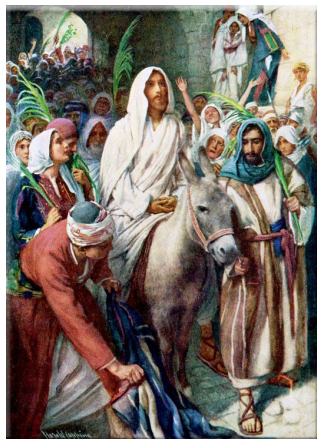




PRAYERFULLY ENTER INTO HOLY WEEK

Before He entered Jerusalem for Passover, riding on a donkey and greeted with glorious shouts of “Hosanna;” before the palm branches were waved by those recognizing him as the Messiah, Christ our King and mighty warrior; and before the same palms and cloaks were spread on the ground to line his procession, Jesus predicted his Passion to the disciples.



Matthew 16:21-23, tells us Jesus first revealed the Passion by telling the disciples He “must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.” Imagine their confusion and disbelief of such awful news. Peter responded in anger, “God forbid, Lord!”

Then later as they were gathering in Galilee before making their way to Jerusalem, Jesus said to the disciples again, “The Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day (Matthew 17:22-23).” The

disciples must have been distraught and extremely concerned.

We can put ourselves among these followers of Jesus. Certainly, they had mixed emotions – Jesus was predicting a horrible death, yet as they entered Jerusalem, the crowds were joyfully shouting His praises. The people lining the way validated the love and devotion the disciples already had for Christ. Certainly, a relief would have come over them as they took in the victorious praise.

However, like the disciples, we too go into Palm Sunday with reservations for we know the dark days are soon approaching – agony, suffering, denial, and death. Today’s readings take us there.

Conversely, with that same wisdom taught to us by Christ, by the Gospels, by our parents, pastors, and teachers - we focus on the real reason for Christ’s Passion. For we know in the end God triumphs and death is defeated for Jesus is resurrected as a Savior for all.

On Palm Sunday let us enter into this blessed time mindful of the ultimate sacrifice of Christ and recognize Him every moment of our lives as Christ our King! Consecrate Him in our hearts through prayer, penance, and praise.

PALM SUNDAY FAMILY RESOURCES



As palms are carefully distributed this weekend to celebrate Palm Sunday, our hearts may be more grateful than ever since last year was the first year in recent history, when we were unable to receive this meaningful branch symbolic of our faith and the beginning of Holy Week.

There are a wealth of videos and websites to guide families through Holy week with activities and prayer. Here are a few to enjoy:

Catholic Icing presents activities for everyone even those of us who are quarantined and unable to physically attend Mass at this time. Check out their posts by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Catholic Inspired shared a tutorial on how to braid a palm. See it on their site by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Loyola Press cites Palm Sunday readings and backgrounds, while also providing age-appropriate lessons and activities. Enjoy their resources by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Holy Heroes provides a number of resources for purchase, but also free activities for children ages 5-12. Look up their site [HERE](#).



BE A LIGHT FOR ALL



Bishop Mark Brennan shares a message to the faithful for the 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal:

The beauty of Christ can be found in many places – in a morning sunrise, in the smiles of our neighbors, in the hands of the elderly. One way that some of us experience God’s beauty is simply by sitting in church and admiring the gentle light of His love shining through the stained-glass windows. Just as light coming through stained-glass windows fills the church with beauty, so does God’s love fill the Church, His people, with life.

We can shine the same light into the lives of others simply by the love we show, the hope we provide, the gifts we give, and the ministries we deliver. The Catholic Sharing Appeal provides invaluable support for West Virginia parishes as well as shared ministries such as youth and children’s ministries, Catholic education, catechist and teacher training, and support for the poor and most vulnerable. I ask you to consider how God’s light marvelously shines through stained-glass, filling the church with life and beauty and to reflect on how you can continue to bring light and God’s love to those around you.

I invite you to join me in sharing God’s love and in serving as a light for all to see by making a gift to the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

LET US TRY TO IMITATE SR. THEA

On March 30, we remember Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman on the anniversary of her death in 1990. Her cause for sainthood was opened in 2018.

She spent much of her life working not only to serve God and the Church, but also to be a voice for racial healing. She was best known for her captivating talks, spirited singing, joyful dance, and courageous battle with cancer.

Sister Thea Bowman spread the message that people of all colors are gifted brothers and sisters in Christ, and we all need to share our gifts with pride.

Sister Thea Bowman was the daughter of a Mississippi doctor and a teacher; a granddaughter of slaves. This dynamic lady was proclaimed a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. She was the first non-white member of her congregation (the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration) in Wisconsin.

Before being diagnosed with cancer in 1984, she made



an average of 100 appearances each year at charismatic lectures and workshops, where she shared her message of joy and hope. Even after her diagnosis, she insisted on living and giving until she was not physically able.

She described herself as trying to be “the bridge over troubled waters,” referring to being a peacemaker bringing all people together to work, to pray, and to play as God’s children.

Before she died, she said that she wanted “She tried” to be engraved into her headstone, explaining “I want people to remember that I tried to love the Lord and

that I tried to love them.”

Let us try - to imitate her love for the Lord and all children of God with a joyful spirit and great compassion as brothers and sisters in Christ.

For more information on Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman go to: WWW.SISTERTHEABOWMAN.COM.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH



By: Beth Zarate, President and Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities West Virginia

St. Joseph's Day is a Roman Catholic feast day commemorating the life of St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our world needs fathers, and more than ever, West

Virginia needs foster fathers. Becoming a foster father is a special calling – one that requires big hearts committed to unconditional love and to protecting precious growing hearts. This requires taking the risk to love, knowing loss might be a part in the end. Foster parents go all in and love extraordinarily, just as St. Joseph did!

Reflecting on the life of St. Joseph, we know he said YES – not maybe or when things are going better, or only if there is no dishonor involved –he said YES to all of it. As I move more deeply into my Lenten journey, I personally question how fully I respond to God. Joseph was a very religious man; he was humble, a hard worker, provider, protector, and at all times, obedient to the will of God. A role model for all fathers, he cared for others and demonstrated an unwavering faith in God's plan for his life.

Christ could have chosen any parents, but he chose poor parents. I have to believe he knew Joseph understood the value of being holy first and trusting that God will provide the

rest. Each of us can discover in Joseph a guide in navigating challenging times and an example of serving as a part of God's plan for our life. The COVID pandemic has been especially hard on minorities and low-income families. We express gratitude that so many people have quietly stepped up in response and made hidden sacrifices to help others. Like Joseph, they answered the call to serve.

At Catholic Charities, our mission calls us to collaborate with community partners, parishes and families, to work together in service. As we work to eliminate poverty, we are each called to offer help and support. Daily, across the state, our staff is blessed by volunteers – those who drop off a donation, make a toiletry bag, serve a meal, check in on a shut in, help prepare taxes, play cards at the homeless shelter, or sit in prayer for us. We must recognize that there are so many forces in our consumer culture working against us; we must take good care that we give more than we take.

St Joseph, pray for us!

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.

CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK FROM THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH

ALL MASSES LIVE THROUGHOUT THE STATE AT WWW.DWC.ORG/MASS

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Bishop Mark E. Brennan - Celebrant

Holy Thursday, April 1 • 6:00 p.m. - LIVE

PASSION OF THE LORD

Fr. Martin Smay - Celebrant

Good Friday, April 2 • 3:00 p.m. - LIVE

EASTER MASS

Bishop Mark E. Brennan - Celebrant

April 4 • 10:30 a.m.

LIVE & BROADCASTED ON

WTRFDT3/ABC - Wheeling Area

WBOYDT/ABC - Clarksburg Area



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

At the Procession with Palms - MARK 11:1-10

(or JOHN 12:12-6)

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a ate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

First Reading ISAIAH 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial PSALMS 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24

R. (2a) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!"

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Verse before the Gospel PHILIPPIANS 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

Gospel MARK 14:1–15:47 (or MARK15:1-39)

The Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were to take place in two days' time. So the chief priests and the scribes were seeking a way to arrest him by treachery and put him to death. They said, "Not during the festival, for fear that there may be a riot among the people." When he was in Bethany reclining at table in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of perfumed oil, costly genuine spikenard. She broke the alabaster jar and poured it on his head. There were some who were indignant. "Why has there been this waste of perfumed oil? It could have been sold for more than three hundred days' wages and the money given to the poor." They were infuriated with her. Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? She has done a good thing for me. The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them, but you will not always have me. She has done what she could. She has anticipated anointing my body for burial. Amen, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed to the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went off to the chief priests to hand him over to them. When they heard him they were pleased and promised to pay him money. Then he looked for an opportunity to hand him over. On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with

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my disciples?" Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there." The disciples then went off, entered the city, and found it just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening, he came with the Twelve. And as they reclined at table and were eating, Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him, one by one, "Surely it is not I?" He said to them, "One of the Twelve, the one who dips with me into the dish. For the Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born." While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will have your faith shaken, for it is written: I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be dispersed. But after I have been raised up, I shall go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all should have their faith shaken, mine will not be." Then Jesus said to him, "Amen, I say to you, this very night before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times." But he vehemently replied, "Even though I should have to die with you, I will not deny you." And they all spoke similarly. Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be troubled and distressed. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch." He advanced a little and fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour might pass by him; he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will." When he returned he found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." Withdrawing again, he prayed, saying the same thing. Then he returned once more and found them asleep, for they could not keep their eyes open and did not know what to answer him. He returned a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners. Get up, let us go. See, my betrayer is at hand." Then, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs who had come from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying, "The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him and lead him away securely." He came and immediately went over to him and

said, "Rabbi." And he kissed him. At this they laid hands on him and arrested him. One of the bystanders drew his sword, struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus said to them in reply, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs, to seize me? Day after day I was with you teaching in the temple area, yet you did not arrest me; but that the Scriptures may be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled. Now a young man followed him wearing nothing but a linen cloth about his body. They seized him, but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked. They led Jesus away to the high priest, and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. Peter followed him at a distance into the high priest's courtyard and was seated with the guards, warming himself at the fire. The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death, but they found none. Many gave false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. Some took the stand and testified falsely against him, alleging, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands and within three days I will build another not made with hands.'" Even so their testimony did not agree. The high priest rose before the assembly and questioned Jesus, saying, "Have you no answer? What are these men testifying against you?" But he was silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him and said to him, "Are you the Christ, the son of the Blessed One?" Then Jesus answered, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.'" At that the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further need have we of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" They all condemned him as deserving to die. Some began to spit on him. They blindfolded him and struck him and said to him, "Prophecy!" And the guards greeted him with blows.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the high priest's maids came along. Seeing Peter warming himself, she looked intently at him and said, "You too were with the Nazarene, Jesus."

But he denied it saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are talking about." So he went out into the outer court. Then the cock crowed. The maid saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." Once again he denied it. A little later the bystanders said to Peter once more, "Surely you are one of them; for you too are a Galilean." He began to curse and to swear, "I do not know this man about whom you are talking." And immediately a cock crowed a second time. Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times." He broke down and wept. As soon as morning came, the chief priests with the elders and the scribes, that is, the whole Sanhedrin held a council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He said to him in reply, "You say so." The chief priests accused

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him of many things. Again Pilate questioned him, "Have you no answer? See how many things they accuse you of." Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. Now on the occasion of the feast he used to release to them one prisoner whom they requested. A man called Barabbas was then in prison along with the rebels who had committed murder in a rebellion. The crowd came forward and began to ask him to do for them as he was accustomed. Pilate answered, "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?"

For he knew that it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate again said to them in reply, "Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the king of the Jews?" They shouted again, "Crucify him." Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted the louder, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged, handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led him away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and,

weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him. They began to salute him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him. They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. They brought him to the place of Golgotha — which is translated Place of the Skull —, They gave him wine drugged with myrrh, but he did not take it. Then they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." With him they crucified two revolutionaries, one on his right and one on his left. Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross." Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "Look, he is calling Elijah." One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink saying, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. Here all kneel and pause for a short time. The veil of the sanctuary

was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion who stood facing him saw how he breathed his last he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" There were also women looking on from a distance.

Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and of Joses, and Salome. These women had followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him. There were also many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. When it was already evening, since it was the day of preparation, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down, wrapped him in the linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses watched where he was laid.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that recounting the passion and death of our Savior will deepen our faith and strengthen our resolve to bear witness to the awesome sacrifice of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That leaders of nations might choose to settle differences peacefully, rejecting the alternatives of war and violence, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who will be welcomed into the Church this Easter, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all of us, that we may always be willing to help others carry their crosses, knowing that the Lord is always willing to share our burden, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

PSALM 122

UPDATED GUIDELINES RELEASED

Bishop Mark E. Brennan released updated guidelines for our churches and facilities.

- New Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings
- Updated Liturgical Guidelines
- Music Protocols for Liturgical Celebrations

These are available online at www.dwc.org.

Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

EBREVIARY.COM [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)



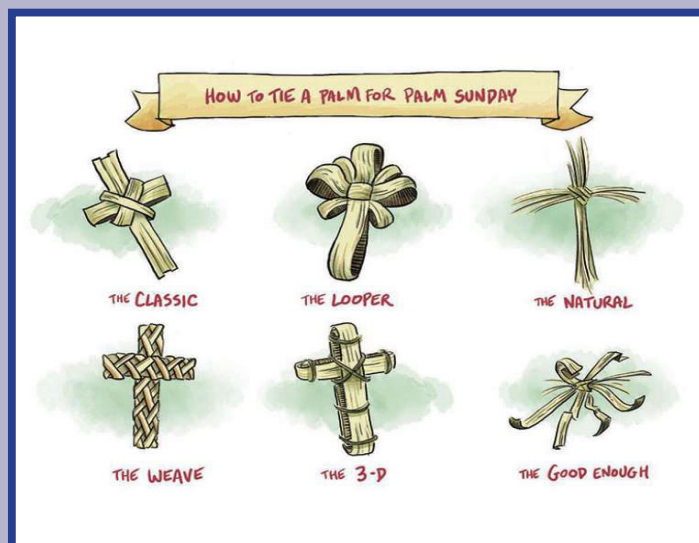
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A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



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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.

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](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](https://saintpatrickscathedral.org/live)
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: [HTTP://CATHOLICTV.ORG/MASSES/CATHOLICTV-MASS](http://catholicTV.org/masses/catholicTV-mass)
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basilica 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-MASSSES/](https://campusministry.nd.edu/mass-worship/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart/watch-mass/special-masses/)