



PENTECOST

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE CHURCH!

It had been more than a week since the apostles watched Jesus ascend into the clouds to Heaven. On this particular day more than 2,000 years ago, they were gathered together praying with Mary the Blessed Mother. What happened next may have taken them by surprised, but Jesus had told them an advocate would be sent by God.

At the last supper, Jesus said, “the Advocate, the holy Spirit, that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. So, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives, do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” – John 14:26-27

The Holy Spirit came down like a dove where they were and with a driving wind “tongues as of fire” (Acts 2:3) descended on them. Once timid disciples were now enthusiastic apostles able to speak Christ’s word. It was this moment when they completely understood the Passion of our Lord, and that it took the death of Christ and the resurrection in order for all people who believe to join Him in Heaven.

More amazing, the men began speaking languages they previously didn’t know. On that very day devout Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for the Jewish feast of Pentecost, which for them was celebrated at that time as a harvest feast as well as a commemoration of Moses’ having received the Jewish law on Mount Sinai.

The apostles went out immediately evangelizing. About 3000 people were baptized that day after hearing St. Peter’s passionate message calling for repentance and conversion (Acts 2:14-41). Remember it was St. Peter that two months earlier had denied Christ three times.

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the second reading on Pentecost (1Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13), St. Paul says the gifts of the Holy Spirit dwell in each of us.

He explains how the sharing of the various spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit enriches the Church.

Paul lists the fruits of the Spirit in his Letter to the Galatians 5:22-25:

“What the Spirit brings is ... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

“If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.”

So, let us all listen to St. Paul and recognize these gifts, using each one for the benefit of others, our world, and the Church.



HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

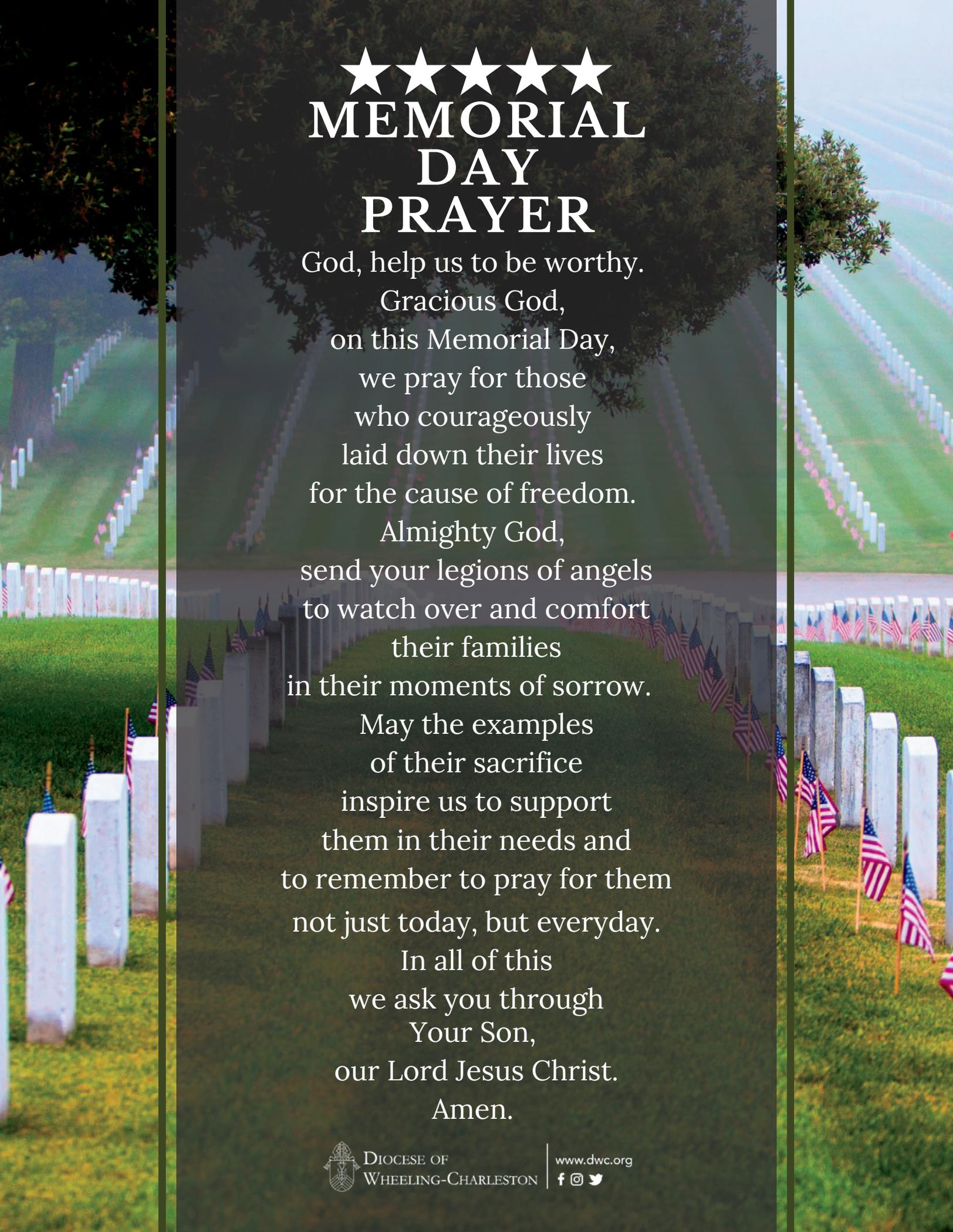
V. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

R. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Editor’s note: the image complimenting this article is from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception



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**MEMORIAL
DAY
PRAYER**

God, help us to be worthy.

Gracious God,
on this Memorial Day,
we pray for those
who courageously
laid down their lives
for the cause of freedom.

Almighty God,
send your legions of angels
to watch over and comfort
their families
in their moments of sorrow.

May the examples
of their sacrifice
inspire us to support
them in their needs and
to remember to pray for them
not just today, but everyday.

In all of this
we ask you through
Your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.



DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

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NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival



Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Christ is Present! Will you be?

June 2-3 at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral
of the Sacred Heart, Charleston

Eucharistic
Congress
Grow in Faith
Exercise
your Spirit!

Friday:

7 pm - Taizé Prayer Service & Reception

Saturday:

9 am - Registration/Coffee and Donuts

10 am - Morning Prayer Service

- Keynote Address (immediately following prayer service)
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins (concludes before closing Mass)
- Tours of the church
- Lunch and Q/A session with Keynote

Afternoon - Two Breakout Presentations (10-12 sessions to choose from all to inspire our recognition of Christ's Presence in the Eucharist and our lives)

5:30 pm Closing Mass with Bishop Mark Brennan as presider

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Fr. Joe Freedy



DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

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It's FREE!

RSVP & more info:



FEAST OF SAINT JOAN OF ARC

“Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well.”

These wise words are from a teenager more than 600 years ago.

Saint Joan of Arc answered God’s call to stand up for her country during the “Hundred Years’ War” between France and England to bring unity to her homeland.

The story of her will, determination, and unbreakable faith has been told in many books and movies through the years.

Joan of Arc was a humble shepherdess, and youngest of five children in a hardworking Catholic family. She was born on January 6, 1412, in France. She didn’t know life without the raging war around her.



When she reached her teen years, she prayed wholeheartedly for the unification and freedom of France, her beloved homeland, from the British. Two years into her dedicated prayer she saw visions and voices calling her to help restore the throne. Records indicate St. Michael the Archangel, St. Margaret of Antioch, and St. Catherine of Alexandria appeared to her urging her to do whatever she

could to get Charles VII to the throne as quickly as possible for the sake of unity for her country.

When she tried to approach the royal court, they turned her away time and time again, as you can imagine because she

was so young and a female too. However, she earned their attention when she predicted a horrible blow to France near Orleans. Further, to obtain complete trust of Charles, thanks to divine intervention, she was able to recite to him his private prayer intentions.

He sent her into the most important battles, where she demanded the soldiers must stop cursing, go to confession, and attend Mass, noting if they did these things, they would come out victors. She did not back down to her haters for she knew she was ultimately being sent by God.

The teen was not only a beautiful role model for courage, but also of trust and faith in God no matter what turmoil or difficulty you face in life.

As seen in artist portrayals of the saint, she is typically on a white horse, carrying a banner, and wearing shiny armor, leading the Frenchmen into battle.

When Charles VII was crowned King of France, he had Joan at his side. According to stories, it was jealous French soldiers who turned her over to the enemy. Saint Joan of Arc was found guilty of heresy and was burnt at the stake at the age of 19 in 1431.

Nearly three decades after her death Pope Callixtus III issued a retrial at the urging of the mother of Joan of Arc. The original ruling was overturned and the saint was declared innocent and a martyr for the faith.

Saint Joan of Arc was canonized in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV. She is the patron of France, captives, and soldiers. Her feast day is May 30.

Editor’s note: the image accompanying this article is by Frank Godwin as seen in The Book of Courage by Hermann Hagedorn.

WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
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by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.



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THE SHEER JOY OF THE VISITATION

When we receive good news, we can't wait to share it. We beam with pride and are so determined to tell our closest family and friends about our joy and enthusiasm that nothing can get in our way.

Imagine that same excitement, energy, and determination flooding into the heart of Mary after the Angel Gabriel visited her to share God's perfect plan for her to be the mother of God, and also



disclose the miracle for her cousin Elizabeth that would be John the Baptist.

Even more astounding is that young Mary almost immediately embarked on a near 100-mile journey to see her dear cousin.

We celebrate this significant moment as the Feast of the Visitation on Wednesday, May 31.

The Visitation is written about in the Gospel of Luke 1:39-56, telling us Mary traveled the hilly terrain from Nazareth to Judea. There she stayed for three months to care for her cousin.

When Mary arrives, Elizabeth shouts with joyful excitement, "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

Through Luke we receive Mary's hymn - the Magnificat. Luke (1:46-55):

*"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.*

*His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.'"*

When praying the rosary, the Visitation is the second mystery of the Joyful Mysteries, and we are to meditate on the story from Luke - Mary's travel, the greeting scene, and the love of neighbor mindset.

Pray the Rosary this week concentrating on the Joyful Mysteries. You can follow along and pray the rosary on our FaithInWV.org website by [CLICKING HERE](#). If you prefer an audio to follow along, we suggest Wordonfire.org with Bishop Robert Barron. As he helps us meditate on this mystery by reminding us to think about "your place in God's story." Listen to it here: WWW.WORDONFIRE.ORG/ROSARY-JOYFUL/

The art in this article is by Nichole Lanthier (WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/NICHOLELANTHIER) and sits on a personal prayer table of Director of Annual Giving Heidi Sforza.

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.

UPCOMING TOUR OFFERS FAITHFUL OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DIOCESE'S SEMINARIANS

By: Colleen Rowan

They may one day be priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. And in just a few weeks, they are going on tour to introduce themselves and join in fellowship with the faithful.

"The prayers and support of the people of God in West Virginia have been such an important support to my journey of discernment," said seminarian Nathan Schmidt, who just completed his first year at

Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. "I am looking forward to meeting brothers and sisters in Christ who are helping me."

Sponsored by the Serra clubs of Wheeling, Charleston, and Clarksburg, the 2023 Seminarians Tour begins in Wheeling on May 31 at St. Michael Parish.

"There will be a Mass, followed by a rosary in church, followed by breakfast in the school cafeteria," said Frank Carenbauer, president of the Wheeling Serra Club, who encouraged members of area parishes to attend. The Mass begins at 7:30 a.m. with praying of the rosary to follow. Breakfast will then be served in the St. Michael Parish School cafeteria.

Joe Pangilinan, vice president of Wheeling Serra, added: "We ask that the people of the diocese continue to pray for our seminarians as well as an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood, religious priesthood, and consecrated life."

The next day, June 1, the Catholic faithful of the Clarksburg area will welcome seminarians.

"We will hold a catered picnic at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Stonewood," said Deacon John Yaquinta, the parish's pastoral associate. "We would like the seminarians to introduce themselves to us and say a few words about themselves."

The picnic starts at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner at the pavilion behind the parish hall. The seminarians will also lead all in a rosary for vocations.

"We pray for these men every day," said Deacon Yaquinta, who also serves as chaplain of the Clarksburg Serra Club. "It will be nice to meet them and put a person with the name."

The tour ends in Charleston on June 2 with a get-together at 5:30 p.m. in the gathering space at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

"This is a chance for people to meet the seminarians, shake their hands, and get to know them," said Serra Club of Charleston President Mark Sadd, who encouraged all to stay at the basilica co-cathedral after the gathering to attend the

Eucharistic Congress Taizé Prayer Service at 7 p.m. with a reception to follow. The seminarians will also participate in a breakout session the next day at the Eucharistic Congress.

The Serra Club of Charleston has invited all Catholic families in parishes throughout the Kanawha and Teays valleys to welcome the seminarians during their visit.

This last stop on the tour is a homecoming for two of the

seminarians, who shared that they are eager to meet faithful in all three cities.

"I am looking forward to meeting many of the people that have been supporting me in prayer throughout the diocese," said seminarian Michael J. Tupta. "My father's involvement in Charleston's Serra Club has had a great effect on me as I continue in my seminary formation."

Tupta attended Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School. He is the son of Dr. Michael and Maria Tupta. The family's home parish is the basilica co-cathedral.

Also a member of the basilica co-cathedral is seminarian Timothy Kawash, who shared, "I am looking forward to meeting or seeing again many of the people that I may one day serve. I am excited to be in some of the different places in the diocese."

Kawash is also a graduate of Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School. He is the son of Michael and Janet Kawash, who are also members of the basilica co-cathedral.

The Seminarians Tour is returning after a three-year hiatus because of covid. Fond memories of past trips are held by seminarian John Soplinski, who said the tour gave him his first glimpse of the diocese as a whole. *continue...*



“It was a whirlwind of beautiful churches, great people, fervent prayer, and wonderful priests,” he said. “It gave me a new perspective on the diocese—one that has only been enhanced in the subsequent years. I look forward to being a part of this tour and seeing our younger seminarians getting that first glimpse.”

This year’s tour will be another special one for Soplinski as he will be a newly ordained deacon. Less than a week before the tour begins, Bishop Mark Brennan will ordain him to the diaconate at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling at 11 a.m. May 27.

For seminarian DonVito Cortese, whose home parish is St. James the Greater in Charles Town, the tour will give him a much broader view of the diocese he hopes to serve one day as a priest.

“I only know the very Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia,” he shared, “so I’m excited to see and learn about the rest of

our beautiful state and churches. I’m also looking forward to the fraternity among my brother seminarians. Most of all, though, I can’t wait to meet more of you, the Catholics I am attending seminary for. Being out of state these last two semesters, I love meeting West Virginians!”

Cortese is currently enrolled at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

Father Brian J. Crenwelge, director of Vocations for the diocese, is grateful to the Serra clubs for sponsoring the tour once again. It is important, he said, for people to have the chance to meet their potential future priests.

“When we pray at Mass for vocations, that can often just be something that seems vague or theoretical to us. But when you actually meet the seminarians, it puts faces to the prayers,” Father Crenwelge said. “I encourage anyone who can to come and meet them during this time.”

ST. CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS

On June 3rd the Church celebrates St. Charles Lwanga and his companions as martyrs.

“Like the Apostles and the Uganda martyrs before us, we have received the gift of the Holy Spirit to become missionary disciples called to go forth and bring the Gospel to all,” said Pope Francis during a visit to Uganda in 2015.

“If, like the martyrs, we daily fan into flame the gift of the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, then we will surely become the missionary disciples which Christ calls us to be.”

He said the people of Uganda are “a people of martyrs. Through your own veins runs the blood of martyrs, and that’s why you have such a strong faith and life that you enjoy now.”

He said that determination is what makes all good in the eyes of God.

“If I can transform the negative into positive, I am triumphant in the Lord. But that can only be done with the grace of Jesus Christ.”

The story of St. Charles (Kaloli) Lwanga dates back to the late 1800s after the first Catholic missions began in Uganda and Central Africa. Under the rule of King Mtesa missionaries were welcomed and preached and many believed in Christianity. However, Mtesa’s successor, King Mwanga despised Christians in Uganda.

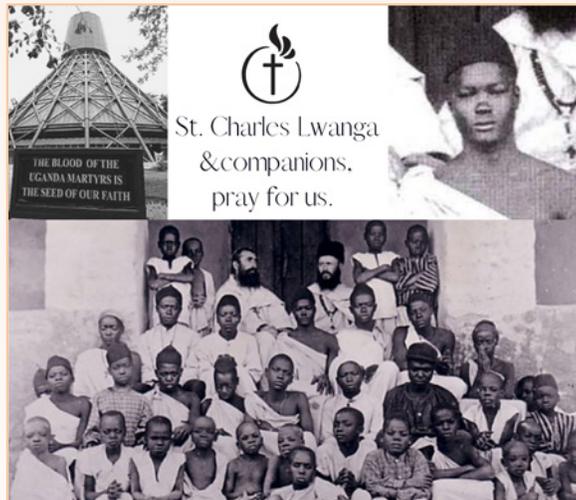
Charles Lwanga was a young man, in his late teens, who was a page in the court of King Mwanga. He encouraged others to be a Christian. This infuriated the king, so he summoned all the pages and separated the ones proclaiming to be Christian from the rest. He ordered his soldiers to march the young Christians, reportedly as young as 13, more than 30 miles to Namugono, an area of execution. The young men continued

to praise Jesus Christ even during their torture. Witnesses recorded Lwanga built his own funeral pyre of wood and was burned alive. During this horrific scene when they began burning his feet, Lwanga was quoted as saying, “It is as if you are pouring water on me. Please repent and become a Christian like me.” After that he stayed silent until just before he died, saying, “My God.”

While Mwanga and other pagan rulers wanted to end Christianity, their actions procured the opposite.

It was one of the earliest Christians in Africa, Tertullian (or in Latin - Quintus Septimius Florens Tertullianus) who said, “The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of Christians.” Tertullian lived in 155-240 AD.

To this day millions of people make the pilgrimage to Namugono to honor Lwanga and his companions. It is there where a shrine in the shape of a funeral pyre sits in victory.





NEWS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA

VOLUNTEERS: INTEGRAL TO OUR WORK

Our Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Southern Region recently held a volunteer appreciation luncheon in Beckley.

“Without our dedicated volunteers, our staff would not be able to offer the breadth of services we provide,” said Matt Atwood, CCWVa Southern Regional Director.

The luncheon allowed the CCWVa staff to honor individuals who consistently give of themselves in service of others.

Thank you to all who give of their time and talent to advance our mission!

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” - Mark 10:45

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG.



Catholic Charities staff and volunteers gathered for a volunteer appreciation luncheon in Beckley



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

PENTECOST

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit fulfills the promise of Christ. The gifts of the Holy Spirit allowed the disciples the power to carry out the mission of Jesus to all people of every nation.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 104

“Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

St. Paul tells us that the Holy Spirit calls all baptized to be missionaries for Christ for the good of all.

Gospel: John 20:19-23

Jesus gives the disciples the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, enabling them to give peace and mercy to people all around the world in God’s name.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/052823-VIGIL.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Renewed in the Holy Spirit may the faithful around the world seek unity as one body in Christ, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That the peace the Holy Spirit brings move leaders of the world to seek to settle their differences with wisdom and understanding to maintain peace without resorting to violence, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all who have lost hope that they may be comforted through the work of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we may recognize the gifts of the Holy Spirit in ourselves and each other in order to extend peace, mercy, and love to those most in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

TEC

After a 3-½-year hiatus, the Diocese will have its first “Mountain State TEC” Retreat, at St. Mary Parish, in Morgantown (Star City), on June 10th– 12th.

This **TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST** weekend is intended for High School Juniors through rising College Freshmen as of the 2023-2024 school year.

Its purpose is to help older teens grow closer to God and to a community of young people and adults, in and through Jesus Christ. It will consist of prayer, talks, activities, community building, games, music, fun, food, and the Sacraments.

The TEC weekend begins on the Saturday morning and ends on the Monday afternoon. For more information, please contact Daniel Maul, at the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, at 304-233-0880, ext. 376, or at dmaul@dwc.org. The cost is \$40 (scholarships are available, however), and teens can register at DWC.ORG/TEC

RISING JUNIORS IN HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH RISING SOPHOMORES IN COLLEGE



JOIN US FOR TEC

JUNE 10-12, 2023

SATURDAY MORNING THRU
MONDAY AFTERNOON

ST. MARY PARISH

3346 University Avenue
Morgantown

COST: \$40/per person | Cost includes lodging, food & supplies

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER VISIT DWC.ORG/TEC