

Faith IN WV

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

NOVEMBER 1, 2020



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

*Vocations Awareness Week
Nov. 1-7*



As a Catholic Church family in the United States we celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week from Nov. 1-7. Take time this week to pray for more dedicated priests, religious, deacons, and ministry leaders for the Church. Let us pray also that they know they are surrounded with an army of faithful to support them on their journey.

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops asks parishes all over the country to uphold and promote vocations and encourage the faithful to renew their prayerful support year-round for those currently discerning one of these calls.

Interesting facts shared by the USCCB show data from recent studies show an encouraging picture for vocations. The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) released its annual study on seminary formation enrollment in June 2020, showing steady enrollment over the past decade, despite experiencing a slight decrease in 2019-2020 compared to 2018-2019.

The retention rate for the college seminary class of 2020 is expected to be 75%, which is higher than the average of 71% over the last 12 years. In addition, pre-theology students continue to make up about 22% of total theologate enrollment - another trend that has remained unchanged in the last decade.

Another study conducted by CARA in conjunction with the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC), indicates

that vocations to religious life are also continuing to flourish. The "2020 Study on Recent Vocations to Religious Life," released earlier this Spring, revealed that the number of men and women religious in initial formation is not significantly different from that reported in 2009. In addition, while 87% of perpetually professed religious are over the age of 60, this statistic has remained steady for the last decade, which suggests that the influx of new vocations has helped to offset the number of religious who are aging out of their communities. Finally, the study also found that nearly half of those currently in initial formation are under the age of 30, an increase of 43% since 2009.

St. Junipero Serra, canonized by Pope Francis on Sept. 23, 2015, is the patron saint of vocations to Church ministry. A group of lay Catholics, men and women of all ages and backgrounds, called Serrans, are dedicated to promote and foster vocations. The USA Council is part of Serra International. In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston we have three formal Serra Clubs around the state: Wheeling ([CLICK HERE](#) for more info), Charleston ([CLICK HERE](#) for more info), and Clarksburg (contact Immaculate Conception Parish and the Clarksburg Vicariate Vicar Forane, Father Casey Mahone at 304-622-8243 for more information).

As we enter National Vocations week, let us all be mindful to pray daily for an increase in Church ministry leaders, while listening ourselves to God's call.

CHURCH IS MY UNIVERSAL HOME

Father Carlos Melocoton, of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling, has organized a special evening to celebrate National Vocations Week on November 4th.

The event will begin with Mass at 5:30 p.m., followed by a presentation - *Asia is My Birthplace... Church is my Universal Home!*

Six priests will speak on six Asian countries, including Fr. Arthur Bufogle, Jr., (Japan and the Philippines); Melocoton (Philippines); Fr. ThatSon Ngoc Nguyen (Vietnam); Fr. Hadi Sasmita (Indonesia); Fr. Jeelson Stephan (India); and Fr. Nye Joseph Wiley (South Korea).

Father Bufogle is pastor of St. John Neumann in Marlinton; Fr. Nguyen is pastor of St. Francis Xavier in Moundsville; Fr. Sasmita is the campus minister at Wheeling University in Wheeling; Fr. Stephan is pastor of Immaculate Conception in New Cumberland, and Sacred Heart in Chester; and Fr. Wiley is association pastor at St. Michael, Wheeling.

For more information call St. Michael Parish at 304-242-1560.



Remembering All Saints & All Souls

All Saints Day, November 1, is a time to acknowledge the greatest Catholic influencers of all time; and All Souls Day, November 2, is time to pray for all those we love who have died, so they can enjoy everlasting life with God in heaven.

NOVEMBER, A TIME TO REMEMBER

Throughout the month we are to remain focused on praying for these souls with great respect and reflection. We concentrate on the souls in purgatory by praying at the cemetery, lighting a candle at home or church, attending Mass (in person or virtual), and even performing an act of kindness in their name.

As a people of God, we remember the lives of the saints on All Saints Day, being especially mindful of our patron saints – the saints whose name we share in our families, schools, and parishes. We thank God for their example. The Church wants us to connect to the saints and see how we are to be united with them. God calls us all to strive to be a saint.

We can read about the saints lives here in our FaithInWV e-bulletin, and we can go to our favorite Catholic online resource or bookstore to get more in depth; but can you picture them in your life?

THE SAINTS – OUR OWN CHEERING SECTION

Fr. Mike Schmitz of the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota, wants us to think of the saints as “our own cheering section,” as he states in his 2015 Ascension Press video – *All Saints Day Pep Talk*.

He points out that in Hebrews Chapters 11 and 12, St. Paul is telling us about all kinds of tremendous heroes of faith, and we are surrounded everyday by them like a great “cloud of witnesses” so we can “run the race that is set before us.”

He goes on to give the analogy of an ironman triathlon, a true story by the way. It is a grueling swimming, biking, and running race – 2.4 miles of swimming, 112 miles of biking, and 26.2 miles running. Participants have from 7am to

midnight to complete the race. Even if you finish one second after midnight you are disqualified.

Those who finish early typically go back to their hotels, grab a late dinner, and then venture back to the last leg of the course to cheer on the final finishers. One year in particular the announcer reported at 11:45 p.m., that there was one runner left to finish the last two miles.

Schmitz said he thought the guy has been running all day and there is just no way he can run two miles in only 15 minutes. However, at that point many people in the crowd around Schmitz at the finish line cut across a park to meet the runner more than a mile out to cheer him on and encourage him to finish.

He said you could hear the “dull roar” of the running crowd motivating him and crying out, then you see it, the runner, and the crowd of runners, who had already finished and were in their street clothes. The runner didn’t know them, but there they were urging him to dig deep and do it.

“They can’t run the race for him. They can just cheer him on, and he comes down. He’s sprinting. The place is going crazy and he crosses the finish line at like 11:59 and 47 seconds,” he said. “It’s remarkable. This guy on his own wouldn’t have finished the race. I remember thinking this is like the communion of saints.”

“They’ve run their races, and they can’t run our race for us, but what they can do is pray for us. They can intercede for us. They are on our side.”

So, take it from St. Paul, and Fr. Schmitz’s example, no matter how exhausted we are or how impossible the task at hand may seem, concentrate on our saints with confidence, knowing they are ready, willing and able to intercede for us.

Watch Fr. Mike Schmitz share this story [HERE](#).

WATCH MCGIVNEY BEATIFICATION LIVE SATURDAY

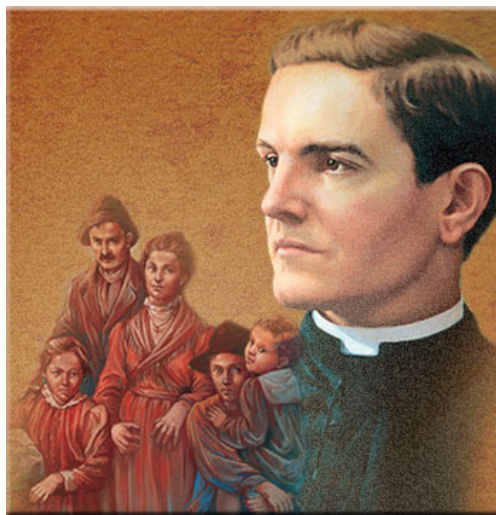
Witness history on Saturday! The Beatification Mass of Fr. Michael McGivney will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. It will be shown live on EWTN and livestreamed online through various sites and platforms including the Archdiocese of Hartford's website: archdioceseofhartford.org.

The Archdiocese presents an informative and impressive three-part video series on McGivney on their website.

Father McGivney is the humble, exemplary parish priest who founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 in Hartford to help widows, orphans, and keep families Catholic. He was forward-thinking involving lay men in the church to run the organization that from that moment on would focus on "unity and charity." He will be the first US parish priest to receive the title "Blessed" by the Church.

Father McGivney was a roll up your sleeves, face adversity head-on, thick-skinned kind of guy, as we wrote in last week's FaithInWV e-bulletin. He

worked hard for the Church and the faithful during a time, when an anti-Catholic and anti-immigrant movement was rampant throughout New England. He died at the age of 38 during a pandemic.



Bishop Mark Brennan calls McGivney a model priest, who made Jesus his model.

Organizing the Knights of Columbus "met two serious needs: that of strengthening the faith of Catholic men in an era rife with anti-Catholic agitation; and that

of helping the widows and orphans of workers who died or were disabled in a time before Social Security and workmen's compensation," Brennan said at the ordination of Fr. Justin Golna, on June 27th.

Today the Knights of Columbus have more than 2-million members in 16,000 councils all over the world. According to their records, during this past year, they donated more than 77-million service hours and \$187 million to causes in their communities.

To find out more about the Knights of Columbus in West Virginia, go to WVKOFC.ORG.

The Catholic network EWTN will feature a three-day McGivney event beginning Friday, Oct. 30th at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer vigil for priests. The network will also air the Beatification Mass with coverage beginning at 10 a.m. On Sunday, EWTN will have a Mass at noon to celebrate the life and virtue of All Saints and of Blessed Father McGivney the heavenly helper.

POPE FRANCIS RECOGNIZES NINE CLOSER TO SAINTHOOD

The following is from a report from the Catholic News Agency.

The decree on Wednesday, included two Lebanese priests martyred under the Ottoman Empire: **Fr. Leonard Melki** and **Fr. Thomas Saleh**, both Capuchin friars and missionaries in what is now Turkey who were arrested, tortured, and martyred by the forces of the Ottoman Empire in 1915 and 1917 respectively.



Pope Francis also recognized the martyrdom of **Fr. Luigi Lenzini**, who was killed in Italy in 1945, and Brazilian **Isabel Cristina Mrad Campos**, who was brutally murdered in 1982 resisting a rape. She is being compared to Saint Maria Goretti.

The Pope also approved miracles attributed to three founders of religious orders: **Blessed Fr. Giustino Maria Russolillo**; **Venerable Róża Maria Czacka**; and **Venerable Maria Lorenza Requesens**.

Russolillo can now be canonized after the pope approved a second miracle attributed to his intercession, involving the healing in 2016 of a religious with serious respiratory damage belonging to the order he founded in Naples, according to Vatican News.

He founded the Society of Divine Vocations, also known as the Vocationist Fathers, and the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Vocations.



Czacka, a Polish nun suffered from eye problems at an early age and completely lost her sight at the age of 22. She devoted her life to helping other people who were blind, founding an educational facility for the blind in Warsaw in 1909 and in 1918 she founded the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters, Servants of the Cross, dedicated to serving the blind.

Requesens, a 15th-century Spanish noblewoman founded the Hospital of the Incurables in Naples and a monastery of Capuchin nuns after she was widowed.

The pope also recognized the heroic virtue of Brazilian **Brother Roberto Giovanni**, who dedicated his long life to serving the poor and the sick, and the heroic virtue of **Maria Teresa** (born Celia Delgado) of the Heart of Jesus, co-founder of the Handmaids of the Divine Heart of Jesus in Spain.

For the full story [CLICK HERE](#).

MAINTAINING RECOVERY DURING COVID-19

By: Katie Hinerman Klug, Catholic Charities West Virginia Marketing Communications Specialist

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to affect West Virginians, individuals who are in recovery from substance use disorder are having a disproportionately difficult time. Disruption of community support group meetings, loss of work, illness and other factors can stress a person's ability to maintain recovery.



"Life is hard and there are so many challenges and obstacles," said Keythan Heater, a resident of Huntington, West Virginia. "Having to do it sober is so much harder."

In March of 2020, Heater enrolled in a Computer Essentials course at Catholic Charities West Virginia's (CCWVa) adult learning center in Huntington. At the time, he was residing in a sober living house.

"We know that education and meaningful employment are so important for recovery," said Bill Hagy, CCWVa Western Regional Director. "During the pandemic, we've had to pivot to virtual classes and appointments at times, but we have never stopped providing services."

In Huntington, CCWVa provides adult education as well as wraparound case management services to help individuals achieve their goals by identifying their strengths and finding ways to overcome obstacles.

For Heater, these obstacles included lost income, as he was laid off from his restaurant job due to COVID-19. He also struggled with stable housing, transportation, and resources to continue his studies.

CCWVa Recovery Retention Case Manager Sherri Sloan worked closely with Heater to overcome these barriers.

"During this entire time I stayed sober and did not relapse even though I wanted to, at times, because of the stress that life was dealing me," said Heater. "It was unbearable, yet Sherri was there each step of the journey."

With the help of CCWVa and the Jobs and Hope West Virginia program, Heater was able to secure housing, a car, a computer, and a lucrative job through GrubHub.

"Without them I honestly don't believe that I could've ventured so far in accomplishing what I have," said Heater. "I am proof that Catholic Charities and Jobs and Hope stand behind their mission."

Heater continues to maintain his sobriety and is thriving as an independent delivery driver while continuing to work toward his long-term goals. To read more about his story, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit 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.



Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate a
Mass of Gratitude

November 20 • 12:05PM.

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling

Please visit dwc.org and share your own prayer intentions that will be offered during the Mass.

If unable to attend, view live at DWC.org or
Facebook.com/DioceseofWheelingCharleston

MASS READINGS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

First Reading REVELATION 7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel.

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb."

All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed: "Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

Responsorial PSALMS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6

R. (see 6) **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? or who may stand in his holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Second Reading 1 JOHN 3:1-3

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been

revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

Alleluia MATTHEW 11:28

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MATTHEW 22:34-40

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, the communion of saints, that we may grow in holiness and faithful to the Beatitudes, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For leaders of nations, that they may choose to be peacemakers, see God in all people, and keep sacred the gift of life from conception to natural death, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who mourn, that they may find comfort in the Lord through the support, and compassion of family, friends, and our parish community, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For men and women to be open to God's call to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ as priests, deacons, or consecrated persons, 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

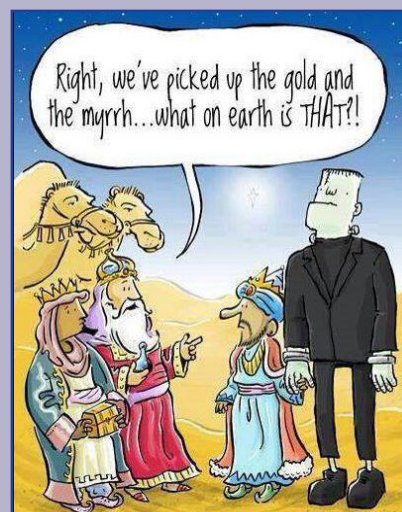
Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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



A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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Purgitsville	FM	98.7
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Star City - Morgantown	FM	89.7
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WV Catholic Radio www.WVCatholicRadio.org

THE CATHOLIC *Spirit*

THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT IS NOW AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL!!

Join our e-list to receive The Catholic Spirit by e-mail. To be added, please e-mail Colleen Rowan, CROWAN@DWC.ORG, with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line. Please provide your preference of: "E-mail only" or "E-mail and Printed Copy."

Those selecting e-mail only, will no longer receive a printed copy. The Catholic Spirit is available under "Downloadable Spirit" at

THECATHOLICSPIRITWV.ORG.

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/)