



HAPPY PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY!

Prayerfully remember with gratitude all priests, who guide us on life's challenging path. It is up to us, the faithful, to extend our gratitude, because without them we couldn't celebrate the Mass or receive the Sacraments.



**Mary, Mother of Jesus, throw your mantle of purity over our priests.
Protect them, guide them, and keep them in your heart.
Be a Mother to them, especially in times of discouragement and loneliness.
Love them and keep them belonging completely to Jesus.
Like Jesus, they, too, are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal.
Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips,
so that he is the one they offer to sinner and to all they meet.
Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother,
loving them and bringing them joy.
Take special care of sick and dying priests, and the ones most tempted.
Remember how they spent their youth and old age,
their entire lives serving and giving all to Jesus.
Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart.
Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate,
so full of love and humility, so that they, too, can grow in the likeness of Christ.
Dear Mary, make them humble like you, and holy like Jesus. Amen.**
~ Prayer for Priests by St. Teresa of Calcutta

Editor's note: See also page 4 – and pray it forward! Pray also for the men who are being called to be ordained to the priesthood that they may feel supported and confident in their vocation.





BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES TODAY IS THE 108TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

A message from Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, and, in a special way, young people! If we want to cooperate with our heavenly Father in building the future, let us do so together with our brothers and sisters who are migrants and refugees. Let us build the future today! For the future begins today and it begins with each of us. We cannot leave to future generations the burden of responsibility for decisions that need to be made now, so that God's plan for the world may be realized and his Kingdom of justice, fraternity, and peace may come.

**Lord, make us bearers of hope,
so that where there is darkness,
your light may shine,
and where there is discouragement,
confidence in the future may be reborn.**

**Lord, make us instruments of your justice,
so that where there is exclusion, fraternity may flourish,
and where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow.**

**Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom,
together with migrants and refugees
and with all who dwell on the peripheries.
Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is
to live together as brothers and sisters. Amen.**

Read his entire message by [CLICKING HERE](#).



INSTRUCTIONAL MASSES FOCUS ON CHRIST'S GIFT OF THE EUCHARIST

SECOND IN THE SERIES AT ST. LEO'S SUNDAY AT 4PM

The first Instructional Mass celebrated in this Diocesan Year of the National Eucharistic Revival was held in Wheeling last week. The second in the series will be held at St. Leo in Inwood at 4 pm Sunday, Sept. 25.

Attending an Instructional Mass can give you a fresh set of eyes and a greater sense of purpose and thanksgiving. Sure, the Instructional Mass is perfect for the RCIA class, confirmation candidates, and those married or in a relationship with a Catholic, but they are also intended for each one of us.



Even the Catholics with the best intentions among us can be guilty of taking the Mass for granted. We can lose sight of its soul saving significance; we go out of obligation; or we choose not to go because of a million distractions the devil has us believe are more important.

“The heart of the Mass is the same as it was in the Upper Room at Passover with Christ and His disciples at the Last Supper,” Fr. Jim Gretz, D.Min., said to those in attendance at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling, the first location in what will be a series of Instructional Masses celebrated around the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston this year. “The Mass is a time to enter into that mystery of what God did for you.”

Father Gretz’s love of the liturgy was evident as he walked the faithful through the history, reason, and meaning of our responses and gestures.



“We kneel to show humbleness before the King of Kings. We stand and rise to show honor and great respect. We sit (in the house of God) so we can be attentive to our Lord’s teachings,” he explained and added, “We need to be mindful of the ‘Ars Celebrandi’ -the art of celebration, we enter into the Mass, we don’t just attend or push play.”

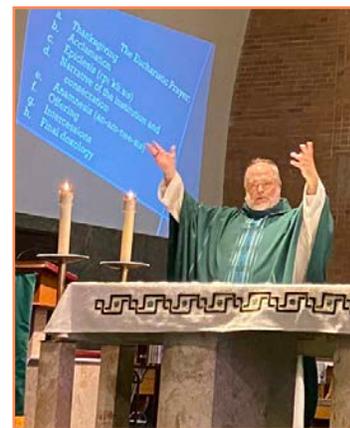
He said some early scholars and theologians looking at the order of the Mass thought that the “Sign of Peace” should come at the beginning of the celebration to emphasize to the

faithful that we come as a loving, forgiving, and peaceful people, and like Christ taught us we need to be “willing to give genuine forgiveness, show compassion, and offer peace to those around us.”

The entire Mass is a reminder of how much God loves you, Fr. Gretz said. The Mass is an affirmation of who we are. The Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ. In the Words of Institution and Consecration spoken by the priest or bishop, Jesus did not say this is a reminder or symbol, but that “It is the Body and Blood” of Christ.

The priest declares the words Jesus Himself said, “This is my Body. This is My Blood.”

When we say the creed together, know we are reciting what our forefathers in the Church professed nearly 1700 years



ago to clarify the teachings of Christ and His Holy Church. When we say the Our Father, we are praying the words Christ gave us on his journey to Jerusalem, according to Luke (Chapter 11); and at the Sermon on the Mount according to Matthew (Chapter 6).

Faithful around the Martinsburg Vicariate this

weekend can make plans to attend the Instructional Mass set for 4pm at St. Leo in Inwood Sunday, Sept. 25th. It fulfills the Sunday obligation.

Director of Worship and Sacraments for the Diocese, Bernadette McMasters Kime, D. Min., is hoping to announce Instructional Masses for the Clarksburg, Parkersburg, Charleston, and Beckley vicariates soon. “It is in the Mass we are given the gift of the Eucharist and then sent out into the world as disciples of Christ,” she said.

The Instructional Mass at St. Leo will be celebrated by Msgr. Rick Hilgartner. He is the former Secretariat for Divine Worship for the USCCB, associate director of the National Liturgy Office, and president of National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM).

The National Eucharistic Revival began on June 19, the Feast of Corpus Christi. This three-year focus begins with a diocesan year, inviting diocesan staff, bishops, and priests to celebrate Jesus’s true presence in the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ with events, celebrations, and enrichment programs.

KEEP OUR SEMINARIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS LET THEM KNOW YOU SUPPORT THEM

Last week the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston released the 2022-2023 seminarians poster. Today, we share this prayer written by St. John Vianney that the faithful can pray for these and other men discerning a call to the priesthood.

God, please give to your Church today
many more priests after your own heart.
May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd.
May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance;
be examples of humility and poverty;
shining models of holiness;
tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God;
zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments.
May their loving devotion to your Son, Jesus in the Eucharist
and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry.
Amen

TAKE A MOMENT TO SEND SOME SNAIL MAIL!

Share a card, prayer, or word of encouragement with our nine seminarians.

Seminarians Joe Derico and Dylan O’Sullivan attend John Paul II College Seminary.

JOHN PAUL II COLLEGE SEMINARY
145 Taylor St NE
Washington, DC 20017

Seminarians John Soplinski, Dominic Re, Bryan Tedeschi, Nathan Schmidt, and Michael Tupta attend Mount St. Mary’s Seminary.

MOUNT ST. MARY’S SEMINARY
16300 Old Emmitsburg Road
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Seminarians Timothy Kawash and Donvito Cortese attend the Pontifical College Josephinum.

THE PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHENUM
7625 N High St
Columbus, OH 43235

Let our praise and support be loud and clear. Call upon St. Michael to intercede and protect them, for as St. Teresa of Avila said, “Behind each priest, there is a demon fighting for his fall. If we have the language to criticize them. We must have twice as much to pray for them.” God bless these men and their families!



John Soplinski



Dominic Re



Bryan Tedeschi



Timothy Kawash



Donvito Cortese



Dylan O’Sullivan



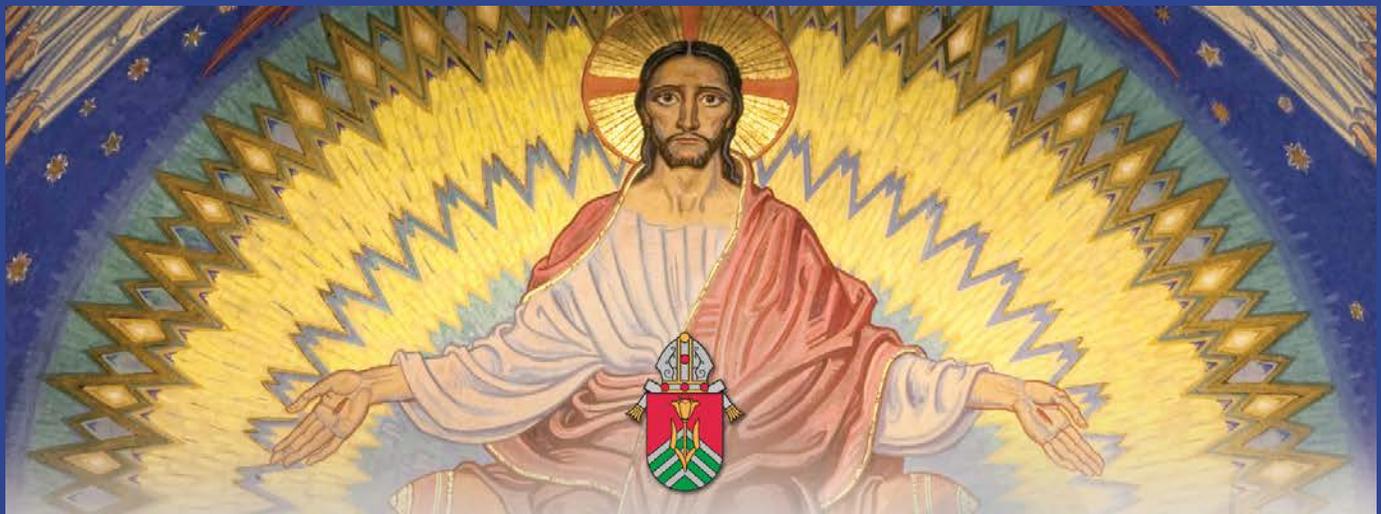
Joseph Derico



Michael J. Tupta



Nathan Schmidt



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON
SEMINARIANS

BISHOP MARK E. BRENNAN

Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

REV. FR. BRIAN J. CRENWELGE

Director of Vocations
 bcrenwelge@dwc.org

MR. ROSS SEMLER

Assistant to the Director of Vocations
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*“To share all suffering,
 to penetrate all secrets,
 to heal all wounds,
 to go from men to God
 and offer Him
 their prayers,
 to return from God
 to men to bring
 pardon and hope...
 My God, what a life...
 and it is yours,
 O priest of
 Jesus Christ!”*

~ Lacordaire

JOHN SOPLINSKI

Third Theology
 Mount Saint Mary's
 Seminary
 Sacred Heart of Mary,
 Weirton

DOMINIC RE

Second Philosophy
 Mount Saint Mary's
 Seminary
 Sts. Peter and Paul,
 Oak Hill

BRYAN TEDESCHI

Second Philosophy
 Mount Saint Mary's
 Seminary
 St. James the Greater,
 Charles Town

TIMOTHY KAWASH

First Philosophy
 Pontifical College
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 Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral,
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NATHAN SCHMIDT

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DYLAN O'SULLIVAN

Second College
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 College Seminary
 St. Patrick,
 Weston

DONVITO CORTESE

First College
 Pontifical College
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WOULD YOU LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE FOR THE SALVATION OF SOULS?

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ROSES EMBODY HER BEAUTIFUL SOUL AND ENDURING LOVE OF GOD

THERESE OF LISIEUX - A SAINT WITH MANY NAMES, BUT ALL IDENTIFY HER DEVOTION

On Oct. 1 we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. You may know her as St. Thérèse the Little Flower, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, or St. Thérèse of the Holy Face. Regardless of what name you are most familiar there is a lot to learn from her 24 years on earth.

Saint Thérèse was declared the youngest Doctor of the Church in 1997 by Pope St. John Paul II. One of the highest honors of the Church, this designation recognizes her profound yet practical writings that illustrate her love of God and compliment lessons of spirituality to be a significant contribution to the faith.



She was born on Jan. 2, 1873, as Marie Françoise Thérèse Martin to Louis and Zélie Guerin Martin, who - it is important to note - were declared saints in 2015 by Pope Francis (the first married couple canonized together). She had eight siblings all older - four (two boys and two girls) died in infancy or early childhood.

The other four - all girls - became nuns. St. Thérèse's mother died of breast cancer at the age of 46, when the young saint was only four years old. The girls became the center of love and life for St. Louis, who was widowed at 54. He was described as a fun-loving father and referred to his girls with affectionate nicknames - Marie, "the diamond"; Pauline, "the fine pearl"; Celine, "the dauntless one"; "good-hearted Léonie"; and Thérèse "the bouquet" and "Little Queen." Her parents were devout Catholics. After the death of his wife, St. Louis continued to emphasize the importance of having a close relationship with God to get you through all of life's joys and sorrows.

Saint Thérèse spoke with the utmost respect and gratitude about her parents in her writings, "The good Lord gave me a father and a mother more worthy of heaven than of earth."

She is referred to as St. Thérèse of Lisieux - simply for the region she was from in northwestern France.

She is called St. Thérèse the Little Flower because she saw herself as a simple wildflower in a vast field growing and blooming to give glory to God.



Many know her as St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face - this is the name she took upon entering religious life to signify her vocation. She was only 15 when she entered the Carmelite convent in Lisieux. She chose Child Jesus, because of her childlike love of God; and the Holy Face, because of her devotion to the suffering Holy Face of Jesus reflected on the veil of Veronica - a sign of

Christ's love for us and for Thérèse the definition of God's work within her in her times of physical, emotional, and mental struggle, agony, and trials.

Artists often include roses in their paintings of the young saint. There are two significant references to roses by St. Thérèse in her life. She mentioned the flower when she recalls Eucharistic Adoration. As a young child she, "loved especially the processions in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. What a joy it was for me to throw flowers beneath the feet of God! Before allowing them to fall to the ground, I threw them as high as I could, and I was never so happy as when I saw my roses touch the sacred monstrance."

It was also recorded that at the end of September outside of her room in the convent where she lay dying from tuberculosis there were rose bushes in full bloom. She said, "After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven doing good upon the earth." After her death people devoted to her intercession reported roses would appear or a breeze with a strong fragrance of a bouquet of roses would fill the air like a heavenly sign from St. Thérèse.

On her feast day heed her advice and be the reason someone smiles today.

"One word or a pleasing smile is often enough to raise up a saddened and wounded soul."



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos criticizes the rich who take and not give.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 146

“Praise the Lord, my soul.”

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

St. Paul tells us in this letter to Timothy that we need to keep God’s commands and hold tight to virtues in order to have eternal life.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Again, in our Gospel from Luke this week, he emphasizes we need to share our gifts with the poor if we hope to enter heaven. Luke shares the story of the rich man who shared not a crumb from his table with Lazarus, a poor man, who lay suffering and died outside his door.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/092522.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/092522.CFM)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church that we serve willingly with a grateful heart, especially to the poor - those suffering spiritually, mentally, physically, and financially, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all leaders of our nation, communities, and parishes, that we are welcoming of immigrants and refugees to the United States - the land where our own ancestors also had to rely on the goodness of others to begin a new life, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For priests serving in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and around the world, that they shine with the wisdom, love, and compassion to bring others closer to you, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For an awakening in the hearts of those not physically with us at Mass, let them no longer be distracted by all the evil spirits that work to keep them away from the Holy Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



Diocesan Rosary Congress

During the week of October 1-8, 2022, parishes will participate in the national program of Diocesan Rosary Congresses. Each parish will host a service of Eucharistic Adoration including the praying of the rosary and concluding with Benediction.

Visit DWC.ORG/DIOCESAN-ROSARY-CONGRESS for dates, times, and locations.

Let us come together in adoration and prayer before our Eucharistic Lord and to seek the protection and intercession of the Blessed Mother.

NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK 2022

BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims and survivors of human trafficking.



Credit: CNS/David Maung

National Migration Week for 2022 takes place September 19 -25, and will conclude with the Vatican's celebration of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which always falls on the last Sunday of September.

The primary theme for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees." Commenting on the place of migrants in God's plan, Pope Francis emphasizes that "the Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants. The inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in

God's Kingdom.

Built on the foundation of welcoming the stranger, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) provides refugee resettlement and immigration services.

"Our Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services program focuses on family-based immigration services to help family members reunite," said Kellie Rogers, CCWVa Director of Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services.

CCWVa works to ensure immigrants and refugees have a network of support and resources in place upon their arrival. Families are resettled in areas where they can thrive and become contributing members of their communities.

"We are especially grateful for our volunteers who welcome immigrants and refugees and help them assimilate into a new culture," said Rogers.

As we celebrate National Migration Week, we reflect on how we can better welcome, protect, and integrate migrants living in West Virginia.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia and how to support your neighbors in need, please 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.

JOIN US FOR MASS AND LEARN WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Sept. 25 • 4pm

St. Leo Parish, Inwood
Msgr. Rick Hilgartner

The Instructional Masses fulfill our Sunday obligation and teach why we do what we do as Catholics, so we can participate with purpose.

An informal reception will follow Mass.

These are the first in a series of Instructional Masses to be held throughout the state honoring the National Eucharistic Revival.

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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.