



LISTEN

God is Calling You

“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” – Psalm 90.

God’s grace, blessings, and love are so vast, so strong.

Don’t ignore Him.

Resist being distracted or fooled – preoccupied by the challenges of life.

God has a plan for each of us. We have to silence our world to listen to Him.

An ideal role model for this is found in the life of St. John Vianney, whose memorial we honor on August 4.

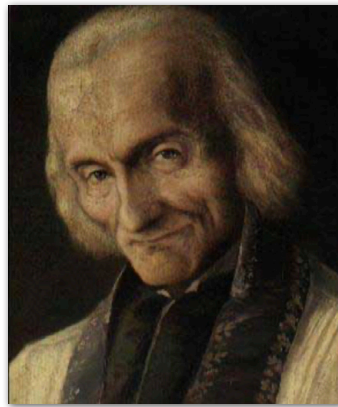
Many are familiar with him, because he is the patron saint for parish priests. He was one for 41 years in France.

It is said he had hopes of living the contemplative life devoted to prayer as a sequestered monk, but God’s plan for him was to share his love of prayer and the sacraments by shepherding in the Church. It wasn’t easy, but he put aside his own wishes. He redefined his goal to “win many souls for God.”

He was human. He struggled, faced challenges, personal turmoil, and grew up in a time, when religious persecution stole from him and the faithful of the Church in France the joy of publicly celebrating the sacraments in a physical church, before grand art of saints, a life size crucifix, and ornate candelabras.

Vianney was born on May 8, 1786, in Dardilly, France. His parents Matthew and Marie Vianney had six children. They were devout Catholics and ran a humble farm. Life was simple and God was the center of their lives.

When St. John Vianney was three the French Revolution aimed to destroy the French monarchy which had strong roots in the Catholic Church. Priests went into hiding. Churches closed. Faithful had to gather unsuspectedly and plot out how



they could celebrate and honor the Sacraments. Most of the time they were done so in near silence in cellars or barns and often in the dark of night.

Saint John Vianney made his first confession at the age of 11, not in his parish, but in his family’s living room.

He made his First Holy Communion at 13 in his neighbor’s kitchen.

Through the grace of God these life experiences propelled St. John Vianney’s determination to listen and be close to Christ.

Look to St. John Vianney for inspiration, treasuring Christ’s True Presence in the Eucharist. Call upon him to help us not take Mass for granted.

“When we come from our Communion, if anyone said to us: ‘What are you taking home with you?’ we should be able to reply: ‘I am carrying away Heaven!’”

“When you awake in the night, transport yourself quickly in spirit before the Tabernacle, saying: ‘Behold, my God, I come to adore You, to praise, thank, and love you, and to keep you company with all the Angels.’”

As we honor this holy priest of God, reflect upon the importance of the priesthood. He once said, “If I were to meet a priest and an angel, I would greet the priest first and then the angel.... If there were no priest, the Passion and death of Jesus would serve no purpose. What use is a treasure chest full of gold if there is no one who can unlock it? The priest has the key to the treasures of Heaven.”



Saint John Vianney died at the age of 73 on August 4, 1859. His incorrupt body is in a glass reliquary at the main altar in the Basilica of Ars, in Ars, France.

Saint John Vianney, pray for us!

“This is my beloved Son, listen to Him.”

~God

The Transfiguration of the Lord is celebrated each year on August 6. Approach this feast like St. Paul - keeping our eyes towards heaven and our priorities with Christ not in the greed and evil of this world.

The story of the Transfiguration of Jesus is told to us by Matthew (17:1-18), Mark (9:2-8); and Luke (9:28-36).

The apostles describe the glory of Christ illuminated in a spectacular scene that is both overwhelming and breathtaking.

According to scripture, as they were half asleep, apostles Peter, James, and John are startled by not only radiant light, but also by the intensity of what they saw. Before them Jesus truly changed. He transfigured, wearing all white garments, and his face was illuminated like the light of the sun. He was joined by Moses and Elijah and the three talked about His “exodus” or departure through His Passion, death, and Resurrection.

Then God tells Peter, James, and John, “This is my beloved Son, listen to Him.”

We can see that in this Transfiguration story the entire Trinity was present – God the Father in voice, God the Son before them, and God the Holy Spirit in the magnificent light.

It all takes place high on a mountain, which in those days was considered a place to sincerely reflect and hope for great revelation.

Just days before this magnificent event Jesus told the apostles, who were convinced he was the Messiah, that he was going to go to Jerusalem, the city of Kings. Contrary to what the apostles believed He was not going there to gain material blessings or earthly riches. He described he would go into the city and face a horrific death (Matthew 16:16-23). Jesus taught them that through his suffering and death would come the glory of freedom from sin, and the grace of everlasting life.

Later after the Transfiguration it is the same three apostles – Peter, James, and John – who witness Jesus’ agony in the garden of Gethsemane. It could not have been more opposite of what they saw on the mountain. Jesus was overwhelmed in his sorrow and distress. It was visible on

his face covered with sweat like blood for He knew the fate haunting him. He was going to be betrayed, arrested, and then crucified (Matthew 26:36-46).

Let the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus rattle us to the point we ask ourselves; do we really listen to God? Do we do what is difficult in order to honor Him?

God invites us to do what is hard and difficult every day in the events that unfold in our daily lives.

Lord, help us to drop what we are doing to help one another. Help us to complete something that we know is for the greater good and not keep putting off. God gives us the grace to handle all challenges and difficulties. May we use our free will wisely. Let our prayers bring to us awareness of Christ’s unconditional love for us.



To The Top and Always Close to Jesus

Canonization of Two Saints of Our Times

We are a month away from a canonization of two impressive young men with holy souls – role models not only for youth, but all of us.

Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blesseds Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis on Sept. 7 in Rome.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

“To live without a Faith... is not living but existing.”



Verso l'alto! - This Italian phrase, meaning, “To the top,” was written by Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati on a photo of him mountain climbing. It was one of the last taken of him. A month later he died of polio on July 4, 1925, at the age of 24.

“To the top” is how he lived life – focusing upward and onward – working to get closer to God and Heaven.

“The higher we go, the better we shall hear the voice of Christ,” he said.

Frassati was from a well to do family, fun-loving, adventurous, popular, and handsome. Vanity was not an issue for him. He enjoyed life to its fullest which he also meant for him serving the least among us – the poorest of poor, the sick, and the forgotten. Most who knew him didn't know that latter. He didn't boast of helping the needy, and when friends did hear about it they'd question how he could even stand to be in such filth and stench.

Pier Giorgio Frassati was the organizer of fun among his friend group, and never missed an opportunity to read Scripture or pray the rosary with them.

He was a “Man of the Eight Beatitudes,” said Pope John Paul II at his beatification in 1990. It is in the Beatitudes that Christ gave us

the path of true happiness with Him in God's kingdom.

Hundreds of people lined the streets and followed his coffin for his funeral procession. His family was in awe, when they came to realize that the majority of the mourners paying respects were the men, women, and children he lovingly, happily, and humbly served for seven years. Until that moment his servant leadership sacrifices were unknown by his affluent family.

Enjoy learning more about Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati at: FRASSATIUSA.ORG

The site offers photos, videos, and everything from noting his favorite devotions, saint, religious community influences, and quotes from his speeches he gave to young people.

Blessed Carlo Acutis

“Always be close to Jesus.”



The canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis is one of the most anticipated worldwide in years in part because of his youth, being a millennial, and the tech savvy teen’s fascination and creation of an online exhibit of Eucharistic miracles from around the globe. He was born in London and grew up in Milan, Italy.

Originally, Blessed Carlo’s canonization was to take place on Sunday, April 27, during the Jubilee of Adolescents, but was postponed following the death of Pope Francis.

Blessed Carlo Acutis is beloved in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston for the same reasons as our brothers and sisters around the world, but also for four other reasons.

1. He was one of our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress Saints in 2023.
2. He was the patron of the National Eucharistic Revival.
3. His relic travelled to parishes in all six vicariates of WV in the Fall 2022 for veneration.
4. Most significantly- he is the namesake of our Catholic youth adventure camp – Camp Carlo in Huttonsville, named in 2021.

For the slight chance you are not familiar with Carlo Acutis – the beloved Italian teen died from leukemia at the age of 15 in 2006.

Acutis loved the outdoors, video games, sports, and computers. He also enjoyed school mainly, because it was a chance to hang out with friends. He was actually considered a computer expert for his age, having learned programming in elementary school at a collegiate level. While he was extremely savvy in and enthusiastic about technology, he was also devoted to something else on an extraordinary level - Christ and the Church. His faith has been described as “pure and certain.”

He went to Mass every day. When people would ask him what his plans were for the future he would say, “To always be close to Jesus. That’s my life plan.”

He was surprised, as he grew older, that his friends did not have the same devotion and need for Christ in their lives. He frequently told his friends that the “Eucharist is my highway to heaven.” He hoped the same for them. He knew the power of the internet and chose to use it as online evangelization. He created a website dedicated to the Eucharistic Miracles of the World - WWW.MIRACOLIEUCARISTICI.ORG. There he presented his research as a virtual museum. His friends and family continue to carry on the website and Acutis’ hope that it will bring people to Church and the Eucharist. The site is presented in 17 languages, and the Eucharistic Miracles exhibit can be downloaded as posters for free.

Let the life of Blessed Carlo be an example of not only how we can put God first, but also how each of us can find our own way to evangelize – for Carlo it was through “the digital world” to share the Gospel, the Church, the Eucharist, and miracles with all.

“To always be close to Jesus—that’s my life plan.”



A CELEBRATION OF THE CANONIZATION OF SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Join us as we give thanks to God for the canonization of *Saint Carlo Acutis*, the first millennial saint—an ordinary teenager with extraordinary faith.

◆ **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 7:00 P.M.**

Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality Movie

Pizza, popcorn & drinks provided

◆ **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 10:30 A.M.**

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

The highlight of our weekend celebration!

A reception will follow the Mass, featuring
Carlo’s Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

Share your photos with **#CarloCanonized**

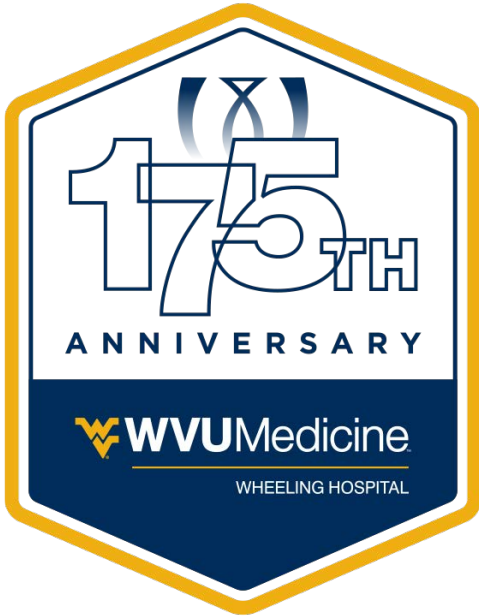
Cathedral of St. Joseph
1300 Eoff Street
Wheeling, West Virginia

Please RSVP at DWC.ORG



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Saturday, September 13, 2025

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The Angelus Center at St. Michael Parish
1225 National Rd., Wheeling, WV 26003

For more information or to sign up today, please contact:

Will Dempsey • 304-382-3081 • wkdempsey3@gmail.com



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EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Don't be vain and become obsessed with material objects - hoarding and not letting go, focus on God not meaningless vanities, let us pray to the Lord.

Responsorial: Psalm 90

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Saint Paul reminds us to keep our sights on Heaven not earthly things. Turn away from evil, impurities, lies, and idolatry. Renew your spirit in Christ.

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Don't be greedy, selfish, and thus ill-prepared for life eternal. For what matters to God is a rich soul not a hoarder of earthly treasures.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Pope Francis, Bishop Mark, all priests, deacons, sisters, brothers, and laity dedicating their lives to build up the Church, may they remain wise, focusing on heaven as they serve as Christ's voice, hands, and feet, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our seminarians and all those discerning their Catholic vocation, may they be renewed in the spirit of Christ, open to the call to put Him first in all they do, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our communities and all who work and volunteer to keep us out of harm's way, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we as the Church treasure our faith and confidently share Christ's goodness and the hope we find in Him to make our world a better place for others, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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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.