

CELEBRATE THE \overline{F} EAST OF ST. JOSEPH

WITH A PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF THE CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART

March 18-19 in Charleston



YOU ARE INVITED!

Make plans now before it's too late to join fellow faithful from around the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in our state capital city the weekend of March 18-19 to celebrate the conclusion of the Year of Saint Joseph.

The weekend festivities begin at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center (100 Hodges Rd) with an Evening of Music and Prayer to Saint Joseph at 7pm on Friday, March 18. This evening service will utilize readings and spoken prayer to focus on various attributes associated with St. Joseph. In addition, various images of this beloved saint (through paintings, drawings, and stained glass) will be shown throughout the service. Music for piano, guitar, cello, flute and voice will help us to honor St. Joseph and pray for his intercession and guidance. A light reception will follow this service in the lobby of the pastoral center.

On Saturday, March 19, celebratory events will be held from 9:30am-3:00pm at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (1032 Virginia St., East). Some highlights of the day include: morning prayer with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, presentations focusing on topics related to Saint Joseph, tours of the Basilica, opportunities for confession, a music program, a boxed luncheon, and all of this will be culminated by a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark Brennan.

While all events are free and open to all, we do ask people to register if they plan to attend the events on either March 18 or March 19. To register, please visit the Year of St. Joseph Pilgrimage webpage available from the main diocesan webpage or directly at DWC.ORG/PILGRIMAGE. More detailed information including a schedule and the list of presentations and presenters can be found on that site.

Overnight accommodations are available at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, 100 Hodges Road, Charleston. Contact the facility at 304-342-0507 or visit JOHNXXIIIPC.ORG for more information.

Please spread the word about these events and encourage family members and friends to attend as we celebrate and ask the intercession of St. Joseph, the patron of our diocese and of the universal Church.



Boxed Lunch ~ 12:30 p.m.

Reflections and Presentations on Saint Joseph ~ 1:15 p.m.

Music Program/Concert ~ 2 p.m.

Closing Mass with Bishop Mark Brennan ~ 3 p.m.

Please register at www.dwc.org/pilgrimage or by scanning the QR code.

Overnight accommodations available at Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center located at 100 Hodges Road, Charleston. Please call 304-342-0507.





Catholic Sisters Week Continues through March 14

Pope Francis offers his respect and prayers

Their selfless devotion to Christ and the mission of the church are immeasurable. For 52 weeks a year our religious sisters stand with the poor and immigrants, teach children, fight injustice, heal the sick, share spirituality, empower women, defend the planet, promote peace, create community, offer hope, and much more. We celebrate them, reflecting on how they have influenced our lives with their love, compassion, service, and example. From March 8-14, let us honor the catholic religious sisters in our communities through prayer and acts of gratitude.



In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston we have religious communities of sisters, located in each of the six vicariates of the diocese – Beckley, Charleston, Parkersburg, Martinsburg, Clarksburg, and Wheeling.

National Catholic Sisters Week is held March 8-14th each year. Keep them close in prayer.

It is a great joy to see them working with our youth in our Catholic schools and parish communities.

We share the words of our Holy Father, Pope Francis:

"We pray in a special way for religious sisters and consecrated women. What would the Church be without religious sisters



and consecrated laywomen? The Church cannot be understood without them.

"And let us pray that they may show the beauty of God's love and

compassion as catechists, theologians, and spiritual guides. I invite them to fight when, in some cases, they are treated unfairly, even within the Church; when they serve so much that they are reduced to servitude —at times, by men of the Church.

"Do not be discouraged. May you keep making God's goodness known through the apostolic works you do. But above all through your witness of consecration.

"Let us pray for religious sisters and consecrated women, thanking them for their mission and their courage; may

they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times. Thank you for what you are, for what you do, and for how you do it."



For more information about religious sisters serving in your area contact the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Consecrated Life at 304-233-0880 ext. 264 or email Karen Muenze at kmuenze@dwc.org.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day March 17

"For that sun, which we see rising every day, rises at His command..."



SAINT CYRIL TEACHES US

STAND UP FOR FAITH AND THE HOLY EUCHARIST



On March 18, we honor the feast day of St. Cyril of Jerusalem. He was born in 315A.D., and was most notably the Bishop of Jerusalem. He held that position for 37 years, but 16 of those he was exiled from his own diocese because he stood up for the divinity of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. He is considered a great catechist, servant of the Trinity, and Doctor of the Church.

He defended Christ's presence in the Eucharist, declaring, "Since He Himself has declared and said of the bread: 'This is My Body,' who shall dare to doubt anymore? And when He asserts and says: 'This is My Blood,' who shall ever hesitate and say it is not His Blood? Do not think it mere bread and wine, for it is the Body and Blood of Christ, according to the Lord's declaration."

In his Catechetical Lecture, Saint Cyril references the Wedding in Cana - if Christ could change water into wine, why could He not change wine into His own Blood?

For centuries after, many holy men and women were baffled about why anyone claiming to be reverent doubt the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

He taught that God shows mercy on all who seek forgiveness. In his words, "God loves human beings, and loves them in no small measure. Don't say I have fornicated and Committed adultery. I have done dreadful things not only once, but often. Will he ever forgive me? Listen to the psalmist; 'How great is the abundance of your goodness O Lord.' Your accumulated offenses do not surpass the

abundance of God's mercies. Your wounds are not greater than the physician's skill. Just give yourself up in faith. Tell the physician your ailment. With David say, 'I will confess my sin to the Lord, and you forgave the wickedness of my heart,' and the same shall be done to you. So, you will both receive forgiveness for your former sins and also be counted worthy of the heavenly gift. You will thus inherit the heavenly kingdom with all the saints in Christ Jesus."



For the forty days of Lent, he taught about the bible and the creed by explaining it simply, line by line. Saint Cyril also reminded Christians that actions are greater than words.

We close with this quote, a motivation for our Lenten journey from St. Cyril:

"Our actions have a tongue of their own; they have an eloquence of their own, even when the tongue is silent. For deeds prove more than words."

Saint Cyril, pray for us, and encourage us to do good deeds for the love of the Lord.





Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Adventure Camp

With Him on the Mountain

We are a Catholic youth adventure camp that ministers to youth through rock climbing, equestrian activities, archery, Adoration, overnight backpacking, outdoor Mass and more! Register your camper at *CampCarlowv.org* by **June 1st** to receive our early bird rate of \$275.

Contact Assistant Director, Sadie Shields, for more information: sshields@dwc.org or 1 (304) 476-9015



THE VALUES THAT GUIDE OUR WORK

Our Lenten journey continues, and staff, donors, and volunteers live out our Mission of Love as we encounter neighbors in need. We invite you to explore how you might be called to show God's love to the people you encounter. Since our core values inspire us to be our best selves as we serve throughout West Virginia, we hope they will inspire you as well!

Dignity is the foundation of both our work and our Church's social teaching. We honor the gift of every human life. We respect each person for who they are. And we commit to enhancing the lives of each person we serve. Our work focuses on serving the whole person, and so we collaborate with other organizations and parishes to ensure each person we meet is treated with dignity.

Since a basic moral test of a society is how we treat the most vulnerable, we work hard to promote **justice** in our relationships and advocate for a society that honors basic human rights. Works of mercy, like our many food pantries, set a firm foundation from which our neighbors can grow and thrive.

As a sign of **compassion**, we empathize with our clients and neighbors. We actively work to alleviate the suffering of others as though such suffering were our own. This value is most evident in our work with disaster survivors. We are on the scene in the immediate aftermath, bearing witness to loss. And we remain in the years of rebuilding, connecting people with opportunities for recovery.

We serve from a place of **hope**. A better future is possible, and we work toward that vision in everything we do. We invest in the next generation through our child development program, Birth To Three, and our Child Care Resource Center.

The root of the word "charity" is love. We are truly present with each person we meet as we accompany them on their journey. Our Case Management program, where we walk with people as they overcome the challenges of poverty, is an example of how we show love and charity to our clients.

We strive for excellence and value **quality** in all aspects of our work. Using our knowledge, skills, and talents, we act with professionalism, integrity, and commitment. We strive to continually improve in all aspects of our service.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, please 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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading GENESIS 15:5-12, 17-18

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a threevear-old she-goat, a three-vear-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."

Responsorial PSALMS 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

R. (1a) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me. Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Your presence, O LORD, I seek. Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant. You are my helper: cast me not off

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1 (or Phil 3:20-4:1)

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord.

Verse Before the Gospel Cf. MATTHEW 17:5

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

Gospel LUKE 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may envision the dazzling transfiguration possible to our world and work to bring it to reality to the benefit of all those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That all nations on earth and their leaders may work together for the good of all and peace among nations, let us pray to the Lord...

For refugees, migrants, and all those without a permanent or safe home, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving may strengthen our commitment to our faith and our resolve to serve those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You, Amen.

#FaithInWV



Faith is a lifelong journey It begins with prayer.

Faith In WV provides resources to help inspire and refresh your prayer life.

Enhance your prayer life through

- Family Devotions
- · Finding Peace
- Catholic Tradition
- Resources

Inspire your life by reading stories about fellow catholics throughout the state of West Virginia spreading joy and sharing God's word.

FaithInWV.org

Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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.



WV CATHOLIC RADIO

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ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

Empowered by knowledge. Transformed by faith.



Register today wvcatholicschools.org



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: HTTPS://WWW.EWTN.COM/TV/WATCH-LIVE
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: http://catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
- 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/