

Happy Feast of the Grandparents

July 26 is the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne

On July 26, we celebrate the feast day of Saints Joachim and Anne. Because they are the parents of Mary, this day is also lovingly called the "Feast of the Grandparents."

The New Testament could serve as the supreme brag book about their beloved grandson, our Lord and Savior! Unfortunately for us, we don't have a wealth of facts on Jesus' maternal grandparents. It is safe to say their love and trust in God must have been wonderfully strong and pure.

Saints Joachim and Anne are mentioned in additional writings that complement the bible - the Proto-Evangelium of James the Less. It includes the account of the life of Mary, beginning with Joachim and Anne longing for a child. Joachim went into the desert or wilderness to fast and pray for forty days and forty nights. Anne relentlessly prayed. One day when she was weeping, an angel appeared to her promising she would conceive. Joachim and Anne did not doubt God, and they vowed to consecrate their child to the Lord. When Mary was three the holy



couple presented her to the priests at the temple. The priest at her reception said, "The Lord God has magnified your name for all generations; through you the Lord will reveal deliverance to the children of Israel in the last days."

Researching the Hebrew meaning of the name Joachim you will discover it means God prepares, raised by Yahweh, and God has granted a son. In Hebrew, Anne means God has given grace.

We should have no doubt Joachim and Anne were overjoyed being the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We can only imagine the conversations and traditions Saint Anne and Joachim shared with her to make sweet Mary's heart so blessed, ultimately being chosen to be the Mother of the Christ child.

As grandparents they surely enjoyed passing down their steadfast faith, stories, songs, and religious customs to young Jesus.

Today we can and should be doing the same for our children and grandchildren. The pandemic emphasized the importance of the domestic church. Pope Francis, Bishop Mark Brennan, our parish priests, and religious have emphasized the significance of evangelizing and our responsibility to nurture the love of the Holy Family, Trinity, biblical teachings, and the Eucharist. It is a remarkable opportunity, which can be made easier with countless resources available online to enhance our faith life and help us evangelize all ages. The FaithInWV e-bulletin, our diocesan social media, and the FaithInWV website (FAITHINWV.ORG) are resources to inspire and refresh your relationship with God.

We can also ask our pastors, parish schools religious education coordinator, or the parish DRE (Director of Religious Education) to share their favorite websites, videos, and books.

Saints Joachim and Mary, pray for us.

Editor's note: the art of Ss Joachim and Anne with Mary in this article is by Tracy Christianson of www.portraitsofsaints.com.

Margie's Mission



Margie McLaughlin's granddaughter, Maggie, displays the goodie bags her family put together at CCWVa Loaves and Fishes Outreach Center.

Margie McLaughlin was dedicated to reaching out to her community. She often showed her compassion by filling and delivering "goodie bags" to people in need.

"She personally strived to provide services that allowed her community to live a happy, healthy, and spiritual life," said Tammy, Margie's daughter. "Compassion was her motivation and the knowledge of helping another individual was her only desired payment."

After Margie passed away last year, the McLaughlin family chose to use their grief for good by honoring Margie's memory with Margie's Mission. Margie's children and grandchildren have committed to making regular donations of hygiene products, laundry supplies, and pet food to clients at Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes Outreach Center.

Our clients and staff are grateful for the McLaughlin family, and for Margie's legacy of love.

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.

Celebrate the Feast of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus



Feast of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus is celebrated July 29. This is only the second year the Church has honored the memorial on the Church's liturgical calendar. The three were siblings and friends of Jesus. In his decree of the memorial, Pope Francis said, "Martha generously offered him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to his words and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the One who humiliated death."

The memorial of St. Martha was already included on in the General Roman Calendar, but St. Lazarus and St. Mary had been left out because the identity of Martha's sister Mary. The decree explained that these uncertainties "have been resolved in recent studies and times," and Martha's sister should be distinguished as Mary of Bethany.

Together they are the patron saints of siblings.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham prays and pleads to God, questioning His mercy. God stands before Abraham, he does not leave him, he does not deny his mercy.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 138

"Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me."

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

The power in Christ and the victory of the cross has buried the sins and offenses for those who love Him.

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches His disciples how to pray. He teaches the Lord's Prayer, and that whose who hold God in infinite honor will receive infinite mercy.

CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/072422.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we lead and act with the same love and mercy Jesus showed us, when he willingly suffered and died for us, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the faithful that we let go of our worries and struggles with confidence, saying "Jesus I trust in you," let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all Christians, as we pray for God's mercy in our lives, let us be generous with our forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord...

For grandparents and elders among us, bless them for all the times they joyfully teach our faith and traditions, and may they continue to be a shining example of your love and mercy; and bless their children and grandchildren, that we show our respect and gratitude for them by the way we pray and remain faithful to God and Your Church they lovingly brought us into, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?'

My answer is prayer.

What we need is for **every** parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer.

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Our world is hurting, and America is no exception. Please join us in prayer for the renewal and healing of the United States as we answer this historic call to revival!

Follow the National Eucharistic Revival on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/eucharisticrevival

#eucharisticrevival

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR





Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour! <u>EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS</u>

Scan the OR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



WV CATHOLIC RADIO

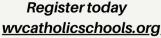
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ENROLL TODAY

Empowered by knowledge. Transformed by faith.







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
- St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York has daily Mass live streamed at 7am: HTTPS://SAINTPATRICKSCATHEDRAL.ORG/LIVE
- Catholic TV also streams its daily Mass: http://catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
- Daily Mass Online at Notre Dame' Basillica 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-MASSES/