



★ ★ HAPPY ★ ★  
LABOR DAY  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH FOR WORKERS

BY BRIAN MOORE, S.J.

Joseph, by the work of your hands  
and the sweat of your brow,  
you supported Jesus and Mary,  
and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.

Teach me to work as you did,  
with patience and perseverance, for God and  
for those whom God has given me to support.  
Teach me to see in my fellow workers  
the Christ who desires to be in them,  
that I may always be charitable and forbearing  
towards all.

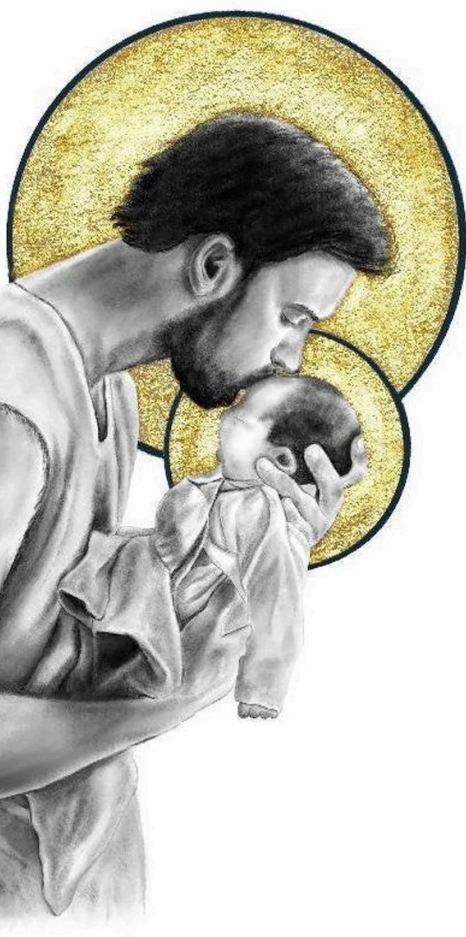
Grant me to look upon work  
with the eyes of faith,  
so that I shall recognize in it  
my share in God's own creative activity  
and in Christ's work of our redemption,  
and so take pride in it.

When it is pleasant and productive,  
remind me to give thanks to God for it.

And when it is burdensome,  
teach me to offer it to God,  
in reparation for my sins  
and the sins of the world.

Amen!

Art by Nichole Lanthier ([www.etsy.com/shop/nicholelanthier](http://www.etsy.com/shop/nicholelanthier))



# NATIVITY OF MARY

Celebrate our Blessed Mother Mary's birthday on Sept. 8th the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin.

We learn three great lessons from Mary the Mother of God on how to live life, Pope Francis said on this feast day in 2014. The first is to share the joy of Christ with others. Secondly, do not let adversity give you the excuse to give up. Finally, step up and help those in need with the compassion of a gentle mother.

When we lack courage to do what is right, or when we are struggling with decisions, trust in the Lord like Mary, Pope Francis said.

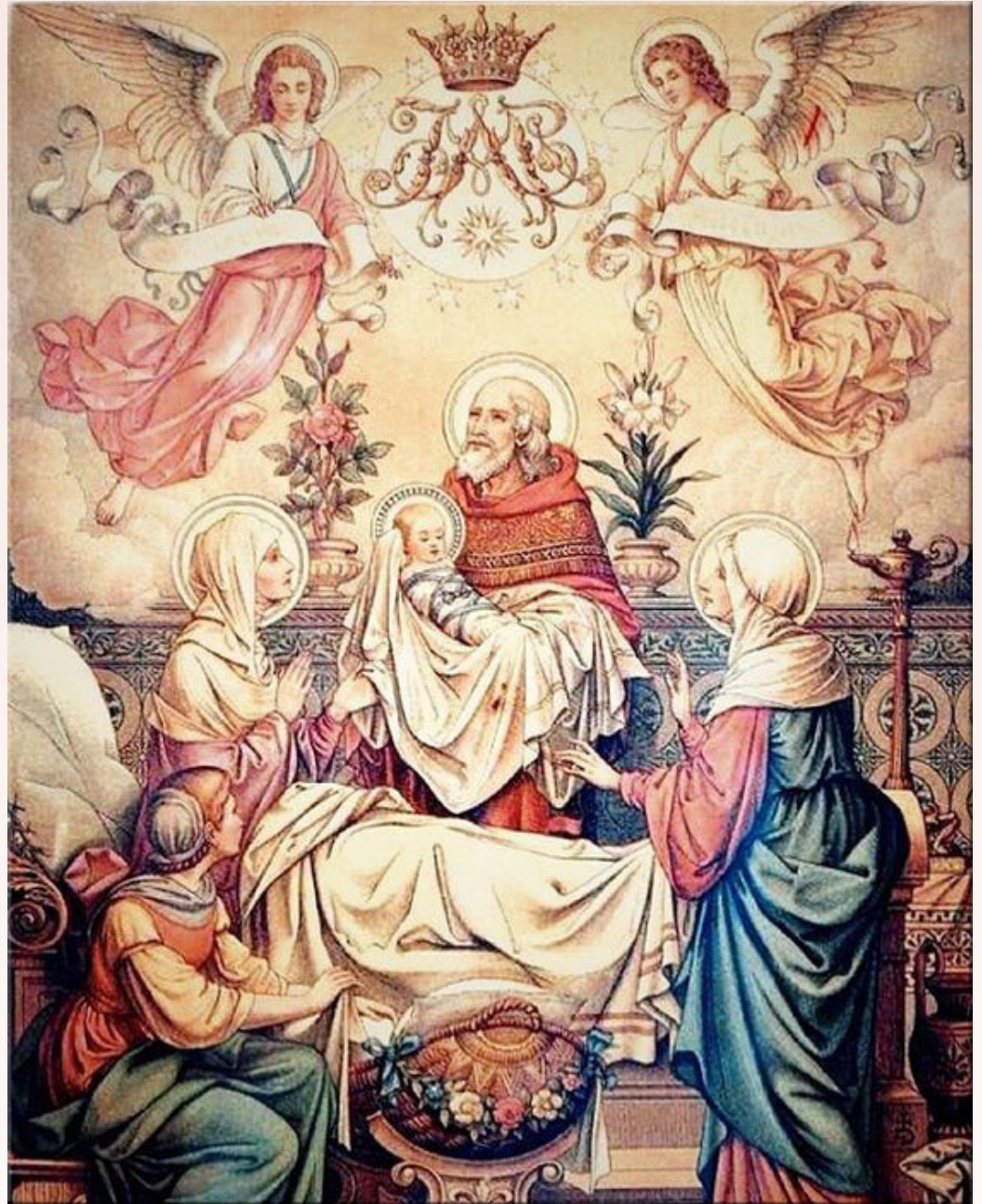
St. Alphonsus Liguori's said Mary's love of God and compassion for all is immeasurable. "As soon as (Mary) had the use of reason, that is, from the first moment of her immaculate conception in the womb of St. Ann, from that time she began with all her powers to love her God; and thus, she continued to do, ever-

advancing more in perfection and love through her whole life. All her thoughts, her desires, her affections, were wholly given to God; not a word, not a motion, not a glance of the eye, not a breath of hers that was not for God and for his glory, never departing one step, nor separating herself for one moment from the divine love."

He said we need to look at her as the ultimate example of how to love. "Think of what the Saints have done for their neighbor because they loved God. But what Saint's love for God can match Mary's? She loved Him more in the first moment of her existence than all the Saints and angels ever loved Him or will love Him.

"Just as there is not one among all the Blessed who loves God as Mary does, so there is no one, after God, who loves us as much as this most loving Mother does. Furthermore, if we heaped together all the love that mothers have for their children, all the love of husbands and wives, all the love of all the angels and Saints for their clients, it could never equal Mary's love for even a single soul."

Hail Mary, Mother of God, conceived without sin, pray for us and with us. Amen.



## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18b

On earth we need to seek the gift of wisdom from the Holy Spirit, and even then we cannot completely imagine the glorious plan God has for us in heaven.

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### Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 90

“In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.”

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### Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

St. Paul's letter to Philemon was written when he was imprisoned. After baptizing a fellow prisoner who was a slave, St. Paul urges the slave's owner to accept the man as a brother in Christ no longer a possession.

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### Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

On a walk to Jerusalem Jesus teaches the crowd following Him that they must be ready to carry their own crosses in life and follow Him without reservation.

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[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT  
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/090422.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/090422.CFM)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we accept our struggles as crosses we carry with confidence knowing our faithfulness to God will lead us to eternal happiness free from all burdens, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the unemployed and underemployed, may their hearts and spirits be lifted by Christ's love through our support and prayer, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our priests and parishes, may we work together as we plan and participate in the three-year Eucharistic Revival in order to refresh our hearts to an active faith, knowing we are in Jesus' true and loving presence in the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord. . .

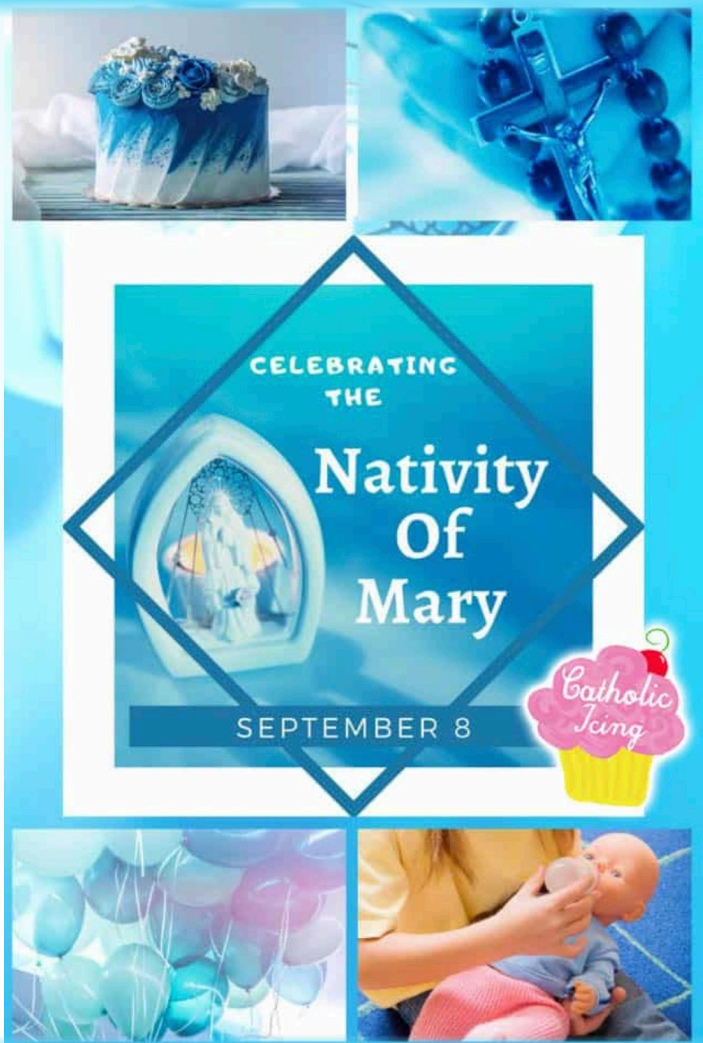
For our personal intentions that we hold close to our heart and share only to you, our loving Father, let us pray to the Lord. . .

*Lord hear our prayer*

## CELEBRATING MARY'S BIRTHDAY WITH YOUR FAMILY

What's a birthday without cake? The feast of the Nativity of Mary is a great excuse to enjoy cake while celebrating with Jesus the birthday of His mother - our Blessed Mother!

There are so many ways to make September 8th special for your family. One of our favorite Catholic mom websites - CatholicIcing.com - presents loads of fun with crafts, printables, edible rosaries, and treat ideas. Maybe add some fresh cut flowers to the table in her honor. In many Marian apparitions, Mary appears with roses. For these and more information go to: [WWW.CATHOLICICING.COM/NATIVITY-OF-MARY/](http://WWW.CATHOLICICING.COM/NATIVITY-OF-MARY/)





## NEWS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA

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### PACKING A SCHOOL BAG WITH COPING SKILLS

At Catholic Charities West Virginia, we have a number of childhood development experts on staff through our Child Care Resource Center and Birth to Three programs.

Our Child Care Resource Center provides families with resources on selecting the best quality child care, offers training to child care providers, and administers the state's child care subsidy. Our Birth to Three program provides supports and services for families of children ages birth to three who have or may be at risk for a delay.

Wendy Miller, the director of our West Virginia Birth to Three RAU-1 program, shares the following reflection as we enter a new school year:

*I planned my very first camping trip this year. Wild horses and an island three states away were involved. I was nervous. Quite a few questions and worst-case scenarios ran through my head. How do I get there? How do I put up a tent? What if it rains? How do I make my morning coffee? Do wild horses attack people? Since I had no past experience from which to draw, I researched what to eat, how to avoid attack by wild horses and bugs, and how to survive a storm in a tent. I practiced setting the tent up in the living room, which was much too small for the mansion I purchased, so I set it up in the back yard. I gave myself pep talks, saying "If Girl Scouts can do it, so can I" and "I bought a standard transmission car not knowing how to drive it and did just fine." I was ready.*

*My maiden camping experience is much like a situation many children will soon face: the first day of school. For some, this may be going to school for the first time ever, and for others it may be a new school or a new classroom. This journey is not a vacation to a warm, sandy island with beautiful creatures, and it is probably not his or her choice to go, yet they will find themselves with a new experience and unfamiliarity to face. If I felt so much trepidation with something as unimposing as a camping trip, consider how a young child might feel with something as grandiose as school. Surely they will have concerns: Will I have friends? What are the rules? Will there be toys I like? What will happen if I get sick? While I drew from my long history of coping mechanisms to prepare and calm myself, young children's bags are not yet packed with a rich repertoire of self-calming techniques. How, then, will they sort through a sticky web of feelings to lessen their fears and build excitement?*

*Since young children don't have many memories to lean on or a pocketful of coping skills, let them lean on us. This is a rich opportunity to share coping skills that will last a lifetime. We can anticipate their questions and explore solutions together. We can talk about what to expect and how he feels - his hopes, dreams, and concerns. We may reminisce about a positive change - how she felt beforehand, her concerns, and how things turned out great. Maybe we can visit the classroom in advance to meet the teacher. And when the day comes, perhaps we can hint at the hope of a fun task or something to look forward to such as, "try to find a friend who owns a bunny" or "see if there is a book in the reading area that you have at home." Let her know that she is not alone in this new adventure and her friends are most likely feeling the same way. Remind him that when he gets home, you will be available to talk about all the fun things he learned as well as the worries he has. A little supportive investment now will go a long way.*

*My investment in preparations paid off. I wasn't eaten by a horse, I learned that cold brew coffee from a can is almost as satisfying as it is fresh and hot, and mosquitos laugh at dryer sheets. Next year I will be a little more prepared with a deluxe air mattress and extra batteries, because now I do know what to expect.*

May God bless all of our children, educators and staff this school year!

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia and how to support your neighbors in need, please visit [WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG](http://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. 18 • 4pm

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Wheeling  
Father Jim Gretz

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.*

## 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
Eastern Panhandle	AM	740
Eastern Panhandle	FM	106.5
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)~

## ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

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by knowledge.  
Transformed  
by faith.



Register today

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## *Liturgy of the Hours* LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

[EBREVIARY.COM](http://EBREVIARY.COM) LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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](http://DWC.ORG).