

# Faith IN WV

JUNE 15, 2025  
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



## The Holy Trinity

*As It Was in The Beginning & Ever Shall Be*

The Holy Trinity is a fundamental belief of Christianity. This weekend the Church celebrates Holy Trinity Sunday to focus on the power and majesty of three in one -Almighty God.



God the Father is the Creator and source of all life.

God the Son is the Redeemer who saved humanity through his death and resurrection.

God the Holy Spirit is our Sanctifier, guiding and inspiring us on our journey in life.

As we recite the Glory Be as a Church, we reaffirm God has existed from the beginning and will forever without end for His love endures forever.

Take seriously the invitation attributed to St. Ambrose, "Rise, you who were lying fast asleep.... Rise and hurry to the Church: here is the Father, here is the Son, here is the Holy Spirit."

Saint Ambrose was a bishop and is a Doctor of the Church from the fourth century.

In 2000, Pope St. John Paul II said the church is "a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

"The one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church is the People of God, the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit. These three biblical images point to the Trinitarian dimension of the Church."

As Bishop Mark Brennan and our pastors call us to

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## Happy FATHER'S Day



**Recall the essential role of fathers in the life of the family and the Church**

Today we thank our fathers, father figures, and spiritual fathers.

God gives us fatherhood to remind us of His hand in our lives.

There exists no better image of God the Father than one's own dad.

By human nature, no dad can live up to the image of God, but in their striving for virtue, they model for us how to seek God.

Through them, God reminds us of His strength and stability, how He protects and provides, and how He is genuinely prideful in our joy.

Each of the father-figures in our lives are a gift from God.

So wholeheartedly honor our fathers - the young ones new to this exciting, unscripted vocation; the

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evangelize don't overcomplicate the task, call upon the Trinity to empower and guide us.

Know that since Baptism the Spirit dwells in each of us with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit was strengthened in us at Confirmation and will teach us everything (John 14:26) "to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" Matthew 28:19.

In his prayer to the Trinity, St. Francis de Sales gives us a way to consecrate ourselves to God - "my memory and my actions to God the Father; my understanding and my words to God the Son; and my will and my thoughts to God the Holy Spirit."

Let us praise, serve, and love God and the Church, knowing we are strengthened by the Trinity.

Editor's notes: The unique Trinity wooden statue is from 1892 and is in Holy Trinity Parish in Weston, Missouri. The painting of the Trinity with the Dead Christ is by Lodovico Carracci, c. 1590, and is in the Vatican Museums.



veterans who've weathered countless sleepless nights; and the stand-in fathers who mentor and guide so willingly by their example with great compassion.

Whether living or deceased we remember them today for their tireless dedication, love, and especially for our faith formation.

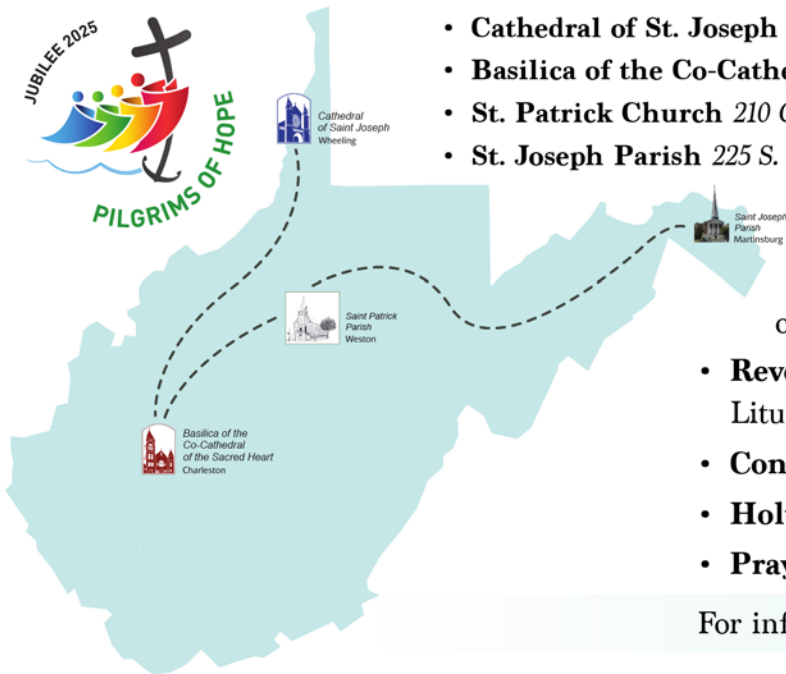
Continuously call upon St. Joseph to intercede for these men in our lives, bringing them blessings of health, peace, and joy. Like St. Joseph, a good father must have a steadfast faith in God to protect and nurture his loved ones.

May the Lord bless each of our fathers' hearts to always trust in the Lord as Psalm 37:23-24 reminds us, "The valiant one whose steps are guided by the LORD, who will delight in his way, although he may stumble, but he will never fall, for the LORD holds his hand."



## 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)

# SACRED HEART OF JESUS

## Pilgrim Icon to Visit Cathedral

From Wednesday, June 18, through Friday, June 27, the Cathedral of St. Joseph will host the Pilgrim Icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

An initiative of the Knights of Columbus, the Pilgrim Icon offers the faithful a special opportunity to reflect on the profound mercy and love of Christ through devotion to His Sacred Heart.

The icon depicting the most famous image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome, was blessed by Pope Francis. It is one of 300 traveling across the world thanks to the international Catholic men's organization.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has shared that, as Knights bring these icons across the world to parishes, "they will invite their families — and all families — to consecrate their homes and themselves to the Sacred Heart." He further noted, "In the Heart of Christ, we see the Heart of the Father. And we ask Our Lord to help us make His Heart our own, so that we may see and love in others what He sees and loves in us."

This year marks the 350th anniversary of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque's final revelation from Jesus, in which He revealed His infinite love for humanity. This powerful message sparked the widespread devotion to the Sacred Heart, and its images have since become cherished by Catholics around the world.

During this time, parishioners and visitors will have the opportunity to enthrone the Sacred Heart in their homes. Enthronement packets will be available at the Cathedral for all who wish to participate. This is a beautiful way to invite the Sacred Heart into your home and to make His love and mercy a central part of your family life.

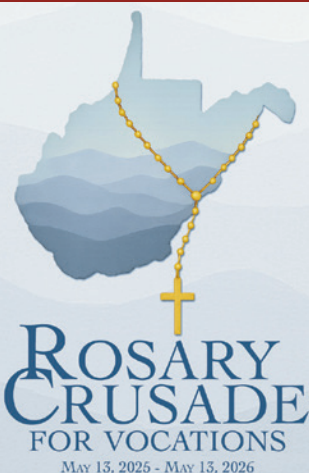
The Pilgrim Icon will remain at the Cathedral through the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart on June 27. All are invited to visit, participate in this moment of spiritual renewal, and honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



## Pray the Rosary

"No matter how weak our faith or how poor our love, Mary receives us into her Heart, and Jesus acknowledges our time of prayer as if it came directly from the Heart of his Mother. The Immaculate Heart of Mary makes up for what is lacking in our hearts."

—St. Teresa of Calcutta



# ST. GERMAINE COUSIN CHOSE JOY AND LOVE FOR HER STORY!

Saint Germaine Cousin's life had the outline of a fairytale - evil stepmother, cruel treatment, and yet - a beautiful disposition. She was born in 1579 with a deformed right hand and neck; her dear mother died when Germaine was only five; and her devoted father died soon after he had remarried a woman that detested the sight and thought of her. Her living quarters was in the family barn.

She was a shepherdess tending to sheep in the field every day, trusting God so much she would leave the flock and walk to daily Mass, knowing the sheep would not stray in God's care. It was even witnessed that the flooded river in her village parted for St. Germaine to cross so she wouldn't be late for Mass. Because of this and many more miraculous events the townspeople looked upon her as extraordinary in God's sight, which only angered her stepmother even more.

It's recorded that one day when she went off to town to share her bread for the day with the poor her stepmother had followed her. Once she got to the town square, the nasty woman accused the child of stealing food and made her in front of all around open her apron to reveal the bread. However, when she did it wasn't bread that was inside the apron it was beautiful flowers that would not have been in bloom at that time of year. The child handed her stepmother one of the prettiest blooms saying, "Please accept this flower, Mother. God sends it to you in sign of His forgiveness."

Saint Germaine died in 1601, at the age of 22.

On the night she died two monks reported seeing the night sky above the barn she slept

in light up and angles descending. Then they saw a young luminescent woman with a floral garland be escorted into the sky.

In 1644, more than 40 years after her death her grave was opened so the body of one of her relatives could be buried. When her body was uncovered, it was found to be as peaceful as the day it was laid to rest. Her body was displayed to the public, prayers went up, and miracles began to happen. More than 400 miracles and graces were recorded. Her remains are in an ornate reliquary in the church she attended, St. Mary Madelen with relics within the Basilica of St. Germaine in Pibrac.

On June 15th, we honor her on her feast day. St. Germaine Cousin, patron of victims of child abuse, pray for all children living in heartbreaking conditions. Surround them with legions of angels and the loving care of God our Father. Amen!

The painting St. Germaine Cousin is by Jean Ningres  
Is by Raoul Du fraur de Pibrac, c. 1910.



# Make It a Proud and Happy Juneteenth

June 19, 2025, is the fourth year Juneteenth has been recognized as a federal and state holiday in WV. Let's not only acknowledge this significant day in history, but also pray for racial healing in our land and all over the world.

Many states, including Texas, have long recognized Juneteenth, but only a few observed it as an official holiday before 2021.

*"Juneteenth symbolizes freedom, celebrates the abolishment of slavery, and reminds all Americans of the significant contributions of African Americans to our society." - WV Legislature Resolution*

Although on Jan. 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which stated that all persons held as slaves in rebellious states shall be set free, slavery continued in Texas for another two years!

It wasn't until Federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, in 1865, to ensure and enforce that all enslaved people be set free.

According to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, large celebrations on June 19 began in 1866 and continued regularly into the early 20th century.

The celebration of June 19 as Emancipation/Freedom Day spread from Texas to the neighboring states of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. It also appeared in Alabama, Florida, and California as African American Texans migrated.

In many parts of Texas, freedmen and women purchased

land, or "emancipation grounds," for Juneteenth gatherings.

Celebration of Juneteenth declined during World War II but returned in 1950 at the Texas State Fair Grounds in Dallas. Interest and participation fell away during the late 1950s and 1960s as attention focused on civil rights for African Americans. In Austin the Juneteenth celebration returned in 1976 after a 25-year hiatus. Texas House Bill 1016 passed in the 66th Legislature, Regular Session, declared June 19, "Emancipation Day in Texas," a legal state holiday effective starting in 1980.

Since that time, the celebration of Juneteenth continues across the state of Texas with parades, picnics, and dancing.

God of Heaven & Earth,  
you created the one human family,  
endowing each person with great dignity.  
Fill our hearts with love  
for you & our neighbor  
so that we may work with you  
in healing our land  
from racial injustice.  
Through Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives & reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever & ever.  
Amen

Diocese of  
Wheeling-Charleston [www.jwc.org](http://www.jwc.org)



# LIVE LIFE TO SERVE NOT BE SERVED

**S**aint Aloysius' short life demonstrated the importance of humility, prayer, and steadfast faith.

We honor his memory and pray for his intercession on his Feast Day, June 21.

He was born on March 9, 1568, in the castle of Castiglione delle Stivieri in Lombardy, Italy – as Luigi Gonzaga. His family was both Catholic and of great nobility. Young Luigi was a very loving and obedient eldest child. He was set for a life of luxury and power. However, neither was important to him. He saw that life as materialistic and corrupt.



He would rather serve than be served, so he chose a life of service for God.

“It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world,” he said.

He wanted to a priest.

Remarkably his father wrote a letter to the Jesuit superior which said, “I merely say that I am giving into your hands the most precious thing I possess in all the world.”

He joined the Jesuits at the age of 18.

He took vows of chastity, poverty and obedience at 19, and at 20 he was ordained a deacon.

In 1591, a grim plague broke out in Rome. Saint Aloysius would walk the streets and not only care for the sick, but physically carry them to hospitals. He ultimately contracted the disease and died at the age of 23 before he was ordained a priest.

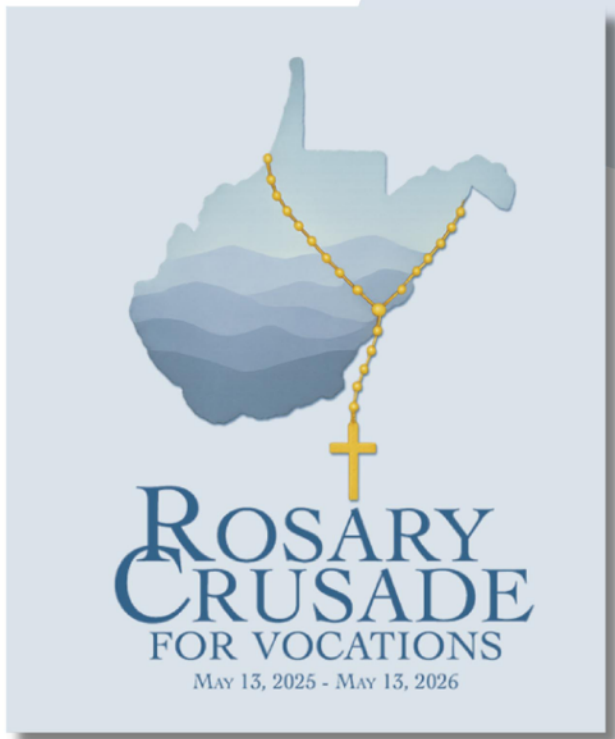
Two priests that came into his room to give him the Eucharist said his last word on earth was, “Jesus” as his eyes were fixed on the crucifix he held in his hands.

Four Devotions St. Aloysius held dear:

- After receiving Holy Communion, he would spend the first part of the week thanking God for the Blessed Sacrament. The second part of the week he would turn his focus on preparation for his next Holy Communion.
- He was devoted to the Passion of Our Lord through his own suffering and mortification.
- His third devotion was honoring Mary calling upon the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, the queen of his heart and the guiding star of his life.
- Lastly, he held a strong devotion to the Angels - the Holy Guardian Angels and the nine choirs of Angels.

# 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.

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!

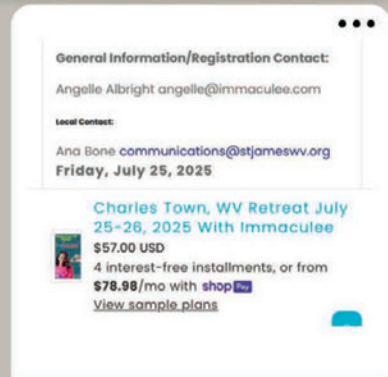
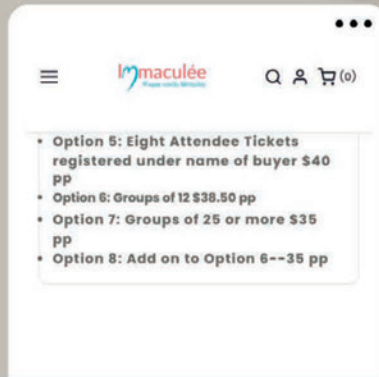
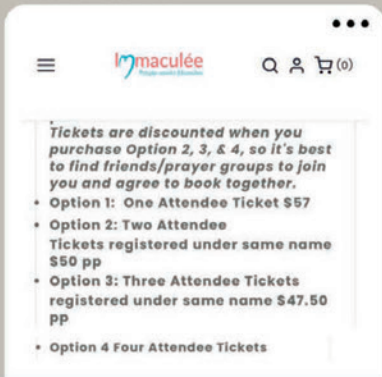
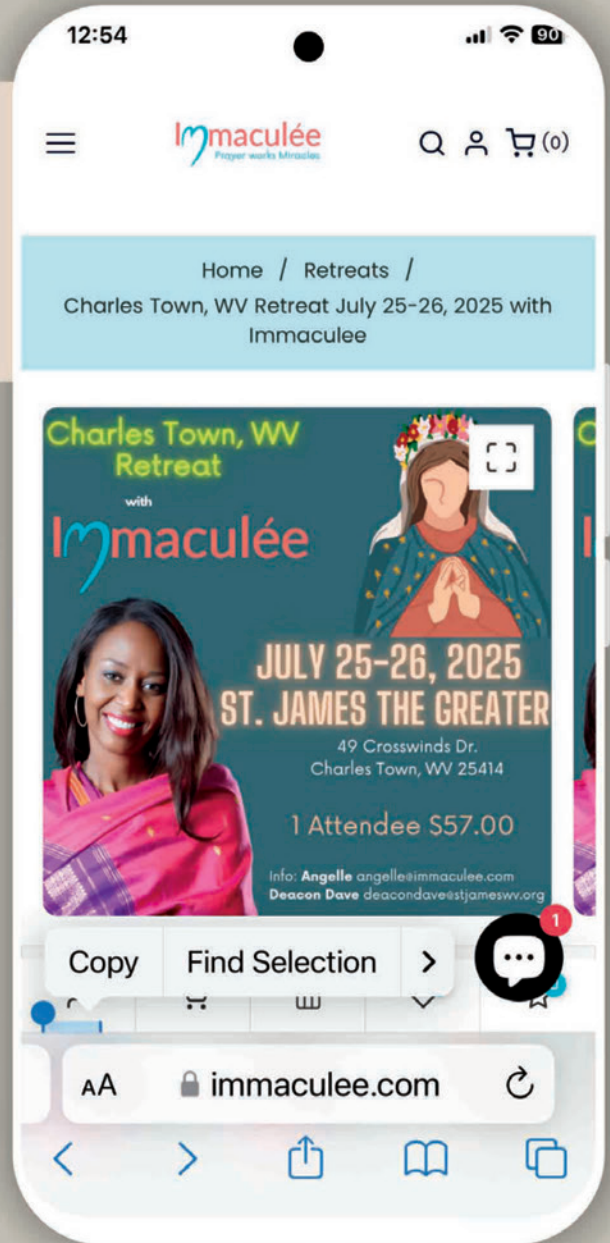
**Prayer Does Work Miracles!  
Rwandan Holocaust Survivor,  
Immaculée Ilibagiza Retreat  
July 25-26, 2025  
at St. James the Greater,  
Charles Town, WV**

**Immaculée shares her  
messages of love, hope, &  
mercy, while telling her story  
and much more!**

Group discount!

**Tickets for the two-day event  
are \$57 for a single ticket.  
Group rates as low as \$35 per  
person for the two-day retreat!**

scroll down on website  
to see details



See you there!

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

# Quo Vadis

DISCERNMENT

# Retreat

**NEW**

Now thru high school!

Welcoming boys grades 6th - 12th!

PRAYER KAYAKING CAMP FIRES  
HIKING GAMES CHALLENGES



11 am June 30 to 1 pm July 3, 2025



Priest Field Pastoral Center  
Kearneysville, WV

CAMP IS STAFFED BY LAITY, PRIESTS, AND SEMINARIANS FROM THE  
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

SEMINARIAN RETREAT LEADERS:  
Middle School Breakouts



Peter Russman

St. James, Charles Town  
*Pontifical College Josephine, Columbus, OH*

High School Breakouts



Dominic Re

Ss. Peter & Paul, Oak Hill  
*Mount Saint Mary's, Emmitsburg, MD*



Joe Derico

St. Patrick, Weston  
*Pope St. John Paul II, Washington, DC*



**IT'S FREE!**

Register now at [WVPriests.org](http://WVPriests.org)



## MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

### First Reading: Proverbs 8:22-31

Holy Wisdom is God's playmate, God's creative companion.

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### Responsorial: Psalm 8

"O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!"

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### Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

Through the Holy Spirit God's love is poured into our hearts. Faith matures into a well-founded hope for God's promised glory.

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### Gospel: John 16:12-15

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are one in perfect communion. Let the Holy Spirit guide all to the Son and the Father.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, Pope Leo XIV, and Bishop Mark Brennan, that we all glorify God by using our God-given gifts reflecting the love and mercy of God to all those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That leaders around the world work together to care for our world, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For fathers, grandfathers, and all those who have shown a father's love, that they may be blessed for their sacrifices and leading the young and old children in their lives to Church and strengthening their faith, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who have lost hope, that our parish family works together for outreach and support, reflecting Christ's love, 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

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by knowledge.  
Transformed  
by faith.*



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[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).