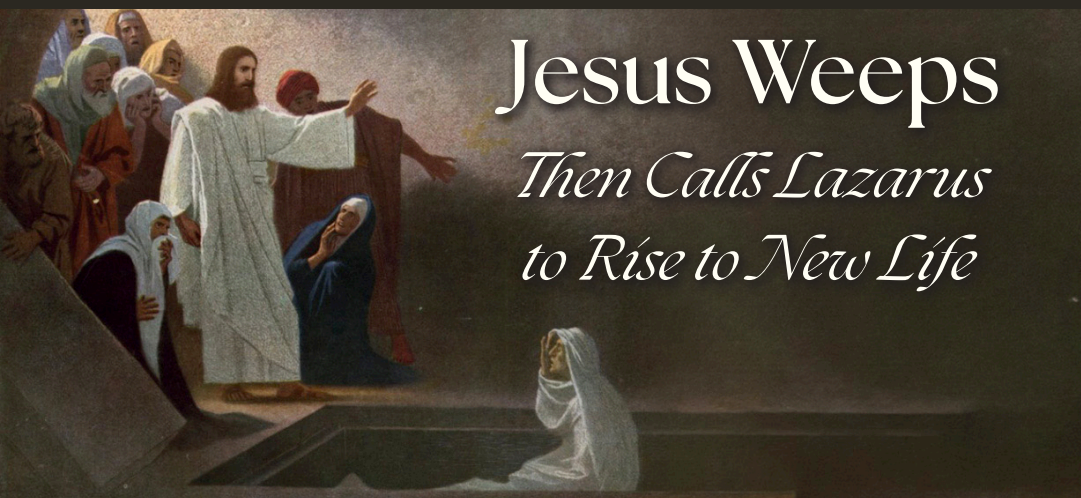


Faith IN WV

MARCH 22, 2026
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Jesus Weeps *Then Calls Lazarus to Rise to New Life*

In today's Gospel, John 11:1-45, Jesus's humanity and compassion are ever present and visible just as St. John the Apostle reveals, "Jesus wept (John 11:35)."

The Gospel describes the sorrow surrounding the death of what we can call one of his best friends - Lazarus.

He and his sisters Martha and Mary of Bethany were tight knit and so was their relationship with Jesus.

In this chapter of John their love and trust in Jesus is illustrated when the family sent word to Christ that Lazarus was very ill. However, he didn't arrive for four days.

Martha heard Christ was finally coming so she set out to meet up with him. She was upset saying, "If you had been here, brother would not have died." Then she quickly added, "[But] even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

When arriving at the tomb, Mary fell to Christ's feet crying with all the Jews, "And Jesus wept."

This was truly a powerful moment in Christ's ministry. His heart ached for his friends. His empathy was real and undeniable.

Then He said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live."

He went up to the tomb and having it opened called, "Lazarus, come out!"

At that moment the crowd gasped as, Lazarus wrapped in burial clothes came to life and walked out of the tomb.

Let us honor them for their steadfast faith. May we all hope to live our lives with such attentiveness, reverence, and genuine love of Christ, making time for him without hesitation. Together they are the patron saints of siblings.

How can we adapt this lesson to our lives?

Let us be confident that Jesus is with us. He hears our cries.

We need to listen to Him. Be obedient. Have faith.

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Sunday

Sunday Mass can't be our only touchpoint with God. Beyond Sunday is a guide to living the Catholic faith more fully each day through Catholic media, podcasts, art, gifts, and trusted.

Resources for you this week:

JEFFREY BRUNO - Catholic Photographer - Not a typical news source suggestion, but there may be no better way to see headlines and stories from a Catholic point of view, then to see and read about it from the human eye behind the camera. Bruno's pictures speak more than a thousand words, yet his stories are brief, full of emotion, and put you in the scene. Follow him on social media and check out his website at: WWW.JEFFREYBRUNO.COM



[JEFFREYBRUNO.COM](http://WWW.JEFFREYBRUNO.COM)

CATHOLIC ALL YEAR - teaching families to live Catholic all year! This website, originally created by Catholic couple and parents, Kendra and the late Jim

THE ANNUNCIATION

March 25



During Lent, we honor the Feast of the Annunciation - the announcement of conception of God the Son through the Holy Spirit by Angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

It seems a little out of place within our 40 days of fasting, penance, and almsgiving. However, nine months from this day is... the Nativity of the Lord.

Additionally, when we consider Mary's "yes," she becomes the ultimate Lenten example of sacrifice, trust, and obedience.

Make time today to not only to reverently and mindfully pray the Angelus, reflecting on the faith and emotions of young Mary. Traditionally said three times a day - dawn, midday, and dusk (or 6 am, noon, and 6 pm) the Angelus beautifully expresses respect for Mary and encourages us to imitate her.

Let this prayer remind us and help us teach the children in our lives that we should not always ask God to do things for us but show him we are willing to do for him.

Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:

And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

Be it done unto me according to thy word.

(Recite the Hail Mary)

And the Word was made Flesh:
And dwelt among us.

(Recite the Hail Mary)

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the

Tierney is for everyone who wants to know more about the Church, be inspired by saints, and how to keep Christ at the center in real life. FaithInWV and diocesan social media have referenced the Tierney family's resource for years. Follow Kendra's website and social media, go to: CATHOLICALLYEAR.COM

THE LITTLE ROSE SHOP - For home accents and gifts check out **The Little Rose Shop** - Raquel Rose of Johnstown, Colorado, presents a variety of ideas for baby, children, and grownups. Rose hopes her items help you to allow "faith to be a part of the simple everyday things - because that's where I encounter God the most." She has freebies too! Find her treasures at: THELITTLEROSESHOP.COM

incarnation of Christ, thy son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

Editor's note: the digital oil painting with this article is by Adorare Creations, a Catholic mom owned Etsy shop at:

ADORARECREATIONSSHOP.ETSY.COM



QUO VADIS RETREAT

Where are you going?

A High School Boys Retreat to Discover God's Epic Plan for Your Life

The Quo Vadis Discernment Retreat for high school aged boys is set to help them pause, reflect, and empower.

Seminarian Michael J. Tupta, who is from Charleston's Basilica of the Co-cathedral of the Sacred Heart, is the director for the 2026 camp set for **June 29-July 2** at Priest Field Retreat Center in Kearneysville.

The story behind the title of the camp, encourages young men to boldly listen and turn towards Christ.

There is a centuries old legend of St. Peter running away from Rome, afraid he would be killed as a follower of Christ. He's in a full-on panic, once outside the city he's startled, suddenly seeing the Risen Lord walking towards him, carrying His cross.

Saint Peter asks, "Quo Vadis (Where are you going)?" Jesus replies, "To Rome... to be crucified again."

Saint Peter realized he couldn't deny Christ. Totally ashamed he knew what he had to do. He turned back, faced his persecutors, and refused to deny Christ. That is bold, confident, and unbreakable faith despite the unknowns.

The Quo Vadis isn't just a story. It is a narrative to open our hearts.

The young men's discernment retreat isn't just a camp. It's a life-changing adventure where teen boys meet Jesus head-on, discern His will, and step into greatness.

"A five-day retreat like this is an easy opportunity to be open to God's plan," Tupta says. "We will have a healthy balance of activity, prayer and directed conversation about how the Lord is acting in our lives. The Lord Jesus will bless your openness to His holy will."

He said this is time away to discern God's will for your future.

Assisting Tupta will be other seminarians and priests from across the state. The retreat offers a healthy balance of activities, prayer, and directed conversations about how the Lord is moving in your life. Not sure where God's calling you? Pray with real seminarians—the guys from those posters you've seen—and get real talk about priesthood, vocations, and manly faith.

By the retreat's end, attendees will have a clearer glimpse of seminary and priestly life, be stronger in their Catholic identity, and fired up for next steps.

Parents and grandparents, Tupta asks, what if this summer your son or grandson encountered that same call?

Encourage your young men to attend.

"As a seminarian, I often think about what events I wish I'd been pushed toward in high school," he said. "I can humbly say this retreat is one I would've done. God has a plan for your son (or grandson). This week away is to help silence his heart and give him an opportunity to reflect on the great gift of his life and the Lord's great plan for him."

Christ is calling. Say "yes" like St. Peter and step into adventure.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston offers the weekend free of charge, but spots are limited. You are encouraged to register now and watch God ignite a spark that lasts a lifetime!

For more information or to register go to:

WVPRIESTS.ORG

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

ST. DISMAS' CROSS OF MERCY

On March 25th honor the humility of “the good thief.”

In the Church we know him as St. Dismas, the thief who was hung on a cross next to Christ. His story invites us to open our eyes and hearts, acknowledging not only the kingship of Christ, but His presence and miracles that happen in our daily lives while others overlook and deny Him.

Luke's Gospel tells us, Jesus was crucified with two thieves (Luke 23:35-43). As they hung on the cross, “One of the criminals who was hanging taunted him with the crowd, saying, ‘Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’ But the other rebuked him, saying (in reply), ‘Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.’ Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ Christ replied, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’”

Christ's power is mercy even in the final hours of our suffering.

Saint Dismas, help us to never give up on our conversion or the conversion of our loved ones because your life proves it is never too late.



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

Broadcast of Holy Week and Easter Masses

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Thursday | April 2

6:00 p.m. - Live Stream

PASSION OF THE LORD

Good Friday | April 3

3:00 p.m. - Live Stream

Closed Captioning Provided.

Easter Mass broadcast is sponsored by the Welty Corporation.

EASTER MASS

Sunday | April 5

10:30 a.m.

Streamed & Broadcasted Live

WVNS/FOX - Beckley/Bluefield

WOWK/CBS - Charleston/Huntington

WBOY/ABC - Clarksburg/Fairmont/Morgantown

WTRF/ABC - Wheeling/Northern Panhandle

All Live Streams at www.dwc.org/Mass



OLIVE BRANCH MINISTRY

CHARLESTON - APRIL 25TH

OFFERING HEALING, HOPE, AND A FAITHFUL WELCOME
FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED CATHOLICS

WHEELING - For those wondering “where do I fit in” in the Catholic Church after separation or divorce - make plans to attend The Olive Branch program, April 25th from 8:30 am to 4pm at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, 100 Hodges Road, Charleston.

The Olive Branch is designed to offer information and resources to aid in achieving personal and spiritual growth while navigating the complicated and painful process of separation or divorce.

Director of Social Ministries for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Kathy Barton, has been working to kick off the program since she was hired three years ago. She knew from personal experience that there are so many misconceptions out there, misinformation leading people away from their faith, and complications too heavy to handle when the “happily ever after” marriage has crumbled.

She said, Olive Branch is a gentle reminder that you need not go through this journey alone and that peace and new life are promised to those who remain faithful.

This program is created to be the “olive branch” of restored faith and hope in the midst of the storm.

This is the second regional event for Olive Branch with the first held in October in Wheeling.

Olive Branch Ministry is respectfully for Catholic and non-Catholic individuals, and it is not intended to be counseling for couples. Instead, it is a faith-based program for individuals going through the pain of separation or divorce to find the love, mercy, and empathy of the Catholic faith, she said.

Barton reminds us that in “Genesis, Chapter 8, ‘the olive branch’ is a symbol of new life. As the story goes, the olive branch, which was brought to Noah by a dove, was the first real sign that the flood was subsiding and that there was indeed new life beyond the storm....This simple tangible sign renewed in Noah the faith that he



Separated? Divorced? Where do I FIT IN?

The Olive Branch Ministry!
Your resource, helping you
to remain steadfast
in faith and hope.

OLIVE BRANCH
MINISTRY
Helping individuals separated or divorced

April 25th
8:30 am - 4 pm
Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Road
Charleston, WV 25314

REGISTER NOW



KATHY BARTON
SOCIAL MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR FOR THE DIOCESE

VERY REV. DON HIGGS
ASSOC. VICAR OF CLERGY
VICAR FORANE

DONNA NIGGEMEYER
M.ED., LPC, OF CHRISTIAN
COUNSELING ASSOCIATES

DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

needed to continue his journey of suffering and hardship with the belief, hope, and confidence that his suffering would one day pass.

“We all go through storms in our lives,” Barton said. “Sometimes these storms can be very dark, lonely, and frightening. It is at this time that we need our faith to be rock solid. Yet all too often, it is at this time that we are so exhausted and frightened that our faith turns to confusion and doubt.... However, it is with God’s guidance and only with Him that we are able to weather and navigate the storms in our lives with certainty of arriving at our intended destination.”

She said, it is the hope of everyone working behind

the scenes to create this program that those who are separated or divorced will see it as a reminder that “we are not alone and that our destination is in His hands. We need to merely stay the course and find our way back home-our way back to the Lord.”

April 25th will be a day of opportunity to find hope and healing.

Olive Branch is a much-needed moment of compassion, understanding, and practical support, reminding us that no one has to walk through these chapters alone, Barton said.

Father Don Higgs, Associate Vicar of Clergy, Vicar Forane for the Charleston Vicariate, and pastor of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston, will address “What can I still do in the Church? Am I still welcome.”

He encourages anyone who is dealing with the pain of separation/divorce is encouraged to be a part of this day.

Professional counselor, Donna L. Niggemeyer, M.Ed., LPC, of Christian Counseling Associates, will help attendees take a step back in order to confidently move forward with her, “How did we get here” talk.

“I am honored to participate in a ministry with the

vision and purpose of advancing God’s kingdom,” Niggemeyer said, as she noted she is grateful that this is the second opportunity of what she hopes will be many for the diocese and Barton’s office as they reach out to extend much needed support. “I look forward to participation in future planned events with the Olive Branch Ministry. . . a faith-based approach, providing a structured, supportive, loving, and faith-focused community during a challenging time.”

Barton will wrap up the gathering with “What does forgiveness look like?” Additionally, she will encourage all to “Give it to HIM.”

Barton said, Olive Branch has been set up to be a diocesan wide initiative.

“Our Catholic brothers and sisters are not on this journey alone,” she said. “There are many in these shoes we never planned to be in. By extending the Olive Branch we hope those who accept it find a space of peace find faith renewed.”

The April event is free, but registration is required in order to prepare for refreshments, lunch, and materials.

For more information and to register go to: DWC.ORG/THE-OLIVE-BRANCH/ and select the Olive Branch Ministry event button.

How a Young Girl Can Model Faith in Just 12 Years

Remember - Servant of God Angela Iacobellis on March 27

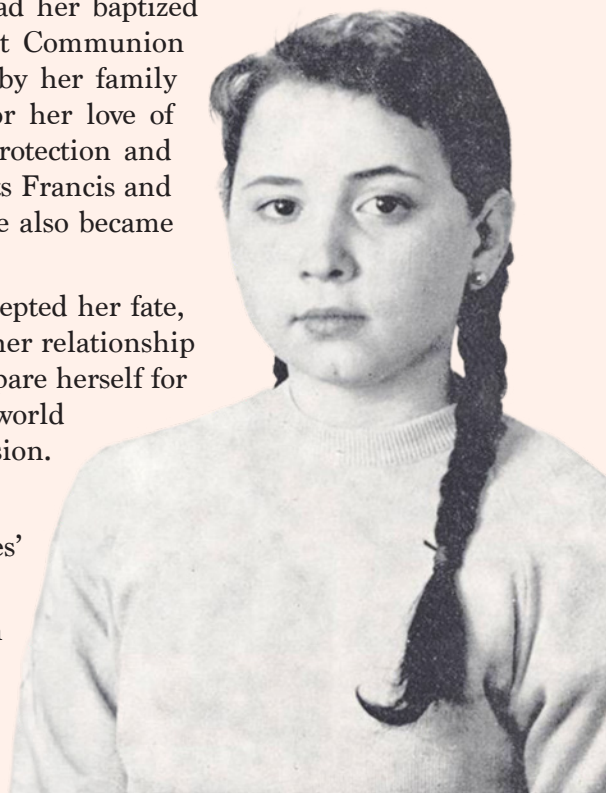
Angela Iacobellis was born on October 16, 1948, in Rome. Her parents had her baptized just a few days later in the Basilica of Saint Peter. She received her First Communion Naples when she was five and Confirmation at seven. She was described by her family and friends as a typical child but had a glow about her when it came for her love of Christ. Additionally, she shared that she was devoted to praying for the protection and intercession of Saint Michael the Archangel and admired the stories of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi. She was fortunate to spend her summers in Assisi and there also became fascinated by the Poor Clares congregation of nuns.

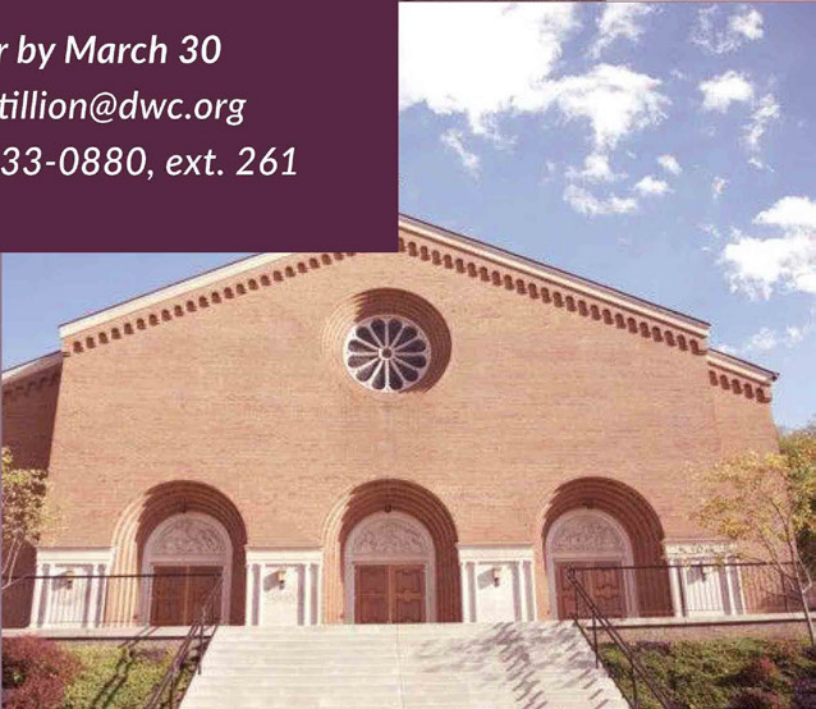
Sadly, at the age of 11 she was diagnosed with leukemia. The young girl accepted her fate, considering it as God’s will. If anything, she prayed more and strengthened her relationship with Jesus, having more conversational prayer time with him in order to prepare herself for death. A year later she passed away. It was March 27, 1961. Throughout the world as her story spread so did the graces reported received through her intercession.

On June 11, 1991, the Holy See opened the beatification process.

In 1997, her incorruptible body was reverently transferred from Naples’ cemetery to the Church of San Giovanni Battista dei Fiorentini in Rome.

Let us learn to strengthen our relationship with Christ, conversing with him through our prayer, and blessing our minds with joy and wonder when we hear of saintly lives who also make us stronger on earth and closer to Heaven.





Wheeling Area
**HOLY THURSDAY
PILGRIMAGE**
APRIL 2, 2026
**6 ALTARS OF REPOSE AT
6 CHURCHES ON
1 HOLY NIGHT**
**Bus departs from Cathedral
at 9:00 p.m.**
*Please register by March 30
by e-mailing kstillion@dwc.org
or by calling 304-233-0880, ext. 261*

WOMEN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION



MERCY AND TRUST- ENCOUNTERING OUR LORD IN DIVINE MERCY

Presented by the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
(St. Faustina's Order)

*Mass, Talks, Adoration, Confession, Time for Personal Prayer
and Spiritual Conversations with the Sisters*

Saturday, April

18
2026


Mass and Rosary-8:30 AM

Check in- 9:30 AM

Day Ends at 3:00 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Martinsburg, WV



\$15-CDA Member \$20- Nonmember. Lunch is included. Tickets will be available starting the weekend of March 14th. Please call the St. Joseph Parish Office (304)267-4893 by Friday, April 10th.

Space is Limited

*Sponsored by Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 392
and the DWC Office of Faith Formation*





QUO VADIS

Where are you going?

9TH-12TH GRADE BOYS'
DISCERNMENT

RETREAT



Priest Field Pastoral Center
Kearneysville, WV

June 29 to July 2, 2026

Staffed by seminarians and priests of
the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

REGISTER NOW



WVPriests.org



DIocese OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

www.dwc.org



Director
Seminarian Michael J. Tupta
Pontifical North American College



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

God says we will open the graves of His people and they will rise.

Responsorial: Psalm 130

“With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.”

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit will forever be alive in those who believe in Christ.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Jesus gives Lazarus, who had been dead for four days, new life. Rising at his command, freeing him from death.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that the presence of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, lights the way to new life out of sin and despair, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That leaders of nations work together to free all people bound in senseless suffering, and justice, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the elect preparing for the Easter sacraments, that they recognize the Holy Spirit dwells in those who believe in the Son of God, and they will see the Glory of God, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all those who grieve the loss of a loved one, that they may be consoled knowing our merciful God frees us from sin and promises us great joy in eternal life, 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
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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Radio Luz de Vida streaming at www.rdo.to/WLOL2

ENROLL TODAY

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by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.*



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wvcatholicschools.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.



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.