



FEARLESS TEEN GAVE HIS LIFE FOR THE EUCHARIST

HONOR BLESSED JOAN ROIG DIGGLE ON SEPT. 11

The first months of the pandemic, when our churches had to be closed, gave us a solemn glimpse of what life would be like without being able to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist. Imagine a world when you couldn't do so because your government had a deathly hatred toward Catholics and the Church.

In 1936, that was the case during the Spanish Civil War. Churches were burnt to the ground, people of all ages were imprisoned or killed if they were called out as Christian or were caught wearing a crucifix, and any resemblance of an assembly to honor Christ was banned.

On Sept. 11, we honor Blessed Joan (John) Roig Diggle, who at the age of 19 died for his love of Christ.

The young man attended Mass daily before the war broke out in July of 1936. He was the director of a Christian youth organization for his region. In that same month the militia destroyed the building where the group met and set fire Diggle's church.

Knowing the faithful could no longer gather together to celebrate the Mass, the teen was entrusted by his priest to take Holy Communion to Catholics in hiding. Blessed Joan traveled stealthily to their households around Catalonia, Spain, administering the Eucharist. Priests and families prayed for his safety. It is recorded that he would reply to their concerns by saying, "I am not afraid of anything. I have the Beloved with me."

He continued to serve as a truly extraordinary minister of the Holy Eucharistic in the shadows for the shut ins for about two months before he got caught. It was on the night between Sept. 10-11 soldiers raided his home.

The teen knew the men were hunting for him. When he heard them banging on the door, he consumed all of the consecrated hosts he had in a ciborium for the Blessed Sacrament. When the soldiers grabbed him, he assured his mother, "God is with me."

Hours later just before the fatal shots were fired, the young man shouted to his executioners, "May God forgive you as I forgive you. Long live Christ the King!"

Blessed Joan is a model of Christian life for young and old. Like him let us live our lives confident in knowing God's promises - "I will be with you: I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:5,9.



HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY!

Pray for the intercession of Saint Anne when you have a sincere need to present to Christ, because as Renee Schneid, a Catholic school teacher for more than 30 years, tells her students "Because I doubt Jesus would say 'No' to His grandmother."

The reference makes you stop and think, imagining Jesus just for a moment with his maternal grandmother. We can only imagine the immeasurable love and respect they have for one another - humbling and breathtaking. In July we celebrated the Feast of the Grandparents honoring Saints Anne and Joachim. Ask for their intercession as you pray and honor your grandparents on

National Grandparents Day on Sept. 11.

Lord God almighty,
bless our grandparents
and those in our lives
who we love like our grandparents,
with long life, happiness, and health.
May they remain constant in your love,
and be living signs of your presence
to their children, grandchildren,
and all those around them.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Editor's Note: The image is by Pacifica Design of St. Anne and St. Joachim dancing together. They are patron saints of Grandparents. Art available at: WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/PACIFICADESIGN



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

OUR EUCHARISTIC CALL TO SERVE GET OUT OF THE BOAT!

By Beth Zarate, President & CEO of Catholic Charities West Virginia

As an Army Brat, I was raised in the military and lived all over the country, moving every three years. I can remember showing up to a new military base and the first thing my Mom would ask was, “Where is the Catholic church?” Every military base meant a new church and the undeniable comfort and familiarity of the Catholic liturgy. Everything in my life would be in upheaval, but I could count on Sunday morning, going to Mass, and feeling I was at home, at the dining table of my Lord. “Blessed is the one who will dine in the kingdom of God.” (Luke 14:15) Then there was Sunday brunch with all my favorite foods: homemade hot rolls with ham and eggs, followed by the weekly splurge at the ice cream truck! My mom invited many to our Sunday table; the army soldier with no family in the area, the missionary priest visiting our military base, and the lonely mom with 5 children whose husband was deployed. (My mom understood it is the guest list, not the menu, that matters.)

I was taught the Eucharist was the real presence of Jesus Christ, the memorial of Christ’s passion and resurrection, the breaking of the bread from the last supper, holy sacrifice, and Holy Communion – it was a gospel event. For me, a reminder to love all and put my love into action. Mother Teresa said it beautifully: “Love is a one-way street – it always moves away from self in the direction of the others.”

“I was hungry, you gave me to eat, I was naked, you clothed me, I was homeless, you took me in.” Hunger is

not only for a meal, hunger is for love, to be loved, to be wanted. Clothing not only for comfort but for dignity and acceptance. Home not only for shelter but to be welcomed and valued.

I remember being at a busy Macy’s department store on Christmas Eve. Bad plan, I know! I had put off getting



In this 1963 photo from her childhood, Catholic Charities West Virginia President & CEO Beth Zarate (right) and (from left) her brother Mark and sisters Karen, Laura, and Lisa attend Sunday Mass.

a gift for my father-in-law and was in the fragrance area looking for a cologne to buy him. It was crazy busy, people everywhere frantic to make last minutes purchases. The young man behind the counter, was maybe 17, and he was sweating profusely trying to handle the mania. I recall the moment I saw the young man stop what he was doing, straighten up, and look at a customer laboriously approaching the counter. She was elderly, walking with a limp, and her face drooped

on one side as if she had had a stroke. That compassionate young man treated her as if she was the “only” person in the store, speaking with her slowly and kindly walking her through her purchase. I remember at the time thinking, “WOW, now that is what ‘fully present’ looks like”.

As Jesus is fully present to us in the Eucharist, we must be fully present to others.

Pope Benedict XVI said, “Jesus’ hour is the hour in which love triumphs and we share his hour if we allow ourselves, through the celebration of the Eucharist, to be drawn into that process of transformation that the Lord intends to bring about” to adopt his attitude of love. This is an extreme love, free and unconditional, a concern for others, especially those in need.

At Catholic Charities every day we serve people who are struggling and in need of care. Our desire is to be the support that keeps their foundation from crumbling.... providing help and hope. We offer food, utility/rent payments, education, transportation, childcare etc., often hearing “I was so grateful to have someone show they cared for me.” Frequently neighbors express more gratitude to us for how they felt than for what they received. It is true; many of our neighbors across our state feel anxious, alone, not cared for.

How do we take our Eucharistic call to love and put it into action?

I am a follower of Mother Teresa who said, “Do small things, with great love.” Of Jesus when he told Peter to get out of the boat – we too are called to “get out of the boat!” The media messages call us to independence and self-reliance, but the reality is as a faith community we all share the role in protecting, supporting and encouraging one another. Imagine the family who once a month on their grocery trip has each child pick out one toiletry to be donated, or the young couple who delivers a meal to their elderly neighbor. The congregation that intentionally identifies foster families within their parish and connects them with families who can help with sports fees and/or

birthday parties. The college student who volunteers his time to read with/tutor struggling students or the senior who commits one hour a week to volunteer at a Catholic Charities office. The man who helps his refugee neighbors learn how to drive. The neighbor who mucks and cleans houses ravaged by flooding. The shut-in who prays for and sends cards of encouragement to those in recovery from addiction. The business woman who regularly pays for the meals of the family behind her in the drive thru, leaves a generous tip for her hotel maid or donates at the dentist office for someone behind on payment. Across the state our teams make “Mathew 25 bags” for people who are homeless or struggling – a simple but powerful ministry, always seeking hands and donations.

Receiving the Eucharist on Sunday is a gift from a loving God; it is “the source and summit of the Christian Life.” Our Eucharistic call is to serve, to listen to our hearts and give where we are led to give. We are called to break bread with the stranger on the journey, whoever that stranger may be. To bring the church with us everywhere we go.

Looking for ways to serve? Please contact:

Bill Hagy bhagy@ccwva.org at Catholic Charities, Parish Outreach Specialist, or Kathy Barton kbarton@dwc.org at the DWC, Director of Social Ministries.

THE MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS ~ SEPT. 15

The sorrows of a mother’s heart! On Sept. 15, we honor the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. Even in our darkest hours let us find the strength to look towards Mary our Blessed Mother, who remained faithful to God the Father in the most devastating times.



Like Mary, we need to wholeheartedly know we do not suffer alone for God is always with us.

As Catholics we love and honor Mary. So today and everyday pray asking her intercession, and know we are praying with her.

On this the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, reflect on the seven traditional sorrows of Mary:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
3. Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)
4. Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)
5. Crucifixion and death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)
6. The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)
7. The burial of Jesus (Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47)

These events in Mary’s life remind us that she can relate to everything a mother suffers. She had to leave her home to find safety, was filled with terror of losing track of a child, and helplessly watched her son be tortured, suffer, and die. We need to pray to her that she intercedes for us for she knows suffering like no other. She also is the ultimate example of faith, loyalty, hope, and love. Cry out to her in all sufferings now and at the hour of our death.

Editor’s note: art is by The Living Heart Co., available at: WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/THELIVINGHEARTCO



Catholic Families Raise More Than \$370,000 for Disaster Relief in WV and KY

WHEELING – Catholic parishes in West Virginia raised more than \$370,000 in one weekend special collection to support recovery efforts related to the series of natural disasters in southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky from May to August.

Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, said \$369,557 was collected at Masses on August 13-14 throughout the state and an additional \$695 was given directly to Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa). This support goes directly to the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities as well as their partner agencies in both states.

Noting the generous gifts of prayer and funds of West Virginia Catholics, Bishop Brennan said, “They have shown the spirit of St. Paul’s words: ‘Bear one another’s burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ’ (Galatians 6:2), the law being the Lord’s command: ‘Love one another as I love you’ (John 15:12).”

Catholic Charities West Virginia and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lexington are providing long-term recovery efforts, assisting families long after other organizations have moved out. The role of Catholic Charities will last months and years as they help families and individuals in the rebuilding process to restore safe, secure, and sanitary living conditions.

“Catholic Charities is grateful to generous West Virginians who have supported flood relief for our struggling families in West Virginia and our neighbors in Kentucky,” said Beth Zarate, Catholic Charities West Virginia President and Chief Executive Officer.

“Families face immense emotional stress as they watch water destroy their homes and can’t imagine their future. Immediately they lose food, medications, memories...” she said, and paused. “It is a long road back.

“Flooding is overwhelming, every home is an individual story and has its own history, we work to keep families stable, sometimes years, as they literally put their lives back together. At Catholic Charities it is a privilege to be in the position to help others, it is a reality that only comes from the many many West Virginians who live their Gospel call to love their neighbor,” she said.

With a strong WV VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) and Catholic Charities USA, CCWVa will be working with more than 60 families in our state who have major damage to their homes, Zarate noted.

According to the WV Emergency Management Division, between May 6 and August 15 there were 858 reports of flood damage due in eight counties of the state (Cabell, Mingo, Fayette, McDowell, Wyoming, Jackson, Doddridge, and Kanawha).

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

“We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.”

On Sept. 14, we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Saint Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great, was on a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem, in 326, when she discovered the Cross of Christ. It is recorded that St. Helena found three crosses at the time, and not knowing which one was the Cross of Christ she summoned a dying woman. When the woman was brought to the crosses, the first and second crosses did nothing, but the third cross healed the sick woman immediately.



A church, the Holy Sepulchre, was built on the site of the discovery, and it has a portion of the Cross inside it.

The date of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross marks the date the Cross of Christ was brought into the church.

As Catholics we venerate the cross, to show respect of what it represents. On this day, let us be reverently mindful of Christ's triumph, mercy, love, forgiveness, and gift of eternal life.

In honor of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross we can show our devotion praying and reflecting on the Stations of the Cross. There are many online resources for this. Laudate provides an app for your smart devices, where you can access the Stations of the Cross among other things like daily prayers, rosary and chaplets, Latin prayers, and Liturgy of the Hours. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops presents several versions of the Stations on their website, including the pro-life stations. WWW.USCCB.ORG/PRAYER-AND-WORSHIP/PRAYERS-AND-DEVOTIONS/STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS/STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS-FOR-LIFE

For young families the Catholic Icing website has printable Stations of the Cross as a craft for kids to print, color, and display at: WWW.CATHOLICICING.COM/PRINTABLE-STATIONS-OF-THE-CROSS-CRAFT-FOR-KIDS/

God bless all the faithful, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Diocesan Rosary Congress

During the week of October 1-7, 2022, the Wheeling area parishes will participate in the national program of Diocesan Rosary Congresses. Each parish will host an evening service (6:00-7:00pm) of Eucharistic Adoration including the praying of the rosary and concluding with Benediction.

Saturday October 1: St. Michael Church (1225 National Rd.)

Sunday, October 2: Bishop's Chapel at Mt. Calvary Cemetery (1685 National Rd.)

Monday, October 3: Corpus Christi Church (1518 Warwood Ave.)

Tuesday, October 4: St. Vincent de Paul Church (2244 Marshall Ave.) [Adoration begins at 10am]

Wednesday, October 5: Our Lady of Peace Church (690 Mount Olivet Rd.)

Thursday, October 6: St. Alphonsus Church (2111 Market St.)

Friday, October 7: Cathedral of St. Joseph (13th and Eoff Sts) [Adoration begins at 1pm]

Let us come together in adoration and prayer before our Eucharistic Lord and to seek the protection and intercession of the Blessed Mother.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

We learn of God's wrath after Israel's greatest failure – the golden calf constructed as an idol.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51

“I will rise and go to my father.”

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

St. Paul tells us that even when he was an arrogant sinner, God had mercy on him and sent Jesus to save us all.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32 (or 15:1-10)

As Jesus spoke to the tax collectors and sinners, the Pharisees and scribes ridiculed Him for giving them any attention. He spoke to them using parables like the lost sheep, making the point that when he finds his lost sheep he and the heavens rejoice.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/091122.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we show mercy to others as God shows it to us, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For grandparents and those we love like a grandparent, may God keep them in his tender loving care as they continue to be a sign of your presence, joy, and hope, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the faithful as we continue on our journey together for the three-year Eucharistic Revival, 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 all parents who are overwhelmed with worry for their child, let Mary Our Lady of Sorrows intercede for them, bringing guidance, mercy, and peace, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer



BLUE MASS

*to honor law enforcement officers, firefighters,
EMT and all first responders*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022 | 6:00 PM

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling, West Virginia

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

A reception will follow in the Great Hall of Wheeling Central Catholic High School.

All are welcome.



**Knights of
Columbus**
Charles Carroll Assembly 1185



THE Cathedral of St. Joseph

CATHOLIC CHARITIES IMPROVES ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS IN FOOD DESERTS

A quick run to the grocery store is an errand no longer possible in many rural areas of West Virginia.

“It’s all closed. There’s nothing near us no more,” said Roger Kline, a resident of Ritchie County, WV.

Kline and his family live in an area classified as a “food desert” by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA defines a food desert as “a low-income tract where a substantial number of residents does not have easy access to a supermarket or large grocery store.”

To address the needs of low-income families in rural and isolated communities, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) created a Mobile Food Pantry – a mobile outreach van that travels to remote areas. In addition to providing food, the Mobile Food Pantry also provides nutritional and educational information as well as support and further resources.

The Mobile Food Pantry operates in Calhoun, Doddridge, Ritchie, Roane and Wirt Counties. The poverty rate in these counties ranges from 15.7% to 21.7%.

“The majority of our clients live more than 40 miles from a supermarket,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and CEO. “They’re traveling mountainous roads, in some cases with multiple families sharing a single car.”

In addition to limited access to food, the higher prices of healthier foods often leave low-income families with little choice but to purchase cheaper foods high in sugar, trans-fat and refined grains.



The CCWVa Mobile Food Pantry distributes around 115,705 pounds of food to approximately 275 households every month.



The CCWVa Mobile Food Pantry distributions take place monthly at local community centers and churches with on-site support from volunteers.

After 10 years of operating the Mobile Food Pantry from a cargo van, the CCWVa team set a goal of purchasing a refrigerated box truck to provide access to fresh produce, dairy products, frozen meats and other healthy foods.

“A larger, refrigerated truck not only enables us to provide a greater variety of nutritious items, it also allows us to expand our outreach to Jackson and Clay Counties,” said Zarate.

Through support from the Sisters Health Foundation, the Bernard McDonough Foundation, the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation, and Humana, CCWVa was able to purchase the new vehicle.

“We’re thrilled to be able to take our program one step further in increasing access to healthy foods,” said Zarate.

“This pantry – it’s a blessing,” said Kline. “You know... sometimes you pay your bills and there’s nothing left to buy food... and there’s really nothing left to buy gas to drive [40 miles to the grocery store]. I’m working... but it’s just hard. What you all [CCWVa] do... it’s a real blessing.”

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.*

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~

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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.