



Faith IN WV

FEBRUARY 16, 2025
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Sibling Saints Francisco & Jacinta

SAINTLY SIBLINGS

February 20th is the Feast Day of the Little Shepherds of Fatima - Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto. They were two of the three Portuguese children to whom the Angel of Peace appeared three times in 1916, and Mary, Our Lady of Fatima, appeared six times during 1917. These events were during World War I, when for many families, including the Martons, prayer became increasingly important. When the siblings were younger their mother taught them about the Passion of Christ. Both were brought to tears trying to grasp the story, and both prayed reverently that Jesus would be comforted. Praying the rosary was also a beautiful ritual for the children, who often prayed with their cousin Lucia Santos, while out tending sheep on their family's land.

According to memoirs written by Lucia, when the Angel of Peace appeared to them, they were taught the prayer:

“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You.”

The children would repeat the prayer three times, because the angel said to pray that way so “the hearts of Jesus and Mary are ready to listen to you.”

In 1917, it was Our Blessed Mother who appeared to Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia in Fatima six times between May 13 to October 13. Saints Francisco and Jacinta and Lucia were eight, six, and nine-years-old respectively at the time.

During the Marian apparitions, Our Blessed Mother taught them what we know as the Fatima prayer:

Oh, my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to heaven especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy.

As Our Lady of Fatima told them, both Francisco and Jacinta would die at a young age.

Saint Francisco died at the age of 11, and Saint Jacinta died at the age of 10.

Upon his deathbed, Francisco told Lucia, “When I see Jesus, I’m just going to want to comfort Him.”

Pope Francis canonized the siblings Francisco and Jacinta together on May 13, 2017, at a Mass in Fatima.

Lucia Santos became a Carmelite nun in Portugal. She died at the age of 97 on February 13, 2005.

Despite their young age, Saints Francisco and Jacinta demonstrated remarkable faith and commitment to the messages they received. They are celebrated as models of faith, particularly for children, and serve as a reminder of the call to holiness that is accessible to all, regardless of age.

NOTABLE SIBLING SAINTS

The Catholic Church recognizes several sibling saints. Each contributing uniquely to the Church and exemplifying various virtues. They illustrate for us the diverse ways in which family bonds can enhance the

...continue

practice of faith and service to God. Their examples encourage us as a family to cultivate strong shared values, prayerful support, fostering a spirit lifelong catechesis and the pursuit of holiness.

Here are some notable pairs of sibling saints to honor and call upon to intercede for us:

Saints Peter and Andrew



Saint Peter, originally named Simon, and his brother Andrew were among the first disciples called by Jesus. They are often celebrated for their roles in the early Church, with Peter becoming the first Pope and Andrew known as the “Protoclete” – Greek for being the “firstcalled” apostle. Their commitment to spreading

the Gospel serves as a model for evangelization and brotherly support in faith.

Saints James and John



James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also among the twelve apostles. They are often referred to as the “Sons of Thunder” due to their zealous nature. Both played significant roles in the

ministry of Jesus and were witnesses to key events, such as the Transfiguration. Their relationship exemplifies loyalty and dedication to Christ and each other.

Saints Cyril and Methodius



Cyril and Methodius, known as the “Apostles of the Slavs,” are not only siblings but also the copatrons saints of Europe, Bulgaria,

Macedonia, Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Saints Cyril and Methodius promoted Christian values including reconciliation, unity, and peace. The two ninth century saints were Byzantine Christian missionaries that evangelized the Slavic people by translating the liturgy, New Testament, Psalms, and other books of the Old Testament for them. Let us be like Ss. Cyril and Methodius and evangelize by communicating in a language for others to understand God’s love, mercy, and peace.

Saints Benedict and Scholastica



Saint Benedict founded 12 monasteries and created guidelines for monasteries – now known as the Rule of St. Benedict – which focus on balancing stability, respect, prayer, communal living, and

service. His twin sister, Saint Scholastica established a community for women based on her brother’s rule. She lived much of her life in chosen silence, but her life bellowed praise for God. Saint Scholastica’s devotion to God, family, prayer, holiness, service, and resilience provides a framework for living and navigating a faithful and fulfilling life in today’s world.

Saints Cosmas and Damian



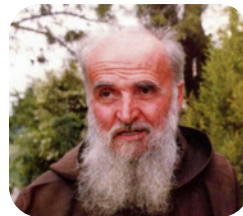
Cosmas and Damian were twin brothers who became renowned physicians and martyrs. They are often invoked for healing and are considered patrons of doctors and surgeons. Their dedication to treating others without charge exemplifies the Christian call to charity and selflessness. Saints

Cosmas and Damian are mentioned in the Canon of the Mass.

Gianna Beretta Molla and Venerable Alberto Enrico Beretta



Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962) is well-known for her heroic virtue and dedication to her family. Gianna is particularly remembered for her selfless decision to prioritize the life of her unborn child



over her own during a critical health crisis. As a physician, she understood the risks involved but chose to sacrifice her life for the sake of her child, exemplifying profound love and commitment

to family. She was canonized by Pope John Paul II on May 16, 2004. On the road to sainthood is her brother Venerable Alberto Enrico Beretta (1910-2001). For 33 years he dedicated his life to not only his pastoral work, but also to helping the poorest of poor, the sick, and lepers. He is known as the “Padre Pio of Brazil”. People from all over Brazil would flock to him for prayer and healing.

More Than a Chair

On February 22nd the Church celebrates the significance of a holy chair. It is the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle.

Yes, we have an actual chair to help us call to mind the pivotal act of Jesus Christ naming Peter the one to build the Church - the universal Church on earth.

“The Lord says to Peter: ‘I say to you,’ he says, ‘that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell will not overcome it. And to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven . . .’ [Matt. 16:18-19].”

Be straight, we are not adoring a piece of ornamental furniture. We honor the role bestowed unto Simon Peter our first Pontiff (from the Latin word that means “bridge builder”) more than 2,000 years ago. The Chair of Saint Peter as it represents servant authority of the

Behind the altar at St. Peter’s Basilica there is an actual “Chair of St. Peter,” the Cathedra Petri. It is suspended behind and above the altar. The ornate bronze sculpture featured in many photographs of the basilica is an encasement for an ancient oak chair that many believe St. Peter may have sat. This scene is a concrete symbol for the mission

and ministry of Peter and his successors. It represents the principal power held by the chair of the Church through the Holy spirit for serving, evangelizing, and shepherding the faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

Today, let us thank God for the pontiffs who carried the Church in the past, and let us pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis, who has lovingly accepted the role of “bridge builder” and gracious bishop over the world-wide Church today.

“God has left the guidance of the Church into the hands of the Holy Spirit,” Pope Francis said, referring to John 14:26 “The Holy Spirit will teach us everything, and remind us what Jesus taught us.”

Last year Pope Francis had the ornate chair brought out of its reliquary (a large, encased monument crafted by the 17th century sculptor Gian Lorenzo Bernini) for the public to venerate. The precious wood skeleton of the chair is beneath a stronger outer oak structure, which archeologists believe was added much later with strips of iron that date back to 875 AD. Sketches of Hercules and various constellations are etched on ivory plaques on the bottom portion of the throne.



“MAY CHRIST BE HEARD...”



Saint Peter Damian – he just wanted to be left alone.

It’s not hard to relate to this simple desire of St. Peter Damian, who the Church honors on Feb. 21st. He was a quiet gentleman but not so quiet that people ignored him. Quite the contrary.

Peter was born about 988. He was a

humble monk just wanting to live quietly in prayer and away from any limelight.

However, God had different plans for him. Saint Peter Damian’s love for God was calming and – thanks be to God – contagious. People who knew him were drawn to him wanting to imitate his holy habits and demeanor. His leadership skills, peaceful nature, and theological intelligence could not be kept a secret.

His reputation flowed far beyond his monastery.

Pope Stephen IX made him Cardinal Bishop Peter Damian

of Ostia to help reform the Church. He took the position only out of obedience for the faith. He worked tirelessly to restore discipleship among religious and priests, vows of obedience and poverty, and expose those living too comfortably. He worked in that role for 10 years before being allowed to return to life in the monastery.

However, two years later the Church called upon St. Peter Damian again. This time, he was sent to Frankfurt for it was believed he was the only one who could prevent Henry IV from divorcing his wife, Bertha. Four years later after fulfilling other missions of the Church, he was returning to his beloved hermitage, when he fell ill. He was taken in by a Benedictine monastery, where he ultimately died.

St. Peter Damian, Doctor of the Church, is an example of one who was blessed with the gift of counsel, compassion, and leadership among believers and non-believers; and was obedient to God by sharing those gifts even if it meant going out of his comfort zone, being away from the place he loved most, and down a path that was way more challenging than one he would have chosen for himself.

Let his words echo in our hearts:

*“May Christ be heard in our language,
may Christ be seen in our life,
may he be perceived in our hearts.”*

Save the date:

Chris Padgett

Catholic Speaker. Musician. Author. Comedian.

View more about Chris at:
<https://chrispadgett.com/>

Hosted by:

Ascension Catholic Church &
the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston
At: Ascension Catholic Church of Hurricane
905 Hickory Mill Rd
Hurricane, WV 25526

Sunday, March 9th - Tuesday, March 11th:

Refreshments @ 6:00 PM & Event begins @ 6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 12th: Lenten Penance Service @ 6:30 PM

ALL AGES welcome! Please plan to attend with your family & friends.
Rides WILL be available for those who are uncomfortable driving after dark if requested in advance.



LENTEN SEASON



MARCH 5 ASH WEDNESDAY



MARCH 9 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



APRIL 13 PALM SUNDAY



APRIL 17 HOLY THURSDAY



APRIL 18 GOOD FRIDAY



APRIL 19 HOLY SATURDAY

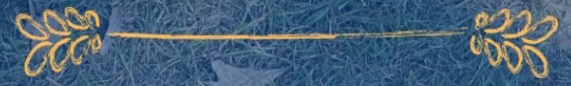


APRIL 20 EASTER SUNDAY



What is
God
asking of
You?

Missionary Sisters
Servants of the
Word



*Discernment
Retreat*

for Women
18-30 years old



August 29th -30th

*Priestfield Pastoral
Center*

*4030 Middleway Pike
Kearneysville WV.*

25430

*Diocese of
Wheeling-Charleston*

To sign up:
WestvirginiaMission@hmsp.org



Mardi Gras PARTY

Join us for a night of fun!

TICKETS

\$25

MUST BE 21
OR OVER TO
ATTEND

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

6:00 P.M.

**ST. PATRICK SCHOOL
GYMNASIUM**

Games of Chance

Live Music

Steak tips, roasted potatoes,
green beans, salad, and bread
King Cake cupcakes and other
delicious desserts.

Drinks

50/50 TICKETS

\$10 EACH

**PURCHASE
YOUR
TICKETS AT
THE ST.
PATRICK
CHURCH
PARISH
OFFICE OR
BY CALLING
304-269-3048**

Sponsored by Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus
1/3 of proceeds donated directly back St Patrick's Church





SHIELDS UP!

Lord, Prepare My Hands for Battle

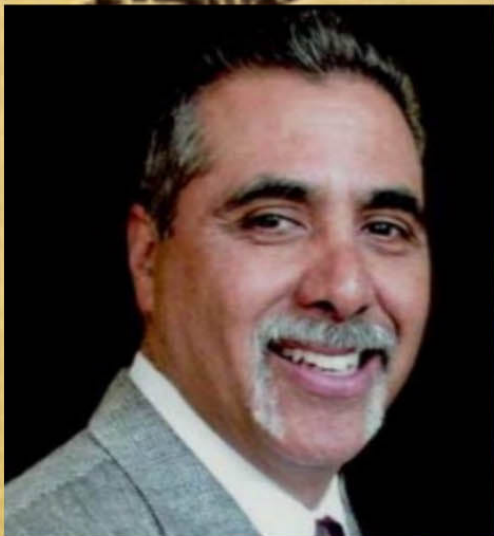
(Psalm 144:1 NAB)

Preparing Your Family for the Battle

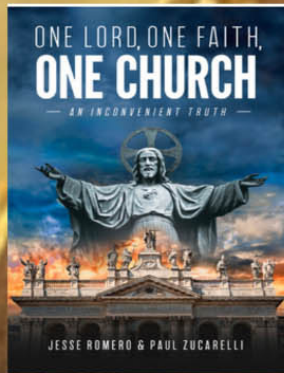


SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER FOR FREE!

ATTENDEES WILL RECEIVE A FREE BROWN SCAPULAR EXORCISED BY PREEMINENT EXORCIST FR. CHAD RIPPERGER W/ SCAPULAR ENROLLMENT ON THE SECOND NIGHT OF THE TALK!



WITH THE SAME PASSION AND COMMITMENT THAT MADE HIM A THREE-TIME WORLD POLICE OLYMPICS BOXING CHAMPION, A FORMER U.S.A. MIDDLEWEIGHT KICKBOXING CHAMPION AND A RETIRED VETERAN OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, JESSE SHARES CATHOLIC TEACHING WITH AN EXCITING STYLE THAT IS GUARANTEED TO STRENGTHEN, EDIFY AND FORTIFY YOU WITH A DEEPER LOVE FOR GOD!

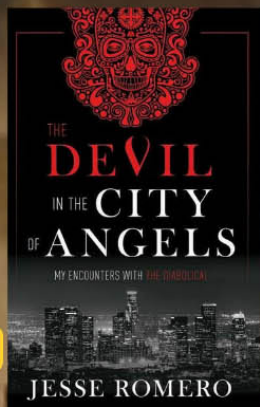
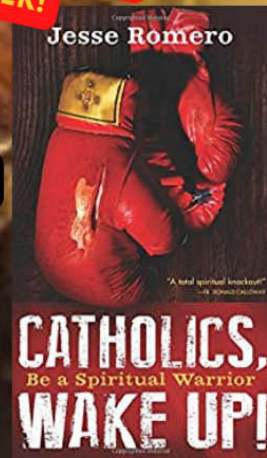


TALKS

NIGHT 1: SHIELDS UP! HANDS UP! THIS IS HOW YOU PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!

NIGHT 2: SATAN FEARS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND ADORERS!

NIGHT 3: MEN HOLD YOUR SHIELDS UP!



SAT, SUN, MON

MARCH 22-24, 2025

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: FIERY TALK + Q & A
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: MEET & GREET, BOOK SALES, AND REFRESHMENTS!

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER CATHOLIC CHURCH
229 CALIFORNIA AVE., WEIRTON, WV

Jesse Romero, M.A.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Place your trust in God. Cursed are those whose hearts turn away.

Responsorial: Psalm 1

“Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Christ has been raised from the dead. He won our salvation.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

The Beatitudes – The poor who thirst for God will inherit the kingdom of God and no longer hungry but full of joy and laughter.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, from Pope Francis to all catechumens in formation, that we feed those who are poor, grieving, and ashamed, sharing our blessings and faith in Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For world leaders may they never tire of working towards peace and social justice, silencing and erasing the voice and actions of hate, replacing them with hope, wisdom, and realization that we are better together, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who continue to feed hate and evil with their words and actions, may our prayers and confidence we have in Christ, change their hearts and bring hope to their souls, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our personal prayers and our habitual intentions, 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

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ENROLL TODAY

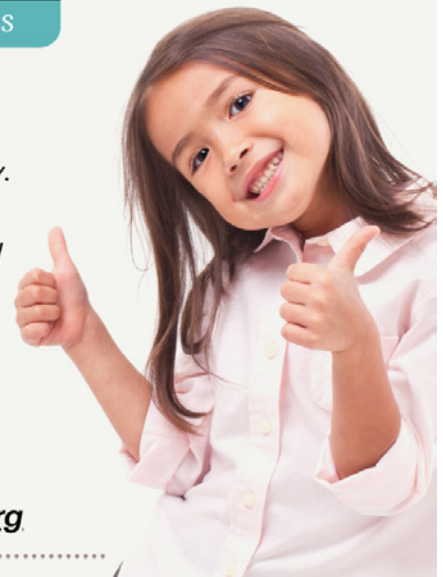
WV Catholic Schools

*Empowered
by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.*



Register today

wvcatholicschools.org



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.