THE SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi -Latin for "the Body of Christ".

This is the heart of our faith. Let us not take the Eucharist for granted or lose our focus. Make a commitment to yourself to honor Christ more, love more, and spend more time with Him in the Eucharist.

Catholics in the US and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are well aware that we are in the second year of the National Eucharistic Revival. This moment is a purposeful three-year event with the intent to "revive the faith of our people in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is not merely a symbol. It is a reality of Jesus coming to us under the appearance of bread and wine – Jesus changes that into His Glorified Body and Blood," said Bishop Mark Brennan.

The revival was developed by our US bishops at the USCCB conference of June 2021, to celebrate the Eucharist - the source and summit of Christian life (Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 1324).

In our dioceses across the nation, the revival began on Corpus Christi Sunday in 2022 to rekindle our faith and begin a new chapter of evangelization among us – the Eucharistic people.

"The Eucharist is nothing less than Jesus Christ in person," Bishop Brennan has repeatedly in the last year in interviews and in his letters to the faithful. "In a mysterious way that we can describe but not truly explain, He changes bread and wine in their deepest reality into His Body and Blood, so that He can build us up from within. A genuine belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is essential to Catholic faith and to receiving the benefits of our Holy Communions."

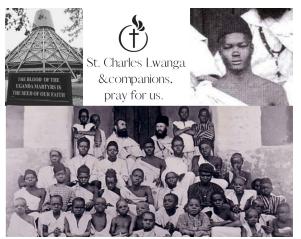
Make time this weekend to focus on and contemplate your own relationship with Christ and reverent acknowledgment of his Real Presence in the Eucharist.

Saint John gives us the Bread of Life Discourse in John 6:22-71. Reread it in a quiet space to deepen our understanding as Bishop Brennan describes it as "the intense love that moves the Son of God to give himself to us as food for our journey of faith."

If nothing else, reflect on what St. Maximillian Kolbe said, "If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion."



ST. CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS



On June 3rd join the Church and honor St. Charles Lwanga and his companions. The story of these brave martyrs of Uganda is almost impossible to imagine.

In 1885, Charles (Kaloli) Lwanga was baptized. He was 25.

He was a page for King Mwanga, who despised Christians and missionaries that were welcomed by the previous ruler.

Saint Charles since his late teens secretly encouraged others to be Christian. When King Mwanga found out he summoned all the pages. He ordered his soldiers to march the pages who admitted being Christian to the area of execution. Reportedly boys as young as 13, walked more than 30 miles to Namugono.

The young men continued to praise Jesus Christ even during their torture. Witnesses recorded St. Charles was made to build his own funeral pyre of wood and was burned alive. During this horrific scene when they began burning his feet, Lwanga was quoted as saying, "It is as if you are pouring water on me. Please repent and become a Christian like me." After that he stayed silent until just before he died, saying, "My God."

While King Mwanga and other pagan rulers wanted to end Christianity, their actions procured the opposite for the blood of the martyrs is the seed of Christianity.

To this day millions of people make the pilgrimage to Namugono to honor Lwanga and his companions. It is there where a shrine in the shape of a funeral pyre sits in victory.

STAY CENTERED IN FAITH

Saint Boniface, whose feast day is June 5th, was born in the year 675. He was from an affluent family in England and studied at a Benedictine abbey.

He became head of the school, but thought God wanted him to be a missionary. So, he went to Northern Netherlands and Germany (the region of Frisia) to begin his work. War forced him to return to England for a few years, but he did not give up.

He journeyed to Rome to ask the pope to tell him where to serve. Pope Gregory II changed the saint's birth name of Winfrid's to Boniface, which means "a man who does good deeds." Then he sent Boniface to eastern Germany. For nearly 35 years, Boniface traveled all over Germany, preaching, teaching, and building schools, monasteries, and convents. He went to Rome to report to the pope about his work. There, the pope ordained him bishop and returned him to Germany. Boniface invited monks and sisters from England to go too.

As an old man, Boniface returned to where his work began – Frisia - to work among the pagans. One morning, just before celebrating the sacrament of Holy Confirmation, a group of men rushed into the church and murdered Boniface and about 50 converts.

Recall the words of this saint from long ago, which remain meaningful today as we work to stay centered in Christ, "The church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to keep her on course."



SACRED HEART OF JESUS ~ BURNING WITH LOVE FOR US

For the month of June and especially 7th June the Church celebrates the Most Sacred Heart of emphasizing Jesus. that Christ loves us despite our failures. No matter how broken we are, and no matter how unworthy we tell



ourselves we are, God loves us unconditionally. Never lose sight of his Passion, suffering, death, and Resurrection. Never lose sight of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – it burns with His love for us!

PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you and with a lively sorrow for my sins.
I offer you this poor heart of mine.

Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to your will.

Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you.

Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions; give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessings on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death.

Within your heart I place my every care.

In every need let me come to you with humble trust saying, Heart of Jesus, help me.

Amen.

MATERNAL IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



On June 8th the Church celebrates the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The flame emanating from her maternal heart burns with love for Jesus and for all of us.

Mary's Immaculate heart is often illustrated pierced by a sword

representing Mary's sorrow at Jesus' suffering, while roses symbolize her Immaculate Conception, sinlessness, and purity. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the heart is "the depths of one's being, where the person decides for or against God" (CCC 368).

The Church teaches us that the Immaculate Heart of Mary signifies, first of all, the great manifested in her "Yes" to the Father at the Incarnation; her love for the Son of God in His redemptive mission; and her obedience to the Holy Spirit, enabling her to remain free of the stain of personal sin throughout her life. Mary's Immaculate Heart, therefore, points us to her profound interior life, where she experienced both joys and sorrows, yet remained faithful, as we, too, are called to do.

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, full of goodness, show your love towards us. Let the flame of your heart, O Mary, descend on all people. We love you immensely. Impress true love in our hearts so that we have a continuous desire for you. O Mary, gentle and humble of heart, remember us when we are in sin. You know that all men sin. Give us, by means of your Immaculate Heart, spiritual health. Let us always see the goodness of your motherly heart and may we be converted by means of the flame of your heart. Amen.

PETER'S PENCE ~ SPECIAL COLLECTION JUNE 9TH



Peter's Pence Collection

Be a witness of charity. Support the works of the Holy Father.

Plan ahead and make prayerful consideration for the June 8-9th Masses the parishes and missions in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's special collection for Peter's Pence for the Holy Father. Donations help Pope Francis to fulfill his mission to lead the true Church. Contributions are also symbolic of the faithful's unity, sharing in the mission of our first pope – St. Peter the Apostle.

The donations from the faithful around the world provide financial support for charitable initiatives of the Holy See and the Holy Father's Apostolic Mission for direct assistance projects for the most valuable – migrants, refugees, dioceses, religious institutes, and families in need affected by natural disasters and war.



Permanent Diaconate Ordination



3pm, June 7, 2024

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston



Be Part of this Historic Event!

The pilgrimage comes to the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia June 20-24

FROM THE EAST

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route



Welcome perpetual pilgrims to the Mountain State!

Gather with them for Masses, Eucharistic Adoration, Eucharistic Processions, praise and worship, and special programs as their share their experiences. Watch the Eucharistic Procession on the Ohio River led by Bishop Mark Brennan and Bishop Paul J. Bradley and receive a blessing. Pilgrimage events are open to all! Full schedule is on the right.







Participating Northern Panhandle Parishes

Weirton:

St. Joseph the Worker Sacred Heart of Mary St. Paul's

Wheeling:

Cathedral of St. Joseph St. Alphonsus







For more information, visit: www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-elizabeth-ann-seton-route

Pilgrimage Events

Thursday, June 20, National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Kickoff in Weirton

St. Joseph the Worker Church: Meet the perpetual pilgrims and gather for Mass, Adoration, and praise and worship—8-9 a.m.

Eucharistic Procession from St. Joseph the Worker to Sacred Heart of Mary Church with Adoration and Benediction to follow—begins at 9:30 a.m.

Sharing Session & Reflection by Perpetual Pilgrims at Sacred Heart of Mary—11 a.m.-noon

Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship at St. Paul Church—7-8 p.m.

Friday, June 21

Morning Mass with the perpetual pilgrims at Sacred Heart of Mary—8:30-9 a.m.

Breakfast with Perpetual Pilgrims at Sacred Heart of Mary —9:30-10:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 23 "Put Out into the Deep" on the Ohio River!"

Bishop Mark Brennan and Bishop Paul Bradley, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, will board a sternwheeler and lead a Eucharistic Procession down the Ohio River. Boatercade with the two bishops leaves the Steubenville Marina at noon and will stop at four sites on both sides of the river where faithful can receive a blessing. Blessing sites: Steubenville Marina, Wellsburg Wharf, Wellsburg-Brilliant Bridge, Mazeroski Park (Ohio), Pike Island Lock and Dam, and Heritage Port in Wheeling. Final destination is Bellaire Marina in Bellaire, Ohio.

Arrival of National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Wheeling—7:30-8:30 p.m. Cathedral of St. Joseph. Bishop Brennan and the faithful of Wheeling will welcome the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at the cathedral.

All-Night Eucharistic Prayer Vigil—8:30 p.m. (June 23) -8 a.m. (June 24) at the cathedral.

Monday, June 24

Mass at the cathedral celebrated by Bishop Brennan—8:30-9:30 a.m.

Solemn Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Wheeling from the cathedral to St. Alphonsus Church—9:30-10 a.m.

CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY

First Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

Moses sprinkles the crowd with the blood of the sacrificial animal signifying the covenant – binding God and the people.

Responsorial: Psalm 116

"I will take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord."

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

The blood of Christ will cleanse our consciences.

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16; 22-26

Jesus says, "This is my body. This is my blood of the covenant." The sacrificial blood this time is His blood – the new covenant – that will bind the people to eternal salvation.

CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that through the Blessed Sacrament – the true Body and Blood of Christ – our souls, minds, and hearts are strengthened, drawing us closer to God and eternal life let us pray to the Lord. . .

That many blessings are showered upon those participating in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage that will pass through the Northern Panhandle of WV June 20-24, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the success of the National Eucharistic Congress next month, that our lives may be transformed and our faith revived as we fully embrace and encounter Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That all within the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston have the wisdom and understanding to know, feel, and share the endless love that flows from the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
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
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wvcatholicschools.org



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 <u>DWC.ORG</u>.