



# 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 of Easter – April 19, 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](mailto:sacredheartwv@gmail.com) - Website: [www.sacredheartcocathedral.com](http://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  
Andrea Stover, Director 414-5757  
**Sacred Heart Child Development Center:** After School Care  
Grace Holden, 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

**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 - 4/12/2026

Regular Collection: \$12,548      Candles: \$156  
SMILE (Sisters): \$180      Partners In Hope: \$75  
Social Concerns: \$535      Needy Student: \$72  
SH Priest Health: \$3628      Good Friday: \$1968

**Thank you for your faithful generosity.**

## The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica 3rd Sunday of Easter - April 19, 2026

04/18 Sat. 5:30 pm + Pat Graney, III  
04/19 Sun. 8:00 am + People of the Parish  
10:30 am + Remigio Sablot  
5:00 pm + Tom Whelan  
04/20 Mon. 8:15 am + Margaret Krupa  
04/21 Tues. 12:00 pm + Teresa D. "Tess" Smith  
04/22 Wed. 12:00 pm For the Intention of Pelagio P. Zamora  
04/23 Thur. 12:00 pm + Jean Ann Klug  
04/24 Fri. 8:15 am + Sr. Caroline Benken, CSJ  
12:00 pm + Donna Moore  
04/25 Sat. 8:15 am + Dorothy Tupta  
04/25 Sat. 5:30 pm + Kevin Saldanha  
04/26 Sun. 8:00 am + Dennis Coyle  
10:30 am + John Ruddick  
5:00 pm + People of the Parish

### Ministry Schedule April 25/26, 2026

Lector Schedule  
5:30 PM-Linda Higgs  
8:00 AM-Joel Weese  
10:30 AM-Jason Pizatella  
5:00 PM-Debra Basham

### Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM-Sr. Ida Chikara, Kerri Grant, 4 volunteers  
8:00 AM-Theresa Miller, Janice Prince, Sarah Stricker, 3 volunteers  
10:30 AM-Debbie Barr, Greg Hoyer, Steve Naylor, 3 volunteers  
5:00 PM-Ann Knebel, Kerri Linton, Agnes Smith, 3 volunteers

**FYI...The Sacrament of Confirmation will be  
celebrated Saturday, June 6th at the 5:30 pm  
Mass.**

**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,

Greetings on this Third Sunday of Easter!

I pray that you are still celebrating well the Great Joy and Promise of Easter.

The recent verbal attacks on the person and the ministry of Pope Leo XVI are shocking and very disturbing. A great many Church and World leaders have responded with incredible support of our Holy Father. I pray that you have a clear understanding of the role and mission of the Church and the Papacy. We must not be silent. Stay with Jesus and His Gospel.

I remind you of what our recent Popes have said about war and the constant call to pray for peace and to actively be peacemakers.

“No to War! War is never inevitable and is always a defeat for humanity”-St. John Paul II

“War is useless slaughter and a failure of humanity”-Pope Benedict XVI

“Never again war! With war, everything is lost. War is always a defeat!”-Pope Francis

“Enough of the display of power! Enough of War! True strength is shown in serving life”-Pope Leo XIV

Please bring these quotes into your prayer time. Reflect and act on them. Let us be peacemakers, so we may be called children of God (Matthew 5:9) I remain,

Yours in the Risen Christ,  
Fr. Don

## Training for Ushers



We will conduct a one-hour training session for new ushers / refresher for all existing ushers.

**Please plan to attend one of the following sessions:**

21 Apr 26 (Tuesday) - 6:00 pm

23 Apr 26 (Thursday) - 9:00 am

26 Apr 26 (Sunday) - 9:15 am

If you have any questions, please call or text Ron Rushworth at (304) 382-7768.

## The Pope's Monthly Intention

**April - For priests in crisis**

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

## Sacred Heart Grade School is Still Accepting Student Applications



If you've ever thought about enrolling your child in Catholic School now is the perfect time to do so. With the availability of the HOPE Scholarship making it more affordable than ever to give your child a quality Catholic Education. Contact Sacred Heart Grade School for class availability and information 304-346-5491 or Visit their website [shgs.us](http://shgs.us) for more information.



## PLEASE JOIN US

for

SANTO NIÑO FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

April 19, 2026

10:30am Mass

Novena, Benediction and Procession

Main Celebrant

Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs

Reception to follow at the  
Msgr. P Edward Sadie Gathering Space  
ALL ARE WELCOME

**Separated?  
Divorced?**  
Where do  
**I FIT IN?**  
The Olive Branch Ministry!  
Your resource, helping you  
to remain steadfast  
in faith and hope.

**OLIVE BRANCH  
MINISTRY**  
Helping individuals separated or divorced

**April 25th**  
8:30 am - 4 pm  
Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center  
100 Hodges Road  
Charleston, WV 25314

**REGISTER NOW**

**KATHY BARTON**  
DIRECTOR FOR THE DIOCESE

**VERY REV. DON HIGGS**  
ASSOCIATE V.E., V.F.

**DONNA NIGGEMEYER**  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR

## A Program of Support for Those Who Are Going Through Separation or Divorce.

Those navigating the challenges of separation or divorce are invited to attend the Olive Branch program on April 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston.

Hosted by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, this faith-based initiative offers compassionate support, practical guidance, and spiritual renewal for individuals seeking to better understand their place in the Church during a difficult time. Open to both Catholics and non-Catholics, the program is not couples counseling, but rather a day of reflection, encouragement, and growth rooted in the mercy and love of Christ.

Organized by Director of Social Ministries for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Kathy Barton, the Olive Branch program reminds participants that they are not alone, and that healing and renewal are possible through faith. Drawing on the biblical symbol of the olive branch as a sign of hope after the storm, the program seeks to renew faith and restore a sense of belonging in the Church.

The day will include presentations from Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Associate V.E., V.F., on remaining active in the life of the Church, and professional counselor Donna L. Niggemeyer on understanding the path forward after separation or divorce. The program will conclude with reflections on forgiveness and trust in God's plan.

This free event is part of a growing diocesan initiative to extend compassion and support to those experiencing separation or divorce. Registration is required. To learn more or register, visit: [dwc.org/the-olive-branch/](https://dwc.org/the-olive-branch/)

## A Pilgrimage to Catholic Italy with Fr. Donald X. Higgs

Fr. Higgs invites you to join him on a spiritually enriching 12-Day pilgrimage to Catholic Italy October 11-22, 2026. Highlights include: Florence, La Verna, Assisi, Orvieto, Naples, Isle of Ischia, Sorrento, Rome, and The Vatican with an audience with Pope Leo XIV.

The cost of \$6,499 includes flights to and from Charleston WV, breakfasts and dinners, tours, hotels, motor coach, a farewell dinner at a local restaurant in Rome and memories to cherish forever. Early bird discount for those who register before May 13th.

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



A special thank you to all who donated food or money to our 40 Cans for Lent Food Drive. Father Dominic and his volunteers appreciate what the parishioners of Sacred Heart have done for them over the years and what they are doing now. We will be making a trip to deliver the donated food and money to the Risen Lord Food Pantry in the near future to coincide with their next food distribution. We would like to note that all non perishable food placed in the collection boxes outside the Gathering Space will eventually make its way to the Risen Lord Food Pantry at Maysell.

## Quilt Winners from the Lenten Fish Fry Raffle

Andrew and Leann Price won the Our Lady of Guadalupe quilt. Alex Urban made the quilt and sold raffle tickets during the Fish Fries of Lent and also during Easter Week. All the proceeds were donated to the Knights of Columbus Council 771 Seminarian Fund. For each \$500 raised and donated to Seminarians Andrew Aiello, Timothy Kawash, Michael Tupta and Andrew Dean from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office reimburses the council \$100, so a net funding of \$400 per seminarian.

Alex raised and donated \$1675, which funds all four seminarians! Alex joined the church earlier this year and Andrew and Leann went through OCIA a few years ago.

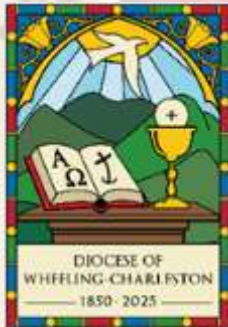


# FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026

## FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

### HOLY MASS ▪ PARISH DINNER

### CELEBRATING 160 YEARS OF SACRED HEART PARISH AND SCHOOLS



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

**The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality** is an ecumenical center for prayer and spiritual growth, located in the heart of the city of Charleston, West Virginia. Presently, our calendar reflects the following:

#### **Praying with the Four Teresas: In-person Retreat**

This in-person retreat has been moved to Saturday, April 25, 2026 (9:30 – 3:30) – Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU, Ph.D., Executive Director of WVIS, will offer a Day of Prayer and Reflection entitled “Deepening Our Prayer Life: Advice from the Four St. Teresas.” For more information, visit our website at [www.wvis.org/programs](http://www.wvis.org/programs) or email Sr. Cheryl at [exec.director@wvis.org](mailto:exec.director@wvis.org).

#### **Ignatian Silent-Directed Retreats**

If you’ve ever wondered what it would be like to take a little “vacation with God,” we invite you to come to the WVIS retreat house for a 1-, 3-, or 5-day retreat experience. The retreat house is open and available to retreatants on March 19-28 and April 19-29 (there are more dates can be found on our website [www.wvis.org/ignatian-silent-directed-retreat](http://www.wvis.org/ignatian-silent-directed-retreat)). Questions, email Sally at [sally.orcutt@wvis.org](mailto:sally.orcutt@wvis.org).

Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC, 1601 Virginia St. East, Charleston, WV 25311 [wvismaryirene@aol.com](mailto:wvismaryirene@aol.com), (201) 230-2362

### **Prayer for Peace from Pope Leo**

Lord of Life, you shaped every human being in your image and likeness. We believe you created us for communion, not for war, for fraternity, not for destruction. You who greeted your disciples saying, “Peace be with you,” grant us the gift of your peace and the strength to make it a reality in history. Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world, asking that nations renounce weapons and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy. Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment, and indifference, so we may become instruments of reconciliation. Help us understand that true security does not come from control fueled by fear, but from trust, justice, and solidarity among peoples. Lord, enlighten the leaders of the nations, so they may have the courage to abandon projects of death, halt the arms race, and place the lives of the most vulnerable at the center. May the nuclear threat never again dictate the future of humanity. Holy Spirit, make us faithful and creative builders of daily peace: in our hearts, our families, our communities, and our cities. May every kind word, every gesture of reconciliation, and every choice for dialogue be seeds of a new world.

Amen.

### **Bow Down for the Blessing**

You may bow to receive a blessing at the end of Mass. The words asking you to do so have been slightly revised. In the past, the deacon or priest has said words such as these: “Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing.” Now, however, you hear this formula: “Bow down for the blessing.”



The Final Blessing does not always include this invitation. You hear it only when the blessing is extended in one of two ways. In a Solemn Blessing, the priest offers a threefold formula addressed to the people, who answer “Amen” to each part. In a Prayer over the People, the priest addresses God, concluding with the phrase “Through Christ our Lord,” which prompts the people to answer “Amen”. If either extension is made, you are invited to bow before it, and you receive the usual blessing after it: “May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

The deacon issues this invitation because he instructs the people concerning their actions, whether to share the Sign of Peace or to be dismissed from the gathering. He may also assign postures such as kneeling, standing, and bowing. In the deacon’s absence, the priest performs this function. The revised English translation of the Mass has changed the words to reflect the invitation in Latin, which makes no mention of the head, and instead implies a low bow of the upper part of the body. The third edition of The Roman Missal has removed the permission for the priest or deacon to use other expressions, thus restricting him to one formula: “Bow down for the blessing.”

Ironically, the rubrics of the Mass never instruct the people to carry out this posture, but the implication, of course, is that they do.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Mass © 2020  
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Written by Paul Turner.

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304-346-2889

**Philip M. Majestro,**  
DDS  
Family Dentist  
304-344-4003



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kalaskeyorthodontics@gmail.com  
738 Old Airport Rd.  
Chapmanville, WV 25508  
304-855-7092  
**Larry J. Kalaskey III,**  
D.D.S., M.S.

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**Renal Consultants, PLLC**  
Julian Espiritu, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.P., FASN  
Kelly Hughart, C-NP  
Board Certified Nephrologists  
24 MacCorkle Ave. SW, So. Chas.  
Phone: 304-720-5000

**The Center for Dermatology  
& Skin Care, Inc.**  
  
**Gregory T. Lagos, FAOCD,FAAD**  
  
607 Chestnut Street Office (304) 766-9136  
South Charleston WV 25309 Fax (304) 766-9139

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Independent. Consultative.


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.



**Chapman Puderbaugh DDS**  
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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.