



HONORING MARRIAGE ~ HAPPILY EVEN AFTER WORLD MARRIAGE DAY ~ FEB. 12

Editor's note: this article is excerpts of a talk given by Joyce Bibey around the state from June 22-26 at the World Meeting of Families celebrations. Bibey is the Manager of Social Media in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Communications and Marketing. She is also the writer/editor for FaithInWV, FaithInWV.org, and you can also find her byline in The Catholic Spirit.



Marriage is a vocation. The Church celebrates that vocation to holiness, calling all couples to keep their relationship Christ-centered in order to balance life.

God knows it is not easy. It's hard to stay married in a society, where it's so easy to quit. I wished everyone engaged or about to be married would hear the words a dear pastor said to my friends at their wedding, "There is NO ONE on this earth that can make you happier than your spouse." You could hear a few people whisper, "Aww."

Then after his pause he said, "BUT there is also no one on this earth that can make you more annoyed, angry, or hurt than your spouse."

That shocked a few, but it's the truth. Isn't it?

Stop there! Now - reverse what the pastor said and take ownership - YOU are the one who can make your spouse the happiest. AND YOU are the one who can hurt them more than anyone.

We can't teach our children to think marriage is a "happily ever after." A good marriage is a happily EVEN after.

Even after a great day of work when your spouse had an awful day.

Even after you face financial struggles, and they just seem to compound.

Even after you have a strong difference of opinion - especially if it has to do about raising your children if you have been so blessed.

Even after you have a job loss or can't seek the job you want, because it's not the right fit for your family's needs.

Even after...I could go on and on, but you get the picture.

Marriage is a lot of give and take - accepting that most of the time you are going to be the giver. Not saying here that you have to totally lose yourself - quite the opposite. Be so confident in yourself, God, and your love that the reason you freely give your love, time, sweat, and prayer is because you recognize your spouse as a blessing.

God gave them specifically to you.

So, know there is no magic potion or check list - but there is a key. The key is to keep Christ as the center of your life. When you do this, and when you absolutely do this together - you win!

You get that "*Happily Even After.*"

With that let's end with a prayer adapted from the book *Prayers for Married Couples* by Renee Bartkowski, I received at my Engaged Encounter in 1993 lead by Monsignor Dean Borgmeyer:

We want to realize, Lord, that having a good life together depends on our wiliness to always choose the right attitudes.

We can choose to concentrate on the good things in our marriage or to be preoccupied with the bad.

We can choose to see only the faults in our loved ones or to be more aware of their virtues.

We can choose to react to situations in our relationship with kindness and generosity or with selfishness and resentment; with anger and revenge or with forgiveness and understanding.

We can choose to face life with a positive outlook and a good sense of humor or with a negative point of view and a chip on our shoulder.

Remind us Lord, that we each possess the power to make our lives and our marriage as happy and enjoyable as we want to make them or as difficult and unpleasant as we desire.

It is up to us. Help us, Lord, to always make the right choices. Amen.



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival



Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Christ is Present! Will you be?

WV Eucharistic Congresses - Spring 2023

DATE & LOCATION

April 21-22
St. James Church
Charles Town

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Fr. Luke Spannagel

April 28-29
Cathedral of St. Joseph
Wheeling



Fr. Timothy Anastos

June 2-3
Basilica of the Co-Cathedral
of the Sacred Heart
Charleston



Fr. Joe Freedy

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS COMING SOON AT DWC.ORG
and in the FaithInWV e-bulletin, The Catholic Spirit,
and our diocesan social media.



DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

www.dwc.org



FIND TRUE HAPPINESS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

LET US LOVE CHRIST AS ST. CLAUDE DE LA COLOMBIERE

Do we go to God before complaining to others? Do we seek the happiness Christ has for us in the Eucharist? Do we spend time in Adoration and share our whole heart with Him?



Saint Claude de la Colombière wants to hear your resounding “Yes” to all of those questions. The Jesuit priest born in the mid 17th Century was known encouraging people to be active in their faith and take full advantage of the gifts God provides us through the Eucharist, prayer, and a relationship with Christ.

His sermons and spiritual advice are part of several publications including, *The Spiritual Direction of Saint Claude de la Colombière*, where he reminds and challenges us - “Jesus is in the midst of us in the Blessed Sacrament. What a consolation to live in the same house where he dwells! Yet does it not often seem as though we ignored this happiness? Do we often visit him? Do we go to him in our needs and consult him in our plans? Do we bring him our little sorrows instead of talking about them and complaining and murmuring to others?”

He was adamant in his sermons to always speak about God’s love and mercy.

“As Jesus Christ possesses your whole heart, he wishes also to have all your anxieties and all your thoughts,” he said. “Think of him and trust in his goodness for all the rest. You will see that he will make all things right when you think only of his interests.”

Saint Claude was also the champion for the Sacred Heart of Jesus devotion. Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque described him as the “faithful servant and perfect friend” Jesus promised her.



It was Saint Margaret Mary, who between 1673-1675, had visions of Jesus and was told by Christ to spread the devotion to the Sacred Heart, encourage the faithful to receive the Eucharist frequently, and spend time with Christ in Adoration. When she

told her congregation and other religious of her visions, they doubted her and considered her “stories” an annoyance.

Father Claude, who by this time was very accomplished as a priest, had taught in college, and was in charge of several Marian congregations; was seemingly out of nowhere sent to serve the Monastery of the Visitation where Margaret Mary was.

He was her rector and spiritual director. He was also the one who believed her and helped her elevate the devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus to the world.

In honor of his feast day Feb. 15, we share with you his Prayer of Friendship to Jesus:

Jesus, you are my true friend, my only friend.

You take a part in all my misfortunes;

You take them on yourself;

You know how to change them into blessings.

You listen to me with the greatest kindness

when I relate my troubles to you,

and you always have balm to pour on my wounds.

I find you at all times, I find you everywhere,

You never go away;

if I have to change my dwelling, I find you wherever I go.

You are never weary of listening to me,

You are never tired of doing me good.

I am certain of being beloved by you if I love you;

my goods are nothing to you,

and by bestowing yours on me you never grow poor.

However miserable I may be,

no one nobler or wiser or even holier

can come between you and me,

and deprive me of your friendship;

and death, which tears us away from all other friends,

will unite me forever to you.

All the humiliation attached to old age

or to the loss of honor will never detach you from me.

On the contrary, I shall never enjoy you more fully,

and you will never be closer to me’

than when everything seems to conspire against me,

to overwhelm me, and to cast me down.

You bear with all my faults with extreme patience,

and even my want of fidelity and ingratitude

do not wound you to such a degree

as to make you unwilling to receive me back

when I return to you.

Jesus, grant that I may die praising you,

that I may die loving you,

that I may die for the love of you.

Amen.

JUNIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL
THROUGH FRESHMAN IN COLLEGE

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JUNE 10-12, 2023

SATURDAY MORNING THRU MONDAY AFTERNOON

ST. MARY PARISH

3346 University Avenue, Morgantown

COST: \$40/per person

Cost includes lodging, food & supplies

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TO LEARN MORE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
DANIEL MAUL AT DMAUL@DWC.ORG OR AT 304-233-0880, EXT. 376
OR RALPH MODENA AT RALPHMODENA@GMAIL.COM

Join us July 23rd- July 29th for

CAMP CARLO SUMMER VACATION!

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Cost: Free!

Ages: 7-12

Your camper will enjoy horseback riding, rock climbing, ziplining, faith formation, overnight backpacking, and more!

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

Register at campcarlowv.org



A Date for the 14th St. George Camporee

(Formerly Known as the Catholic Camporee)

April 21st to 23rd, 2023



Who: Scouts BSA

Location: Camp Mountaineer (Morgantown WV)

Hosted by: Catholic Committee on Scouting & the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Contact: Chris Gorski at catholiccamporee@aol.com for further Information

Additional information: <https://scoutingevent.com/615-59082>

Cost: \$10 Early bird : \$20 after March 29, 2023



All Are Welcome!





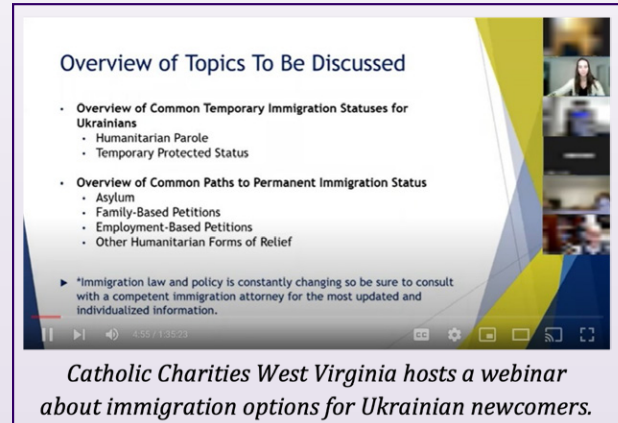
PROMOTING THE DIGNITY OF UKRAINIAN NEWCOMERS WITH AFFORDABLE LEGAL EXPERTISE

By Renee Corbett, CCWVa Refugee Outreach Worker

The Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Immigration Services program has a long history of providing high quality, affordable immigration legal services to West Virginia residents.

The majority of our state's newest residents are arriving from Ukraine via the Uniting for Ukraine (U4U) program. The U4U program was established in April 2022 by the Department of Homeland Security in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This program allows individuals in the United States to sponsor Ukrainians to stay in the United States for a two-year temporary period.

The CCWVa Refugee Resettlement program has been working closely with many West Virginia-based sponsors and the new Ukrainian arrivals to support their resettlement in West Virginia. To date we have provided resettlement support to 42 Ukrainians in West Virginia.



Due to the nature of their temporary immigration status, many Ukrainian newcomers have expressed concerned about: "What next?"

To support the Ukrainian newcomers in West Virginia with answering this question, CCWVa hosted a webinar to introduce Ukrainians to the various next-step immigration options. The webinar was presented by four immigration attorneys: Kellie Rogers and Nicole Annan from CCWVa, Katy Lewis from Mountain State Justice, and Paul Saluja from Saluja Law.

The 90-minute webinar was presented in English and interpreted in Ukrainian, and covered topics related to asylum, family-based immigration applications, employment-based immigration applications, and other humanitarian options, such as victim of trafficking and victim of crime applications.

These four attorneys also offered free individualized consultations to each Ukrainian family to discuss their family's specific options.

CCWVa is proud to be able to embrace the Gospel's teaching of welcoming the stranger by providing resettlement support and legal expertise to many of West Virginia's newest arrivals.

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



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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

The Law of God will save you. The prophet Sirach tells us that God does not give us a license to sin. He gives us free will, but we must keep the commandments in order to have eternal life.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 119

“Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

St. Paul tells us we cannot imagine the beauty and glory of what God has prepared for us in heaven “for those who love Him.”

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Matthew shares that Jesus emphasized that we must keep the commandments to enter the kingdom of heaven.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/021223.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/021223.CFM)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that the Eucharistic Revival led by our bishops, priests, religious and laity emphasize the infinite glory of Jesus united with us, let us pray to the Lord. . .

May all leaders work to promote harmony among all races, religions, and creeds, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all the faithful that we share the love of Christ without hesitation in our words and deeds, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our habitual and special intentions that we hold dear, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



Happy Valentine's Day!



Let all you do be done in love.
~ 1Corinthians 16:18

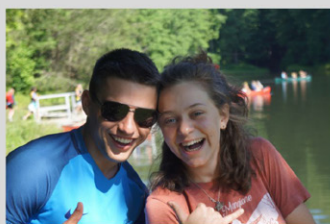




BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS YOUTH CAMP

225 Catholic Conference Center, Huttonsville 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!

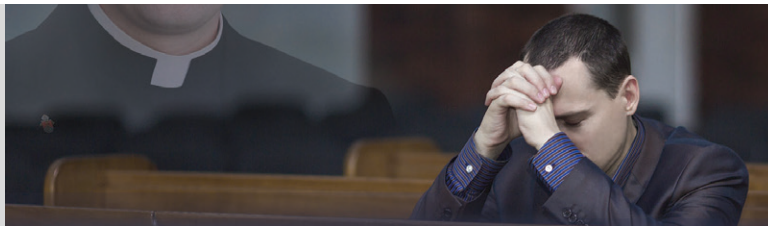


Contact Assistant Director, Maggie Moran, for more information: mmoran@dwc.org or 1 (757) 995-4486

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	AM	740
Eastern Panhandle	FM	106.5
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
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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.