

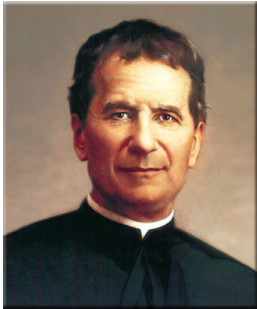
# Faith IN WV

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

JANUARY 31, 2021



## CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN BOSCO ~ JAN. 31



Saint John Bosco was a living example of how we should live our faith and lead others to it - with Christian joy.

He made it a priority to teach about God and share his own love of Christ with young people.

Saint John Bosco wholeheartedly believed Christian education was crucial, "if you want to have a good society and moral order."

He was born in 1815 to Italian farmers Francis and Margaret (Margherita Occhiena) Bosco. His father died when he was only two years old, leaving his mother to raise him and his brothers, Joseph and Anthony. She instilled in them gratitude for the simplest of things, the value of hard work, and a genuine love of Christ. She would remind them that even though their father had passed away, God the Father in heaven was always watching.

From the time he was nine years old Saint John Bosco would tell his mother he wanted to be a priest, and he would help children love Jesus and all of His creation too.

In 1841, he began living his dream, as he was ordained Father John Bosco (also called Don Bosco for "Don" was Italian for father). He did not become a parish priest at that time, but immediately joined the Ecclesiastical Institute in Turin to continue his formation under St. Guiseppa Cafasso. While there he made it his mission to teach youth to get to know God, reflect on their faith, and celebrate the sacraments frequently. He did so with great charity and kindness. His pupils were often uneducated wayward boys, orphans, homeless, and even prisoners.

His gatherings were so popular at the Institute they outgrew the space. He built and opened a youth center, the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales, which included classrooms, bunk rooms, and a chapel. His mother was so impressed with the mission she used her wedding dress to make the altar linens for the chapel. Saint Dominic Savio was one of the students at the Oratory. Saint John Bosco would later write a book about his beloved pupil- The Life of Dominic Savio. St Dominic died a month shy of 15 years of age.

Through the oratory, St. John Bosco founded the Salesian Society, a religious congregation of priests and brothers. He also founded a society of women with Sr Maria Domenca Mazzarello - Daughters of Mary Help of Christians or the Salesian Sisters. They were also focused on educating and nurturing youth in a Christ-centered environment, but for girls.

In 1876, he founded the Association of Salesian Cooperators, a group for lay men and women who share in St. John Bosco's kind and gentle spirituality. Let us all joyfully share our love of Christ and our Church as St. John Bosco's life taught us.

A prayer to Saint John Bosco to Intercede:

*Friend of the young, teacher in the ways of God, your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still. Help me to work for a better world, where the young are given the chance to flourish, where the poor's dream for justice can come true, and where God's compassion is shown to be real. Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you and to our heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians. Saint John Bosco, pray for us!*



Catholic Schools  
Faith. Excellence. Service.

**CELEBRATE CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS WEEK 2021**  
January 31 - February 6  
#CSW21

At baptism parents accept the responsibility to be the first teachers of their child's faith. When the child reaches school age that responsibility is then shared by the parish and its teachers. Our Catholic schools are a gift from generation to generation to pass on the faith, weaving Christ and the Church's teachings across all subjects, activities, and service learning.

Just as St. John Bosco believed education is a matter of the heart, so do our Catholic Schools. He believed if you want to do a good deed - teach a child. If you want to do something holy - teach a child. "Truly, now and for the future, among holy things, this is the holiest."

*Thank you, Lord for the gift of time for growing and learning, and for the gift of Catholic education.*

*Inspired by St. John Bosco, we thank you for our faith and for those who offer themselves at the service of our Catholic faith with their very lives and in their vocations.*



**WV Catholic Schools Celebrates Catholic Schools Week  
January 31 to February 6**

National Catholic Schools Week is a time to celebrate. We know things will be a bit different due to the pandemic, but it will not contain our pride. Now is the perfect time to applaud our school community and the impressive accomplishments we have worked so hard to achieve.

Our 24 Catholic schools - 18 grade schools and six high schools - work together as a team of educators, faith leaders, and families to nurture high achieving and morally responsible young people.

While times have been uncertain our goals remain very clear. Whether in the classroom or remote we are steadfast in presenting challenging and engaging academics complimented with life and leadership lessons in empathy, morals, responsibility, service, and faith.

Our schools have gone above and beyond with safety protocols based on the guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Centers for Disease Control, and state and local health departments, so we could maintain a five day a week plan. When remote learning was mandated by the state our principals reported full attendance with faculty requiring participation and accountability among students. Principals continued to have high expectations of their faculty; and in turn teachers did not settle for bare minimum work or ease grading to a pass-fail curriculum.

We require standardized assessments not once, but three times a year in our Catholic schools to measure our students' growth, define areas that need improvement, and identify strengths in order for our educators to develop the best course of action for student success.

It is that persistence that guides our students to surpass their own expectations. The Class of 2020 in our six high schools were offered more than \$28.4 million in academic and athletic scholarships. That's nearly \$14 million more than the previous year thanks in part to the encouragement of our teachers, counselors, principals, coaches, and priests.

As a school system we remain forward thinking and are committed to high standards as we plan ahead. We have embarked on an intentional growth planning process in 2020-2021. In doing so our schools have been able to honor and reflect on the past and plan for the future. Each school's comprehensive plan strategically focuses on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools(NSBECS). All 24 schools' plans center around four pillars:

- Mission and Catholic Identity
- Governance and Leadership
- Academic Excellence
- Operational Vitality

This growth process is part of our national accreditation. The diocesan intentional growth plan will reflect the individual school plans. It is our priority to continually improve Catholic education across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

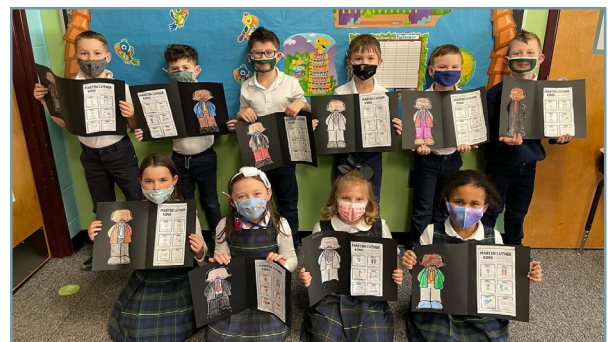
We are not only making history, but also writing our story of adaptability, perseverance, and unwavering faith every step along this journey. As I have said countless times, I am inspired by our schools, their advisory boards, and parishes they love and value each one of our students.

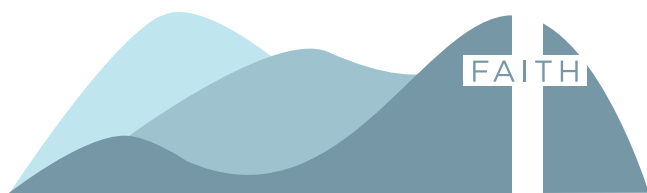
May God bless you always and in all ways.

Peace,

Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

West Virginia Catholic Schools Superintendent





# A Snapshot of Catholic Schools Moving Mountains

Empowered by Knowledge • Transformed by Faith

## SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

18 ELEMENTARY & 6 HIGH  
SCHOOLS

20TH LARGEST WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL SYSTEM IN NUMBER OF STUDENTS  
WEST 11% of students represent minorities  
Over 400 professional staff

8TH LARGEST WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL SYSTEM IN NUMBER OF SCHOOLS

13 counties are served by West Virginia Catholic Schools

4,195 elementary & secondary students



The WV Catholic Schools' Class of 2020 received \$28.4 million in academic and athletic scholarships.

### DIOCESAN APPEAL ASSISTANCE

The Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program (TAPS) awarded more than \$850,000 to Catholic school families in 2020.

Funds raised for West Virginia Catholic Schools through the diocesan annual giving program provide professional development for faculty and staff, online assessment and remote learning trainings, enrichment classes for faculty, school-based health programs, health screenings, healthcare access, and more.

West Virginia Catholic Schools provide exceptional academics in a Christ-centered environment, while nurturing responsibility, accountability, citizenship, and empathy. Our PK-12 focus is to encourage individual and critical thinking; deepen faith; build self-esteem; and develop a sound moral foundation rooted in the gospel. God is in our schools. Everything we do, choices we make, and plans we develop are prayerfully made with the best intentions of our students' success. The social, emotional, physical, spiritual, and mental well-being of each child is just as important to academic achievement. We lead with faith.

- Mrs. Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.  
*Superintendent of Catholic Schools*

## PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

West Virginia Catholic Schools remain forward thinking and committed to high standards. We have embarked on an intentional growth planning process. In doing so, each of our 24 schools were able to honor and reflect on the past and plan for the future. Each school will finalize a comprehensive plan strategically focused on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools(NSBECS). All 24 schools' plans center around four pillars:

- **Mission and Catholic Identity**
- **Governance and Leadership**
- **Academic Excellence**
- **Operational Vitality**

This growth process is part of our ongoing accreditation through our national accrediting organization, Cognia. The diocesan intentional growth plan will reflect a strong combination of the individual school plans. It is our priority to continually improve Catholic education across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

## nwea **map** GROWTH

West Virginia Catholic Schools follows the MAP (*Measures of Academic Progress*) practical testing protocol that tests our students not once a year, but three times. This assessment tool helps us measure individual student learning and growth at the beginning, middle, and end of each school year. We can then use this data to support individual student needs, educational plans, group learning, and advanced placement academics, so students can strive to reach their full academic potential. For more about the MAP Growth test, please visit: [www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/family-toolkit/](http://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/family-toolkit/)



# ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND, PRAY FOR US



On February 1st the Church celebrates the feast of St Brigid. Along with St Patrick, they are the patron saints of Ireland.

She lived during the same era as St. Patrick, and it is believed the two were friends. She is also known as Brigid of Kildare and founded many convents including the Abbey of Kildare.

Historians believe St. Brigid was born around the year 450. There is no documentation of who her parents were, but most believe her father was a pagan chieftain named Dubhthach, and one of his slaves, Brocca, was her mother. Brocca is believed to have been baptized by St. Patrick. Before St. Brigid was born, Brocca was sold to a new master. She was able to raise her child Catholic despite the harsh surroundings. When St. Brigid turned 10 years old, she was returned to her father. She was dedicated to helping the poor often selling or giving away her father's possessions to help them. He was furious with her and even tried to sell her to a royal family. While Dubhthach was talking to the royals the king watched as St. Brigid took her father's sword and gave it to a leper. The king was a Christian, and said, "Her merit before God is greater than ours."

Saint Brigid was returned to her mother and helped her run the dairy farm for the kingdom. Historians write that when Saint Brigid took over, "the dairy miraculously prospered even though she kept sharing it. Because of this, her mother was happily freed."

Dubhthach stepped into St. Brigid's life again and sought to marry his beautiful daughter off, but she asked God to take away her beauty. Her beauty faded away.

She left her father again and entered a monastery. After making her final vows, her beauty is said to have returned.

If we learn nothing else from her, let us be certain that God's love was clearly visible through this compassionate saint; and we too should strive to let others see Christ in us through our words and actions.



## SAINT BRIGID'S CROSS

It is customary in Ireland to make a new St. Brigid's cross each year to hang in the home.

The story behind the cross is St. Brigid was called to calm her suffering pagan father on his deathbed. While she was there, she told him of the story of Trinity and the Church, and she wove together the rushes that were on the floor in the form of the famous Irish cross. Her peacefulness, gentle voice, and genuine love of Christ miraculously moved him to declare he wanted to be a Christian. She had him baptized before his death.

Make St Brigid's Cross with the children in your life. For directions with photographs go to [CATHOLIC ICING](#).

The prayer to recite upon completion of the prayer:

*May the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be on this Cross, on the place where it hangs, and on everyone who looks on it.*

## FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD ~ FEB. 2

Tuesday is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. According to Luke in 2:22-39, Jesus was taken to the temple when he was 40 days old for His presentation and Mary's purification, required by Mosaic Law at the time. According to Luke, this was the first public introduction of Jesus into the house of God.

When Jesus, Mary and Joseph went to the Temple they presented two turtledoves for Mary's purification. Jesus was presented into the hands of the priest and thus to God. In accordance with what we know from the Old Testament, Jesus was blessed and then given back by the family who donated to the Temple treasury.

We also know that the old prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna were there. They like others had waited a lifetime for the Messiah. For Simeon he knew his life was now complete for the Holy Spirit came unto him declaring he would not die



until he saw Christ. He held Jesus and exclaimed in thanksgiving, "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).

The presentation and purification showed Joseph and Mary's humility and respect of Jewish laws and other poor Jewish families.

Mary, we pray to have a heart as beautiful, pure and spotless as yours - *a heart, so full of love and humility.*

*May we be able to receive Jesus always as the Bread of Life.*

*May we love Him as you loved Him. May we serve others as Christ taught us.*

*Mary, interceded for us and present our prayers to God on this special day.*



## NEWS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES OPENS DAY SHELTER FOR HOMELESS

By: Katie Hinerman Klug, Catholic Charities West Virginia  
Marketing Communications Specialist



CCWVa client Erica Donaldson signs in to the warming shelter on Market Street and completes her COVID-19 screening.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has opened a day shelter in Wheeling for those experiencing homelessness. The space is provided rent-free through a partnership with Regional Economic Development.

“When the pandemic closed our day shelter at the Neighborhood Center in Wheeling, we knew that the people we serve were

going to be in great need in the colder months,” said Mark Phillips, CCWVa Northern Regional Director.

“Thanks to this partnership with Regional Economic Development, we’re able to offer people a safe, warm place to get out of the cold, relax, and get something to eat,” said Phillips.

CCWVa client Erica Donaldson recently lost possession of the tent where she was residing.

“This is a place for me to come in and get warm and rest,” said Donaldson.


CCWVa serves two meals per day and provides snacks and coffee throughout the day at the shelter. The agency is diligent in meeting the Centers for Disease Control guidelines regarding COVID-19. A CCWVa case manager staffs the shelter to provide additional resources for those looking to improve their circumstances.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit [www.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG](http://www.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG).



Catholic Charities West Virginia  
*Shining a Light  
on Hope*  
**VIRTUAL GALA**  
*Save the Date*  
**March 16, 2021**

*Is our  
Lord  
calling  
you?*



You may find the answer at the

## Men’s Priestly Discernment Retreat

Saturday, March 20  
St. John XXIII Pastoral Center  
Charleston, WV

For college-age young men and older

*Presented by the Vocation Office Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston*

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Do you desire a life of sacrifice and faithful service to God and His People? Do you desire to give yourself completely to God in a life of consecration and commitment to building up the kingdom of God here in West Virginia? Perhaps the Lord is calling you to be a Priest of Jesus Christ in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston!

The annual diocesan Men’s Priestly Discernment Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 20 at the Pope St. John XXIII Pastoral Center (100 Hodges Rd, Charleston, WV 25314) from 10AM – 5PM. This event is open to men 18 years and older who are simply open to reflecting on God’s will for them in their lives. The day will consist of Holy Mass, prayer, reflections on the priesthood, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession.

**For any men interested in attending,  
email Rick Teachout at [rteachout@dwc.org](mailto:rteachout@dwc.org)  
or call (304) 233-0880, ext. 442.**

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

Moses spoke to all the people, saying:

“A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen. This is exactly what you requested of the LORD, your God, at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let us not again hear the voice of the LORD, our God, nor see this great fire any more, lest we die.’ And the LORD said to me, ‘This was well said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him. Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it. But if a prophet presumes to speak in my name an oracle that I have not commanded him to speak, or speaks in the name of other gods, he shall die.’”

### Responsorial PSALMS 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9

**R. (8) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

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

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

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

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works.”

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

### Second Reading 1 CORINTHIANS 7:32-35

Brothers and sisters:

I should like you to be free of anxieties. An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided. An unmarried woman or a virgin is anxious about the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy in both body and spirit. A married woman, on the other hand, is anxious about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. I am telling you this for your own benefit, not to impose a restraint upon you, but for the sake of propriety and adherence to the Lord without distraction.

### Alleluia MARK 1:15

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light; on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel MARK 1:21-28

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” Jesus rebuked him and said, “Quiet! Come out of him!” The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, “What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.” His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that by what we say and what we do we may teach what we believe and witness how it changes our lives, so that we may bear witness to the saving power of God, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That those in authority may work toward bringing justice to all who are oppressed and peace to all who live in fear, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For teachers, administrators, and staff in Catholic schools, and families considering Catholic education, may they be blessed in their efforts to live out the values of our shared faith, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who suffer from mental illness or psychological afflictions, that they may receive the care they need, the healing they seek, and the support of their communities, let us pray to the Lord. . .

*Lord hear our prayer*



# LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

PSALM 122



## UPDATED GUIDELINES RELEASED

Bishop Mark E. Brennan released updated guidelines for our churches and facilities.

- New Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings
- Updated Liturgical Guidelines
- Music Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

These are available online at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org).

*Liturgy of the Hours*

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

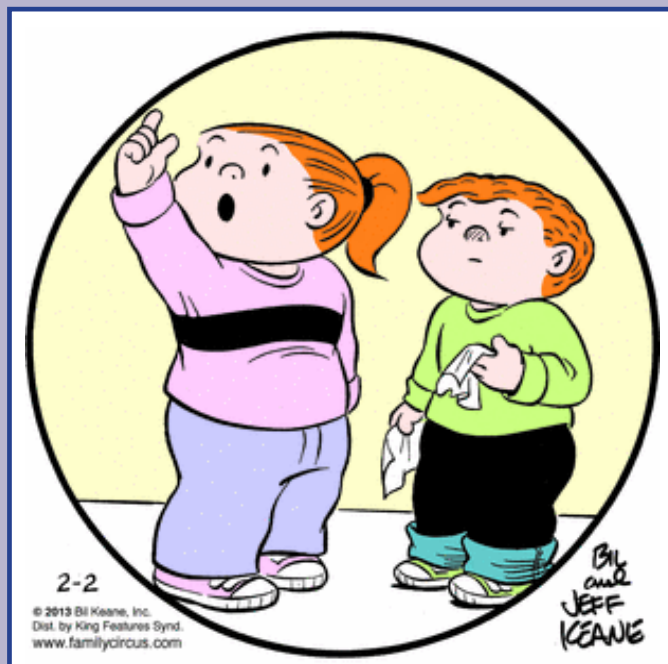
Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://EBREVIARY.COM) [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](http://LITURGY OF THE HOURS)



## A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



## ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

Empowered  
by knowledge.  
Transformed  
by faith.



## 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
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	97.7

~Also Streaming in WV at [www.rdo.to/WL0L](http://www.rdo.to/WL0L)~

WV Catholic Radio [www.WVCatholicRadio.org](http://www.WVCatholicRadio.org)

## 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).

Below are four options for enriching your spirit through daily Mass online.

- EWTN airs daily Mass from Our Lady of Angels Chapel, in Irondale, Alabama, at 8am, noon, and 7pm: [HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE](https://www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: [HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica of the Sacred Heart is live at 11:30 am Monday-Friday: [HTTPS://CAMPUSMINISTRY.ND.EDU/MASS-WORSHIP/BASILICA-OF-THE-SACRED-HEART/WATCH-MASS/SPECIAL-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)