



Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the Diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.



February 25 - March 3, 2024

SUN 25

#### Second Sunday of Lent

6:00 pm (Sat) Mass for Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery

8:00 am Mass for the Parishioners

10:30 am Mass for Bishop Thomas J. McDonnell

(Anniversary of Death - 1961)

3:00 pm Rite of Election

6:00 pm Vespers

MON 26

#### **Lenten Weekday**

12:05 pm Mass for David Wiethe

27

#### **Lenten Weekday** Optional Memorial of St. Gregory of Narek

12:05 pm Mass for Evelyn Ghaphery

5:00 pm Confessions

28

#### Lenten Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for Billy Powell 7:00 pm Sons of St. Joseph

29

#### **Lenten Weekday**

12:05 pm Mass for Judy Briggs

#### Lenten Weekday First Friday

11:15 am Confessions

12:05 pm Mass for Nadine Greenwood 12:45 pm **Eucharistic Adoration Begins** 

5:45 pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

6:30 pm Simple Lenten Meal (Chancery Cantina)

#### Lenten Weekday First Saturday

9:00 am Mass for Stephen Grant Moore

9:30 am Rosary Confessions 5:00 pm

6:00 pm Mass for Wib Breiding

**SUN** 3

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#### Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 am Mass for Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery

Book Club (Rectory) 9:15 am 10:30 am Mass for the Parishioners

6:00 pm Vespers



"By accepting the Cross will we be transfigured."

There are times in our lives when God seems to be asking us to make difficult and cruel choices, almost impossible ones! How can God be asking something difficult from us? Why can't He be reasonable? If only we could have happiness without the agony! Yet we all know that in life



there is no escaping from the difficult situations that come our way. Only our faith and love can transfigure our crosses.

In the first reading we are told that God put Abraham to the test by asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac. Surely God could not be asking such an unreasonable thing. After all, his son Isaac, was given to him as a promise. How could God go back on his promise? The other question we could ask is: How and why was Abraham so ready to comply? The only answer to these questions is the tremendous faith of Abraham and the passionate love of God. God spared Isaac and instead provided the lamb of sacrifice. Although God spared the only son of Abraham, He did not intervene to spare His own son Jesus Christ.

In today's Gospel the account of the Transfiguration gives us some insight into the mystery of Jesus, Son of God. The Transfiguration is an epiphany story. This is the earliest epiphany story about Jesus, where the veil is lifted, and his apostles were given a glimpse of His future glory. The chief significance of this event was for Jesus Himself. It was meant to confirm him in the course he had undertaken. But it also benefited the apostles, and it is this that Mark emphasizes. On the mountain Elijah and Moses appeared to them representing the prophets and the law respectively. Thus, Jesus is seen as bringing the law and the prophets to fulfillment. We do not know what exactly happened on that mountain, but it seems Jesus had an intense experience of the presence of God. He heard those marvelous words: "You are my beloved Son."

On Tabor Jesus felt comforted and affirmed. He knew that the Father was pleased with him and would give him all the strength he would need to face whatever lay ahead. With God on his side, he could face anything. At times, life could be dark for us, and we too need to hear those reassuring words: "You are my son the beloved, my favor rests on you." People from time to time do affirm us, but their affirmation is conditional. "You are good, but you need to change your behavior"! "You are good but only if you live up to my expectations!" Only God affirms us exactly as he affirmed his son Jesus. With him there are no terms and conditions even if we are sinners and have failed him. We will always remain the well-beloved sons and daughters of God. On that mountain the Father affirmed Jesus and that same Father is waiting for us to come to him to be affirmed as his well-beloved sons and daughters. Our problem is that as soon as we run into trouble our faith fails us. We think that God has abandoned us. But if we pray, we will realize that God has not abandoned us, He is always with us. Like Jesus on Tabor, we too can experience being affirmed by God, we too can be transformed by the power of his Spirit, if only we let Him into our lives. May we hear the God affirming us saying: "You are my beloved, my favor rests on you!"

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# LENT + Now is the time. Return to the Lord.

Now is the time. Return to the Lord. Gather the people together.

VESPERS (SUNG EVENING PRAYER)
Sundays 6:00 PM

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Fridays 12:45 PM to 5:45 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays 6:00 PM

SIMPLE LENTEN MEAL Fridays 6:30 PM

#### CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays (During Lent) 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM Fridays 11:15 AM to 11:45 AM Saturdays 5:00 PM to 5:45 PM

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Catholics ages 18 to 59 are bound to fast on these two days. They may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid food between meals is not permitted.

All Catholics ages 14 and over are bound to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

### **Synod Lenten Listening Sessions**

The Synod Continues in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Continuing on our journey as a Synodal Church, faithful from around the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are asked to attend a gathering in their vicariate between Feb. 21- March 7. Each gathering will be a synodal listening session to address two questions posed by the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, who met in Rome last October.

- Where have I seen or experienced successes—and distresses—within the Church's structure(s)/organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?
- How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

The session for the Wheeling Vicariate will be held on Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael Church in Wheeling. Everyone is encouraged to attend.



February 28 - Pastoral Council

February 28 - Sons of St. Joseph Fellowship Evening, 7pm

March 1 - First Friday

March 19 - Solemnity of St. Joseph Mass

March 24 - Palm Sunday - Holy Week Begins

March 28/29/30 - The Sacred Paschal Triduum

March 31 - Easter Sunday

# Priests' Health and Retirement Association (PHRA) Collection

#### **NEXT WEEKEND**

A special second collection is scheduled for March 2/3, 2024, to support the Priests' Health and Retirement Association (PHRA), a fund that provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Please take a moment to reflect on the many years of service by our priests and how we can take this opportunity to thank them in a very particular way with a gift to this collection.

#### **Baby Bottle Campaign**

The Knights of Columbus, Wheeling Council 504, began their annual Baby Bottle Campaign last weekend. If you haven't already, they ask that you pick up a bottle at the rear of the church and fill it with loose cash and coins throughout the Lenten season. You are asked to return the bottles on Palm Sunday, March 24. All proceeds are given to the Gabriel Project and used to aid women and child in need.

#### **FOLLOW US**

on social media for updates and more info! **@wheelingcathedral** 

on Facebook & Instagram

Don't have cash or check? Consider making a contribution using our online services www.saintjosephcathedral.com/giving or scan the QR code from your phone!



#### **Offertory Collection**

February 11, 2024

February 18, 2024

Envelopes: \$2163 Loose: \$528 Online: \$714

Total: \$3405

Envelopes: \$1777 Loose: \$411 Online: \$523

Total: \$2711

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Second Sunday of Lent 3



#### The Second Week of Lent

Second Sunday of Lent Saint Mary in Domnica

**Monday** *Saint Clement* 

Tuesday Saint Balbina

**Wednesday** Saint Cecilia in Trastevere

Thursday Saint Mary in Trastevere

**Friday** *Saint Vitalis* 

**Saturday** *Saints Marcellinus and Peter* 

#### **Pro-Life Corner**

You can be a part of a worldwide movement! We invite you to join us now through Palm Sunday in 40 Days for Life, a time of intensive prayer to end abortion. Each weekday at 1:00 p.m., please join us for prayer amidst the crosses in front of the Angelus Center at St. Michael parish on National Road.

The apostle James assures us, "The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful." (James 5: 16) Prayer itself is the foundation of being a righteous person. Done together, prayer's power is increased exponentially, in our lives and in the lives of others!

If you're unable to join us in person, you can get the prayers sent to your inbox by signing up at www.40daysforlife.com. Please let us know that you're joining us this way - it means so much in our efforts to support the people who need us!

# LITURGICAL LIFE

### The Most Important Thing We Will Ever Do

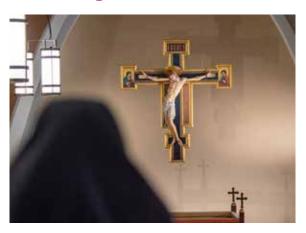
At this second week of Lent, we are still somewhat at the beginning of this holy season, having about 35 days until Easter Sunday. There is much time for us to improve on our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, which will make our celebration of Easter even more joyous and fruitful!

At the very core of Lent is the Paschal Mystery – the Passion Death and Resurrec-

tion of Jesus. All we do during Lent is to help us enter more deeply into this Mystery. It is all about dying to our self and living in Christ. Lent invites us to be united with Christ in His sacrifice of love.

So, how do we make this Lent spiritually fruitful? Redouble our prayer? Absolutely! Great! Mortify ourselves by reducing the amount we eat, refraining from foods we like, abstaining from meat on days even beyond the Fridays of Lent? Super! Give alms to the poor and do deeds of mercy for those who need help? Excellent! But if we want to do something that will bring all of our efforts together and will draw us closer to Our Lord, we should endeavor to participate in Mass every day. Coming to Mass brings us right to the heart of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. Coming to the Eucharistic Sacrifice every day will provide all of the grace and strength we need to follow through with our Lenten resolutions and will unite us with Our Lord Himself. It is really the most important thing we can do each day!

The Church teaches us that when we come to Mass, we are coming to the source and summit of our life (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1324). The Catechism teaches us, "The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up the Eucharist and are oriented toward



it. For in the Blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely, Christ himself, our Pasch" (CCC #1324). We can say that all the good works and prayers that we do in our life find their origin in Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection and point back to the redemption that is made present on the altar at Mass. The Mass is the bedrock of our spiritual life because our redemption happens there. As Sacrosanctum Concilium, Vatican II's decree on the Sacred Liturgy states, "For the liturgy, 'through which the work of redemption is accomplished,' most of all in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, is the outstanding means whereby the faithful may express in their lives and manifest to others the mystery of Christ...".

As the Second Vatican Council taught, "At the Last Supper, on the night he was betrayed, Our Savior instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of his Body and Blood. This he did in order to perpetuate the Sacrifice of the Cross throughout the ages until he should come again and to entrust to his beloved Spouse, the Church, a memorial of his death and resurrection..." (SC, #47). The Mass is all that, and it is made present on the altar every day for us! It is how we are to be united with the Lord Jesus.

During his homily last weekend on the First Sunday of Lent, Deacon Doug Breiding encouraged all of us

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to take seriously our celebrations of the sacraments this Lent, most especially our attendance at Holy Mass. Deacon Doug even put together a very handy pamphlet that has all the Catholic Mass and Confession times throughout the greater Ohio Valley, which you can find in the narthex of the church. If you tell yourself that you don't have time to go to Mass because of work, school, or other commitments, make time! It really is possible. There are ample opportunities to participate in these saving mysteries of our faith each day in our local area.

So, if you want to walk the Way of the Cross this Lent, come to Mass.

If you want to deepen your prayer this Lent, come to Mass.

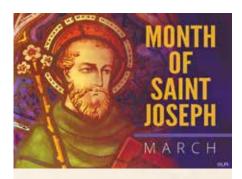
If you want to plumb the depths of God's Word in Holy Scripture this Lent, come to Mass.

If you want to be immersed in the Mystery of Our Lord's Death and Resurrection this Lent, come to Mass.

If you want to be strengthened for fasting and almsgiving, come to Mass.

If you want to grow in holiness this Lent, come to Mass.

Jesus' Sacrifice is truly and really made present at Mass. His resurrected life is poured for us there. So, if you want to make this the best Lent ever, come to Mass! Jesus is really present there and is waiting for you!



The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection.

Pope Saint John Paul II, in his 1989 Apostolic Exhortation Redemptoris Custos (Guardian of the Redemeemer), hopes "that all may grow in devotion to the Patron of the Universal Church and in love for the Savior whom he served in such an exemplary manner ... In this way the whole Christian people not only will turn to St. Joseph with greater fervor and invoke his patronage with trust, but also will always keep before their eyes his humble, mature way of serving and of "taking part" in the plan of salvation." St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because tradition holds that Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage, including the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

#### Women's Group Tuesday, April 9

Tuesday, April 9 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Chancery Cantina

The women's group meeting for March is cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. We will meet next on April 9.

A special thank you to Stephanie Bugaj for bringing the Valentine's Day charcuterie and sweets!

# **PARISH GROUPS**

#### **Book Club**

Sunday, March 3 9:15 - 10:15 am in Rectory

Our book club meets monthly to explore topics of the spiritual life, literature, and culture.



#### "Walk with a Doc" Saturday, March 9 at 9:00am Ohio Valley Mall, St. Clairsville, OH

Bring a friend or the kids and walk with a Doc! Enjoy the opportunity to listen to a Trinity Health Care Physician. Located at the Ohio Valley Mall, begin the walk in Boscov's Court.

After the walk in the mall, we'll meet for breakfast at the nearby Bob Evans.



activities, please join us!



Our men's group is open to all men who are looking for a place where they can find authentic friendships and grow in their faith alongside other men.

Wednesday, February 28 at 7pm
Fellowship Evening at TJ's Sports Garden Restaurant
808 National Road, Wheeling, WV

#### Ways to Honor St. Joseph

- Ask St. Joseph for Help in Your Work
- · Get a Statue of St. Joseph
- Pray the Novena to St. Joseph

Second Sunday of Lent 5



#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Week of February 25

#### **THIS SUNDAY**

Genesis 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Romans 8:31-34 Mark 9:2-10

#### MONDAY

Daniel 9:4-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13 Luke 6:36-38

#### **TUESDAY**

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23 Matthew 23:1-12

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Jeremiah 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 Matthew 20:17-28

#### **THURSDAY**

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 Luke 16:19-31

#### FRIDAY

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28 Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

#### **SATURDAY**

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

#### **NEXT SUNDAY**

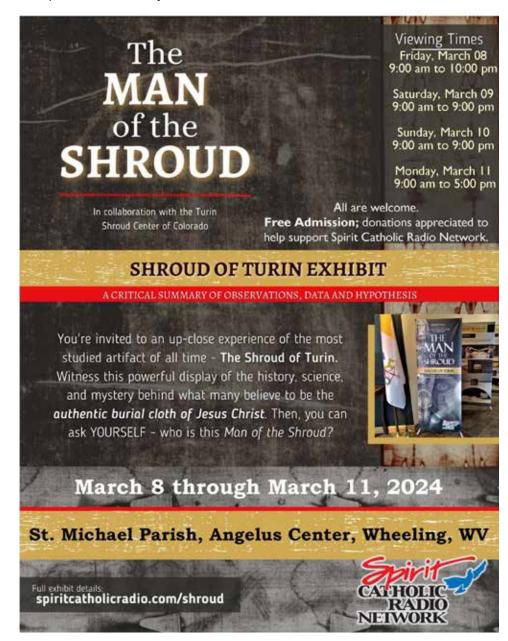
Exodus 20:1-17 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 John 2:13-25

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

# **SAINTS OF THE WEEK**

February 27 - St. Gregory of Narek, abbot, doctor of the Church (b.950-1003)

St. Gregory of Narek is widely revered as one of the greatest figures of medieval Armenian religious thought and literature. Born in the city of Narek in about 950 A.D., Gregory came from a line of scholars and churchmen. Gregory received his education under the guidance of his father, Bishop Khosrov, author of the earliest commentary on the Divine Liturgy, and from Anania Vartabed, abbot of Narek Monastery. He and his two brothers entered monastic life at an early age, and Gregory soon began to excel in music, astronomy, geometry, mathematics, literature, and theology. He became a priest at the age of 25 and dedicated himself to God. He lived most of his life in the monastery of Narek, where he taught at the monastic school. St. Gregory's masterpiece is considered to be his Book of Lamentations. Also known as Narek, it is comprised of 95 prayers, each of which is titled "Conversation with God from the depth of the heart." A central theme is man's separation from God, and his quest to reunite with Him. St. Gregory of Narek was declared a Doctor of the Church in 2015 by Pope Francis, who also, in 2021, ordered the inscription of his feast day into the General Roman Calendar.



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# St. Alphonsus Parish

### Lenten Eucharistic Encounter

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

6:00 pm



Deacon Paul Lim will lead us in Adoration and deliver a homily to stir our souls.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following.

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew Helfer Angela Niehart Archer Hatch Arthur Danehart Austin Cook Barb Mazzocca Beth Jochum **Betty Teater** Bill Wilson **Bob Armstrong** Billy Hanasky Brian Hanasky **Brogan Gallentine** Caleb Hlebiczki Carol Young Carolyn Lash Carolyn Wiethe Catherine Lanham Charles Heizer Charles DeBeni Children of the Youth Services System Christina Helfer

Chuck Fair David A. Kress, Jr. Dianna Albright Doug Jones Eric South Eva Wood Fr. Joseph Wilhelm Frank Davis Frederick C. Schweizer Gail Koch George Kirchner Geri Adams Nagy Hines Rotriga Jean Schultz Jim Antill Jim and Dee Jimmy Hocking Joe Bechtel John Petrella Jon-Michael Lasher Judy Pack Julia Sheets

Kaitlyn Hanasky Kermit Klosterman Kristin Smith Langan Family Liam Barns Liam Manning Lukie Brown Margaret Stocke Marge Mucheck Marie Farnsworth Marie & Conner Workman Mark Davis Marshall South Martha Yocum Mary K. Schlosser Mary Walicki Michael DeBlasis Milissa Rose Nicholas Barns Pete Cuffaro Pete Mack Philippa Shores

R. J. Stocke Richard Simon Rick Burgy Ron Hickman Rosalie Davis Rose Otey Sarah Hanasky Sarah Sargent Shirley DeCaria Stanley Kyrc Susan Graff Susan Mize Susan Schulte Susanna Kress Tammv Teresa Helfer Thelma Pearson Tony Helfer **Trystan Timmons** Victoria Jeskey Zoey Knight

Rachel Wade

#### From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

Kathy Cooley

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 the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.



# WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Attending a Non-Catholic Baptism

#### **Question:**

I know the Catholic Church recognizes some non-Catholic baptisms if the baptisms follow the correct formula. A separated, non-Catholic spouse of a Catholic we know is planning to have their child baptized in a Presbyterian church where she attends. The Catholic partner is going along with this and hope of the child being raised Catholic isn't expected at this time. How should we as practicing Catholics respond to an invitation to the baptism? Should we send a gift?

#### Answer:

As you stated in your question, the Catholic Church recognizes the baptism rites of most mainline Protestant denominations, as long as they are performed in the Trinitarian manner - "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Therefore, since the Church recognizes the baptism of other Christian communities as valid, it is okay to attend the celebration.

Baptism should always be a joyous moment because the person being baptized becomes an adopted son or daughter of the God. While we pray that all people will be united with Jesus in the full communion of the Catholic Church, a baptism is a time of great joy, and so we join with our Christian brothers and sisters in welcoming a new person into God's family.

Since this should be a joyous celebration, it is perfectly fine to give a gift. Perhaps the best gift you can give is to pray for the child and their parents and to be a good example of living the Catholic Faith, that their minds and hearts may be opened to the truth, beauty, and goodness of God in His Church.

Obviously we want people in full communion with Christ and His Church. But a valid baptism is a big first step toward union with Christ and His Church. So we celebrate that, even when it's not in the Catholic Church.

Second Sunday of Lent 7

## The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



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#### **MASS TIMES**

**SUNDAYS** 6:00 pm (Saturday)

> 8:00 am 10:30 am

12:05 pm (Monday thru Friday) **WEEKDAYS** 

9:00 am (Saturday)

**HOLY DAYS** Please consult the bulletin

#### **CONFESSIONS**

**FRIDAY** 11:15 - 11:45 am

SATURDAY 5:00 - 5:45 pm

or by appointment

#### **SACRAMENTS**

#### **BAPTISMS**

By appointment. Please contact the parish office.

#### ANOINTING OF THE SICK / MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to arrange for anointing for someone who is seriously ill or preparing for surgery. If ill, homebound or hospitalized, a visit can be scheduled upon request.

#### **MARRIAGE**

Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

#### **PARISH REGISTRATION**

Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.

Please notify the parish of address changes through contacting the parish office or by visiting the website.

Bulletin Articles due by 9am on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

