



# BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART



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

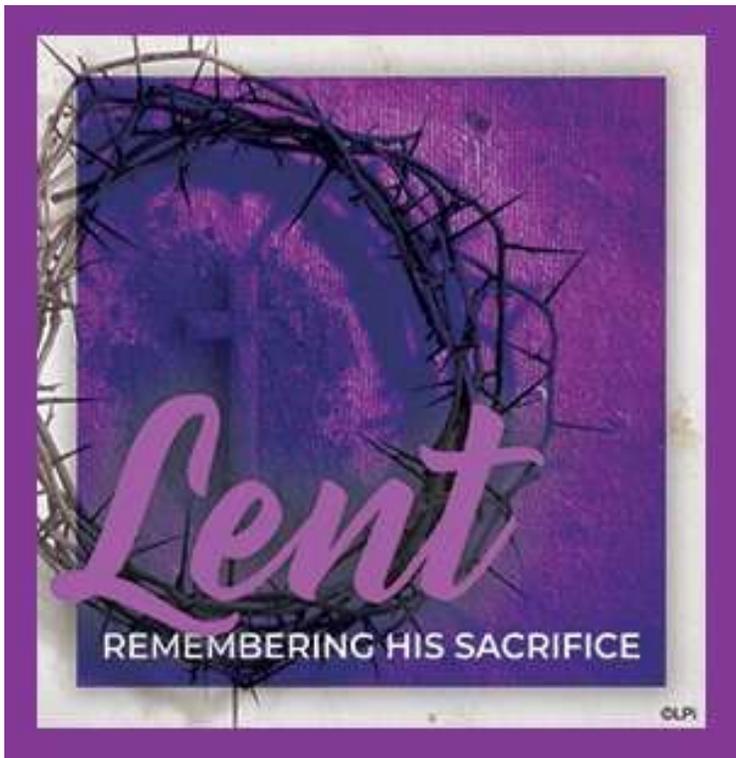
## 4th Sunday of Lent-March 19th, 2023

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](mailto:sacredheartwv@gmail.com) - Website: [www.sacredheartcocathedral.com](http://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 - 3/12/2023

Regular Collection: \$8,897      Candles: \$73  
SMILE (Sisters): \$225      Partners in Hope: \$125  
Social Concerns: \$65      Needy Student: \$95  
PHRA: \$4773 (\$5148)

**Thank you for your faithful generosity.**

## The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica 4th Sunday of Lent-March 19th, 2023

03/18 Sat. 5:30 pm + People of the Parish  
03/19 Sun. 8:00 am + Glen Lindeman  
10:30am + Mary Lou Whitlatch  
5:00 pm + Tom & Mary Christina Edwards  
03/20 Mon. 8:15 am + Angel Cinco  
03/21 Tues. No Mass  
03/22 Wed. 12:00 pm + Dick Young  
03/23 Thu. 12:00 pm + Tim Godby  
03/24 Fri. 8:15 am + Herminigildo Banzon Abella, Jr.  
5:00 pm Pray the Rosary  
5:30 pm Stations of the Cross  
03/25 Sat. 5:30 pm + Robert "Bob" Mills  
03/26 Sun. 8:00 am + Timothy M. Combs  
10:30am + Maria Higgs  
5:00 pm + People of the Parish

## Ministry Schedule-Week of March 25/26

### Lector Schedule

5:30 PM-Kerri Grant  
8:00 AM-Mark Sadd  
10:30 AM-Jack Walsh  
5:00 PM-John Biros

### Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM John Willson, Annette Cipriani,  
8:00 AM Karen & Sam Gross  
10:30 AM Steve Naylor, Bob Parker, Antonetta Stevens  
5:00 PM Debra Basham, Jason Pizatella

**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.



Blessings and congratulations to Harvey Daniel Nelson, Baptized March 12th. He is the Son of Barry Nelson & Dorothy Candarini.

## A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers!

Greetings on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday!

Bishop Mark is reinstating offering the Blood of Christ on Holy Thursday, April 6th. To prepare for this return, we will need additional Eucharistic Ministers. Please consider joining or rejoining this ministry. Please attend one of the four training sessions. The dates and times are listed in this bulletin.

We also need more Altars Servers, there are times, we have no servers for Mass. I encourage parents to sign up their children (through the parish office 304-342-8175) to serve at the Altar.

This weekend we are returning to our previous custom of asking the front pews to begin receiving Holy Communion first. At the 10:30am Mass, please all the Choir to receive first followed by those in the front pews.

Blessings on your Lent. I remain,

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.

### Lenten Reconciliation Services

Our Lady of the Hills, Elkview, March 21 at 6 p.m.

St. Anthony, Charleston, March 22 from 6-7 p.m.

**Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Chas., March 27, 7 p.m.**

Ascension, Hurricane, March 28 at 7 p.m.

Immaculate Conception, Montgomery, March 29 at 6 p.m.

Sacred Heart Williamson, March 29, 6:30 p.m.

St. Francis, Logan, March 30, at 6 p.m.

Holy Trinity, Nitro, April 5 at 6 p.m.

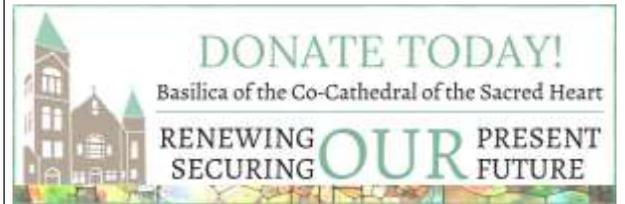


Please keep in your prayers **Catherine L. Halloran** who died March 9th. Our prayers and condolences for her family and friends. Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord.

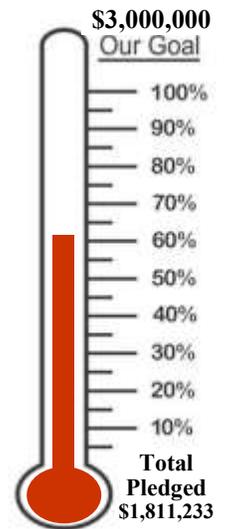
Please keep in your prayers **Mike Smith** who died March 14th. Our prayers and condolences for his wife Lynn Smith, family and friends. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord.



Please keep in your prayers **Shae Franklin** who died February 10th. Our prayers and condolences for her father-in-law Paul Franklin, family and friends. Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord.



Scan the QR Code to make a donation with your smartphone



### Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion Training Sessions

March 26th—9:30 AM

March 27th—1:00 PM

March 29th—10:00 AM

March 30th—6:30 PM

Please contact the parish office to register 304-342-8175.



### RCIA Prayer

Lord, we pray for those in the RCIA process who journey to you.

Strengthen their faith.

Open their hearts to the fullness of your love.

Deepen their understanding.

Set their hearts on fire for the Kingdom of God.

We ask this through Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life for all.

Amen

Please keep in your prayers our parish Elect, Crystal Flanigan, Elizabeth Southern and Matthew Thomas and our candidates, Jordan Burgess, Tracy(T.J.) Cook, Sherri Galey, Shannon Holliday, Zachary Mason, Andrew Price, James Renner & Kellie Renner.



## Sacred Heart Grade School News...

The fourth nine weeks has begun! The school year is flying by. This week, we wore green and white to support our friends on the CCHS boys basketball team and then again on Friday for St. Patrick's Day. The leprechaun visited and wreaked a lot of havoc in some classrooms. On Thursday, Preschool had a Royal party. They dressed as princesses and princes, kings and queens, and knights. There were royal treats and royal juice! Fourth graders participated in a classroom escape room activity and built leprechaun traps with shoe boxes while incorporating math and science. The Reading Center and fifth grade are continuing their Book Brackets and another DEAR Day was celebrated on Thursday. It was so much fun and we are very excited about the first week of Spring! *Anne Davis, Principal*



Help send food to the Risen Lord Food Pantry in Clay County, West Virginia. Donate to the Knights of Columbus **40 Cans for Lent** Food Drive.

Your donation makes a difference! When you give non-perishable food or money you become an important link in the chain of people who both give food and money to help Father Thien and his food pantry help the people of Clay County, West Virginia. Father Thien and his volunteers do good work keeping the pantry open, but your help makes the result of their work much more effective.

The Food Drive will continue through Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023. Knights will pass out slips of paper with donation information which may be returned to our Post Office Box P.O. Box 11578 Charleston, WV 25339-1578 or the Sunday Collection Basket. Although we will accept non-perishable food, we also encourage monetary donations by check. Suggestion \$20-\$35. 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.

We thank our parishioners for their generosity during this time of continued need.

Dear Fellow Catholics,

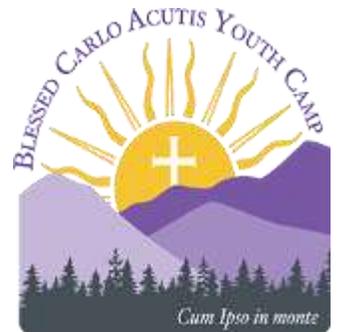
It's an exciting time to be a young Catholic in West Virginia! The summer of 2023 is an incredible time to lead young people to Christ and His Church. The motto chosen by Pope St. Paul VI for his church life perfectly describes the goal of our camping ministry: to be "with Him on the mountain." Camp 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](mailto:rgodwin@frontiernet.net) & Maggie Moran, Camping Assistant Director, [mmoran@dwc.org](mailto: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](http://wvforlife.org). For more info, contact West Virginians for Life by emailing [info@wvforlife.org](mailto:info@wvforlife.org) or by calling 304-594-9845.

## Fr. Sadie's "Cogitationes"

Many of you may not remember or even have experienced the celebration of the Mass in 1957 when I was ordained to the priesthood. For a variety of historical reasons, the Mass was completely in Latin. The Latin readings, the same every year, were read only by the celebrant. There were no Lectors or Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Communion was distributed only by the priest, only on the tongue, and only under the form of bread. Most Catholics did not receive Holy Communion frequently and many received only after Confession the previous Saturday. There were no weekday homilies and no Prayer of the Faithful at all. During Mass, worshippers often recited their own devotional prayers such as the rosary or various novenas.

I say all this not in criticism but as background for the promulgation in 1963 by the Vatican II of "Sacrosanctum Concilium", "The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy".

The "full and active participation by all the people is the aim to be considered before all else" (SC 14). People should "take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons, and songs, as well as by actions, gestures, and bodily attitudes. And at the proper times all should observe a reverent silence" (SC 30).

Sixty years later, here in the United States, Catholics understand and participate in the liturgy far better than in 1963. They sing, make responses, and receive Holy Communion. They are more aware of the scriptures and are aware of more of the scriptures. There is still room for additional implementation, but the Bishops of 1963 should be proud, pleased and praised.

## From our music director...

### A Joyful Psalm #82: Psalm 23

Every April, the National Football League hosts the NFL Draft. This is when each NFL team selects college players to join the ranks of their own professional teams. Great attention is paid to the first several players picked, as they are the "best of the best." Little attention is paid to the last player picked. In fact, this player has been deemed, "Mr. Irrelevant." In the 2022 draft, Mr. Irrelevant was QB Brock Purdy from Iowa State. Purdy was selected last by the San Francisco 49'ers. However, after a dramatic season of injuries, San Francisco was forced to send Purdy into the game! Low and behold, the rookie helped send the 49'ers to the NFC Championship Game – one game short of the Superbowl!

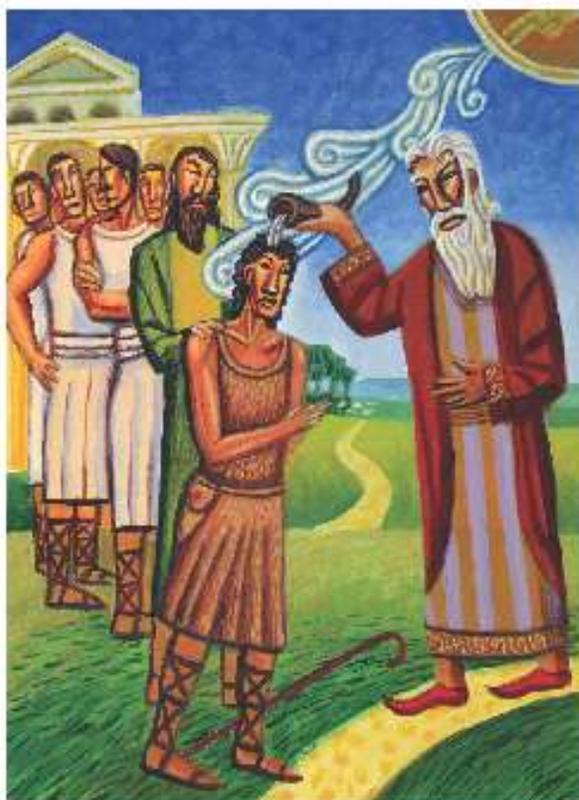
Often, God uses "irrelevant" people for His greater glory. In the First Reading this weekend, we read about David: the smallest son of Jesse. God sends Samuel to anoint one of Jesse's sons. All of the boys lineup with excitement. The "irrelevant" David doesn't even show up. He thinks *what's the point?!* Samuel says, "'Are these all the sons you have?' Jesse replies, 'There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep.'" Upon seeing David, Samuel proclaims, "'There—anoint him, for this is the one!' Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed David in the presence of his brothers; and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David." (1 Sam 16:13)

David grows up to become a King, and he beautifully recaps this encounter with Samuel when he writes Psalm 23: "You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." (Ps. 23:5)

We can all feel "irrelevant" at times in our lives. God is still calling us. He is always shepherding the least of us.

Mark Haas, Director of Music

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



## Help Us See

Good and gracious God,  
you see our inner life,  
and bring light to the darkness.  
Thank you for shining your loving  
kindness  
on our desire to know your Son.  
Lift our hearts with joy today.  
Help us inhale the signs of spring hope  
coming to life around us.  
Cast your holy light on the shadows  
of our lives  
and heal our spiritual wounds.  
Gift us with the desire to see the world  
with the eyes of faith  
through Christ the Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 19, 2023

## Spiritual Sight



*Today's readings: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 6, 6 (1); Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.* The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday, a name inspired by the entrance antiphon, "Rejoice, O Jerusalem" (Isaiah 66:10). Today, we momentarily pause from some of the penitential observances of Lent. With joy, our eyes turn toward Easter. This spirit of rejoicing is reflected in our liturgies, which differ from the other Sundays of Lent. Flowers are permitted in the sanctuary. The priest may wear rose-colored vestments, ordinarily worn only on one other day of the liturgical year, the Third Sunday of Advent, or Gaudete Sunday.

The Scripture readings also highlight reasons to rejoice. Jesus proclaims to his disciples, to a blind man on

the side of the road, and ultimately to all of us, "I am the light of the world" (John 9:5). Perceiving the deepest needs of the man's heart, Jesus performs a miraculous healing. He restores the man's physical sight to offer him spiritual sight. Through his subsequent encounters with Jesus, the healed man comes to see, believe, and follow him.

Today we are invited to wake up from our blindness. Jesus looks into our hearts and desires to illuminate our intrinsic goodness. He offers us the gift of spiritual sight to see God's essence radiating through all human reality. Shall we follow the blind man's lead and joyfully look at the world and all those we meet with the eyes of faith?



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, March 20

#### St. Joseph

Today we lift up Jesus' earthly father, St. Joseph, who embodied virtue as a father, dedicated worker, compassionate husband, and faithful listener. In fact, our sacred Scriptures recount his choices but never his words. Four times Joseph listens to the angel sent by God to guide his choices, and each time he courageously answers with quiet, trusting obedience. Make time today to emulate his prayer stance by quieting your heart and listening. *Today's readings:* 2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Luke 2:41–51a.

### Tuesday, March 21

#### Holistic Healing

The healing power of Jesus is on full display in the Gospel story about the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. As with most healing stories attributed to Jesus, being “made well” is twofold. Jesus restores both physical health and implores those who are healed to seek spiritual health by avoiding sin. Lent offers us the path to wholeness. Healing comes in a variety of forms. Where do you need Jesus' healing touch today? *Today's readings:* Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–16.

### Wednesday, March 22

#### The Lord is Near

The responsorial psalm today gets right to the hopeful theme of Lent: God desires to be close to us. The descriptions of the Lord as kind, merciful, slow to anger, gracious, kind, compassionate, faithful, attentive, just, and holy lead to the acclamation that “the LORD is near to all who call upon him” (Psalm 145:18). Place Psalm 145 on your bathroom mirror or over your kitchen sink where you will be reminded throughout each day of God's enduring desire to be in relationship

with us. *Today's readings:* Isaiah 49:8–15; Psalm 145:8–9, 13cd–14, 17–18; John 5:17–30.

### Thursday, March 23

#### Sent by God

Jesus makes a bold claim to the Jewish community: “the Father has sent me.” As he says this, Jesus implores them to heed his voice and trace his living presence to the promises made to Moses. They respond with blind resistance. We have the gift of a much longer view on this interchange between Jesus and the community. Do we respond with faith or skepticism? *Today's readings:* Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.

### Friday, March 24

#### Close to the Brokenhearted

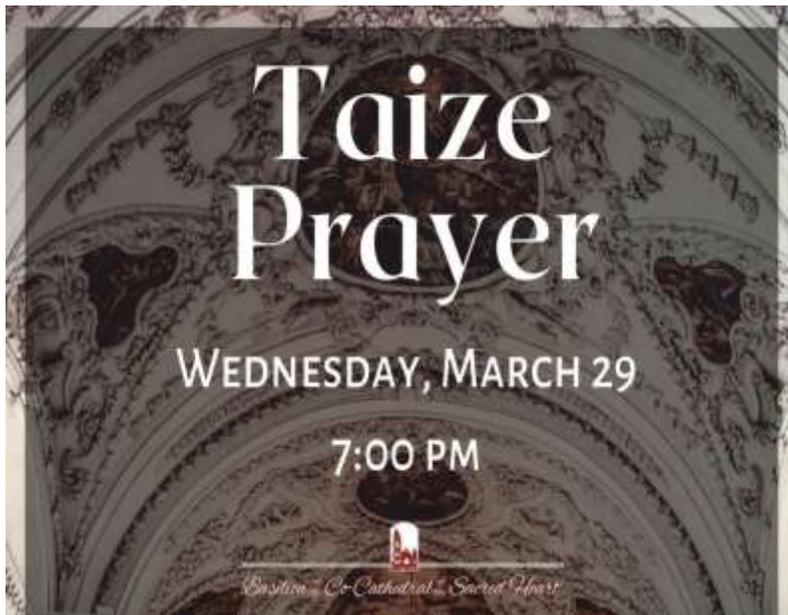
Our responsorial psalm tenderly proclaims the promise that the Lord is “close to the brokenhearted” (Psalm 34:19). Part of the human condition is the experience of loss, disappointment, rejection, grief, and depression. Our faith offers us confident consolation that the Lord saves “those who are crushed in spirit” (34:19). Remember that we are never alone in our despair; the Lord never forgets us but especially leans in to be close when we are low. *Today's readings:* Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.

### Saturday, March 25

#### Annunciation of the Lord

The word *annunciation* means “announcement.” In our faith story, the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary changes the course of history. Lent reminds us that God is announcing good news to us in a variety of forms and through the most unexpected messengers. Attend to the angels in our midst, sent by God to inspire, encourage, challenge, and affirm us. The week began with Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday. Today's feast bookends our week of rejoicing. What good news is God offering us today? *Today's readings:* Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.





**Prayer to Saint Joseph**

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities. O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen.

**Eucharistic Prayer IV**

Doing nothing. We yearn for that kind of leisure. But doing nothing can also be one of the hardest jobs we face. Take Mass, for example. The parts of the Mass where we do nothing permit us to be distracted by anxieties over kids, the hair color of a choir member, plot developments in tomorrow's soaps, or the possibility of a pennant race.

Perhaps the chief zoning out period is the Eucharistic Prayer, that long solo prayer that the presider recites in all-too-familiar tones, which incongruously is the most important prayer in the history of the planet.

When kids object that Mass is boring, they know they've got you on this one. Even chess Masters find it challenging to concentrate during a Eucharistic Prayer.

Understanding the parts of the prayer may help us to pray it better. Of the ten Eucharistic Prayers approved for use in the United States, one of the most beautiful is prayer IV.

The prayer is structured as most Eucharistic Prayers. An opening dialogue between priest and people leads into a Preface and concludes with the "Holy." A prayer for the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and wine (epiclesis) follows this. Then a recounting of the work of Christ precedes the story of the Last Supper. The second half includes an anamnesis, or remembrance, of Christ's activity; the actual offering of the sacrifice; a second prayer for the Holy Spirit (epiclesis), this time to come not over the gifts, but over the people; and the intercessions, or prayers for the members of the Church and the world.

What distinguishes prayer IV is the long exposition that follows the "Holy." It tells of humanity's place in creation, our need for redemption, and the mission of the Son and Spirit.

This prayer also carries its own Preface, which praises and describes the mystery of God. You usually hear prayer IV more during Ordinary Time. Seasons like Lent and Easter carry their own Prefaces, as do most feasts. These work with other Eucharistic Prayers but not with prayer IV.

This prayer loosely adapts one by St. Basil, prayed by our church in the fourth century and still in use in some of the Eastern Rites. When we hear the story of salvation history, we remember also our own history as a church and recognize Christ, whose eternal presence rescues us from all that could keep us from him—including the boredom of doing nothing.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Mass © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner.



## DIocese OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

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

March 9, 2023

Dear fellow servants of the Lord,

It has been three years since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and my decision, for the health of the Catholic people, to suspend the public celebration of Mass in this Diocese. When we resumed public Masses in late May 2020, it was with various safety protocols in place, one of which was not to offer the Sacred Cup to the faithful. That meant that, in most circumstances, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion were not needed at Mass.

With a notable improvement in the COVID scenario and after consultation with my staff and hearing from many of the faithful, I have decided to restore the distribution of the Sacred Cup at Mass, beginning Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023, the memorial of the Lord's institution of the Eucharist. This also allows time to plan for an orderly implementation of the revival of the ministry of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

In accordance with canon law and continuing the tradition of this Diocese, I as your Bishop have the authority to mandate Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for a period of three years at their respective locations. Because three years have now passed since this special ministry was in general use, I am taking this opportunity to renew the process of all EMHCs' training and certification.

Therefore, I ask all pastors and administrators, between now and April 6, to organize and conduct training sessions for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This is also an opportunity to recruit new persons for this valuable ministry. Following the training sessions, pastors and administrators must submit an approved list of those who attended the training, including a sentence or two indicating why this person has been nominated for the ministry. The list should be sent to Mrs. Karen Muenze, secretary of the Office of Worship and Sacraments, at [kmuenze@dwc.org](mailto:kmuenze@dwc.org). She will update the current diocesan database for EMHCs and issue each of them a new certificate with an expiration date three years hence.

As you conduct the training sessions (one should be enough but schedule more, if needed), please include the following points:

### 1. The Catholic Theology of the Eucharist

The Sacrament is truly Christ's Body and Blood, his Real Presence, the Lord in Person in a mysterious yet genuine way. It is the only Sacrament in which the sign becomes what it signifies: Jesus Christ himself. The Eucharist is both a sign of our unity in faith and love and a means of building it up. The Lord comes to us to strengthen us for our mission to proclaim his Gospel and to work for justice, peace and charity in our world.

### 2. Proper Vocabulary

While Christ comes under the continuing appearances of bread and wine, both clergy and laity who serve as EMHCs should remember that, at the moment in which they and the faithful receive Holy Communion, it is the Lord they receive, not bread and wine. That is why the minister of the Sacrament says to the recipient, "The Body of Christ" and "The Blood of Christ." A too casual use of the words "bread" and "wine" tends to diminish the reality of the Eucharist. Speaking of the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ reminds us of the reality of what we receive and what we distribute.

### 3. Practical Matters:

- a.) Prior to Mass, be aware of how much wine you will need – probably less when the distribution of the Precious Blood is first being restored – so that there is not too much of the Precious Blood left to consume after Mass.
- b.) All ministers of Holy Communion should sanitize their hands before beginning to offer the Sacrament to the faithful.
- c.) In administering the Sacred Cup, the minister should wipe the lip of the Chalice with the purificator and give the Chalice a quarter-turn after each communicant receives the Precious Blood. All parts of the purificator ought to be used. It is not appropriate that the faithful self-communicate by intinction, for the Sacrament is meant to be *received* from the Lord, with his servant (priest, deacon, EMHC) acting as his agent.
- d.) The priest or deacon should purify the sacred vessels at the altar but it is prudent that someone wash them in the sacristy with hot water and a mild detergent after Mass.

For clarifications or questions about the training sessions or the administration of the Eucharist, please contact Dr. Bernadette Kime, the Director of the Office of Worship and Sacraments, at [bkime@dwc.org](mailto:bkime@dwc.org); 304-233-0880 ext. 288.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. May you celebrate the Eucharist with reverence and joy for the good of your people. Have a blessed Lent.

Fraternally in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan

Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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	*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](http://wvde.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-WV-Summative-Assessment-Results-Release-FINAL.pdf)

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

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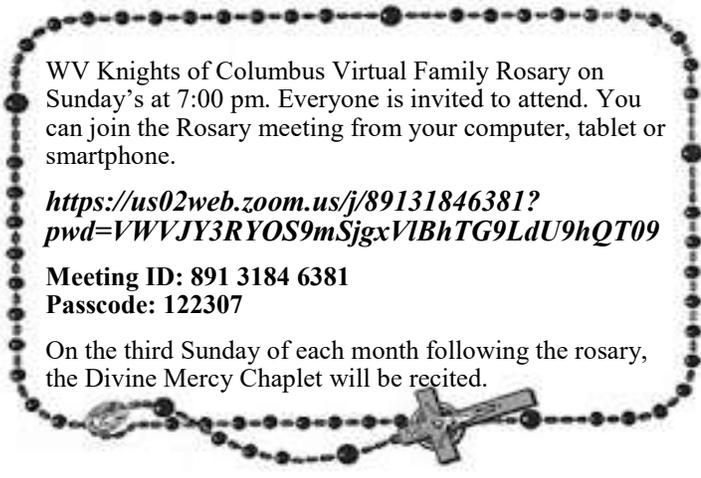
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On the third Sunday of each month following the rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited.



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**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.

**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.

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 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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