



HAPPY Grandparents DAY



A veteran Catholic school teacher in our diocese, Renee Schneid, encourages her students when they have a sincere intention they should pray for St. Anne to intercede for them, “because I doubt Jesus would say ‘no’ to his grandmother.”



The reference is lighthearted and yet sincere. It truly makes you stop and think, picturing Jesus just for a moment with his maternal grandmother. We can only imagine the immeasurable love and respect the two have for

one another – humbling and breathtaking actually.

In July we celebrated the Feast of the Grandparents honoring Saints Anne and Joachim, and this year Pope Francis declared July 25 the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in light of the holiest of grandparents. While we don’t know much about Saints Joachim and Anne from the bible, it is safe to say their love and trust in God must have been wonderfully strong and pure.

As we celebrate our own grandparents with National Grandparents Day in the United States let us honor them, remembering, “They are the indispensable link to educating children and young people in the faith,” Pope Francis.

Grandparents play a critical role in exemplify Catholic identity and family value. Pope Francis said it is the elders in the Church who have great gifts to offer us all. In Chapter Six (Young People with Roots) of Pope Francis’

Christ Is Alive apostolic exhortation, he encourages young people to cherish the “long stories” and wisdom of their grandparents and the elderly. He also reminds his fellow elders that it is just as important to show “there is more joy in giving than in receiving, and that love is not only shown in words, but also in actions.”

Take time on Grandparents Day to appreciate and connect with the grandparents in your life and elders in your church community to let them know they are loved and treasured.



Lord God almighty,
bless our grandparents
and those in our lives
who we love like our grandparents,
with long life, happiness, and health,
especially during this pandemic.
May they remain constant in your love,
and be living signs of your presence
to their children, grandchildren,
and all those around them.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."

On September 14, we celebrate The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – a symbol of Christ's unconditional love for us.

According to Church tradition the True Cross was discovered in 326 by St. Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great while on a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem. Saint Helena wanted to visit the holy places of Christ's life.

It is believed she found three crosses near what was the Savior's tomb. A temple had been built on the grounds. She had it razed. Discovering three crosses, and not knowing which one was the Cross of Christ, she summoned a dying woman. She had the woman touch the crosses. The first and second cross did nothing, but the third cross healed the sick woman immediately. The cross immediately became an object of veneration.

As Catholics we venerate the cross, to show respect of what it represents. Today, let us be reverently mindful of Christ's

triumph, mercy, love, forgiveness, and gift of eternal life.

In honor of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross we can show our devotion praying and reflecting on the Stations of the Cross. There are many online resources for this. Laudate provides an app for your smart devices, where you can access the Stations

of the Cross among other things like daily prayers, rosary and chaplets, Latin prayers, and Liturgy of the Hours. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops presents several versions of the Stations on their website. We especially like the Pro-Life Stations of the Cross at:

WWW.USCCB.ORG/PRAYER-AND-WORSHIP/PRAYERS-AND-DEVOTIONS/STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS/STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS-FOR-LIFE

For young families the Catholic Icing website has printable Stations of the Cross as a craft for kids to print, color, and display at:

WWW.CATHOLICICING.COM/PRINTABLE-STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS-CRAFT-FOR-KIDS/

God bless all the faithful, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



THE MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS ~ SEPT. 15

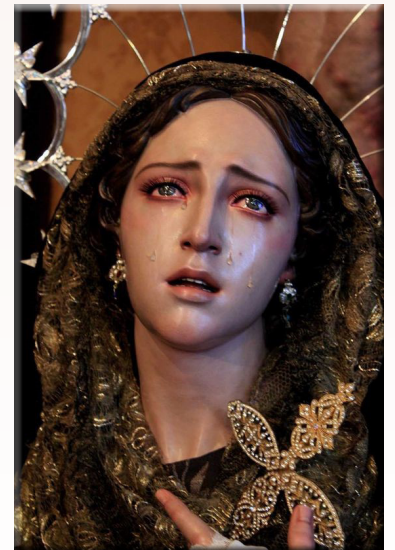
Even in our darkest hours let us find the strength to look towards Mary our Blessed Mother, who remained faithful to God the Father in the most devastating times.

On September 15, we are united with our Blessed Mother in her grief, but we also know that our suffering is only temporary for Christ gives us hope.

On this the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows we reflect on the seven traditional sorrows of Mary:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
3. Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)
4. Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)
5. Crucifixion and death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)
6. The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)
7. The burial of Jesus (Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47)

These events in Mary's life remind us that she can relate to everything a mother suffers. She had to leave her home to find safety, was filled with terror of losing track of a child, and helplessly watched her son be tortured, suffer, and die. We need to pray to her that she intercedes for us for she knows suffering like no other. She also is the ultimate example of faith, loyalty, hope, and love. Cry out to her in all sufferings now and at the hour of our death.



BACK TO SCHOOL: A 'SECOND CHANCE'



Michelle Montz, CCWVa Adult Education Instructor (left), and Jamie Williams, CCWVa adult learner (right), discuss Jamie's educational goals. Jamie says CCWVa's adult education courses have provided a 'second chance' for her.

By Katie Hinerman Klug, Marketing Communications Specialist

Like many students, Jamie Williams goes back to school this month. Through perseverance and hard work, Jamie is enrolling in college for the first time, at age 30, as she recovers from addiction.

"I thought I was so dumb," said Jamie. "Then someone came along to encourage me." That someone was Michelle Montz, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Adult Education Instructor.

"It's impressive how Jamie is always able to overcome any obstacle thrown her way," said Michelle. "She is diligent in her endeavors and maintains a positive attitude in all she does."

Jamie was introduced to drugs by her mother at the age of 13 and has struggled with Substance Use Disorder since that time.

In December of 2020, Jamie lost her husband to an overdose. Three months later, her mother overdosed, and sadly did not survive. Jamie said that was her 'wake-up call' to get sober.

"Seeing my kids at their dad's funeral – that's not fair to my kids," said Jamie. "So I'm not going to cause any more hurt."

Jamie entered the Sound Mind sober living program and enrolled in classes as part of her recovery. She said in the beginning, she did not understand the purpose of education in recovery.

"Why are y'all trying to teach us school; we're trying to get off drugs," Jamie joked. "Now I see; if you want a better life, you have to learn."

CCWVa's Adult Learning program provides free classes to any adult who wants to work toward a high school equivalency, earn a certification for work, or gain skills to pursue a new career or higher education. The program is offered in Mullens, Huntington, and McDowell County.

Research shows not only does adult education have a positive impact on learners' employability and income; it also helps individuals acquire a renewed sense of self as well as an improved quality of life.

"Up until recently, I always thought my life was destined to be terrible," said Jamie. "But now I have a purpose. Education helps you excel in life, not just in your recovery," said Jamie.

At CCWVa, all program staff are trained in Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma-informed care techniques to provide the highest quality care possible to vulnerable West Virginians.

Jamie is hopeful for her future and glad to break the cycle of addiction for her children. She recently began working as a construction flagger, and she plans to pursue a career in psychology after college.

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading ISAIAH 50:5-9a

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

Responsorial PSALMS 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. I love the LORD because he has heard my voice in supplication, Because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, And I called upon the name of the LORD, "O LORD, save my life!"

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful. The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading JAMES 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well, " but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

Alleluia GALATIANS 6:14

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MARK 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Lord God is our help and so we give voice to our needs and the needs of the world, knowing that our cries are heard, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the Church, that we may always reach out with the necessities of the body to those who have nothing to wear, or no food for the day, or a place to call home, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For world leaders, that they may lead their people with humility, recognizing the common dignity of all humanity, and establishing and promoting policies that lift up those who are marginalized and forgotten, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our grandparents, living and deceased, that all they have done for their children and grandchildren may be appreciated and that they may be respected and revered by their loved ones, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our parishes, that we may welcome strangers and neighbors alike, reaching out to satisfy their physical or spiritual needs, 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



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WV Catholic Radio www.WVCatholicRadio.org

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

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by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.



Register today

wvcatholicschools.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/)