



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 Advent-December 24 & The Holy Family, December 31, 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



*The Fourth
Sunday of
Advent*

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saturday's 4:00-5:00 PM.



*The Holy
Family of
Jesus, Mary
and Joseph*



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 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

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: Deborah Harless 304-553-7021
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

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Basilica
 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2023 &
 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph-December 31st, 2023

12/23 Sat. 5:30 pm + Doug & Ginny Chambliss
Fourth Sunday of Advent
 12/24 Sun. 9:00 am + Mary Lou Whitlatch
Vigil of Christmas
 12/24 Sun. 4:00 pm For the People
 8:00 pm For the People
 12:00 am For the People
Christmas Day
 12/25 Mon. 9:00 am For the People
 12:00 pm For the People
 12/26 Tues. 12:00 pm NO MASS
 12/27 Wed. 12:00 pm NO MASS
 12/28 Thur. 12:00 pm + Jennifer Taylor
 12/29 Fri. 8:15 am + Mary A. Collia
 12:00 pm + Alice & Burke Family
 12/30 Sat. 8:15 am + Francis A. Ciccarello
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 12/30 Sat. 5:30 pm + Wade "Joe" Boone
 12/31 Sun. 8:00 am + Adelaide Ginestro
 10:30 am + People of the Parish
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
 12/31 Sun. 5:00 pm + Ben & Eliza Swint
 01/01 Mon. 10:00 am + People of the Parish (only Mass of the day)
 01/02 Tues. 12:00 pm + Patricia Carnemolla
 01/03 Wed. 12:00 pm + Phillip Peters
 01/04 Thur. 12:00 pm + Lou Aiello
 01/05 Fri. 8:15 am + Gloria Hart
 12:00 pm + Tom Edward's Family
 01/06 Sat. 8:15 am + Robert J. Cleary
 01/06 Sat. 5:30 pm + John Ruddick
 01/07 Sun. 8:00 am + David Wheeler
 10:30 am + Denver "Buck" McCallister
 5:00 pm + People of the Parish

Ministry Schedule Week of December 30/31

Lector Schedule
 5:30 PM-Linda Higgs
 8:00 AM-Sam Gross
 10:30 AM-Maria Rendinell
 5:00 PM-Debra Basham

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM-Sr. Ida Chikara, Debra
 Murphy, 4 volunteers
 8:00 AM-Nancy Bricker, Jim Weimer,
 4 volunteers
 10:30 AM-Debbie Barr, Chloe Flores,
 Andrew & Heather Workman,
 2 volunteers
 5:00 PM-Debra Basham, Angelita
 Zamora, 4 volunteers

Ministry Schedule Week of January 6/7

Lector Schedule
 5:30 PM-Maricel Bernardo
 8:00 AM-Megan Harris
 10:30 AM-Mike Tupta
 5:00 PM-Jason Pizatella

Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

5:30 PM-Linda & Matt Higgs, John
 Willson, 3 volunteers
 8:00 AM-Mary Agnes & Rex Kern,
 Jack Burke, 3 volunteers
 10:30 AM-Cindy McGhee, Steve
 Naylor, Bob Parker, 3 volunteers
 5:00 PM-Debra Basham, Angelita
 Zamora, 4 volunteers

Sharing Our Treasure - 12/17/2023

Regular Collection: \$13,870 Candles: \$162
 Partners In Hope: \$50 Smile (Sisters): \$200
 Religious Retirement: \$539 (\$5339) Catholic Charities: \$30 (\$380)

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

A note from the Rector...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Greetings on this Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve!

This Christmas Eve concludes our year long celebration of the 125th Anniversary of our Church building. We are grateful for what we have been given through the faith and generosity of our ancestors in building this Sacred House of the Lord. Let us continue to care for this sacred place by doing our part through our faith and generosity. Our Capital Campaign, "Renewing Our Past, Securing Our Future" is one way to do our part. I am very grateful for those who have pledged and generously donated, I encourage all members to join us in caring for our parish and grade school.

In order to give our staff a little Christmas vacation, this bulletin will be for this Sunday and next Sunday-so hang on to this one.

Next Sunday will be the Feast of the Holy Family and is New Year's Eve. Please note that Masses for the Holy Family will be Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 8am and 10:30am. The Sunday evening Mass at 5pm will be for Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. We have a 10am Mass on New Year's Day.

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.

On behalf of Msgr. Sadie, Fr. Roy, our Religious Sisters, and Parish Staff, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 2024. I pray you have a joyful time with family and friends. I remain,

In Christ-our Emanuel
Fr. Don

Congratulations and welcome to Erik & Julia Maitland, they were received into the Catholic Church this past Sunday. May the Lord bless & guide them as they take their place among 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 for the generous donation of our 2024 calendars.

FYI:

Sunday, December 31st-The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph will be the regular Mass Schedule, Saturday Vigil 5:30pm, Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am. The Sunday 5:00pm Mass will be for the Solemnity of Mary.

Monday, January 1st, New Year's Day-The Solemnity of Mary, Mass will be at 10:00 am. It will be the only Mass for the day.

The Pope's Monthly Intention JANUARY

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church
Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

FYI... Livestream Masses

Saturday Dec. 23rd, 5:30 PM

Sunday Dec. 24th, 8:00 PM

Monday Dec. 25th 12:00 Noon

Christmas Mass Schedule

PLEASE NOTE

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

We will have the regular Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday the 8:00am & 10:30am Masses will be combined into one Mass at 9:00am

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24th

Mass at 4pm, 8pm, and Midnight.
There will be no 5pm Mass, on Christmas Eve.

On **Christmas Day** we will have Mass at 9am and 12pm.

A Prayer for Christmas

Let your goodness, Lord, appear to us, that we, made in your image, conform ourselves to it.



In our own strength we cannot imitate your majesty, power and wonder; nor is it fitting for us to try.

But your mercy reaches from the heavens, through the clouds, to the earth below.

You have come to us as a small child, but you have brought us the greatest of all gifts, the gift of eternal love.

Caress us with your tiny hands, embrace us with your tiny arms, and pierce our hearts with your soft, sweet cries.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

O God our Father, we thank you for protecting us and bringing us safely through another year. Help us to grow not only in body, but also in heart and mind. May we look upon each new day as another chance to follow you more closely. As the new year unfolds, may we be more merciful towards others and more generous in serving you. Amen.





Getting into the Christmas Spirit

**Religious Education Class,
decorating Christmas cookies
and signing Christmas Cards.**



Knights of Columbus

MERRY CHRISTMAS-Our Knights of Columbus Council 12630 would like to wish all of our members, parishioners and supporters a very Merry Christmas and a big thank you for your support this past year.

The CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE to benefit the Risen Lord Food Pantry is still underway. **It's not too late to donate this week.** Father Thien says that most months he helps around 230 families with food, since Clay County is without a commercial grocery store. Father's most requested food items are, Peanut Butter, Canned Tuna, Canned Soup, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit & Crackers. 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 Christmas meal. Again, we thank the parishioners of Sacred Heart for their generosity.

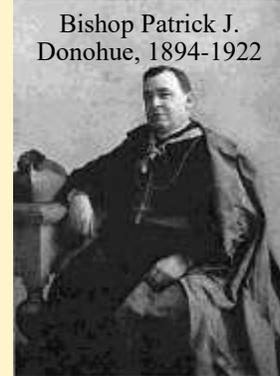
Looking for livestreamers! We are looking for people to operate our weekend 10:30am livestream equipment. All ages welcome and training is provided. Contact Mark Haas: mhaas@shccwv.us

A note from Fr. Sadie...

I was delighted that our pastor informed you of Fr. Roy's trip to visit his mother, his sister's family, 3 nephews and nieces and the students he assists with tuition assistance.

Fr. Higgs also mentioned financial assistance. He has been a real blessing to me.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS of the Sacred Heart Church Building



Bishop Patrick J.
Donohue, 1894-1922



SACRED HEART CHURCH — 1895





Fourth Sunday of Advent

God Is Near

O holy Child of Bethlehem, you radiate the light that overcomes darkness and illuminate the path to our salvation. As you hasten to be born into our broken world, help us turn fully to you and increase our longing for your presence. Fill us with hope for your birth and grant us patience and peace, Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday, December 24, 2023-Attend to God's Time

Today's readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27, 29; Romans 16:25–27; Luke 1:26–38. This year we dwell in the last week of Advent for only hours. Today's Scriptures put an exclamation mark on all the prophetic promises we recalled with the "O" Antiphons. As foretold in the Old Testament, and echoed in the words of the angel Gabriel, the savior will come through the line of King David and thus his house and kingdom shall endure forever.

For most households, these abbreviated final hours of Advent will be consumed with hurried preparations for Christmas. Even so, attend to God's time. Remember to light the fourth candle on the Advent wreath, adorn the household nativity scene, and listen to your Advent playlist once more while cleaning, baking, or traveling. Our Advent texts, songs, and traditions are ripe with promise. Christ is coming. A savior will be born. The light will overcome the darkness. God's faithfulness will endure forever. Today we turn the page from hopeful waiting to joyful fulfillment. Breathe in the miracle of God's love. Exhale a prayer of gratitude for all that is to come.

This Week at Home

Monday, December 25-Christ Is Born

Christmas Day is often filled with activity and goes by in the blink of an eye. Remember to pause and open your heart wide to Christ, who seeks a home there. Allow the light of a candle, the Christ figurine in your nativity scene, the circle of evergreen on your holiday wreath, and the shining eyes of children and the elderly to kindle your joy in the incarnation. Today's readings for Christmas Mass at Dawn: Isaiah 62:11–12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11–12; Titus 3:4–7; Luke 2:15–20.

Tuesday, December 26-St. Stephen

Today we honor St. Stephen, the first Christian to die a martyr for his faith in Jesus. A deacon in the early Church, Stephen served the needs of widows and the poor. His eloquent preaching drew many to Christianity as well as the violent attention of those opposing the memory of Jesus. Advent proclaimed that God reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. We celebrate Stephen and other martyrs this week for their utmost faithfulness to Christ and passing into the eternal life of heaven. Today's readings: Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Matthew 10:17–22.

Wednesday, December 27-St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Remembered as the beloved disciple, John gave the Church a Gospel, three epistles to the Christian community, and possibly the Book of Revelation. Stories recall that he lived a long life and in his later years, when he no longer had the stamina to preach, he routinely offered the most succinct homily, "My little children, love one another." With these pithy words, he relayed the most essential message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Today's readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.

Thursday, December 28-The Holy Innocents

Today's Scriptures return us to the events following the nativity of our Lord. Deeply threatened by the possible birth of the long-awaited messiah, King Herod ordered the murder of all boys under the age of two in Bethlehem and the surrounding region. This unimaginable scourge of innocent children has repeated itself over and over through the centuries and is a powerful reminder of our responsibility to protect life at every stage. Today's readings: 1 John 1:5–2:2; Psalm 124: 2–3, 4–5, 7b–8; Matthew 2:13–18.

Friday, December 29-The Presentation in the Temple

Ever faithful to their Jewish traditions, Joseph and Mary brought the child Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be consecrated to God. Two holy elders, Simeon and Anna, recognized Jesus as the messiah. Their prophetic words proclaimed that all that had been foretold in the Scriptures would be manifest in the life of this tiny child. Joseph and Mary were amazed and returned home to raise Jesus in the faith of Judaism. Today's readings: 1 John 2:3–11; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 5b–6; Luke 2:22–35.

Saturday, December 30-Relish the Days of Christmas

While the secular world charges ahead, our Church invites us to linger in the Christmas season. Together we savor the miraculous early moments of Jesus' life and the stunning reception he received from shepherds, kings, and holy elders alike. His earthly parents courageously protected him and immediately began to pass on their faith and honor their religious tradition. Resist packing away the religious imagery just yet. Instead, keep the nativity scene prominent, light Christmas candles, and ponder along with Mary the unexpected graces poured upon us. Today's readings: 1 John 2:12–17; Psalm 96:7–8a, 8b–9, 10; Luke 2:36–40.

The Nativity of the Lord

Glory to God in the Highest

Generous God, you are the gracious giver of all gifts. On this holy Christmas Day come into our lives. Give us the riches of your poverty, show us the power of your weakness, and teach us the joy of your humility. Bless our homes and hearts as we celebrate the birth of your Son and join the angels in singing your praises now and forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

December 25, 2023-House of Bread

Today's readings: Christmas Vigil Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25. Christmas Mass during the Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14. Christmas Mass at Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20. Christmas Mass during the Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18. On the Nativity of the Lord, we prepare ourselves to hear with fresh ears the story of Mary giving birth in a stable and making a feeding trough into a bed for our Savior. The story of Jesus' birth proclaims that great things happen in the humblest of places. The name of the unremarkable town that hosted this miracle is Bethlehem. In Hebrew, Bethlehem means "house of bread." What perfect symmetry that the One who will become our bread of life began human existence in the house of bread.



The account of the nativity also presents a marginalized group of people as the first to hear the Good News. Not only did the shepherds go "in haste" (Luke 2:16) to see the messiah, but with joy in their hearts, they proclaimed what they saw and heard. May we be open to hearing the Good News in unexpected ways and from unexpected people. With Mary, we acknowledge the "greatness of the Lord," who fills the hungry "with good things" and sends the rich "away empty" (Luke 1:47-53).

The Nativity of the Lord-Christmas Readings-The Incarnate Word

The lectionary designates different readings for the Masses for Christmas. Each of these readings shed light on God sending his Son into the world to be with us.

Christmas Vigil Mass

Name Him Jesus

Names mean something. The Gospel of Matthew locates Jesus' entrance into history by recounting his ancestry, name by name, generation by generation, all the way back to Abraham, with whom God first formed the covenantal relationship with humanity. With great specificity, Matthew tells us that the name Jesus means "savior." The One who came to save his people from their sins was born at a unique moment in history with a particular place in the genealogy of humankind. Matthew tells us that the name Emmanuel means "God is with us." Jesus came through the womb of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem two thousand years ago and dwells among us this Christmas and every moment of our lives. Let us make room in our hearts, homes, and lives for him. Readings for the Christmas Vigil Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25.

Christmas Mass during the Night-A Savior Has Been Born

The Scriptures assigned for the midnight Mass invite us to contemplate the incarnation through the lenses of past, present, and future. The prophetic promises of Isaiah take us back to the past when the coming of Christ was foretold. St. Paul bids Titus, and all of us, to live as Christ taught us while we wait for his coming again. Luke narrates the particularities of this historical birth of Christ and the miraculous proclamation of the heavenly host to the people of Bethlehem. We are invited into the midst of this wondrous mystery and sent forth to announce the salvation of Christ to the ends of the earth with great joy: today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord (Psalm 96:1). Readings for Christmas Mass during the Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14.

Christmas Mass at Dawn-Go Tell It

As dawn breaks, we recall the first witnesses of the incarnation and hear the succession of astonishing announcements that result. The angels announce the glorious news to the shepherds in the fields. The shepherds hasten to visit the holy family and share all the angels told them. From there, the shepherds continued to boldly witness the glorious news to all who would listen. Receiving their witness, we join in glorifying and praising God for all we have seen and heard. We ring bells, sing with exuberance, join in worship, light up our homes, fill our tables with plenty, exchange gifts, all the while witnessing this Good News with our celebrations.

Readings for Christmas Mass at Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20.

Lisa M. Orchen. © 2023 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved.

Christmas Mass during the Day-Word Made Flesh

The Gospel of John, read at the Christmas Mass during the Day, heralds that the world was created through the Word and that the Word has entered the world. John proclaims that the work of all creation coalesced in the birth of Christ. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. Then creation continued infused with Christ. In the story of creation and redemption, God is always moving toward us through the Word. We are summoned to turn our lives toward the Word and allow God to be manifested through us. On this holy day, we celebrate with joy that we share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Readings for Christmas Mass during the Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18.

Lisa M. Orchen. © 2023 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved.

Feast of the Holy Family

Form Us in Love

Triune God, you entered humanity, were welcomed by humble parents and laid in a manger. On this feast of your human family, bless our families—received and chosen. Help us grow in love. Foster in us patience and kindness. Open our hearts to make room for you and guide us on our path to holiness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 31, 2023-Bless Family Life

Today's readings: Genesis 15:1–6; 21:1–3; or Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14; Psalm 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; or Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5; Hebrews 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; or Colossians 3:12–21; Luke 2:22–40. On the Feast of the Holy Family, the Church honors Jesus' earthly family, offering encouragement and a model to all families. By sending Jesus to enter the world through a human family, God takes on all the messiness that comes with family life. God shows us tangibly that God desires to be close to us in our everyday living, in our closest relationships, and in the life in our homes. Families are called the hearth of the domestic church because it is within our families that we are first formed in faith and nurtured in love. In both the trials and joys of family life, we learn how to strive for holiness.

Today marks the exact midpoint in the Christmas season. We continue to recall what befell the holy family as they welcomed the infant Jesus during their stay in overcrowded Bethlehem; they were visited by the most unexpected guests and went to great extremes to protect their newborn child.

The Feast of the Holy Family offers us an opportunity to reflect upon the holiness in our primary relationships. Today's second reading from the Letter to the Colossians gives us a blueprint for household living. Read it with loved ones and together prayerfully discern some resolutions for the new year.

This Week at Home

Monday, January 1-Mary, Holy Mother of God

According to the Scriptures, Mary reflects in her heart on all the amazing events surrounding the birth of her child. As we move from one calendar year to the next, we are invited to reflect with gratitude on the gifts given to us as well as look forward to the new year with hope, faith, and trust in the abiding presence of Emmanuel. This time of the year, when traditionally New Year's resolutions are made, is also the perfect time to make spiritual promises. Ponder how you hope to grow in your relationship with the living Christ in the coming year. Today's readings: Numbers 6:22–27; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4:4–7; Luke 2:16–21.

Tuesday, January 2-Sts. Basil and Gregory

St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen were fourth-century contemporaries, both born to parents who were named saints and both blessed with siblings who became saints. Through their writings, they made important contributions to how the Church understands the mystery of the Trinity. Their articulation of Jesus as fully human and fully divine shaped the language of the Nicene Creed we profess every Sunday at Mass. Today's readings: 1 John 2:22–28; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 1:19–28.

Wednesday, January 3-The Most Holy Name of Jesus

The Church reserves today as an optional memorial dedicated to the Most Holy Name of Jesus. The name Jesus, (in Hebrew, Yeshua) means "Savior." St. Paul urges all Christians to keep holy the name of Jesus, "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). Today's optional memorial readings: Philippians 2:1–11; Psalm 8:4–9; Luke 2:21–22.

Thursday, January 4-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Born in 1774, Elizabeth Ann (Bayley) Seton was by the age of twenty-nine a widowed mother of five children. In her grief she discovered the Catholic faith and received the call to form a new religious order. In starting her first Catholic school for poor girls, Elizabeth founded the Catholic parochial school system that still thrives today. Elizabeth was canonized in 1975 as the first person born in the United States to be named a saint. Today the Sisters of Charity serve in communities around the world following the inspiration of their founder, Mother Seton. Today's readings: 1 John 3:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 7–8, 9; John 1:35–42.

Friday, January 5-St. John Neumann

Born in 1811, John Neumann emigrated from Bohemia to New York to care for the spiritual needs of European immigrants. As a young priest he entered the Redemptorists and was subsequently named the bishop of Philadelphia. In just seven years, he built eighty-nine Catholic churches, hospitals, orphanages, and almost one hundred schools. He organized the first diocesan Catholic school system in the United States and is remembered to this day as the patron of sick children and immigrants. Today's readings: 1 John 3:11–21; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 4, 5; John 1:43–51.

Saturday, January 6-The Twelfth Day of Christmas

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil of Christmas and concludes on Monday, January 8, with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Throughout the season we celebrate the birth of Christ into our hearts, our lives and our world, and commemorate that Jesus comes to save us and lead us to eternal light. Listen to the Christmas carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas," originally written to convey the essential elements of the Christian faith during centuries of religious persecution. Today's readings: 1 John 5:5–13; Psalm 147:12–13, 14–15, 19–20; Mark 1:7–11.



Blessing of a Christmas Tree

The use of the Christmas tree is relatively modern. Its origins are found in the medieval mystery plays that depicted the tree of paradise and the Christmas light or candle that symbolized Christ, the Light of the world. According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing.

In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung.

The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply "Amen."

The leader may greet those present in the following words: Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.

R/. Amen.

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing: My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Titus 3:4 (lines 4-7) or Ezekiel 17:22 (lines 22-24; I will plant a tender shoot on the mountain heights of Israel.)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

The intercessions are then said. The leader says: Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us and upon this sign of our faith in the Lord.

R/. Lord, give light to our hearts.

That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

R/. That the joy of Christmas may always be in our homes, let us pray to the Lord.

R/. That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord.

R/. After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the prayer with hands joined: Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The lights of the tree are then illuminated.

The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying: May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever.

R/. Amen.

The blessing concludes with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel": O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadow put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.



Blessing of Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time.

When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined: God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord,

bleed all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R/. Amen.

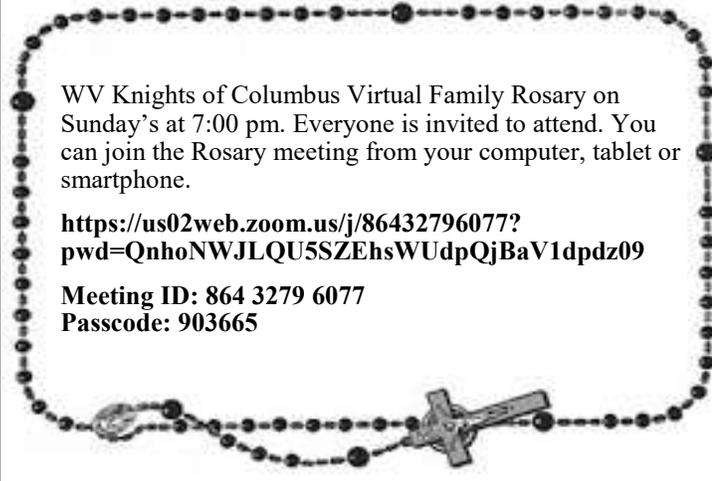




KNIGHTS CORNER
St. Michael the Archangel Council #12630
Membership Info: kofc.org/joinus

LEAD WITH FAITH
 prayer & faith formation resources available
SERVE OTHERS
 unmatched charitable outreach programs
DEFEND YOUR VALUES
 stand up for the unborn and all human life
PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
 exclusive access to top rated financial products

“THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME”



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/86432796077?pwd=QnhoNWJLQU5SZEhsWUdpQjBaV1dpdz09>

Meeting ID: 864 3279 6077
 Passcode: 903665

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.



The Serra Club of Charleston
Is An Organization That Encourages Vocations. Why Not Join Us?
Contact Mark Sadd 304-343-2149



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.

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.

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!

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.

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

**Barlow Bonsall
Funeral Home**
Serving Sacred Heart Parish
Since 1875
Wayne Johnson, Director
304-342-8135



MICHAEL J. TUPTA, D.D.S.
Dentistry That Makes You Smile
1701 Oakhurst Drive
Charleston, WV 25314
(304)744-4150
Email: mjtds@comcast.net
www.MyDentistInCharleston.com

**PICTURE
YOUR
AD
HERE**

Anthony J. Majestro
Attorneys At Law
304-346-2889

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

**Picture Your
Ad Here**



1217 VIRGINIA STREET E.
CHARLESTON, WV 25301
304-345-4960
APERFECTSMILE.COM
kalaskeyorthodontics@gmail.com
738 Old Airport Rd.
Chapmanville, WV 25508
304-855-7092
**Larry J. Kalaskey III,
D.D.S., M.S.**

**Literacy Volunteers of
Kanawha County** teaches
reading and writing as well
as English as a Second
Language (ESL) to
ADULTS for FREE.
Tutoring is one-on-one with
flexible hours. To Register
304-989-9481 or
brperrone@aol.com

TRUIST 

Listen to WV Catholic Radio
WLUX 1450 AM Dunbar / Charleston
WNUX 89.7 FM Montgomery / Beckley
WOUX 105.3 FM St. Mary / Parkersburg
WSJE 91.3 FM Summersville
WVUS 1190 AM Grafton/North Central WV
WLOL 8937 FM Morgantown
WDWC 9030 FM Wheeling
Listen to EWTN on WV's Catholic radio
stations.
St Paul Radio is entirely donor and listener
supported
P. O. Box 3744 • Charleston, W. Va.
25337

*Have you considered
advertising with us?
It benefits you
and helps needy
students in
our schools.
Call 304-342-8175 for
information.*



Our business is GROWING
Contact: Cary Levenson
304-342-2255

The Center for Dermatology & Skin Care, Inc.
Gregory T. Lagos, DO, FAOCD, FAAD

607 Chestnut Street So. Charleston, WV 25309
Phone (304) 766-9136 Fax (304) 766-9139

**Tom's Plumbing, Inc.
Mullen**
Plumbing * Heating * Cooling
Tom Orcutt * Owner
304-744-3221 Call 304-768-8983
24 Hours.

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

Morgan Stanley
Jack Burke
Financial Advisor
500 Lee Street, Suite 300
Charleston, WV, 25301
+1 304 353-9028
john.t.burke@morganstanley.com
NMLS# 1295678
© 2018 Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Member SIPC. 01232802 01/18



Hunter
Insurance & Financial
Barry Hunter barry@hifwv.com
Charleston 304-343-5419
Spencer 304-519-5959
Independent. Consultative.

We believe in
Quality of Service,
not Quantity of
Customers
24-hours a day
7 days a week
Sincerely Yours
State of the Art
Answering Service
Locally Owned and Operated
Messages Delivered by:
Operator-fax-pager-
email-cell phone
304-357-7300
A Division of the
West Virginia
Message Center Inc.

A word of Thanks:
This bulletin is subsidized by the companies
whose advertisement appears in it. If you
have the opportunity, thank them in the name
of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the
Sacred Heart by using their products or
services.
*Let Our Advertisers know
you saw their Ad.*



Chapman Puderbaugh
FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
www.chapmandentistry.com
308 C Street
South Charleston,
WV 25303
304.744.1251
Sleep Solutions
A Dental Solution for Restful Sleep
www.wvsleepsolutions.com

1507 Washington Street, East
**Leonoro's
Spaghetti
House**
Since 1915


Let your Awesomeness
be known!
**Advertise
with us!**