



# LIKE JESUS SENT HIS DISCIPLES HE SENDS US



Listen to and revisit today's Gospel (Luke 10:1-12, 17-20).

Jesus sends dozens of His disciples in pairs to prepare for Him.

He's calling us to do the same in our daily lives.

Luke journaled this for us. Jesus said to the crowd of about 70 of his followers, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

Bishop Mark Brennan in his homilies and talks throughout the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has illustrated that for us, noting of the state's population of 1.8 million less than four percent are Catholic with 20 percent claiming no religious affiliation.

Let them learn to know and love Christ through you.

Bishop Mark Brennan has said, "The Lord is not content

with us caring only for our own salvation; he wants us to be concerned about other's salvation, too.... Out of love we should be willing to reach out to those who have never known Christ or known him only superficially, as well as to those Catholics who, for various reasons, have stopped practicing their faith.... Speak of Jesus Christ and why we follow him as members of his Church.... You know why you follow him. You do not need a theological degree to tell others your reasons. You are an expert on your life of faith.

"People will often give you opportunities to engage them in that conversation - moments of great joy, such as the birth of a child, a wedding or a new home; or moments of sadness and tragedy, such as the death of a loved one, the breakup of a marriage, the loss of a job or some other serious disappointment. These are openings to speak of



how Christ has been your strength and joy when you have dealt with times both sad and happy.”

Take on the mindset that Bishop Mark is confident we can hold onto and take seriously - be Christ's hands and feet; invite others to your parish events and Mass; be the light of Christ; and speak and share Christ's love.

Let us put ourselves in Luke's Gospel reading. God knows the challenges we will face, but has given us the gifts of the Spirit empowering us to be strong and courageous.

Christ said, “I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.” If people welcome you, bid them peace. If you are not welcomed, then be a peace with your faith, confident, and not arrogant, as to “shake the dust from your feet and move on.”

Luke goes on to write the disciples “returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!’ He said to them, ‘I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this... rejoice that your names are written in heaven.’”

In closing this Sunday's *FaithInWV* article we share verbatim from Bishop Mark's 2024 Advent letter to all Catholics in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:

*“My brothers and sisters in Christ, many of you have spoken to me about your sadness that family members and friends*

*have walked away from the Church. Some of you lament that your parishes are aging with few young families and single persons in sight. I don't think any of us wants our Church to shrink and disappear. Our Catholic Church is the original Christian Church and by far the most universal. Don't we want it to embrace as many of those hundreds of thousands of West Virginians, who are troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd [Matthew 9:36], and assure them that they have a true Shepherd in Jesus Christ? Our Church – meaning all of us working together – must fulfill our mission and not settle for just hanging on, sad and listless.*

*“Our state may be losing population, but we can be growing as a Church. You all know Catholics who have walked away from us. You know some of those West Virginians with no religious affiliation. They are your relatives, friends, neighbors, fellow workers, people with whom you recreate. If your faith matters to you, do your part. Join with other Catholics around the state to reach out to those we have lost and those we never had. It is for their good and for ours as well. It may take years to see the full fruit of our efforts, but we must begin. This is the challenge the Lord gives us here and now.”*

Read or listen to the entire letter at: [DWC.ORG/BRINGING-PEOPLE-TO-CHRIST/](https://dwc.org/bringing-people-to-christ/)

Editor's note: The art with this article “Christ Sending the Seventy Disciples, Two by Two” is by James Jacques Joseph Tissot (circa 1884-96).

## 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](https://dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025)

# ST. AUGUSTINE ZHAO RONG AND COMPANIONS



Be confident and courageous. Be proud of your faith. Let us learn from St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions.

In total there were 120 laity, priests, and religious killed between 1648-1930 for refusing to denounce their Christian faith in China.

On July 9th we honor them on the feast day of Chinese priest St. Augustine Zhao Rong and his 119 Companions. Among them were 87 Chinese Catholics and 33 western missionaries. The Chinese were children, parents, catechists, and four priests. Their ages ranged from nine years old to 72.

During the Boxer Rebellion it is estimated that about 30,000 Chinese converts to Christianity along with their missionaries were killed.

Augustine Zhao Rong was a Chinese Soldier, who witness the martyrdom of Bishop John Gabriel Taurin Dufresse, a Paris Foreign Mission Society member, in Beijing. Augustine chose to be baptized soon after and was ordained as a diocesan Priest. He was martyred in 1815. Of these 120 brave souls, they were mostly beatified in groups at various times, all 120 of these martyrs were canonized in Rome, on October 1st, 2000.

## *July is devoted to the Precious Blood of Christ*

Jesus' blood flowed from His body on the cross for us. As Catholics the Church guides us to reflect on His life-giving blood present in the Eucharist.

Let the Anima Christi (The Soul of Christ) prayer help you reflect on Christ's sacrifice and protection. Many Catholics recite this prayer silently after receiving Holy Communion.

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O Good Jesus, hear me.  
Within Your wounds hide me.  
Suffer me not to be separated from you.  
From the evil one defend me.  
In the hour of my death, call me.  
And bid me come to You,  
That with all Your saints,  
I may praise You forever and ever.  
Amen.*





# St. Benedict

Seek the Protection within the St. Benedict Medal.

The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Benedict on July 11. He was born in 480 AD. We know him today as a strong, courageous, and reverent monk, who lived a life of solitude with total faith in God's protection against all evil.

His medal that dates back to 1880 is one of the most popular of all Catholic medals even respectfully worn by non-Catholics. It is said to ward off evil and Satan. The front and back of the medal hold a bit of the story of this holy soul.

The St. Benedict medal features his image on one side and his cross on the other. The image of St. Benedict includes him holding a cross and his rules, and on one side a cup and the other a raven. The story handed down reveals that an evil soul tried to poison the saint at dinner, when St. Benedict made the sign of the cross above his cup before the meal, the cup shattered instantly, and a raven swooped in and swiped the poisoned bread.

Above the cup are the words *Crux sancti patris Benedicti*, which is translated to "the cross of our holy Father Benedict." Encircling St. Benedict are the words *Eius in*

*obitu nostro praesentia muniamur*, which means, "May we be strengthened by his presence in the hour of our death."

On the back of the Benedictine medal, you will find the letters C S S M L - N D S M D. These letters are the initials of the words, "Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Non draco sit mihi dux!" In English, they translate to, "May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my overlord!" The larger letters on the back of the St Benedict medal are simply the initials found above Benedict on the front of the medal CSPB. At the top of the cross is the word PAX which means peace.

Around the outer circle of the medal are the initials of each line of the Rite of Exorcism - V R S N S M V - S M Q L I V B (Vade retro Satana! Numquam suade mihi vana! Sunt mala quae libas. Ipse venena bibas!) Translated it means "Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!"

Call upon St. Benedict to intercede for you and your loved ones, protecting from all evil.

## Protection against all evil

MEANING IN THE MEDAL THE CROSS OF OUR HOLY FATHER BENEDICT

### CRUX SANCTI PATRIS BENEDICTI



#### EIUS IN OBITU NOSTRO PRAESENTIA MUNIAMUR

The outer edge: May we be strengthened by His presence in the hour of our death.

#### EX S M CASSINO MDCCCLXXX

Below the saint: From Holy Monte Casino 1880 (noting the birthplace of his order, and marking the 1400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth and year the medal was designed).



**PAX** = Peace

**SMQLIVB** = (stands for) What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!

**VRNSMV** = Begone satan! Never tempt me with your vanities!

**NDSMD** = May the dragon never be my leader!

**CSPB** = The Cross of the Holy Father Benedict.



# **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS** **in wake of June 14-15 flooding** **Parishes & Missions Statewide** **July 5-6**



DIOCESE OF  
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

[www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org)



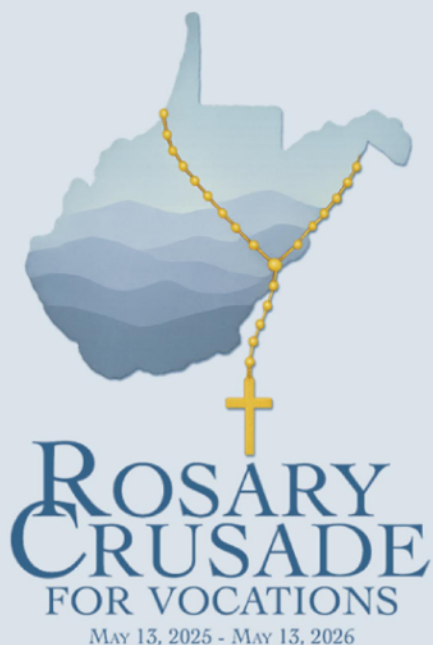
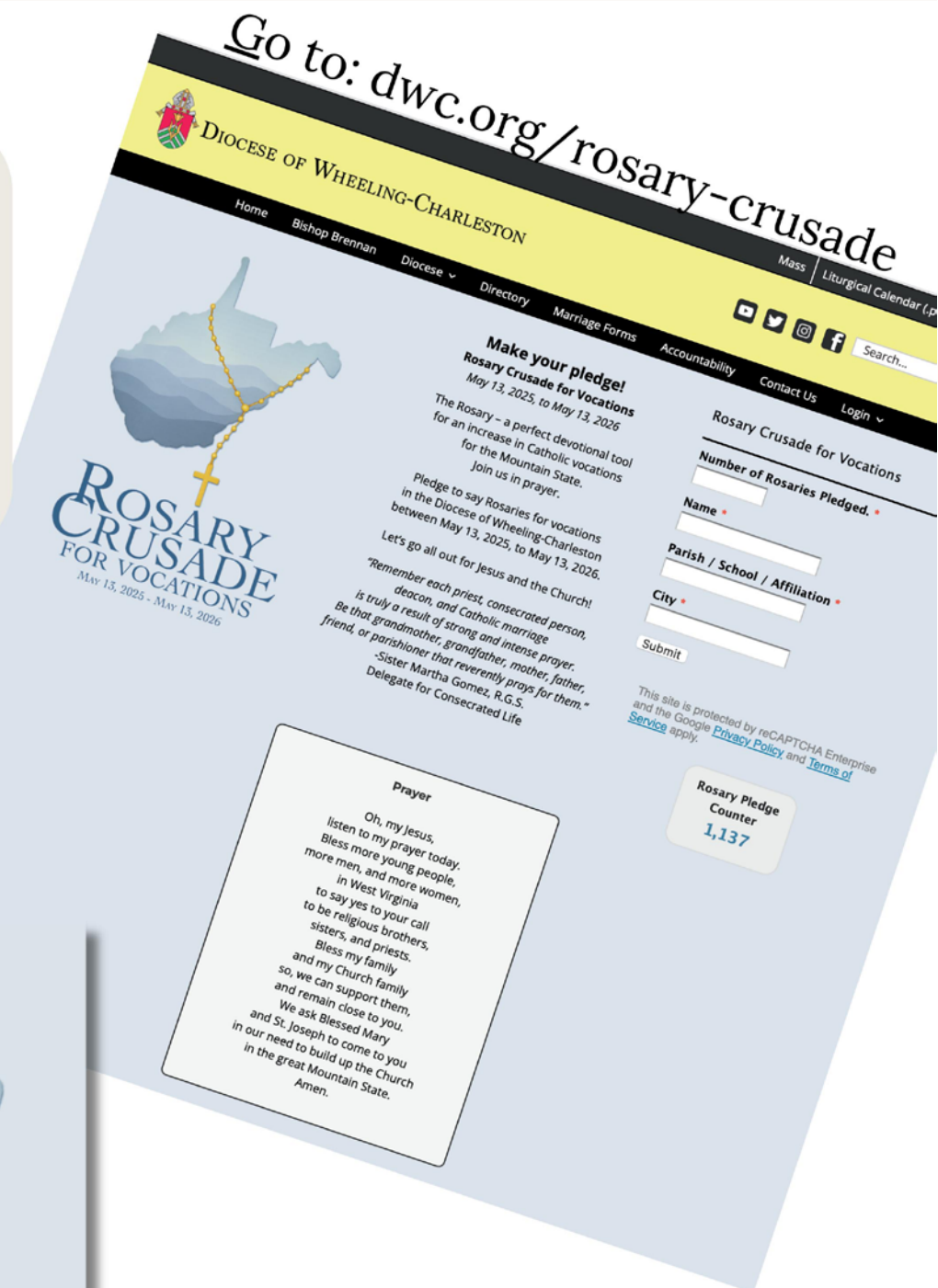
**DONATE**





# 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.**

1. GO TO:

[HTTPS://WWW.IMMACULEE.COM](https://www.immaculee.com)

2. CLICK ON RETREATS TAB

3. SELECT ST. JAMES THE GREATER

Easy

as

1, 2, 3!

# RETREAT REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

Prayer Does Work Miracles!  
Rwandan Holocaust Survivor,  
Immaculée Ilibagiza Retreat  
July 25-26, 2025

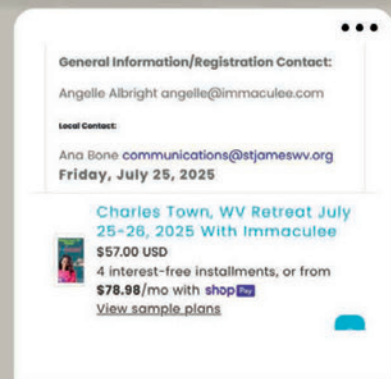
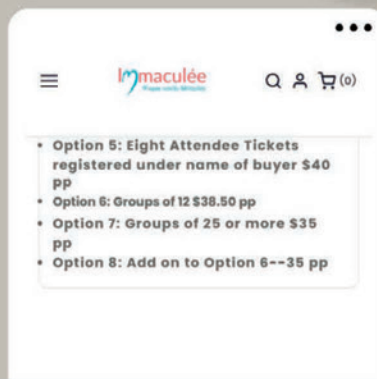
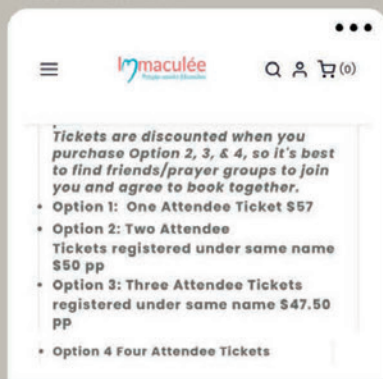
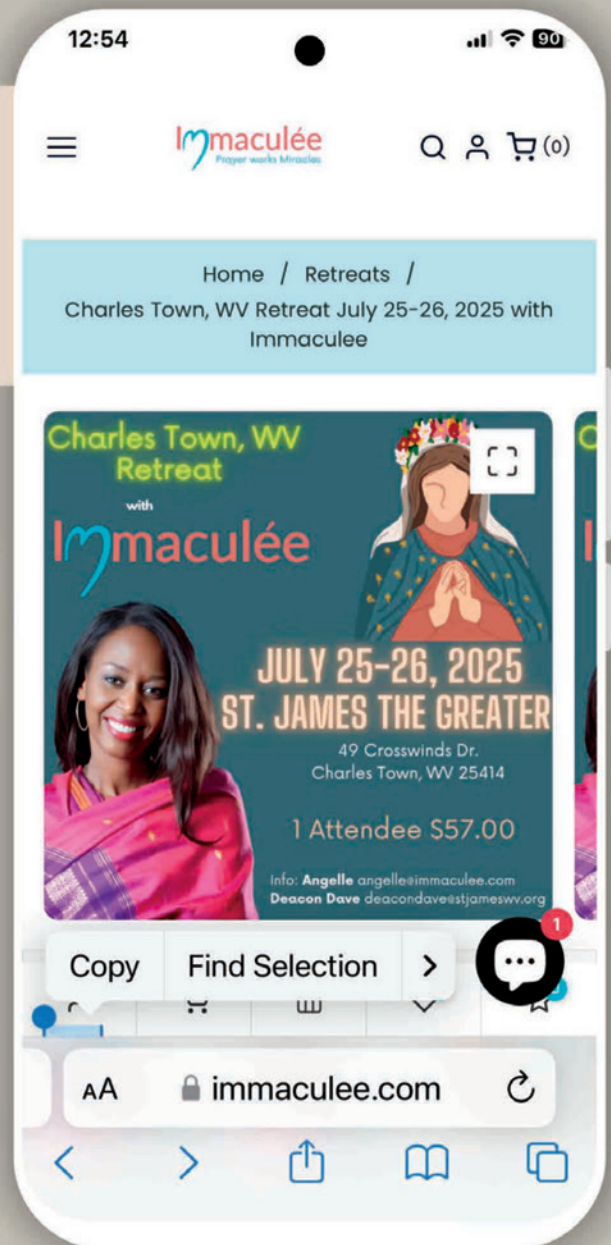
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you  
there!

MORE INFO & OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION RECOMMENDATIONS CONTACT ANA BONE  
AT [COMMUNICATIONS@STJAMESWV.ORG](mailto:communications@stjameswv.org) (304) 725-5558



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading: Isaiah 66:10-14c**

Mother Jerusalem will gather her children,  
despite Jerusalem being in ruins.

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**Responsorial: Psalm 66**

“Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.”

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**Second Reading: Galatians 6:14-18**

Saint Paul wrote to the Galatians, I bear on my  
body the brand marks of Jesus, through His  
cross we are given eternal life.

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**Gospel: Luke 10:1-12, 17-20**

Jesus sends his disciples out saying if people  
welcome you, bid them peace. If not, shake their  
dust from your feet and move on.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may labor joyfully serving  
others and spreading the Good News to all, so we  
can help many souls enter Heaven, let us pray to the  
Lord. . .

That government leaders lead with a giving heart as  
they lend a helping hand to hurting neighborhoods,  
states, and nations, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who work outdoors in the summer heat  
and oppressive conditions that they are able to  
complete their jobs each day without incident and  
the strength and health to handle the conditions, let  
us pray to the Lord. . .

For all those who are traveling and vacationing  
that the angels keep them safe, and for those who  
give hospitality to guests and visitors may they be  
a reminder of the light of Christ, let us pray to the  
Lord. . .

*Lord hear our prayer*

WV CATHOLIC RADIO  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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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

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*Liturgy of the Hours*  
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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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).