



## THE MEANING OF EUCHARIST IS THANKSGIVING

When Bishop Mark Brennan is asked what the Eucharist is, he repeatedly states, “The Eucharist is nothing less than Jesus Christ in Person.”

If we take a secular look at the word Eucharist, we look at the origin of the word. It comes from the Greek word eucharistia, which means thanksgiving.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church combines these two meanings into one, noting we as faithful in the Church believe the Eucharist is truly the Body of Christ, “the source and summit of the Christian life... For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1324).”

This Sunday and every time you approach the sanctuary



to receive Christ in the Eucharist, receive Him and give thanks for all your blessings received and those you will receive by His Grace. Remain grateful to Him for saving us from sin and death, receiving eternal life with Him in heaven.

After receiving Him in the Eucharist you are intimately united with Christ, so keep talking to Him, pouring out your worries and doubts and let the Bread of Life nourish your mind, body, and soul.

St. Francis de Sales wrote, “When you have received Him, stir up your heart to do Him homage; speak to Him about your spiritual life, gazing upon Him in your soul where He is present for your happiness; welcome Him as warmly as possible; and behave outwardly in such a way that your actions may give proof to all of His Presence.”

## CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

In establishing the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Pope Pius XI said it was to remind all of us that “while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.”

Since 1925, on last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church has celebrated the solemnity. It was initiated by Pope Pius XI during a time when there was a growing belief that religious values should not play any role in the policy and government affairs.

He wrote in his Encyclical, Quas Primas, that we need to identify Christ as the one true King. He declares in doing so “society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace, and harmony.”

The day’s purpose further emphasizes we can’t just worship Christ on Sunday and then throw Him and His teachings out the rest of the week. We must acknowledge proper honor and glory to God, and welcome Him into our minds, our words, our hearts, and our homes. God doesn’t need pomp and circumstance. He wants genuine sincerity and humility. Christ accepts our imperfections and shortcomings and loves us unconditionally.

Celebrate Him on this great solemnity but remember to let Him guide you every day!



# MASS OF GRATITUDE SET FOR NOV. 21 TO HONOR FAITHFUL IN THE DIOCESE

Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate the Mass of Gratitude at 12:05 pm on Monday, Nov. 21 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling to honor the faithful in the diocese who are a light for our parishes, ministries, and outreach organizations through their gifts to their parishes and the Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA).

“The Appeal enables all of us to reach out beyond the walls of our parish church to advance the Church’s mission,” Bishop Brennan said in a letter to the faithful.

The CSA is an opportunity for each of us, “showing that we are striving to fulfill his command to love our fellow human beings, be they children in need of education, the homebound in need of the Eucharist or a family needing help with a rent payment or utility bill.

“Over the past several years, the need for outreach to the young, the vulnerable and the less fortunate across West Virginia has continued to grow. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to make a significant contribution toward meeting those needs, making more resources available to care for those around us, despite a declining Catholic population. But imagine how much more we could do if we convinced more people to cast their lot with us in following Jesus Christ!”

At the Mass, all who make shared ministries in the diocese

possible will be honored, and Bishop Brennan will pray over intentions submitted by members of our community of faith.

Everyone in the diocese is encouraged to submit prayer intentions online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

The Mass will be live streamed on the [DIOCESAN FACEBOOK](#) page and on the CSA website at: [CSA.DWCMINISTRIES.ORG](#).

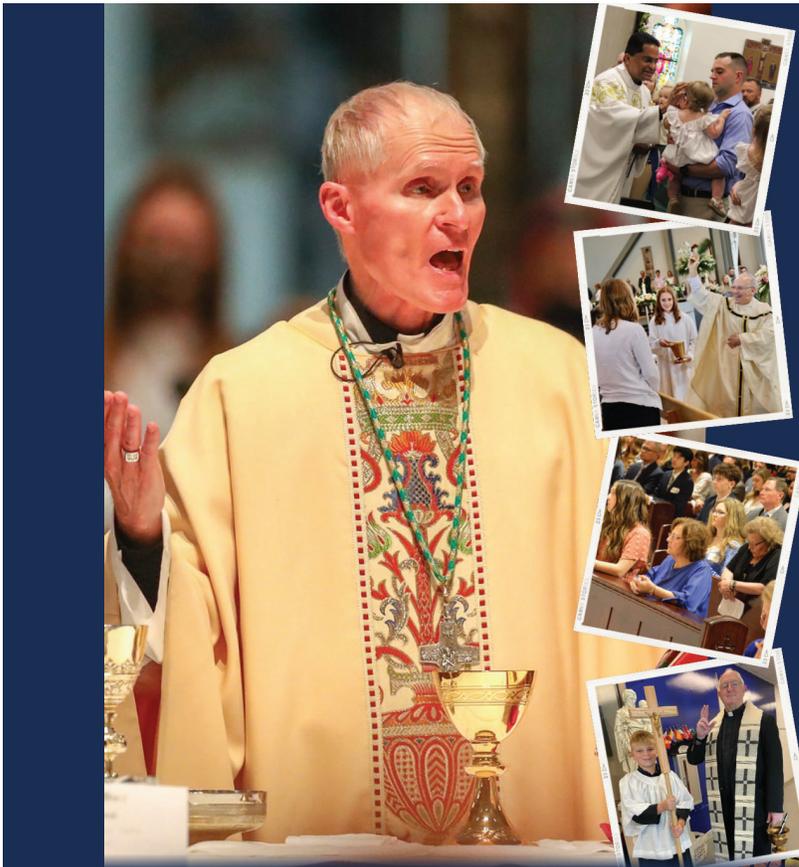
In this season of gratitude there is no better time to concentrate on all that we are thankful for in our lives. Let us all come together with a positive prayerful focus, a grateful heart, and mindset to become more spiritually healthy.

*“Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”*

– 1Thessalonians 5:16-18

The celebration of Mass brings us together as people of gratitude and thanksgiving. The Eucharist is the true sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to the Father for everything we have. Let us remain grateful for our God given gifts and talents and pray that we honor God by sharing those blessings with others.

When we put our faith in action, it is a visual sign of our unity to the Body of Christ.



Please join Bishop Mark E. Brennan  
in celebration of the  
*Mass of Gratitude*  
Monday, November 21st  
at 12:05 p.m.  
at the Cathedral of St. Joseph  
in Wheeling, WV



# “BE THANKFUL AHEAD OF TIME”

BE INSPIRED BY BL. SOLANUS CASEY THIS THANKSGIVING

Happy Thanksgiving Week! Thanksgiving is a time to put aside our challenges and burdens to focus on what we are grateful for – but don't let it stop there! Blessed Solanus Casey would tell us to keep that mindset every day. Then he would take it a step further and tell us to “Thank God ahead of time” for the blessings to come and the crosses we will be given to carry.

Blessed Solanus Casey was an American priest who brought hope and peace to countless people of all faiths and all walks of life. This Capuchin friar, who served in Detroit, Harlem, Yonkers, and other bustling cities, was called a rescuer of souls. He was blessed with a gift to know exactly what to say to give comfort, confidence, and hope to those who sought his counsel.

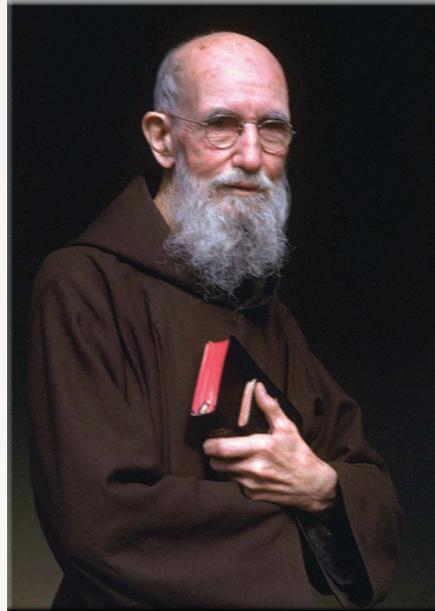
“Worry is a weakness from which very few of us are entirely free,” he said. “We must be on guard against this most insidious enemy of our peace of soul. Instead let us foster confidence in God, and thank Him ahead of time for whatever he chooses to send us.”

Sure, it is easy to give thanks and have a grateful heart, when you are content and things are going your way, but thanking God in times of suffering, while it may be difficult, is necessary. We need to “appreciate” more, he said. Throughout his life, conversations, and teachings he demonstrated the importance of sadness and struggles. He said those moments quickly make us recall simpler and easier times, and have us on our knees begging for them to return. However, in those times we need to thank God for those earlier days as well as present challenges, and have faith that God will prevail, when we keep Him in focus.

“Courage, therefore, and with the soul's eye fixed on the goal of eternity, struggle on,” he said, while reminding people to be clear about their priorities, and be strong in their will to attain heaven despite the fears they face. So, *“Do not pray for easy lives; pray to be*

*stronger people. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks.”*

Friday is his birthday. He was born Bernard “Barney” Casey on Nov. 25, 1870, in the farming town of Oak Grove, Wisconsin. He attended high school at St. Francis High School Seminary in Milwaukee with



hopes of being a diocesan priest, but he struggled with the German classes the seminary required. He was advised to consider a religious order. So, in 1897, he entered the novitiate of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin in Detroit. He was ordained in 1904 as a “simplex priest,” and was happy with that even though it meant he was restricted from preaching sermons and hearing confession. He took on the role of “doorkeeper” at the Detroit monastery he was assigned. He was the first person visitors to the parish and monastery would see, and quickly became a well-loved friar, consoler,

and counselor, because of his sincere and compassionate character. He served for more than 50 years in New York, Detroit, and Indiana.

Blessed Solanus Casey shared with his brother friars and religious that his one wish in life was to be conscious at the time of death. The wish came true, for at the moment of his death at 11 a.m. on July 31, 1957, he was able to say, “I give my soul to Jesus Christ.” Notice we shared with you not only the date, but also the hour he died. That's because it was the exact 53rd anniversary of his first Mass. More than 20,000 people attended his funeral.

For more on Bl. Solanus Casey – his life and road to sainthood – visit the Solanus Casey Center, online at: [WWW.SOLANUSCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.SOLANUSCENTER.ORG).

Blessed Solanus Casey continually reminded people that our attitudes and good works can change our lives and change the world. Choose to be kind and grateful.

Blessed Solanus Casey, pray for us!

## NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS



*Families from Catholic Charities' Relatives as Parents Program gather for a Halloween party*

At the end of October, our Relatives as Parents Program held a Halloween party, bringing together costumed kids and caregivers over pizza.

“It was a fun time for parents and kids to get together and celebrate the holiday,” said Diana Bell, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Case Management Specialist.

CCWVa’s Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) serves families in which caregivers other than the biological parents are raising children. We often see grandparents or aunts or uncles stepping in to raise children when their biological parents are not in a place to do so.

RAPP provides a variety of supports and interventions for these children and families. The program gives participating caregivers the resources they need to be informed, effective, and responsible parents.

While the children did a Halloween craft, the caregivers learned about parenting topics from the monthly guest speaker.

“As much as our parents learn from the guest speaker at each meeting, they also learn from each other,” said Bell.

In that way, group members engage and support one another.

“The common aspect of raising other peoples’ children – for whatever reason – brings the parents together,” said Bell.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, 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.*



*Children do a Halloween craft while adults gather to hear from a guest speaker about a relevant parenting topic*

## HOLY RELICS TOUR of Bl. Carlo Acutis & St. Manuel Garcia Continues November 20-27

### **Nov. 20**

8:30am to 2:00 PM St. John University Parish,  
Morgantown (Relics present at all the Mass.  
Public veneration in between Masses)

### **Nov. 21**

8:30AM Mass at St. Francis de Sales Parish,  
Morgantown

### **Nov. 22**

8:30AM Mass at St. Francis de Sales Parish,  
Morgantown

### **Nov. 26**

Saint Joseph, Martinsburg  
8:00 AM to 8:00 PM – Public Veneration  
5:00 PM – Relics present at the Mass  
7:00 PM – Relics present at the Spanish Mass.

### **Nov. 27**

Saint James, Charles Town  
8:00 AM – 11:00 AM (Relics present at all Masses. Public  
veneration in between Masses)

Updates and more info:

<https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/>

# SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

## First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

With the support of all the tribes of Israel, David is proclaimed king.

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## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 122

“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”

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## Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

In his letter to the Colossians, St. Paul says Jesus is the image of God and it is He who created all in heaven and on earth. Thanks be to God that through Him we receive forgiveness and peace.

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## Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

Luke references the moment on the cross when the spectators scoffed and made spiteful comments yelling, “let him save himself.” Then one of the criminals hanging beside Christ who knew in his heart that Jesus was the King sent to heal the world said to the other, “we have been condemned justly... he has done nothing criminal.” Even in this moment of unthinkable torture and agony Jesus declares mercy on the remorseful thief and promises to see him in heaven.

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[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/112022.CFM)

[BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/112022.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/112022.CFM)

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, Pope Francis, Bishop Mark, and all shepherding the faithful, help them to remain in awe of Christ the King, as they guide us to heaven, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the leaders of the world, that they remain humbled by the one true King of the World, as they lead with humble humility, grace and peace let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all the faithful departed, may God forgive them of any wrongdoings and lead them to Paradise, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the special intentions of the faithful especially during this season of gratitude, may your love fill their hearts with peace, inspiring each one of us to use our hands to spread that love through works of mercy, let us pray to the Lord. . .

*Lord hear our prayer*



# FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF MARY

Saint Anne never gave up on God, trusting that one day she and her husband, St. Joachim, would have a child. God chose them to be the parents of Mary our Blessed Mother. They were so devout in their faith they presented young Mary at the Temple as a consecrated virgin.

On Nov. 21, we celebrate the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, honoring the day her This was to fulfill a promise made by the couple to the Heavenly Father.

The account is not in the bible, but is part of an apocrypha (related writing, specifically the Protoevangelium of James, on the life of Mary believe to have been written prior to 200 AD) based on tradition and accounts from the era.

The feast emphasizes that Mary has always been dedicated to God.

*Heavenly Father, the Blessed Virgin Mary was dedicated to You by her parents, when she was three. In the temple, she joined the girls who spent their days praying, reading Scripture, and serving the temple priests.*

*Please, guide me to where you want me to be in life. Help me not to stray and remind me of your mercy when I do. Grant me grace, patience, and understanding so I may dedicate my life to You.*

*In the loving thought of Mary, St. Joachim and St. Anne, let your will be done. Amen.*

*Editor's note: Image by Kristyn Brown of The Saints Project.*



# IN THANKSGIVING OF VOCATION SUPPORT



“We are the fruit of many prayers for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life!” This is the praise Sister Martha Gomez, Delegate for Consecrated Life for the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston, expressed at the conclusion of Vocation Awareness Week.

As we focused our prayer and attention to our religious brothers, sisters, priest, deacons, and all in vocation formation, Sister Martha said the prayers, cards, letters, and recognition were appreciated and not taken for granted. In fact, she said, it is that love that energizes!

She noted for example that on Monday, November 8th, St. Michael Parish had a Mass, evening prayer, and dinner sponsored by the Serra Club, Christian Mothers’ group and

parishioners to celebrate Vocation Awareness Week. Throughout the week across the state parishes, Catholic schools, and PSR (Parish School of Religion) programs honored our various vocations in the diocese.

She said, “behind and before every vocation to the priesthood or to the consecrated life there is always the strong and intense prayer of someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a faith community.... Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer: and only through prayer can we persevere and bear fruit.

“Thanks again and be assured of our love and prayers in return!”

## 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)~

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*Liturgy of the Hours*

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

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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).