



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

REALLY! IT IS FATHER'S DAY - PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY!

September 26 is Priesthood Sunday in the US! Like Father's Day, let it be a day to prayerfully remember with gratitude all priests, who guide us on life's challenging path.



Father Joseph Augustine baptizes Ike Walter Thalman at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling.

Pray 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. It is up to us, the faithful, to extend our gratitude, because without them we couldn't celebrate the Mass or receive the Sacraments.

In this year of St. Joseph, let us pray for the priests, seminarians, and those discerning the call to the priesthood in our diocese.



Father Sebastian Devasya talks to children in his First Communion class at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bluefield.

Head of the Holy Family, we call upon you today to bless our priests. Let them learn the love, patience, and understanding needed to be a good father by meditating on your example.

Saint Joseph, teach them to trust and embrace God's plan for their lives, graciously accepting the physical, mental, and emotional demands it takes to be a protector like you of the Church that has always been in peril.

Call upon the Holy Spirit to shine light into their minds and hearts in order to see the good in the flock they shepherd.

Like you the Guardian of the Redeemer, let them continue to embrace humility and selflessness in order to foster the faithful. Let them stand confident like you - in front of them to lead the way, beside them to give comfort and encouragement, and behind them to not only to witness their joy, but also to be at the ready to protect them and pick up lost souls with the unconditional love you have for Jesus, Mary, and the Church.

Saint Joseph, Light of all Patriarchs, obtain for our priests and those discerning the call to the priesthood grace, courage, zeal, and compassion. Protect them from every evil.

Amen.



Father Patrick McDonough with his "little saints" at St. Francis of Assisi School.



Father Brian Crenwelge and Fr. Phillip Szabo meet with WVU students at a back-to-school event at St. John University Parish in Morgantown.

MARY, UNDOER OF KNOTS

FEAST DAY SEPT. 28

When we become overwhelmed with anxiety and grief, or when we feel completely tied down not knowing how to break free, we need to focus on our faith and call to our Mother Mary to help us untie the knots in our lives.

September 28th is the Feast Day of Mary, Undoer of Knots. It is a beautiful Marian devotion.

The first reference to Mary as an untier of knots dates back to a second century bishop, St. Irenaeus, who described how Eve's sins were knots of disobedience and they were untied by the Virgin Mary through her faith and devotion to God. Centuries later, St. Irenaeus' teachings and devotions to Mary strongly influenced German priest Fr. Jakob Rem in times of his own trouble and times he counseled others. In 1615, he was meeting with Wolfgang Langenmantel, a German nobleman, because his wife, Sophia Imoff, wanted a divorce. The priest and Wolfgang prayed to the Blessed Mother to intercede. The two continued to meet and pray over the course of a month. At their fourth meeting, Wolfgang brought the Jesuit priest the couple's wedding ribbon. It was a significant German custom in which the maid of honor tied a ribbon around the hands and arms of the couple during the sacrament of marriage as a sign of their unending union and commitment. The priest took the ribbon, raised it up before an image of Mary, as he untied the knots that once bound the couple at their wedding. When Fr. Rem finished untying the last knot in the ribbon, it turned pure white. They believed this to be affirmation that Mary heard their prayers. The couple remained happily married.

Around 1700, the couple's grandson, a priest, Fr. Heironymus Ambrosius Langenmantel, dedicated an altar in honor of the family at St. Peter am



Perlach in Augsburg, Germany.

The altar featured a painting he commissioned of Mary untying knots as she did for his family. The painting by Johann Georg Melchior Schmidtner was originally called "Our Lady of Good Counsel." Through the centuries the image has been renamed "Mary, Undoer of Knots."

When Pope Francis was a newly ordained Jesuit priest in the 1980's, he was sent to

Germany to study and obtain a doctorate degree in theology. It was then he discovered St. Peter am Perlach Church and the altar dedicated to Our Lady. He was so impressed with the history and story behind the painting, and its simple yet profound meaning, he had copies of it placed in chapels and churches where he served in Argentina and South America. When he was a Cardinal, he had the image of Mary, Undoer of Knots placed on a chalice he had made for Pope Benedict XVI. A replica of the painting has also been placed inside the Vatican. Last Spring, Pope Francis had the image carried outside to the Vatican Gardens for an evening Marian prayer service, which finished a monthlong rosary commitment to pray for the end of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Like Pope Francis, we need to turn to Mary, Undoer of Knots. Look to her when the knots in our lives seem impossible to untie alone - marriage troubles, money problems, unemployment, illness, loneliness, loss, depression, and self-pity. Take your devotion prayer to another level and call upon Mary, Undoer of Knots to help turn around our doubts - the can nots, will nots, and am nots. So, we are no longer tied to negativity and have the confidence with Mary as our intercessor to keep moving forward and placing all of our trust in Jesus.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY, UNDOER OF KNOTS



Holy Mary, full of God's presence during the day of your life, you accepted with full humility the Father's will, and the devil was never capable of tying you up with his confusion.

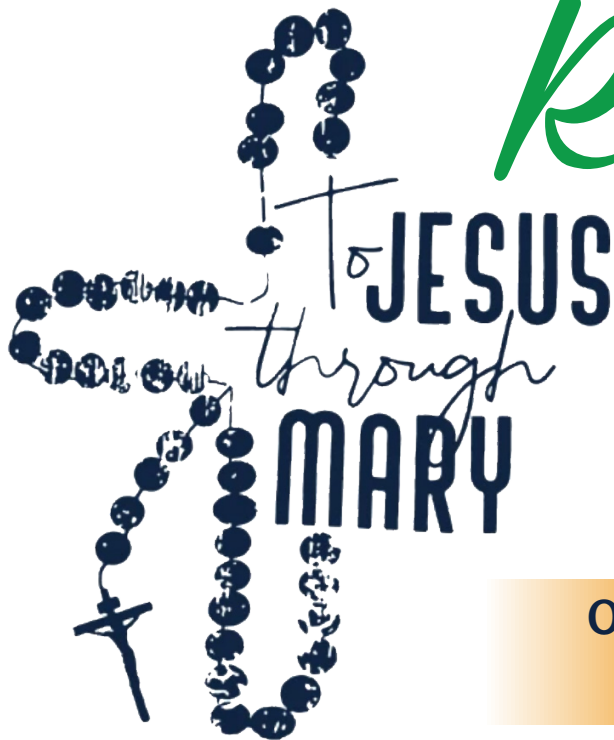
Once with your Son you interceded for our difficulties, and full of kindness and patience, you gave us example of how to untie the knots in our life. By remaining forever Our Mother, you put in order and make more clear the ties that link us to the Lord.

Holy Mother, Mother of God and our Mother, to you who untie with a motherly heart the knots of our life, we pray to you to receive in your hands (the name of the person), and to free him/her of the knots and confusion with which our enemy attacks.

Through your grace, your intercession and your example deliver us from all evil, Our Lady, and untie the knots that prevent us from being united with God, so that we, free from sin and error, may find Him in all things, may have our hearts placed in Him, and may serve Him always in our brothers and sisters.

Amen.

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Rosary Rally for Life!

October is the month of the Holy Rosary.
It is also Respect Life Month.

Use the QR code below to
PLEDGE YOUR COMMITMENT
to say the USCCB's Pro-Life Rosary
every day in October!



"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." – Jeremiah 1:5

“MATTHEW 25 BAGS” CREATED TO SERVE OTHERS



By Bill Hagy, CCWVa Western Regional Director

To better demonstrate care and concern for the many individuals experiencing homelessness, the Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Western Region has begun filling tote bags with personal care items and distributing the bags in Charleston, Huntington, and Parkersburg.

“What so ever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me.” – Matthew 25

The tote bags, known as “Matthew 25 Bags,” are filled with food, bottled water, personal hygiene items, socks, a blanket, and other assorted items vital for someone without a home. The CCWVa team plans to continue connecting with parishes and others sites throughout the area to continue distributing the supplies.

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.

Special Collection

October 2-3 for Hurricane Ida Recovery



Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan joins Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and bishops across the country asking the faithful to support a special collection to help with the recovery of Hurricane Ida. The collection in parishes and missions in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will be held at Masses the weekend of October 2-3.

Donations will go to the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund to assist with the humanitarian, long-term recovery, and significant needs stemming from Hurricane Ida which devastated several states, specifically the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church, as well as the efforts of Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services.

Checks are to be made payable to your respective parish/mission and on the memo line indicate Hurricane Ida Relief. The parish/mission will then send one check for all contributions for this collection to the DWC Finance Department.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading NUMBERS 11:25-29

The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the LORD bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied. Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp," Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, "Moses, my lord, stop them." But Moses answered him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!"

Responsorial PSALMS 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14

R. (9a) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Though your servant is careful of them, very diligent in keeping them, Yet who can detect failings? Cleanse me from my unknown faults!

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

From wanton sin especially, restrain your servant; let it not rule over me. Then shall I be blameless and innocent of serious sin.

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Second Reading JAMES 5:1-6

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance.

Alleluia Cf. Jn 17:17b, 17a

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your word, O Lord, is truth; consecrate us in the truth.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MARK 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

At that time, John said to Jesus,

"Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'"

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, our diocese, and our parish, that we may have the courage to shine a light on our own faults and failings, while committing to being positive reflection of Christ's love moving forward, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our nation, that we may always strive to live up to Catholic Social Teaching, taking special care to not let our hearts harden to Christ's teachings, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For an increase of the blessings of humility and self-sacrifice among all people, so that we may be increasingly willing to assist those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all the priests and those who are being called to the priesthood, may the Holy Spirit continue to keep their hearts ready to selflessly serve lovingly, faithfully, and honorably; and that may know our appreciation on this Priesthood Sunday, 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



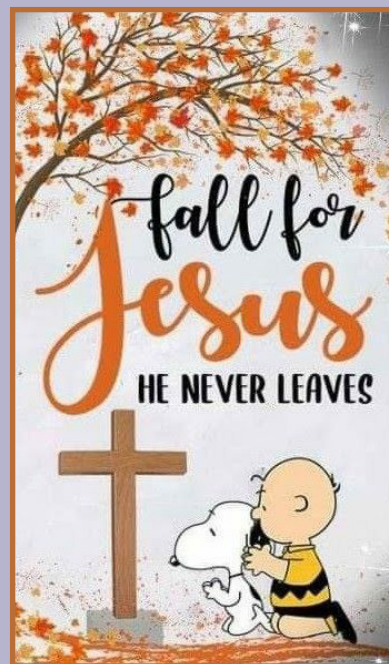
WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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~

WV Catholic Radio www.WVCatholicRadio.org

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

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by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.



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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/)