

FIND STRENGTH & ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE SAINTS THIS WEEK A Few to Reflect upon \sim Ss. Peter, Paul, and Thomas



OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

On Monday, June 29th, we honor Saints Peter and Paul. The Church celebrates their lives on the same day, because as St. Augustine noted in a 395 A.D., sermon that, both suffered and were put to death for their love of Christ, making them both martyrs in the earliest days of the church.

Peter - The Rock of the Church

The New Testament showcases Peter as the leader of the apostles, chosen by Jesus. Peter witnessed the Transfiguration, the raising of a dead child to life, and the agony in Gethsemane.

Jesus told Peter he would be the founder of the Church.

The bible shows us that Peter was relatable and had human weakness, even in the presence of Jesus. He is the apostle that declares at the Last Supper he would never deny Jesus, but then, as Jesus predicted, denies him three times before the rooster crowed (Matthew 26:69-74).

Despite this or most likely because of these imperfections and awakenings, Jesus continued to put his trust in Peter. He knew we learn best from our failures. Jesus told Peter after He rose from the dead to feed his sheep. In that same conversation, Jesus intentionally asked Simon Peter three times over if he loved him, to which he affirmed three times, "Yes!"

St. Paul - Fierce Foe turned Outspoken Defender

Saint Paul's original name was Saul. Today we honor him as one of the most important and influential of all the saints. His letters and writings have influenced the growth of the Church and the faithful for centuries. However, before becoming Christian he was a Pharisee known for

JUNE 29 - THE SOLEMNITY his cruel and adamant persecution of Christians. Paul's conversion came after he was stopped in his tracks. He experienced the Risen Lord on the road to Damascus. It is described for us in Acts chapter 9. While on the road, he and his group were suddenly surrounded by a bright beaming light from the heavens, causing him to fall to the ground. He heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul was blinded. He was then led to Damascus. Ananias, a true and loyal disciple of Christ, was summoned by God to go to Saul and lay his hands on him and heal him. Ananias protested, because he had heard of the heinous and evil things Saul had done to Christians. However, Ananias was obedient to God and went to the Pharisee. He said, "Saul, my brother, the Lord has sent me, Jesus who appeared to you on the way by which you came, that you may regain your sight and be filled with the holy Spirit." He immediately regained his sight. At his baptism he took the name of Paul. He spent the remainder of his life preaching the Word of Jesus, the one true Redeemer.



JULY 3 - FEAST DAY OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

St. Thomas – Getting the proof he wanted, was first to proclaim, "Mv Lord and Mv God."

Saint Thomas is the apostle we know that wanted proof of Jesus' resurrection. As we are told in the bible in John 20:24-29, Thomas wasn't with the other apostles when the Jesus

first appeared to the disciples after the Resurrection. When they told him, "We have seen the Lord," Thomas said he could not believe it unless he could touch Jesus' wounds. Jesus later presented himself to the apostles and invited Thomas to inspect His hands, His feet, and His side. Jesus used him as an example, saying, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."



ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL GOALS

By Chad Porter, CCWVa Adult Education Instructor



Austin Bowen passed his Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) exam, used to measure high school equivalency, in late March after enrolling in the Catholic Charities Community Center of Huntington.

"I almost cried tears of joy," Austin said, upon receiving his High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma in the mail.

Obtaining his HSE was imperative for Austin to reach the next rung on his career ladder. Austin was able to ascend to a new position with Tri-State Addiction Recovery Resources as a group facilitator/support staff.

Austin states that he has been embarrassed for over 10 years that he didn't complete high school. The support of the recovery community and Catholic Charities' proactive role within that community allowed Austin to find the courage to pursue his goals.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

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.

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It is time to celebrate the Eucharist together in person. Beginning June 26-27, the dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Days Mass obligation is being lifted.

We should be with our fellow Catholics to hear the Word of God proclaimed and receive the Eucharist.

Do it to honor the God who made you and the Redeemer who suffered and died for you. The Eucharist is nothing less than Jesus Christ in person.

Join us as we gather together – in hope, in love, and in Christ our savior.

~Bishop Mark E. Brennan



UNITED IN FAITH Together in Person



WELCOMING our friends and neighbors back beginning June 26-27

For more information visit www.dwc.org/Together

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading WISDOM 1:13-15; 2:23-24

God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. For he fashioned all things that they might have being; and the creatures of the world are wholesome, and there is not a destructive drug among them nor any domain of the netherworld on earth, for justice is undying. For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made him. But by the envy of the devil, death entered the world, and they who belong to his company experience it.

Responsorial PSALMS 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13

R. (2a) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. I will extol you, O LORD, for you drew me clear and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. O LORD, you brought me up from the netherworld; you preserved me from among those

going down into the pit.

R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger lasts but a moment; a lifetime, his good will. At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with the dawn, rejoicing.

R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me; O LORD, be my helper. You changed my mourning into dancing; O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Second Reading 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7, 9, 13-15

Brothers and sisters: As you excel in every respect, in faith, discourse, knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have for you, may you excel in this gracious act also. For you know the gracious act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. Not that others should have relief while you are burdened, but that as a matter of equality your abundance at the present time should supply their needs, so that their abundance may also supply your needs, that there may be equality. As it is written: Whoever had much did not have more, and whoever had little did not have less.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life to light through the Gospel.

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R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MARK 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him, and he stayed close to the sea. One of the synagogue officials, named Jairus, came forward. Seeing him he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, saying, "My daughter is at the point of death. Please, come lay your hands on her that she may get well

and live." He went off with him, and a large crowd followed him and pressed upon him. There was a woman afflicted with hemorrhages for twelve years. She had suffered greatly at the hands of many doctors and had spent all that she had. Yet she was not helped but only grew worse. She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak. She said, "If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured." Immediately her flow of blood dried up. She felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction. Jesus, aware at once that power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who has touched my clothes?" But his disciples said to Jesus, "You see how the crowd is pressing upon you, and yet you ask, 'Who touched me?" And he looked around to see who had done it. The woman, realizing what had happened to her, approached in fear and trembling. She fell down before Jesus and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction." While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue official's house arrived and said, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the teacher any longer?" Disregarding the message that was reported, Jesus said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid; just have faith." He did not allow anyone to accompany him inside except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they arrived at the house of the synagogue official, he caught sight of a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. So he went in and said to them, "Why this commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep." And they ridiculed him. Then he put them all out. He took along the child's father and mother and those who were with him and entered the room where the child was. He took the child by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!" The girl, a child of twelve, arose immediately and walked around. At that they were utterly astounded. He gave strict orders that no one should know this and said that she should be given something to eat.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that inspired by God's word and nourished by the Eucharist, we may bring hope to those who feel hopeless, love to those who feel unloved, and life to those struggling in desperate circumstances, let us pray to the Lord...

For leaders around the world, that they may relieve the burdens of those who suffer in poverty, injustice, or oppression, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who are imprisoned, and for all who work to bring true justice to prisoners who have been wrongly convicted or unjustly sentenced, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For nurses, hospice workers, and all who care for the sick and dying, that they may be blessed in their ministry and know the support of the community,

let us pray to the Lord. . . Lord hear our prayer



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>.

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: <u>HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE</u>
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: <u>HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE</u>
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: <u>HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS</u>
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basillica 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-masses/