

Blessed Sacrament Parish – March 5, 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	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
Monday	03/06			
Tuesday	03/07			
Wednesday	03/08	7:00am Noon	+	Stan & Jean McKinney by Natalie Zellers
Thursday	03/09	Noon	+	Sylvester & Marie Edquist by Susan Bowyer
Friday	03/10	Noon	+	Stephanie Hall by Our Parish
Saturday	03/11	5:30pm	+	Philip Corkrean by Our Parish
Sunday	03/12	9:00am	+	Robert Grassman by Missy Mowrer
		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, Gary Hoskins, 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

Pray He Rests in Peace

Philip Corkrean, father of Carla Stricker

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Sat	03/04	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	03/05	9:00am	Mass	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		10:15am	First Communion Class	Room 2
		10:15am	Youth Faith Formation	Church
		11:30am	Mass	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/
Mon	03/06	6:00pm	Energy Efficiency Team	Room 2
		6:00pm	OCIA	Library
		7:00pm	Creation Care Team	Conference Room
Tues	03/07		Our Office is Closed Today	
		Noon	Brown Bag Book Club	Library
		6:00pm	Liturgy Committee	Conference Room
Wed	03/08	7:00am	Mass	Chapel
		10:00am	Bible Study	Library
		Noon	Mass	Chapel
		1:00pm	Lectio Divina	Conference Room
		7:00pm	Lenten Symposium “Woman at the Well”	Parish Hall
Thur	03/09	Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:00pm	Youth Group	Parish Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Fri	03/10	11:15am	Scriptural Rosary	Chapel
		Noon	Mass	Chapel
		5:30pm	Stations of the Cross (Creation Care & Youth Group)	Sanctuary

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

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.

This Week at Blessed Sacrament continued

Sat	03/11	9:00am	Men's Bible Sharing Group	Room 5/Library and Zoom
		3:00pm	Reconciliation	Reconciliation Room
		5:30pm	Mass - Vigil	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/
Sun	03/12	9:00am	Mass	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		10:15am	First Communion Class	Room 2
		10:15am	Youth Faith Formation	Sanctuary
		11:30am	Mass	Sanctuary & facebook.com/BSCWV/
		1:30pm	Book Club: Breathing Under Water	Library
		7:00pm	Dismas Men's Club	Room 6

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



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

1311 BYRON STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 230
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

March 1, 2023

My Dear Brother Priests,

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I asked that several safety measures be implemented in parishes and during Mass out of concern for the health of our parishioners. Please take a moment to read this letter which shares updates to those safety measures I previously implemented.

PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST

After much prayerful discernment and consultation with members of the medical community, I am reinstating the distribution of the Sacred Cup to the faithful who wish to receive it effective April 6, 2023. This date is most appropriate as it is Holy Thursday, when we recall that our Lord Jesus first gave the Church this precious gift of His Body and His Blood at the Last Supper.

While we believe that when one receives either the Body or Blood of Christ, one is receiving the whole Christ, "His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity," nevertheless, "sharing in both eucharistic species reflects more fully the sacred realities that the Liturgy signifies" (Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America, #8, #10). I urge you to begin preparing and catechizing the assembly, and most importantly, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The faithful should be reminded that the reception of the Sacred Cup has always been optional; those who are uncomfortable or fearful of drinking from the chalice should not feel badly. Moreover, from a practical point, it may take a while for members of the assembly to re-engage receiving under both forms, so that needs to be taken into consideration regarding the amount of wine that is consecrated as well as the number of communion stations. In fact, I advise that if any of us has an illness to refrain from the Sacred Cup out of concern for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion should be reminded of the theological significance of their ministry as well as review practical procedures of wiping the chalice thoroughly after each communicant. Also, keep in mind that prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, I mandated that all priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion use hand sanitizer before they begin to distribute communion. I still urge that the protocol remain in place for priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to sanitize their hand after distributing the Body of Christ on the tongue. Considering the lifting of mask restrictions for most public venues, I have decided that priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are no longer required to wear face masks when distributing Communion to the faithful. This is effective immediately.

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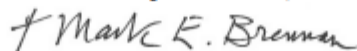
SIGN OF PEACE

Another part of our sacred liturgy that has been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic is the Sign of Peace. If you recall, prior to the pandemic we were encouraged to greet those around us with a handshake or a gentle embrace. I have decided to allow both “tactile” and “non-tactile” gestures. This is also a timely opportunity to catechize the faithful on the liturgical meaning of this moment within the liturgy. Remind the assembly that this is not a time for “Hello, how are you doing?” or “Good morning!” Rather we are bestowing one another with the Peace of Christ. In the Gospel of John (14:27), Jesus makes it clear that the peace that he bestows on us, that we in turn share with one another, is not as the world gives. The Church tells us that “It is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those nearest to them” (GIRM, #82).

In closing, in my travels throughout the state I am privileged to have good conversations with the faithful in our parishes. I know that most will rejoice that this day has finally arrived. Since March 2020, we have learned and developed many precautionary wellness habits to care for our own health and wellness, and that of our neighbors. Out of respect for our brothers and sisters in Christ, let us not diminish this mindfulness.

Invoking the intercession of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, I ask that God continue to bless all of you, your families and parishes, and our great Mountain State.

Fraternally in Christ,



+Mark E. Brennan

Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

MARCH LUNCH BUNCH – THURSDAY, MARCH 16

After a delicious February Lunch Bunch (thanks again to Jane Roy, head chef, and to all who helped out!), we're happy to announce that **we WILL have a noon Mass and lunch at no charge, for all ages on Thursday, March 16! Main Menu: Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots and Onions! There may also be a wee bit of blarney!**

If you can bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to share, please do!

If you have any special dietary needs, please contact John Finnell at 304-377-3560 or snowman25303@hotmail.com.

If you would like to contribute a door prize, just bring it along!

If you can help with clean up, please plan to stay around and do so.

Our team is always happy to hear your thoughts to improve our experience: Kathy Monahan, Steve Rist and Mary Pat Peck.

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 and every Sunday throughout May! 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 every Sunday from 10:15-11:15am. I want to thank CCHS student Audrey Allred, and parishioner volunteers Lynne Gianola and Ann Winton, because of their generosity of spirit and time we are now able to simultaneously have multiple faith formation classes. All students should meet their catechists in the Sanctuary every week until May.

Faith & Film Festival: Please come watch **"Food Inc."** in the Parish Hall on March 19 @ 2pm. The event is co-sponsored by the Creation Care Committee and the Social Justice Committee. The documentary shows the reality of how, where, when, and why food in the United States is grown, genetically modified, produced, and sold in stores and fast food chains.

"Celebrate the Spirit in Recovery: The Journey Toward Transformation" is a community event from 6pm to 8:30pm on March 22 and is open to the public. The event is a program to learn about recovery from alcohol and drug addiction through spirituality. Panel presentations, information tables, food, and sharing will enhance your Lenten journey!

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 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"** will hold their inaugural meetings March 25 at Taylor Books (next to Pies & Pints downtown). If you are interested please email me to learn more: rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com

THANK YOU: to our newest Youth Catechist Ms. Audrey Allred, Charleston Catholic High School student, and parishioner at St. Agnes, who generously offered to lead our younger group of youth in their Sunday Faith Formation. I also want to continue to thank Kris Maramba, Ann Winton, and Lynne Gianola for their generosity of spirit as they continue to serve our Youth in their 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 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: Wednesday, March 8 @ 7pm “Woman at the Well”

WHERE: Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall in South Charleston



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 this Survey Monkey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D9XDJGL>

WHO:

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*.

Creation Care Recipe of the Month-March	
 <h3>Mushroom Onion Soup</h3> <p><i>A warming soup, can be served as a light dinner for 4 or as a side dish for 6.</i></p> <p>Ingredients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">2 tablespoons olive oil2 onions chopped1 pound mushrooms sliced1 tablespoon paprika1 teaspoon dill1 teaspoon salt1/2 teaspoon black pepper3 tablespoons soy sauce1 cup water or vegetable stock2 tablespoons olive oil2 tablespoons unbleached flour2 cups milk (try dairy-free)2 tablespoons lemon juice	 <h3>Instructions</h3> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Heat olive oil in a large stock pot. Add onions and cook over medium-high heat, stirring often, until they soften (8 minutes).2. Add a few tablespoons of water, deglaze and continue cooking until onions are brown and caramelized (about 5 minutes).3. Add the mushrooms, paprika, dill, salt, and pepper. Lower the heat slightly, cover, and cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently.4. Add soy sauce and vegetable stock. Uncover, simmer 10 minutes.5. In a separate pan, mix the olive oil and flour to form a thick paste. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Whisk in the milk. Cook until steaming and slightly thickened.6. Pour milk mixture into the soup. Add lemon juice just before serving.
<p>Eating “lower on the food chain” is a powerful way to answer Pope Francis’ call to Care for Creation.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>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!</i></p> <p>Check https://nebo.sistersofmercy.org/files/documents/resources/Justice/Mercy-Meatless-Mondays.pdf for more recipes, reflections and information.</p>	

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.

Youth Group News

We made pretzels for Lent!



And you can, too!

Here's our recipe:

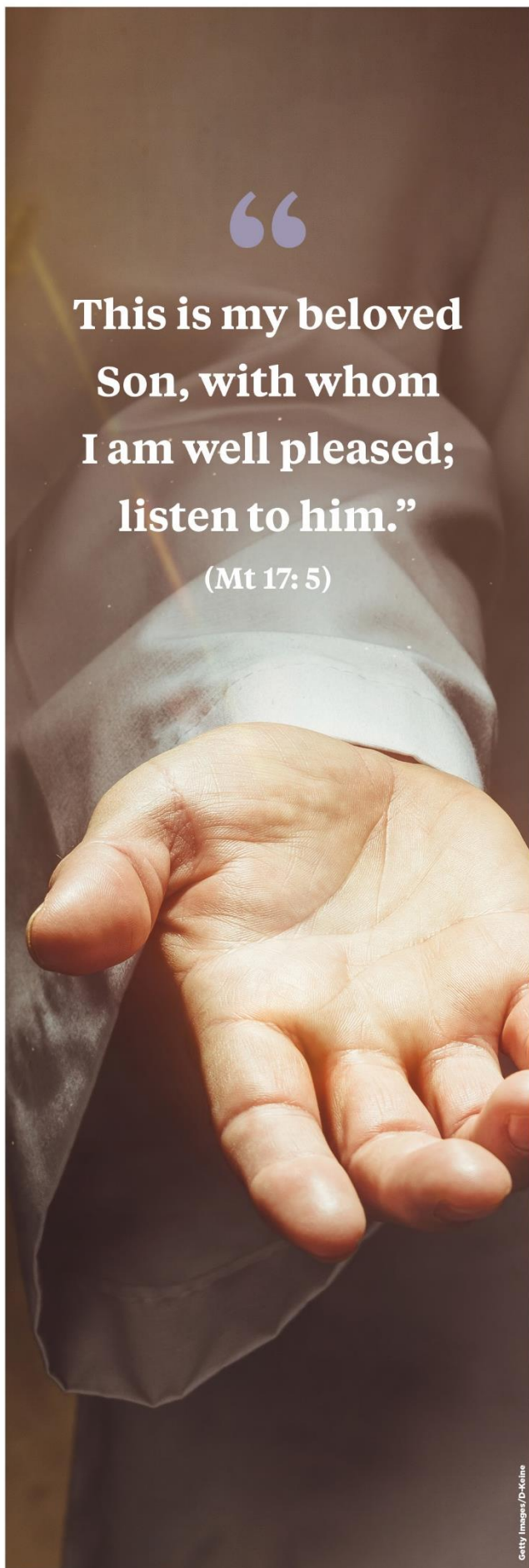
Ingredients:

1 package yeast .25 oz
1 1/2 cups warm water
1 tablespoon sugar
1 teaspoon table salt
4 cups flour
kosher salt for sprinkling

Instructions:

Preheat your oven to 425°F. Mix yeast, warm water, sugar, and salt in a large mixer bowl. Add flour, one cup at a time, and mix with dough hook until it forms a ball. Divide into pieces about the size of a golf ball, and shape into the form of arms crossed in prayer. Place on a baking sheet. (We lined ours with parchment paper and sprayed them with cooking spray.) Sprinkle the top with kosher salt and bake for about 15 minutes or until they're the color you like.





March 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a | 2 Tm 1:8b-10 | Mt 17:1-9

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

As we enter the second week of Lent, today's readings encourage us to place our trust in God when we are dealing with hardship or uncertainty. Last week, we heard about how Jesus resisted the devil's temptations in the desert, trusting in the Father. This week, we follow Peter, James and John up the mountain, where Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." Jesus had told his followers he would suffer and die. The Transfiguration gave them a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming (CCC 554-56). As we continue on our Lenten journeys, we, too, can place our trust in the Lord. Though we may experience hardships and perhaps even doubts, the Transfiguration reminds us that Jesus has gone before us and prepared a place for us. As Pope Francis reminds us, "by his Transfiguration [Jesus] invites us to gaze at him. And looking at Jesus purifies our eyes and prepares them for eternal life, for the vision of heaven" (Homily, March 2014).

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We Catholics like to pray out loud. Whether we're singing the "Holy, Holy" with gusto or quietly reciting the rosary, most of us can say with confidence, "we have a prayer for that." And, of course, prayer is one of the three pillars of Lent (along with fasting and almsgiving). Today's account of the Transfiguration instructs us pretty clearly to listen. As Jesus is transfigured, the disciples hear a voice from the cloud: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; *listen to him*." As we enter the second week of Lent, many of us have chosen something to "give up" or done something more proactive. Either way, today's readings remind us to enter this penitential season with open hearts – and open ears. We can listen to Jesus by studying Scripture, being especially attentive to the Sunday homily, or quietly soaking in his presence through eucharistic adoration.

PRAY Try driving with the radio off this week. Use the time to pray and "listen" to Jesus.

Liturgical Ministers – March 4 & 5

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	John Priestley	Tim DiPiero	Diane Lordan
Altar Servers	Chip Counsil	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	TBD Shelly Nason

Liturgical Ministers – March 11 & 12

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	Tony O’Leary	Denise Burgess	Don Becher
Altar Servers	Karen Lewia	Gary Ferrell Madison Ferrell	Tommy Ross
Cantors	Nancy McLaughlin	John Dever	Heather White
Communion Principal	Ron Teufel		Sally Cline
Communion to the Sick		Missy Summey Susan Bowyer Mike Burgess	
Greeters/Ushers	Rob & Bev Schissler	Jeanne Haas Brian Cornell	Ken McNeil Emilie McNeil

31 Club this week

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

Sun	03/05	Mary Ann Johnson / Vince Stricker
Mon	03/06	Ro DeBias / Sue Anderson
Tue	03/07	Philip Maramba / John Priestley
Wed	03/08	Peg Nagem
Thu	03/09	Carolyn Frye
Fri	03/10	Jane Roy
Sat	03/11	Joe Deegan / Tony O’Leary



CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT IN RECOVERY: *The Journey Toward Transformation*

You Are Invited:

A free program to learn about recovery from alcohol
and drug addiction.

Panel presentations, information tables, food, and sharing.
Enhance your Lenten journey!

Blessed Sacrament Church,
305 E Street
South Charleston, WV 25303

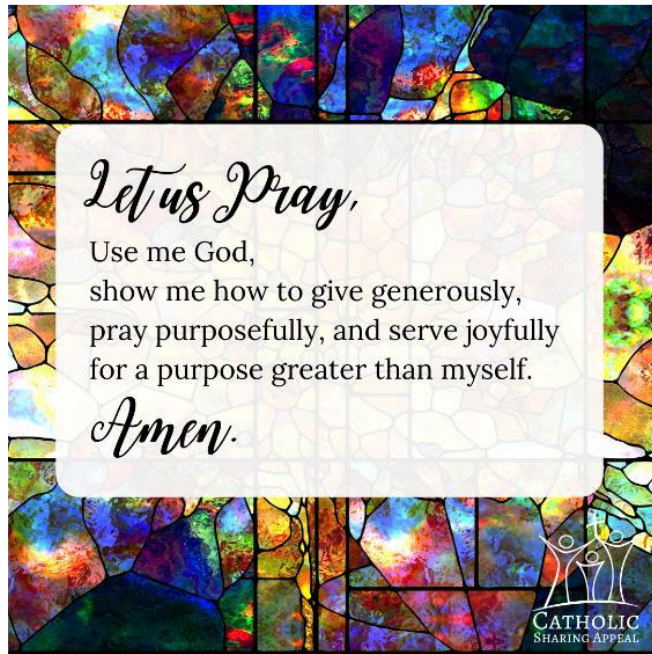
Wednesday, March 22, 2023
6:00pm - 8:30pm

A collaboration of:

Blessed Sacrament Parish (blessedsacramentwv.org)

Addiction Healing Center at St. Francis Hospital (wvumedicine.org/thomas-hospital)

The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality (wvis.org)



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

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.

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.

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.

Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 35

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.

POEM: Anything's Possible

by Mirjam Olivato

Some will look out at the ocean
but never set foot past the shore,
While others set sail and never look back
and go where no man's gone before.

Some people look at a mountain
and the fear of it shadows their mind,
While others look up and chart out their course
as slowly, they start their long climb.

Some people hear of a battle
and walk the first road of retreat,
While others will rush to find the front line
and never give thought of defeat.

Everyone looks in a mirror
and stares at the core of their soul.
We all have the choice to get lost in fear,
or gather the faith to let go.

Anything's possible if you believe,
anything's possible and can be seen,
Once you get past the things in your heart
that cloud what is good and true.

Anything's possible if you have faith.
Just keep your head up and stay in the race.
Others before have known this is true,
And now it's time for you to know
Anything's possible, too....



MYSTIC MORSEL:

If you do not live out your faith enthusiastically, maybe you don't have any faith.
—Blessed Fulton Sheen (1895-1979)

Let's place all our confidence in God, always and for everything.
—Blessed Luisitia Josefa (1866-1937)

PRAYER:

When Doubt Troubles Us

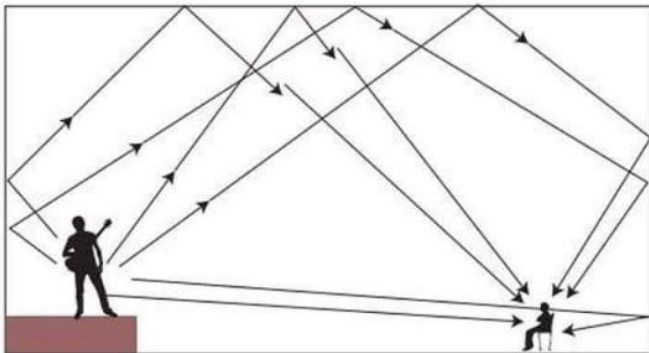


You are with us in our prayer, our love and our doubt,
in our longing to feel Your Presence and do Your will.
You are the still clear voice within us.

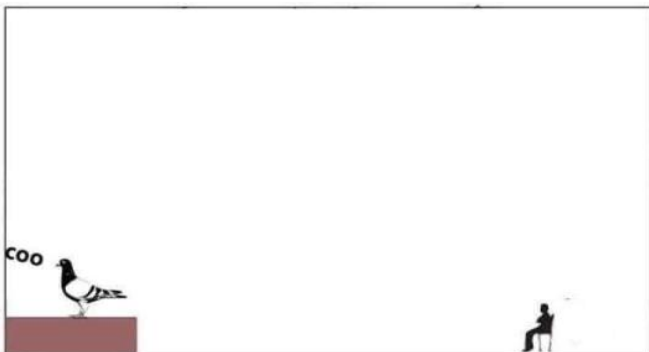
Therefore, O God,
when doubt troubles us,
when anxiety makes us tremble,
when pain clouds the mind,
we look inward for the answer to our prayers.

There may we find You, and there
find courage, insight and endurance.
And let our worship bring us closer to one another,
that [the Church], and all who seek You,
may find new strength for Your service.

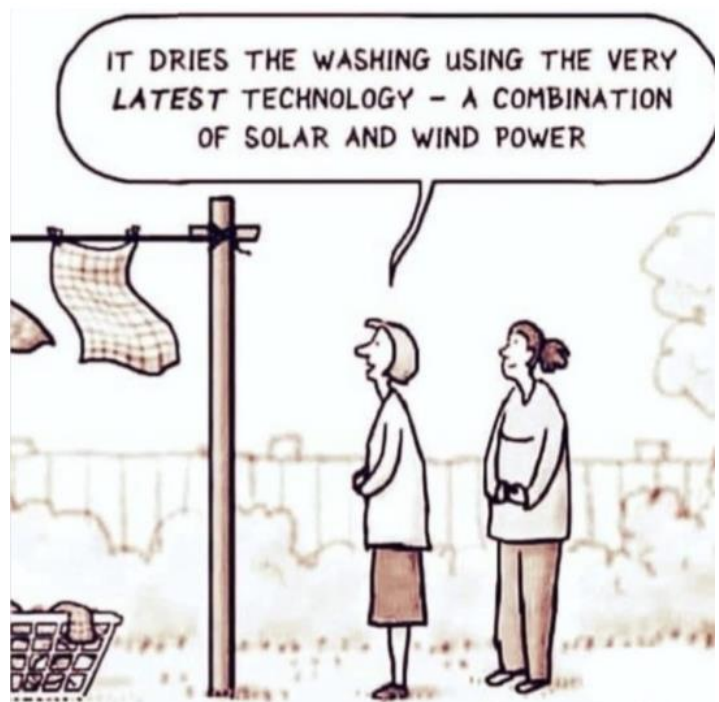
— Harvey J. Fields



The sound from a musician on stage bounces off the auditorium walls to surround the audience.



The sound from a pigeon on stage does not do this.
The reason is a coo sticks.



BookMark

Volume 2, Number 1

Welcome to the Blessed Sacrament Library! We exist to serve you, our Parish Patrons.

Recent additions to our library:

- Jesus: the evidence
- Amazed by God's Grace
- The Popes – every question answered
- Merton's Abbott
- Saint Who? 39 holy unknowns



to

This month is **Lent and Easter** month. The following books have been placed on display especially for your consideration:

- *Into the Desert: Reflections for Lent*
- *Lent – The Sunday Readings*
- *Lent and Easter Reflections for the Younger Crowd*
- *Spirituality for Lent and Easter*
- *No Longer Silent: The Empowerment of Women in the Gospel*
- *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross: Spiritual Reflections for Lent*

The Blessed Sacrament Library contains books, CDs, and DVDs that have been carefully curated to appeal to your interests. If you do not find something to your interest, let me know so that I can attempt to get a title. Questions? Comments? Just email me at BSCCLibrary@proton.me. John C. Priestley II



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.

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.**

March 12, 2023 - Third Sunday of Lent

Reading I

Ex 17:3-7

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?” So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!” The LORD answered Moses, “Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink.” This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD in our midst or not?”

Responsorial Psalm

95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works.”

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading II

Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Verse Before the Gospel

Cf. Jn 4:42, 15

Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Gospel

Jn 4:5-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"

—For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'" The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." The woman answered and said to him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."

At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are you looking for?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?" They went out of the town and came to him. Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, 'In four months the harvest will be here'? I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. The reaper is already receiving payment and gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For here the saying is verified that 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work."

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

Our Pastoral Council

Chip Counsil, 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 Counsil
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.

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.

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/>