

Blessed Sacrament Parish – February 26, 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	02/25	4:00pm	Manny Collias by Natalie Zellers
Sunday	02/26	9:00am	Joe Fernandes by Mary Ann Johnson
		11:30am	Intentions of our Parish Family
Monday	02/27		
Tuesday	02/28		
Wednesday	03/01	Noon	Paul and Loretta McCusker
Thursday	03/02	Noon	Steve Wilson by Vicki Wilson
Friday	03/03	Noon	Bernard and Ann Flood
Saturday	03/04	4:00pm	Lou Haught by Pam Baker
Sunday	03/05	9:00am	Don Churchill by Mary Ann Johnson
		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, Rabbi Victor Urecki, and Sandy Wheeler

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

Rite of Sending and Rite of Election

At the 4:00pm Mass this weekend, there is the Rite of Sending for our Catechumen and our Candidates. They will gather with others from WV who are preparing for initiation at the Easter Vigil. On Sunday, these fine folks will celebrate the Rite of Election with Bishop Mark Brennan at Sacred Heart Basilica. This celebrates the fact that they have been chosen to celebrate the Easter sacraments. Please pray for them and their sponsors as they ready themselves for Holy Week and Easter.

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Sat	02/25	9:00am	Men's Bible Sharing Group	Room 5/Library and Zoom
		3:00pm	Reconciliation	Reconciliation Room
		4:00pm	Mass – Vigil and Rite of Sending	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/
		2:00pm	Parish Movie: "True Justice"	Parish Hall
		3:00pm	Rite of Election	Sacred Heart Basilica
		Mon	02/27	6:00pm
		7:00pm	Creation Care Team	Conference Room
Tues	02/28		Our Office is Closed Today	
		5:30pm	BSP Lyres Club Harp Ensemble	Parish Hall
		7:00pm	Purls Knitting Ministry	Conference Room
Wed	03/01	7:00am	Mass	Chapel
		10:00am	Bible Study	Room 5
		Noon	Mass	Chapel
		1:00pm	Lectio Divina	Conference Room
		7:00pm	Lenten Symposium "Habitual Sin and Spiritual Dryness"	Parish Hall
Thur	03/02	Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:00pm	Youth Group	Parish Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Church
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Fri	03/03	11:15am	Scriptural Rosary	Chapel
		Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:30pm	Stations of the Cross	Church

This Week at Blessed Sacrament is continued on the next page.

This Week at Blessed Sacrament - continued

Sat	03/04	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	03/05	9:00am	Mass	Church & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		10:15am	First Communion Class	Room 2
		10:15am	Youth Music Ensemble	Church
		11:30am	Mass	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/

News Item – Parish Financial Statements

Our annual parish financial statements are complete and ready for your perusal.

You can find them on our webpage: www.blessedsacramentwv.org

We will also have hard copies available in the gathering area.

Ash Wednesday Special Collection – continues this weekend.

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, or your car.

Lent Schedule

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 Mass **Night Watch or Gethsemane Watch**

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

News Item – Restrooms Project

The restrooms project is finally finished!

Each restroom near our office now has an all-accessible stall as well as a regular stall.

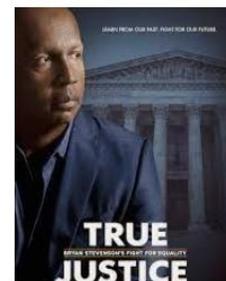
Faith in Film Series – Social Justice Offering

True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight For Equality 1 hr. 41 min. Rated TV-MA

Sunday February 26, 2023 2:00 PM Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall

True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality follows 30 years of Equal Justice Initiative's (EJI) work on behalf of the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. The film won the **Emmy Award for Outstanding Social Issue Documentary**, and is the winner of the **National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications's 26th annual Vision Award and a Peabody Award**.

Told primarily in his own words, *True Justice* shares Bryan Stevenson's experience with a criminal justice system that "treats you better if you're rich and guilty than if you're poor and innocent." The burden of facing this system is explored in candid interviews with associates, close family members, and clients.



From the Director of Religious Education

1st COMMUNION CLASS meets every Sunday from 10:15am to 11:15am in Classroom 2. If you missed our first few classes, don't worry; please attend this week's class on February 26 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 meet Sunday, February 26 and run from 10:15-11:15am. Please meet us in the Sanctuary and meet some of our new Catechists.

Register for our upcoming **Adult Faith Formation Programs**. On the next page 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: "Coffee, Cocoa, and Questions." Our first CCQ session was a success with about 40 parishioners in attendance. Our next meeting will be March 26 from 10:15-11:15am. This is an opportunity for all parishioners, young, 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" will hold its inaugural meetings to discuss locations and future time and days of meetings this Saturday after Mass. If you cannot make it in person to discuss our future meetings and our first choice of book, please vote online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7X9YKQL>

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!



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 and 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 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^[L]_[SEP]

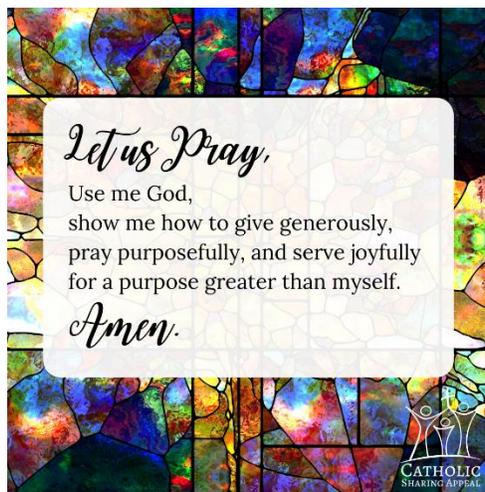
WHY: To grow in your continuing Catholic faith formation.

WHO: Fr. Paul Wharton, Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, 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. 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, doctor of theology, published author, public speaker, and theology teacher at Charleston Catholic High School.



Spaghetti Dinner for HOPE

Charleston Catholic's HOPE Project will host a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser from 5:30-7:30pm, on Sunday, Feb. 26th at 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 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.

Ministry Highlight – Angels for the Ailing

Angels for the Ailing provide comfort through food for those who are sick, recuperating, recovering from surgery, or adjusting to new life circumstances by providing loving service to God's people.

Ways to volunteer:

- Call to make arrangements.
- Prepare food.
- Drive the food to the location if the person who prepares the food cannot drive.



If you are interested in helping, please sign up in the Gathering Space or email bsccwv@gmail.com

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!



Curious About the Creation Care Team?

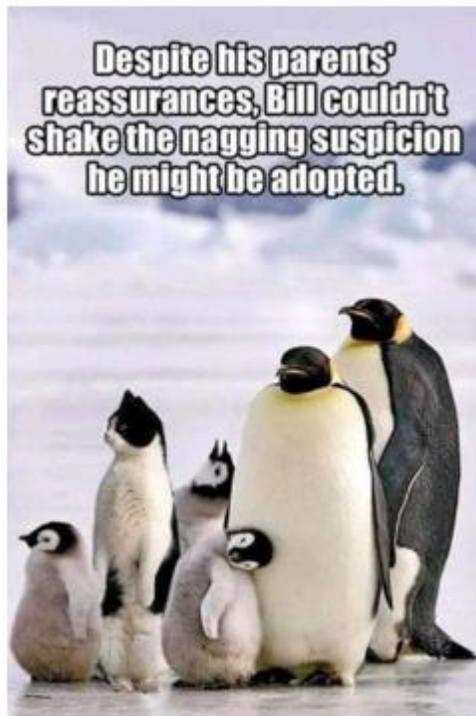
You've seen what we're doing.
Here's an opportunity to join us
and see how we do it!

Our next monthly meeting is Monday, February 27 at 7:00pm in the Conference Room adjacent to the Parish Hall. We'll be discussing upcoming plans and would love to see you there! Whatever we do, we strive to keep in mind the moral imperative that is pled for in Pope Francis's *Laudato Si* encyclical, and in living out our responsibility to the earth and those living on it through our focus on Catholic Social Teaching.

Meet the Newest Member of Our Staff
Walter Catechist



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.)



Dear Friend in Christ,

You are the salt of the Earth... You are the light of the World.” – Matthew 5:13-14

Recently during my quiet time in prayer, I reflected on the Beatitudes, Christ’s teachings on authentic Christian discipleship. He began his instruction by saying, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.” Jesus goes on to tell them that they are also the salt of the Earth. What an incredible concept. But what does it mean?

During the time of Christ, salt was a vital element. It was used to preserve food, sustaining the lives of many during times of drought or famine. It was so important that Romans used salt as currency in many regions. This is what Christ meant for His disciples. They were the vital element to build and sustain Christ’s Church on Earth. They were called to preserve Christ’s teachings and spread the Gospel to all nations.

We too are to be the salt of the Earth. As disciples ourselves, we are called to spread the Gospel, especially those who are in need of God’s love and light. In service to others, we share His light, compassion, and love with those who need it most throughout our state.

You help the Church in its ministry throughout our state and share His grace with those most in need through your support of the Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA).

When you give to the CSA, you put your faith into deeds and help deliver shared ministries of our local Church. You enliven parishes. You help support the education of students in all 24 of our Catholic schools, and you expand outreach efforts to every corner of our state. You are contributing to those around you, inspiring others to do the same, and sharing His light and love through your commitment to Catholic ministries.

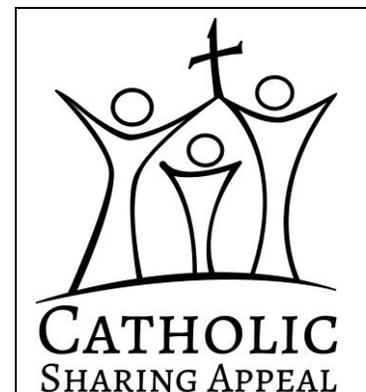
As we begin a new year, I’d like to say thank you for your past support of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Your generosity changed the lives of those around you and I am so grateful for you! Will you put your faith into action once again by supporting our annual Catholic Sharing Appeal today?

Through our actions, each of us can be the salt of the Earth and the light of the world simply by caring for those around us and sharing the Good News throughout our state. May God continue to bless you and your family in this new year, and know my prayers are with you always.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston





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.

Registration

Deadline is March 6th To register please visit dwc.org/eucharistic-retreat-2023/.

For more information contact director Gerri Wright at gwright@dwc.org or call her at 304-342-0507.

Fish Fry

St Francis of Assisi, St Albans – Corner of 6th Ave & Holley St in the gym
Every Friday of Lent 5:00-7:00 pm \$14/adult, all you care to eat; children \$5 (under 12)

Eat in or carry out.

St Francis School 5th grade waits tables.



*"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).

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, 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.



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

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 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.

February 26, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

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

Superbowl Sunday was two weeks ago, and many of us were more likely interested in the commercials than the actual game. After all, companies pay a ton of money to have their products paraded in front of us, and – in theory at least – take the time to make these particular ads memorable and funny. If we can be convinced that we will be better people, or our social outings greater and filled with more laughter, we will buy what they are selling. It's the modern version of the words of the serpent in today's first reading: if you eat this, "you will be like gods"! Today's readings are a reminder that we are all sinners and burdened by being vulnerable to false promises – but also that we are relieved of this burden through one man: Jesus Christ. If we tend to forget that the most important part of our salvation story is that it is full of more grace and forgiveness than we can comprehend, this first Sunday of Lent is a good time to prayerfully ponder this. If God seems far away or distant, let us recall that he loved us so much that he breathed our very life into us, and then gave his only begotten Son to us that we might have life eternally. All he asks in return is for us to accept this gift and follow in his footsteps. Lent is the time to be mindful of grace-filled opportunities that draw us closer to God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Let's think about these 40 days. In addition to allowing us to grow in understanding of God, this time is also an opportunity to grow in our understanding of how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world and help to build the kingdom right here and now. How can we keep God at the center of our lives and resist worldly temptations to push him aside? Perhaps today's psalm can help us here: Ask for God's mercy, acknowledge our offenses, seek a "clean heart," renew a "steadfast spirit" within us, and ask God to grant us a "willing spirit" to give him praise. And remember Christ's words from the Gospel: Depend on "every word that comes forth from the mouth of God," which is love and mercy.

PRAY Pray today's psalm: "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."



Liturgical Ministers – February 26 & 27

	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 Carly Stricker
Cantors	Matt Leary	Charlie Wilson	John 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

Liturgical Ministers – March 4 & 5

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	John Priestley	Tim DiPiero	Diane Lordan
Altar Servers	Chip Council	Eli Simonton Nathanial Simonton	Jeanne Jarrett
Cantors	Matt Leary	Rory Isaac	John Shawler
Communion Principal	Ron Teufel	Jackie Lilly	Carolyn Frye
Communion to the Sick		Bob Sherrard Tom Aluise Christine Fernandes	
Greeters/Ushers	Mike & Pat Habenschuss	Dan & Nancy McLaughlin	Rene Norman Shelly Nason

News Item:

We will return to a 5:30pm Mass on Saturdays beginning March 11th. Daylight Saving Time officially begins quite early on March 12th.

Manna Meal Pick Up Schedule

March 1 Don Becher
 March 8 John Ellison
 March 15 Rob Schissler
 March 22 Matt Leary
 March 29 Tony O'Leary
 April 5 Don Becher
 April 12 John Ellison
 April 19 Rob Schissler
 April 26 Greg Ayers

31 Club this week

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

Sun	02/26	Kelley Endres
Mon	02/27	John Finnell
Tue	02/28	Bernie Mabe / Lucy, Henry, & Katie Smithberger / Carla Stricker
Wed	03/01	Mary Gargarella / Bev Schissler
Thu	03/02	Joan Fernandes / John McGarrity
Fri	03/03	Sister Fran Kirtley / Marla Weiner
Sat	03/04	Missy Summey

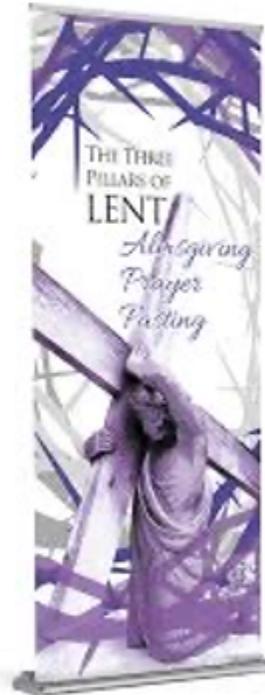
Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 34

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 week.

TEACHING: Lent is a call to renew a commitment grown dull, perhaps, by a life more marked by routine than by reflection. After a lifetime of mundane regularity or unconsidered adherence to the trappings of faith, Lent requires me, as a Christian, to stop for a while, to reflect again on what is going on in me. I am challenged again to decide whether I, myself, do truly believe that Jesus is the Christ—and if I believe, whether I will live accordingly when I can no longer hear the song of angels in my life and the star of Bethlehem has grown dim for me. (Sr. Joan Chittister)

POEM

Every day and every hour
Our end comes ever near,
And our Father and Creator
Calls us to repentance here.
Not with ordinary hearing
This Divine appeal is heard:
Our heart's strings are awakened
By an angel's wordless song.
Falling to the ground and trembling,
We now pray with streaming tears:
O, do open for repentance
Thy great penitential doors!
All the torrents of our sinning
Wash away with tears and dry;
In a search for life's adventures
Our soul's dominance did die.
Thou our Father art, our Savior!
Do Thou not reject my soul,
Which Thou hast Thyself created
The Creator to extol!
- N.V. Ourousova Translated by Natalia Sheniloff



PRAYER

You are our way.
You are our path.
You are the ground upon which we walk.
The place we lay our head.

You are our daily bread.
You give us our questions,
and the answers, but not always
as we expect.

You are both our need.
And the fulfillment of it.
But there is a space, in-between.
where we often sit.

Where, like paupers,
we wait, at the steps
of your house,
for our bread.

Where we wait,
in expectation of your goodness;
and the discomfort of knowing
we are fully dependent,
on your benefits.

But you God, are my way.
You are my path.
You are the ground upon which I walk.
The place I lay my head.

You are my daily bread.
The questions you give me,
are to teach me,
that you alone are sufficient.

You are my need.
And the fulfillment of it.
And the space in between
where I sit and wait...

Where so often
I lay myself prostrate
at your feet;
you sit with me, quiet and still.

And together
we wait;
in that place of communion,
where your angels lay bread
at our feet.

(Ana Lisa de Jong)



MYSTIC MORSELS A desert spirituality is a spirituality of waiting upon God.
There is an element of timelessness, of eternity, about the desert. The characteristic
prayer of the desert is a prayer of simple waiting. (David Prail)

March 05, 2023 - Second Sunday of Lent

Reading 1 - Gn 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram: "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you. "I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you." Abram went as the LORD directed him.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield. May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading 2 - 2 Tm 1:8b-10

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began,

but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Verse Before the Gospel - Cf. Mt 17:5

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

Gospel - Mt 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Our Pastoral Council

Chip Council, facilitator
Jack Dever
Philip Maramba
Molly Linehan-Belcher

Matt Davis
Anne Dever
Katie Smithberger
Christine Fernandes

Rick Brennan
David Lewia
Jackson Davis
Mike Granata

Pam Council
Charlie Wilson
Terry Mathias

Council members are always grateful to hear about any concerns our parishioners have. If you do not know any of the members personally, you may send a note or email to our parish office for them.

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/>