



HOW TO BE GREAT? SERVE OTHERS

If we really picture what is going on in the Gospel for this 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Mark 10:35-45), we can see that the apostles were much like us – and not in a good way. They are self-centered, not good listeners, and a bit greedy.

This, as we can imagine, must have frustrated and annoyed Christ – again, like we do. However, He doesn't give up on them or us. He is the constant teacher – our Lord and our God – to save our souls so we grow in grace and inherit eternal life.

You have to do a little homework as our priests remind us, taking time to read Scripture to prepare for Mass or to help in our understanding after Mass. Between last week's Gospel and this week's we have left out verses 32-34, important details to help drive the Word home. In those verses Mark shares that Jesus for the third time has described to his disciples that he would be arrested, disgraced and tortured, put to death, and rise on the third day.

What we hear at Mass this week is what followed that moment. Mark describes the request of Brothers James and John "We want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." So, Jesus asks, "What do you want me to do for you?" They quickly say they want to be rewarded in Heaven with one at his right and the other at his left "in your glory."

Jesus knew they didn't even really listen or think about what He had just told them. He doesn't get irate or leave them, instead he chose to teach or as today's teens would say, Christ told them to "slow your role."

"You don't know what you are asking," he said, and while the other 10 were angry with James and John's selfishness, Christ told them all that whoever wishes to be with Christ must be a slave of all. "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

So, what are the take aways? We need to work on being better listeners, accountable, humble, and kind. Ultimately, if we want the rewards of Heaven, we need to stop putting ourselves first and instead serve others.

These lessons will help us be Christ-like and a better Church. These lessons will enable us to find and be that synodal Church that the Pope wants us to be, a revived Church as our US bishops encourage us to be, and a confident Church so we can Walk with One to bring them closer to Christ.

Editor's note: The art with this story is by Alida Bothma of South Africa. It is part of her "The Word became flesh" works available through her social media and Etsy accounts.

PRAYER FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND WISDOM

Lord God, Heavenly Father, help me to be like Christ - a servant first.

Forgive me for the times I am a fool - praying selfishly, forgetting others, and putting my wants first.

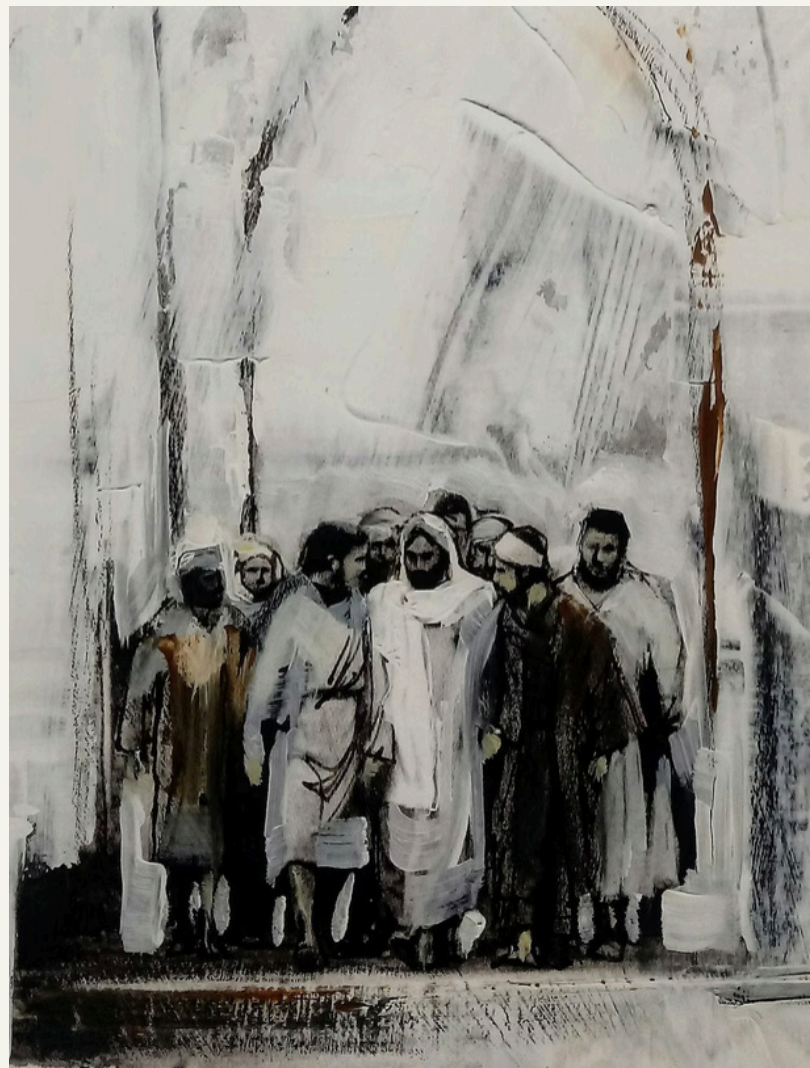
Help me to pray first for others and to sincerely fulfill my prayers I promise for others.

Let the Holy Spirit keep guiding me to serve others and show mercy always.

Give me the wisdom and awaken my understanding that I must do all of this in honor and praise of You.

I ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





World Mission Sunday

At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries and serve others, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "You shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that, "every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. And the Church, the community of Christ's disciples, has no other mission than that of bringing the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ. To evangelize is the very identity of the Church..."

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW IMMACULEE RETREAT IN WV JULY 2025

Don't miss Immaculee Ilibagiza next summer on July 26-27, at St. James the Greater Catholic Church in Charles Town for a two-day retreat when she will share her messages of love, hope, & forgiveness. This retreat center around the Rosary, prayer, and miracles through Our Lady as Immaculee shares her love and knowledge of apparitions around the globe including Our Lady of Kibeho in her home country of Rwanda.

No one will leave this retreat the same as when they came. Watch your FaithInWV e-bulletin for additional information and a story with Deacon Dave Galvin and the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis who are bringing this event to the diocese.

Plan to attend and if you want to prepare yourself read her journey and survival of the Rwandan Holocaust in her book: *Left to Tell*.

Registration for the retreat is open. [CLICK HERE](#) for details and to register.

Charles Town, WV
Retreat
with
Immaculée

JULY 26-27, 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



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

• PO Box 230, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003 •

Father John Rice Announced as New Vicar General for DWC

Monday, October 14, 2024



WHEELING, W. Va.—Bishop Mark E. Brennan has announced the appointment of Father John Rice as vicar general and moderator of the curia of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, effective October 22, 2024.

After the bishop, the vicar general is the highest-ranking official in the Diocese, having authority to exercise a degree of episcopal jurisdiction in the bishop's name.

Bishop Brennan expressed his gratitude to Father Rice for accepting this appointment. "I have seen Father Rice's effective leadership as chair of the Presbyteral Council and he is held in high regard by his brother priests,"

Bishop Brennan said. "I am confident that those leadership qualities will benefit not only those in our diocesan curia, but also the faithful throughout our Diocese. Father John is an experienced priest who, like me, has a great zeal for Catholic education. I look forward to working with him in his new role."

"I am humbled and honored that Bishop Brennan has invited me to this new role," Father Rice said. "I look forward to serving the Bishop and the people of our Diocese as we all seek to grow in faith and bring the gospel alive in this great state. Please keep me and our Bishop in your prayers and know that you are in mine."

Born in Braddock, Pa., Father John Rice was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on January 5, 2003, by Bishop Bernard W. Schmitt. He served as associate pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg from 2003-2004 and St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton from 2004-2005. Father Rice served at parishes in Morgantown, Montgomery and Boomer until his most recent appointment at St. Francis Xavier in Parkersburg and St. Monica Parish in Lubeck, where he has served since 2013. He has also served as chaplain and designated pastor of Parkersburg Catholic High School and the West Virginia Council of the Knights of Columbus as well as the Priests' Health and Retirement Board.

The appointment comes after the passing of Monsignor Joseph Peterson, who served as vicar general for the Diocese since April 2023.

Media Contact

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Follow the Diocese on Facebook and Twitter

THE *Eucharist* GIVES US LIFE STRENGTH TO SERVE AND RECEIVE HEAVEN

On Oct. 22, we honor the Memorial of Pope Saint John Paul II, who by his words and how he lived his life taught us that the ultimate test of our greatness “is the way you treat every human being.”

It was obvious that this beloved saint of our times loved the Church, Christ, the without question the Mass, where the Eucharist, “Gives us life.”

He knew the power in the name of Jesus and the power in the Eucharist - the bread of heaven, the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ.

He tirelessly emphasized throughout his religious life that the Eucharist is the Source and Summit of our lives and the life of the Church.

“The Eucharist is too great a gift to tolerate ambiguity and depreciation,” he said on April 17, 2003, in his encyclical letter, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, given at St. Peter’s in Rome.

The following quotes are excerpts from his letter. Read it as he was speaking directly to you:

“The Church draws her life from the Eucharist.

“I would like to rekindle Eucharistic ‘amazement’.... To contemplate the face of Christ, and to contemplate it with Mary.

“To contemplate Christ involves being able to recognize him wherever he manifests himself, in his many forms of

presence, but above all in the living sacrament of his body and his blood.

“Whenever the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the faithful can in some way relive the experience of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: ‘their eyes were opened, and they recognized him’ (Lk 24:31).”

He shared, “When I think of the Eucharist, and look at my life as a priest, as a Bishop and as the Successor of Peter, I naturally recall the many times and places in which I was able to celebrate it.... I have been able to celebrate Holy Mass in chapels built along mountain paths, on lakeshores and seacoasts; I have celebrated it on altars built in stadiums and in city squares... This varied scenario of celebrations of the Eucharist has given me a powerful experience of its universal and, so to speak, cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth.

“The Eucharist is truly a glimpse of heaven appearing on earth.”

It was the Eucharist that gave the saint the energy, strength, and most importantly a voice to serve. In his homily during his installation Mass, he told the faithful and the world, “Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ.”

The ultimate test...
of your greatness is
the way you treat
every human being.

-Saint John Paul II



United we stand..United in prayer

In this Year of Prayer, we are called to focus on the need for prayer in our lives and in our world. With the upcoming elections on November 5, we are inviting all the faithful who will be in the Wheeling area (Oct. 30-Nov. 5) to consider attending a week of Masses leading up to election day. The Wheeling parishes have worked together to develop this Mass schedule:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

St. Alphonsus (2111 Market Street) @ 6pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Corpus Christi (1508 Warwood Ave.) @ 6pm

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Our Lady of Peace (600 Mount Olivet Rd.) @ 6pm

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Cathedral of St. Joseph (1300 Eoff Street) @ 6pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Wheeling University Chapel of Mary and Joseph
(316 Washington Ave) @ 8pm

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4

St. Michael (1225 National Rd) @ 5:30pm

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

St. Vincent de Paul (2244 Marshall Ave) @ 5:30pm

Unable to be in Wheeling, check with your area parishes to see if they are having a special Mass or reflection.

Together we can pray a special prayer from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

*Lord God, as the election approaches,
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns
that confront our city/state/country,
and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful
citizens in our community.*

*We ask for eyes that are free from blindness
so that we might see each other as brothers and
sisters, one and equal in dignity,
especially those who are victims of abuse and
violence, deceit and poverty.*

*We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children
unborn and those abandoned,*

*Men and women oppressed because of race or creed,
religion or gender.*

*We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing
the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your
Kingdom.*

*We pray for discernment
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word,
live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles
and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.*

*We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ
and through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen.



GIVING OPPORTUNITY TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS

SPECIAL COLLECTION OCT. 26-27

As Florida, the Carolinas, and other southern states recover from the devastation of Hurricane Helene we mourn with them over the lives lost and vow to help the millions of families who lost their homes as entire towns have been destroyed.

Let us prayerfully consider supporting our special Catholic Charities' Disaster Relief Fund special collection Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, has approved for next weekend's Masses (October 26th-27th) in all parishes and missions throughout the diocese. Donations can also be made securely online by visiting dwc.org and clicking "Click Here to Donate to Hurricane Helene Relief."

Proceeds from this collection will support the long-term humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA's Hurricane Helene Relief Fund. The fund assists organization on the ground in the immediate aftermath to support individuals and families who have lost nearly everything. Every dollar contributed will be used to provide essential services like shelter, food, and medical care to those affected.



Diocese
of
Wheeling-Charleston

Disaster Relief Special Collection Oct. 26-27

CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA'S HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF FUND



29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11

Through his suffering he will justify many and bear their sins.

Responsorial: Psalm 33

“Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.”

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus can sympathize with our weaknesses. Confidently approach Him to receive mercy, grace, and help.

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

He came to serve not be served. Christ gave his life as ransom to save us all.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, as we work together to become the synodal Church – a family that is united in Christ, His works, His Word, and His mercy, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our elected leaders, from around the world and to our local governments, may they have the wisdom and confidence to defend and honor the dignity of all human life from conception until natural death, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For missionaries and all those working in pastoral care, that they may know of the support of all the faithful by our generosity and our willingness to serve in our own way through works, deeds, treasure, and – always - prayer, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all baptized that we honor our call to share the Word of God, to love one another, to show mercy, and be the Church, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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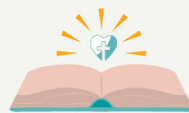
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Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
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Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
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Summersville	FM	91.3
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Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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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.