

# BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART



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

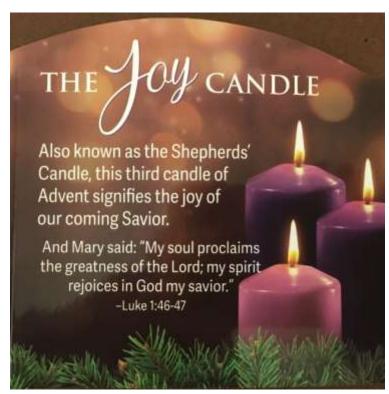
## 3rd Sunday of Advent-December 17, 2023

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: Rev. Rayappa Kurakula Email: rayappak@dwc.org In Residence: Msgr. P. Edward Sadie, P.A., S.T.L.



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



### 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 <u>https://dwc.org/home/mass/</u>

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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



## Parish Mission Statement

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

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

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

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

242 0175

Bookkeeper: Pam Acevedo	342-8175
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	
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#### **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 Stover, Director	414-5757
Sacred Heart Child Development Center: After School	Care
Crystal Ashcraft, Coordinator	344-1125
Sacred Heart Grade School: K-5/Pre-School (ages 3-4)	
Niki Kurten, Principal	346-5491
Charleston Catholic High School: 6-12	
Colleen M. Hoyer, Principal	342-8415
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#### SACRAMENTS

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

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

#### **OTHER PARISH GROUPS OR MINISTRIES**

Boy Scouts: Sam Wilkes	546-0614	
Catholic Charities Office-Family Life Center	380-0162	
For information on Catholic Charities		
Contact: Karen or Sam Gross	346-2608	
Cub Scouts: Adam Rohrig 27	6-274-8110	
Girl Scouts: Deborah Harless 30	04-553-7021	
Knights of Columbus -St. Michael the Archangel #12630		
Dick Fauss, Grand Knight	965-6872	
Sam Gross-Faithful Navigator-Fr. Boniface Assembly #1188	346-2608	
Ministry to Sick/Elderly		
Sr. Ida Chikara, SJI 1-30	4-709-0026	
Mount Olivet Cemetery/Mausoleum	342-8135	
Wayne Johnson or Sacred Heart Parish		
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Wanda Dettinger	344-1181	
Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center	342-0507	
SH Christian Service Committee: Ron Rushworth	382-7768	
SH Finance Council: Cindy McGhee-Chair	342-8175	
SH Gift Shop: Antonetta Stevens 415-8132 or Kathy Lamb	344-2011	
SH Pastoral Council: Jack Walsh-Chair	533-2298	

### Sharing Our Treasure - 12/10/2023

Regular Collection: \$12,194 Needy Student: \$60 Christmas Flowers: \$75 (\$2098) Religious Retirement: \$4800 Catholic Charities: \$200 (\$350) Candles: \$407 Partners In Hope: \$176 Christmas: \$125 (\$305) Smile (Sisters): \$191 Immaculate Conception: \$555

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

#### The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica 3rd Sunday of Advent-December 17, 2023

12/16 Sat. 12/17 Sun.	5:30 pm + People of the Parish 8:00 am + Robert Polacek 10:30 am + Nanette Gallagher 5:00 pm + Tom & Mary Christine Edwards
12/18 Mon.	8:15 am + Warren Raines
12/19 Tues.	12:00 pm + Fr. Richard Klug
12/20 Wed.	12:00 pm + Alan Gates
12/21 Thu.	12:00 pm + Dreamma Guinn
12/22 Fri.	8:15 am + Thomas & Louise Kerner 12:00 pm + Walter Edwards
12/23 Sat.	8:15 am + Pennie & Frankie Stafford
12/23 Sat.	5:30 pm + Doug & Ginny Chambliss
12/24 Sun.	Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:00 am + Mary Lou Whitlatch
12/24 Sun.	Vigil of Christmas4:00 pmFor the People8:00 pmFor the People12:00 amFor the People
12/25 Mon.	Christmas Day 9:00 am For the People 12:00 pm For the People

### Ministry Schedule-Week of December 23/24

Lector Schedule 5:30 PM-Kerri Grant

Flocknote Sign-up sent by email for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule 5:30 PM– Sr. Ida Chikara, Linda Higgs, John Willson, 3 volunteers

Flocknote Sign-up sent by email for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

### The Pope's Monthly Intention

**December-For persons with disabilities** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**Sacred Heart Gift Shop**-is open after each Mass and is generally open prior to the 10:30 Mass. We currently have in stock, Advent wreath supplies and candles, as well as gifts for other occasions. If you can't find what you're looking for, we can order it for you.



### A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Greetings on the Third Sunday of Advent-Gaudete Sunday-Rejoice! We are closer to our celebration of Christmas.

Christmas Eve is next Sunday and because of this, our Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass schedule will be adjusted. We will have only two Masses for the Fourth Sunday. We have our regular Saturday Vigil at 5:30 pm and on Sunday at 9:00 am-combing the 8:00 am and the 10:30 am. Please get the word out.

Our Christmas Mass schedule will be, Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm, 8:00 pm, Midnight and on Christmas Day at 9:00 am and 12:00 Noon. We will have our Advent Reconciliation Service this Monday at 7:00 pm. We will have area priests assisting.

As announced last week, please be aware that Fr. Roy will be going to India for a home visit in January. He will leave on the 2nd of January and return on the 9th of February. I ask for your prayers and support as he travels and reunites with his family and his home Diocese.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Don

### A Note from the Vice Rector...

A long awaited time has come to see my Mother. As many of you know I come from a small village "Gangavaram, Gurazala Parish, Diocese of Guntur, state of Andhra Pradesh, in the Southern part of India. I am indeed glad to share with you about my trip to my motherland. I am starting my journey on January 2nd, I will reach India on January 4th early in the morning. I would like to visit Mother Mary's Shrine named after SAGAR MATHA SHRINE, before meeting with anyone else on the way home. The well known Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, is a masonry dam across the Krishna River at Nagarjuna Sagar which connects the border between Palnadu district in Andhra Pradesh and Nalgonda district in Telangana, India. The dam provides irrigation water to the districts of Palnadu, Guntur and a few others . It is also a source of electricity generation for the national grid and is a place which is so close to my heart (It seems to be like pilgrimage).

I plan to celebrate Holy Masses in the Churches from where I was baptized, to the last parish where I worked as a Parish Priest before coming here. I will meet my Bishop and share with him about my ministry at our BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF SACRED HEART in the Mountains. If everything goes well, I plan to meet all my Adopted Children whom I help with their education. I want to spend as much time with my mother as I can and make her happy and smile.

Hereafter I have decided to give thanks to God the Almighty. Just as you all celebrate THANKSGIVING DAY, I would like to celebrate a THANKSGIVING DAY with all my family members, a day with family, relations, cousins, friends. Please continue to pray for my mother, sister's family, my adopted children, and for my safe travel.

Thank you, Fr. Roy God's Blessings.



December 18th-Sacred Heart Basilica 7:00 PM December 19th-Our Lady of the Hills 6:00 PM December 20th-St. Anthony 6:00 PM



Happy 95th Birthday Stella Quigley December 17th

We thank God for the gift of your life.

### Volunteers Needed

Helpers are needed to enhance our sanctuary with Christmas finery, starting at 9 a.m. on Friday, December 22. We'll be placing poinsettias and greenery, wreaths, and figures in the creche as well as performing other decorating tasks.

We also need LOTS of magnolia branches to use with the poinsettias and some pine branches to cover the creche's stable roof. Please drop off donated branches in the wooden box that will be outside the sacristy's door between Dec. 20-21 to ensure they are fresh.

Whether you are donating branches or helping decorate, you're sure to find the Christmas decorations especially lovely, knowing that you helped make them possible.

Please contact Julie Robinson at julial@suddenlink.net or 304-444-9517 or Lisa Dobbins at lisasd1@outlook.com or 304-541-6998 with any questions.



**Christmas Children's Choir Rehearsal:** The Children's Choir will be meeting to rehearse to sing for the Christmas Eve, 4:00pm Mass! Rehearsal will be on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00pm in the Church. Children are welcome! Contact Mark Haas: mhaas@shccwv.us

Looking for livestreamers! We are looking for people to operate our weekend 10:30am livestream equipment. All ages welcome and training is provided. Contact Mark Haas: mhaas@shccwv.us

The 2024 Religious Art Calendar's have arrived and are available in the Vestibule and Gathering Space at the Church. THANK YOU! Wayne Johnson and Barlow-Bonsall Funeral Home for the generous donation of our 2024 calendars.

Knights of Columbus



MERRY CHRISTMAS - Our Knights of Columbus Council 12630 would like to wish all of our parishioners and supporters a very Merry Christmas and thank them for their help and support

The CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE to benefit the Risen Lord Food Pantry is still underway. It is not too late to donate. Father Thien passes along that most months he helps around 230 families with food, now that Clay County is again without a commercial grocery store. Most of you already know that Father's most requested food 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 are again suggesting a donation in the form of a check made out to K of C 12630 for \$30.00 to cover a basic Thanksgiving meal. Again, the Knights of Council 12630 thank the parishioners of Sacred Heart for their generosity.

### Altar Server Training

For anyone from the 3rd grade up who would like to become an Altar Server or take a refresher course, Fr. Roy is offering training. To make arrangements contact Fr. Roy at rayappak@dwc.org or call the parish office at 304-342-8175.

### From our music director...

### "A Joyful Psalm" #115: Luke 1

When my wife and I were expecting a new child, we would often play music for the baby in utero. We had read some interesting studies about playing music, singing, and reading to a child in the womb. Often, when we would start playing the music, the baby would immediately kick and move with satisfaction.

I am reminded of this prenatal ritual when I think about Mary's great *Magnificat* from Luke chapter 1, which we hear during the responsorial this weekend. The Blessed Mother had just finished speaking with her cousin, Elizabeth, who is also pregnant with John the Baptist. John leaps for joy at the presence of the Christ Child. Mary then sings one of the most iconic hymns of praise from scripture: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name." (Lk 1:46-50)

Mary sings music for her Baby in utero. It is a truly *awesome* thought that this song she sings is being heard by the Lord of the Universe in the form of a small, unborn Child. Perhaps as we sing this canticle, our souls might be evermore magnified during this Advent season.

Mark Haas, Director of Music

### Fr. Sadie's "Cogitationes"

If you wish to contact Msgr. Sadie with questions concerning any of his "cogitations" call 304-546-4330.

Bulletin Readers have asked me to share some highlights of my years as a priest.

In the late 50's there was a great interest in the Catholic Church on college campuses. VPI and Radford Women's College always had a large group of students taking one-on-one instructions to become Catholic. I was also regularly invited by non-Catholic student groups to speak on the "Catholic Church."

Most of the students were from the Bible belt, no dancing, no card playing, no cigarettes, no drinking. But the schools were attracting more and more students from the North, especially New Jersey where the state helped with tuition at Southern schools. Many of the students were Catholics without the above "religious" restrictions. "Father Sadie's Socials" soon became very popular on the two campuses. Speaking to non-Catholic groups always elicited the same questions. Why do Catholics not consider smoking, drinking, alcohol, dancing, wearing make-up, gambling a sin? Why do Catholic Priests not marry. I always enjoyed defending these restrictions done in moderation as not sinful before adding I personally do not smoke, or drink. I also added I could have married since I was a member of the Catholic Eastern Melkite Church which ordained married men, but freely chose celibacy.

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

Rejoice! Rejoice! God of all Names, you are our hope and guide on the path to holiness.

O Wisdom, come and lead us to the path of truth.

O Lord of Lords, come and teach us reverence.

O Root of Jesse, come and show us the way of salvation.

O Key of David, come and open for us heaven's door.

O Radiant Dawn, come and point us to your healing light.

O King of Nations, come and shower us with mercy and grace.

O Emmanuel, come into our hearts and make us one with you.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Sunday, December 17, 2023-O Come, O Come

Today's readings: Isaiah 61:1–2a, 10–11; Luke 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24; John 1:6–8, 19–28. Infused with a spirit of joy, the Scriptures remind us to ready ourselves with hope and gratitude.

The "O" Antiphons offer a beautiful way to heighten our attention to Christ's coming in this last week of Advent. Based on Isaiah's prophecies, the antiphons echo ancient titles given to the long-awaited messiah.

Daily reflection on the "O" Antiphons helps us prepare the manger of our hearts to welcome the infant. The Christ child is Wisdom itself; he is our Lord; he descends from the Root of Jesse; he is the Radiant Dawn, the King of Nations, he is truly Emmanuel, God-with-us.

With today's antiphon, we recall that the prophet Isaiah ascribed the quality of wisdom to the messiah, saying, "Wonderful is his counsel and great his wisdom" (Isaiah 28:29). This prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus, the incarnation of divine wisdom, transmitted through the power of his words, and poured out in his daily living with us.

### This Week at Home

### Monday, December 18-O Adonai (Lord)

The Hebrew people used the title Adonai as a substitute for the unutterable name of God. Today's "O" Antiphon calls us to attention and reminds us that when we invoke the name of the Lord, we should do so with the utmost reverence. Today's readings: Jeremiah 23:5–8; Psalm 72: 1–2, 12–13, 18–19; Matthew 1:18–25.

### Tuesday, December 19-O Root of Jesse

Today's prophetic invocation for Jesus hearkens to the source of his human ancestry: "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, / and from his roots a bud shall blossom" (Isaiah 11:1). Jesse was the father of King David and is designated as the first person in the genealogy of Jesus. From the Root of Jesse, comes a branch, Jesus, from whom we graft life. Today's readings: Judges 13:2–7, 24–25a; Psalm 71:3–4a, 5–6ab, 16–17; Luke 1:5–25.

### Wednesday, December 20-O Key of David

The genealogy of Jesus locates him in the line of King David. The prophet Isaiah foretells, "I will place the key of the House of David on his shoulder" (Isaiah 22:22). Thus, Jesus carries the power to liberate us from sin with the exquisite grace of forgiveness and to open the doors for all those asleep in the underworld. Jesus, the key to the kingdom of God, shows us the way to salvation. Today's readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Psalm 24:1–2, 3–4ab, 5–6; Luke 1:26–38.

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### Thursday, December 21-O Radiant Dawn

Today's "O" Antiphon stems from the celebrated prophecy "The people who walked in darkness / have seen a great light; / Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom / a light has shone" (Isaiah 9:1). In praying "O Radiant Dawn," we call for Jesus, the light, to break through the darkness of our lives like the dawn transforming the night sky. Christians often plan to line their sidewalks and front entryways with lights on Christmas Eve as a testimony of their joy at the arrival of the Light of the world. Today's readings: Songs 2:8–14 or Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Psalm 33:2–3, 11–12, 20–21; Luke 1:39–45.

### Friday, December 22-O King of Nations

The Hebrew people eagerly awaited a messiah to relieve them from oppression and restore justice to the land. In her canticle in the Gospel of Luke, Mary paints a picture of their savior as one who will "scatter the proud in their conceit, cast down the mighty from their thrones, fill the hungry with good things" (Luke 1:51–53). Even though the prophet Isaiah foretold that this longed for "King of Nations" would come as a child, no one could imagine the messiah entering the world as a homeless infant. Jesus upended expectations forevermore. Today's readings: 1 Samuel 1:24–28; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4–5, 6–7, 8abcd; Luke 1:46–56. Lisa M. Orchen. © 2023 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. Scripture quotations are from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, CCD. All rights reserved.

### Saturday, December 23-O Emmanuel

As we turn the page from Advent to Christmas, we invoke our final "O" Antiphon, calling the child Jesus Emmanuel, which means "God-with-us." Herein meld the most unlikely truths: the infant born in a manger is truly God dwelling among us. The infant, completely dependent upon the care and protection of his parents, is indeed the Savior of the world. Today's readings: Malachi 3:1–4, 23–24; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 8–9, 10, 14; Luke 1:57–66.

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### Celebrating JOY during Advent December 17, 2023

During the season of Advent, we await the celebration of Christ's birth and His coming again at the end of time. Over four weeks, we prepare our hearts for Christmas in penitential reflection. But in the middle of the season, Gaudete Sunday calls us to rejoice in hope!

- Q: What does Gaudete mean?
- A: Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin.
- Q: Why do we light a pink candle on Gaudete Sunday?

A: The Catholic Church uses the color rose to indicate a joyful feast day or holiday. Gaudete Sunday's counterpart in Lent is Laetare Sunday, another break in penance to rejoice in hope as we approach Easter. During both days, a priest will usually wear rose vestments.

A note on Advent Wreaths...

In the Christian tradition, Advent wreaths are as beautiful as they are symbolic. These evergreen wreaths are shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of God. Advent wreaths have four candles that remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

One of these candles is rose or pink. We light it on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday in Advent, to represent joy and anticipation of Christmas.

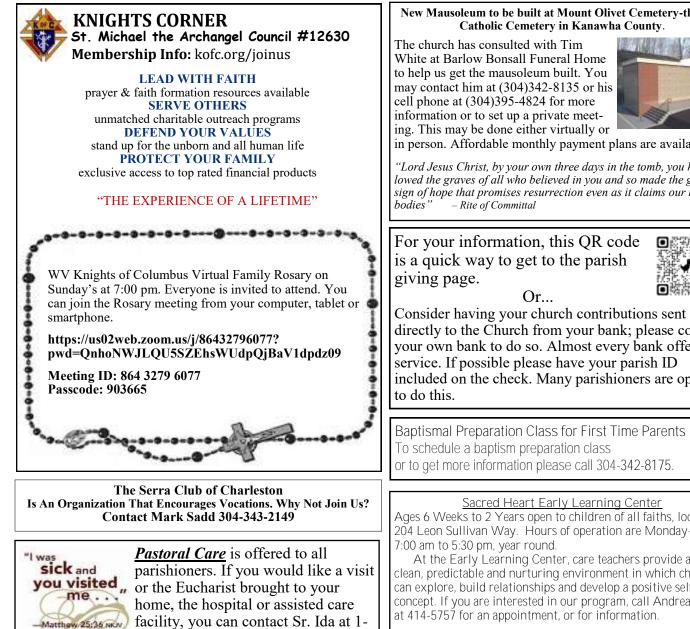
### Sacred Heart Grade School Christmas Concert December 13th



### Rite of Acceptance

Please keep in your prayers: Olivia Campbell, Megan Estep, Joe Hanson, Marsha Hoyer, Sherry Massey, Devin & Leah Pring, and Jackson Skinner





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

304-709-0026.

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

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



in person. Affordable monthly payment plans are available.

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



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



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

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

### SACRED HEART GRADE SCHOOL

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

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

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

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

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

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

