

Blessed Sacrament Parish – January 08, 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/BSCCWV/>
for anyone who cannot come to Mass in person.

Mass Schedule

| Day | Date | Time | | Intention |
|-----------|-------|---------|---|---------------------------------|
| Saturday | 01/07 | 4:00pm | | Intentions of Our Parish Family |
| Sunday | 01/08 | 9:00am | + | Don Churchill |
| | | 11:30am | + | Father William Manger |
| Monday | 01/09 | | | |
| Tuesday | 01/10 | | | |
| Wednesday | 01/11 | Noon | + | Deacon Don Hammond |
| Thursday | 01/12 | Noon | + | Karol Dunford |
| Friday | 01/13 | Noon | + | Father Don Hile |
| Saturday | 01/14 | 4:00pm | + | Mr & Mrs Richard Suhlaymee |
| Sunday | 01/15 | 9:00am | | Robert & Rita Domin |
| | | 11:30am | | Intentions of Our Parish Family |

We Remember in Our Prayers

Barbara Baldy, Bo Burdette, Elizabeth Coleman, Matthew Crabtree, Loretta DiGiorgi, 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 Hanna, John & Claire Johnson, John Lordan, Bob Lucas, Louann Lynch-Kelley, Sheila Kerns, Alec Mansfield, Barbara McCormick, Evelyn Miller, Keith Morgan, Bradley Smith, and Sandy Wheeler

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

| Day | Date | Time | Event | Location |
|-------------|-------|---------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Sat | 01/07 | 9:00am | Men's Bible Sharing Group | Room 5/Library and Zoom |
| | | 3:00pm | Reconciliation | Reconciliation Room |
| | | 4:00pm | Mass -Vigil | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |
| Sun | 01/08 | 9:00am | Mass | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |
| | | 11:30am | Mass | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |
| | | 7:00pm | Dismas Men's Group | Room 6 (Room at the end of the hallway) |
| Mon | 01/09 | 6:00pm | OCIA/RCIA | Library |
| | | 7:00pm | Pastoral Council | Room 5 / Library |
| Tues | 01/10 | | Our Office is Closed Today | |
| | | 6:00pm | Liturgy Committee | Zoom |
| Wed | 01/11 | 10:00am | Bible Study | Room 5 / Library |
| | | Noon | Mass | Chapel |
| | | 1:00pm | Lectio Divina | Conference Room |
| | | 3:30pm | Staff Meeting | |
| Thur | 01/12 | Noon | Mass | Chapel |
| | | 5:00pm | Youth Group | Parish Hall |
| | | 6:00pm | Handbell Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| | | 7:00pm | Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| Fri | 01/13 | 11:15am | Scriptural Rosary | Chapel |
| | | Noon | Mass | Chapel |
| Sat | 01/14 | 9:00am | Men's Bible Sharing Group | Room 5/Library and Zoom |
| | | 3:00pm | Reconciliation | Reconciliation Room |
| | | 4:00pm | Mass – Vigil | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |
| Sun | 01/15 | 9:00am | Mass | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |
| | | 11:30am | Mass | Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/ |

Important Information About the Parish Office

Through the month of January our office manager, Natalie, will be recovering from surgery and working from home. During this time, you can leave a message on our office phone at 304-744-5523 or send us an email at BSCCWV@gmail.com. If you need to come into the Blessed Sacrament office, please call before you come to be sure that someone is there to help before you make the trip. Our Fr. Paul can be reached at 304-433-7472.

Lectio Divina a Spiritual Practice for the New Year – Wednesday, January 11th at 1:00pm in the Conference Room



Lectio divina, or “holy reading,” is an ancient practice, dating from as early as the Third Century. Lectio divina is a slow, quiet, and thoughtful encounter with Scripture. Reading and responding to the biblical passage three times provides time and space for God’s Word to move from our lips, into our minds, and finally into our hearts. You may find this an enriching experience. We are not seeking IN-formation , but TRANS-formation.

WHO: Blessed Sacrament Members, Friends, and Family

WHAT: A slow, quiet, and thoughtful encounter with a Scripture passage from the coming Sunday readings.

WHY: To experience God’s living WORD in the companionship of others seeking to grow in faith.

HOW: Donna Becher, Ann Winton, and other trained Facilitators will lead small groups through the Lectio Divina process using one readings from the coming Sunday for reflection, prayer, and sharing.

WHEN: Wednesdays at 12:30 pm resuming on January 11

WHERE: Blessed Sacrament Parish Gathering Space and various rooms.

Please sign up in the Gathering Space if possible, or simply join us Wednesdays at 12:3

Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 28

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.

May this holy season be for each of us
a time of moving beyond what is “reasonable”
and toward the star of wonder;

moving beyond grasping tight to what we have
to unclenching our hands and letting go,
following the Light where it leads;

moving beyond competition toward cooperation,
seeing that all humans are sisters and brothers;

moving beyond the anxiety of small concerns
towards the joys of justice and peace.

May the transforming acceptance of Mary and Joseph,
the imagination of the shepherds,
and the persistence of the wise men
guide us as we seek the Truth,
always moving toward the Divine promise.
always aware God can be hidden in the frailest among us,
always open to the unexpected flash of Grace,
to the showing forth of that Love that embraces us all.



Call to Worship for Epiphany

People of God, arise, shine,
for your light has come!
The light of Christ has come into the world.
Immanuel.
God with us.

So arise, shine, for your light has come!
And we will follow the light—
when it shines brightly in the night sky
when it glows dimly on the horizon.

We will follow the light—
when it leads down familiar paths to expected destinations
when the road is unfamiliar
and the star rests above a dubious-looking home.
We will lift up our eyes and look around.
And when we see the Christ child,
may our hearts be overwhelmed with joy.

When we are in the presence of Immanuel,
may our knees bend in worship.
When our journey brings us, finally, to the heart of God,
May our hands open in generous sharing;
May our mouths open in generous praise.

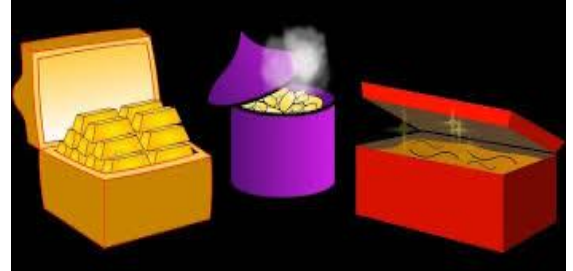
~ Joanna Harader, and posted on the **Spacious Faith** blog. <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Loving God,
We offer you our gold:
The morning on the wing
The glow on the faces of children at play
The shining moments that brighten our lives.

We offer you our frankincense:
The quiet reassurance of familiar things
The grace of care and friendship
The blessing of bread and our heart's yearning in prayer.

We offer you our myrrh:
The ashes of our dreams
The bitter taste of our failures
The shadows through which we stumble.

Transform our inadequate gifts,
that they may be an acceptable sacrifice of praise,
and transform our lives
to reflect more deeply your justice and joy
In the life of the world.



From the Director of Religious Education- Bob Pennington

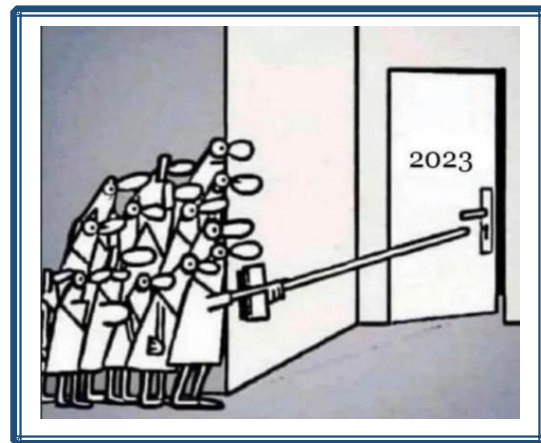
The Adult Faith Formation Survey is below. Please also find the link on the parish website. A hard copy of the survey on paper will be available at all the Masses this weekend. Please go to the Blessed Sacrament website to click on the live link for the survey, or, copy and paste this link into your search window.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6QQX7BN>

Also, we are looking for someone to help with Youth Faith Formation classes.

Date and time of programs to be announced. If you or someone you know may be a good fit for this, please contact me at: rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com

Last, I welcome all parishioners to email me if they would like to share insights about past or present activities related to religious education. I invite people to share whether they served as a ministry leader, teacher, parent, student, or any other capacity whatsoever. I've heard from several people after Mass about how much they enjoyed RCIA and other faith formation programs and it would be of great help to me to hear specifics by email. My email is: rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com



Holy Moments - A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life by Matthew Kelly

One of our parishioners donated many copies of the newest book by Matthew Kelly. Please take one home this weekend. You will find them on tables near both entrances as well as on the credenza in the gathering area. (Note: If you enjoy it and want to give copies of it to people you know, there is a way to order 6 free copies. Just follow the directions on the last page in the book.)

Events to Mark on Your Calendar!

Sunday, January 8th at 7:00pm in Room 6 - Dismas Men's Club Meeting.

Dismas is open to all men of the parish. We are a social men's group that takes on repair and improvement projects around the church.

Monday, January 9th - Pastoral Council Meeting in Room 5 / Library – see article below

Thursday January 19th - LUNCH BUNCH - THE NEXT GENERATION

With much gratitude for Jane Roy's decades of service, a new team has been welcomed by Father Paul to keep our tradition alive! We are: Kathy Monahan, Mary Pat Peck, Steve Rist and John Finnell. We're happy to announce that we WILL have a noon Mass and lunch for all ages on Thursday, January 19! If you would like to help prepare some soup or sandwiches, please email John at snowman25303@hotmail.com or call/text 304-377-3560.

Are you Being Called?

What is our Pastoral Council?

Our Pastoral Council is the body of parishioners who are responsible to keep the whole parish community focused on the Mission, the Goals and the Objectives that we have discerned to be God's will for us. They are the primary body that advises and works with the pastor and staff about the well-being of the parish community as it strives to carry out its Mission. All parishioners of all ages are eligible to serve on the council and to recommend new members.

How is the Council structured?

The Council strives for consensus on questions that are posed rather than majority vote. Consensus means a result that all members can live with, even if it is not our strongest preference. Council members serve a 4-year term. The Council usually meets the second Monday of each month at 7pm.

There is no limit to the number of terms that members can serve. There is also no limit to the number of parishioners who can serve on the Council.

Traditionally, the first meeting of the new Council Session will be in January. However, the retirement of our Pastor, Deacon, and Pastoral Associate and the breaking in of our new Pastor has thrown us off this timeline.

How does one recommend new members for the Pastoral Council?

Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for yourself and for all parishioners. Every parishioner may recommend as many people as they wish. Any parishioner may also recommend him/herself. There will be an ample supply of blank recommendation forms in the gathering space after each Mass for the next 3 weeks.

Those who are recommended will be invited to attend our next meeting and a time of prayerful discernment.

Please send your recommendations to Blessed Sacrament by January 8

- by dropping it in the collection box,
- by mailing it to the parish office
- by emailing to blessedsac@suddenlinkmail.com

If you would like to reach out to any member of the Pastoral Council for more information, please see the list below:

Chip Council, Matt Davis, Rick Brennan, Pam Council, John F. Gianola, Tim Norris, Ken Holz, Jack Dever, Anne Dever, Laura Jennings, Katie Smithberger, Joe Gresham, Philip Maramba, Matt Hayes, David Lewia, and Charlie Wilson

“Rise up in splendor,
Jerusalem!

Your
light has
come.”

(Is 60:1)



Getty Images/Isow

January 8, 2023

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6 | Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Mt 2:1-12

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

It's easy to stay inside and cozy up on the couch these winter months. Having just gotten through the winter solstice, many of us crave light and warmth. The language of Isaiah may resonate with us even more deeply this time of year: "See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory." In today's Gospel, in the dark of night, the Magi follow a bright star to pay homage to Jesus, whom they recognize as the newborn king of the Jews. On the Epiphany, which means "manifestation," we celebrate this moment when Christ's light shone forth to the world. As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI wrote in *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*: "The key point is this: The wise men from the east are a new beginning. They represent the journeying of humanity toward Christ."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Like the Wise Men who traveled a long distance to pay homage to the Christ Child, each of us journeys every day toward a fuller life in Christ. Just as the Magi followed the light to discover Christ, so does the light of Christ serve as our constant beacon, reorienting us toward God and his holy path. After worshipping the Christ Child at Christmas, let us move forward and pay homage to the Savior through our words and actions. Although Epiphany signifies the official "end" of the Christmas season, it is fitting that it falls at the beginning of a new calendar year because it allows us to reexamine, among our traditional "New Year's resolutions," how we live our lives in the light of Christ. "The wise men from the east are a new beginning," the pope said. May their journey and experience inspire us to "begin anew" however we must, and offer Jesus our gifts of love and devotion, considering how his light may shine through us to others.

PRAY "Dear Jesus, as you led the Wise Men to you by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to you by the light of faith. Help us to desire you as ardently as they did. Give us the grace to overcome all the obstacles that keep us far from you. May we, like them, have something to give you when we appear before you. Amen."

Liturgical Ministers – January 7 & 8

| | 4:00pm | 9:00am | 11:30am |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Lectors | Joe Deegan | Susan Churchill | Don Becher |
| Altar Servers | Karen Lewia | Eli Simonton Nathanial Simonton | Jeanne Jarrett |
| Cantors | Jeanie Walter | | John Shawler |
| Communion Principal | Christine Fernandes | Mike Burgess | Sally Cline |
| Communion to the Sick | | Molly Blecher Susan Bowyer Ann Bradley | |
| Greeters/Ushers | Mike & Pat Habenschuss | Dan & Nancy McLaughlin | Greg & Linda Ayers |

Liturgical Ministers – January 14 & 15

| | 4:00pm | 9:00 am | 11:30 am |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Lectors | Gerri Wright | Irene Galloway | Diane Lordan |
| Altar Servers | Vince Stricker Carly Stricker | Eip Shawler Chip Counsil | Tommy Ross |
| Cantors | Nancy McLaughlin | Matt Leary | Heather White |
| Communion Principal | John McGarrity | Missy Summey | Kathy Lester |
| Communion to the Sick | | Tom Aluise Missy Summey Bob Sherrard | |
| Greeters/Ushers | Michael Granata John Providenti | Rob & Kelly Plutro | Greg & Linda Ayers |

31 Club this week

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

| | | |
|------------|-------|---|
| Sun | 01/08 | Peg Nagem / Heidi & Kevin Adams / Brian Cornell |
| Mon | 01/09 | Carolyn Frye |
| Tue | 01/10 | Jane Roy |
| Wed | 01/11 | Tony O'Leary / Joe Deegan / Mary Pat Peck |
| Thu | 01/12 | Victoria Russo / Jackie Aluise |
| Fri | 01/13 | Barbara Breese |
| Sat | 01/14 | Shelly Nason |

Manna Meal Pick Up Schedule

January 11 Greg Ayers
January 18 Don Becher
January 25 Tony O'Leary
February 1 John Ellison
February 8 Matt Leary
February 15 Don Becher
February 22 Tony O'Leary



Creation Care Recipe of the Month-January



Black Bean Soup

A simple, delicious weekday meal that can be served with crusty bread!

Ingredients

- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 can diced tomatoes (or 1 large chopped tomato)
- 2 Tbs white or apple cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon each cumin, coriander and paprika
- 3-4 bay leaves
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 6 cups black beans cooked
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- ¼ cup fresh chopped parsley

Instructions

1. In a large stockpot over medium-high heat, sauté the onion, garlic, and bell pepper in the olive oil until the onion begins to soften, about 5 minutes.
2. Add the tomato, vinegar, cumin, coriander, paprika, bay leaves, salt, and pepper and cook for another 5 minutes.
3. Add the beans and broth and reduce to a simmer. Cook for about 15 minutes, covered.
4. Top with parsley and serve immediately. Or try with cilantro. (6 servings)

Eating "lower on the food chain" is a powerful way to answer Pope Francis' call to Care for Creation.

Why? It can help reduce the amount of water, land, energy, chemicals, transportation, refrigeration and packaging we use. It can also help reduce stress on our livestock and its handlers, lower grocery bills, improve personal health, and keep us in solidarity with people with less means.

How to do it? Choose ingredients that are in-season, organic, locally grown, with simple or no packaging, and contain no meat and little dairy.

Praise Be to God for His generosity — the soil and water, plants and animals that sustain us, and for the farmers who labor. Bon appétit!

Check <https://nebo.sistersofmercy.org/files/documents/resources/Justice/Mercy-Meatless-Mondays.pdf> for more recipes, reflections and information.

Why and How to Have Mass Offered for One's Intention

Offering Mass for a special intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church. Special graces are obtained for whom or what intention the Mass is said. Masses are offered for many reasons — the souls in purgatory, remembrance for someone who is deceased, healing of one who is sick, thanksgiving, in honor of a birthday or anniversary, a worthy or special intention such as peace in the world, etc. The intention is for whom or what the priest is praying as he celebrates Mass. Whenever and wherever the Eucharist is celebrated, the Church shares in the graces of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Because there are more requests for Mass Intentions that can be fulfilled in a year, we are implementing a new policy for scheduling.

1. All Mass intentions need to be scheduled with Natalie at the parish office.
2. Mass Intentions are only scheduled one year at a time, namely the First Sunday of Advent through the Solemnity of Christ the King.
3. To ensure that the recently deceased may be remembered at a Sunday (or Saturday night) Mass or weekday Mass in a timely fashion, some dates will not be assigned an intention until a few weeks ahead of time.
4. The scheduled dates are subject to change if the Mass schedule changes.

Mass Intentions are filled on a first come first served basis. Certain dates are excluded. Some days there will be no Mass or Mass may be postponed. If so, it will be rescheduled. The suggested offering is \$10.00 per Daily Mass intention, and \$20.00 per Sunday Mass intention. Requests with no offerings are welcome and will be accepted. Mass Intentions are published in the Bulletin.

January 15th - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1

Is 49:3, 5-6

The LORD said to me: You are my servant, Israel, through whom I show my glory.
Now the LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb,
that Jacob may be brought back to him and Israel gathered to him;
and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength!
It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob,
and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10

R. (8a and 9a) **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I have waited, waited for the LORD, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God.

R. **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Sacrifice or offering you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, "Behold I come."

R. **Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight,
and your law is within my heart!"

R. **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I announced your justice in the vast assembly; I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

R. **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Reading 2

1 Cor 1:1-3

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,
to the church of God that is in Corinth, to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those
everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia

Jn 1:14a, 12a

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To those who accepted him,
he gave power to become children of God.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

Jn 1:29-34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel." John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

Our Pastoral Council

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Chip Counsil, co-facilitator | Matt Davis | Rick Brennan | Pam Counsil | John F. Gianola |
| Tim Norris, co-facilitator | Ken Holz | Jack Dever | Anne Dever | Laura Jennings |
| Katie Smithberger | Joe Gresham | Philip Maramba | Matt Hayes | David Lewia |
| | | | | Charlie Wilson |

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.

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 St

You may have noticed the sturdy outdoor mailbox near our south entrance. With it we can have dependable mail delivery whether our building is locked or unlocked. (During COVID, we needed a PO Box for our mail delivery.) **Please change our address in your contacts list back to 305 E Street, So. 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/>