



Faith IN WV

MARCH 9, 2025
DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

Your Worth or Worst?

Let Lent Strengthen Your Goodness

The Gospel for this First Sunday of Lent (Luke 4:1-13) happens right after a high point in the life of Christ – His baptism at the Jordan River.

On the day He was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him like a dove (Luke 3:21-22). It was a glorious sight for all to witness.

However, when he left the Holy Spirit accompanied Christ into the desert to be tempted by the devil.

Satan tempts Jesus with power, comfort, and privilege. However, each time Christ resisted and quoted the Word of God – confidently and victoriously.

Have you ever had a great moment and blessing in your life

and then soon after be faced with a circumstance that tests your faith and tempts you to be undisciplined, searching for the easy way out and to get instant gratification.

Don't let satan steal your blessings. When tempted let it bring out the goodness of our worth with God as our center. Otherwise, when tested the devil lurks desiring to bring out our worst.

Let us learn from today's Gospel of Luke to be empowered by knowing God's Word. This Lent let our relationship with Christ and His Church grow stronger by spending time outside of the Mass with the Bible.

After baptism we are all filled with the Holy Spirit, ready to help us resist temptation, endure hardship, and avoid despair.

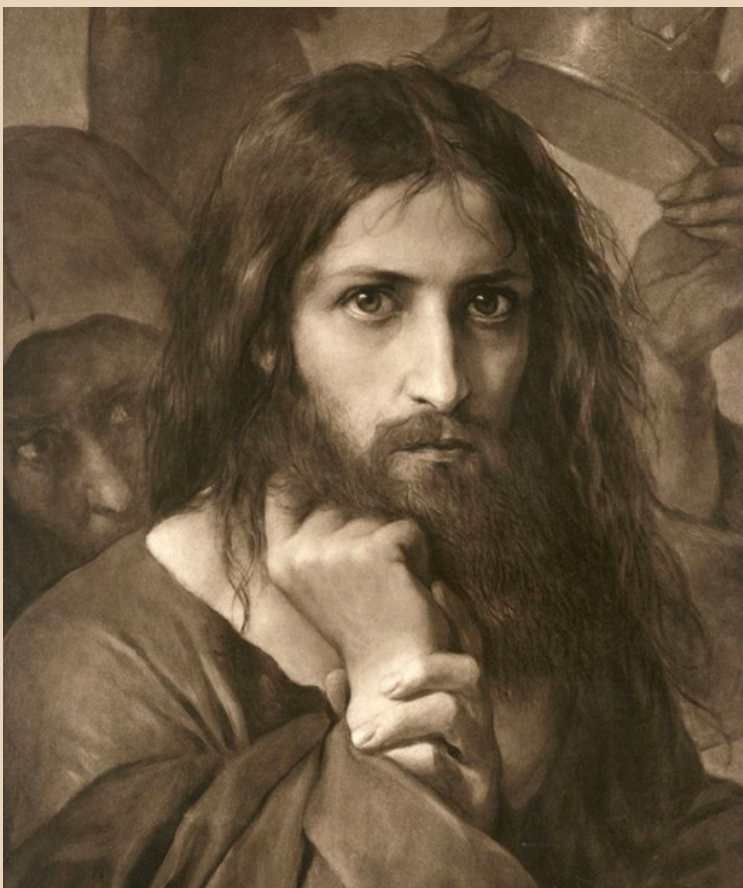
Overcome the devil's temptations this Lent and in our lives. Put God first and lean on Him and His Word, just as Christ declares to cast away Satan's temptations as he quotes Deuteronomy:

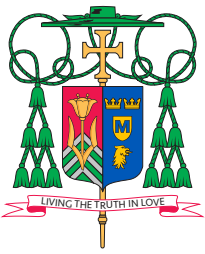
1. Man does not live by bread alone (Deuteronomy 8:3).
2. You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve (Deuteronomy 6:13).
3. You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test (Deuteronomy 6:16).

Above all, just as Jesus was not alone in the desert, always remember you are not alone.

- "For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9
- "I will ask the Father to give you an Advocate, who will never leave you." – John 14:16
- "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." - Isaiah 41:10

Editor's note: the "Christ Tempted by Satan" painting is by Georg Karl Cornicelius, a German artist of the 19th Century. Painting circa. 1888.





DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

1311 BYRON STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 230
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

CSA – A LIFELINE, EMPOWERING US TO SERVE CHRIST’S MISSION

Dear Friend in Christ,

Peace and blessings to you in this special year as we celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Together, we honor the remarkable legacy of faith and service that has flourished in our diocese since its founding, and we look to the future with renewed hope and purpose during this Year of Hope.

The Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA) is an opportunity for us to come together as one diocesan family to support the vital ministries and initiatives that strengthen our parishes and communities. Through your generosity, the CSA assists our parishes, shared ministries, Catholic education, and outreach efforts. Programs such as tuition assistance, food pantries, and Catholic Charities West Virginia benefit directly from CSA funds.

The Catholic Sharing Appeal is a lifeline for our diocese, empowering us to serve Christ’s mission in profound and meaningful ways. Your contributions help provide grants that support parish repairs, technology enhancements, evangelization efforts, and food pantries that feed the hungry across West Virginia. Each dollar given is a testament to our shared commitment to caring for one another and spreading the love of Christ.

As we reflect on our 175 years of faith-filled history, we recognize the extraordinary impact of those who came before us. Their sacrifices built the parishes, schools, and ministries that continue to shape our lives today. Now, it is our turn to build upon their legacy by participating in the Catholic Sharing Appeal and ensuring that our diocese remains vibrant and strong for generations to come so that we may respond to Christ’s command to, “Go, make disciples for all nations,” including absent Catholics and the religiously unaffiliated West Virginians.

I invite you to make a meaningful impact by considering a first-time gift to support the CSA. Your contribution, no matter the size, will help create lasting change and bring hope to those who need it most. By joining the community of donors, you become an essential part of the work we do, enabling us to expand our reach and deepen our efforts. This is your opportunity to make a difference and see the direct results of your generosity. Together, we can achieve incredible things—starting with your first gift today.

Together, let us embrace this Year of Hope as a time to renew our commitment to Christ and to one another, trusting in the abundant grace of God to guide us forward. May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

To donate online and more information visit:

CSA.DWCMINISTRIES.ORG

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL

Give Generously. Pray Purposefully. Serve Joyfully.

GLORIFY GOD LIKE ST. FRANCES OF ROME



We don't always get to do what we want, but if we keep our hearts with Christ, we will find joy in our circumstances like St. Frances.

She was born in Rome in the year 1384. Her family was both respected and wealthy. As a child St. Frances wanted nothing more than to enter religious life, but her father arranged a marriage to a young nobleman, Lorenzo Ponziani. Although she did not want to marry, she obeyed her father and vowed to glorify God in all she did. Saint Frances married at the age of 13.

Saint Frances was devoted to her kind husband and her faith. The latter is how she formed a strong bond and relationship with her sister-in-law Vannoza. The two would pray together and with their husbands' approval would help the poor in their community.

Frances and her husband had three children – two sons and a daughter – Battista (for John the Baptist), Giovanni, and Agnes.

A terrible plague took over Rome, taking the lives of many including Giovanni and Agnes.

In their honor St. Frances worked harder to help the poor and sick. She sold her possessions in order to pay for their needs. When their own funds were exhausted, she and Vannoza went door to door for donations and supplies.

She founded a group of lay women dedicated to prayer and helping the poor.

One interesting story from the life of St. Frances was published by Catholic Online:

Frances gave orders that no one asking for alms would be turned away and she and Vannoza went out to the poor with corn, wine, oil and clothing. Her father-in-law, furious that she was giving away their supplies during a famine, took the keys of the granary and wine cellar away from her.

Then just to make sure she wouldn't have a chance to give away more, he sold off their extra corn, leaving just enough for the family, and all but one cask of wine. The two noblewomen went out to the streets to beg instead.

Finally, Frances was so desperate for food to give to the poor she went to the now empty corn loft and sifted through the straw searching for a few leftover kernels of corn. After she left Lorenzo came in and was stunned to find the previously empty granary filled with yellow corn. Frances drew wine out of their one cask until one day her father-in-law went down and found it empty. Everyone screamed at Frances. After saying a prayer, she led them to cellar, turned the spigot on the empty cask, and out flowed the most wonderful wine. These incidents completely converted Lorenzo and her father-in-law.

(For the complete story from Catholic Online on St. Frances of Rome go to: WWW.CATHOLIC.ORG/SAINTS/SAINT.PHP?SAINT_ID=49)

Saint Frances of Rome died on March 9, 1440.



Editor's note: The marble statue of St. Frances of Rome is in the Basilica di Santa Francesca Romana. Her remains are in a crypt housed there. The painting is from a prayer card. Artist unknown.

The Veil Removed

Short Film Ignites Amazement of Mass

As we begin our journey through Lent, let us focus on the greatest love – the Love of Christ celebrated at every Mass in churches around the world – to motivate us.

Feel the greatest love. Reflect on that love.

Wouldn't it be truly amazing if we could see Christ, the choirs of angels, the saints, and our deceased loved ones surrounding us at Mass?

That is exactly what the group The Veil Removed has aimed to do through their short seven-minute film titled by the same name (available at THEVEILREMOVED.COM).

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has posted the video on its social media pages (such as Facebook - WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DIOCESEOFWHEELINGCHARLESTON) repeatedly since the film was created in December of 2019.

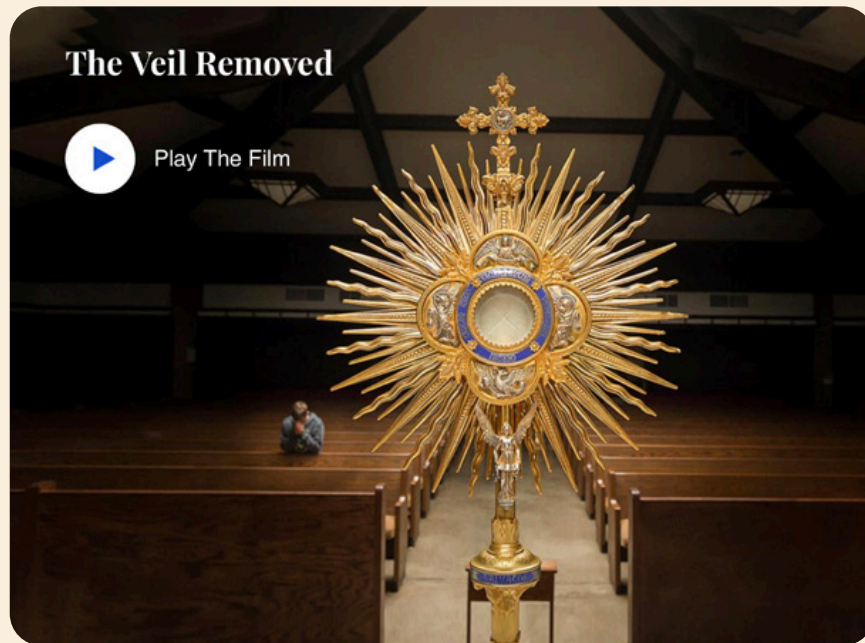
As Catholics, many of us can lose sight or take for granted the transubstantiation – the fancy official term for the awesome moment when the bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ. Sadly, many think the Eucharist is just symbolic – thus the need for our National Eucharistic Revival efforts.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) declares the Eucharist is the “source and summit” of our Catholic faith – the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ (CCC 1324-1327).

Plain and simple – Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for us, giving us salvation on His Cross.

Chris Magruder, founding member of The Veil Removed declares on their website the sole mission of the film is a soul mission, “to increase participation and understanding of the Eucharist by igniting amazement through the miraculous beauty of the Catholic Mass.”

It illustrates where heaven on earth meet at the Mass as seen by the saints and mystics, and revealed in the New Testament and the CCC.



The Veil Removed even reminds us that the CCC also teaches us that our deceased loved ones, saints, and angels join us at Mass.

To the offering of Christ unites not only the members still here on earth, but also those already in the glory of heaven. In communion with and commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, the Church offers the Eucharistic sacrifice. In the Eucharist the Church is as it were at the foot of the

cross with Mary, united with the offering and intercession of Christ (CCC 1370)

The inspiration for the short film was the result of a radio show, Catholic Women Now, when hosts Magruder and Julie Nelson presented a segment called, “How Heaven and Earth come together during the Mass.”

Following that show, Magruder was praying at Mass when she felt the “Lord calling her to show the world what they would see during every Mass if the veil was removed,” the website noted.

So, after much prayer and rallying of a team of 65 individuals her team came together to produce a film to “incite curiosity, generate excitement and desire to learn and love the Holy Mass and Eucharist.”

Magruder's group teamed up with Spirit Juice Studios of Chicago (who produced Reel Homilies with Fr. Tim Anastos) and made the film of Mass “through modern storytelling, high-quality production and a faithful representation of the beauty of the Eucharist.”

Five years later and with more than 2.8 million views the film is now available in 9 languages other than English.

Take time this Lent to watch and share The Veil Removed. Make sure to check out their website which also offers free webinars (recorded) to follow along individually or with a group; recommended publications; online shop of resources; and an opportunity to donate to the non-profit to continue its mission.



Lenten Activities & Resources for Families

Parents, Grandparents, Teachers, Babysitters - are you pulling together Lenten activities for the kiddos you love?

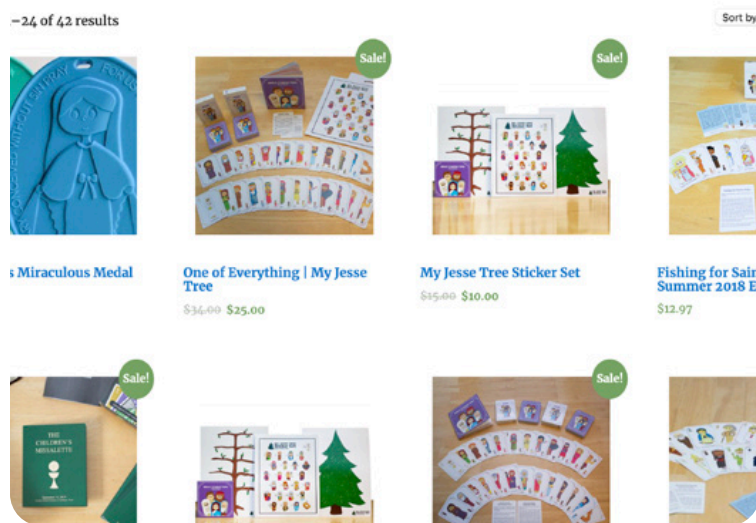
There are so many online resources. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston regularly shares fun websites to grow in faith on our Facebook page (WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DIOCESEOFWHEELINGCHARLESTON).

Take advantage of these offerings this Lent like Catholic Sprouts. Sign up for their emails and resources to receive a Lenten Map as a free download.

Go to: SHOP.CATHOLICSPROUTS.COM/PAGES/LENTEN-MAP-FOR-CATHOLIC-KIDS

For other Catholic resources free or to shop go to:

- † Catholic Icing - WWW.CATHOLICICING.COM
- † Shining Light Dolls - SHININGLIGHTDOLLS.COM/COLLECTIONS/FREE-DIGITAL-DOWNLOADS
- † My Catholic Kids - MYCATHOLICKIDS.COM
- † Mass Explained (free crafts): WWW.MASSEXPAINED.COM/KIDS-MASS-CRAFTS-3
- † Catholic Mom - WWW.CATHOLICMOM.COM/RESOURCES
- † Catholic All Year - CATHOLICALYEAR.COM



CATHOLIC SPROUTS



April Saints Coloring Sheets
Digital Download



March Saints Coloring Sheets - Digital Download



JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE



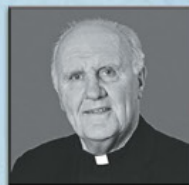
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Msgr. Patrick L. Fryer



Msgr. Lawrence J. Luciana



Msgr. Jeremiah F. McSweeney



Msgr. Eugene S. Ostrowski



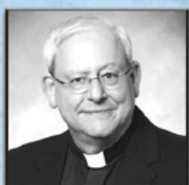
Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus



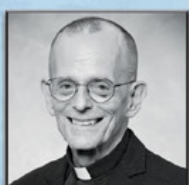
Rev. William A. Anderson



Rev. Mario R. Claro



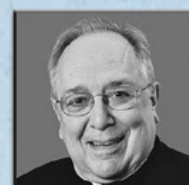
Rev. James C. Conyers



Rev. Harry N. Cramer



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Rev. John V. Di Bacco, Jr.



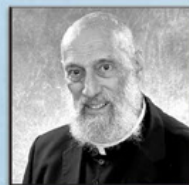
Rev. Larry W. Dorsch



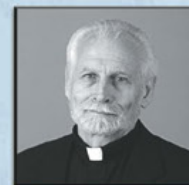
Rev. D. Kent Durig



Rev. John H. Finnell



Rev. Patsy J. Iaquina



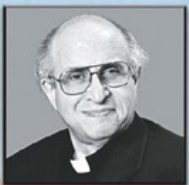
Rev. Giles LeVasseur



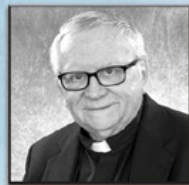
Rev. George M. Manjadi



Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen



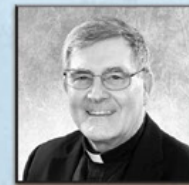
Rev. Robert A. Perriello



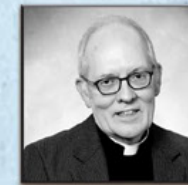
Rev. William J. Petro



Rev. Joseph Daniel Pisano



Rev. Ronald G. Prechtl



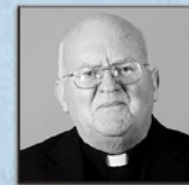
Rev. T. Mathew Rowgh



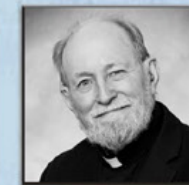
Rev. David J. Schmitt



Rev. Douglas B. Sutton



Rev. Laurence Wrenn



Rev. Paul D. Yuenger



RETIREMENT FUND FOR DIOCESAN PRIESTS

COLLECTION DATE: MARCH 23, 2025

Charles Town, WV Retreat

with

Immaculée



JULY 25-26, 2025
ST. JAMES THE GREATER

49 Crosswinds Dr.
Charles Town, WV 25414

1 Attendee \$57.00

Info: **Angelle** angelle@immaculee.com
Deacon Dave deacondave@stjameswv.org



Support Fish Fry Fridays **FOOD FOR THE SOUL!**
IT JUST TASTES BETTER,
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communities helping others.



Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston • www.dwc.org/fish-fries

Introduction to Alzheimer's

An awareness program presented by the Alzheimer's Association®



ALZHEIMER'S IS NOT NORMAL AGING.

It's a disease of the brain that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior.

Join us to learn about:

- » The impact of Alzheimer's.
- » The difference between Alzheimer's and dementia.
- » Alzheimer's disease stages and risk factors.
- » Current research and treatments available to address some symptoms.
- » Alzheimer's Association resources.

**WHEN: Monday, March 17, 2025
4-5pm**

**WHERE: All Saint's Catholic Church
317 East Main Street
Bridgeport, WV**

Sponsored by: All Saint's Healthcare Ministry

**Speaker: Teresa Morris, MA, SLP WV
Alzheimer's Association**



**ALZHEIMER'S
ASSOCIATION**

West Virginia Chapter

Understanding the Care in Caregiving



All Saints Catholic Church

March 19, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Please join us to learn about:

- ♥ Caregiving Resources
- ♥ Community Support
- ♥ Caring for Yourself as Caregiver
- ♥ Making Tough Choices
- ♥ Spiritual Care



HOSPICE

Presented by: WVU Medicine Hospice Team: Devany Yearsley, Volunteer Coordinator; Kim Ford, MSW; Jodi Muller, MSW; and Todd Syruws, BS Pastoral Services, Spiritual Coordinator

*Hosted by: All Saints Healthcare Ministry
All Saints Catholic Church
317 W. Main Street
Bridgeport, WV 26330 (304) 842-2283*



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Fasting in gratitude of God leads to great reward – a land flowing with milk and honey.

Responsorial: Psalm 91

“Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.”

Second Reading: Acts 10:8-13

Seek help from the Lord and you will be saved.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Resist the temptations of the devil. Pray. Fast. Give Alms. God’s grace and mercy will be abundant.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Pope Francis, bishops, and all clergy, as they lead us during Lent may they be strengthened each step through humility, compassion, grace, and mercy, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For world leaders, that they resist the temptations of evil and arrogance and instead embrace the mindset and actions of empathy, reconciliation, and restoration of peace and united prosperity, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those preparing to receive the Easter sacraments of initiation, that they may be strengthened in faith, hope, and love during this Lenten season, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who work for the diocese, our Catholic schools, and local parishes, may they always turn to God first and be present for one another as a source of strength in our relationship with Christ, 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
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
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
Weirton - Steubenville	FM	97.9

~Listen on LoL Stream at www.rdo.to/WLOL~

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.