

Blessed Sacrament Parish – February 19, 2023

*We, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Are a Christ-Centered Community,
Committed to Worship the Father, Committed to Respond to the Spirit's Gifts,
Committed to Loving Service to All God's People*

Our parish office is open on Monday and Wednesday-Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

The South entrance doors are unlocked during those hours.

Telephone (Parish Office): 304.744.5523 E-mail: BSCCWV@gmail.com

Web page: www.blessedsacramentwv.org

Pastor: Rev. Paul Wharton E-mail: pjw424@gmail.com Cell Phone for Emergencies: 304-433-7472

Music & Youth Director: Mary Odin E-mail: wmodin@frontier.com 304-767-9479

Faith Formation: Dr. Bob Pennington: rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com

Office Manager: Natalie Zellers Office E-mail: BSCCWV@gmail.com

We stream our Masses on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BSCWV/>
for anyone who cannot come to Mass in person.

Mass Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Saturday	02/18	4:00pm	Patty Geissinger by Our Parish Family
Sunday	02/19	9:00am	Fr. Leon Alexander by Mary Ann Johnson
		11:30am	Intentions of Our Parish Family
Monday	02/20		
Tuesday	02/21		
Wednesday	02/22	Noon	Norma Rogers Lawson by Dilly Libo-On
		6:00pm	Our Candidates and Catechumens
Thursday	02/23	Noon	Steve Wilson by Vicki Wilson
Friday	02/24	Noon	Cathy Bria by Mary Ann Johnson
Saturday	02/25	4:00pm	Emmanuel Collias by Natalie Zellers
Sunday	02/26	9:00am	Joe Fernandes by Joan Fernandes
		11:30am	Intentions of Our Parish Family

We Remember in Our Prayers

Barbara Baldy, Bo Burdette, Elizabeth Coleman, Matthew Crabtree, Joe Eisel, Marietta Fenton, Andrew Fields, Rose Finch, Rita Finnell, Skip Finnell, Patty Geissinger, Dante Geronilla, Joe Gregg, Bob & Kathleen Groom, Mary Lou Hammock, John & Arlene Hanna, Rob Hrezo, John & Claire Johnson, John Lordan, Bob Lucas, Louann Lynch-Kelley, Sheila Kerns, Alec Mansfield, Barbara McCormick, Evelyn Miller, Keith Morgan, Bradley Smith, and Rabbi Victor Urecki, and Sandy Wheeler

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Sat	02/18	9:00am	Men's Bible Sharing Group	Room 5/Library and Zoom
		3:00pm	Reconciliation	Reconciliation Room
		4:00pm	Mass - Vigil	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
			Sustainable Food Display (Creation Care Team)	Gathering Area
Sun	02/19	9:00am	Mass	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		10:15am	First Communion Class	Room 2
		10:15-11.00am	Pancake Breakfast ***	Parish Hall
		11:30am	Mass	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
Mon	02/20	6:00pm	OCIA/RCIA	Library
		6:00pm	Parkinson's Support Group	Parish Hall
Tues	02/21		Our Office is Closed Today	
		5:30pm	BSP Lyres Club Harp Ensemble Rehearsal	Church
Wed	02/22	7:00am	Prayer Service with Application of Ashes	Church
		10:00am	Bible Study	Room 5
		Noon	Ash Wednesday Mass	Church
		1:00pm	Lectio Divina	Conference Room
		6:00pm	Ash Wednesday Mass	Church
Thurs	02/23	Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:00pm	Youth Group	Parish Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Church
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Fri	02/24	11:15am	Scriptural Rosary	Chapel
		Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:30pm	Stations of the Cross	Church

*** Our Dismas Men's Club will have eggs available by the dozen for us to take home. (They are in flat holders, not cartons) Donations are welcome.

Our calendar continues on the next page.

Next Weekend at Blessed Sacrament

Sat	02/25	9:00am	Men's Bible Sharing Group	Room 5/Library and Zoom
		3:00pm	Reconciliation	Reconciliation Room
		4:00pm	Mass - Vigil	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
Sun	02/26	9:00am	Mass	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		10:15am	First Communion Class	Room 2
		10:15am	Youth Faith Formation	Church
		11:30am	Mass	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		3:00pm	Parish Movie: "True Justice"	Parish Hall

Ash Wednesday Special Collection

On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of southern Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 20,000 and continues to climb. Thousands of people have been injured and many are trapped beneath the rubble. The earthquake is the worst to strike Turkey this century. Within the subsequent 24 hours, the region experienced multiple aftershocks and a second 7.5 magnitude quake.

Across affected areas, apartment buildings and schools have been leveled. Telecommunications are disrupted, preventing families from identifying and accounting for missing loved ones. In Syria, displaced people are seeking shelter in schools and community centers in areas already devastated by years of war. Across southern Turkey, schools are closed, airport transportation is impaired and hospitals have been declared unusable.

Catholic Relief Services is supporting local partners in their efforts to provide urgent relief and assistance for long-term recovery. CRS has partnerships with Caritas Turkey and Caritas Syria, as well as other local partners. To support the efforts of these organizations, Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, has approved a special collection to be held on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023, and for collection baskets to remain available for the collection through the first Sunday of Lent. Bishop Brennan appreciates your generosity this past summer to those affected by the severe storms and flooding in Eastern Kentucky and Southern West Virginia. But he feels impelled once again to ask you to do what you can to help those affected by this most recent disaster.

All funds collected in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will be given to Catholic Relief Services with the special designation for use in the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Recovery Effort.

Checks can be made out to your respective parish with "Disaster Relief" on the memo line. Donations can also be made on the diocesan website at <https://dwc.org/disaster-relief/>.

As we hold the victims and first responders in our prayers during these critical days, let us also spend time in prayer and discernment as we prepare for this upcoming collection. Let us come together now to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering this horrible loss.

This Lent Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus

What does it mean: Jesus took up the cross out of obedience. He did it humbly, gladly putting God's will and his love for God's people above himself. That's an example we can follow simply by delighting in being obedient to God too and choosing to humbly consider others before ourselves.

We also all have burdens (our crosses) that we may be ignoring. During Lent, we can follow Jesus, be humble and deal with one (or more) of our issues, praying for Jesus to give us the strength to work on changing them.

Please take a cross from the gathering space that can be kept in your pocket, your purse, your car.

Lent Schedule - February 22 to April 8

Wednesday February 22 – Ash Wednesday

7:00am Prayer Service and Imposition of Ashes – **Noon and 6:00pm** Mass and Imposition of Ashes

Every Wednesday through April 5 – Lenten Seminars and other events starting at 7:00pm

Every Friday through March 31 – Stations of the Cross—**5:30pm** in the Church

Sunday, March 26 – Communal Penance Service at 3:00pm

Saturday, April 1 – Easter Egg Hunt (more information to come)***

Thursday April 6 – Holy Thursday Service -- **6:00pm**

Thursday April 6 after the 6:00pm **Night Watch or Gethsemane Watch** until Midnight

Friday April 7 – Stations of the Cross at Noon -- Good Friday Service at 6:00pm in the Church

Saturday April 8 – Easter Vigil Services at 8:30pm

Easter Sunday April 9 – Mass at 9:00am and 11:30am

*** We need someone to organize our Easter Egg Hunt! Please contact our office: 304-744-5523 or BSCCWV@gmail.com

From the Director Religious Education

1st COMMUNION CLASS is meeting every Sunday from 10:15am to 11:15am in Classroom 2. If you missed our first few classes, don't worry, please attend this weeks' class on February 19 and every Sunday throughout Spring! Parents can drop off and pick up their child directly in Room 2 of the Parish classrooms past the parish office. If anyone has any questions please contact me at: rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION class will NOT meet Sunday, February 19th. Youth Faith Formation classes will resume February 26 and run from 10:15-11:15am.

Register for our upcoming **Adult Faith Formation Programs**. Below you will find the program for our **Lenten Symposium**. We hope you can make it to at least one of our three scheduled events in the Parish Hall.

Back by Popular Demand: "Cocoa, Coffee, and Questions." Our first CCQ session was a success with about 40 parishioners in attendance. Our next meeting will be March 19 from 10:15-11:15am. This is an opportunity for all parishioners, young and old, and in-between, to submit anonymous questions in-person in the submission box in the parish gathering space. Or, go to our Survey Monkey link below to submit questions with complete and secure anonymity. For our next meeting we invite questions related to Lent! Fr. Paul will answer the questions in a town hall style event. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/252W85K>

COMING SOON: "Theology on Tap & Uncorked" plus "Theology Book Club" are coming soon for Adult Faith Formation. Dates and times will be announced in next weeks bulletin.

THANK YOU: to Kris Maramba, Ann Winton, and Lynne Gianola for generously offering their time to serve various Youth Faith Formation programs. I am grateful for your assistance!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

...to all who helped to make our February Lunch Bunch a warm and cheerful gathering on such a gloomy day! It's like a miracle or a magic trick that folks just know what is needed and step up to do it or bring it! The kitchen crew accomplished the clean-up in record time. Dick Burgy brought hand-crafted door prizes. Jane Roy and helpers created delicious and savory chicken pot pies and our leadership team (Kathy Monahan, Steve Rist, Mary Pat Peck & John Finnell) was very efficient at getting it all set up. If you have any accolades, complaints or suggestions, don't hesitate to send them to: snowman25303@hotmail.com or 304-377-3560.

Ministry Highlight – Music Ministry

The choir and handbell choir at Blessed Sacrament meet on Thursday evenings to prepare musical support for assembly singing.

We also give special musical offerings to God during Masses and at our annual Epiphany Concert in January.

We rehearse from September through May, and you can join us at any time.

No previous musical experience is necessary for either group, but some music literacy is helpful to play in the handbell choir.

To play with the handbell choir, email Mary Odin at wmodin@frontier.com.

To sing in the choir, just come to our next rehearsal in the sanctuary at 7pm on Thursday



Meet the Newest Member of Our Staff

Walter Catechist



Walter became a member of our staff this week.

He will spend his days greeting people who visit our office and his evenings keeping Fr. Paul company in the rectory.

Walter will not patrol the church, gathering area, or parish hall.

(If he tries to convince you otherwise, gently say no and close the office door.)

Quench Your Spiritual Thirst

Blessed Sacrament Lenten Symposium

WHAT: Come learn about essential beliefs and practices for every Catholic seeking to live out and grow in faith. Lent is a fitting time to better understand the history and practice of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will consider how certain sins can become habitual as how spiritual dryness afflicts us. There are steps we can take to deal with both. Finally, there will be a thought-provoking experience of Jesus and the Woman at the Well.

WHEN: Part I: Wednesday, February 15 @ 7pm "Reconciling Reconciliation"
Part II: Wednesday, March 1 @ 7pm "Habitual Sin and Spiritual Dryness"
Part III: Wednesday, March 8 @ 7pm "Woman at the Well"

WHERE: Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall in South Charleston, WV^[1]_{SEP}

WHY: To grow in your continuing Catholic faith formation.

HOW: **PLEASE REGISTER** by signing up at the Religious Education Table in the Gathering Space OR by clicking on the Survey Monkey link below.

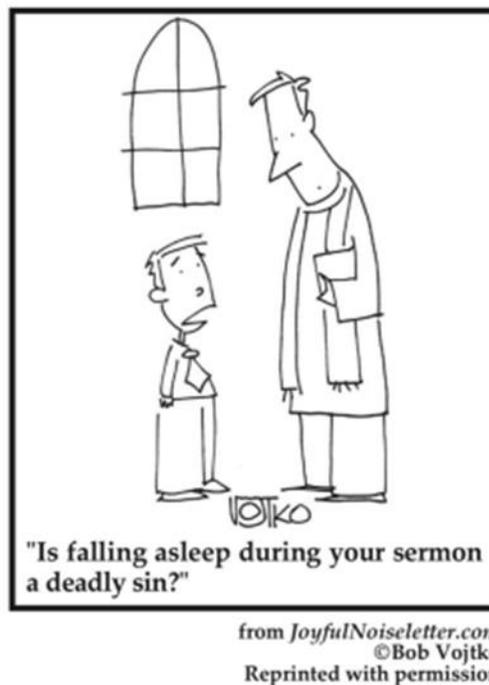
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D9XDJGL>

WHO: Fr. Paul Wharton, Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, a diocesan priest for 40 years, Prison Chaplain, Dean, Vicar, Teacher, and more.

Molly Linehan Belcher, Theology teacher & Campus Minister at Charleston Catholic High School, Master of Theology. Member, Catholic Committee of Appalachia and JASMER Land Trust. Soon to be member of Blessed Sacrament Parish Council.

Nancy McLaughlin, Assistant Academic Advisor at Charleston Catholic High School. Member of the Blessed Sacrament Music and Usher/ Greeter Ministries and a member of the *Quasi Caelum Schola*.

Bob Pennington, DRE at Blessed Sacrament Parish, a doctor of theology, published author, public speaker, and theology teacher at Charleston Catholic High School.





The results are in!

Kansas City Chiefs - 189
Philadelphia Eagles - 245
The commercials - + 421

For a whopping **855**
cans of soup, boxes of crackers,
and virtual cans of soup (\$1 = 1 can)

Together, we're going to feed lots of hungry people through Heart + Hand Outreach Ministries in South Charleston and the Good Shepherd Food Pantry in Coalburg!

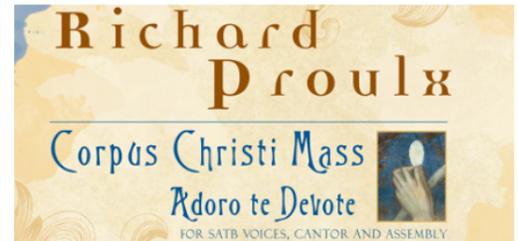


The Youth Group thanks you for helping us live out the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, especially #2: Call to Family, Community, and Participation and #4: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

A new Mass setting is coming!

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 22, we will begin singing our Mass parts to music from *Corpus Christi Mass – Adoro te Devote* by Richard Proulx. You can prepare to sing with confidence and fervor by following the link below. We'll use this Mass setting throughout the season of Lent.

Corpus Christi Mass – Adoro te Devote is also available on Apple Music, YouTube, and Spotify. Our assembly parts will be printed for you on a purple insert in your hymnal, too. Happy singing!



<https://www.giamusic.com/store/resource/two-settings-of-the-revised-order-of-mass-2010-by-richard-proulx-cd-g8145cd>

Creation Care Team

"Together with the social responsibility of businesses, there is also the social responsibility of consumers. Every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral - and not simply an economic act."

- Pope Francis reiterating from Benedict XVI's 2009 Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*

**Join the Creation Care Team – as we Learn More about the Food we Eat:
Café Appalachia lunch *and/or* Winter Blues Farmers' Market on Saturday, February 25!!**

You may have noticed our latest display indicating why and how to purchase locally grown food: the link between farmer's markets/ CSA's (Community Supported Agriculture) and Catholic Social Teaching, eating in-season, choosing organic produce, and more.

And... did you see the sign-up sheet to attend the Winter Blues Farmers' Market on Feb. 25, preceded by a gathering for lunch at Café Appalachia? It should be a great day! You can sign up for one, or both!!

CAFÉ APPALACHIA LUNCH:

If you'd like to meet for lunch at Café Appalachia- please sign up on the sheet at our display table, and/or contact Donna Becher at 2dbechers@gmail.com by 1:00 Sunday so we can let Café Appalachia know about how many people to expect. We'll meet at 11:30 at Café Appalachia on D Street on Feb. 25. You can purchase whatever is on the menu,

Café Appalachia is an organization using locally sourced food in their restaurant, some from their garden! Their mission involves training people in recovery to grow, prepare, and serve delicious wholesome food.

WINTER BLUES FARMERS MARKET:

Later, we'll meet at the entrance to Winter Blues Farmers Market at 1:30 at the Coliseum/Convention Center on Summers Street, in downtown Charleston. **(You can arrange your own transportation/carpooling)** If you're interested, sign up so we can meet you there!

Winter Blues is sponsored by the WV Dept. of Agriculture and the WVU Extension Small Farm Center. This is a huge display of products grown and sourced right here in West Virginia, with more than 60 vendors! You can browse, purchase, or marvel at whatever strikes your fancy til 5:00! You can chat with the vendors and discover how they grow, make, or produce their goods. There will be samples, too!

SO- be sure to sign up for lunch at Café Appalachia, and/or sign up for the Winter Blues Market on February 25!!

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Spaghetti Dinner for HOPE

Charleston Catholic's HOPE Project will host a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, 5:30-7:30, on Sunday, Feb. 26th and the CCHS Commons. Tickets are \$10 a plate. Children, age 5 and under, eat for free. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time at the school office or at the door on Feb. 26th. All of the proceeds from the dinner will go toward the costs for the week-long project in June. HOPE participants commit to raise \$25,000 so that the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission can build a house for a family in need. Students and adult volunteers spend the week repairing homes and helping with the new construction. HOPE has the dual purpose of improving the quality of housing for low income folks in need and instilling the habit of service in students with a commitment to living the works of mercy.



Eucharistic Retreat Weekend

March 10-12

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center

100 Hodges Road, Charleston

As part of the Diocesan Year of the Eucharistic Revival in the US, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will host a Eucharistic Retreat. Faithful around the state are invited to attend a weekend to bring our hearts closer to Christ in the Eucharist.

Agenda

- Friday** 8:00 pm - **Social** *Participants are encouraged to attend*
Those needing accommodations may also check-in at the retreat center prior to the social.
- Saturday** 8:00 am - **Breakfast** *Registration and Mass will follow*
The weekend will consist of inspiring talks, facilitated discussions, Liturgy, Reconciliation, music, and private prayer.
Keynote Speaker and Celebrant: Father John Finnell
- Sunday** *Breakfast, concluding reflections, and Mass at 11 am*

Cost

\$100/per person Price includes meals and accommodations at the retreat center.

For more information email the retreat center director Gerri Wright at gwright@dwc.org or call her at 304-342-0507.



West Virginia Institute for Spirituality upcoming programs - for more information or to register go to <http://wvis.org/upcoming-programs/>

Praying Our Experiences - 5-week Group Spiritual Direction -Zoom Tuesdays, Feb 28th – March 28th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Opening to God - 5-week Group Spiritual Direction – Zoom -March 2nd to March 30th.

Are you a Wounded Healer? - 5-week Group Spiritual Direction – Zoom -March 2nd to March 30th.

Our Human Desires- Identifying, Strengthening, Converting the Longing in our Hearts via Zoom - Friday, March 3rd, 6:00 – 8:00 pm 6 – 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 4th, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Contemplative Prayer. A ZOOM offering of Centering Prayer where a person is receptive to resting in God. It is a method of prayer, which prepares us to receive the gift of God's presence, traditionally called contemplative prayer. This prayer time is offered Monday-Friday, 7:00 pm to 7:20 pm. A free-will offering is suggested and can be mailed payable to WVIS at 1601 Virginia Street E., Charleston, WV 25311. If interested in participating, please contact Sally Orcutt, O.P. at sally@sayyes2yourlife.org

Merton Institute with presenter Fr. Bill Petro, M.A. A ZOOM offering of the Charleston Chapter of the Merton Institute which meets 7:00 pm-8:30 pm every third Tuesday of the month. Everyone is welcome as all things Merton are discussed. A free-will offering is suggested and can be mailed payable to WVIS at 1601 Virginia Street E., Charleston, WV 25311.. If interested, please contact Father Bill Petro at frbpetro42@gmail.com.



*"I Prayed for the Heart of a Star" by Sister Mary Southard CSJ www.ministryofthearts.org
Used with Permission.*

Women's Retreat

Co-sponsored with the DWC
Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

Listening to Your Inner Voice: Grace Unfolding

Presented by
Karen A. Vernal

March 24-26, 2023

St. John XXIII Pastoral Center
Charleston WV

Listening to Your Inner Voice: Grace Unfolding

Our time together this weekend is inspired by the work of Parker Palmer, author, poet, teacher, and activist. In his book: "Let Your Life Speak", he asks us this question: "Is the life I am living the same life that wants to live in me?" This is a different question than we may ask of ourselves. We may ask: "What does God want of me?" "Where am I being led?" These questions invite an image of an "outside" voice. We will explore how God is speaking through our inner spirits in our everyday experiences.

I am delighted to share this time with you!

Through presentation, dialogue, quiet reflection, designed activities, good fun! small group conversation, and communal prayer, we are invited to open our hearts, and listen deeply to the Inner Voice leading us into Grace Unfolding.

Location

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center
100 Hodges Rd
Charleston, WV 25314

For information contact:

Gerri Wright 304.552.3662
gwright@dwc.org
Sandi Hudson 304.549.4009
shudson0155@gmail.com

Brochures can be found on our bulletin board (beside the ramp).



February 19, 2023

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18 | 1 Cor 3:16-23 | Mt 5:38-48

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Today is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time before Lent begins. I realize in saying it that way, however, it sounds like a warning (“the bookstore will be closing in five minutes, please bring your purchases to the register!”) rather than an acknowledgement of the celebration that it is. So let me put it another way: Today is the 7th – of 33 – Sundays in Ordinary Time this year, which means, we’ve only just begun. We are in some of the earliest days of the Church’s “ordered” (ordinary/numbered) approach to helping us mature and grow in faith. We do this by living with and in the life of Christ over the course of a year. At each step we celebrate the life, passion, death, and resurrection of Christ, but we also set aside different seasons to focus on those specific elements. And so it makes sense that as we approach Lent, we hear more about what exactly God asks of us. Lent will be a season of preparation for Christ’s passion; have we prepared our hearts accordingly to receive him? Today’s readings remind us of what sets us back: hatred for others; desire for revenge; grudges; worldly wisdom; all things which are destructive of God’s temple – our souls, as Saint Paul says. Having a heart full of these things means there is no room for love, which means there is no room for Christ. Let us pray for God’s help in ridding ourselves of all that is destructive, and for the strength to grow a heart only for him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I’d argue that in some ways, Lent actually starts before Ash Wednesday since it requires forethought and planning. We have to prepare for a season of preparation! We have to figure out what to fast from or add to our spiritual lives, and how we might specifically direct our almsgiving. But how ready are we to respond in a meaningful way to the fact that Christ died for love of us? His death transformed our death into the promise of eternal life. Today’s Gospel offers practical actions, things which all Christians should strive for daily, but especially observe during Lent if a spiritual reset is needed. Jesus tells us to turn the other cheek. Hand over your cloak. Go the extra mile: “Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.” Love your enemies and pray for your persecutors. Lent is a call to act out of love, especially in tough situations. Take these next couple of days to prepare for Ash Wednesday and the weeks that follow.

REFLECT Spend some time taking stock of your spiritual life. Are you holding contempt for someone, or seeking revenge for something? Where might you be falling short in striving to imitate Christ? Bring these thoughts to God in prayer.

Liturgical Ministers – February 18 & 19

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	Patty Frame	David Elliott	Philip Maramba
Altar Servers	Rick Brennan Karen Lewia	Gary Ferrell Madison Ferrell	Jeanne Jarrett
Cantors	Dave Haas	Rory Isaac	John Shawler
Communion Principal	Tony Ciliberti	Peggy Musilli	Vince Stricker
Communion to the Sick		David Elliott Susan Bowyer Ann Bradley	
Greeters/Ushers	David Lewia John Providenti	Pat Cochran Jeanne Haas	Anne Sites Shelly Nason

Liturgical Ministers – Ash Wednesday

	Noon	6:00pm
Lectors	John Priestley	Peg Nagem
Altar Servers	Jeanne Jarrett	Rick Brennan
Cantors	Charlie Wilson	Heather White
Communion Principal	Vince Stricker	Terry Mathias
Greeters/Ushers	David Lewia John Providenti	David Lewia Shelly Nason

Liturgical Ministers – February 25 & 26

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	Tony O'Leary	Brian Caldwell	Mary Pat Peck
Altar Servers	Davis Bowles	Eip Shawler Maureen Mathias	Vince Stricker Carla Stricker
Cantors	Matt Leary	Charlie Wilson	Jack Dever
Communion Principal	Christine Fernandes	Mike Burgess	Linda Matheny
Communion to the Sick		Mike Burgess Jackie Lilly Molly Belcher	
Greeters/Ushers	Michael Granata John Providenti	Rob Plutro Kelly Plutro	Rene Norman Anne Sites

31 Club this week

31 Club members commit to praying for vocations one day each month.

Sun	02/19	Ruth L Kirk / Paul Wharton
Mon	02/20	Denise Burgess
Tue	02/21	Rick Zitzelsberger
Wed	02/22	Susan Churchill
Thu	02/23	Ron Teufel / Felix Maramba / Pam Council
Fri	02/24	Mary Ellen Providenti
Sat	02/25	Elaine King / Todd Witsberger / Tina McCready

From the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Two five-week courses are being offered through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF). These courses are hybrid models. They are composed of both weekly live two-hour zoom lectures as well as a rich variety of online course materials and discussion experiences through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community For Faith Formation (VLCFF). The courses are being underwritten by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, which pays 100% of the tuition and the cost of any books associated with the courses. The course instructor is Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu. For further information or to register, please contact Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu at rodicastoicoiuphd@gail.com with your name, address, email, and phone number.

This course is part of the course sequence for the catechetical certification:

Introduction to Prayer

"Prayer is our means of taking a sighting, of re-orienting ourselves – by re-establishing contact with our goal. In the presence of God many components of our life fall into perspective and our journey makes more sense. Prayer is inseparable from living" (Casey, p.5). This course explores prayer as essential to our lives as Christian people, as individuals and within our community of faith. Through this course, students will explore the qualities, forms and expressions of prayer that help to form and sustain our lives as Catholic Christians.

Successful completion of this course earns 2.5 CEU's. This course is part of the VLCFF Certificate for Certification sequence, meets on Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm.

Introduction to Paul and Paul's Letters

The course is an in-depth look at Paul, including his autobiography according to his letters, then moving on to discuss the authentic letters of Paul as both history and theology. We will cover topics such as Paul and Politics, Paul and Women, Paul and the Second Coming, Paul and Slavery, Paul and Judaism, and Paul on Salvation and Suffering throughout the five weeks of this course. Students will read a variety of materials including some of the most important articles written about Paul in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. At the completion of this course students will be able to situate Paul in his first-century environment and talk intelligently about how Paul's theology is relevant for today's church.

Successful completion of this course earns 2.5 CEU's, meets on Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.

Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 33

Icebreakers give us something to talk about. Soup starters make for a good start. Here is some spiritual kindling to use, think about, and pray with this

ASH WEDNESDAY

Let's see...

How long's it been since last I went to church
- on Ash Wednesday?

Maybe the pandemic kept me away,
but churches are open now.

Maybe, for one reason or another,
it's been years
since I went to church for ashes...

If it's been a long time - why is that?

When did I stop going for ashes?

Why did I stop going for ashes?

Was there a *reason*?

Will I go *this* year?

Why *should* I go this year?

Why *not* go this year?

Why go *any* year?

Why *ashes*?



Getting ashes doesn't mean you're holy.

As a matter of fact, getting ashes means - you're *not* holy!

Ashes are for *sinners*.

Ashes are for people like me,

people who sometimes, even often,

act without thinking,

make poor choices,

tell lies, cheat,

break promises,

take the wrong path,

hurt other people,

forget to pray,

make selfish decisions

and (often) do the wrong thing:

sometimes little things, sometimes big things...

Ashes are for people like me,

people who screw up,

who forget what's really important,

who let things slide

- even a lot...

Ashes are for folks like me

who sometimes hurt others,

who *often* hurt others,

who sometimes even hurt the people they love...

Ashes are for imperfect, broken
people, for people like me
who let things get out of control
and who sometimes do the wrong
thing even when they know
what the right thing is...

Ashes are for people like me
who take too many short cuts,
who don't always tell the truth,
who sometimes cheat,
who gossip about others
and keep silent when they ought to speak
up... Ashes are for people just like me...
Going to church and getting ashes
probably won't turn my life around
overnight but it could be a step,
even just *one* step,
in a new direction,
on a path I sometimes think I want to follow
but have a hard time finding,
- a path I often stray from...

Getting ashes this Wednesday
just might be the beginning
of mending my relationship with God, my
relationships with some people in my life, my
relationship with myself...
Getting ashes this Wednesday might help
me take an honest look at things in my life:
things I really need to think about,
things I need to pay attention to,
things I need to let go of,
things I need to embrace,
things I need to change,
things and relationships I need to
reconcile, mend and heal...



Well, I could just be honest,
I could say I did it because:
I've been thinking about my life,
taking a little personal inventory,
considering, trying, to make some changes
and I thought this might be a time,
a way,
a place to start...
Me in church?
Me getting ashes?
Hey! It could happen!

I know it won't hurt
and it just might be good to give it a try,
to give it a chance:
to give God and me a chance
at a new beginning...

— Rev. Austin Fleming

February 26, 2023 - First Sunday of Lent

Reading 1 - Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being. Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the LORD God had made. The serpent asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil." The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reading 2 - Rom 5:12-19

Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned—for up to the time of the law, sin was in the world, though sin is not accounted when there is no law.

But death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin after the pattern of the trespass of Adam, who is the type of the one who was to come. But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. And the gift is not like the result of the one who sinned. For after one sin there was the judgment that brought condemnation; but the gift, after many transgressions, brought acquittal. For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous.

Verse Before the Gospel - Mt 4:4b

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel - Mt 4:1-11

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: *One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.*" Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: *He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*" Jesus answered him, "Again it is written, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.*" Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." At this, Jesus said to him, "Get away, Satan! It is written: *The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.*" Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

Our Pastoral Council

Watch this space! We will share the members of our pastoral council with you next week.

Items for the Bulletin – Deadline

Tuesday afternoon is the deadline for all articles, notices, corrections, etc. for the bulletin that will be published for the weekend.

Our Mailing Address:

305 E Street, South Charleston, WV 25303

Other Items

St. Paul Radio - West Virginia.....Presents Catholic radio on: WLUX 1450 AM Dunbar; WNUX 89.7 FM Beckley; WOUX 105.3 Parkersburg Visit www.sprmw.org for a link to stream Catholic radio to a smart phone

The Catholic Spirit Our diocesan newspaper, <http://thecatholicspiritwv.org/>

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Go to www.dwc.org to find a directory for all priests (active and retired), religious, diocesan employees, parish addresses, etc.

The main telephone number is 304-233-0880. The main address for our diocese is P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003.

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Diocesan Financial Audit <https://dwc.org/2021-auditors-report/>