



Hosanna!

FOLLOWER OF CHRIST OR JUST A FAN?

On Palm Sunday, resolve to not only reflect on Christ's love for us, but also commit to being a strong follower of Christ not just a fan.

Palm Sunday reminds us of our duty as Christians. "As we carry palm branches in procession, may we also carry the message of Christ's love and redemption to all those we encounter," said St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Pope Francis reflected on Christ's triumphal entry in Jerusalem with a fatherly redirection on the realities of what was transpiring.

"His people give him a solemn welcome, yet he enters Jerusalem on a lowly colt," he said in his homily on Palm Sunday 2021. "His people expect a powerful liberator at Passover, yet he comes to bring the Passover to fulfillment by sacrificing himself. His people are hoping to triumph over the Romans by the sword, but Jesus comes to celebrate God's triumph through the cross," he said.

"What happened to those people who in a few days' time went from shouting 'Hosanna' to crying out 'Crucify him'? What happened? They were following an idea of the Messiah rather than the Messiah. They admired Jesus, but they did not let themselves be amazed by him."

He cautions don't just be a fan of Christ. Be a follower! He said people also admire Jesus for his life and teaching, but "to admire Jesus is not enough."

"What is most amazing about the Lord and his Passover?" he asked. "It is the fact that he achieves glory through humiliation. He triumphs by accepting suffering and death, things that we, in our quest for admiration and success, would rather avoid. Jesus -- as St. Paul tells us -- 'emptied himself... he humbled himself' (Philippians 2:7-8)."

Editor's note: The art accompanying this article is by Devi Tiffany of Printable The Truth.





Show up for Jesus!

National Eucharistic Congress

July 17-21, 2024

Register now for the last spots available!

dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist



FILL OUR LAST SPOTS FOR OUR NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS TRIP

We got a four-week extension which means it's not too late to join fellow Catholics from across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston at the National Eucharistic Congress (NEC), July 17 - July 21, 2024, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

We are able to accommodate an additional 25 spots. So, make sure someone from your parish will show up for Jesus for the NEC in Indy!

Bishop Mark Brennan wants a large delegation there with him from the diocese. Sending a member(s) from your parish/mission is an investment for the. Each person sent to the national congress will return to with revival energy, items to display and share, and ideas for all the faithful to grow in the local church.

We had a deadline of March 15 to get our last spots for our travel package filled, but were able to extend that to April 17 (paid in full date).

Space is limited! We can accommodate an additional 25 seats/rooms for our WV delegation.

Our travel package includes motorcoaches from regional points in WV, priority hotel, shuttles to and from the events, special diocese event(s) in Indy, and more.

Advantages to consider that you may not think about:

- The NEC isn't the only event going on in Indy that week.
- Hotels are being booked an hour out.
- The USCCB/NEC are not coordinating any shuttle service.
- Parking in the city will average \$25 a day or more.
- Parking lots considered close are as far as six city blocks away.

NOTE: These details have been shared as alerts with the bishops around the country by national congress organizers.

The diocesan NEC team emphasizes that our travel package through the Corporate Travel not only eliminates

the burden of having to juggle all the logistics of planning the trip and details once in the city, but also lets our faithful enjoy fellowship with WV Catholics during this significant moment in the Church. Additionally, each person in our travel group will receive swag specially packaged for them, including items that can be shared with their local church.

Dollars & Sense!

The package price may seem pricy, but break the cost down for transportation, hotel, hotel fees, hotel taxes, daily shuttle costs, driver gratuity, daily/weekly parking (lots as far as six blocks away), etc.

Want examples of packages for pilgrims from other dioceses? *Comparison price per person based on double room occupancy - ours is \$1,119:* Archdiocese of Milwaukee double occupancy costs \$1,150, Diocese of Grand Rapids Michigan \$1,299; and Diocese of Saginaw \$1,299.

Note: all three of these examples are not even traveling as far as our diocese!

Your diocesan team vetted the best package on your behalf.

To echo the importance for the faithful of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to attend and support those in your parish/mission attending, Bishop Mark Brennan said, "Your support makes a difference. Your parish could help (with package cost) by holding fundraisers, such as spaghetti dinners or fish fries, a special collection or seeking private donors. A parishioner attending the Congress is your parish's representative. I ask you to take this matter seriously. **I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A STRONG CONTINGENT OF WEST VIRGINIA CATHOLICS WITH ME IN INDIANAPOLIS.** May our love for the Lord in the Eucharist grow more fervent and may this year's National Eucharistic Congress stimulate that love."

Register now at: DWC.ORG/YEAR-OF-THE-EUCHARIST/

St. Joseph,
May your
example
inspire us
to welcome,
cherish, and
safeguard
God's most
precious gift
of life.

NATIONWIDE INVITATION TO PRAYER

On Tuesday, March 26, the day the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in a case that could impact the widespread accessibility of chemical abortion (abortion pills). Chemical abortions are now the most common form of abortion

Beginning Monday, March 25 through June, when a decision is expected pray daily, turn to Christ through St. Joseph, and prioritize humble selfless prayer for the dignity of human life, your family, and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

TAKE SERIOUSLY POPE FRANCIS' CALL TO PRAYER

Pope Francis has designated 2024 the Year of Prayer. In our world today we can get caught up in the busy - we are so busy in fact that we rarely take time to stop - sit in silence, adoration, and prayer.

The Holy Father wrote, "Prayer is the breath of faith; it is its most proper expression. Like a cry that issues from the heart of those who believe and entrust themselves to God."

PRAYER FOR ST. JOSEPH TO INTERCEDE

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, offer Catholics and non-Catholics a daily prayer for the end of abortion and for the protection of women and pre-born children.

**Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel,
you lovingly took Mary into your home.**

**As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family
on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son
in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland
for the safety of both Mother and Child.**

**We praise God that as their faithful protector,
you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you.**

**May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish,
and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.**

**Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense
of human life especially where it is vulnerable or threatened.**

Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.

AMEN.



SHE WAS CALLED “LITTLE ROSE” AND WORE A CROWN

This is the amazing story of Marie Rose Alma Ferron born in Canada and raised in New England. Before she could speak, she showed great love and devotion to her Catholic faith. Although she would struggle greatly in her life, that steadfast love and adoration never faltered.



As a toddler she learned the short prayer to St. Anthony and said it with complete trust and confidence anytime an object was lost. Her nine siblings would hide things, pretend they lost it, and ask Little Rose to help find it. She would reverently pray, and then locate the object, happily returning it to her sibling. Of course, after their mother found out about the “game” she put a stop to their shenanigans. Rose was devoted to the Christ Child, praying to saints (Gemma, Therese of Lisieux, Joan of Arc, etc.), and the Passion of Christ.

From the age of three she began having mystic visions, she would describe as dreams. However, there were witnesses to these moments and often she would be seen smiling with eyes wide open, blinking, and aware of a peaceful presence.

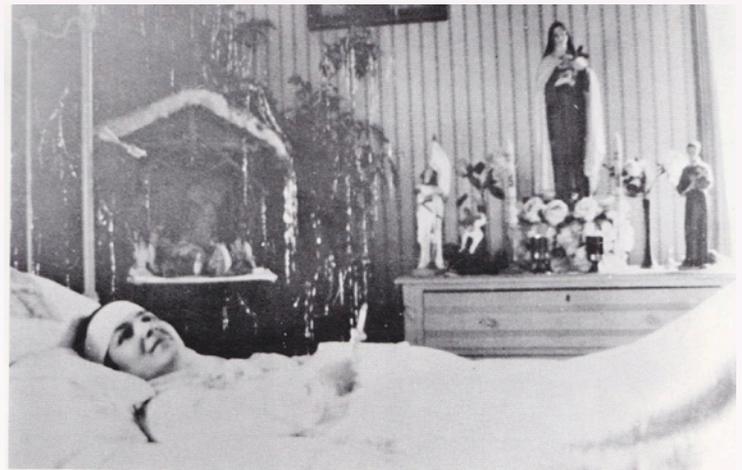
In her teens she became very ill and developed paralysis in all of her limbs, stomach ailments and jaw issues – all leaving her bedridden by her 20s. Many religious and faithful came to visit her and pray with her. The bishop of her region even asked her to offer her suffering to stop the divisiveness in the diocese and the hypocrisies and schisms of its clergy and members. She took the request seriously and nearly 60 schismatics returned to the Church.

Her ecstasies continued and were witnessed by not only her parents, but also her visitors (doctors, friends, priests, etc.). It was obvious she was seeing Jesus, when she would talk to him, expressing her love for God and would sing to Him.

By the age of 24, Rose’s sufferings uniting her with Christ’s Passion became visible to those around her. By

the end of 1926, at the age of 24 the stigmata of the flagellation appeared on Rose. Lent 1927, the stigmata of the hands and feet developed; in January 1928, the stigmata of the Crown of Thorns was visible; in August 1929, her eyes shed tears of blood. On every Friday her face would appear devastated like the suffering Christ (a year later this was an everyday phenomenon). By the end of 1929 the stigmata of the Crown of Thorns was fully developed.

It was recorded that on August 1, 1930, the stigmata began to fade from Rose, but the pains were felt with more intensity; and former stigmata became purple and oozed.



Little Rose in ecstasy at Christmas time. In the background is her first manger. On her dresser are statues of St. Joan of Arc, Jesus carrying the Cross, St. Therese and St. Gemma Galgani. She is 23.

She suffered six more years, and at the age of 33 – the same age as Christ at his Passion – she died.

Ferron joins many holy souls who also had stigmata, mystical visions, and the Crown of Thorns, including St. Julian of Norwich, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Rita of Cascia, Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich, St. Gemma Galgani, and Maria Domenica Lazzeri (the latter we will feature next week in honor of her April 4th the anniversary of her death).

Marie Rose Ferron’s confessor and spiritual director, Father Onesime A. Boyer, S.T.L. wrote a book a biography about her, *She Wears a Crown of Thorns*.

For more about Ferron go to: WWW.LITTLEROSEFERRON.ORG and ROSEFERRONFRI.ORG

ATTENTION PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, GOD PARENTS,
TEACHERS, AND BABYSITTERS:

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITY PAGES FOR KIDS

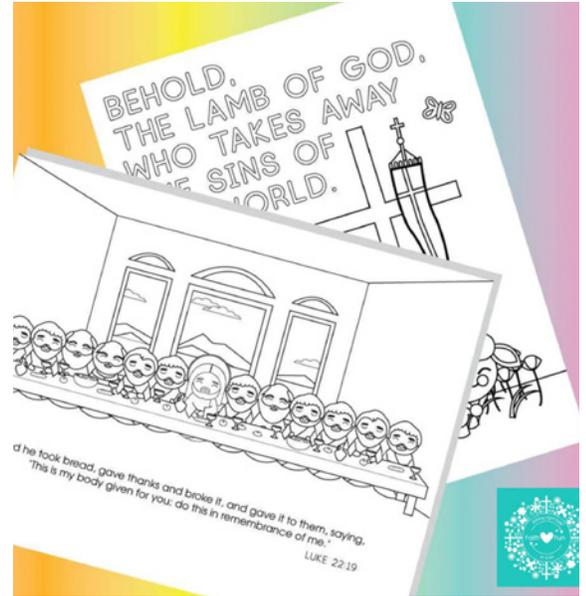
Shining Light Dolls Has Holy Week activity sheets that you can download free.

The coloring and activity sheets include Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Pascal Lab, Easter Morning, a maze, word search, crossword puzzle, and a palm leaf to cut out and wave for Palm Sunday.

Shining Light Dolls is a Catholic gift company specializing in toys and activities for children and a Catholic family/kids podcast "Saint Stories for Kids". Owner Chantal Baros defines the purpose for the company as "passing on the faith through play-based learning." The company is based in Illinois.

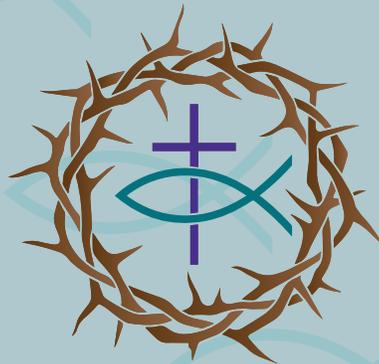
Get the Holy Week activity pages here:

SHININGLIGHTDOLLS.COM/COLLECTIONS/FREE-DIGITAL-DOWNLOADS/PRODUCTS/HOLY-WEEK-ACTIVITY-SHEETS-DIGITAL-DOWNLOAD



THANK YOU

for supporting Fish Fry Fridays and for
letting us serve you, the community.



Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston • www.dwc.org/fish-fries



Wheeling Area

HOLY THURSDAY PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 28, 2024

Transportation departing from the Cathedral:

Bus 1: 8:00 pm - Midnight

Bus 2: 9:00 pm - Midnight

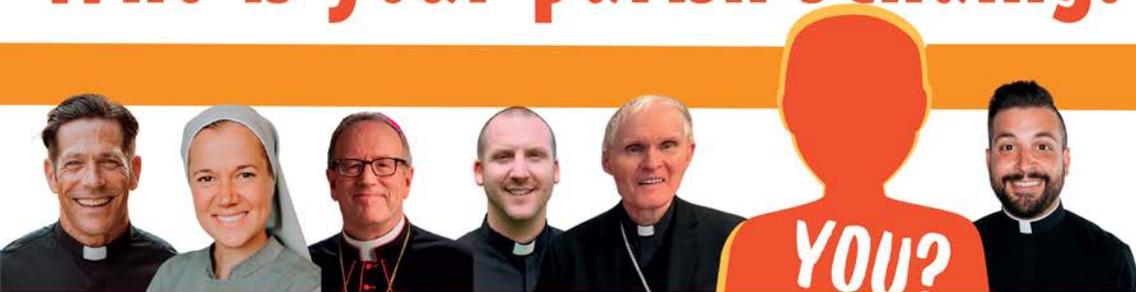
Please register by March 25 by e-mailing kstillion@dwc.org or by calling 304-233-0880, ext. 261



Who is your parish sending?



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

www.dwc.org



National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21 in Indianapolis.

Travel with the WV delegation.

Bus, hotel, shuttle to the venues, and special delegation events included in the package. ACT NOW!



dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/

PRAY FOR UNITY IN THE CHURCH AND WORLD ON HOLY SATURDAY

~THE DAY THE CHURCH RECALLS
THE LIFE OF SERVANT OF GOD THEA BOWMAN

On Holy Saturday, call upon Servant of God Sr. Thea to intercede for you, especially in prayers for unity in our Church and world.

March 30th is the anniversary of her death.

Take 7 minutes today to listen to her presentation at the 1989 US Conference of Catholic Bishops conference: [FB.WATCH/1J5EsYTLH/](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1J5EsYTLH/)

In her words, as Catholics let us walk together, not be divided. We shall overcome – the poverty, the loneliness, the alienation, and build together a city, a new Jerusalem together not apart. Celebrate who we are and whose we are! All we got to do to love the Lord is love our neighbor!

Sr. Thea Bowman (1937-1990) –was the daughter of a Mississippi doctor and a teacher, a granddaughter of slaves. This dynamic lady was proclaimed a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.



She was eager to learn from other cultures, but also wanted to share the abundance of her African American culture and spirituality. She was the first non-white member of her congregation (the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration) in an all-white city in Wisconsin. Her friends, both religious and lay, said she had the uncanny gift and energy that brought people together. She was a highly acclaimed evangelizer, teacher, writer, and singer sharing the joy of the Gospel. Despite her debilitating battle with breast cancer, she did not let it stop her from speaking to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1989. She explained what it meant to be African American and Catholic. She enlightened the bishops on African American history and spirituality. She urged them to continue to evangelize the African American community, to promote inclusivity and full participation of African Americans within Church leadership, and to understand the necessity and value of Catholic schools in the African American community. She seemingly touched the hearts of the bishops as evidenced by their thunderous applause and tears flowing from their eyes, after she brought them together all arm-in-arm to sing “We Shall Overcome.”

Editor's Note: The digital photo painting accompanying this article is by Saints Alive Art Studio, Blountsville, Alabama. Available on Etsy.

YEAR-ROUND MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES OF SPOUSES

Spouses gather for 7 sessions throughout the year to explore their call to holiness in and through marriage and family life.



SERIES ONE

Family, a Domestic Church

The first of seven series, couples will have the opportunity to participate in up to seven years of ongoing formation within their small communities.



**Danielle
Bean**



**Damon
Owens**

HIGHLIGHTS

- A **meal** and time for **fellowship**
- **Short, compelling videos**
- Discussion facilitated by **Host Couples**
- A **Bring it Home** component that translates learning into living
- **Available for Spanish-speaking couples** through translated materials and captioned videos
- A diocesan sponsorship that allows participation at **no cost to couples**



**VIEW
TRAILER**



**SIGN UP
TO GET
INVOLVED**

PRESENTED BY



Erica Rohde | Program Coordinator
erica@forlifeandfamily.org
832-779-1070

TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG

Together in Holiness™ is an initiative of the St. John Paul II Foundation

20/20 VISION SERIES

A YEAR WITH THE SAINTS

Join us as we journey throughout the year focusing on various Saints and their legacies, presented by those among us who live out these legacies in their lives and in their communities.

Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

January 29	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Sr. Mary Clark, SC
February 26	St. Brigid of Kildare – Sr. Karen Kirby, CSJ
March 25	St. Joseph – Sr. Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
April 29	St. Mary Euphrasia – Sr. Martha Gomez, R.G.S.
May 20	Blessed Virgin Mary – TBD
June 24	Marcellin Champagnat – Brother John Byrd, FMS
July 29 August	St. Ignatius of Loyola – Lou Volpe
26 September	St. Dominic – Sr. Ellen Dunn, OP
30 October 28	St. Lorenzo Ruiz – Fr. Carlos Melocoton
November 18	Jesuit Martyrs – TBD
December 16	Servant of God Dorothy Day – Kate Marshall St. Stephan – Deacon John Yaquinta

DATE
CHANGE!

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

Cost for complete series: \$120.00 Or \$15.00 per session.

RSVP – Anna Marie Troiani: atroiani@csjoseph.org



DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON
Office of Consecrated Life
Sr. Martha Gomez, RGS



LOUDfence

A SIGN OF TOGETHERNESS,
HOPE, AND ACTION

Plan to attend



What is LOUDfence?

An international organization that started out of compassion to support faithful Christians who had been abused, as well as the faithful who care and pray for healing, hope, and change.

LOUDfence is a way to bring a hushed and taboo topic into a healthy conversation and act of solidarity as a step forward.



Ceremony after Mass?

Faithful will tie ribbons to represent prayers, hope, and healing for victims of abuse in Christian churches. Inspired by the gospel, LOUDfence works with churches around the world to actively foster a culture for safeguarding and truth telling. Being a safeguarder is being one to stand at the foot of the cross, helping others to literally live out the values of the gospel.

Mass & LOUDfence

Ceremony

10:30 am, April 7

Cathedral

**of St. Joseph,
Wheeling**

Celebrants

**Bishop Mark Brennan
of the Diocese**

**of Wheeling-Charleston
& Bishop Paul Mason of England**

SOLIDARITY

COMPASSION

SUPPORT

PALM SUNDAY

Procession with Palms: Mark 11:1-10

Entering Jerusalem on a colt, the people cheered at the arrival of Christ, waving palms, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Isaiah prophesied of one who suffers horribly for being faithful and speaking the Word of God.

Responsorial: Psalm 22

"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Jesus humbled himself to the point of death on a cross. Then every knee shall bend, and every tongue proclaim that Jesus is Lord.

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47

Today we hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ as shared in the Gospel of Mark.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that prayers this week focus on a renewal and expansion of the faith for all those whom Jesus came to save, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For an end to the death penalty, in this country and the rest of the world, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the people of the Holy Land, that the peace and goodwill among all faiths and cultures that they long for may come to pass, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That the liturgies of this holiest of weeks may move the hearts of all the people in the pews, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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 - coming soon	FM	88.5
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	97.9

~Listen on LoL Stream at www.rdo.io/WLOL~

ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

Empowered
by knowledge.
Transformed
by faith.



Register today

wvcatholicschools.org



Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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.