

PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord

Before He entered Jerusalem for Passover, riding on a donkey;
before he was greeted with glorious shouts of “Hosanna”;
before palm branches were waved by all recognizing him as the Messiah, Christ our King and Mighty Warrior;
and before cloaks were spread on the ground to line his procession,
Jesus predicted his Passion to His disciples.
However, they did not comprehend what he was trying to tell them until after his death and resurrection.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of the holiest week. We know Jesus’ ultimate victory after intense suffering, agony, and death on the cross, but his followers had no idea what would soon happen.

Jesus Reveals the Passion

Our Gospel today, Luke 22:14-23:56, and the Gospel for Good Friday, John 18:1-19:42, walks us through the Passion of the Lord – the journey to the cross to help us be in the scene and understand the depth of Jesus’ love and sacrifice.

Jesus Himself warned His closest companions of this.

Matthew 16:21-23, tells us Jesus first revealed the Passion by telling the disciples He “must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.” Imagine their confusion and disbelief of such awful news. Peter responded in anger, “God forbid, Lord!”

Then later as they were gathering in Galilee before making their way to Jerusalem, Jesus said to the disciples again, “The Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day (Matthew 17:22-23).” The disciples must have been distraught and extremely concerned. *continued...*

Enter into this
holy time
mindful of the
ultimate sacrifice
and recognize
Him every
moment
of our lives,
the Messiah,
Savior of the
World!

Next week's FaithInWV e-bulletin will publish
early with a special Tridium edition released on
Holy Thursday, April 17.





We can put ourselves among these followers of Jesus. Certainly, they had mixed emotions – Jesus was predicting a horrible death, yet as they entered Jerusalem, the crowds were joyfully shouting His praises.

The people lining the way validated the love and devotion the disciples already had for Christ. Certainly, a relief would have come over any grief or confusion they had over Christ's predictions.

As we attend Palm Sunday, we do so with reservations for we know the dark days are soon approaching – torture, denial, and death.

Conversely, with that same wisdom taught to us by Christ, by the Gospels, by our parents, pastors, and teachers - focus on the real reason for Christ's Passion. For we know in the end God triumphs and death is defeated. Since that moment millions of people, us among them, raise their voices in praise for Christ our King.

May we enter into this most holy time mindful of the ultimate sacrifice of Christ and recognize Him every moment of our lives as the Messiah – Savior of the World!

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Broadcast of Holy Week and Easter Masses

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Holy Thursday

April 17 at 6:00 p.m. - *Live Stream*

PASSION OF THE LORD Good Friday

April 18 at 3:00 p.m. - *Live Stream*

EASTER MASS Sunday, April 20

Live Stream and Broadcasted

10:30 a.m.

WVNS/FOX - Beckley/Bluefield

WOWK/CBS - Charleston/Huntington

WBOY/ABC - Clarksburg/Fairmont/Morgantown

WTRF/ABC - Wheeling/Northern Panhandle

Live Stream at www.dwc.org/Mass

Closed Captioning Provided.



Easter Mass broadcast is sponsored by the Welty Corporation.

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON WV PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

- **Cathedral of St. Joseph**
1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling
- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**
1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg

Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (*at site*): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
- **Holy Communion**
- **Pray for the Pope**

For information and updates go to: dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025

PSALM 22 ~ AMID OUR CRIES NEVER LOSE FAITH

St. Margaret of Castello. Pray for Us!

Psalm 22. The psalmist cries of abandonment – isolation and desperation – followed by descriptions of mockery, taunts, and physical pains. However, it transitions to a proclamation of praise and hope as it assures of God’s promise of salvation through the Messiah.

This, the Responsorial Psalm for Palm Sunday, is poetically parallel to the life of St. Margaret of Castello, whose memorial we honor on this day, April 13.

She was abandoned, shamed, and suffered not for what she did or didn’t do, but for just being born. To make her story even more horrific it was at the hands of her parents.

The year was 1287. A child was born into a noble family of Metola castle southeast of Florence, Italy. Her parents had wanted a son. More devastating to the sadly narcissistic couple was the news that their daughter was dwarf, hunchbacked, deformed, and blind. They were ashamed and rejected her. A kind and loving maid took care of her, naming her Margaret.

The noble family had Margaret hidden away in a secluded section of the castle to be kept secret. When she turned six, Margaret was seen outside her living quarters by a guest. This mortified her parents. Her father then had a room built, attached to the parish. Inhumanely it had no door to which anyone could enter or exit, only a crude window to allow food and essentials to be exchanged. For ten years she lived like that. She could hear Mass being celebrated every day and thanks to the devoted maid and a very empathetic priest, Margaret’s education was founded in faith. The dear priest impressed upon her the infinite love God has for all of His creation. He did not teach bitterness or entitlement.

Margaret was able to receive Holy Communion. Her appreciation of their compassion, as well as her spiritual understanding were described as nothing less than amazing by the pastor.

When Margaret 16, her parents let her out of her crude



The portrait of St. Margaret of Castello is by Matthew J. Watters of Lansing Michigan. For this and other portraits go to Matthew Watters Art at: www.etsy.com/shop/MatthewWattersArt

room to take her to a shrine known for healing the sick in Citta di Castello, Italy. After two days there, wanting her to be cured, nothing happened. They left. They left without her, abandoning her in Castello with nothing.

Eventually after much suffering and humiliation, Dominican laity and nuns took great pity on her and took her in.

“Her cheerfulness, based on her trust in God’s love and goodness, was extraordinary,” Father William Bonniwell, O.P., wrote in his book *The Life of Blessed Margaret of Castello*.

She died on April 13, 1320.

More than 200 miracles have been attributed to her – some when she was alive just at the touch of her hand and others more notable on record since the day of her funeral when her coffin was carried by a crippled and deaf girl – the child was completely cured.

“Margaret was born blind, so as to see You more clearly;

a cripple so as to lean on You completely; dwarfed in physical posture, so as to become a giant in the spiritual order;

hunch-backed, so as to more perfectly resemble the twisted, crucified body of Your Son.

Margaret’s whole life was an enactment of the words expressed by Paul;

‘So, I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me and that is why I am content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions and agonies I go through for Christ’s sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.’ (2 Cor. 12:10).”

– an excerpt from a Novena to St. Margaret of Castello (available at: stlb.org/shrinemargaret)

She was canonized by Pope Francis on April 24, 2021. Her incorrupt body is beneath the main altar of St. Dominic Church in Castello.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

CELEBRATING MILESTONES OF SEMINARIANS THIS SPRING

There are three important steps for seminarians discerning and preparing for the priesthood. These steps may vary depending on the seminary. They are Candidacy, Lector, and Acolyte.

Candidacy is the formal recognition by the Church of a seminarian's commitment to study for Holy Orders. *

The step of Lector gives the seminarian the privilege of "proclaiming the readings from Scripture (except for the Gospel)."

The Ministry of Acolyte is the final ministry seminarians receive before ordination as a transitional deacon. The instituted acolyte is appointed to assist the deacon and serve the priest in the celebration of the liturgy.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is blessed to celebrate all three steps taken by five of our seminarians in April.

Seminarian Nathan Schmidt was installed as Lector at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, on Friday, April 4th, preparing him to proclaim Scripture and lead the faithful in worship.

On Saturday, April 5, three more of our Mount St. Mary's seminarians Michael Aiello, Bryan Tedeschi, and Dominic Re were celebrated and instituted as Acolytes.

*Next week's *FaithInWV* will include photos of Pope St. John Paul II College Seminary's Joe Derico, who during a special Mass at St. Patrick Church in Weston, will celebrate his admission to candidacy for Holy Orders.



The Seven Last Words of Christ

**GOOD FRIDAY
18 APRIL 2025**

12:45 PM



Fr. Ron Prechtel



Fr. Justin Golna



Fr. Daniel Heusel



Fr. Joseph Wiley



Fr. Carlos Melocoton



Fr. Pen Manikyalarao



Fr. John Soplinski

*Encounter the powerful words
of Jesus from the Cross
through music, prayer,
and reflection.*



THE Cathedral of St. Joseph

20/20 Vision Series for 2025

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE APPALACHIAN PASTORAL LETTERS

"THIS LAND IS HOME TO ME" (1975)
"AT HOME IN THE WEB OF LIFE" (1995)
"THE TELLING TAKES US HOME" (2015)

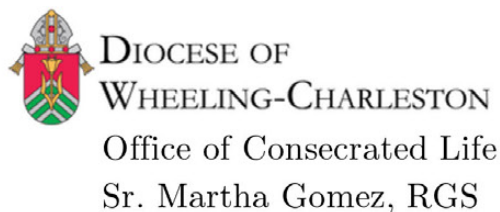
Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

January 27	OUR HOME, OUR HISTORY – Bishop Mark Brennan
February 24	THIS LAND IS HOME TO ME, PART I – Tom Breiding
March 31	THIS LAND IS HOME TO ME, PART II
April 28	THIS LAND IS HOME TO ME, PART III
May 19	AT HOME IN THE WEB OF LIFE, PART I – Beth Collins
June 23	AT HOME IN THE WEB OF LIFE, PART II
July 28	AT HOME IN THE WEB OF LIFE, PART III
August 25	THE TELLING TAKES US HOME, PART I – Rodica Stoicoiu
September 22	THE TELLING TAKES US HOME, PART II
October 27	THE TELLING TAKES US HOME, PART III
November 24	AN EVENING OF APPALACHIAN MUSIC – Tom Breiding
December 15	WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? – Bishop Mark Brennan

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

✦ Cost for complete series: \$120.00 Or \$15.00 per session. ✦

RSVP – Anna Marie Troiani: atroiani@csjoseph.org



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Procession with Palms: Luke 19:28-40

The people spread their cloaks on the road for Christ, praising God with joy. A royal welcome for the King of kings.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

The Suffering Servant speaks to the weary despite the challenges he faced.

Responsorial: Psalm 22

“My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Christ's humility and obedience - Saint Paul tells the Philippians, Jesus humbled himself, accepting even death on the cross for us.

Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - Christ says to God, “Not my will but yours.” Jesus' love for humanity is evident in the shame, agony, and hateful suffering he endured for our sins.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that each of us from the Pope to all those preparing to enter the Church, may we be empathetic to the cries of the suffering and crucified Christ heard in those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who call the Holy Land home, that they may all live in peace, justice, and mutual respect of each other's humanity, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who will be welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil, that their participation in the liturgies of Holy Week may deepen and strengthen their faith, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That as pilgrims of hope in this Jubilee Year we may look to Jesus' triumph on the cross in order to cope with our own suffering and despair, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

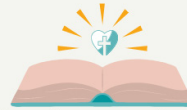
Berkeley Springs - Hancock, MD	FM	96.3
Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Keyser - coming soon	FM	98.9
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City -Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.9

~Listen on LoL Stream at www.rdo.to/WLOL~

ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

*Empowered
by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.*



Register today

wvcatholicschools.org



Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.