



CELEBRATING OUR 200TH ISSUE!

The *FaithInWV* e-bulletin has reached a significant milestone! **It's our 200th issue today!**

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's first ever e-bulletin was created in the initial days of a national emergency, when the Church was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was our way to be connected and grow in faith together virtually.

As Bishop Mark Brennan said in our first issue, "We pledge to you to do our very best to provide you spiritual resources and the assurance of our prayers," and that continues to be our commitment.

Initially about 8,000 Catholics were emailed the e-bulletin. Today it is sent to 14,000 faithful.

The publication was named after the #FaithInWV profile features showcased on our FaithInWV.org website and published in *The Catholic Spirit*. Like its namesake, the e-bulletin content gives hope, helps us focus on our faith, and encourages each of us to lead by the example of great saints and disciples.

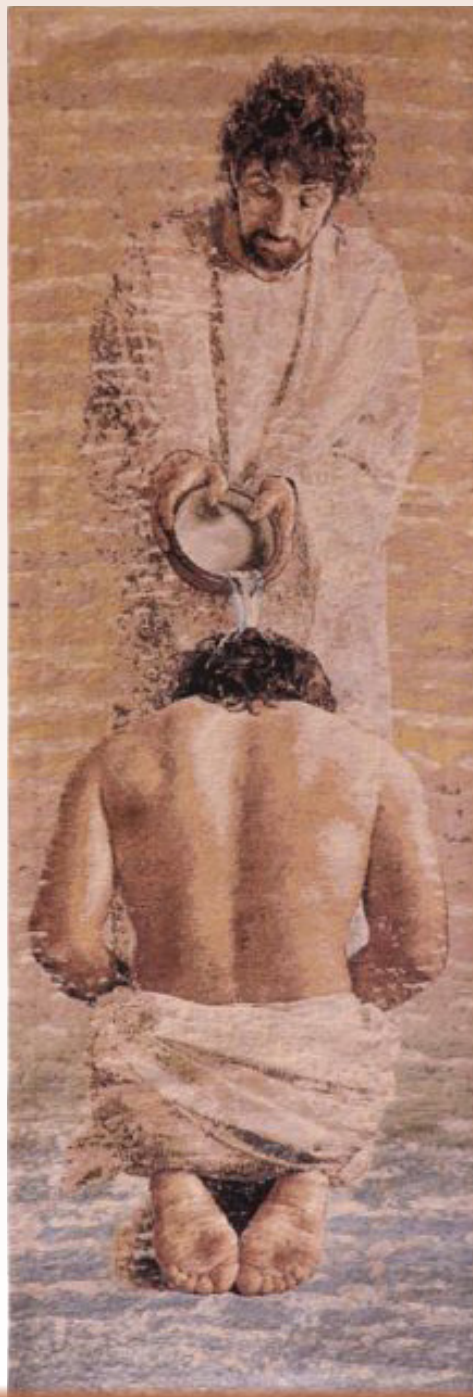
As a worship aid and evangelization resource the *FaithInWV* e-bulletin continues to be a means to help us to choose to find the good in our circumstances, and let others see Christ in us amidst a time of uncertainty and adversity. Ultimately, it is a tangible outlet to emphasize our faith in God and the Church.

From the marketing and communications team who brings this publication to you – Joyce Bibey, Amber Chambers, and Tim Bishop – **THANK YOU FOR BEING A FAITHFUL READER.**

If you are not receiving the publication in your email and you would like to, please email Bibey at jbibey@dwc.org or visit faithinwv.org/contact-us.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

PUT YOURSELF IN THE SCENE ~ THE DAY CHRIST'S MINISTRY BEGAN.



In the Gospel reading for the Baptism of the Lord, celebrated on Monday, January 8, Mark (1:7-11) tells us how John the Baptist declared to the crowd waiting to be baptized in the Jordan River that Jesus of Nazareth is mightier than he, and He would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Then upon baptizing his cousin, Jesus immersed from the water and the heavens opened up and the Holy Spirit descended upon him with a voice of God saying, “You are my beloved, Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Put yourself in the scene as you reflect on this significant day – the day Jesus began his public ministry. It is also the day that the people heard the Almighty speak.

At Baptism we all become children of God. When we are baptized, we are forgiven of original sin and have a new life – we are sons and daughters of God.

While Jesus was born without sin, He welcomed the chance to walk down the muddy banks of the Jordan River to be among the sinners. He wanted to unite with the people and humbly be immersed in the river water to set an example for humanity and to fulfill prophecy.

The moment after we are baptized, the day we are confirmed, and each time we renew our baptismal vows – we strengthen the power of the Holy Spirit within us.

As we touch our fingers to holy water and bless ourselves, be reminded who we are and whose we are. We are children of God Most High, redeemed by Jesus Christ on the Cross, members of God’s family, and forgiven and purified by the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ.

Further, each time you bless yourself think of what the late Minnesota Archbishop Emeritus Harry Flynn would ask his parishioners to picture God the Father looking upon you, seeing the real you – your brokenness, shame, strengths, beauty, joys, sorrows, etc. He is smiling at you, because he knows you and loves you just as you are – a follower of Christ, a reflection of his love, mercy, and pride.

Editor’s note: The art featured with this article is a tapestry by John Nava and displayed at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles, CA.

REMINDER:
SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND REGION
JAN. 13-14

As we pray for peace in the Holy Land, Bishop Mark Brennan reminds the faithful of the special collection for that war torn region to be held in parishes and missions in our diocese next weekend.

Funds will then go directly to The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), a papal agency for humanitarian and pastoral support, providing essentials of water, food, and emergency kits on the ground in the Holy Land.



40 Hours of Devotion

January 12-14, 2024

St. Patrick Church, Weston WV

All are welcome to join us!

Friday, January 12:

6:00 PM—Exposition and Vespers with Preached Homily
9:30 PM—Chanted Compline followed by Simple Reposition

Saturday, January 13:

7:00 AM Exposition
8:00 AM—Office of Readings and Lauds
8:30 AM—Votive Mass of The Most Holy Eucharist
12:00 PM—Recitation of the Angelus and the Most Holy Rosary
5:00 PM—Vespers followed by Simple Reposition
5:30 PM—Saturday Vigil Mass
9:30 PM—Chanted Compline

Sunday, January 14

9:30 AM—Office of Readings and Lauds followed by Simple Reposition
10:30 AM—Solemn Mass
6:00 PM—Solemn Vespers and Benediction with Preached Sermon

*Sign up in the back of Church for your hour(s) to be with Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.
You may also sign up via email Mike Brumley at brumleyma@gmail.com.*

Women's Discernment Retreat



DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

www.dwc.org



June 21-23, 2024 St. Joseph Retreat Center, Wheeling, WV



The Office of Consecrated Life presents a discernment retreat for single Catholic women ages 18 and over. In a world that lacks moments of silence and reflection it can be easy for us to ignore our callings. Join us and take this time to get to know yourself, your heart, and how Christ is working in your life.

- ✦ Retreat is free.
- ✦ Be with other discerning women.
- ✦ Register now - space is limited!



To Register/More Info:



Sister Martha Gomez, RGS,
mgomez@dwc.org



Office of Consecrated Life
(304)233-0880 ext. 264

EPIPHANY SUNDAY - JAN. 7

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Your light has come! The wealth of nations shall come bearing gold and frankincense, praising the Lord.

Responsorial: Psalm 72

“Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.”

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Saint Paul tells us that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The wisemen were overjoyed at seeing the star, followed it, and went to pay homage to the Christ Child, presenting him gifts fitting of a king.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/010724.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/010724.CFM)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we all realize the greatest gifts to give Christ is our heart and our presence, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That our international, national, and local leaders take on the mindset of the wisemen – life-long learners, humble, and aware of the signs from Heaven for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For refugees, immigrants, and those who are seeking asylum that they may find welcome and hope in their new homes, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the special intentions of each one of us as we bring them to You Jesus at Mass, Adoration, and praying before the tabernacle, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



EPIPHANY SUNDAY ~ WHAT ARE YOUR GIFTS TO CHRIST?

Epiphany Sunday –a great day to consider what gifts you can give Jesus this year.



The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord is the day our parishes add the wisemen to the manger scene with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. There is prophetic meaning behind the gifts. Gold is a gift for a king. Frankincense is a gift for a priest.

Myrrh is a fragrant burial ointment, more prized than gold in Christ’s time. The gifts acknowledge the great prophecies - Jesus’ Incarnation as King of kings, a priest for all, and a redeemer who will endure pain and death to give us all forgiveness and eternal life.

While contemplating what gifts we can present to our Emmanuel, consider being like the wisemen – life-long learners, humble, and aware of signs from Heaven.

As Catholics we know we can find the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and can spend time with God at Adoration or praying before the tabernacle. When not with Him in Church, be with him in Scripture, prayer, and in faith formation opportunities. In these moments it can become clearer what to give our Savior.

Reading Scripture, we learn what Jesus wants from us, including:

The gift of our hearts - Love God, and love our neighbor (Matthew 22:36-40)

The gift of humility – Pledge the gift to be humble. Not only admit to sins Just as we seek forgiveness for our sins, but we must also forgive the sins of others (Matthew 6:14)

The gift of gratitude – In all things and in all circumstances give thanks to God. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

The gift of our presence and letting others see Christ in us – We need to be the light of the world, so others see Christ in us, our deeds, and our praise to God) Matthew 5:16.

Let Epiphany Sunday be a revelation to us all. Let us realize that the greatest present of all is our presence, where we can surely find His presence.

Editor’s note: the oil painting accompanying this article is by American artist Mark Missman.

Faith IN WV

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

FAITH IS A LIFELONG JOURNEY!
 Strengthen yours through FaithInWV,
 our weekly e-bulletin in the
 Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

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 to receive this FREE weekly e-bulletin.



WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

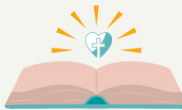
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 by knowledge.
 Transformed
 by faith.



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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.