



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Seek Him with All Your Heart

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is not only about the arrival of the magi, it is about the strength of faith we seek in our journey.

The journey of the magi reminds us that **GOD IS WITH US**. Like the star of Bethlehem that shined brighter than anyone could ever imagine, Jesus continues to shine in the hearts of the faithful.

The great prophet Jeremiah shared the Oracle of the Lord in Jeremiah 29:13-14 - "When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me... and I will change your lot; I will gather you together from all the nations...."

Let us reflect on how we seek Christ.

During this Diocesan Year of the Eucharist we focus on His continued presence in the tabernacle, where we are drawn to be one with Him in person in the Eucharist.

Like the wise men, we are drawn by our faith to come together to celebrate and honor God the Son.

In the first reading on this special solemnity, the prophet Isaiah mentions gold and frankincense, as gifts

befitting a king. He prophecies that these gifts would be presented to the one to come - the Savior of the world. However, the magi also brought myrrh which was used in those days to anoint a body after death. This is another prophecy, because this newborn king is also to be a victim, called to suffer, like Isaiah's suffering servant, for the sins of all.

In our parishes and missions, we may not come with the riches of the magi, but we come to Mass with our greatest treasure - our love of God. Today, we gather thousands of miles from Bethlehem to honor the King of kings.

"Like the Magi, believers are led by faith to seek God in the most hidden places, knowing that the Lord waits for them there," Pope Francis said.

Let others see Christ in us for that is the true gift He wants from us. He came to earth for us, so bring Him your sufferings, loss, fears, worries, and challenges, letting Him fill your spirit with love, joy, and peace. Be grateful in all ways for every joy and triumph - great and small.

When you look for me, you will find me.
Yes, when you seek me with all your heart,



I will let you find me...and I will change your lot;
I will gather you together from all the nations....

-Oracle of the Lord, Jeremiah 29:13-14.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023



As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, let us remember this is the moment that marks a significant beginning – the beginning of Jesus’ ministry.

The event described by Matthew (3:13-17) illustrates for us the moment Jesus arrived from Galilee to the River Jordan to be baptized by John. Many were gathered on the banks for the same.

Upon the baptism of Jesus, the Lord “came up from the water, and the heavens opened for him.” The Spirit of God “descended like a dove upon him.” Then a voice from heaven proclaimed, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased!”

Matthew notes that Jesus’ cousin, John the Baptist, indicated he didn’t consider himself worthy to baptize Jesus. In the previous passage in chapter three, John declared to the people, “I am baptizing you with water, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

When we are baptized, we are forgiven of original sin and have a new life – we are sons and daughters of God. Jesus was born without sin but 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, confirmed, and each time we renew our baptismal vows – we strengthen the power of the Holy Spirit within us.

As we touch our fingers into holy water and bless ourselves, we are 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.

As we are reminded of our baptism let us renew our journey with Christ.

Indeed, it is He who is the meaning of our life, the One on whom it is worth keeping our eyes fixed so as to be illuminated by His Truth and to be able to live to the full. The journey of faith that begins (at baptism) is therefore based on a certainty, on the experience that there is nothing greater than knowing Christ and communicating friendship with him to others; only in this friendship is the enormous potential of the human condition truly revealed and we can experience what is beautiful and sets us free. Whoever has had this experience is not prepared to give up his faith for anything in the world. – Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, January 13, 2013

HONORING POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

1927-2022



At Mass this weekend we will continue to pray as a Church family for the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who died Dec. 31, 2022.

Born on April 16, 1927, and given the name Joseph Alois Ratzinger, he was the third and youngest child of Joseph and Maria Ratzinger. His parents both inspired their children through their hard work and

steadfast faith. His father was a policeman and his mother a hotel cook. When the future pope was six years old the Nazis took power in Germany. He shared in Vatican interviews that he vividly remembers seeing his parish priest being beaten by Nazis before celebrating Mass. Even though they were well aware of the ugly and fiercely hostile atmosphere the Catholic Church faced in Germany his family's faith did not wilt. They remained staunch Catholics. Both he and his brother Georg were ordained to the priesthood in Germany. His sister Maria never married and worked for him as his house manager, when Joseph was a Cardinal.

This love of God and the Church was evident in Pope Emeritus Benedict's writings, addresses, and homilies. So, in honor of Pope Emeritus Benedict we share some of his wise words to live by:

"If we take the Lord's hand and let ourselves be guided by him, the path we take will be right and good."

"Holiness does not consist in not making mistakes or never sinning. Holiness grows with capacity for conversion, repentance, willingness to begin again, and above all with the capacity for reconciliation and forgiveness."

"Look at the face of the other... discover that he has a soul, a history, and a life, that he is a person and that God loves this person."

Pope Emeritus Benedict was known for his advanced intelligence, but also for his humility and gentleness.

He admitted he actually prayed not to be chosen pope, successor of Pope John Paul II. He served as the Holy Father from April 2005 to February 2013. He was 78 years old, when he was named pope - the oldest newly named pope in history. When he resigned at the age of 86, citing health concerns, he was the first pontiff to do so in more than 600 years.

By the time his papacy ended he had written more than 60 publications.

GOD IS NEAR US – PART OF BOOK STUDY SERIES

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's *God is Near Us* book is part of a spiritual education series in the diocese.

During our Diocesan year of the Eucharistic Revival in our country the Office

of Evangelization and Catechesis Director Daniel Maul has developed a series of easy-to-follow book studies on publications that will empower and bring us closer to Jesus in the Eucharist. One of those books is *God is Near Us, The Eucharist the Heart of Life* by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI).

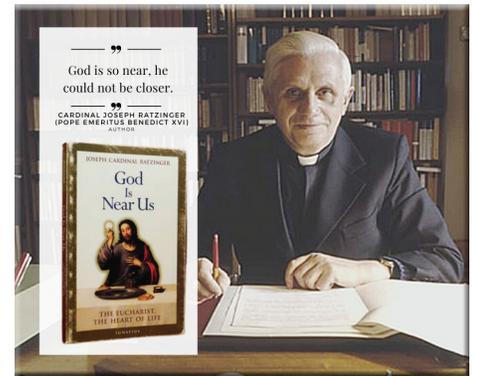
Learn the lessons from the late pope including how through the Eucharist "God is so near, he could not be closer."

The book studies are set up so anyone can be led a small group in the parish that is eager to learn. The guides walk you and your group through summaries, quotes, questions, and discussion prompts, Maul said.

In the spirit of Pope Emeritus Benedict, a beloved teacher of the faith, who spent decades as a teacher of theology and Catholicism, the *God is Near Us* book study can help us evangelize and bring us closer to Christ.

"Our office is here to help bring our faith into our lives so fully that it is second nature for us to share our love of God and the gift of the Holy Eucharist with our loved ones and community through our actions and our words."

For more information and obtain the book study materials contact Maul at DMAUL@DWC.ORG or (304)233-0880 ext. 376.





NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

A MOTHER-IN-LAW'S BLESSING



*By: Bernadette McMasters Kime
Director of Worship & Sacraments for the
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston*

Since January is the Month of the Family, where we remember Mary, Jesus, and Joseph as a family unit, I would like to share a story about my family. As with any couple when they marry, it is not only the two of them,

but rather two entire families come together. Although we know little about Joseph's parents, tradition tells us that Joachim and Ann were Mary's parents and therefore, Joseph's in-laws.

When I first met my soon to be mother-in-law, I was amazed by this petite Japanese woman in her 80's who never seemed to slow down. She was constantly in motion, like the Energizer Bunny. As I got to know her, I admired her strong will, especially knowing that she left her home in Japan at a young age to marry an American soldier and start a family in a foreign land.

About three years ago, she was not feeling well and after a doctor's visit, was told she had cancer in some of her organs (pancreas, stomach, etc.). After surgery, it seemed that all the cancer had been removed and she slowly gained her strength back. But she started having back pain and was told she now had bone cancer in her spine. Unfortunately, we soon learned the cancer was spreading rapidly and categorized as stage 4. Her words were, "I am going to fight this cancer." She endured 3 rounds of intense chemotherapy treatment. Finally, the cancer specialist declared that the chemotherapy is not working, the cancer is spreading, and there is nothing more that the medical professionals can do.

So you may ask, what does this have to do with the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Revival? Well, you will soon see. My mother-in-law would often tell me that she loved going to the Catholic Church in the little town where she used to live. Since she never learned to drive, once she moved out to the country, she was no longer able to go, and this made her sad. While she was not a Christian, she has always had a devout faith in God, Jesus, and the Blessed Mother. She often said she wished that she understood more about the Church. One morning when she was visiting, she was mumbling on the couch. My youngest daughter asked

her who she was talking to, and she said "Jesus". Msgr. Gene Ostrowski, a friend to me and my husband, would come and see her and pray with her. She shared with me how special those times were to her.

Knowing that her cancer prognosis was not good, I approached Msgr. Paul Hudock when he was pastor at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling and asked him if he could fully initiate my mother-in-law into the Church since she was in "Danger of Death". It was an amazing experience to be there as she received her sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. During the Mass, she cried and afterward kept saying, "I am so happy! I am so happy! I feel so good."



The daughters of Bernadette McMasters Kime, 3-year-old Elena (left) and 5-year-old Erica, help their grandma blow out her birthday candles.

Lately when she comes to our house so that my husband can take her to medical appointments, she arrives sluggish and in pain. Nevertheless, she wants me to take her to Mass. After evening Mass, she cries again and says, "I feel so good!" The next morning, she wakes up with a burst of energy and a smile on her face. She is the first one up, helps me get the kids ready for school, and eats a large breakfast. It is amazing to see the transformation in her, all because of the Eucharist. These are truly Eucharistic miracles. While her body is weak, her faith in God is keeping her strong. Watching a family member suffer physical pain is heartbreaking, however, watching the Lord work miracles in their lives can also be a blessing.



RETREAT CENTER

20/20 Vision Series

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Vision 20/20 series for 2023 will focus on the Eucharist. Pope Francis has called for a worldwide Eucharistic Revival. Journey with us this year from Jan. 23-Dec. 11, as we journey with the Holy Father and his invitation to focus our vision on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist - the Source and Summit of the Church.

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

Jan 23	The Transformative Power of the Eucharist - Bishop Mark Brennan
Feb 27	Let us be Bread - Beth Longo, CSJ Associate
March 27	The Eucharist as a noun - Bernadette McMasters Kime
April 24	Eucharist in the early church - Fr. John Di Bacco
May 22	Lord I am not worthy - Alex Nagem
June 26	The Eucharist as a verb - Deacon Paul Lim
July 31	Eucharist IS thanksgiving - Kate Marshall
August 28	Bread broken and shared - Sr. Jeanne Cmolik, CSJ
Sept. 25	Eucharistic Reflections through song - Chad Carter
Oct 30	The Road to Emmaus: Were Not Our Hearts Burning? - Fr. Walt Jagela
Nov 27	Bread for the journey - Rodica Stoicoiu, Ph.D.
Dec 11	Do this in remembrance of Me - Deacon Doug Breiding

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

COST FOR COMPLETE SERIES: \$120.00 OR \$15.00 PER SESSION.
FOR DETAILS AND MORE INFO CONTACT: ATROIANI@CSJOSEPH.ORG
OR CALL THE RETREAT CENTER AT: 304-232-8160 X112



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

MARK CALENDARS NOW FOR REGIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESSES

DIOCESE TO OFFER THREE REGIONAL CONGRESSES

IN SPRING FOR FAITHFUL

The Diocesan Year the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will conclude with three regional Eucharistic Congresses, making it convenient for the faithful to gather regionally rather than Diocesan-wide.

The congresses will tailor activities for faithful of all ages, including our school-aged children in our 24 Catholic Schools and Parish School of Religion programs. The two-day events will include Mass, Adoration, dynamic national speakers, powerful talks on the Eucharist, and fellowship, all tailored to help you fall deeper in love with the Eucharist.

Please, watch for announcements in the FaithInWV e-bulletin, diocesan social media, The Catholic Spirit, and your parish bulletins.

The three regional Eucharistic Congresses spanning April-June of 2023 are:

- April 21-22 St. James Catholic Church, Charles Town
- April 28-29 Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Wheeling
- June 2-3 Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston

These events will not only revive our spirits, but energize the faithful to evangelize, bringing Christ to all people in our words and actions as a Eucharistic people.

St. Francis de Sales wrote, "When you have received Him, stir up your heart to do Him homage; speak to Him about your spiritual life, gazing upon Him in your soul where He is present for your happiness; welcome Him as warmly as possible; and behave outwardly in such a way that your actions may give proof to all of His Presence."

SAVE THE DATE - SPRING CONGRESSES



April 21-22
St. James Church
Charles Town

April 28-29
Cathedral of St. Joseph
Wheeling

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

Stay in the know! Be sure to check out
<https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist>
and our diocesan social media for more info and events.



Prayer for Eucharistic Revival



Father in heaven,
you have made us for yourself;
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Fulfill this longing through Jesus, the Bread of Life,
whose sacramental Body we receive in the Eucharist,
so that we may witness to him
who alone satisfies the hungers of the human family.
By the power of your Spirit lead us to the heavenly table
where we may feast on the vision of your glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

The great prophet shouts for joy. Rise up! The light of the Lord shines upon you. Kings of the world will honor Him, and all shall sing His praises.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72

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

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-6

St. Paul tells us that the Gentiles and all people are coheirs of the promise – the kingdom of God.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Matthew tells us that when the magi arrived in Jerusalem, they spoke to King Herod about the star leading them to the newborn King as the prophets foretold. Herod instructed them to return to him with the whereabouts of the child, claiming he wanted to honor him. Upon arrival to the humble dwelling in Bethlehem where the Christ Child was sleeping, the kings were filled with great joy. They fell to their knees, presented him great treasures. They did not return to Herod after they were warned by the angels in their dreams not to reveal the location of the Christ Child.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/010823.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, as we pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and reflect on his good works may the light of Christ pour forth from us so all may know His love and mercy let us pray to the Lord. . .

For leaders of the nations of the world, may they be guided by the light of the truth as they care for God’s creation and all people, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our scientists and scholars who study the earth and sky, may they listen to the whispers of God in their hearts and minds in order to convince all of the importance of caring for God’s gifts to us – the land, the sea, the creatures great and small, and the air we breathe, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the people in our diocese, parishes, missions, and schools as we prepare for our regional Eucharistic Congresses in 2023, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

WV CATHOLIC RADIO AIRS SUNDAY MASS STATEWIDE

West Virginia Catholic Radio will continue to air Sunday Mass from the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling to its listeners across the diocese.

West Virginia Catholic Radio has 11 stations throughout the state that provide the Mass including areas where internet service is limited.

Stations include:

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

Weirton - Steubenville FM 97.7



Catholic radio stations in northern WV broadcast the Mass at noon on Sundays and in southern WV the stations broadcast the Mass at 11am.



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

Catholic Schools Week 2023

January 29–February 4

www.NCEA.org/csw
#CSW23

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
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.7

~Also Streaming in WV at www.rdo.to/WLWL~

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.