



COME TO THE TABLE ~ SPRING 2023

DON'T MISS THIS GATHERING OF THE CHURCH IN WV!



Spring 2023 will bring three regional Eucharistic Congresses to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Faithful across the state will have three locations to choose from - Charles Town, Wheeling, and Charleston.

These homegrown events are part of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year renewal of “the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.”

REMEMBER THE JUNE EUCHARISTIC PROCESSIONS ON THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI?

In our diocese we began the first year of the revival - the Diocesan Year - with Eucharistic processions in our parishes in all six of our vicariates in West Virginia last June. Wow! What an impressive visual for all to see our love of Christ and the Eucharist- the Source and Summit of our faith! This diocesan year will conclude in June after the final Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, and on June 11th the Year of Parish Revival begins, extending to July 17, 2024.

WHAT IS A EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS?

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Eucharistic Congresses are large weekend gatherings of faithful of all ages to bear witness to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. A Congress brings together people from a wide area for prayer services, celebratory music, Mass, enriching talks, Eucharistic Adoration, and more.

WHERE WILL THEY BE?

The Eucharistic congresses will be:

- April 21-22 St. James Catholic Church, **Charles Town**
- April 28-29 Cathedral of Saint Joseph, **Wheeling**
- June 2-3 Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, **Charleston**

Because the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encompasses the entire state and geographical distances and mountainous topography present significant challenges it is more considerate and effective to gather regionally rather than Diocesan-wide.

WHO IS THIS REALLY FOR?

The Eucharistic Congresses will tailor activities to target faithful of all ages. The whole family is encouraged to attend along with our clergy, religious, and Catholic organizations and schools.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Bishop Mark Brennan is calling all of us together to celebrate Christ's real presence and to see the faithful fully alive. “Believe what Christ said at the Last Supper, “This is my Body. This is my Blood!” This has been Bishop Mark Brennan's emboldening message to the faithful during his ministry.

We are also doing this to give each one of us the gift of time with God. God is truly a God of miracles. His love heals and transforms. Let this be a time to restore our mind, body, soul, and spirit.

Choose to attend and ask God to revive our love of the Eucharist, breathe His life into our lives and the Church.

SO, THERE ARE NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKERS?

Each Regional Eucharistic Congress will feature a different keynote speaker - so feel free to register when the time comes to attend all three. The keynote will not only address the entire congress with an uplifting talk about the Eucharist, but also will take part in a Q&A conversation during the weekend. The keynote along with a panel of breakout session presenters will bring the message to life, reviving our spirits, energizing our hearts, and give us confidence share Christ with others as a Eucharistic people.

Continue...

WHO ARE THE KEYNOTES?



In **Charles Town, April 21-22**, will be **Father Luke Spannagel**, of the Diocese of Peoria.

Fr. Luke is a member of the team of National Eucharistic Preachers which is part of the National Eucharistic Revival of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Fr. Luke currently serves at the Cathedral and Heart of Peoria Parishes in Peoria, IL. He grew up outside of a small farm community in Pesotum, IL. After his undergrad studies at the University of Illinois, he went on to seminary at Mt. St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, MD. He was ordained for the Diocese of Peoria in 2003 and has enjoyed assignments in campus ministry and parishes of all sizes.

Fr. Luke has shared that his time each day in the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration are the best parts of his day. He loves being a spiritual father to many and has a great passion for helping hearts to grow.



In **Wheeling, April 28-29**, will be **Fr. Timothy Anastos**, of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Fr. Tim was ordained a priest in 2017. He is currently the associate chaplain of the St. John Paul II Newman Center at the University of Illinois-Chicago. He is also a Eucharistic Preacher of the USCCB.

He is also the host of Reel Homilies - minute-long YouTube, Instagram and TikTok reflections on the Sunday Gospel readings where he speaks through the lenses of Church tradition, pop culture, and self-improvement.



In **Charleston, June 2-3**, will be **Fr. Joe Freedy**. Father Joe is no stranger to our diocese, having spoken at Mountaineer Catholic's *Encounter Love* event in Morgantown. Fr. Joe Freedy is the youngest of 5 children; he grew up in Pittsburgh. He played football at the University at Buffalo, where he was the starting quarterback for 3 years. After college he entered the seminary and was assigned to study in Rome at the Gregorian University and the John Paul II Institute. He was ordained a Priest in 2008. Fr. Joe served as the vocation director for 8 years and is currently the Assistant Director of Evangelization for the Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Senior Assistant at Divine Mercy Parish. He is also the president of the Dry Bones Ministries.

OKAY, WHAT NOW?

Watch for updates in the FaithInWV e-bulletin, The Catholic Spirit, the diocesan website (DWC.ORG), your parish bulletin, and our diocesan social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter).

It is also important to know the diocesan and parish years will be followed by the National Eucharistic Congress Event set for July 17-21, 2024, when Catholics of all ages will gather in Indianapolis for a five-day congress to build enthusiasm among the faithful to be "eucharistic missionaries." Then the National Year of Mission begins and extends to Pentecost of 2025. This will be a time when all Catholics are encouraged to evangelize and be a light of Christ in the world.

Prayer for Eucharistic Revival

Father in heaven,
you have made us for yourself;
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Fulfill this longing through Jesus, the Bread of Life,
whose sacramental Body we receive in the Eucharist,
so that we may witness to him
who alone satisfies the hungers of the human family.
By the power of your Spirit lead us to the heavenly table
where we may feast on the
vision of your glory for ever and ever. Amen.



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

A REFLECTION ON POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI'S SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS (THE SACRAMENT OF CHARITY)

This column was written by Michael Brumley, candidate in the Permanent Diaconate Formation program for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Benediction of the blessed sacrament begins with presider going to the altar, genuflecting, then kneeling, and incensing the blessed sacrament while a eucharistic song is sung. He then rises and offers a prayer which he chooses from the liturgical

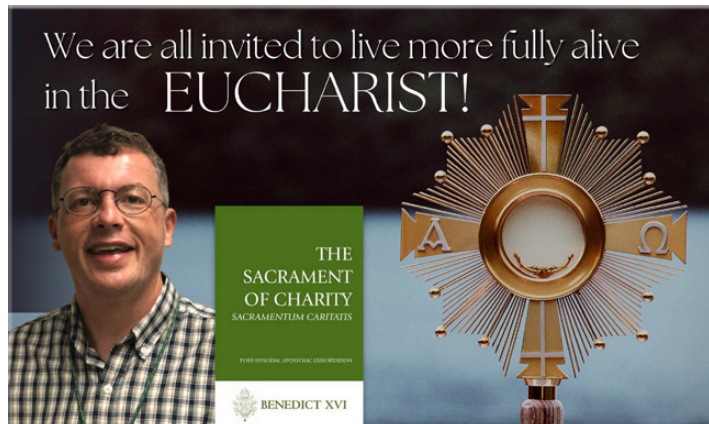
rite. The prayer is a petition that starts with expressing our faith and belief in Jesus' presence in the sacrament, celebrates the salvation won for us, and pledges our undivided love and loving service to others.

It is within this prayer, and its alternative forms, that we find a petition and grace for living a Eucharistic life – a life of faith and service celebrated in continual thanksgiving.

Our recently deceased Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, reflected on *The Eucharist as A Mystery to be Believed, to be Celebrated, and to be Lived*. Benedict sought to stir in our hearts “a renewed commitment to Eucharistic enthusiasm and fervor in the Church” (SC, 5) inviting all of us to enter into the Benediction prayer and seek to live more fully a Eucharistic life.

The Holy Eucharist – The Sacrament of Charity

Benedict XVI, in the opening paragraph of *Sacramentum Caritatis*, describes the Holy Eucharist as “the gift that Jesus Christ makes of himself, thus revealing to us God’s infinite love for every man and woman.” Later in that same paragraph, drawing from the words of John the Evangelist, Benedict reflects on the amazement of the Apostles in “witnessing what the Lord did and said during that Supper” and then in experiencing Jesus’ love “to the end” (Jn 13:1) by “lay[ing] down his life for his friends” (Jn 15:13). In this opening paragraph Benedict explains the Eucharist as a sacrament instituted by a ritual meal which both anticipated and



celebrated the sacrificial offering of Jesus’ body and blood and as this “wondrous” sacrament that makes “manifest that ‘greater’ love” (Jn 13:1). Benedict also points to key elements of the Eucharistic Liturgy – a gift of Jesus himself, a ritual meal, and a sacrifice – all acting together as the action of Christ (truly present) to reveal to us God’s infinite

love for every man and woman.

In the second paragraph Benedict explains how “Jesus shows us in particular the truth about the love which is the very essence of God.” He goes on further, “It is this evangelical truth which challenges each of us and our whole being. For this reason, the Church, which finds in the Eucharist the very center of her life, is constantly concerned to proclaim to all... that God is love. Precisely because Christ has become for us the food of truth, the Church turns to every man and woman, inviting them freely to accept God’s gift.”

A Mystery to be Lived

Benedict specifically encourages “Christian people” to seek a deeper “understanding of the relationship between the eucharistic mystery, the liturgical action, and the new spiritual worship which derives from the Eucharist as the sacrament of charity”(SC, 5). He calls each of us to enter into a “new way of understanding and living one’s life” (SC, 77) as a sacrifice to enter “into full communion with the Pasch of Jesus Christ” (SC, 85).

An Invitation

Benedict proclaims that God is love and invites every one of us to reflect on this truth, to see this truth, to accept this truth, and to receive and consume this truth as “food of truth.” As Lent approaches, I encourage you spend some time each day with Pope Benedict in reflecting on his words in *Sacramentum Caritatis*, especially during this Eucharistic Revival, so that the love of the Eucharist may burn in your hearts.



Eucharistic Retreat Weekend

March 10-12

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Road, Charleston

As part of the Diocesan Year of the Eucharistic Revival in the US, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will host a Eucharistic Retreat. Faithful around the state are invited to attend a weekend to bring our hearts closer to Christ in the Eucharist.

Agenda

Friday

8:00 pm - Social *Participants are encouraged to attend*
Those needing accommodations may also check-in at the retreat center prior to the social.

Saturday

8:00 am - Breakfast *Registration and Mass will follow*
The weekend will consist of inspiring talks, facilitated discussions, Liturgy, Reconciliation, music, and private prayer.
Keynote Speaker and Celebrant: Father John Finnell

Sunday

Breakfast, concluding reflections, and Mass at 11 am

Cost

\$100/per person Price includes meals and accommodations at the retreat center.

For more information email the retreat center director
Gerri Wright at gwright@dwc.org or call her at 304-342-0507.

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY!



A statue of St. Martin de Porres was blessed and permanently placed at Central Catholic High School Gymnasium as a way to honor the students who attended Blessed Martin de Porres Catholic School that once stood on the corner of 13th and Jacob streets in Wheeling.



The statue is an exact replica that welcomed students that served the African American community in Wheeling from 1942 to 1955. Several students who attended the school were part of the ceremony. Ruth Stinson was one. She proudly addressed the crowd to share her love of the school and the importance it has in her heart, and the significance it has in our state and Church history. Alice Walker stood and sang the school fight song that she and her classmates proudly sang at the school 70 years ago. Alongside the statue is a plaque that showcases a photo of Blessed Martin School.

A detailed history of the school is available at:

WWW.ARCHIVINGWHEELING.ORG/BLOG/BLESSED-MARTIN-SEGREGATED-CATHOLIC-SCHOOL-WHEELING

To read more about the event make sure you check out this weekend's print edition of The Catholic Spirit also available at: THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG



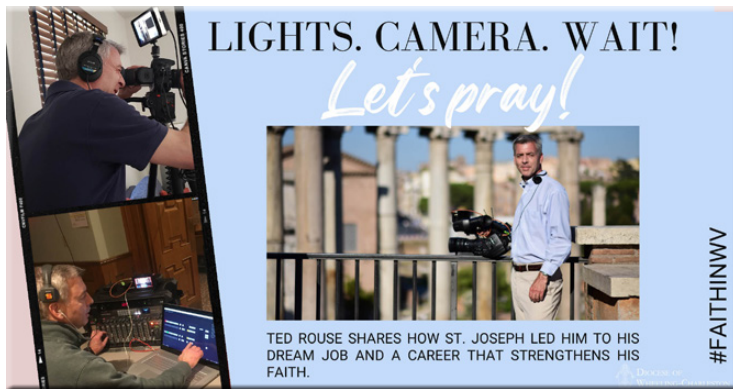
We also suggest reading Haley Steed of Weeklunk's article shared on our Facebook page. Find it at: [WEELUNK.COM/WHEELING-BLESSED-MARTIN-SCHOOL-CELEBRATED/?FBCLID=IwAR2TjwN1HsdYve6AAOUPBJHYG-nThZ1xCAw1BWMIgdOgR9cvH-4kC_B9SL4](https://www.facebook.com/weelunk.com/wheeling-blessed-martin-school-celebrated/?fbclid=IwAR2TjwN1HsdYve6AAOUPBJHYG-nThZ1xCAw1BWMIgdOgR9cvH-4kC_B9SL4)

St. Martin, Patron on racial harmony and social justice, pray for us!



LIGHTS. CAMERA. WAIT! LET'S PRAY!

December 1995 was a dire straits moment for Ted Rouse. He lost his job and was instantly filled with anxiety. It was Christmas, but he was devastated and didn't know which way to turn.



He and his wife Shelly had just bought a house and baby number two was on the way. Overwhelmed with worry on how he was going to pay the hefty mortgage, handle the looming medical expenses, and put food on the table for his young family, Rouse turned to someone he knew could relate to his heartache - St. Joseph.

He prayed big - not just for a job, but one that would provide for his family, a job he would be energized to give it all he had, and a job that would make a difference. He wanted to be that proud hard worker like Joseph - a man who made a way, but didn't have to be in the forefront and happy to be behind the scenes.

"I carried my resume everywhere I went and passed them out to everyone I knew," he said. "On paper I had a degree in business and a Master's in public administration. But that was on paper. My heart kept bringing up thoughts of my 13-year-old self - a film nerd from Wheeling, who didn't want to put down my father's 8mm camera. I needed a job, any job, but I wanted one in video production."

He kept thinking God intentionally gave him the gift of loving film, production, and sharing positive stories and fascinating perspectives, why can't that God lead to a career to specifically use that gift? He continued to call upon St. Joseph, when he prayed and to guide him - send him some sort of sign.

He said most that know him don't know his story let alone his thoughts and how he credits the humble spouse of Mary Mother of God for guiding him on the right path.

"To this day, I religiously pray to St. Joseph, the patron of the family," Rouse said. "I truly believe he has had a hand in providing so many opportunities for me."

It was one of his friends in television production that called Rouse about a job. Rouse thought it was at one of the local stations, but the friend said it was the Diocese of Wheeling-

Charleston. In short, the diocese was looking to do the filming of the Mass and other projects in house.

"It was perfect - the perfect path right there," he said. "I knew it was God moving me. It was St. Joseph."

Pausing, with his eyes closed and shaking his head in affirmation Rouse said, "It was more than a job. It was what I needed. It changed my life. It saved my life."

His first assignment - a video on the history of the cathedral - the Cathedral of St. Joseph!

Rouse ran the in-house productions for the diocese for three years, and in 1999 branched out to start his own company Rouse Studios. He continued to do the work for the diocese - covering appeals, schools, charities, and Mass - but also was able to expand to do video production for public and private businesses.

His work has taken him all over the globe and each trip he has been able to relate back to his faith - visiting the places that gave us the awe-striking architecture he loves in the German, Italian, Irish, Polish, and French inspired churches around the diocese; experiencing the unique cultures of some of the priests now serving in West Virginia; and walking the same ground as many of our holy saints, religious, and pontiffs.

One of Rouse's latest project is working as the executive producer of *Lights Camera Location*, a production series showcasing the locations of classic Hollywood movies - Rome, Paris, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington D.C. and more. He's also had the honor to meet and work with the families of Audrey Hepburn, Gregory Peck, and three-time Oscar winning "Best Director" William Wyler to name a few.

In fact, later this year, Rouse's documentary on Wyler will air on the Turner Classic Movie (TCM) channel. He teamed up with Wyler's daughter Catherine Wyler to produce the program.

Rouse's work has been picked up nationally on The CBS Evening News, ABC's Good Morning America, Fox's Funniest People, The Montel Williams Show and The David Copperfield Magic Special.

Rouse does not take his career for granted and continues to have the humble attitude of St. Joseph the Worker.

"Working for and with the diocese - the mission of the Church - I have learned to tackle my work purposefully to help others as best I can," Rouse said. "When you work for the Church, it becomes natural to focus on using your talents for a higher purpose to honor God. The people I have gotten to work with and meet around the state are the most wonderful, positive people. Each has enriched my faith with their lives - their stories I've shared from behind the camera."

HONORING CONSECRATED LIFE PERSEVERANCE, INSPIRATION, AND SERVICE TO ALL FOR GOD

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS RECALLS IMPORTANCE OF RELIGIOUS SISTERS

Editor's note: the following was written by Jennifer Hornyak, Associate Superintendent of WV Catholic Schools.

It has been such a wonderful Catholic Schools Week-celebrating our 24 schools across the Diocese is always one of the best times of the year! From service projects to vocation talks to celebratory dress down days, the week was filled with faith filled events celebrating the gift of a Catholic education.

Reflecting on my own experience in Catholic Schools, I am so grateful for the impact that my years in Catholic education has had on my life - past, present, and future. I often think of the Sisters of Visitation, who I was privileged to be educated by at Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy in Wheeling.

As we celebrate the Consecrated Life this weekend at our Masses, I am reminded of the great impact that those sisters had, not only on me, but also all the students who walked through that beautiful glass door of the school.

By the time I started at the Mount in 7th grade, there were only a handful of sisters who were still teaching or involved in administration on a daily basis at the school. Even though small in number, their lasting impact was immeasurable. During my time at the Mount the sisters taught me religion, philosophy, math, and even typing! All my classmates would be able to recall and share stories of each of the sisters who taught us these subjects. Even the sisters who were not involved in the day-to-day life of the school made an impact on all of us. Seeing the sisters join us for Mass every week, sitting on their side of the chapel, knowing they were always keeping the students in their daily prayers was extra special.

I remember on a few occasions going over to the "sister's side" of the school building and visiting with them. This was

a big deal because we were all so curious about exploring the convent side of the school which we typically were not allowed to be over in that space! Getting to know the sisters as "real" people was always fun and eye opening to us.



The sisters inspired us to be our best and modeled what true perseverance looked like in daily life. High expectations were the norm but we, deep down, knew that we had the support in reaching those expectations. The sister's dedication to Catholic education was unsurpassed.... dedicating their whole lives to their community and the school. Community service and social justice were integral in our education and the sisters were very involved and vocal about social justice issues in our community. They lived

their faith and were great examples of how we could make a difference through practicing our Catholic faith.

The Sisters of the Visitation made such an impact in my life and are part of the reason that I dedicated my career to Catholic education here, in our Diocese. When I think about the broader picture, I am reminded of the many religious men and women from all different orders have made an impact on this diocese.

I am grateful for all members of the Consecrated Life who have made an impact on our schools and students across West Virginia- past, present, and future. We celebrate their integral part of our schools and are forever grateful for their faith filled service and dedication to Catholic education as we conclude Catholic Schools week and celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life this weekend. Thank you to all men and women religious who have served and continue to service in our Diocese! You are such a gift, and we are so grateful for your presence in the Diocese.

WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

APPLICATION PERIOD IS NOW OPEN/SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR/SHADOW DAY





Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Department of Catholic Schools

304-233-0880 • wvcatholicschools.org

1311 Byron Street • Wheeling, WV 26003

ENROLLMENT TRENDS CONTINUE UPWARD SWING SINCE FALL 2020 PARENTS VALUE EDUCATION OF THE WHOLE CHILD

Five years prior to the pandemic Catholic schools across the nation, including here in West Virginia, were reporting a steady decline in enrollment. However, since the Fall of 2020 numbers are changing with a trending upward swing.

Catholic grade schools have seen a 5.8% increase and the preschool level experienced a 33.5% enrollment increase from the Fall of 2020 to the Fall of 2021.

“In the past 18 months, we have seen more enrollment retention and increases than we have seen in decades in our Catholic schools, as parents prioritized in-person learning, values, mental health, and social interaction in addition to academics,” Catholic Schools of West Virginia Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S., said. “We know the critical value of being together. Our schools provide an environment that is an extension of family. We are committed to providing a quality education and are unapologetically Catholic. Lessons in Catholic faith are integrated into all subject areas and activities.”

She said while parents are favoring an education to nurture the whole child, Catholic schools value and respect that parents are the primary educators of their children.

“Parents choose us and with that they choose a Christ-centered educational environment that balances growth, rules, boundaries, and faith,” Deschaine said. “Further parents and grandparents that send their students to be part of our school families have seen their students’ flourish.”

Reports following 2020 show that transfer students are doing well in the Catholic school setting. According to the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA), 95% of parents said their child had positive academic experiences and 90% said the communication received from the school was excellent.

“What is also an elite finding of the NCEA report is that new families – Catholic and non-Catholic - said the best attribute of Catholic school ‘is the caring and effective faculty and staff,’” Deschaine said. “Parents may be choosing to enroll in our school because of a desire to have reliable in-person learning or higher test scores, but the bottom line is those things happen, because our teachers and staff truly care about the children sitting in our classrooms.”

More than 4,400 students are enrolled in one of 24 Catholic schools in 13 counties of the state and approximately 1,750 of those students are non-Catholic.

To learn more about Catholic education in West Virginia go to: WVCATHOLICSCHOOLS.ORG.

WV HOPE SCHOLARSHIP ACCEPTED AT WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

HOPE
SCHOLARSHIP
WEST VIRGINIA

As the Catholic Schools of West Virginia begin accepting applications for enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year in February, families who anticipate applying to the state’s Hope Scholarship Program - an education savings account (ESA) - are welcome to apply.

The Hope Scholarship Program is an ESA program that will allow parents and families to utilize the state portion of their education funding to tailor an individualized learning experience that works best for them. Beginning on March 1, 2023, the Hope Scholarship Board will accept applications for the 2023-2024 school year.

To learn more about Catholic education in West Virginia go to: wvcatholicschools.org.

For more information about the Hope Scholarship go to: WWW.HOPESCHOLARSHIPWV.COM.

It is important to note that the Hope Scholarship program is run by the state of West Virginia not the diocese or the WV Catholic Schools office.



TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™

CONFERENCE SERIES



DYNAMIC PRESENTATIONS | CHILDCARE | MASS | ADORATION | CONFESSION

FEBRUARY 11, 2023 | 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

WHEELING, WV

\$27/Couple | \$18/Individual

FEATURING:



**Deacon Harold
Burke-Sivers**



**Walt & Jackie
Schratz**



DIocese OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

SAINTS HELP LIGHT THE WAY

HANG IN THERE! PERSEVERE WITH GOD. ~ ST. GONSALO GARCIA

As faithful, we can rattle off a long list of saints off the top of our heads. The church actually has recognized more than 10,000 holy people as saints. From them we have a rich diversity of people, cultures, stories, and heroics.

Even though we don't know them all by name, we can call upon them all to intercede for us. Many of us in the litanies recite, "All you saints and angels, pray for us." Many Catholics are nodding right now, thinking "Yep, I do that. I call on the whole lot of them to help me in my prayer."

Today, we share one such saint – Saint Gonsalo Garcia. He was the first canonized saint of India.

Saint Gonsalo is the patron of the Diocese of Vasai for he is "the son of the soil."

He is recognized by the church as a martyr. He is also known for preaching God's mercy and love is for all people.

Moreover, it is through his life we learn to persevere and hang in there, when things don't go our way; don't give up the dream if it will glorify the Lord, because God will light your way.

Saint Gonsalo was born in Vasai. As a boy he was taught by the Jesuits at his school in Bassein Fort, near

Bombay. When he was 13, he begged to become a Jesuit missionary, but was turned down because he was too young. He persisted in his plea and two years later was



allowed to accompany a Jesuit priest to Japan. He was a very popular catechist among the youth there. For eight years he would have children of all ages seeking him out so they could learn about Christianity.

Saint Gonsalo's dream escalated. He then wanted to become a Jesuit priest, but again, he was denied.

This time, he was deflated. He allowed for his dream to be shattered and went to work as a merchant.

God didn't give up on Gonsalo. His career took him to the Philippines, where he worked with the Franciscans as a lay brother. His charisma and love of Christ was evident, and the Franciscans accepted him as a Friar Minor. He returned to Japan to teach the faith and serve as a translator.

He and 25 other missionaries were falsely accused of inciting people to rebel against the government in Japan and were crucified.

Honor St. Gonsalo Garcia on his feast day, February 6.

St. Gonsalo Garcia, and all you saints and angels, pray for us!



EXPERIENCED WITH CURSILLO?

HELP US RENEW THE MOVEMENT!

Have you ever experienced a Cursillo weekend? Are you a cursillista?

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is trying to resurrect the Cursillo Movement in the diocese and is looking for people who have experience with the apostolic movement.

If you are experienced with Cursillo and would like to join the diocesan efforts in bringing it back to the diocese, please contact Daniel Maul, in the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, at 304-233-0880, ext. 376, or by email at DMAUL@DWC.ORG, or communicate with Joe Pangilinan, at JOEYPANG@AOL.COM

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Feed the hungry. Shelter the homeless. Clothe the naked. Do not turn your back on them. Our actions light the way for others and God will light your way.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 112

“The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

St. Paul tells us his confidence, strength, and words of wisdom from the Holy Spirit. He is just the humble servant, true believer, and voice of the Spirit thanks to the power of God.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

You are the salt of the earth. Light the world with your good deeds. Do not hide your love of Christ. Let it shine for all to see.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/020523.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/020523.CFM)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we not only preach how to be followers of Christ, but also allow our actions to speak louder, let us pray to the Lord. . .

May all leaders work to help the marginalized to give them hope, self-worth, and a future, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who work as God’s hands and feet, may God eliminate the obstacles and darkness in front of them in their personal lives so they can bring light to others, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For an end to racial discrimination, mudslinging, degrading conversations, and tolerance of unjust actions – may all that reflect the wickedness and snares of the devil be cast out of our society and replaced with a mindset of unity and trust, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



FINDING BLESSINGS IN UNEXPECTED PLACES



The West Virginia National Guard delivers 10,000 Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) to the Catholic Charities Charleston Office.

Food insecurity continues to plague our nation and our state; according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 15.1% of West Virginia households face food insecurity.

Due to the far-reaching effects of inflation, donations of food to social service organizations have declined. Our Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Western Region, which serves 16 counties from Wood to Mingo County, has seen an increased need for food while experiencing a decline in donated food.

Fortunately, a substantial donation arrived from the West Virginia National Guard (WVNG) this past fall. The WVNG donated over 10,000 Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs). MREs are self-contained, shelf-stable meals developed for use where other food is not available.

These MREs were a great solution for several of the populations CCWVa serves, including people experiencing homelessness. The CCWVa team shared how grateful they were for this unique partnership with the WVNG.

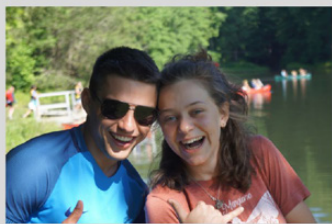
To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG.



BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH CAMP

225 Catholic Conference Center, Hattonsville WV 26273 • (757) 995-4486 • www.campcarlo.org

So you want to be a Camp Carlo Counselor?



If you're committed to growing in faith, modeling faithful Catholic community life to young people, and living the adventure of His Creation, we want YOU at Camp Carlo for Summer 2023!

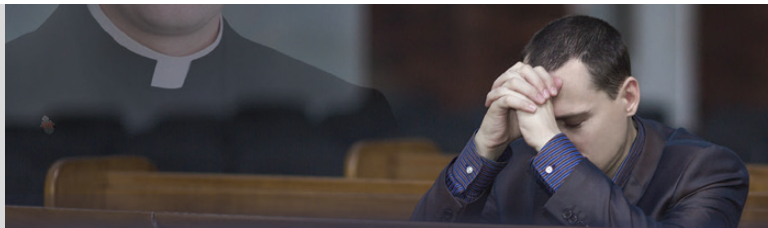


Contact Assistant Director, Maggie Moran, for more information: mmoran@dwc.org or 1 (757) 995-4486

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Berkeley Springs - Hancock, MD	FM	96.3
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Eastern Panhandle	FM	106.5
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St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City -Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
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~Also Streaming in WV at www.rdo.to/WL0L~



Do you want a life of Heroic Sacrifice?

Is God Calling YOU to be a Priest of Jesus Christ?

Come join us for a weekend of prayer and discernment

March 3-5

Priest Field Pastoral Center

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To complete an application visit WVPriests.org

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Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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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.