



## *Prayer for Married Couples*

*World Marriage Day - Feb. 11*

Lord God, we acknowledge your greatness and our need for your grace in our marriage.

We thank you now for the gift you have given us in each other, this opportunity to love and be loved completely.

We accept this beautiful challenge and ask you to bless us.

May our love encourage us to grow to be holier individuals, bringing out the best in each other.

Following your example, Jesus, may we be quick to forgive, ready with a healing word or touch.

Teach us to speak to each other with charity and honesty.

Help us avoid the temptation to take each other for granted.

Instead, remind us, day by day, to see each other as you see us.

May we be as patient with each other as you are with us.

May our love be generous, reaching out beyond ourselves to all we meet.

We pray that they may meet you in us.

Let our life together be a light of hope to those who fear that a total commitment is not possible today.

Faith gives us courage, for we believe that the love that comes from you is freeing and life-giving.

Lord, be a partner with us in our marriage; with your help it will be strong and enduring.

We rejoice that you have brought us together.

May we always be one in you.

Amen.

(written by Dr. Lauri Przybysz, Catholic marriage and family life master catechist)



*The photo featured is of Denny and Gretchen Wilson, taken on their wedding day, August 10, 1974, at St. Michael Parish, Wheeling, where the couple are still parishioners.*

# ASH WEDNESDAY AND BEYOND FOCUS ON WHAT WE GET TO DO

As we approach Ash Wednesday let's focus on what we get to do, because we love God.

Lent is a time to be a doer – giving and giving up. From Ash Wednesday to sundown on Holy Thursday we are to pray, fast, and give alms as an act of penance, because we love God. All of these sacrifices and mortifications of the faithful are not in vain. Remember what St. Paul said in a letter to the Romans (5:3-4): sufferings produce endurance; endurance produces character; and character produces hope.

## PRAYER

Give yourself time to commit to prayer. Pray wholeheartedly not only for our own needs, but also give up time to pray for the needs of others.

## FASTING

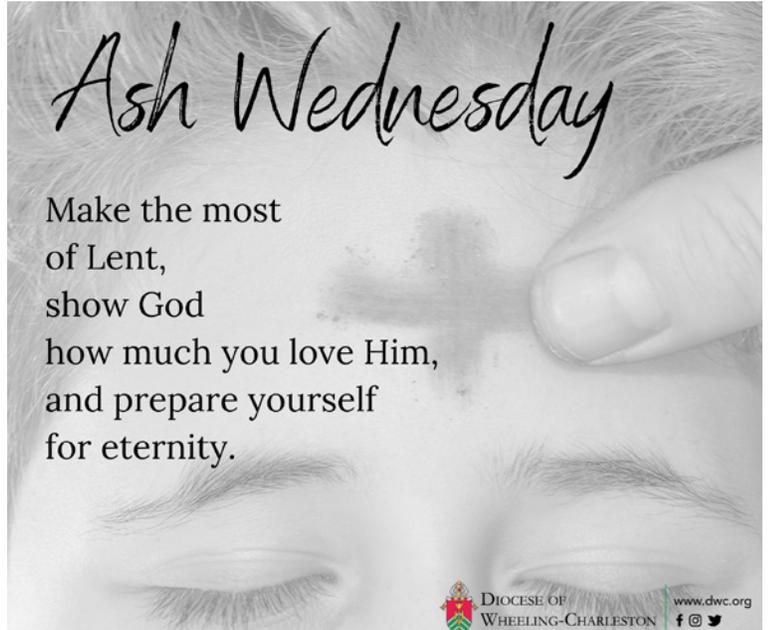
Give yourself a mindset refresh and be confident and fearless in your fasting with the ultimate purpose – preparation for eternity. Give up listening to the many negative voices and our own doubts and anxiety. Fast from meat, yes, but fast too from being judgmental, selfish, and too busy.

## ALMSGIVING

Give in love. Prayerfully consider where God is guiding you to give up your treasure to help another. Be mindful of the needs in your community, parish, and parish school. In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is the Catholic Sharing Appeal, Catholic Charities, and many parishes are seeking to raise funds to send parishioners to represent them at the National Eucharistic Congress.

Ash Wednesday reminds all of us of our mortality, when we hear the words, “You Are Dust & Unto Dust You Shall Return.”

Make the most of Lent, show God how much you love Him, and prepare yourself for eternity.



## READY TO SERVE

Serving fish for a greater good.

Support Lenten

Fish Fry Fridays

Visit [www.dwc.org/fish-fries](http://www.dwc.org/fish-fries)



# Christ is Standing at the Door of Your Heart

*Will you let Him in?*



As we begin our Lenten journey, we share the “I Thirst” meditation. It is often attributed to Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Kolkata), but it was actually written in 1986 by the late Fr. Joseph Langford, MC (Missionaries of Charity Fathers), who was friends with her. It is included in his book, *Mother Teresa’s Secret Fire* (p75).

The meditation emphasizes God’s love for us and the desire for us to always welcome Him into our hearts—the task that St. Teresa’s legacy and the Missionaries of Charity (MC) communities work to fulfill. Inspired by St. Teresa, Fr. Langford was a promoter of the petite sister’s spirituality and wisdom, her focus on “I thirst” – first spoken by Christ on the Cross.

Together St. Teresa and Fr. Langford co-founded the Corpus Christi Movement for diocesan priests, Corpus Christi Fraternity, and the religious congregation of MC Fathers.

Langford passed away in 2010, but thanks to the MC Fathers you can listen to him narrating the “I Thirst” meditation at: [YOUTU.BE/FwBzXIDCJTA?si=VxmfutXYQAA6EH6M](https://youtu.be/FwBzXIDCJTA?si=VxmfutXYQAA6EH6M)

Read and listen to it imagining Christ talking to you – directly, sincerely, and fatherly.

## “I THIRST”

Christ the King is knocking, will you let Him in?

It is true. I stand at the door of your heart, day, and night.

Even when you are not listening, even when you doubt it could be Me, I am there.

I await even the smallest sign of your response, even the least whispered invitation that will allow Me to enter.

And I want you to know that whenever you invite Me, I do come - always, without fail. Silent and unseen I come, but with infinite power and love, and bringing

the many gifts of My Spirit. I come with My mercy, with My desire to forgive and heal you, and with a love for you beyond your comprehension - a love every bit as great as the love I have received from the Father (“As much as the Father has loved me, I have loved you...” [Jn. 15:10]). I come - longing to console you and give you strength, to lift you up and bind all your wounds. I bring you My light, to dispel your darkness and all your doubts. I come with My power, that I might carry you and all of your burdens; with My grace, to touch your heart and transform your life; and My peace I give to still your soul.

I know you through and through - I know everything about you. The very hairs of your head I have numbered. Nothing in your life is unimportant to Me. I have followed you through the years, and I have always loved you

- even in your wanderings. I know every one of your problems. I know your needs and your worries. And yes, I know all your sins. But I tell you again that I love you - not for what you have or haven’t done - I love you for you, for the beauty and dignity My Father gave you by creating you in His own image. It is a dignity you have often forgotten, a beauty you have tarnished by sin. But I love you as you are, and I have shed My Blood to win you back. If you only ask Me with faith, My grace will touch all that needs changing



*Father Joseph Langford, MC, with St. Teresa, founders of the Mission of Charity Fathers.*

in your life; and I will give you the strength to free yourself from sin and all its destructive power.

I know what is in your heart - I know your loneliness and all your hurts - the rejections, the judgments, the humiliations. I carried it all before you. And I carried it all for you, so you might share My strength and victory. I know especially your need for love - how you are thirsting to be loved and cherished. But how often have you thirsted in vain, by seeking that love selfishly, striving to fill the emptiness inside you with passing pleasures - with the even greater emptiness of sin. Do you thirst for love? "Come to Me all you who thirst..."(Jn. 7:37). I will satisfy you and fill you. Do you thirst to be cherished? I cherish you more than you can imagine - to the point of dying on a cross for you.

I thirst for you. Yes, that is the only way to even begin to describe My love for you: I THIRST FOR YOU. I thirst to love you and to be loved by you - that is how precious you are to Me. I THIRST FOR YOU. Come to Me, and I will fill your heart and heal your wounds. I will make you a new creation. and give you peace, even in all your trials. I THIRST FOR YOU. You must never doubt My mercy, My acceptance of you; My desire to forgive, My longing to bless you and live My life in you. I THIRST FOR YOU. If you feel unimportant in the eyes of the world, that matters not at all. For Me, there is no one any more important in the entire world than you. I THIRST FOR YOU. Open to Me, come to Me, thirst for Me, give Me your life - and I will prove to you how important you are to My Heart.

Don't you realize that My Father already has a perfect plan to transform your life, beginning from this moment? Trust in Me. Ask Me every day to enter and take charge of your life - and I will. I promise you before My Father in heaven that I will work miracles in your life. Why would I do this? Because I THIRST FOR YOU. All I ask of you is that you entrust yourself to Me completely. I will do all the rest.



*Saint Teresa descends a stairwell in the Missionaries of Charity house in Calcutta (Kolkata). In the background is Crucifix with the words "I THIRST" on the wall. She shared, "We have these words in every chapel of the MCs (around the world) to remind us what an MC is here for: to quench the thirst of Jesus for souls, for love, for kindness, for compassion, for delicate love."*

Even now I behold the place My Father has prepared for you in My Kingdom. Remember that you are a pilgrim in this life, on a journey home. Sin can never satisfy you or bring the peace you seek. All that you have sought outside of Me has only left you more empty, so do not cling to the things of this life. Above all, do not run from Me when you fall. Come to Me without delay. When you give Me your sins, you give Me the joy of being your Savior. There is nothing I cannot forgive and heal; so, come now, and unburden your soul.

No matter how far you may wander, no matter how often you forget Me, no matter how many crosses you may bear in this life; there is one thing I want you to always remember, one thing that will never change: I THIRST FOR YOU - just as you are. You don't need to change to believe in My love, for it will be your belief in My love that will change you. You forget Me, and yet I am seeking you every moment

of the day - standing at the door of your heart and knocking. Do you find this hard to believe? Then look at the cross, look at My Heart that was pierced for you. Have you not understood My cross? Then listen again to the words I spoke there - for they tell you clearly why I endured all this for you: "I THIRST..."(Jn. 19:28). Yes, I thirst for you - as the rest of the psalm-verse I was praying says of Me: "I looked for love, and I found none..." (Ps. 69:20). All your life I have been looking for your love - I have never stopped seeking to love you and be loved by you. You have tried many other things in your search for happiness; why not try opening your heart to Me, right now, more than you ever have before.

Whenever you do open the door of your heart, whenever you come close enough, you will hear Me say to you again and again, not in mere human words but in spirit: "No matter what you have done, I love you for your own sake. Come to Me with your misery and your sins, with your troubles and needs, and with all your longing to be loved. I stand at the door of your heart and knock ...Open to Me, for I THIRST FOR YOU...

# This June, Two Bishops will Lead a Eucharistic Procession on Ohio River



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

Editor's note: This story is courtesy of The Steubenville Register By Matthew A. DiCenzo, Staff writer for The Steubenville Register STEUBENVILLE, Ohio — The Diocese of Steubenville and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will sponsor a joint diocesan National Eucharistic Pilgrimage event on the Ohio River, June 23.

Bishop Paul J. Bradley, apostolic administrator of Steubenville, and Bishop Mark Brennan will lead a Eucharistic procession on a sternwheeler and move south on the Ohio River.

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is part of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which began in June 2022. According to the timeline on the National Eucharistic Revival's website - [www.eucharisticrevival.org](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org): "This will be one of the largest Eucharistic pilgrimages in history. Just as crowds followed Christ throughout his earthly ministry, our nation will process with our Eucharistic Lord over 6,500 miles - through cities, along highways, and past rural towns - on his way to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress."

The National Eucharistic Congress will take place at Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, and in nearby downtown venues within walking distance, July 17-21, according to the National Eucharistic Congress' website: [www.eucharisticcongress.org](http://www.eucharisticcongress.org).

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage has four trails: the Marian Route (North), the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route (East), the St. Juan Diego Route (South) and the St. Junipero Serra Route (West). Details are available on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's website: [www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org).

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route will be making a stop in Steubenville June 21-23.

Deacon Randall Redington, clergy co-chairperson of the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Core Committee, and his wife, Mary Ellen, lay co-chairperson, announced a "Sing-spiration" event, scheduled from 6-7 p.m., June 21, at Historic Fort Steuben's Berkman Amphitheater, Steubenville. The

core committee expects the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route to arrive around 7 p.m. in Steubenville, and this event will serve as a way to prepare and welcome the pilgrims.

On June 23, Bishop Bradley will celebrate a 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville. After Mass, a procession from the church to a float will take place, followed by a motorcade to the Steubenville marina, the Redingtons said. Once the Blessed Sacrament arrives at the marina, Bishop Bradley, Bishop Brennan and the national pilgrims will board a sternwheeler (seats are by invitation only) with the Eucharist. Parishioners who own boats are encouraged to follow the sternwheeler in an escorted boatercade down the river.

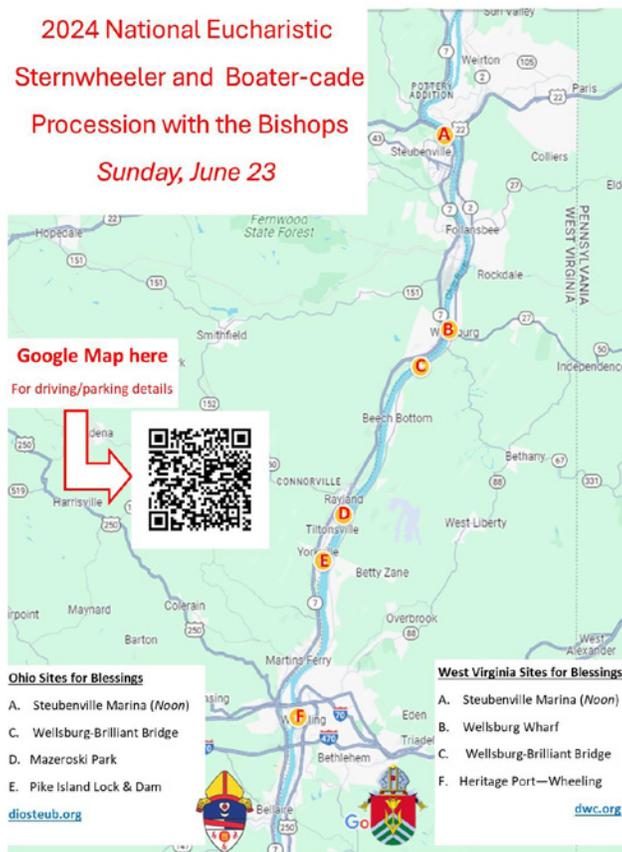
Both states have locations along the banks of the Ohio River for parishioners to gather and receive Eucharistic blessings (see the map and scan the QR code for more details). The locations include the Steubenville Marina (at noon for both the Ohio and West Virginia sides); Wellsburg Wharf; Wellsburg-Brilliant Bridge (Ohio and West Virginia); Mazeroski Park, Tiltonsville (Ohio); Pike Island Locks and Dam at the fishing access point, Yorkville (Ohio); and Wheeling Heritage Port. The Redingtons emphasized that people should "listen for the bell" on the sternwheeler as it approaches them for the blessing. The bell will be rung by the sternwheeler benefactor, President and Captain Bob Harrison of Bellaire Harbor Services, LLC, in memory of Julia Harrison.

Then, the procession will head to the Bellaire Marina. Once everyone arrives, there will be a walking Eucharistic procession to St. John Church, Bellaire. A prayer service will be held, followed by a gathering and meal, according to the Redingtons.

The event will be broadcast from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Our Lady's Radio, WWGL-FM 97.9; as well as on WDWC-FM 90.7. In addition, it will stream online at [www.rdo.to/WL0L](http://www.rdo.to/WL0L) (Light of Life Radio Ministry).

For additional information, visit the Diocese of Steubenville's website at [www.diosteub.org/national-eucharistic-revival](http://www.diosteub.org/national-eucharistic-revival) and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's website at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org).

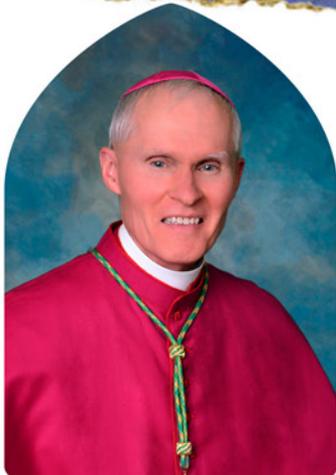
### 2024 National Eucharistic Sternwheeler and Boatercade Procession with the Bishops Sunday, June 23



# Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

**INDIANAPOLIS  
JULY 17 - 21, 2024**

with Bishop Mark Brennan and  
the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston



Participate in this pivotal moment in the Church and draw into a deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code or click Book Now to attend this historic event.



[BOOK NOW!](#)





# NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

## Adult Pricing

**\$919**

Triple/Quad

**\$1,119**

Double

**\$1,619**

Single

### Travel Insurance

Cancel for any reason ("CFAR") travel protection is highly recommended. See Travel Insured link:

[www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21](http://www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21)

## A message from Bishop Mark Brennan on the National Eucharistic Congress

*"It is going to be invigorating to see the faithful of WV at the National Eucharistic Congress representing their local parishes. I'm happy we are partnering with Corporate Travel, a Catholic company that specializes in Catholic pilgrimages, to ease the travel logistics burden for us."*

-Bishop Brennan

### Tour Inclusions

- NEC Congress Pass (5 Days)
- Four (4) nights' accommodations in or near Indianapolis
- Continental breakfast daily (pending hotel assignment)
- Roundtrip transportation from West Virginia to Indianapolis via deluxe motorcoach
- Daily transportation from hotel to the Indianapolis Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium
- Gratuities payable to motorcoach drivers

### Tour Does Not Include

- Meals and beverages not specifically identified
- Items not specifically mentioned above



### 3 Step Registration Process

1. Scan the QR Code on the cover of the flyer or click [HERE](#) to access our online registration site.
2. Follow the prompts to enter your personal information, select your rooming configuration, enter payment information, and acknowledge our terms and conditions.
3. Upon completion, you will receive a confirmation email with your diocesan code and a video tutorial providing instructions for finalizing your registration on the official National Eucharistic Congress' website.



### Payment Schedule:

\$750 per person deposit due upon registration

Remaining balance due April 17, 2024

*All payments are non-refundable. By registering for this tour, you understand and agree to CTS Terms and Conditions and accept our CTS Liability Release. All cancellations must be received in writing.*

**Travel Insurance:** The Archdiocese and CTS strongly encourage passengers to purchase CFAR (Cancel for Any Reason) travel insurance. See Travel Insured link: [www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21](http://www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21)

## 20/20 VISION SERIES

# A YEAR WITH THE SAINTS

Join us as we journey throughout the year focusing on various Saints and their legacies, presented by those among us who live out these legacies in their lives and in their communities.

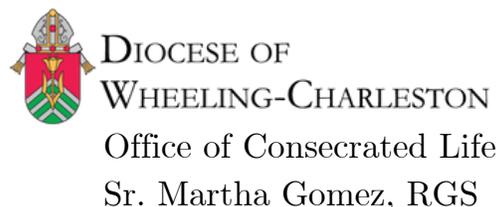
Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

January 29	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Sr. Mary Clark, SC
February 26	St. Brigid of Kildare – Sr. Karen Kirby, CSJ
March 18	St. Joseph – Sr. Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
April 29	St. Mary Euphrasia – Sr. Martha Gomez, R.G.S.
May 20	Blessed Virgin Mary – TBD
June 24	Marcellin Champagnat – Brother John Byrd, FMS
July 29	St. Ignatius of Loyola – Lou Volpe
August 26	St. Dominic – Sr. Ellen Dunn, OP
September 30	St. Lorenzo Ruiz – Fr. Carlos Melocoton
October 28	Jesuit Martyrs – TBD
November 18	Servant of God Dorothy Day – Kate Marshall
December 16	St. Stephan – Deacon John Yaquinta

*(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](mailto:atroiani@csjoseph.org)**



## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The leper dwells apart, making a home away from the camp.

### Responsorial: Psalm 32

“I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.”

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Saint Paul tells us to imitate him, as he dedicates himself to imitate Christ

### Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

The leper comes to Jesus. Christ does the unthinkable for the times – He reaches out and touches the poor leper, cures him, and makes him clean. Jesus is teaching us to break down barriers that keep us apart and reach out to people.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT  
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/021124.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/021124.CFM)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we break down the barriers that make sincere and faithful Catholics feel like outsiders in their own Church, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For leaders of nations, that they work together to break down barriers that divide and isolate, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all suffering from disease or illness, and for those who treat them and care for them, that they may realize the Lord's healing touch, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For married couples, as well as couples who are divorced or separated, may Christ touch their hearts and fill them and their families with mercy, love, hope, and wisdom of the promises of Christ, 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
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
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.9

~Listen on LoL Stream at [www.rdo.to/WLOL~](http://www.rdo.to/WLOL~)

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## Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://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](http://DWC.ORG).