; Matthew 23:1-12.*

Wednesday, March 8

Seek to Serve

Contending to be the first to be noticed, the first to be served, the first in line is a familiar human condition. Jesus reminds his apostles, and all of us, to vigorously resist this temptation. Instead he instructs us to cultivate humility through privileging service over prestige. Commit to practicing one act of humble service anonymously today. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Matthew 20:17-28.*

Thursday, March 9

Who Sits at Our Doorway?

Today's Scriptures provide a striking reminder to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord. The contrasting images between

those like the rich man who trust in human beings and those who trust in the Lord reveal the consequences of our choices. Take a careful look around to see who sits at our "doorway." Perhaps there is a neighbor who goes regularly without food or feels invisible to our local community. How might we raise the visibility of those at our doorways and reach out with hope in the Lord? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19-31.*

Friday, March 10

The Voices We Listen To

The quickest way to veer off the path of holiness is to bury our conscience. In tuning out the guiding voice of the Holy Spirit we can be easily led to destructive choices. The people around us may influence and even form us in some ways. Think about the primary people in your life and how they impact you. Today's Scriptures invite us to examine our conscience and do a check-in on the primary voices we are listening to in daily life. *Today's readings: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46.*

Saturday, March 11

Lead with Compassion

Jesus uses parables to show how much our merciful God desires to be close to us. Today's parable about the forgiving father reminds us that God steadfastly stands waiting for us with open arms and infinite forgiveness. Be alert to the lost in your family and community: a child who feigns disinterest, a teen suffering with mental illness, a troubled, lonely neighbor. Through our warm smiles, kind gestures, and hospitable spirit we can communicate the invitation to return to our compassionate God and reconcile with the community of faith. *Today's readings: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.*



Rite of Election-Sunday, February 26th



The elect, candidates and their sponsors along with Bishop Mark, Fr. Don and Mike Kawash our RCIA coordinator.

Eucharistic Prayer II

For many a churchgoer, the “shorter is better” principle has made Eucharistic Prayer II the preferred heart of many a Mass. Impatient worshipers who finish singing the “Holy,” and hear the words, “You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness,” know that it won’t be long till the Great Amen. The Catholic Church uses ten different Eucharistic Prayers, but Prayer II remains most popular for its direct approach and brevity.

For hundreds of years, our church offered only one Eucharistic Prayer, which earned the name “Roman Canon,” since it was the “canon” or the one way of doing things. One of the most dramatic reforms of Vatican II (1962–1965) was to rename it Eucharistic Prayer I, and to add on several more prayers never before heard in Roman Catholic Churches.

The first of these “new” prayers, Prayer II, is actually a rewrite of a very old one. The original version is in a document called the Apostolic Tradition, formerly attributed to Hippolytus, a priest, exile, antipope, martyr, and saint. There’s hope for all of us!) The text, dating from about the third century, records a Eucharistic Prayer for any bishop who wondered how it was done. The expectation was that a bishop should be able to pray spontaneously, without a written text, but it supplied one in case the bishop needed help. The Apostolic Tradition thus became a forerunner of liturgical magazines that offer helpful suggestions to parishes.

The version of this prayer that we use today makes a few changes. For example, the original third century prayer did not include a “Holy.” We added one to lend uniformity to all our Eucharistic Prayers. That caused the insertion of a new transitional phrase, the one we hear before the story of the Last Supper begins. For clarity, we also rewrote the intercessions at the end of the prayer, which pray for the church, the deceased and the living, while praising the glory of Mary and the saints. Prayer II offers us much more than brevity. It offers antiquity. To pray it is to repeat prayers that have been part of our tradition from the very beginning. It introduces us to the communion that is ours in faith, with Christ, and with our ancestors.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Mass
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Letter from Bishop Brennan to the Priests of the Diocese concerning covid safety measure updates.



DIocese OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

1511 STEVEN STREET
FOUR CORNERS BOX 290
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26060

March 1, 2023

My Dear Brother Priests,

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I asked that several safety measures be implemented in parishes and during Mass out of concern for the health of our parishioners. Please take a moment to read this letter which shares updates to those safety measures I previously implemented.

PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST

After much prayerful discernment and consultation with members of the medical community, I am reinstating the distribution of the Sacred Cup to the faithful who wish to receive it effective April 6, 2023. This date is most appropriate as it is Holy Thursday, when we recall that our Lord Jesus first gave the Church this precious gift of His Body and His Blood at the Last Supper.

While we believe that when one receives either the Body or Blood of Christ, one is receiving the whole Christ, “His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity,” nevertheless, “sharing in both eucharistic species reflects more fully the sacred realities that the Liturgy signifies” (Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America, #8, #10). I urge you to begin preparing and catechizing the assembly, and most importantly, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The faithful should be reminded that the reception of the Sacred Cup has always been optional; those who are uncomfortable or fearful of drinking from the chalice should not feel badly. Moreover, from a practical point, it may take a while for members of the assembly to re-engage receiving under both forms, so that needs to be taken into consideration regarding the amount of wine that is consecrated as well as the number of communion stations. In fact, I advise that if any of us has an illness to refrain from the Sacred Cup out of concern for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion should be reminded of the theological significance of their ministry as well as review practical procedures of wiping the chalice thoroughly after each communicant. Also, keep in mind that prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, I mandated that all priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion use hand sanitizer before they begin to distribute communion. I still urge that the protocol remain in place for priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to sanitize their hand after distributing the Body of Christ on the tongue. Considering the lifting of mask restrictions for most public venues, I have decided that priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are no longer required to wear face masks when distributing Communion to the faithful. This is effective immediately.

SIGN OF PEACE

Another part of our sacred liturgy that has been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic is the Sign of Peace. If you recall, prior to the pandemic we were encouraged to greet those around us with a handshake or a gentle embrace. I have decided to allow both “tactile” and “non-tactile” gestures. This is also a timely opportunity to catechize the faithful on the liturgical meaning of this moment within the liturgy. Remind the assembly that this is not a time for “Hello, how are you doing?” or “Good morning!” Rather we are bestowing one another with the Peace of Christ. In the Gospel of John (14:27), Jesus makes it clear that the peace that he bestows on us, that we in turn share with one another, is not as the world gives. The Church tells us that “It is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those nearest to them” (GIRM, #82).

In closing, in my travels throughout the state I am privileged to have good conversations with the faithful in our parishes. I know that most will rejoice that this day has finally arrived. Since March 2020, we have learned and developed many precautionary wellness habits to care for our own health and wellness, and that of our neighbors. Out of respect for our brothers and sisters in Christ, let us not diminish this mindfulness.

Invoking the intercession of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, I ask that God continue to bless all of you, your families and parishes, and our great Mountain State.

Fraternally in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads “+Mark E. Brennan”.

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

West Virginia Catholic Schools are prepared to welcome new students making use of the HOPE Scholarship.
SPACE IS LIMITED!

Studies found that Catholic Schools are outperforming their peers!

- The NCES and NAEP reported that math and reading results for West Virginia's public-school scores are lower than the national average.
- Catholic schools scores remain **higher** than the state and national averages according to the Nation's Report Card reported by NAEP.

U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

| | *WV 2021 | **WVCS 2021 |
|---------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Proficiency in Math | 28% | 46.9% or advanced |
| Proficiency in ELA | 40% | 60.2% or advanced |

*Data Source: wvde.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-WV-Summative-Assessment-Results-Release-FINAL.pdf

**Data Source: NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)

To learn more about WV Catholic Schools visit WVCatholicSchools.org

The application and registration period is now open for WV Catholic Schools. We welcome you to be part of our school family.

APPLY BETWEEN MARCH 1-MAY 15, 2023

HOPE
SCHOLARSHIP
WEST VIRGINIA

To learn more about the HOPE Scholarship or to apply visit hopescholarshipwv.com or scan the QR code.



The WV Hope Scholarship Program is a state-run plan that allows parents and families to utilize the state portion of their education funding to tailor an individualized learning experience that works best for them.



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St. Michael the Archangel Council #12630
Membership Info: kofc.org/joinus

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WV Knights of Columbus Virtual Family Rosary on Sunday's at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. You can join the Rosary meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89131846381?pwd=VWVJY3RYOS9mSjgxVlBhTG9LdU9hQT09>

Meeting ID: 891 3184 6381
Passcode: 122307

On the third Sunday of each month following the rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited.

New Mausoleum to be built at Mount Olivet Cemetery-the only Catholic Cemetery in Kanawha County.

The church has consulted with Tim White at Barlow Bonsall Funeral Home to help us get the mausoleum built. You may contact him at (304)342-8135 or his cell phone at (304)395-4824 for more information or to set up a private meeting. This may be done either virtually or 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 bodies” – Rite of Committal

For your information, this QR code is a quick way to get to the parish giving page.



Or...

Consider having your church contributions sent directly to the Church from your bank; please contact your own bank to do so. Almost every bank offers this service. If possible please have your parish ID included on the check. Many parishioners are opting to do this.

Baptismal Preparation Class for First Time Parents
 To schedule a baptism preparation class or to get more information please call 304-342-8175.



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Attention Amazon users: Did you know that Amazon will contribute 0.5% of your total eligible purchases to the parish? If you would like Amazon to direct contributions to Sacred Heart, log on to Smile.Amazon.com, select charitable organization, scan and select Sacred Heart Cathedral, Charleston WV. It's that easy. Then any time you shop through Smile.Amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase total to Sacred Heart parish. It's a great way to support the parish while shopping for everyday items.



Pastoral Care is offered to all parishioners. If you would like a visit or the Eucharist brought to your home, the hospital or assisted care facility, you can contact Sr. Ida at 1-304-709-0026.

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.

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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