

THE Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

2 May 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Vol. 10, No. 22

*I am the vine,
you are the
branches,*

Whoever remains in me and I in him
will bear much fruit, because
without me you can do nothing.

JN 15:5

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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.

This Week

May 2 - 9, 2021

SUN 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter

6:00 pm Mass for Rose Holosko
8:00 am Mass for the Parishioners
10:30 am Mass for George Bridges

MON 3 Feast of Saints Philip and James

12:05 pm Mass for Araleigh Marin

TUE 4 Easter Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for Katie Fahey

WED 5 Easter Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for Dave Wiethe

THU 6 Easter Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for Dorothy Littlehales

FRI 7 Easter Weekday First Friday

11:15 am Confessions
12:05 pm Mass for Fred & Martha Wojcik
12:45 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
5:45 pm Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

SAT 8 Easter Weekday

9:00 am Mass for Theresa Shutler
5:00 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Mass for Wib Breiding

SUN 9 Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Mass for Shirley Sheets
10:30 am Mass for the Parishioners



Dear Parishioners of the Cathedral Parish,

There are a lot of odd ideas out there these days about the human person. Ultimately these ideas stem from a wrong philosophy about humans, namely, how the question is answered *what is a human?*

From the Desk
of the Vice-Rector
Rev. Martin J. Smay

Aristotle, who lived about 350 years before the birth of Christ, defined a human being as “a rational animal” which was a very good start at getting to what a human is. Aristotle, being of Greek origin, did not have the advantage of divine revelation in doing his philosophy but he was a keen observer of the world around him and a very good student of his teacher, Plato. Ultimately philosophy is simply the description of how the world works (hence, all of what we today call “science” once fell under the purview of the philosopher – even in the 19th century science texts often had the word “philosophy” in their titles and Sir Isaac Newton’s groundbreaking book in which he outlines Newtonian physics or classical mechanics was titled *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica* – Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy – and, yes, Newton wrote in the venerable Latin Language). The old Baltimore Catechism, which I love for its clarity, gives us this answer to the question *what is a human being?* A human being is “a creature composed of body and soul, and made to the image and likeness of God.” Both the definition of Aristotle and the Baltimore Catechism have Sacred Scripture supporting them. We read in the Book of Genesis chapter 2 verse 7 “LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and Adam became a living being.” So, there we have it, God telling us that a human is not simply physical matter, nor are we simply spirit, but man became a living being only after God breathed into Adam’s nostrils (I do not know Hebrew nor have I ever studied that language, but breath and spirit are the same word in Hebrew). These two parts are not merely loosely connected to one another but they form a union which is a complete human being.

While this is all contained in the divinely inspired creation accounts found in Sacred Scripture, the reality of the human person as being a body and a soul united the one to the other was demonstrated most definitively by the Resurrection of our Lord from the dead, that is, when His soul was reunited to His glorified body.

The other two major philosophies that exist today about the human person are ultimately reductionist. One says that we are merely a body, a conglomeration of various cells arranged in a particular way and the other is that the real human is a spirit. The “materialist” position is generally held by those who deny that there is any reality beyond that which we can sense with our bodies or measure with scientific instruments (there is no spiritual dimension to reality). This is an intensely difficult position for someone to take, I think, because *inter alia* it makes death a difficult reality to account for. Bodily death, from our Catholic perspective, is when the soul and the body are separated. The soul, among other things, is the unifying principle of the body – it is the thing which “animates” it (hence the Latin word for soul is *anima*). So, when the unifying principle is separated from the body, the body lacks unity and begins to decompose. So the materialist has a difficult time accounting for death because after a person has died, it is the same physical stuff in the same layout, yet clearly something has changed.

Those who think that a human is really a spirit have a stronger position and one which I might hold if I were not a Catholic or had the aid

of divine revelation. This though is firmly grounded in Socrates and Plato's philosophical thought (Socrates was Plato's teacher. Plato is arguably the most important philosopher in all of history). In Plato's dialogue *Phædo*, Socrates speaks of death as "the release of the soul from the chains of the body." Thus, if the human is really a soul/spirit, then the body becomes little more than a prison which confines the soul and death becomes a kind of release from the prison of the body. This was a very common belief in the ancient world. If you have ever been to a museum where they have ancient sarcophagi you may have noticed that many have a squiggly/wave type patterns on them. Those aren't just for decoration, they are actually in the form of an ancient tool called a strigil.



This tool was a curved piece of metal which was used to scrape dirt

off the body, sometimes after having covered the body in oil. The reason they alluded to this tool on sarcophagi is because they believe that at death, the body was scraped away and the soul was able to go free. This idea is also the reason that the truth of the Resurrection of our Lord from the dead (and our resurrection at the end of the world) was off-putting to so many of the Greeks who first heard the Gospel. When St. Paul preached he stood atop the Areopagus in Athens and preached to the Greeks about the resurrection of the dead we are told that when the Athenians "heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; but others said, 'We will hear you again about this'" (Acts 18:32). For the ancient Greek mind, the idea that Christ would go back into His body after death was like going back to prison, it made no sense to them (hence, some mocked it).

This is a far more attractive conception of the human person, in my opinion, if only because it recognizes some fundamental truths about us: we feel the effects of original sin in our bodies which are no longer subtle but are prone to degradation so that the body can so often feel like a prison, especially for those of us who are advanced in years. It does not reduce the human/reality to the strictly material. It is correct in describing biological death as the separation of the soul from the body. We also have an innate sense that the soul is that part of us which is more like God and indeed the likeness of the human to God is chiefly in the soul because the soul is a spirit having understanding (the ability to reason) and free will, and is destined to live forever.

Regardless of the attractiveness of the idea that the human is really a spirit that is perhaps for a time in a body, as noted at the start, divine revelation tells us otherwise and this point is driven home by the Resurrection of our Lord and His promise to raise us on the Last Day (don't worry, our bodies will be perfected and much better than they are now provided that we die in God's good graces – for more on the resurrected body, see the Vice-Rector's column in the Easter Sunday edition of the Cathedral Courier). Properly speaking, a human person is a body and a soul together – this we know by the Catholic Faith.

The truth about what a human being is permeates our Faith. I could give numerous examples, but basically the entire sacramental system is built on this truth about the human person and the reason why Sacred Scripture, divine revelation, and the Church as the organ established by Christ the Lord to preserve His teachings (a.k.a. the Faith) are so important. It is also expressed in our worship of God: there is a reason that we engage not only the mind is worship, but the entirety of the human person: bodily posture during Mass of sitting, standing, and kneeling, the use of bells and incense, and even the Church's exhortation that the bread and wine to be used in the Sacrifice of the Mass be fresh.

What errors have arisen because of false conceptions of the human person? Perhaps the biggest is the transgender movement. The idea that a person can change gender on a whim is rooted in a false conception of the human being. For a materialist, "transitioning" is simply a matter of rearranging the physical matter that is a body so that the person is the opposite sex than what he/she was at birth. For a person who thinks that a human person is simply a spirit, it is easy enough to say that a woman was trapped in a man's body, or a man was trapped in a woman's body. But the soul and the body are not loosely connected parts of a human; they are united in a substantial union to form one complete human nature. This means that if a person has a man's body, he is a man; if a person has a woman's body, she is a woman. This does not mean that we should be insensitive or mean or discriminatory in the fundamental rights of those who have gender dysphoria; our attitude towards them should be one of love and compassion. The love which we must show them must be one which is based in the truth of who a human being is (as our Lord said, "the truth will make you free").

God love you and keep the Faith!

Fr. Martin J. Smay



**Offertory
Collection**

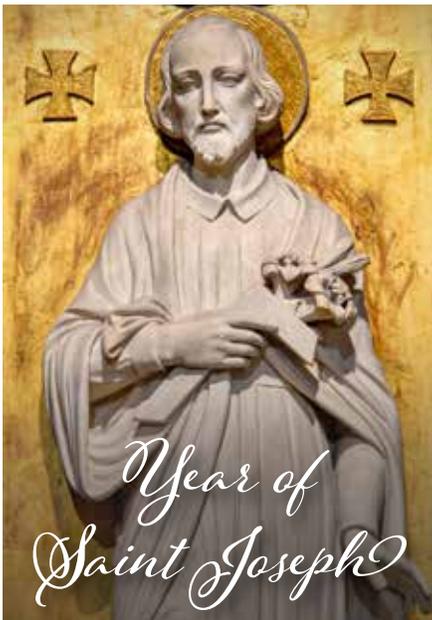
April 25, 2021

Envelopes: \$1655
Loose: \$214
Online: \$508

*Thank you for
your support!*

Thank you!

The Knights of Columbus thank the Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish for their generous support of the Knights of Columbus 40 Cans of Lent. Over 700 pounds of food was donated to the 18th Street Center. Thank you for your support.



When Pope Francis decided to dedicate this liturgical year to St. Joseph and write his apostolic letter, *Patris Corde*, announcing it, he was making his major contribution to the long and storied history of the Church's devotion to Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of Jesus. The prominent place that Saint Joseph holds in our Church Tradition can be seen in his patronage, his liturgical feasts, the religious communities that have taken his name, his apparitions with the Blessed Mother, the major shrines and basilicas dedicated to him, the Church documents written about him, the prayers said to him, his place in the liturgy, as well as the studies devoted to him.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy,
and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.*

"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that "feelings" have become a "new god" and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned

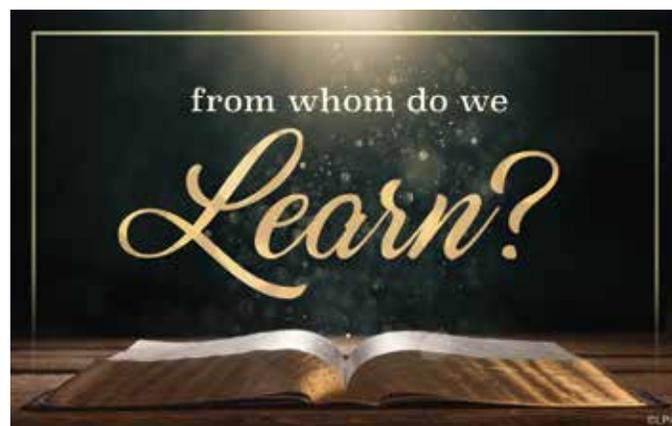
into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant

to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and

allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

©LPi



Inspiring Catholics to Serve Others

On February 29, 2020 members of your parish gathered in Wheeling at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Mt Olivet for a meal-packing event organized by Cross Catholic Outreach and the Knights of Columbus Carroll Council 504. This was the latest of multiple events coordinated with the Knights West Virginia State Council, and the response from the local Catholic community was an inspiration to watch. Along with members from Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Peace, Carroll Council and Knights members from around the state, local children and families came together for the event. At this specific event, your financial support led to a generous gift of \$14,595, and as a result, 80,000 Vitafood meals were packed for delivery to Guatemala, which needed this aid more than ever as the ensuing Covid-19 crisis plunged the Central American country into deeper poverty and hunger. These 80,000 meals increased the overall total Vitafood meals packed by West Virginia Knights to a quarter million meals. Guatemala is a country located in Central America and has one of the most acute hunger problems in the entire Western Hemisphere. Recent droughts have affected large portions of the country. Inadequate rainfall has added to poor harvests and low agricultural production, especially for the corn and bean crops that the Guatemala economy relies on. This has led to fewer jobs and less food for poor families to feed their children. With the pandemic creating even more hunger in Guatemala, Vitafood shipments were rushed to local partners. This included Caritas Santa Rosa, which under the compassionate leadership of Father Raul Monterroso, has been transforming lives in poor rural communities. Through the Santa Rosa feeding program, struggling families received monthly hampers of food, preventing hunger and helping their children excel in school. In addition to this physical nourishment, the priest involved in the program minister to the spiritual need of the people with the love of Christ. Maria Pirir is a 35 year old mother of three children, Diana, 14; Luis, 12; and Gabriel, 10. Both Maria and her husband, Miguel, grew up in poverty and could not afford to finish school.

Making matters worse, Luis suffers from a speech impediment and Gabriel was born with heart problems. These mounting hardships became almost too much for Maria to bear, and she came close to losing her faith. But the Santa Rosa feeding program has altered the family's circumstances in a miraculous way. Encouraged by the food support, Maria began taking her children to church again, and Gabriel experienced a vision of Jesus and St. Peter! Since that divine encounter, he has not suffered from any heart problems, and he can help his father during harvest time without fear for his health. The other children are also doing well. Luis is improving in speech and has lost his stutter, and Diana is on the honor roll at school, better able to focus on her studies now that she has something to eat.

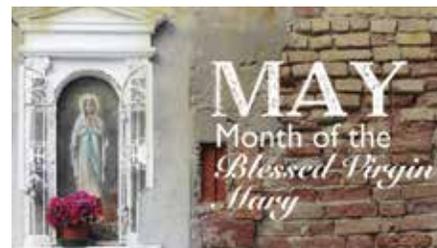
As you can see, your gift of service to help provide food to this family and others in Guatemala has provided much more than food. It has restored faith in God and hope for the future. Carroll Council 504 and all Knights in West Virginia thank each of you for this tremendous charitable outreach.

New to the Parish?

Are you new to the Parish? Has your address or phone number changed? Are you a Catholic wishing to return to the Church? We would love to hear from you! Contact or stop by the Parish Offices to find out more information on how to become a member of the Cathedral Parish.



FOLLOW US ON
Instagram
@wheelingcathedral



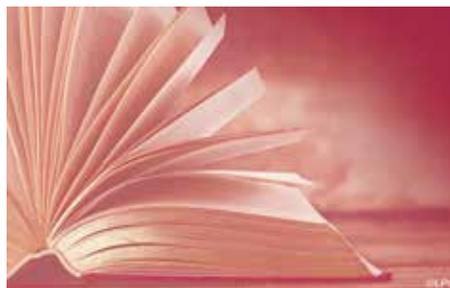
Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The month of May is the “month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady,” and it is the occasion for a “moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God’s mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance” (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1).

This Christian custom of dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin arose at the end of the 13th century. In this way, the Church was able to Christianize the secular feasts which were wont to take place at that time. In the 16th century, books appeared and fostered this devotion.

The practice became especially popular among the members of the Jesuit Order — by 1700 it took hold among their students at the Roman College and a bit later it was publicly practiced in the Gesu Church in Rome. From there it spread to the whole Church.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of May 2

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 9:26-31
Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

MONDAY

1 Corinthians 15:1-8
Ps 19:2-3, 4-5
John 14:6-14

TUESDAY

Acts 14:19-28
Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 21
John 14:27-31

WEDNESDAY

Acts 15:1-6
Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5
John 15:1-8

THURSDAY

Acts 15:7-21
Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 10
John 15:9-11

FRIDAY

Acts 15:22-31
Ps 57:8-9, 10, 12
John 15:12-17

SATURDAY

Acts 16:1-10
Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5
John 15:18-21

NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 10:25-26, 34, 35, 44-48
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
1 John 7:1-10
John 15:9-17

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.

May 3 - Saints Philip and James, apostles (d. 1st century)

Two of the chosen Twelve, Saints Philip and James, grace the liturgical calendar on this day. Although few details are known about St. Philip, Scripture portrays him as one who leads others to Christ. St. Philip introduces his friend Nathaniel to Jesus, and points to Jesus as the source of nourishment in the feeding of the five thousand. He also highlights Jesus as the path to the Father in the Last Supper account. Both Philip and James died as martyrs, shedding their blood for the sake of the Gospel. They are most likely celebrated together because the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles in Rome is dedicated to them.

Saints of God, pray for us!

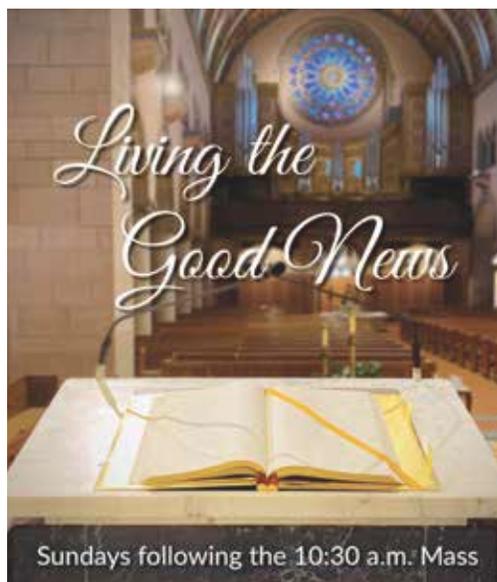
Memorial Mass

Friday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Mary Church, Weirton, WV

The FertilityCare™ Center of the Upper Ohio Valley, Inc. & the Weirton Catholic Pro-Life Group will be sponsoring a Memorial Mass for Babies Who Died Before Birth whether by miscarriage, abortion, ectopic (tubal) pregnancy (no distinction will be made) & whether occurring recently or years ago.

The Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 200 Preston Avenue, Weirton, WV. Confession will be available at 5:30 p.m. So that we may best honor your child please call 304-723-0478 or 304-748-0688 to RSVP (all family members and friends are welcome).



Please join us in the Cathedral after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the Sundays during the Easter Season for a brief discussion on the Scripture Readings for Mass led by Mr. Richard Miesel.

Lebanese Bake Sale

Wednesday, May 19

Our Lady of Lebanon Church
Wheeling, WV

Menu: Meat Pies (\$6), Spinach Pies (\$5), Zatar Bread (\$3) and Sesame Bread (\$2). Orders, payments are due on May 10. Pick-up orders Wednesday, May 19 (2216 Eoff St). Information 304-233-1688

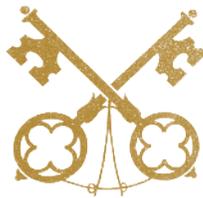
Teens Encounter Christ

Open to older high school teens, young college students. Weekend retreat, reflections, group dialogue, prayer, etc. If interested, please contact Daniel Maul dmaul@dwc.org or call 304-233-0880, ext 376



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

The first Friday of every month, immediately following the 12:05 pm Mass. Benediction at 5:45 pm.



The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Gossip

Question:

Is gossip a mortal sin?

Answer:

To really ask this question, we must consider the Eighth Commandment: "You shall not bear false witness."

In its reflections on this commandment, The Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to not only think about what bearing "false witness" means, but to also consider how we understand the truth and how we communicate more broadly. This is why so much of this section of the Catechism has to do with the gift of language. With this in mind, we will notice that the word "gossip" isn't used by the Catechism. Instead, we find the words "detraction" and "calumny," which are actually two forms that gossip can take, and both can be quite serious.

First, detraction is the of revealing "another's faults and failings to persons who did not know them," without morally valid reasons. Calumny, by extension, is saying something about another person that is untrue, and it is sinful because it "harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgements" (see no. 2477).

In all of our communication, we have to always recognize that we have a moral obligation to the truth and to always work to protect the reputation and honor of our neighbors (see no. 2479).

Gossip can, in fact, prove to be a very serious sin. After all, the Catechism reminds us: "No one is bound to reveal the truth to someone who does not have the right to know it" (no. 2489). When we have gossiped, especially if we are aware we have damaged another person's good name or reputation, we want to make every effort to undo the damage we have done, including seeking the grace and forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew Helfer
Archer Hatch
Arthur Danehart
Austin Cook
Ashton Southerly
Barb Mazzocca
Beth Jochum
Betty Teater
Bill Wilson
Bob Armstrong
Bob Jones
Billy Hanasky
Brian Hanasky
Brogan Gallentine
Caleb Hlebiczki
Carolyn Lash
Carolyn Wiethe
Charles Heizer
Charles DeBeni
Children of the
Youth Services System
Christina Helfer
Chuck Fair
David A. Kress, Jr.

Eli Musser
Eric South
Eva Wood
Fr. Joseph Wilhelm
Frank Davis
Fred Herink
Frederick C. Schweizer
Gail Koch
George Kirchner
Geri Adams Nagy
Hines Rotriga
Janet Cupp
Janie
Jean & Chuck Schultz
Jim Antill
Jim and Dee
Jimmy Hocking
Joe Bechtel
John Petrella
Jon-Michael Lasher
Judy Pack
Julia Sheets
Kathy Cooley
Kaitlyn Hanasky

Kermit Klosterman
Liam Barns
Liam Manning
Lucille Renowicz
Lukie Brown
Margaret Stocke
Marie Farnsworth
Marie & Conner
Workman
Mark Davis
Marshall South
Martha Yocum
Mary Ann Fowler
Mary K. Schlosser
Mary Walicki
Michael DeBlasis
Milissa Rose
Milly Burke
Nadine Greenwood
Nicholas Barns
Norma Bosold
Patricia Kalisz
Pete Cuffaro
Pete Mack

Philippa Shores
Rachel Wade
R. J. Stocke
Richard Simon
Rick Burgy
Ron Hickman
Rosanne Gaughan
Rosalie Davis
Rose Otey
Sarah Hanasky
Sarah Sargent
Shirley DeBeni
Shirley DeCaria
Stanley Kyrk
Stephanie Bugaj
Susan Graff
Susan Mize
Susan Schulte
Tammy
Teresa Helfer
Thelma Pearson
Trystan Timmons
Victoria Jeskey

From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. 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.

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



MASS TIMES

- SUNDAYS** 6:00 pm (Saturday)
8:00 am
10:30 am
- WEEKDAYS** 12:05 pm (Monday thru Friday)
9:00 am (Saturday)
- HOLY DAYS** Please consult the bulletin

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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.

