

# Faith IN WV

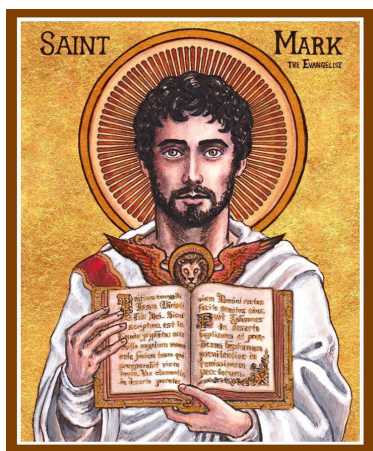
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



APRIL 24, 2020

GO INTO ALL THE WORLD, AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL  
TO EVERY CREATURE, ALLELUIA. - MARK 16:15

HAPPY FEAST OF ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST!



*The following is a meditation on Mark 16:15-20 provided by The Word Among Us.*

We first meet John Mark in Acts 12 as a young man on a mission. He lived in Jerusalem during the first persecution, when James was martyred and when Peter was almost killed. He then joined Paul and Barnabas on missionary journeys (Acts 12-13), deserted them in Pamphylia (13:13), but

eventually led his own evangelistic missions. Finally, he is mentioned by both Paul and Peter in Rome (2 Timothy 4:11; 1 Peter 5:13).

It seems that Mark's entire career took place at a run, in near constant danger of imprisonment or worse. Catholic tradition from its earliest centuries also attributes the second Gospel to St. Mark. And not surprisingly, this Gospel is often noted for its breathless pace. It's as though, as he did on his missionary journeys, Mark can't wait to tell the good news about Jesus.

The Church offers us saints like Mark not only as intercessors but also as role models. So, let's pause and consider his example.

In Mark 16:15-20, Mark recounts how the risen Jesus gave his apostles an enormous task: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." Maybe today would be a good time to do an "evangelization check" of our own.

Like Mark, we have heard the good news. Like him, we know that Jesus expects us to share it. But we might find that difficult to do. Worry over saying the wrong thing, fear of sounding pushy, or just the busy pace of life can block us from taking up our calling.

Maybe we can take some inspiration from St. Mark. Remember, he always seemed to be running at full speed. That kind of pace ought to sound familiar to us.

Perhaps we could take some of the brisk energy we feel in our everyday lives—running to the store, to the office, to campus, to pick up the kids—and channel it toward serving the Lord.

Where are you running today? Is there an opportunity to stop for a moment, look around, and see if there is someone who could use a word of encouragement?

*"St. Mark, pray that I might find creative ways to share the gospel."*

## PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION DURING PHYSICAL DISTANCING



PRAY

Spend time with God each day. Read the bible, a devotional, or listen to prayerful music. You can find some wonderful resources at [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG).



SEARCH

God is with you. Search for God in the care of others and for those you care for. See God in all the beauty surrounding you.



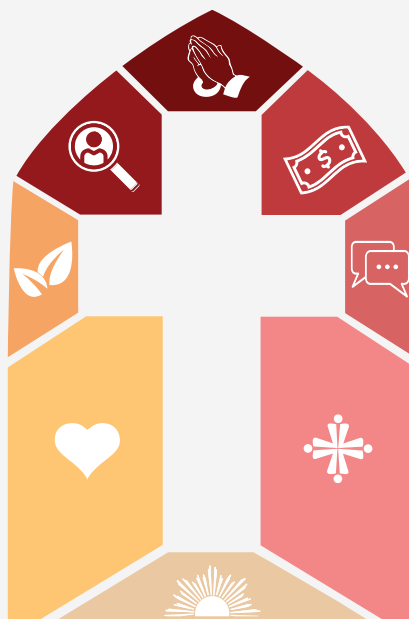
GROW

Grow in gratitude for all things in your life. Use this time to be grateful for the blessings in your life, faith, relationships, talents, and resources.



LOVE

Show your love. Reach out to those who are fragile, alone, or in need. Call or video chat with an elderly person or neighbor.



GIVE

Give to your parish or school. Your faith community is sustained by your generous giving. Visit [DWC.ORG/SUPPORT-YOUR-LOCAL-PARISH](http://DWC.ORG/SUPPORT-YOUR-LOCAL-PARISH) to give.



CONNECT

Gather with fellow parishioners virtually to stay connected while being physically apart. [Zoom](https://zoom.us) is an easy tool to help stay connected.



SHARE

As you talk with family and friends, share the consolation and hope you have through your faith in Jesus. Share your faithful resources.



KEEP

Keep the Sabbath. Sabbath is a time for rest and renewal in faith. Make this moment of physical distance a time of Sabbath.

## From the Desk of Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

Department of Catholic Schools • [www.WVCatholicSchools.org](http://www.WVCatholicSchools.org)

### WORD OF GRACE FOR WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

On April 25th our Church celebrates the Feast of St. Mark. While Mark wasn't one of the apostles, he was indeed a great disciple. He was one of the youngest followers, a cousin to Barnabas. Mark tagged along with Barnabas and Paul to preach the Good News. It didn't start out easy for young Mark. His immaturity got the best of him during the first days of the long journey to foreign cities. He got scared and ran back home to his mother. She was obviously a great influence and motivator, because Mark conquered that anxiety and summoned up the courage to rejoin the early evangelization of the Church.

Mark later became a bishop and ultimately a saint. He is the author of the second book in the New Testament, where he made it very clear that Jesus is the Son of God, who came not to be served, but to be a servant.

One of the most quoted verses of Mark's gospel is "*Don't be afraid. Just believe.*" – Mark 5:36. Those words Jesus spoke define St. Mark to me. Those words also help me, and I hope you, tackle our day-to-day challenges no matter how big or how small.

I am certain our principals are leaning on that same confidence in Jesus. They are diligently working with my office, in addition to working with their staff, pastors, parish, and families to make certain our students are reaching academic expectations. Together we are developing plans to work with any student, who may need more concentrated attention and enrichment opportunities. We are putting a lot of effort in this area, because we are committed to deliver the best education for our children. For me, it is invigorating to see our principals and staff all in! They, like St. Mark's mother, are providing inspirational guidance, simply because they truly love each student as their own.

Today I ask your support for them. Many fundraising events our schools depend on for special programs and opportunities have had to be cancelled. In an effort to help our schools with unique projects we are hosting a special day when you can be a significant part.

Mark your calendars for *One Day One Mission* set for May 5th. This is a 24-hour online giving day created by our advancement directors and principals. The northern panhandle Catholic schools piloted the program last year and raised more than \$54,000 for their individual programs.

With the logistical support of the Diocese's stewardship, communications, technology, and finance teams, we have expanded this year to include all WV Catholic schools that register to participate. Donors, who contribute that day, will go to [www.OneMissionOneDay.org](http://www.OneMissionOneDay.org) and select which school their contributions benefit. Make sure you follow your area Catholic school and alma mater's Facebook pages from 12:01AM to 11:59 PM on May 5th for details and to track this fundraiser.

Please, share this information with your family and friends. We are all proud of our students and want to continue to provide them challenging academics complimented with life and leadership lessons in empathy, morals, responsibility, and faith. Events like this enable your school to accomplish this mission. Thank you in advance for your support.

I hope you have a wonderful week. May God continue to bless and guide each one of us, giving us that confidence St. Mark exemplifies.

Peace,

*Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.*  
Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.



## SAVE THE DATE MAY 5, 2020

WV Catholic Schools provide challenging academics complimented with life and leadership lessons in empathy, morals, responsibility, and faith.

We give our students a strong foundation for the future – spiritually, academically, emotionally, and socially – all in a Christ-centered Catholic environment.

### God is in our schools!

Join us online **May 5th** as we rally our families, parishioners, alumni, and school supporters to raise funds, share our faith, and build our online community during our first Diocesan Catholic Schools Giving Day,

**One Mission, One Day  
to Make a Difference.**

**#OneMissionOneDay**

[OneMissionOneDay.org](http://OneMissionOneDay.org)

## LET US GO REJOICING

By Tim Bishop

The bad news seems to come in waves. Daily reports of new COVID-19 cases; illness related deaths; press conferences each day announcing more stringent restrictions; and the continuing cancelation of the public celebration of Mass across the country is taking its toll. Not to mention, the difficulties of working from home; the complexities of our children, and we as their teacher's aides, adapting to new ways of learning; and the anxiety we all face, resulting from their separation from family, friends, school, work, and church.

But as the bad news keeps coming, so does the good. The measures we are undertaking to slow the spread of the virus—to flatten the curve—are working. The endurance of our people to stay home, protect themselves, and care for their families ensures that community spread will continue to decline.

Also, unquestionably good is how our Catholic schools have adapted during this pandemic. Each week in this bulletin we get updates from the Department of Catholic Schools, detailing the great work our teachers and administrators are doing to keep students actively learning at home. As the father of two Catholic school children, I can attest to that work. Daily emails, Zoom meetings, phone calls, and assignment listings are keeping my children engaged in learning. They are gaining from this experience, they are continuing to excel in their education, and they are remaining vibrant in their faith. Our Catholic school teachers have even made themselves available to parents to help them learn how to teach!

This pandemic has also taught us a new respect for our fellow man, especially those deemed essential workers. Those men and women tasked with keeping us healthy, making sure groceries are available, and offering other essential services do so at great sacrifice. New campaigns of support for these men and women are not only essential to their well-being, but to ours as well. These efforts help keep fresh in our minds that we are together as one people, working to benefit and serve others any way we can. These heroes, who we often took for granted, deserve our gratitude.

And so too our faith. There are good things that have come from this pandemic to strengthen our faith. Isn't it good to know that even though the public celebration of the Mass has been postponed, every day throughout our Diocese, our priests and our bishop are offering the sacrifice of the Mass for you and for me? They remember us by name, they picture us in their mind's eye, and they recall the gifts that God gave us to make us who we are. I am humbled by everything our priests are doing to keep us engaged in our faith. Those men, who's vocation has changed dramatically in the past months, need our prayers as well. Please join me in praying daily for our priests, as they do for us at the altar.

We have heard our priests and Bishop Brennan say, "we are the Church." Indeed, the Church is the people. We are the people of God, gathered in our homes and gathered in prayer. We have Scripture, prayer, and a number of other resources to keep us engaged in our faith during this time of quarantine. A number of those are available on our website [dwc.org](http://dwc.org). Please check them out!

But how amazingly stronger our Church becomes when we gather together! Psalm 122, "I rejoiced when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'."  
([WWW.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/PSALMS/122](http://WWW.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/PSALMS/122))

How I long for the day when we can say again "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" How I long to be with you and with our priests, celebrating together the Eucharist, who's institution we commemorated on Holy Thursday.

This will end. And we will take from these times the good that we have learned. The Church at home will come out of this stronger, and so too the house of the Lord. I can't wait to go with you, rejoicing to the house of the Lord!

## LECTIO DIVINA: ANOTHER WAY TO KEEP THE EASTER SEASON HOLY

By Bernadette McMasters Kime, D. Min.

Last week, we began looking for ways to keep the Easter Season holy, especially during these unprecedented times. Reading and reflecting on the daily readings that are given to us by the Church is one way to do that.

This practice is known as *Lectio Divina*, or Divine Reading. It is a different way to look at, meditate and reflect on Sacred Scripture. I would propose that you chose one of the daily readings from Easter or an account from the Acts of the Apostles or the one of the post-Resurrection gospels.

Find a quiet place in your home and try to set aside 30 minutes for this exercise. Ask the Lord to quiet your heart and mind and be open to his word that he wants to speak to you this day.

**STEP ONE:** Read the passage. Be attentive to any word or phrase that moves you or seems to jump out at you.

**STEP TWO:** Re-read the passage, focusing on the word or phrases that came to you during your first reading. Contemplate what God might be saying to you in those phrases or passages that seemed to speak to your heart.

**STEP THREE:** Read the passage again, write your thoughts to reflect on during the day. What is your response to God's message? Is God calling you to "do" something? Or perhaps something in your life needs to change? How will you respond to God?

**STEP FOUR:** Finally, spend time in silent reflection—being present with God. Realizing that God is with us and speaks to us each day, especially through Sacred Scripture can be a great support and boost to our faith, especially in this time of sadness, separation, and uncertainty.



MASS READINGS FOR APRIL 26, 2020  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Lectionary: 43**

**First Reading: ACTS 2:14, 22-33**

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. For David says of him:

*I saw the Lord ever before me, with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed. Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted; my flesh, too, will dwell in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

"My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear."

**Responsorial Psalm 118:2-4,13-15, 22-24**

**R. (1) Lord, you will show us the path of life.  
or R. Alleluia.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge; I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you." O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. or R. Alleluia.**

I bless the LORD who counsels me; even in the night my heart exhorts me. I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. or R. Alleluia.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. or R. Alleluia.**

You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. or R. Alleluia.**

**Second Reading PT 1:17-21**

Beloved:

If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

**Alleluia LUKE 24:32**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn while you speak to us.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel LUKE 24:13-35**

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all

Continue...

the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Church and civic leaders as they seek ways to respond to the need for reintegration into society while safeguarding all they serve, that the Holy Spirit may grant them wisdom in making difficult decisions in the days and weeks to come, we pray . . .

For those catechumens and candidates who are waiting patiently to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church and receive their initiation sacraments, that they may not lose heart and look forward to the day when they can come together with their parish communities, we pray . . .

For those facing economic uncertainty, that they may know the hope that comes from God and that we may assist those in need, we pray . . .

For health care workers and other essential employees, that they may be protected from harm and know that they are appreciated for all they do, we pray . . .

*Lord hear our prayer*

## SINCERE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION IS A SOURCE OF GRACE



On April 17, 2003, Pope St. John Paul II wrote the Ecclesia de Eucharistia (Church of the Eucharist) letter to bishops; priests; deacons; men and women in consecrated life; and the lay faithful, focusing on the Eucharist as the center of our life with Christ.

His words then are supportive now, when public celebration of the Eucharist has halted. We long for the day we can join our pastors and fellow parishioners at the Lord's table. Pope St. John Paul II's letter reminds us that having the constant desire for the Sacrament of the Eucharist was the origin of the practice of "spiritual communion." God is fully aware.

Making this Act of Spiritual Communion is a source of grace. It is uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood.

The Spiritual Communion prayer from St. Alphonsus Liguori is:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace you as if you were already there  
and unite myself wholly to you.*

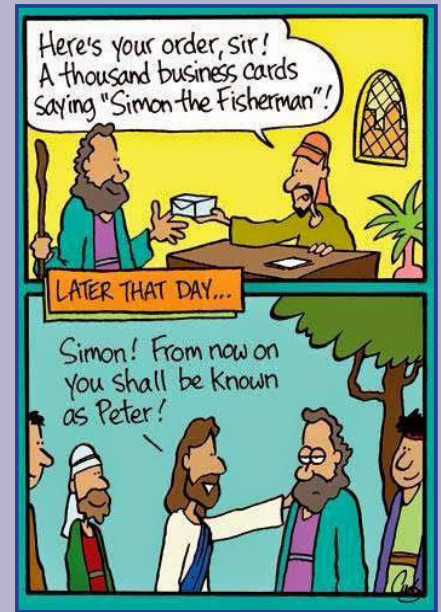
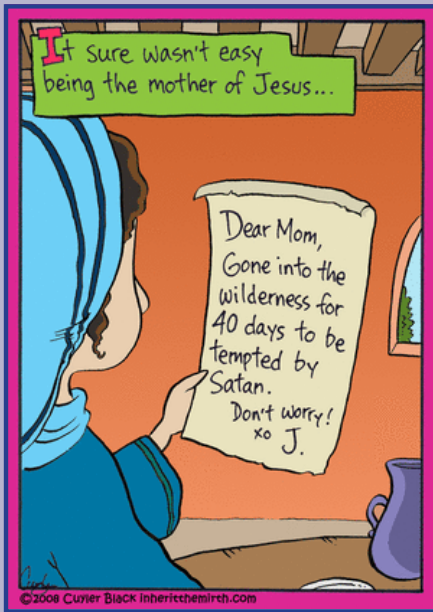
*Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

Pope St. John Paul II writes in his letter, "In the humble signs of bread and wine, changed into his body and blood, Christ walks beside us as our strength and our food for the journey, and he enables us to become, for everyone, witnesses of hope."

Until we can be together again and be in the presence of our priests and the Lord's table, let our sincere Spiritual Communion prayer enlighten us by the grace of the Holy Spirit, as we bow low in adoration and unbounded love.



## A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



## YOUTH MINISTRY CONTINUES

YOUNG WV CATHOLICS invites teens to be part of

**projectYM**  
A WEEKLY LIVE YOUTH NIGHT  
**LIVE**

Instead of feeling cooped up, encourage your teen to feel energized by participating in the PROJECT YM LIVE event and Young WV Catholics Zoom conversation. Office of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Interim Director, Shawn Madden, invites you to find out more and sign up at:

[www.youngwvcatholics.com/ymlive.html](http://www.youngwvcatholics.com/ymlive.html)

Project YM, a national youth ministry organization, streamed its first hour-long live youth night last week. It was attended online by more than 9,000 households! The event at [projectym.com/live](http://projectym.com/live) had games, prizes, a solid message, and engaging prayer. Help middle and high school students you know by sharing this opportunity.

## Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://EBREVIARY.COM) [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](http://LITURGY OF THE HOURS)



## 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
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City - Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7

You can find LoL Radio online at [LoLRadio.org](http://LoLRadio.org)

## ONLINE RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK:

In addition to our diocesan website, [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG), check out:

- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website, for resources presented in text, audio, and video formats. Daily Readings written: [USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS](http://USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS) Daily Readings audio: [USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS-AUDIO.CFM](http://USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS-AUDIO.CFM) Video Reflection [USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/REFLECTIONS/INDEX.CFM](http://USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/REFLECTIONS/INDEX.CFM)  
The usccb.org site will also give you tutorials on how to pray the Rosary, the Divine Chaplet, and other prayers and devotions.
- National Catholic Register for Catholic news, stories, blogs, etc. at [NCREGISTER.COM](http://NCREGISTER.COM)
- The Catholic News Service for the latest headlines for Catholics [WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.COM](http://WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.COM)
- My Daily Living with Fr. John Chapin Engler at [MYDAILYLIVING.COM](http://MYDAILYLIVING.COM)
- Fr. James DeViese - Altar-ed State: [WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/FRDEVIESE](http://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/FRDEVIESE)
- Music ministries on Facebook: My Heart is Ready, [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WWW.DAVIDHAAS.US](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WWW.DAVIDHAAS.US) and John Angotti Music Mission, [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHNANGOTTIMUSICMISSION](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHNANGOTTIMUSICMISSION)