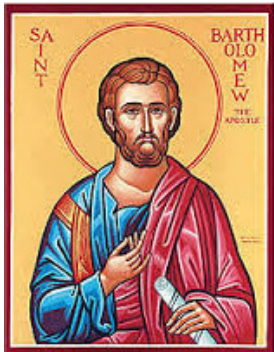




ST. BARTHOLOMEW A MAN OF HUMBLE GRACE



The Church celebrates the Feast Day of St. Bartholomew one of the 12 Apostles on August 24.

Although the biblical documentation of St. Bartholomew is scarce, we can come to know him as a humble follower to whom many faithful can relate. He is someone who did not need the limelight. His silence speaks volumes. He shows us that to know Christ is to love Him and to want to serve Him.

In John 1:47-51 we can see that Saint Bartholomew's (also called Nathanael) character could be described as a faithful Jew, honest, innocent, a just man, who devotes much time to quiet reflection and prayer, awaiting the Messiah. It was Philip who took St. Bartholomew to see Jesus, who said to him, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree."

Pope Benedict XVI has said St. Bartholomew answers Jesus "with a clear and beautiful confession of faith: 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' In this confession is conveyed a first important step in the journey of attachment to Jesus."

"His heart is moved by Jesus' words, he



feels understood, and he understands (God) knows everything about me, He knows and is familiar with the road of life; I can truly trust this man," the former pontiff said.

"Nathanael's words shed light on a twofold, complementary aspect of Jesus' identity: he is recognized both in his special relationship with God the Father, of whom he is the Only-begotten Son, and in his relationship with the People of Israel, of whom he is the declared King, precisely the description of the awaited Messiah," he said. "We must never lose sight of either of these two elements because if we only proclaim Jesus' heavenly dimension, we risk making

him an ethereal and evanescent being; and if, on the contrary, we recognize only his concrete place in history, we end by neglecting the divine dimension that properly qualifies him."

St Bartholomew's relics are venerated in Rome in the Church dedicated to him on the Tiber Island.

"St. Bartholomew stands before us to tell us that attachment to Jesus can also be lived and witnessed to without performing sensational deeds," Pope Benedict said.

Let St. Bartholomew's example influence your thoughts and deeds. Instead of overthinking and questioning, choose trust and peace, knowing God is present and He is always working for the greater good for all of the faithful.

PRAYER TO TRUST LIKE ST. BARTHOLOMEW

Lord, my trust in You at times is weak. At times I doubt Your goodness and Your providence in my life. Help me to always trust more like St. Bartholomew in Your gentle invitation than in my own conclusions in life. Help me to be led by You always so as to live daily in accord with Your perfect plan. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.



MOTHER AND SON SAINTS!

The following was presented by Ave Maria Press – a ministry of the United States Province of Holy Cross. Check out their website at AveMariaPress.com.



August 27 and August 28, the feast days of St. Monica and St. Augustine—mother and son—are celebrated back to back. It figures.

St. Monica could be called the “persistent mother.” A North African woman living in the fourth century,

Monica was married to Patricus, a pagan, through the arrangement of her family. Monica endured plenty of emotional abuse from her husband, but her greater challenge was her oldest son, Augustine.

When he was a child, Monica taught her son the Catholic catechism and how to pray. When Augustine grew seriously ill, he requested Baptism, but when he began to recover, Baptism was forgotten.

Later, as a student in Carthage, Augustine came to follow a heretical teaching, Manichaeism, that claimed that the body was evil while the soul alone was good. He also liked to party, and he lived with his girlfriend and their son. Monica was so disgusted with Augustine that she would not let him eat or sleep in her home.

Mother and son rarely spoke to each other. Still Monica continued to pray for Augustine after a bishop told her that it was better to talk to God about Augustine than to Augustine about God. The bishop also told her: “At present the heart of the young man is too stubborn, but God’s time will come. It is

not possible that the son of so many tears should perish.”

Augustine’s time came some years later. In Milan, Augustine was inspired by the preaching of the Catholic bishop there, St. Ambrose. Soon after, Augustine became torn between living chastely and his past sinfulness. Augustine went out to an outer garden at the place where he was staying. He threw himself on the ground under a tree and cried out, “How long, O Lord?” Will you always be angry with me? Remember not my past sins.”

Just then Augustine could hear the singing of a neighbor child on the other side of the wall. The child kept repeating the same verse over and over, “Tolle lege! Tolle lege!” which means “Take up and read!” He got up, went inside, and found the Bible opened to Romans 13 where he read: “Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the desires of the flesh’ (Rm 13:12-14).

Augustine was baptized by Ambrose on Easter Sunday in 387. Soon after, his mother died. She said shortly before her death, “I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here. All I wished to live for was that I might see you a Catholic and a child of heaven.”

Augustine lived chastely from that time on. He was ordained and named bishop of Hippo. St. Augustine is one of the great scholars of the Church. He is a Doctor of the Church.

His mother has not been forgotten either. St. Monica is the patron saint of mothers and fathers and of all lost and wayward children. And the church recently moved St. Monica’s feast day to August 27 so that it would be near her son’s the following day.



CELEBRATE THE SAINTS WITH CHILDREN

We can all be like St. Monica and share our love of God with the children in our lives. There are many resources for Catholic families online. One of our favorites is CatholicLiving.com.

Click on this link [AUGUST FEAST DAYS](#) to enjoy some creative ways to celebrate a few of the saints we honor in August.

This is the month we also celebrate the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who is the Queen of all saints. The founder of the site presents a variety of activities focused on Mary from gardens to recipes and lots of other fun ways to engage your children or grandchildren at CatholicLiving.com.

THE LATEST AND UPCOMING NEWS FROM THE CATHOLIC *Spirit*

HELPING CAMDEN HUG

By: Jade Jeffers, Catholic Charities West Virginia Birth to Three Parent Partner

A Testimonial by a Parent in our Birth to Three Program:

My son, Camden, was born in April of 2013 at just over 35 weeks gestation. I was over the moon excited to meet the little life that had I had been nurturing for just shy of nine months. He was considered premature and was smaller than all of the other babies in the nursery, but he did well despite his earlier than expected entrance into the world and we went home just two days after he was born.

After 12 blissful weeks of maternity leave, I returned to work full time and Cam began



to attend daycare with his big sister. As his second birthday drew near, the staff and I began to notice that Cam was no longer meeting the developmental milestones for his age. The director of the facility was familiar with the Birth to Three program because her own son had received services, and she didn't hesitate to recommend the program to me and begin the referral process. Despite knowing that Cam was falling behind his peers, it was nonetheless hard to hear it confirmed by another person.

Read about Camden's story and how Catholic Charities West Virginia Birth to Three program helped him in the latest e-version of the The Catholic Spirit.

For more news and information from The Catholic Spirit visit THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG or follow on Facebook at WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/THECATHOLICSPIRITWV

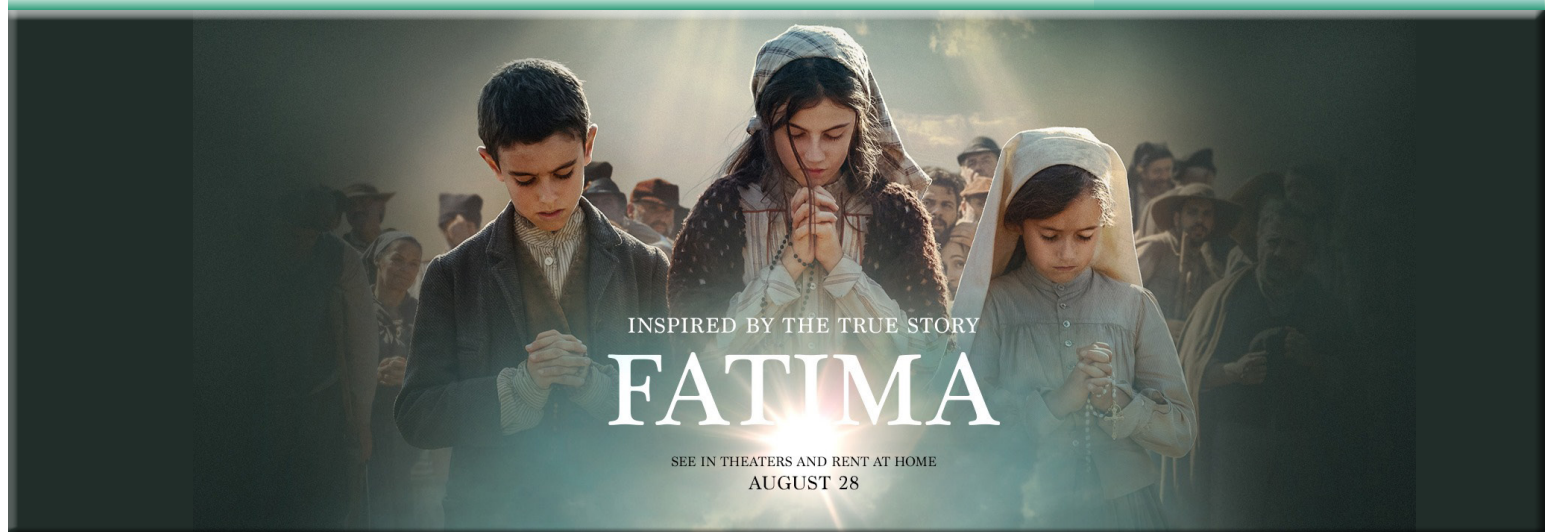
THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT IS NOW AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL!

You are invited to join our new e-list to receive The Catholic Spirit by e-mail. To be added to the e-list, send an e-mail to Colleen Rowan, CROWAN@DWC.ORG, with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line. Please let us know your preference saying: "E-mail only, and remove me from print mailing list" or "I would like both print and e-mail versions."

By joining the e-mail list, you will receive an e-mail on each issue date of The Catholic Spirit with a link to the full issue.

The Catholic Spirit will now be available under "Downloadable Spirit" at

THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG.



FATIMA MOVIE RELEASE DATE SET FOR AUGUST 28

After having to postpone its release because of the pandemic the feature film about the story of the children of Fátima will be available on demand and in select theaters August 28th.

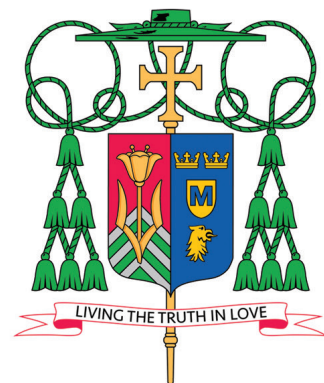
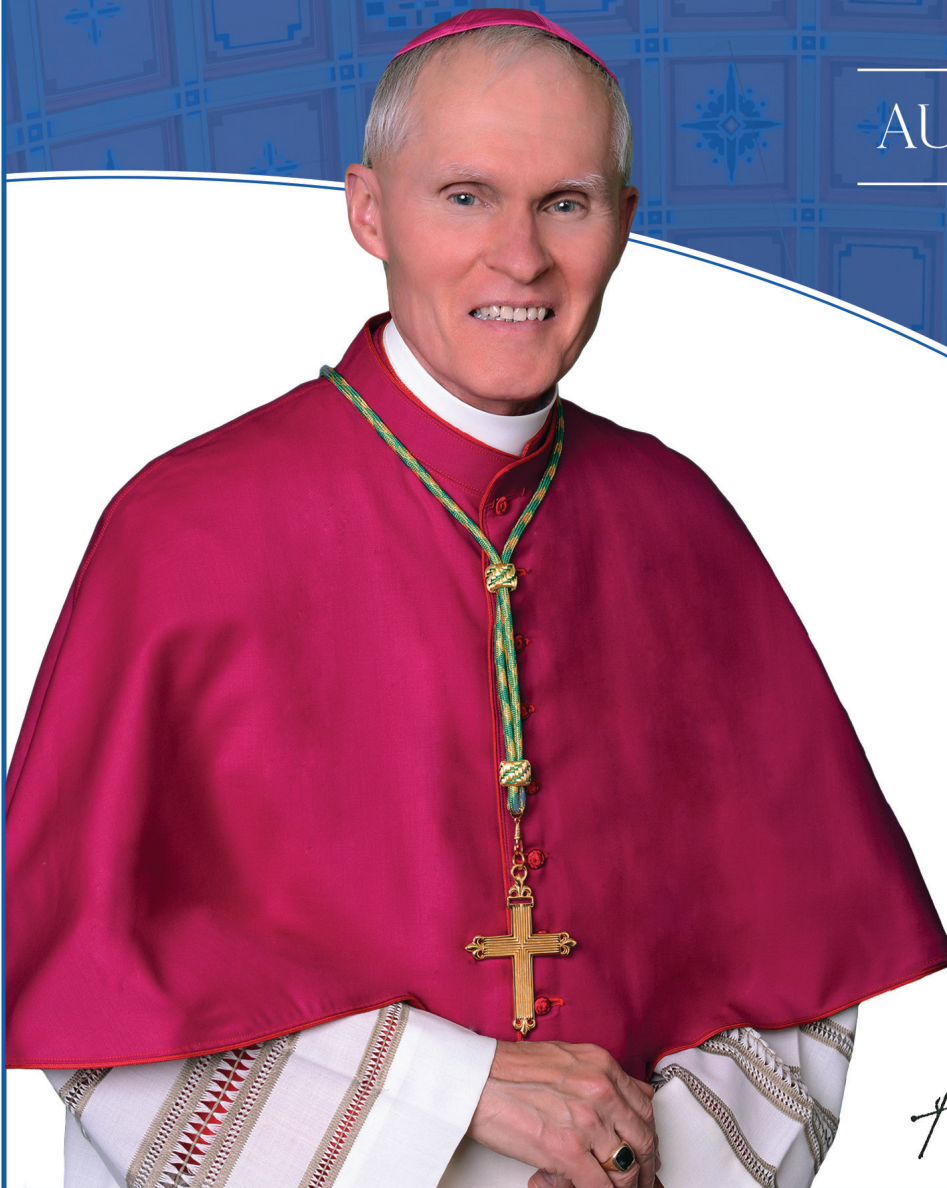
"Fatima" a historical drama, directed by Marco Pontecorvo and distributed by Picturehouse, was originally scheduled for widespread release April 24.

Based on the real-life 1917 events "Fatima" tells the story of Mary appearing to Lúcia Santos, a young Portuguese girl, and her two younger cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

To get updates and watch a trailer of the film go to the film's official FaceBook page, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MOVIEFATIMA/.

God Bless
BISHOP MARK
ON HIS FIRST ANNIVERSARY
AS BISHOP OF THE
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

AUGUST 22, 2020



† Mark E. Brennan

MASS READINGS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading ISAIAH 22:19-23

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace:

"I will thrust you from your office and pull you down from your station. On that day I will summon my servant Eliakim, son of Hilkiah; I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him with your sash, and give over to him your authority. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut when he shuts, no one shall open. I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot, to be a place of honor for his family."

Responsorial PSALM 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

R. (8bc) Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth; in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise; I will worship at your holy temple.

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I will give thanks to your name, because of your kindness and your truth: When I called, you answered me; you built up strength within me.

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

The LORD is exalted, yet the lowly he sees, and the proud he knows from afar. Your kindness, O LORD, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands.

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading ROMANS 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways!

*For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor?
Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?*

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Alleluia MATTHEW 16:18

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MATTHEW 16:13-20

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

That our leaders may observe what is right and do what is just and in so doing lead us to in pursuing justice and goodness for all, we pray . . .

That immigrants and refugees around the world who seek a better life for themselves and their families, may be kept safe from harm as they learn to call a new nation home, we pray . . .

That teachers and administrators find strength and patience as they prepare for schools to reopen, we pray . . .

That scientists and researchers may discover a safe and effective vaccine for the Coronavirus, we pray . . .

Lord hear our prayer

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

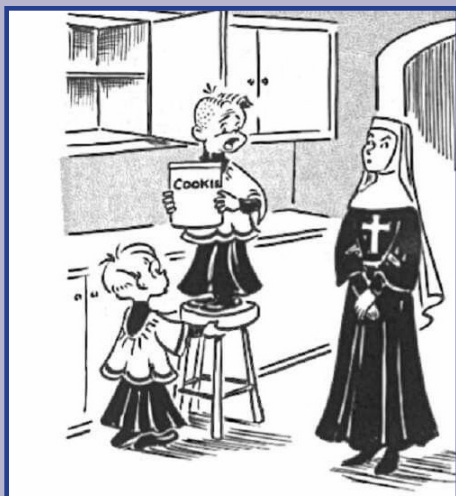
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

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

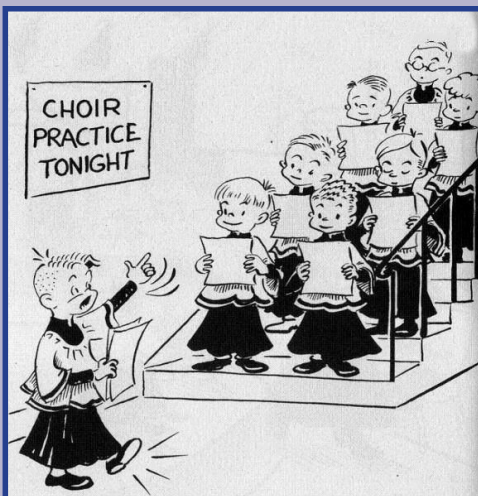
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

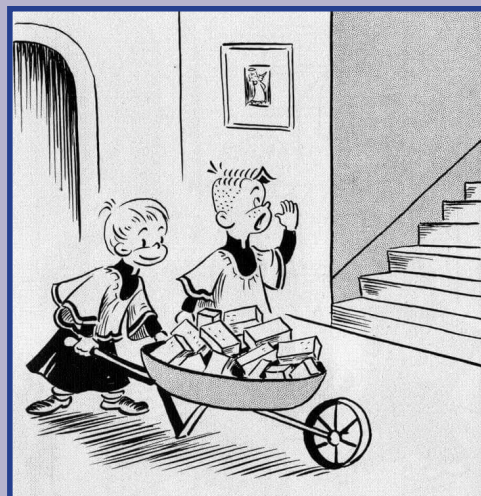
A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



"Well, it's like this, Sister, we prayed to St. Anthony and he helped us find them."



Okay, boys, in the Catholic Church, "Joy to the World" has nothing to do with Jeremiah the bullfrog!



"Father! Come and see what we've collected for the building fund!"

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 LITURGY OF THE HOURS



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WV Catholic Schools

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For a list of WV Catholic Schools go to:

🌐 wvcatholicschools.org

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.

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: [HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: [HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)