



# Jesus, Teach Us to Pray

Jesus prayed. He prayed publicly and privately. He prayed for guidance, in gratitude, and for the intentions of others.

In today's Gospel of Luke (11:1-13) one of his disciples said to him "Lord, teach us to pray...."

He gives his followers loving guidance emphasizing that prayer will strengthen their relationship with God, enabling to put all trust in the Lord.

God is listening. Go to him with confidence and persistence, as a child would go to their loving father.

Acknowledge God's holiness.

Seek His will.

Rely on Him for courage, grace, mercy, and the ability to forgive others.

Luke's Gospel passage also underscores the importance

of "evangelizing ourselves" in order to share God with others.

Cultivating a personal relationship with the Almighty Father through prayer, studying His Word, and applying His teachings is paramount.

To know Him is to love Him, trust Him, and seek eternal life with Him.

Christ said,

*"And I tell you, ask and you will receive;  
seek and you will find;  
knock and the door will be opened to you.  
For everyone who asks, receives;  
and the one who seeks, finds;  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."*



# DWVC 175



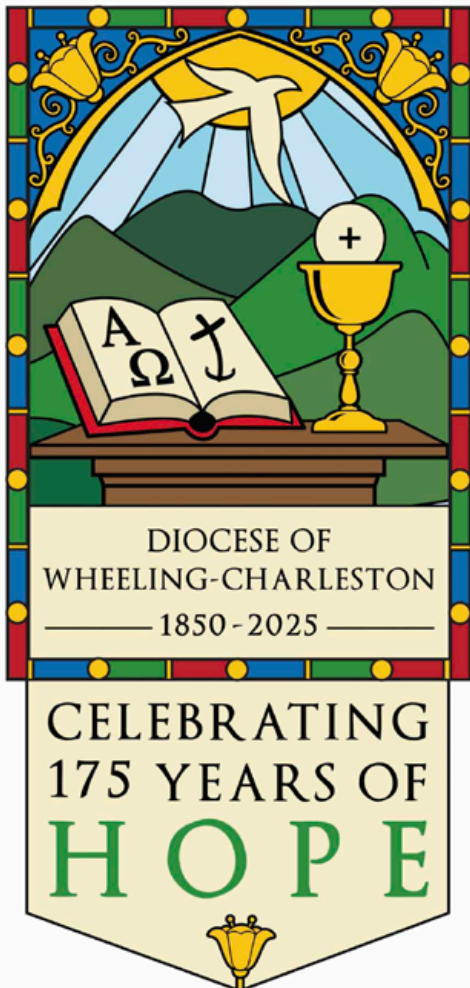
The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is celebrating our 175th anniversary all year long.

Churches across all reaches of the state rang in the anniversary on at 7:19 pm, July 19, honoring the July 19, 1850, date when the Holy See established the Diocese of Wheeling (at that time the diocese would include all of what is now West Virginia except for the eastern panhandle, and it would include the section of present-day western Virginia to our southern border).

Faithful from the Mountain State are invited to Mass at noon, August 22, 2025, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, which will formally open the jubilee. That day is also the 6th Anniversary of Bishop Mark Brennan as ninth Bishop of Wheeling Charleston.

Watch for updates and special events posted on our website at [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG) from now through July 2026, when the year will close with a special Mass at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston. Resources on the webpage will include the Diocesan 175th Hymn, official prayer, and children's resources.

Your FaithInWV e-bulletin, The Catholic Spirit, and diocesan social media will feature diocesan history and photos to honor the past, celebrate the present, and inspire us for the future of the Church in WV.



## *Prayer for the 175th Anniversary of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston*

God of all times and places,

We praise and thank you for the 175 years we have spent around the table of your Son in these hills and valleys of West Virginia.

You have walked with us through every season—guiding our ancestors, building up communities of faith, and forming hearts for discipleship.

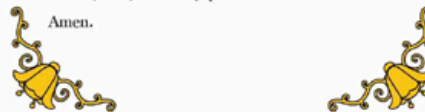
As we give thanks for all who have gone before us, we ask You now to renew us in the present and continue to form us as a people of hope. Deepen our faith, strengthen our unity, and enliven our commitment to sharing the Gospel.

As we look to the future, we ask for the grace to be bold in mission. Send us forth with open hearts, ready to meet the needs of our neighbors, to be instruments of justice and peace.

As we continue on the journey, may we go forward as pilgrims of hope united in the Spirit, and empowered by faith that grows, hope that endures, and love that transforms.

We make this prayer through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, St. Joseph, patron of our diocese and with all the saints who have walked this path before us, keep us ever close to You—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—now and forever.

Amen.



## Calendar of Events

- ✦ Saturday, July 19, 2025: 175th Anniversary
- ✦ Friday, August 22, 2025: Mass at 12:05pm (Cathedral of St. Joseph).
- ✦ Tuesday, October 14, 2025: Renewal of the Pastoral Orientation Program
- ✦ Wednesday, October 15-Thursday, October 16, 2025: PACE Conference
- ✦ Wednesday, October 16: A Celebration of the Season of Creation
- ✦ Sunday, November 2: Mass for All Souls' Day at 10:00am
- ✦ Sunday, November 2: Evening Prayer at 5:00pm
- ✦ Sunday, November 9: Evening Prayer at 5:00pm
- ✦ Sunday, November 16: Evening Prayer at 5:00pm
- ✦ Sunday, November 16: Concert
- ✦ Sunday, November 23: Evening Prayer at 5:00pm
- ✦ Sunday, November 30: Evening Prayer at 5:00pm

# Children See How Important Mass Is They Are Growing in Faith

*Editor's note: The following was written by Fr. Paul Wharton for his Blessed Sacrament parishioners in South Charleston, and is a great message for all of us about the importance of faith formation in our own families and community – that is evangelizing.*

The Solemn Blessing in the Rite of Infant Baptism declares to the parents that they are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith. The Church prays they may be the best of teachers. Whenever I see parents doing an outstanding job of sharing the light of the Catholic faith with their children, I am both grateful and touched. I see some parents helping children dip their fingers in holy water and make the sign of the cross. In churches where the tabernacle is visible, they teach them how to genuflect (get down on one knee as a sign of reverence). In both cases, they talk about the what and the why.

Every couple of years, a parent shares with me how their Child plays Mass by carrying the Gospel Book (when I didn't have a deacon), preaching, giving communion, etc. Last April, one of our moms shared this picture of a daughter's creative use of dolls at Mass. Notice the details.

- There is a sanctuary with an altar, ambo, presidential chair, and priest.
- To the priest's right are servers, and perhaps a Reader and Eucharistic Minister.
- It looks like someone is waiting to accept the collection basket.
- There is a boy and girl ready to bring the bread and wine to the altar.

Here at Blessed Sacrament Parish children are always welcome no matter how young and restless. Your child or grandchild sounds 10 times louder to you than us. Notice how often an especially loud baby becomes quiet when someone carries them to the back.

When children see how important Mass is to the adults, they are growing in faith. Not only parents, but all adults need to set a good example for children by singing, praying, participating, by looking and acting as if something important is happening because it is. Jesus comes to us in the people gathered, the person of the priest, the Word of God proclaimed and preached, and in the bread and wine offered, blessed, and consecrated that become the Body and Blood of Christ. Our children have a lot to learn at Mass, in Sunday faith formation, and the upcoming Vacation Bible Experience. But they also have much to teach us.

*Father Paul*



# SAINTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH

JULY 29TH

SAINTS *MARTHA, MARY, & LAZARUS OF BETHANY*, PRAY FOR US!



Honor the feast of Jesus' BFF's - Sibling Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus of Bethany.

The Gospels describe the trio, their relationship with Jesus, and the great lessons He taught us through them. Luke (chapter 10) describes Christ's visit to their home, teaching us the lesson of being hospitable through listening and service.

In John's Gospel (11:1-44) their love and trust in Jesus is illustrated when the family sent word to Christ that Lazarus was very ill. After being in the tomb for four days, Martha heard Christ was finally coming so she set out to meet up with him. She was upset saying, "If you had been here, brother would not have died." She quickly added. "[But] even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

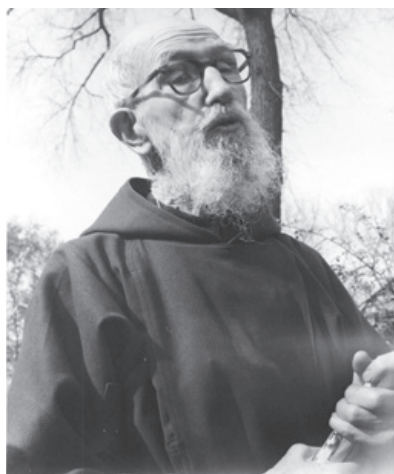
When arriving at the tomb, Mary fell to Christ's feet crying with all the Jews, "And Jesus wept (John 11:35)." This was truly a powerful moment in Christ's ministry.

Then going to the tomb and having it opened called, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus wrapped in burial clothes came to life and walked out of the tomb.

Let us honor them for their steadfast faith. May we all hope to live our lives with such attentiveness, reverence, and genuine love of Christ, making time for him without hesitation. Together they are the patron saints of siblings.

JULY 31ST

BLESSED *SOLANUS CASEY*, PRAY FOR US!



American priest and now Blessed Solanus Casey would counsel those seeking his spiritual direction to put aside worry, struggle, and fear, then "Thank God ahead of time" for the blessings to come from the crosses we will be given to carry.

"Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be stronger people. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks."

Just before he passed away at 11 a.m. on July 31, 1957, he said, "I give my soul to Jesus Christ." Notice we shared the time he died. That's because it was the exact 53rd anniversary of his first Mass.

JULY 31ST

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRAY FOR US!



“Find God in all things,” St. Ignatius of Loyola penned in his handbook of spirituality – The Spiritual Exercises. St. Ignatius encourages us through his writings to become a part of the Gospels by putting ourselves into the scripture stories to better understand and feel the emotions in the Word of God.

AUGUST 1ST

ST. ALPHONSUS, PRAY FOR US!



We recite the words of St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori when we pray “The Way of the Cross” for the stations of the cross, and offer our prayer for “Spiritual Communion.”

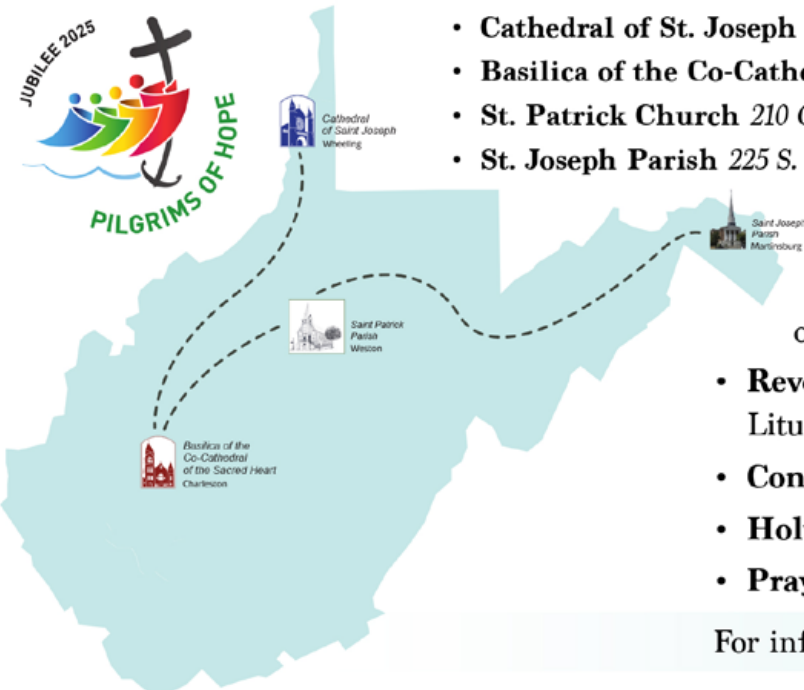
He emphasized the importance of Eucharistic Adoration, saying, “You will probably gain more by praying fifteen minutes before the Blessed Sacrament than by all the other spiritual exercises of the day. True, Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, for He has made the promise, ‘Ask, and you shall receive,’ but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament will obtain a more abundant measure of grace.”

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

## WV PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



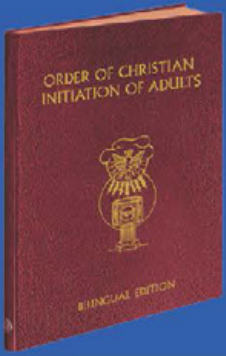
- **Cathedral of St. Joseph** 1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling
- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart** 1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg



Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (*at site*): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
- **Holy Communion**
- **Pray for the Pope**

For information and updates go to: [dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025](http://dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025)



The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston proudly presents

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults Workshops

Designed for all Parish coordinators, team members, and anyone involved in this ministry

### **COME AND LEARN ALL ABOUT THE REVISED RITUAL TEXT**

Workshops have been scheduled throughout West Virginia for your convenience. Choose the one that works best for you!

Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - beginning with coffee and donuts; lunch will be served

Registration is required but cost is FREE - please register here at <https://dwc.org/ocia-workshop/> or call 304-233-0880 ext. 268.

Dates	Locations
August 16, 2025	St. Michael Parish Angelus Center, Wheeling
August 23, 2025	St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, Parkersburg
September 6, 2025	Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, S. Charleston
September 13, 2025	St. Francis de Sales Parish Hall, Beckley
September 20, 2025	St. Leo Parish Hall, Inwood
September 27, 2025	All Saints Parish Hall, Bridgeport



# Day of Reflection (for those in the second half of life)



Co-sponsored by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston  
Department of Faith Formation & Office of Worship and Sacraments

Join us for a day of meaningful presentations, prayer, reflection, and discussion centering around issues relevant to both men and women.

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025**  
**Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston**  
**or**  
**Thursday, September 25, 2025**  
**Saint Joseph Retreat Center, Wheeling**

**9:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Spaces are limited - Cost is \$25 per person**

(\* if you cannot afford this fee, please contact 304-233-0880 ext. 268.)

Register at <https://dwc.org/day-of-reflection/> or complete the form below and send it to

**Karen Muenze**

**Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston**

**P.O. Box 230**

**Wheeling, WV 26003**

**Please make checks payable to Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Payment must be made in advance.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

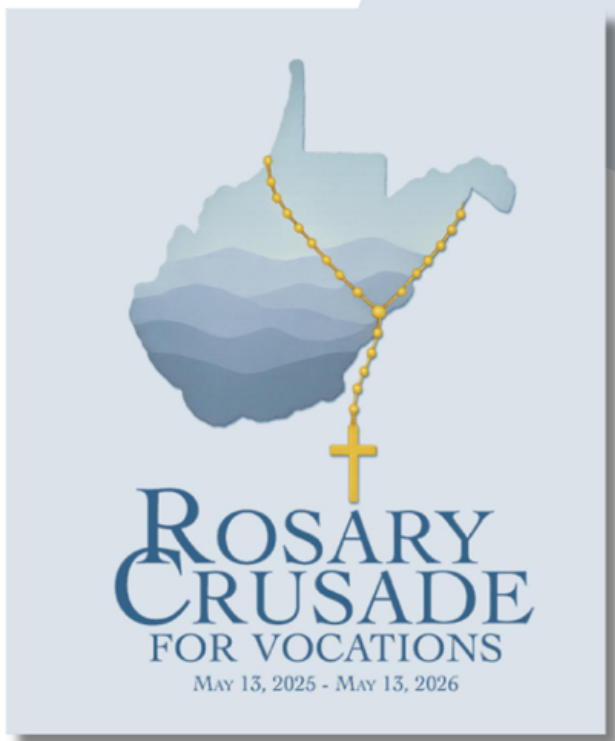
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I will be attending:

- Wednesday, September 10 St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston
- Thursday, September 25 Saint Joseph Retreat Center, Wheeling

# ROSARY CRUSADE FOR VOCATIONS IN WV

SCAN ME!



From May 13, 2025, to May 13, 2026, faithful around the world can join our Rosary Crusade for Vocations in WV.

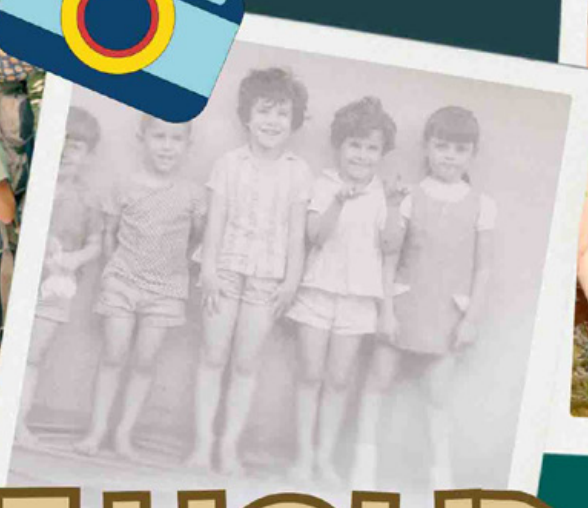
PRAYER WORKS!

Step up for Jesus and His Church!

**Pledge. Share. Pray.**

**Prayer**

Oh, my Jesus,  
listen to my prayer today.  
Bless more young people,  
more men, and more women,  
in West Virginia  
to say yes to your call  
to be religious brothers,  
sisters, and priests.  
Bless my family  
and my Church family  
so, we can support them,  
and remain close to you.  
We ask Blessed Mary  
and St. Joseph to come to you  
in our need to build up the Church  
in the great Mountain State.  
Amen.



# SHARE YOUR THROWBACK PICS!

FROM OUR HUTTONSVILLE CATHOLIC CAMP



→ EMAIL: Joshua Christie  
jcriste@dwc.org

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32**

Abraham persistently pleaded to God to show mercy toward the innocent.

**Responsorial: Psalm 138**

“Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.”

**Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14**

Saint Paul reminds us that God nailed our sins to the cross of Christ.

**Gospel: Luke 11:1-13**

Jesus teaches us to pray – talk to God – the Spirit is with us always, so freely call upon God for your needs. He hears our prayers.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may live out the words of the Lord’s Prayer, not only seeking forgiveness for our sins but also extending forgiveness to those who sin against us, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That nations engaged in war cease living in a mind of hate and evil and instead initiate reconciliation and peace, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who cannot afford their daily bread, that they may be blessed by the generosity of those who themselves have been blessed with plenty, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For grandparents, great-grandparents, and all senior citizens, may they continue to be a pillar of faith for their families and never tire of sharing the love of Christ in all they do, 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
Keyser - coming soon	FM	98.9
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
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

~Listen on LoL Stream at [www.rdo.to/WLOL](http://www.rdo.to/WLOL)~

ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

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by knowledge.  
Transformed  
by faith.



Register today

[wvcatholicschools.org](http://wvcatholicschools.org)



*Liturgy of the Hours*

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://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](http://DWC.ORG).