



## CALL UPON OUR SOLDIER SAINTS THIS VETERANS DAY

We have about 18 million American veterans among us today. On Wednesday, Nov. 11, we honor them, their service, and their sacrifices.

Let us not take for granted the liberties and freedoms these men and women have defended. They were willing to lay down their lives for our great nation. Pray for them and ask the Lord to surround our veterans, as well as the men and women still serving, with legions of angels and a great cloud of saints.



Don't underestimate the power of prayer. Stop what you are doing and pray for our veterans and soldiers, who without judging if we deserve it or not, have given up so much at their personal expense.

When asking the saints to intercede, call to mind the soldier saints of the Church. Their service to their countries strengthened their faith and lead to countless conversions and miracles.

A few of the most notable and courageous soldier saints include:

- **St. Martin of Tours**, whose feast day we celebrate on *Veterans Day*, grew up in the 4th century in Rome. Born to pagan parents. By the age of 10 he knew he wanted to be Christian. He served in the Roman army at 15. He is famous for a moment when he was guarding a gate, when a poor naked man asked for help in the name of Jesus Christ. St. Martin had nothing to give but his mantle, a cape. He took his sword and cut his cape, giving the beggar the larger cloth to clothe him. The following night Jesus appeared to St. Martin in a dream, wearing the cloak saying, "Behold, here is Martin, an unbaptized Roman soldier: He has clothed me." Martin was baptized the following Easter at the age of 18. He continued to serve in the army for more than 20 years. Afterward he was ordained and later became bishop of Tours.
- **St. Ignatius of Loyola**, a Spanish Catholic priest, who happily fulfilled his boyhood dream to become a soldier. After he was injured in battle he read about Jesus and the lives of the saints. He believed they had greater valor and spiritual nobility than he would ever have. From that moment on he vowed to be a soldier for Christ.
- **St. Joan of Arc**, a farm girl from France, went into battle in her teens against the English, conquering Orleans, Patay, and Reims. She had a deep love for her Catholic faith and was inspired to fight for her country by the voices of St. Michael the archangel, St. Catherine and St. Margaret.

- **St. George** was an imperial guard for the Roman Emperor. He outrightly disobeyed commands not to pray and converted other soldiers to Christianity.
- **St. Francis of Assisi** before answering the call to religious life he served two tours fighting in the army and was held captive for one year. He understood the sacrifice and torment of loyalty to God and Country.
- **St. Maurice**, as a leader in the Theban legion, he encouraged his soldiers to disobey orders to harass Christians. His legion saved many Christian lives.
- **St. Sebastian**, an early Roman Christian, took advantage of his position of guard for the Emperor Diocletian, and converted many prominent people in his day to Christianity during an anti-Christian reign.

### LET US PRAY ON VETERANS DAY

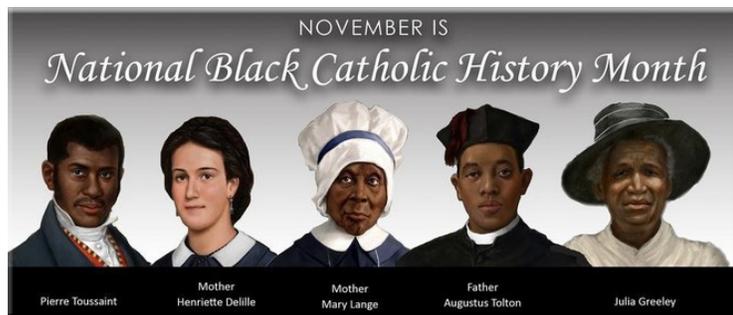
God of mercy, we pray for those who have served our nation, protecting and defending our freedoms.

We pray for those who have fought, whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war.

We pray for those who serve us now, shield them from danger and bring them home safely, when their duty is complete.

Turn the hearts and minds of all Americans to respect and honor their courageous, selfless work toward peace. Amen.

# HONOR OUR BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY



November is Black Catholic History Month. Let's take advantage of the opportunity to learn from our history – gaining more knowledge of lessons we thought we knew and expanding our minds and hearts to taken in stories we were unaware.

In the Catholic church, we have six men and women of African American descent on the road to sainthood. Their path in life brought many strains, struggles, and unjust treatment. The fact is they were treated less than human by society and experienced institutional racism. While we can't change our history, through awareness and education, we can work to become a better community – a better Church.

Go online and research the details of their remarkable stories. Let these six on the way to sainthood motivate us all to be better Christians:

- **Venerable Pierre Toussaint** (1776-1853) – founded one of New York's first orphanages and helped raise the funds for the city's first cathedral.
- **Venerable Henriette Delille** (1813-1862) – helped those in need for the love of Jesus; and taught us the sanctity can be attained in following the path of Christ.
- **Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange** (1784-1882) – founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first congregation of African American women religious in the history of the Catholic Church.
- **Father Augustus Tolton** (1854-1897) – was the first Roman Catholic priest in the US. A former slave, Fr. Tolton was ordained in Rome and served as pastor of St. Boniface in Quincy, Illinois. He was known as “Good Father Gus,” who had eloquent sermons and a beautiful signing voice.
- **Julia Greeley** (born sometime between 1833-1848 and died 1918) – honored as a great disciple of the Sacred Heart by the Jesuit fathers of their parish in Colorado. Her birth date is unknown. She was born a slave in Missouri. She was constantly visiting the poor and assisting them however she could.
- **Sr. Thea Bowman** (1937-1990) –was proclaimed a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. She was eager to learn from other cultures, but also



wanted to share the abundance of her African American culture and spirituality. She was a highly acclaimed evangelizer, teacher, writer, and singer sharing the joy of the Gospel. Despite her debilitating battle with breast cancer, she did not

let it stop her from speaking to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1989. She explained what it meant to be African American and Catholic. She enlightened the bishops on African American history and spirituality. She urged them to continue to evangelize the African American community, to promote inclusivity and full participation of African Americans within Church leadership, and to understand the necessity and value of Catholic schools in the African American community. She seemingly touched the hearts of the bishops as evidenced by their thunderous applause and tears flowing from their eyes, after she brought them together all arm-in-arm to sing “We Shall Overcome.”

Take time this month and do more to honor our black history. No matter how diverse we believe we already are, we can do more. Start by expanding who and what you “follow” on social media with diverse religious, authors, and speakers; like Fr. Josh Johnson ([Twitter](#)), Immaculee Ilibagiza ([FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#)), and Cardinal-designate Wilton Gregory ([Twitter](#)), Archbishop of Washington (On. Nov. 28th, he will be the first African American to be elevated to the College of Cardinals).



Fr. Josh Johnson



Immaculee Ilibagiza



Cardinal-designate  
Wilton Gregory

Our knowledge and beliefs inspire our actions. Let us all learn, pray, and grow.

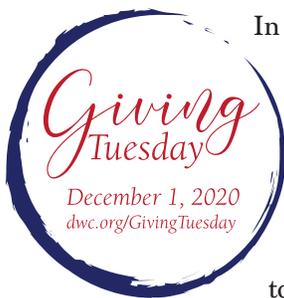
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*Dear Jesus, as we observe Black Catholic History Month, we call upon your saving grace to help ensure that the dignity of all of our brothers and sisters of color is honored, celebrated, and respected in our parishes, communities, schools, and homes.*

*Help us to not only open our eyes and our hearts as we not only speak unity, but also think and act like you. Amen.*

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# GIVING TUESDAY ~ AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO GREAT THINGS



In this time of uncertainty, there's a fundamental truth that can give us hope – together we can do great things!

As Catholics we are called to receive God's gifts gratefully and share them lovingly. Giving Tuesday is December 1st. Join the faithful across the diocese to make a difference for your parish, catholic education, evangelization ministry, or Catholic Charities WV on this global day of kindness and generosity. The diocese will not launch a 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal.



Giving Tuesday provides another way for donors to support parishes and shared ministries.

You can show your generosity in a variety of ways during Giving Tuesday—whether it's donating funds, signing up to participate in a new ministry, volunteering, or praying, every act counts! Participate on December 1st by going to [GIVINGTUESDAY.DWC.org](http://GIVINGTUESDAY.DWC.org).

Note 100% of your donation will go to the entity selected. For anyone who would prefer not to go online, donations can be dropped off or mailed to your parish office or placed in the collection basket.

As you know, because of COVID-19 our parishes, schools, and organizations' budgets have suffered with the sparse parish collections, cancelled fundraisers, and postponed appeals. Let us give them a boost on Giving Tuesday by remembering them and all the good they do for us and the community.



Bishop Mark Brennan has declared that all donations on this day will be assessment free – no PHRA or Cathedraticum.

The website will open for donations November 20th. The site will continue to accept donations through December 2nd.

This is the second statewide online giving campaign the diocese has launched. Last spring 19 of our Catholic Schools participated in a campaign they called - One Mission One Day. In 24-hours the schools collected \$234,804 from 1,279 donors.

Let our parishes, Catholic schools, and organizations know they can count on you on Giving Tuesday and encourage others to do the same. Remember – together we can do great things!



Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate a **Mass of Gratitude**

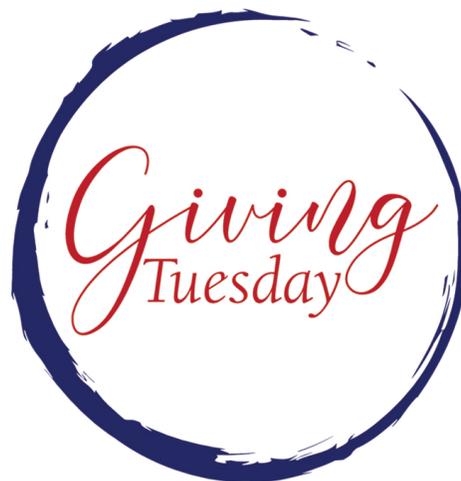
November 20 • 12:05 PM.

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling

Please visit [dwc.org](http://dwc.org) and share your own prayer intentions that will be offered during the Mass.

If unable to attend, view live at [DWC.org](http://DWC.org) or [Facebook.com/DioceseofWheelingCharleston](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofWheelingCharleston)

*Join us* online, as we gather together to raise funds, support our parishes & ministries, and share our faith!



**DECEMBER 1, 2020**

**DWC.ORG/GIVINGTUESDAY**

## MASS READINGS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

### First Reading WISDOM 6:12-16

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate. For taking thought of wisdom is the perfection of prudence, and whoever for her sake keeps vigil shall quickly be free from care; because she makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy of her, and graciously appears to them in the ways, and meets them with all solicitude.

### Responsorial PSALMS 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

#### R. (2b) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

#### R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, For your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

#### R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

#### R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

I will remember you upon my couch, and through the night-watches I will meditate on you: You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

#### R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

### Second Reading 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 (OR 4:13-14)

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

### Alleluia MATTHEW 24:42A, 44

#### R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

#### R. Alleluia, alleluia.

### Gospel MATTHEW 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise ones replied, ‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’ While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’ But he said in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may prepare all souls for heaven, while building a Church of mercy, hope, and love, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For world leaders, that they humble themselves and stay focused on peace, compassion, and justice for all, 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 all those who have gone before us, may they have eternal life and everlasting joy with God, 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](http://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](http://EBREVIARY.COM) [LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)



## A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



"If you're ever headed the wrong way in life, remember the road to Heaven allows U-turns."



12:20  
© 2012 Bill Keane, Inc.  
Dist. by King Features Syndicate  
[www.familycircus.com](http://www.familycircus.com)  
"Then the three wise men came to baby-sit Jesus so Mary and Joseph could finish Christmas shopping."

## 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
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	97.7

~Also Streaming in WV at [www.rdo.to/WLOL](http://www.rdo.to/WLOL)~

WV Catholic Radio [www.WVCatholicRadio.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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/)