



FEAST DAY OF SAINTS ANNE AND JOACHIM JULY 26



On July 26, we celebrate the feast day of Saints Anne and Joachim. Because they are the parents of the Mary, this day is also lovingly called the “Feast of the Grandparents.”

The New Testament could serve as the supreme brag book about their beloved grandson our Lord

and Savior! Unfortunately for us, we don’t have a wealth of facts on Jesus’ maternal grandparents. They are only mentioned in additional writings that complement the bible. However, it is safe to say their love and trust in God must have been wonderfully strong and pure.

We should have no doubt this couple was overjoyed with being the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We can only imagine the conversations and traditions Saints Anne and Joachim shared with her to make sweet Mary’s heart so blessed, ultimately being chosen to be the Mother of the Christ child.

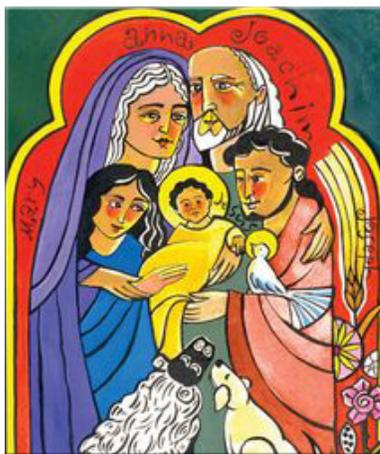
As grandparents they surely enjoyed passing down their steadfast faith, stories, songs, and religious customs to young Jesus.

Today we can and should be doing the same. This pandemic has emphasized the importance of the domestic church and our responsibility to nurture the love of the Holy Family, Trinity, biblical teachings, and the Eucharist. It is a remarkable opportunity, which can be made easier with countless resources available online to enhance our faith life and help us evangelize all ages. Parishioners can also email their pastors, parish schools, or the church’s DRE (Director of Religious Education) inquiring about their favorite sites or books.

A few easy to navigate websites for teaching children and grandchildren of all ages are:

- Catholic Inspired
- Pray More Novenas
- Catholic All Year
- Loyola Press
- The Catechesis of The Good Shepherd
- My Catholic Faith Delivered

- WWW.CATHOLICINSPIRED.SITE
- WWW.PRAYMORENOVENAS.COM
- CATHOLICALLYEAR.COM
- WWW.LOYOLAPRESS.COM
- WWW.CGSUSA.ORG
- FAITHFORMATION.ZOHOSITES.COM



UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON’S QUESTION & ANSWER ABOUT MARY’S PARENTS

Q: Who are Mary’s parents?

A: The story of Mary’s birth and details about her aging parents, Joachim and Anne, come from apocryphal writings known as the Protoevangelium of James the Lesser that was written by an unknown author. Apocryphal writings are often connected with Scriptural themes although they are not deemed part of the canon of the Catholic church.

The Rev. Bert Buby, S.M., a Marian scholar at the University of Dayton, calls the Protoevangelium account “a very imaginative, creative story about the birth of Mary, written about 150 A.D.” In the beginning of the Protovangelium (considered to be secondary/canonical books of the Bible), Joachim is fasting in the wilderness and Anne is mourning in her garden, both of them lamenting their childlessness. An angel appears to Anne, promises her that she will conceive, and then directs her attention to her returning husband. Anne and Joachim share a tremendous embrace indicating their great confidence in God that a child will be born, and Anne does conceive. They dedicate their daughter, Mary, to God, keeping her from sin and evil. When she is three years old, Anne and Joachim present her in the temple, where Mary dances on the third step of the altar and “all the house of Israel loved her.”

SIGNIFICANT MEMORIALS IN THE CHURCH THIS WEEK: SAINT MARTHA AND SAINT IGNATIUS LOYOLA

MEMORIAL OF SAINT MARTHA ~ JULY 29



Martha was a great friend of Jesus along with her brother Lazarus and sister Mary of Bethany. Many times, when we think of

honor, as was customary of the Middle East culture. Martha considered this a duty a sign of great love and respect for her guest. However, she became annoyed at her sister for ignoring her share of the responsibilities. Jesus notices Martha is so distracted and tells her to stop her work and listen to Him. This story is a reminder of how “busy” we can all get. Like Martha, God wants us to stop with unnecessary tasks and simply make time for Him.

In John (11:1-44) Martha’s love for Jesus is illustrated. The Gospel declares that Martha ran to Jesus upset, because

He did not immediately come, when summoned, to see her dying brother. By the time Jesus arrived Lazarus had been dead for four days. Although completely distraught she revealed her great faith, saying, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. [But] even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.”

Jesus rose her brother from the dead for as John’s gospel tells us (11:5), “Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.”

Let us all relate to Martha. Let us learn to listen to Christ like she did, resulting in undeniable faith.

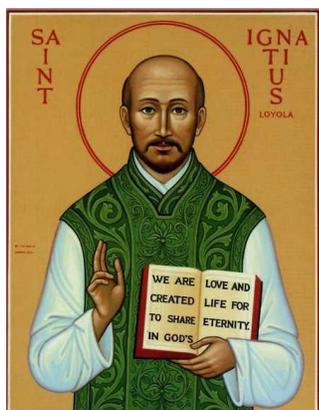


Martha, we recall a great question - are you a Mary or a Martha? This Christian character debate centers around the story in Luke 10:38-42. In the story, Jesus is stopping by their family home for a visit. Once he arrived Mary stopped what she was doing to sit and listen to Jesus. Martha on the other hand worked tirelessly, continuing to tidy up the house and prepare the food and drinks for their

MEMORIAL OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA ~ JULY 31

Saint Ignatius was born in Spain in 1491. He happily fulfilled his boyhood dream to become a soldier, serving diplomatic missions. Historical accounts note he was quite proud and competitive.

However, Saint Ignatius’s life took a significant turn, after being badly wounded in a battle against France. His recovery was long and painful. During his convalescence Ignatius read two books - one on the life of Jesus and the other was about the lives of saints. He began to see the saints as men and women of great valor and spiritual nobility more impressive than any warrior he aspired to be. He vowed to be a soldier for Christ.



In 1522, Saint Ignatius made a spiritual pilgrimage, spending three days confessing his sins, giving up all his possessions, and refocusing in order to completely dedicate his life to God.

He ultimately penned a handbook of spirituality - The Spiritual Exercises. It is full of prayer, meditation, and practices to help fully encounter the scriptures and “find God in all things.”

It became the basis for retreats and evangelization. Pope Paul III approved it in 1548 as a “manual of spiritual arms.”

St. Ignatius encourages us through his writings to become a part of the Gospels by putting ourselves into the scripture stories. Thus, we can better understand

and feel the emotions in the Word of God. There is much to learn about this dynamic saint in his autobiography and through the Society of Jesus - The Jesuits - the Roman Catholic order of priests and brothers founded by St. Ignatius.



When we face significant choices in our lives, let us recall the words of Saint Ignatius, “never say or do anything until you have asked yourself whether it will be pleasing to God, good for yourself and edifying to your neighbor.”

THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT WEEKLY EDITION NOW FEATURES CATHOLIC CHARITIES MISSION MOMENT

By: Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—The Catholic Spirit's weekly electronic edition now features a Catholic Charities West Virginia Mission Moment. The Mission Moment showcases the success stories and accomplishments of those who have benefited from Catholic Charities West Virginia's programs, services, and outreach initiatives throughout the state.



Debra Bunch, dressed in her 'graduation whites' attire, visits the Catholic Charities Center for Community Learning and Advancement in Huntington to celebrate her newly earned Licensed Practical Nurse diploma.

The Mission Moment series debuted in the July 17 issue with the success story of Debra Bunch who enrolled at the Catholic Charities Center for Community Learning

and Advancement (CCLA) in Huntington in 2016. She is now employed with St. Mary's Medical Center in Huntington.

The July 24 issue of The Catholic Spirit will feature the story of the Carrell-Jacks family who received help from Catholic Charities West Virginia's Birth to Three RAU-1 program. This program works with families and specialists to decide which supports and services are needed for children ages birth to 3 who have a delay in their development or may be at risk for a delay.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

You can read about these stories and more by signing up to receive the weekly electronic edition of The Catholic Spirit, which is delivered free every Friday by e-mail. Sign up by sending an e-mail to CROWAN@DWC.ORG.

For more news and information from The Catholic Spirit visit THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG or follow on Facebook at WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/THECATHOLICSPIRITWV

THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT IS NOW AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL!

You are invited to join our new e-list to receive The Catholic Spirit by e-mail. To be added to the e-list, send an e-mail to Colleen Rowan, CROWAN@DWC.ORG, with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line. Please let us know your preference saying: "E-mail only, and remove me from print mailing list" or "I would like both print and e-mail versions."

By joining the e-mail list, you will receive an e-mail on each issue date of The Catholic Spirit with a link to the full issue.

The Catholic Spirit will now be available under "Downloadable Spirit" at

THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG.

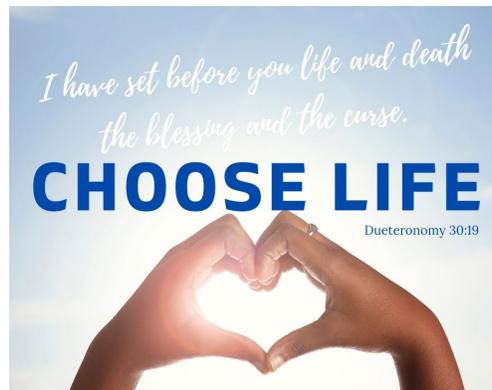
FINDING OUR WAY EACH DAY

By: Sister Ellen Dunn, OP

Many of us have already acknowledged that the COVID-19 is the most difficult thing we have experienced in our lives — whether we are young or old. And each new day reveals that this remains our reality for the present and for months to come. It's hard to remember how we were living and thinking before mid-March, 2020. We did not have this huge dark cloud hovering overhead, somehow affecting our every move and our every decision. We have moved to a new reality and we cannot go back to what was.

The question arises for us: How shall we go forward each day in this environment? What meaning will we pass on to our family, our neighbors, our coworkers—

those we meet along the way? Will there be a hopeful look on my face? Or anger and confusion? How will I find strength to walk on with courage?



How will I continue to be a hopeful person?

As People of Faith, we have to go inside and find the Divine present as our rock and our center of Life. The Scriptures call us to 'Choose life' in all our comings and goings. This stance will support us as we go forward together and realize that we are all part of the human community, mindful of and reaching for the common good of all.

We are in a historical moment of radical change and an opportunity for personal and communal growth. We are IN THIS TOGETHER as so many are acknowledging. The moment for Good News is at our door now asking us to open wide to this time of challenge and great need! Together we can!

SISTER JENNIFER BERRIDGE TAKES FINAL VOWS SATURDAY

July 25th is an extra special day for the Wheeling Congregation of St. Joseph.

Sister Jennifer Berridge will profess her vows at 5 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Wheeling.

Typically it would not be in a parish setting, however due to the pandemic and wanting to keep the Sisters living in residence at the Wheeling CSJ Center at Mount Saint Joseph, Sister Jennifer is happy St. Vincent is able to provide the Vow Mass, following the safety guidelines of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Sister Jennifer's candidacy began on January 23rd of 2016. She was officially accepted into the Novitiate which began on July 1st 2018. She affectionately explains that time as "nun boot camp."

She said she will walk into Saturday, "honored and humbled and deeply grateful! I cannot stop smiling. I never assumed that the 'yes' from my Leadership was a guarantee. I had to go on faith and what I know for sure to be true for myself, and hope that the communal discernment was the same as my own personal discernment. And gratefully it was.

"I did reach a point where I said to myself, whatever happens I know that it will all be OK," she said. "I had to reach a point of personal freedom- feeling free to go and free to stay. I feel, know, sense, and experience for myself the faithfulness of God. And in that I feel free- wherever that leads me."

Berridge, a graduate of Kent State University with a bachelor's degree in human services, worked for 13 years at Aultman Hospital in Canton, Ohio.

"I felt like I was on the right path," she said, but God had a different plan.

After Mass one morning Berridge was greeted by a "sweet lady who I had often seen at church, but didn't know very well."



At that moment her life was about to significantly change.

"She simply asked if I'd ever thought about religious life," Berridge recalled. "I was 38-years-old at the time. Religious life had never even entered my mind. I honestly thought to myself 'Is this still a thing?' All the nuns I knew were much older, and most were retired."

The "sweet lady" was Sister Dorothy Ann Blatnica of the Sisters of Charity out of Cincinnati. Berridge agreed to continue the conversation over lunch.

"Afterward, when I got in my car and headed down the road, I immediately had the most peaceful thought - I know she's right. A place inside me knew that I was meant to do this," Berridge said.

She went home and told her mother Kathy and sister Becky about the lunch, the talk, and her "revelation" that she felt that she should consider religious life.

"They both looked at me and without hesitation agreed. They too, could see that for me," she said throwing her hands up, as if she were reliving an "ah-ha" moment.

There are seven communities that make up the Congregation of Saint Joseph. They are in Cleveland and Wheeling, as well as Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Louisiana, and Minnesota.

Berridge's current ministry in Wheeling is volunteering in Pastoral Care at Serenity Hills Life Center, an addiction and recovery facility for women. She acknowledges that this ministry is a clear affirmation that God had a plan for her to be in Wheeling all along.

For Berridge, becoming a religious sister is allowing her to be "something greater than myself."

To learn more about becoming a religious sister go to VOCATIONS@CSJOSEPH.ORG.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

That the Church may welcome all into its care, especially the most vulnerable in our society: the unborn, the elderly, the poor, the sick, the forgotten, and the immigrant, we pray . . .

That civil leaders may promote the values of respect, peace, justice and harmony, we pray . . .

That we may receive the grace to show patience and kindness in caring for one another as we face the challenge of preventing the spread of COVID-19, we pray . . .

That all those who give of themselves in the service of others, especially doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, EMT's, police officers, firefighters, teachers, military personnel and countless others, may be protected from harm, we pray . . .

Lord hear our prayer



MASS READINGS FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading **KINGS 3:5, 7-12**

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you."

Solomon answered:

"O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?"

The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: "Because you have asked for this— not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right— I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you."

Responsorial **PSALMS 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130**

R. (97a) Lord, I love your commands.

I have said, O LORD, that my part is to keep your words. The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

R. Lord, I love your commands.

Let your kindness comfort me according to your promise to your servants. Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight.

R. Lord, I love your commands.

For I love your command more than gold, however fine. For in all your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate.

R. Lord, I love your commands.

Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple.

R. Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading **ROMANS 8:28-30**

Brothers and sisters:

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

Alleluia (CF) **MATTHEW 11:25**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; for you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel **MATTHEW 13:44-52 OR 13:44-46**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

"Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old."

or

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



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 wvcatholicschools.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 [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)

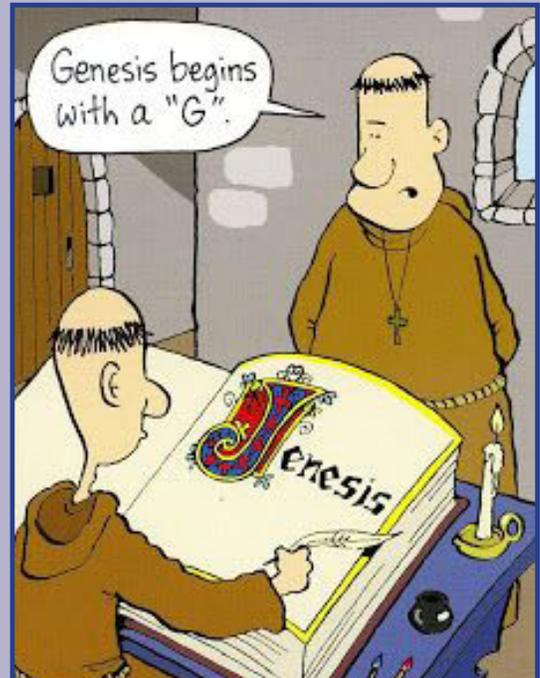
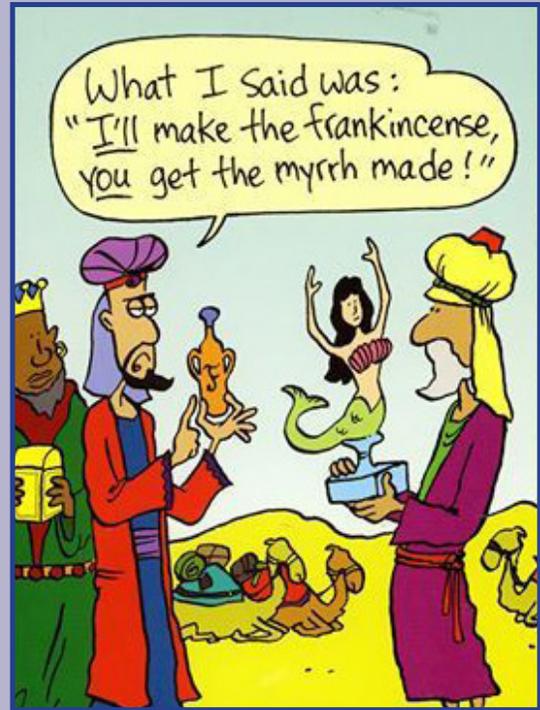


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Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7

You can find LoL Radio online at LoLRadio.org

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



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.

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/)