

# THE Cathedral Courier

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



31 August 2025



*Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT • FRANCISCO GOYA • FEAST DAY: SEPTEMBER 3

# HOLY MASS

## SUNDAY

7:30 AM  
10:30 AM

## SATURDAY

9:00 AM  
6:00 PM (Sunday Vigil)

## WEEKDAYS (Monday-Friday)

12:05 PM

## OUR PARISH

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

### CLERGY

#### PASTOR

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan  
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

#### RECTOR

Rev. Pen (Penumaka Manikyalarao)  
[pmanikyalarao@dwc.org](mailto:pmanikyalarao@dwc.org)

#### VICE-RECTOR

Rev. John Soplinski  
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### STAFF

#### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

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#### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Matthew S. Berher  
[mberher@dwc.org](mailto:mberher@dwc.org)

#### SACRISTAN

Martin Imbroscio

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 4:30pm

*Bulletin articles are due by 12 Noon on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.*

### REGISTRATION

Registration forms can be obtained at [www.saintjosephcathedral.com](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.com) or through the parish office.

Please notify the parish of address changes.

#### From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

To report an incident 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](http://www.dwc.org) under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

*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.*

# SACRAMENTS

## **Confession**

Friday: 11:00 am to 11:45 am  
Saturday: 11:00 am to 12 Noon

## **Baptism**

Please contact the Parish Office to arrange for a meeting with the priest as well as the necessary preparation.

## **Marriage**

Engaged couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance to make an appointment with the priest.

## **Holy Orders**

If you believe you are being called by God to serve the Church as a priest, deacon, or religious brother or sister, please contact Fr. John Soplinski, the Diocesan Director of Vocations at [jsoplinski@dwc.org](mailto:jsoplinski@dwc.org) or (304) 233-4121.

## **Pastoral Care of the Sick**

Priests and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available to bring Holy Communion to parishioners confined to home. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements. Those who are seriously ill or who are preparing for surgery should request a priest for Anointing of the Sick.



Visit the Sacraments page at [www.saintjosephcathedral.com](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.com) for more information.

## LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Our Sunday Masses are live-streamed and archived for later viewing at [www.dwc.org/mass](http://www.dwc.org/mass).  
*While this is a valuable resource for those unable to attend in person due to health or other serious reasons, please remember that live-streamed Masses are not a substitute for the in-person celebration.*

## STAY CONNECTED



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*The Mother Church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston*



# Masses & Schedule

August 31 - September 7, 2025

## SUN 31 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 pm (Sat) Mass for + Albert Mazur  
7:30 am Mass for the Parishioners  
10:30 am Mass for + Violet Gossett

## MON 1 Weekday in Ordinary Time Month of Our Lady of Sorrows World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Labor Day

9:00 am Mass for + Sarah Truini

## TUE 2 Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 pm Mass for + Rose Purpura  
6:00 pm St. Gianna Pro-Life Group (*St. Alphonsus*)

## WED 3 Memorial of St. Gregory the Great

12:05 pm Mass for + Evelyn & Jack Jochum  
7:00 pm St. Monica Prayer Group (*St. Alphonsus*)

## THU 4 Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 pm Mass for + Bartholomew Propers  
6:00 pm Eucharistic Missionaries Series (*Cantina*)  
7:30 pm Catholics in Recovery

## FRI 5 Weekday in Ordinary Time First Friday

11:00 am Confessions  
12:05 pm Mass for + Margaret Hehr  
12:45 pm Eucharistic Adoration Begins  
4:00 pm Holy Hour of Reparation & Benediction

## SAT 6 Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary First Saturday

9:00 am Mass for + Dale & Theresa Shutler  
11:00 am Confessions  
6:00 pm Mass for + Madeline Belby  
7:00 pm Carlo Acutis Film (*Courtyard*)

## SUN 7 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Mass for + Mihalena Pacwicz  
9:00 am Faith Sharing Book Club (*Rectory*)  
10:30 am Mass for the Parishioners  
Bl. Carlo Acutis Canonization Celebration

**The Rosary is prayed Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m.**  
**Please join us as we pray especially for**  
**an increase in vocations in our diocese.**

## RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us the importance of humility as He says, "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11). True greatness in God's eyes is found not in status or recognition, but in loving service and generosity. When we live with humble hearts, we reflect the very heart of Christ Himself.

On this Labor Day weekend, we give thanks for the gift of work and for the dignity it brings to our lives. We also remember in a special way those who are without work or struggling to provide for their families, asking God to bless them with strength, hope, and opportunity.

This is also the time of year when many students, teachers, and school staff return to the classroom. Please join me in praying for all those beginning a new academic year, that God may grant them wisdom, patience, and perseverance. May our Catholic schools, especially, be places where faith and learning grow hand in hand.

As we prepare to enter the fall months, our Cathedral has many exciting events and special liturgies planned. These are wonderful opportunities for us to grow together in faith as a parish family. It is also a season to reflect prayerfully on how we can better offer our time, talent, and treasure for the life and mission of our Cathedral. On the weekend of September 20 and 21, we will host our annual Stewardship Fair after all the weekend Masses. This is a chance to explore the many ministries and groups in our parish and to discern how God might be calling you to serve. I encourage everyone to begin prayerfully considering where the Lord may be inviting you to share your gifts.

May today's Gospel inspire us to walk humbly with God and seek to serve one another with generous hearts.

In Christ,  
*Father Pen*

## New Pastoral Council Members

Congratulations to the newly elected and appointed members of our Cathedral Pastoral Council: **Stephanie Bugaj, Sarah Coleman, Lanny Sacco, and John Turziano.** We are grateful for their willingness to serve and to help guide the mission and ministries of our parish. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin this important work!

## Join Us in Celebrating Bl. Carlo Acutis!

**Next weekend, join us at the Cathedral as we joyfully celebrate the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint!** Carlo, who died at just 15 in 2006, used his passion for the Eucharist and technology to share the faith and inspire millions. Don't miss this historic occasion as we give thanks for his powerful witness and seek his intercession for our own journey of holiness!  
**See page 10 for more details!**

# ANNUAL NOVENA TO THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

SEPTEMBER 8 – NOVEMBER 3, 2025  
NINE CONSECUTIVE MONDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

*Hope Does Not Disappoint*



Cathedral of Saint Joseph  
Wheeling, West Virginia

*"The more you honor me, the more I will bless you."*



## Eucharistic Adoration

**This Friday, September 5 from 12:45pm-5pm**

Eucharistic Adoration will begin immediately following the 12:05pm Mass and continue until our Holy Hour of Reparation at 4:00pm, followed by Benediction. All are welcome to come and adore the Lord!

**SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR GAZA**  
**SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2025**

VISIT [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG)  
TO GIVE ONLINE

**CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL**

**Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we have raised \$51,884—well beyond our goal of \$16,400!** Every gift continues to support the vital ministries at the Cathedral. Your support is making a real difference, and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership. If you haven't had the chance to contribute yet, there's still time to give! Simply scan the QR code below or return your pledge card today. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us continue our mission.



**To make a secure online donation in support of the Catholic Sharing Appeal, please scan this QR code using the camera on your smartphone or device.**

## • UPCOMING EVENTS •

- September 1** - Labor Day Mass, 9am
- September 5** - First Friday Eucharistic Adoration, 12:45-5pm
- September 6/7** - Celebration of Bl. Carlo Acutis Canonization
- September 8** - Infant of Prague Novena begins, 7pm
- September 15** - Blessing of Catechists & Students
- September 21** - Stewardship Sunday
- September 24** - 40 Days for Life Opening Mass, 6pm
- September 27** - Diocesan Religious Appreciation Mass, 6pm
- October 4** - Blessing of Pets, 10am
- October 12** - Fall Festival, 12 Noon - 5pm
- October 30** - Rosary Procession & Mass, 7pm

## Mass Intentions for 2026

It is an ancient and noble practice to pray for the living and the deceased at Mass. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest and most powerful prayer we have, since it makes present the saving fruits of Christ's redemption. Because of this, many parishioners seek to schedule Mass intentions for their loved ones.

### Anyone may request a Mass intention for:

- A person who is living or deceased, Catholic or non-Catholic.
- Particular individuals or families.
- A special intention appropriate to the Eucharist, such as: World Peace, Vocations, Respect for Life, or Souls in Purgatory.

### How to Request a Mass Intention:

Mass intentions will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. **Requests for 2026 may be made beginning Monday, September 16, 2025, by:**

- Visiting the Parish Office
- Calling the office at 304-233-4121
- E-mailing [cathedraloffice@dwc.org](mailto:cathedraloffice@dwc.org)

*(Please note: No intentions will be accepted by mail.)*

### Guidelines:

- At the time the 2026 book opens, each household or group may request up to five (5) Mass intentions to allow fair opportunity for all parishioners.
- Requests will be scheduled as close to the desired date and time as possible; if unavailable, the nearest possible date will be offered.
- A \$10 stipend per Mass is suggested. Please make checks payable to the Cathedral of St. Joseph. However, no one will be denied a Mass intention due to inability to pay.

## COLLECTION & ATTENDANCE

### August 24, 2025

Envelopes: \$1917 • Loose: \$911 • Online: \$613 • **Total: \$3441**  
Maintenance Fund: \$170 • Music: \$20  
*Attendance: 289*

***Thank you for your generous support!***



## SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of August 31

### THIS SUNDAY

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29  
Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11  
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24  
Luke 14:1, 7-14

### MONDAY

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17  
Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13  
Luke 4:16-30

### TUESDAY

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11  
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14  
Luke 4:31-37

### WEDNESDAY

Colossians 1:1-8  
Ps 52:10, 11  
Luke 4:38-44

### THURSDAY

Colossians 1:9-14  
Ps 98:2-3, 3-4, 5-6  
Luke 5:1-11

### FRIDAY

Colossians 1:15-20  
Ps 100:1-2, 3, 4, 5  
Luke 5:33-39

### SATURDAY

Colossians 1:21-23  
Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8  
Luke 6:1-5

### NEXT SUNDAY

Wisdom 9:13-18  
Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17  
Philemon 9-10, 12-17  
Luke 14:25-33

*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.*

# The Dignity of Work and the Gift of Rest

## Honoring Our Labor, Trusting in God's Providence

As we celebrate Labor Day weekend, the Church invites us to pause and reflect on the dignity of human work and the sacred value it holds in God's plan. From the very beginning, Scripture reveals that work is part of our participation in God's creative love: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15). Work is not a burden but a blessing—a way to glorify God, provide for our families, and contribute to the common good.

The Catholic Church has long taught that work is more than a means of making a living; it is a vocation. In his encyclical *Laborem Exercens*, Pope St. John Paul II reminded us that "work is a good thing for man—a good thing for his humanity—because through work man not only transforms nature, adapting it to his own needs, but he also achieves fulfillment as a human being." Work shapes us, deepens our dignity, and becomes an offering when united to Christ.

Labor Day also reminds us of the importance of rest. Just as God rested on the seventh day, we are called to find renewal in Him. True rest is more than simply stopping our labor; it is time spent with God and loved ones, rekindling the joy of being His sons and daughters.



Stained glass window of *The Holy Family at Work in Nazareth*, from the North Transept in our Cathedral

This weekend, let us give thanks for the gift of work and pray for all laborers—especially those seeking employment, those who struggle under unjust conditions, and those whose work often goes unseen. And let us remember that in all we do, whether in the workplace, at home, or in service to others, we are called to sanctify our labor by offering it back to God.

"Whatever you do, do from the heart, as for the Lord and not for others" (Colossians 3:23).



# GROUPS & MINISTRIES



We invite all men in the community to join us in building authentic friendships with Christ and each other so that we can walk together in becoming the men He has called us to be.

**We are participating in the five week course on becoming Eucharistic Missionaries on Thursday evenings at 6pm in the Cantina!**

**FORMATION • FELLOWSHIP • WORSHIP • SERVICE**

## Sisters in Grace Women's Group

The Sisters in Grace are a joyful group of Catholic women who grow in faith through prayer, fellowship, and service. Open to women of all ages, they foster sisterhood, deepen their relationship with God, and support the Church and community. For more information, please contact Stephanie at [thebugajs@gmail.com](mailto:thebugajs@gmail.com)

## St. Monica Prayer Group

**Wednesday, September 3 at 7:00 p.m. | St. Alphonsus**

Join the St. Monica Prayer Group as we unite in prayer for loved ones who have wandered from the Faith.

## Faith Sharing Book Club

**Sunday, September 7 at 9:00 a.m. | Rectory**

Our book club provides a unique opportunity for parishioners to come together and explore the richness of Catholic literature and spiritual writings.



## St. Gianna Pro-Life Ministry



Do you have a heart for those who need our help?

Help us build a culture of life in our community!

**Join us at our next meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 2nd at St. Alphonsus**

**6:00pm pro-life rosary in church  
6:30pm meeting in fellowship hall**

## Adult Faith Formation

**Our Adult Faith Formation will resume on Thursday, August 21 with a five-week course on becoming Eucharistic Missionaries!** Please see page 4 for more details and sign up today!

## Catholics in Recovery

**Thursday at 7:30 p.m. | St. Alphonsus Hall**

This program offers support for those facing addictions and unhealthy attachments - including alcohol, drugs, pornography, relationships, food, gambling, and anxiety. Come for yourself or someone you love who is struggling. *For more information, please e-mail Fr. John Soplinski at [jsoplinski@dwc.org](mailto:jsoplinski@dwc.org) or call the parish office at 304-233-4121.*

## Stewardship Reflection

On this Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus teaches us the importance of humility, reminding us that those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Stewardship begins with this humble posture—recognizing that all we have is gift and responding with gratitude. True generosity flows from a heart that knows its dependence on God. As we enter a new season, may we seek not recognition, but opportunities to serve with humility and love.

## Seniors Group

If you are 55 years and over and searching for a group that shares conversation, friendship, fun, and spiritual activities, this group is just for you! Stay tuned for our next event!



## September 6/7 Liturgical Ministers Schedule

	Greeter	Altar Server	Reader	EMHC
<b>Saturday 6:00 pm</b>	Jennifer W. Judy M.	Martin I.	Roberta P. Br. John B.	Paul R. Judy R.
<b>Sunday 7:30 am</b>	Paul B. Kathy B.	Julia S. Tamora M.	Mark B.	Philippa S.
<b>Sunday 10:30 am</b>	Sarah C. Linda F.	The Brown Family Martin I.	Guests	John T. Debbie T.
<b>Collection Counters for this Week</b>		Cathy L., Cathy L., Libby B.		

# LIVING OUR FAITH



## Opening Mass

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025  
6:00 PM

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH  
2111 MARKET ST, WHEELING, WV 26003

Join us as we begin 40 Days for Life with a special Mass and Eucharistic Procession, uniting in prayer for the dignity and protection of every human life.

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." — Jeremiah 1:5*

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

### St. Gregory the Great (c. 540–604)

Feast Day: September 3

Saint Gregory the Great, pope and Doctor of the Church, is remembered as one of the most influential leaders in Church history. Born into a wealthy Roman family, Gregory served as a civil administrator before becoming a Benedictine monk, seeking a life of prayer and simplicity.



Elected pope in 590 during a time of political turmoil and plague, he brought stability and reform to both the Church and society. Gregory is known for strengthening papal authority, promoting missionary work—especially sending Saint Augustine of Canterbury to evangelize England—and reforming the liturgy, giving rise to the tradition of Gregorian chant.

His writings, including the Pastoral Rule and Dialogues, reveal his deep spiritual insight and his vision of the pope as "servant of the servants of God." Canonized soon after his death, Gregory is honored as a model of humility, leadership, and holiness.



On September 15, the Church honors the Blessed Mother as Our Lady of Sorrows. "And a sword will pierce your own soul, too," Simeon told Mary when she presented the child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:35). That prophecy was fulfilled as she stood at the foot of the Cross, sharing her Son's suffering. This month, let us bring our sorrows to Mary, who truly understands suffering, and draw closer to her by meditating on the great hymn to the Mother of Sorrows, the *Stabat Mater*.

### Ways to Honor Our Lady of Sorrows

- Pray the *Stabat Mater*
- Meditate upon an image of the *Pieta*
- Don't run from the sorrows of others

## THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION

### September: For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

### Please remember in your prayers:

Blanche Kirkland	Laine Castello	Pete Cuffaro
Cheryl Garrison	Maria Workman	Susan Ackerman
Eleanor DiProsperis	Marsha Bartlett	Our Homebound Parishioners
Joe Bechtel	Millie Kirkpatrick	
Joyce Hehr	Pat Edmon	



## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Let us welcome the newest members of our Cathedral Parish Family:

**Seth & Shirley Renzella**  
**Jennifer Kokosinski**

*May you find a joyful and faith-filled home here at the Cathedral of St. Joseph!*

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



Evangelization is the primary task of the Church and we, the members of the Church, are called to evangelize. Let us go forth and seek out those who want to be Catholic and bring them to experience an encounter with Jesus. Therefore,

### ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Is interested in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?
- Has been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what to do to become Catholic?

Registration for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is open. If you want to join or knows someone who wants to be Catholic, please contact the Parish Office at 304-233-4121 or [tgreenwood@dwc.org](mailto:tgreenwood@dwc.org)



## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

### Catholic Life Explained:

#### *Chewing Gum at Mass*

#### Question:

Does chewing gum break the fast before receiving Holy Communion?

#### Answer:

If you look in Canon Law or in the Catechism, there is no mention of chewing gum. I guess it does not rate the attention of the universal church! The Church requires us to fast for one hour before we receive the Eucharist. Basically, we are to refrain from food and drink, not including water or medicine. There are also exceptions for people who are ill. Overall, the fast is intended for us to prepare ourselves to receive the Eucharist and in some small way to literally as well as spiritually hunger for what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, while not really food, does at least break the spirit of the fast. Besides that, it is a distraction and rude. What do you do with the gum when it is time to receive Communion? People have actually come to the altar chewing away, oblivious to what they were doing or Who they were receiving. At best, it is distracting and irreverent. At worst, it adds a barrier to giving our best to receiving God's best.



Our beautiful Cathedral, rich in history and faith, needs essential repairs to preserve it for future generations. Three critical projects have been identified:

**Roof Repairs:** A major leak threatens interior damage — estimated at \$145,000

**Wall Repairs:** Cracked limestone near a transept window needs urgent repair — \$9,680

**HVAC Replacement:** Our aging system and obsolete refrigerant require full replacement — \$250,000

Your generous contributions will help us safeguard our Cathedral's future. Please consider making a donation towards these essential repairs. Every gift makes a difference. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

**So far we have received \$38,672 in donations. Thank you for your support!**

*If you have a question you'd like answered, please email [tgreenwood@dwc.org](mailto:tgreenwood@dwc.org).*

JOIN THE INAUGURAL  
GATHERING OF . . .

## MOUNTAIN STATE CATHOLIC MEN

Friday, September 12

St. Joseph Cathedral Parish  
Wheeling, WV

5:30 P.M. EXPOSITION OF  
BLESSED SACRAMENT & VESPERS

6:30 P.M. INFORMAL DINNER  
FOLLOWED BY ROUNDTABLE  
DISCUSSION

Saturday, September 13  
Pittsburgh, PA

Gathering of Catholic Men's Conference  
Noon to 4:30 p.m. (Mass at 4:30 p.m.)

For more information and to register for  
Pittsburgh conference, go to:

[www.cmfwpa.org](http://www.cmfwpa.org)

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COMMUNITIES

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Tyler Greenwood  
[tgreenwood@dwc.org](mailto:tgreenwood@dwc.org)  
304-233-4121

OR

Mike Tupta  
[mjtdds@cisinternet.net](mailto:mjtdds@cisinternet.net)  
304-541-5177

*“To always be close to Jesus—that’s my life plan.”*

# A CELEBRATION OF THE CANONIZATION OF SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Join us as we give thanks to God for the canonization of *Saint Carlo Acutis*, the first millennial saint—an ordinary teenager with extraordinary faith.

◆ **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 7:00 P.M.**

*Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality* Movie

Pizza, popcorn & drinks provided

◆ **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 10:30 A.M.**

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING**

*The highlight of our weekend celebration!*

A reception will follow the Mass, featuring  
**Carlo’s Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition**

Share your photos with **#CarloCanonized**

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Cathedral of St. Joseph  
1300 Eoff Street  
Wheeling, West Virginia

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Please RSVP at [DWC.ORG](http://DWC.ORG)



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