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# THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH



THE NATIVITY OF  
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
CHRISTMAS 2025



THE SOLEMNITY OF  
THE NATIVITY OF  
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

VIGIL MASS  
24 DECEMBER 2025  
6:00 PM

REVEREND PENUMAKA MANIKYALARAO  
Rector of the Cathedral  
*Celebrant and Homilist*



MASS DURING THE NIGHT  
25 DECEMBER 2025  
MIDNIGHT

*His Excellency*  
MOST REVEREND MARK E. BRENNAN  
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston  
*Celebrant and Homilist*



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH  
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA



*Welcome to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph  
as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord!*

*We welcome especially all of our guests and visitors  
who are joining us this Christmas.  
Please know that you are always welcome at the Cathedral.*

*We pray that you and your families  
may know the peace, love, and joy of the Christ Child  
this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year!*

# CAROL PRELUDE

The Choir and Musicians of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph

*Creator Alme Siderum*

arr. Richard Burchard  
(b. 1960)

*Creator alme siderum,  
Aeterna lux credentium  
Jesu Redemptor omnium,  
Intende votis supplicum.*

Creator of the stars of night,  
Your people's everlasting light,  
Jesus, Redeemer of us all,  
We pray you hear us when we call.

*Qui daemonis ne fraudibus  
Periret orbit, impetu  
Amoris actus, languidi  
Mundi medela fatus es.*

When man was sunk in sin and death,  
Lost in the depth of Satan's snare,  
Love brought Thee down to cure our ills,  
By taking of those ills a share.

*Commune qui mundi nefas  
Ut expiaret; ad crucem  
E Virginis sacrario  
Intacta prodixit victima.*

Thou, for the sake of guilty men,  
Causing thine own pure blood to flow,  
Didst issue from thy Virgin shrine,  
And to the Cross a Victim go.

*Cujus potestas gloriae,  
Nomenque cum primum  
Et coelites et inferi  
Tremere curvantur genu.*

So great the glory of thy might,  
If we but chance thy name to sound,  
At once all Heaven and Hell unite  
In bending low with awe profound.

*Te deprecamur ultimae  
Magnum diei Judicem,  
Armis supremae gratia;  
Defende nos ab hostibus.*

Great Judge of all in that last day,  
When friends shall fail, and foes combine,  
Be present then with us, we pray,  
To guard us with thy arm divine.

*Virtus, honor, laus, gloria  
Deo Patri cum Filio,  
Sancto simul Paraclito,  
In saeculorum saecula.  
Amen.*

To God the Father, and the Son,  
All praise and power and glory be;  
With Thee, O holy Comforter!  
Henceforth through all eternity.  
Amen.

(Latin, 6th century)

On Christmas night all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring.  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place.  
Angels and men with joy may sing  
All for to see the new-born King.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin he set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
"Glory to God and peace to men,  
Now and for evermore, Amen!"

*(English carol)*

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim, worship night and day,  
A breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay;  
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

*(Christina Rossetti)*

*Alma Redemptoris Mater*

Alvez Barkoskie IV  
(b.1986)

*Alma Redemptoris Mater,  
quae pervia caeli porta manes,  
et stella maris,  
succurre cadenti  
surgere qui curat populo:  
Tu quae genuisti, natura mirante,  
tuum sanctum Genitorem:  
Virgo prius ac posterius,  
Gabrielis ab ore  
sumens illud Ave,  
peccatorum miserere. Amen.*

Loving Mother of the Redeemer,  
who remains the open gateway of heaven  
and star of the sea,  
help your falling people  
who strive to rise again:  
You who, while nature marveled,  
bore your holy Creator:  
Virgin before and after,  
receiving that "Ave"  
from the mouth of Gabriel,  
have mercy on us sinners. Amen.

*(Hermannus Contractus, 11th century)*

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Michael Praetorius  
(1571-1621)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As those of old have sung.  
It came, a flower bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it,  
The Virgin Mother kind.  
To shew God's love aright,  
She bore to men a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

*(Based on Isaiah 11:1; tr. Theodore Baker)*

*Away in a Manger*

Peter Latona  
(b.1968)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*(Stanzas 1 and 2, anonymous; stanza 3, John T. McFarland, 1851-1913)*

# ORDER OF MASS

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

#### PROCESSION TO THE CRÈCHE

*Silent Night*



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm,  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child,  
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly  
Heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht*; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885  
Tune: STILLE NACHT, 66 89 66; Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863

#### MEDITATION AT THE CRÈCHE

*O Magnum Mysterium*  
Evan Ramos (b.1983)

*O magnum mysterium  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum  
jacentem in praesepe.  
O magnum mysterium!  
Amen.*

O great mystery  
and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the newborn Lord  
lying in a manger.  
O great mystery!  
Amen.

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
 2. God of God, Light of Light,  
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,

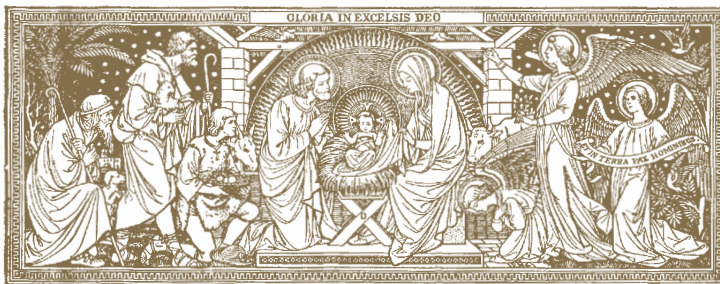
O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him born the King of an - gels;  
 Ve - ry God, Be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: *Adeste fideles*; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt.  
 Tune: ADESTE FIDELIS, Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786



## GREETING

## PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do;

*(All strike their breast as they say:)*  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.



Ky-ri - e e - - - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - - - le - i - son.

Ky-ri - e e - - - le - i - son.

Ky-ri - e e - - - le - i - son.

Music: Vatican Edition VIII (*Missa de Angelis*), Chant Mode 5




## GLORIA



Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus bo-nae vo-lun-ta-tis.

**Choir:** *Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.*



Do-mi-ne De-us, Rex cae-les-tis, De-us Pa-ter om-ni-po-tens.



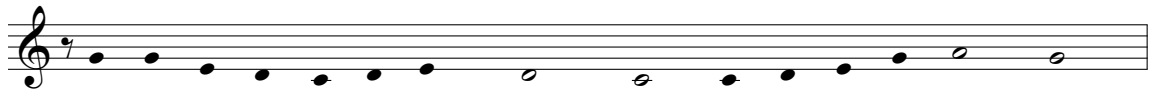
Do-mi-ne Fi-li u-ni-ge-ni-te, Je-su Chri-ste.

**Choir:** *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.*



Qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di, mi-se-re-re no-bis.

**Choir:** *Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.*



Qui se-des ad dex-ter-am Pa-tris, mi-se-re-re no-bis.

**Choir:** *Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.*



Cum San-cto Spi-ri-tu, in glo-ri-a De-i



Pa-tris. A-men.

Text: *The Roman Missal*  
Music: Vatican Edition VIII (*Missa de Angelis*), Chant Mode 5

## COLLECT

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## READING I

Isaiah 9:1-6

## PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13



Text: *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL  
Music: Based on "In Dulci Jubilo", Peter Latona, © 1999

## READING II

Titus 2:11-14

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



I proclaim to you good news of great joy:  
today a Savior is born for us, he is Christ the Lord.

Music: Melchior Vulpinus, c.1570-1615

## GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

## HOMILY



## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(All KNEEL at these two lines)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his Kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*The First Nowell*



1. The first No - well the an - gel did say Was to  
2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing  
3. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In  
in the east be - yond them far; And  
prais - es to our heav - 'nly Lord, Who



fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, On a  
to the earth it gave great light, And  
made the heav'ns and earth of naught, And



cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
with his blood our life has bought.



No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well!



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

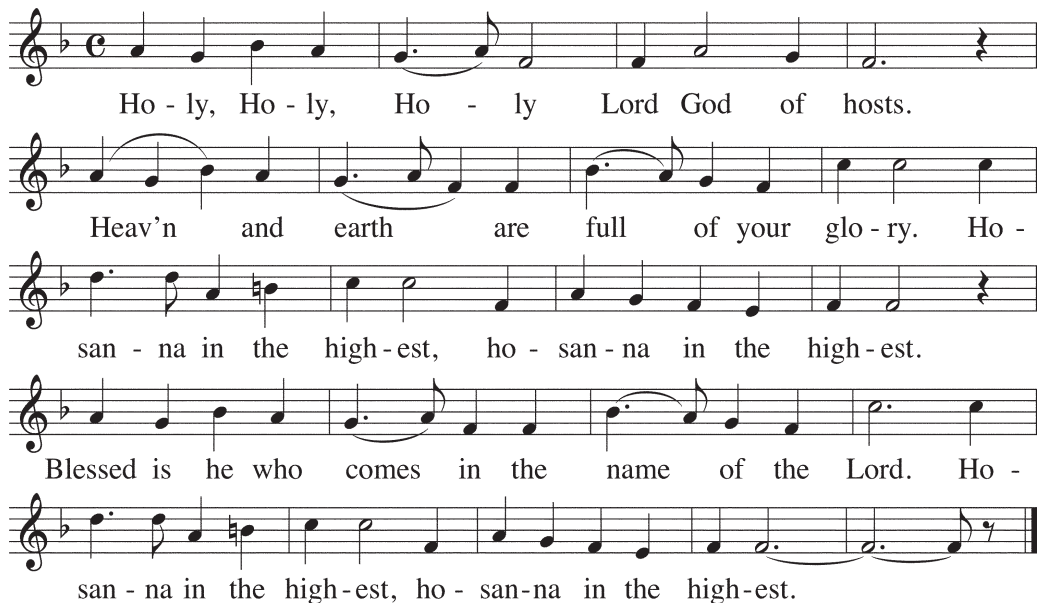
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
Tune: MENDELSSOHN, 77 77 D with refrain; Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847



## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

### PREFACE

### SANCTUS



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, GIA Publications, Inc.

### MYSTERY OF FAITH



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-  
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, GIA Publications, Inc.

## GREAT AMEN



A - men, a - men, a - men.

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, GIA Publications, Inc.



## COMMUNION RITE

### LORD'S PRAYER

### DOXOLOGY

### SIGN OF PEACE

### AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the  
world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### **For Catholics**

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

### **For Our Fellow Christians**

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

### **For Non-Christians**

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

### **For Those Not Receiving Holy Communion**

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1996*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Verbum caro factum est,  
et vidimus glóriam eius.*

The Word became flesh,  
and we have seen his glory.

*(John 1:14)*

## COMMUNION CAROL

*See Amid the Winter's Snow*



1. See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,  
2. Lo, with - in a man - ger lies He who built the star - ry skies;  
3. Say, ye ho - ly shep - herds, say What your joy - ful news to - day,  
4. As we watch'd at dead of night, Lo, we saw a won - drous light;  
5. Teach, O teach us, Ho - ly Child, By thy face so meek and mild,



See the ten - der lamb ap - pears, Pro - mis'd from e - ter - nal years.  
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the che - ru - bim.  
Where - fore have ye left your sheep On the lone - ly moun - tain steep?  
An - gels sing - ing "Peace on earth" Told us of the Sav - ior's birth.  
Teach us to re - sem - ble thee, In thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty:



Hail, thou ev - er - bless - ed morn; Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn;



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

Text: Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

Tune: HUMILITY, 77 77 with refrain; John Goss, 1800-1880



(Schola)

*O Holy Night*  
Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)  
arr. James Biery (b.1956)

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!  
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the Angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born,

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the Wise Men from the Orient land  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our friend.  
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise His Holy name  
Christ is the Lord, O praise His name forever!  
His power and glory evermore proclaim!

*(Placide Cappeau de Roquemaure, trans. John S. Dwight, 1855)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

# CONCLUDING RITE

## SOLEMN BLESSING

## DISMISSAL

## RECESSIONAL CAROL

*Joy to the World*

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let  
2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let  
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And

earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry  
us, our songs em - ploy; While fields and  
makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries

heart pre - pare him room, And  
floods, rocks, hills and plains Re -  
of his right - eous - ness, And

heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: ANTIOCH, CM; arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759, in T. Hawkes' *Collection of Tunes*, 1833

# CHRISTMAS SEASON AT THE CATHEDRAL

*Please join us at the Cathedral as we celebrate the Season of Christmas:*

## THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Sunday, December 28, 2025

Masses: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday) and 7:30 a.m.

Closing Mass of the Jubilee Year: 10:30 a.m.

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD THE OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Masses: 6:00 p.m. (Wednesday), 10:30 a.m.

*Holy Day of Obligation*

## THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Masses: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday), 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Epiphany Party: 3:00 p.m. (St. Alphonsus Hall)

## THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Masses: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday), 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.



## THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH

1218 Eoff Street • Wheeling, West Virginia 26003  
(304) 233-4121 • [www.saintjosephcathedral.com](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.com)

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan, *Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston*  
Rev. Penumaka Manikyalarao, *Rector*  
Rev. John Soplinski, *Vice-Rector*  
Deacon Douglas Breiding  
Deacon Jacob Manning

Mr. Tyler J. Greenwood, *Pastoral Associate*  
Mr. Matthew S. Berher, *Director of Music Ministries*  
Schola of the Cathedral of Saint Joseph



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