



NOVENDIALES' FINAL DAY FOR POPE FRANCIS

Sunday, May 4, 2025, is the final day of the Novendiales (the nine days of mourning and Masses) for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis as is customary since ancient Christian and Roman time.

Catholics and non-Catholics will surely continue to pray for the late pontiff as he will be remembered for being a shepherd of hope for the last 12 years – “a pope who reached out to people who are often overlooked and even despised,” Bishop Mark Brennan said upon learning of his passing.

We can honor Pope Francis by embracing the qualities we loved in him. Be a servant leader. Embrace humility. Be empathetic. Don't complicate things. Appreciate and acknowledge others. Be dedicated to prayer, Christ in the Eucharist, and being merciful.



Pope Francis last fall with DWC Seminarian Michael J. Tupta. Vatican Media Photo

Let his words echo in our hearts and choices.

Honor the faith of our fathers:

“I think this is truly the most wonderful experience we can have: to belong to a people walking, journeying through history together with our Lord, who walks among us! We are not alone; we do not walk alone. We are part of the one flock of Christ that walks together.”

Talk to God:

“To be friends with God means to pray with simplicity, like children talking to their parents.”

Listen to God:

“If we are to know the Lord, we must go to him. Listen to him in silence before the tabernacle and approach him in the sacraments.”

Choose appreciation:

“For all the obstacles we see before us, gratitude and appreciation should prevail over concerns and complaints.”

Be strong and live the Gospel:

“Some may try to make you think that your faithfulness to the Gospel and its values is a mistake, because it keeps you from conforming to the crowd and blending in. Do not be afraid of their ‘condemnations’! Have no worries; sooner or later, their criticism will fall through, their condemnations will prove false, and their superficial values will be revealed for what they are: illusions....”



CONCLAVE BEGINS MAY 7

Steps to know about the conclave:

1. Begins with Mass - at St. Peter's calling upon the Holy Spirit at 10am in Rome (4 am EST).
2. Cardinals enter the conclave. - at the Sistine Chapel & the doors are locked for secrecy.
3. Cardinals discuss and consider - candidates and what the Church needs now.
4. Voting begins - and continues 4 times a day until two-thirds of the vote is for the chosen.
5. Watch the smoke - from the chimney if black smoke = no pope, but white smoke = new pope!

There are 133 Cardinal electors in the College of Cardinals that are expected to participate in the conclave and have the right to vote for the new pope. Those over the age of 80 are non-voters.

According to Catholic News Service there are 17 cardinals in the US AND 10 of those are under the age of 80 and eligible to vote for a new pope as part of the Conclave that begins on May 7th.

They are:

Cardinal Raymond L. Burke, retired prefect of the Apostolic Signature.

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, retired archbishop of Galveston-Houston.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York.

Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life under Pope Francis.

Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory, retired archbishop of Washington.

Cardinal James M. Harvey, archpriest of Rome's Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

Cardinal Robert W. McElroy, archbishop of Washington.

Cardinal Robert F. Prevost, prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops under Pope Francis.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J.

Let us call upon the Holy Spirit to descend upon the Cardinals.

Holy Spirit, guide your Church now and always.

Holy Spirit, send us your gift of wisdom,

Holy Spirit, enlighten the deliberations of those who will elect the next Pope.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, send us your Holy Spirit.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, pour down the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us your peace.

(excerpt from the Litany for conclave)

LITANY FOR CONCLAVE

IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONCLAVE

Before the Conclave begins, prayers should be offered frequently for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The following "Litany to the Holy Spirit" may also be used by individuals and groups:

Lord, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy.

Father all powerful, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Eternal Son of the Father, Redeemer of the world, save us.

Spirit of the Father and the Son, boundless life of both, sanctify us.

Holy Trinity, hear us.

Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, enter our hearts.

Holy Spirit, equal to the Father and the Son, enter our hearts.

Promise of God the Father, have mercy on us.

Ray of heavenly light, have mercy on us.

Author of all good, have mercy on us.

Source of heavenly water, have mercy on us.

Consuming fire, have mercy on us.

Ardent charity, have mercy on us.

Spirit of love and truth, have mercy on us.

Spirit of wisdom and understanding, have mercy on us.

Spirit of counsel and fortitude, have mercy on us.

Spirit of knowledge and piety, have mercy on us.

Spirit of the fear of the Lord, have mercy on us.

Spirit of grace and prayer, have mercy on us.

Spirit of peace and meekness, have mercy on us.

Spirit of modesty and innocence, have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, the Comforter, have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, who governs the Church, have mercy on us.

Gift of God, the Most High, have mercy on us.

Spirit who fills the universe, have mercy on us.

Spirit of the adoption of the children of God, have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, come and renew the face of the earth. Hear our prayer...

Holy Spirit, inflame us with the flame of your love.

Holy Spirit, open to us the treasures of your graces.

Holy Spirit, teach us to pray well.

Holy Spirit, guide your Church now and always.

Holy Spirit, send us your gift of wisdom,

Holy Spirit, enlighten the deliberations of those who will elect the next Pope.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, send us your Holy Spirit.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, pour down the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us your peace.

MARY, MYSTICAL ROSE



Have you heard of the devotion to Mary, Mystical Rose?

On Monday of Holy Week, Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández, the prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, blessed a statue of “Mary, Mystical Rose” at the Vatican. The statue, donated by Pope Francis, was placed in a shrine close to the Sacrament Fountain in the Vatican Gardens.

The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith declared last summer that after thorough consideration the devotion to Our Lady under the title Mary, Mystical Rose is officially approved.

According to Vatican News, last July, the Dicastery’s decision was based “on the new norms regarding alleged supernatural phenomena, granting the ‘nulla osta’ authorizing public devotion to Mary under the title ‘Mystical Rose,’ in connection with messages purportedly received between 1947 and 1966 by visionary Pierina Gilli.”



This will allow churches and sacred places to be dedicated/named under this title to Mary.

“The alleged apparitions of Mary under the titles of “Mystical Rose” and “Mother of the Church” are connected to the locality of Fontanelle, located south of the town of Montichiari in the Italian province of Brescia.

“The visionary, Pierina Gilli, was born into a peasant family, and worked as a housekeeper and nurse in a hospital, leading a very simple life until her death in 1991 at the age of 80.

Her mystical experiences occurred over two different periods, the first dating back to 1947, when Our Lady is said to have appeared to Pierina, presenting herself under the titles ‘Mystical Rose’ and ‘Mother of the Church.’ On Mary’s white robe, Gilli says she saw three roses: one white, one red and one yellow, symbolizing prayer, penance and suffering.”



The Marian title ‘Mystical Rose’ can also be found in the Litany of Loreto, which dates back to 1587, to be said at the Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto.

To recite the Litany of Loreto, go to: WWW.VATICAN.VA/SPECIAL/ROSARY/DOCUMENTS/LITANIE-LAURETANE_EN.HTML

MAY 6TH = ONE MISSION ONE DAY

24-HOUR ONLINE FUNDRAISER FOR WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

We have more than 4,600 treasured reasons to motivate you to make a difference on Tuesday, May 6th.

All 18 grade schools and six high schools will be participating in a 24-hour online statewide giving day - *One Mission One Day to Make a Difference* to benefit their programs, facilities, and projects for our 4,673 students.

“As our schools remain grounded in faith, committed to service, and striving for academic excellence, we invite YOU to be part of something extraordinary, One Mission, One Day to Make a Difference,” said Heidi Sforza, Director of Annual Giving. “Let’s come together—parents, alumni, parishioners, and friends—to lift up our schools through 24 hours of giving. Your support on this special day has the power to fuel innovation in the classroom, strengthen our Catholic identity, and expand outreach in the communities we serve.”

To help your local school or alma mater go

to www.OneMissionOneDay.org and select your school(s) that will receive your gift.

Donations go directly to the school or schools of choice.

The event kicks off at 12:01am, May 6, and continues to 11:59 pm. For those like to get an early start, donations can be made online now.

It’s going to be another friendly and fun competition.

Organizers from the individual schools are eager too to see which school will raise the most money, which will have the most donors, and which school will have the most peer-to-peer fundraisers because those schools will each receive a \$500 gift from the WV Catholic Foundation.

Join us on Tuesday, May 6th for a day of unity, purpose, and faith in action.

YOU can make a difference!



One Mission One Day to Make a Difference

MAY 6, 2025

Support Catholic Schools across WV

OneMissionOneDay.org

Pray for The Strength of Young St. Nunzio



He died at the age of 19 from complications from years of neglect, abuse, and a work-related injury as a blacksmith apprentice. Today, let the courage and focus of Saint Nunzio Sulprizio inspire us to complain less, work harder, and remain faithful to God and the Church despite our circumstances. It is his feast day!

Saint Nunzio was an Italian born saint who died on May 5, 1836,

He is an example of remaining grateful to God even when faced with terrible suffering.

To say he had a hard life is an understatement.

He was three when his father died.

Soon after, his baby sister tragically died.

His mother remarried.

His stepfather treated him poorly.

When he was six, his mother died.

He was sent to live with his maternal grandmother. Gratefully, like his mother, she radiated the love of God and was strict with their religious practices. However, he lived with her for only three years until she died. It was after his ninth birthday. Once again, he was alone and broken hearted.

Young Nunzio had to go live with his only family - a stone hearted uncle who refused to let him go to school and forced him to work in his blacksmith shop.

He would beat him if he made a mistake. While working he suffered a severe leg injury, which caused him immense pain and resulted in gangrene. He was hospitalized for months, but nowhere will you read that he gave in to complaining or feeling sorry for himself. He would pray before the tabernacle "to keep Jesus company."

Nunzio accepted his sufferings saying, "Jesus suffered so much for us and by his merits we await eternal life. If we suffer a little bit, we will taste the joy of paradise. Jesus suffered a lot for me. Why should I not suffer for Him? I would die in order to convert even one sinner."

Saint Nunzio lost his leg, and became very ill after infections continued to spread.

Saint Nunzio was canonized in October 2018, by Pope Francis, who described him as an elite example of patience and gentleness in his suffering.

Editor's note: The portrait with this article is by Italian artist, Sofia Novelli. She is a commissioned painter and art teacher at Sacred Art School in Florence. Follow her on social media and at: www.sofianovelli.com/en



ARE YOU IN?

ROSARY CRUSADE FOR VOCATIONS IN WV

Official Kickoff - Rosary Procession to Cathedral of St. Joseph

Bishop Mark Brennan is inviting you to pray and lead – yes, lead - the Rosary Crusade for Vocations from May 13, 2025, to May 13, 2026.

What's the saying? Control the controllables!

Let's welcome some accountability and ownership gratefully. At least try.

Pray intentionally and boldly for Catholic vocations particularly to the priesthood, religious life, and married life that are all vital for the hope and future of the Church and spreading the Gospel by our words and deeds. Ultimately this is what will naturally lead others into a new or deeper relationship with God.

The official kickoff for the diocese will be at the Rosary Procession honoring Our Lady of Fatima at 7pm, Tuesday, May 13, beginning at St. Alphonsus Church at 2111 Market Street in Wheeling and ending with Holy Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. Children are encouraged to wear their First Holy Communion clothes to make the procession even more reverent for Our Blessed Mother.

While many may not be able to attend, Cathedral Rector Fr. Pen (Penumaka) Manikyalarao and those present will certainly call to mind the intentions of all the faithful in the diocese.

YOUR GIFTS OF PRAYER

"We are seeing the fruits of many prayers," said Delegate for Consecrated

Life Sister Martha Gomez. "Behind and before every vocation to is always the strong and intense prayer of someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a faith community."

Watch FaithInWV, diocesan social media, your school and parish bulletins, The Catholic Spirit, and DWC.org for updates and events as the Rosary Crusade unfolds between now and May 13, 2026.

Your prayers make a difference!

Last Fall Bishop Mark and Vocations Director Fr. Brian Crenwelge introduced us to 17 seminarians! Five more young men hailing from WV are attending seminaries for religious orders, and more missionary sisters and other women in formation have come to WV to serve our growing parishes and Hispanic brothers and sisters.

In addition, we have 12 men preparing for the permanent diaconate, and that is on the heels of 20 men ordained last June.

Bishop Mark truly believes those reverent prayers produced great hope and fruit.

In his homily in November, Fr. John Soplinski said, "We pray for more vocations from our homegrown young men and women—and the prayers we offer at Mass, through Sr. Martha's Rosaries for Vocations, through

continue...

Priestly Vocation Survey Results

*In conjunction with the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 11, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations released the **Ordination Class of 2025 Study**, conducted annually by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University.*

9 in 10 seminarians said someone encouraged them to consider the priesthood.

Responsible for their nudge:

Parish priest 60%

Friend 52%

Fellow Parishioner 42%

Never too young!

35% first considered the priesthood in elementary school

20% in high school.

Catholic school educated?

46% attended Catholic grade school

36% Catholic high school

Prayed Rosary regularly before seminary? 72%

Participated in Bible study? 48%

Eucharistic Adoration? 78%

Parish Youth Group? 51%

In the US there are 405 men who will be ordained this year in 115 dioceses and eparchies and 36 religious institutes. The survey was completed by 309 men.

"Encourage a young man to consider the priesthood or attend Eucharistic Adoration: he could be your future pastor," said Bishop Earl Boyea



Rosary Procession

Join us in prayer as we honor
Our Lady of Fatima with a
Rosary Procession for our Church,
our world, and our families.

Tuesday, May 13
MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

7:00 pm

Begins at
ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH

Ends with Holy Mass at the
CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

OFFICIAL KICKOFF

Rosary Crusade for Vocations in WV
May 13, 2025 - May 13, 2026

way that it is attractive to young men and women.

“And we ask you, the lay faithful, to play your part, not only in praying for more vocations, but to encourage your children and grandchildren, your nieces and nephews.”

As we prayerfully contemplate our pledges and commitment to our Rosary for Vocations Crusade let us pray:

*Oh, my Jesus,
listen to my prayer today.
Bless more young people,
more men, and more women
here in West Virginia
to say yes to your call
to be religious brothers,
sisters, and priests.
Bless my family
and my Church family
so, we can support them,
and remain close to you.
We ask Blessed Mary
and St. Joseph to come to you
in our need to build up the Church
in the great Mountain State.
Amen*

Bishop Mark’s travels, where, if he finds a young man or woman, he thinks may have a vocation, he takes their name and prays for them every day. That list is up to 200 folks!

“It is the work of Fr. Crenwelge, and his predecessors’ - Fr. (Dennis) Schuelkens and Msgr. (Paul) Hudock - tireless service in traveling the state. We priests and deacons and sisters and brothers are asked to play our part—to encourage vocations and to live our vocations in such a

Daily Living

with Fr. Chapin

Sunday Mornings

6:30 WTOV FOX 9 Wheeling-Steubenville
6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Huntington-Charleston
8:00 WBOY NBC 12 Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
6:30 WOAY ABC 4 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
9:30 WVVA NBC 6 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
9:30 DC News Now Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

Plus watch online at - www.mydailyliving.com and YouTube



Rosary Procession

Join us in prayer as we honor
Our Lady of Fatima with a
Rosary Procession for our Church,
our world, and our families.

Tuesday, May 13

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

7:00 pm

Begins at
ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH
Ends with Holy Mass at the
CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

SHUTTLE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Runs from the Cathedral to St. Alphonsus (6:15 - 6:50 pm)
and returns after Mass.



OFFICIAL KICKOFF

Rosary Crusade for Vocations in WV

May 13, 2025 - May 13, 2026

Sisters of St. Joseph's Earth Festival

A Fun, Free Family Event - May 18

The annual Earth Festival hosted by the Congregation of St. Joseph is scheduled for Sunday, May 18 from 1-5 p.m. at Mount St. Joseph. The beautiful grounds of the historic property come to life for this fun-for-the-whole-family event celebrating the 10th year of Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home."

Festival goers can enjoy interactive experiences with Ohio Valley Beekeepers, a local master falconer, and Trinity Farms Alpacas, as well as live demonstrations and educational chats with more than three dozen organizations and professionals working to lift up healing, health, and hope in our communities.

The Fun-Raiser Urban Mobile Playground – decked out with hula-hoops, basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, bubbles, yoga mats, chalk, frisbee golf, kickball, corn hole, hacky sacks, and water squirters – delivers outdoor fun for children.

Butterflies and other pollinators populate the many garden spaces tended by the sisters. The annual Earth Festival gives attendees the opportunity to tour the lovely outdoor space while learning about sustainability programs available in the area that they can incorporate into their daily lives.

This event is free for all and some vendors offer samples and informational materials at no charge. Some vendors have items for sale. Midge's Kitchen food truck and Cura Dining will sell food and snacks.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, May 18. Mount St. Joseph is located at 137 Mount St. Joseph Road, Wheeling. For information call 304-907-0171.

SAVE

THE

DATE



Sunday, May 18, 2025
1pm 5pm
Mount St. Joseph
137 Mt. St. Joseph Road
Wheeling, WV

Join us at Mount St. Joseph and St. Joseph Retreat Center for a **FREE** family-friendly interactive day grounded in the values of healing people and earth.



Free Family Event



SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025 ● 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

MOUNT ST. JOSEPH & ST. JOSEPH RETREAT CENTER

137 Mount St. Joseph Rd., Wheeling WV 26003

FEATURING OVER 400 EXHIBITORS

INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

MOTHER JONES CENTER FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

PROJECT HOPE - MEDICAL OUTREACH TO THE HOMELESS

GLORY GARDEN GROUP - CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

HYDROPONICS - OGLEBAY PARK

STRAW BALE HOUSE BUILDING

HOMESTEAD FARM CENTER

GROW OHIO VALLEY

LIVE MUSIC

MOMS CLEAN AIR FORCE

FROM BAGS TO BENCHES

OHIO VALLEY BEEKEEPERS

PEACE CRANES PROJECT

TRY THIS WV

LAUGHLIN CHAPEL



YWCA W.I.N.D. PROGRAM

OHIO COUNTY F.R.N.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WV

FARMacy WV

STREET MOMS

WV MOMS RISING



**ALPACAS OF
TRINITY
FARM**



The Fun-Raiser
urban mobile playground



ARCHERY TAG



**MIDGE'S
KITCHEN HOT
DOG CART**



Earth Day Is Every Day At Mount St. Joseph!





Join us for a day of spiritual growth, fellowship, and renewal. This retreat is designed to help you deepen your faith, connect with other Catholic women, and find inspiration in a supportive community. Don't miss this opportunity to arise and embrace your faith in a meaningful way. Topics include, encountering Jesus, healing, building community and St. Theresa of Avila. Small group time, prayer and lunch, will be included. Join us for 7:30am daily mass before the retreat begins. Register now space is limited.

Register using QR code, or on Facebook or by email
tristatecatholicwomen@gmail.com

Payment: Venmo: tristatecatholicwomen
Check or cash accepted (email for address)



For more information and to stay up to date, find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tristatecatholicwomen>

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

Peter stands up to the Sanhedrin and the apostles openly give witness to the power of Jesus' name.

Responsorial: Psalm 30

"I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me."

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

John declares the glory of Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Jesus gives Peter the courage to lead and spread the Good News.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

On this final day of the Novendiales – the traditional nine days of mourning for the repose of Pope Francis' soul – may we honor him in our actions and words as we reflect what we loved about most about our pontiff of the people, let us pray to the Lord. . .

May the Cardinals representing the faithful from all over the world become filled with the grace and wisdom of the Holy Spirit as they enter the Conclave Wednesday to carefully elect the next Successor of St. Peter for the Holy Church, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For farmers, farm workers, and all those whose livelihoods depend on the success of the growing season, that they may have fair weather, just working conditions, and a sustainable living, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we may recognize Christ as we encounter him in our lives, renewing our faith in him, and in humanity, whom he has redeemed, 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
Keyser - coming soon	FM	98.9
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
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WV Catholic Schools

*Empowered
by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.*



Register today

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.