

THE Cathedral Courier

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



11 January 2026



The Baptism of the Lord

THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI • COMO, ITALY • 18TH CENTURY

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

CLERGY

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Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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pmanikyalarao@dwc.org

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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 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 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 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 for more information.

LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Our Sunday Masses are live-streamed and archived for later viewing at 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

January 11 - 18, 2026

SUN 11 **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**
 6:00 pm (Sat) Mass for the Parishioners
 7:30 am Mass for + Frank Pasden
 9:00 am OCIA (*Rectory*)
 10:30 am Mass for + Sr. Constance Dodd, SMI)

MON 12 **Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 1)**
 12:05 pm Mass for + Barbara Key

TUE 13 **Optional Memorial of St. Hilary**
 12:05 pm Mass for + Roger High

WED 14 **Weekday in Ordinary Time**
 12:05 pm Mass for + Theresa Shutler

THU 15 **Weekday in Ordinary Time**
 12:05 pm Mass for + Champan/Owens Family

FRI 16 **Weekday in Ordinary Time**
 11:00 am Confessions
 12:05 pm Mass for + Elizabeth Wilson

SAT 17 **Memorial of St. Anthony the Abbot**
 9:00 am Mass for + Archbishop Francis B. Schulte
 11:00 am Confessions
 6:00 pm Mass for + Madeline Belby

SUN 18 **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins
 7:30 am Mass for + Samuel & Assunta DeFazio
 10:30 am Mass for the Parishioners

The Rosary is prayed Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. and on Saturday following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us as we pray especially for an increase in vocations in our diocese.

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus enters the waters of the Jordan and begins His public ministry. By His baptism, He shows His closeness to us and blesses the waters of baptism. The Father calls Him His beloved Son. This reminds us that through our own baptism, we too are children of God, loved and chosen by Him.

At the beginning of this New Year, this feast invites us to think about our baptismal promises. Baptism is not only something from the past. It is a call we live every day. We are called to turn away from sin, to trust in God, and to follow Jesus more faithfully. I encourage you to reflect on how you can live your baptism more clearly and more deeply in the year ahead.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped with our recent Epiphany celebrations, including the blessing of water, salt, and chalk, and the Epiphany gathering. It was a great joy to see parishioners from St. Alphonsus and the Cathedral come together in such good numbers to celebrate our faith.

I would also like to thank all who helped with our Christmas decorating, as well as our altar servers, readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, greeters, ushers, and musicians who assisted with our Christmas Masses. I am grateful as well to all who contributed so generously to our parish during the year 2025, and to our office staff and the many groups and volunteers who work quietly and faithfully throughout the year to build up and support our parish.

As we now enter Ordinary Time, let us remember that nothing is truly ordinary when we walk with the Lord. God works quietly in our daily lives. May we notice His blessings, give thanks often, and share His Good News with others by the way we live.

May the Lord who called us in baptism continue to guide and bless our parish in this New Year.

In Christ,
Father Pen



Help Needed with Decorations

Sunday, January 11 at Noon

We are in need of volunteers to assist us this Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass as we take down the Christmas decorations in the church. Many hands make light work!

Maintenance & Restoration Update

Beginning this Monday, we will enter the biggest phase of our renovation project. This work will include the cleaning of the main columns that support the dome, the restoration of the apse mural, and improvements in both transepts. Additional plaster repair and painting of the men's and women's restrooms is planned for the spring.

We are grateful for your patience and for your generous support as we continue to care for our Cathedral in preparation for our Centennial Year which begins this April!

Bring Back Your Palms

As we prepare for the holy season of Lent, you are invited to bring back your blessed palms from last year's Palm Sunday. A bin is available in the narthex of the church for their return. These palms will be burned and used to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday, February 18.



When was the last time you invited someone to Mass?

Each one of us has a responsibility to evangelize - to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. How can we reach out to our friends, family members, and those we work with who are not practicing their faith? **Consider inviting them to join you for Mass this new year.** Pray that the peace and joy of the Christ Child may enlighten their hearts and minds to accept His grace in their lives.



• UPCOMING EVENTS •

- January 18** - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins
- January 23** - Pro-Life Afternoon of Prayer, 12:00-3:00pm
- January 25** - Sunday of the Word of God, Blessing of Readers
- January 30** - Healing Mass, St. Alphonsus, 6pm
- February 2** - Presentation of the Lord / Blessing of Candles
- February 3** - Feast of St. Blaise / Blessing of Throats
- February 7** - Mardi Gras Party, 7pm
- February 11** - World Day of the Sick Healing Mass, 6pm
- February 18** - Ash Wednesday

Supporting Our Parish

Your Gift Makes a Difference

We are very grateful to those who are able to support the Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish. Your support allows us to continue our mission and provide vital ministries. Here are some simple ways to give:



Online: OSV Online Giving is a fast, secure, simple way to make your contributions. Visit www.saintjosephcathedral.com/giving



By Mail: Mail to Cathedral of St. Joseph 1218 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003



In Person: At Mass during the collection or dropped off at the parish offices.

COLLECTION & ATTENDANCE

December 21, 2025

Envelopes: \$2461 • Loose: \$857 • Online: \$731 • **Total: \$4047**
Maintenance Fund \$150
Attendance: 300

Christmas 2025

Envelopes: \$3183 • Loose: \$3311 • **Total: \$6494**
Catholic Charities: \$2940
Attendance: 708

December 28, 2025

Envelopes: \$1806 • Loose: \$1415 • Online: \$1024 • **Total: \$4245**
Maintenance Fund \$152
Attendance: 312

December 31, 2025

Total: \$1357
Attendance: 174

January 4, 2026

Envelopes: \$1863 • Loose: \$882 • Online: \$856 • **Total: \$3601**
Catholic Communications \$687 • Maintenance Fund \$1838
Attendance: 279

Thank you for your generous support!



SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of January 11

THIS SUNDAY

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10
Acts 10:34-38
Matthew 3:13-17

MONDAY

1 Samuel 1:1-8
Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19
Mark 1:14-20

TUESDAY

1 Samuel 1:9-20
(Ps) 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8
Mark 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20
Ps 40:2, 5, 7-8, 8-9, 10
Mark 1:29-39

THURSDAY

1 Samuel 4:1-11
Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25
Mark 1:40-45

FRIDAY

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22
Ps 89:16-17, 18-19
Mark 2:1-12

SATURDAY

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1
Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Mark 2:13-17

NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
1 Corinthians 1:1-3
John 1:29-34

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.

Marked by Water and the Spirit Living Our Baptismal Promises

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord brings the Christmas season to a close and opens the door to Ordinary Time. At the Jordan River, Jesus steps into the waters sanctified by repentance, not because He needs cleansing, but to reveal something profound about His mission and about us. As He rises from the water, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and the Father's voice is heard: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." In this moment, the identity of Jesus is made manifest, and the meaning of our own baptism comes into clearer focus.



Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of His public ministry. He enters fully into our human condition and aligns Himself with sinners, foreshadowing the saving work He will accomplish on the Cross. In the waters of the Jordan, Christ sanctifies all water, preparing it to become the means by which we are reborn in baptism. What happens to Jesus that day is not only a revelation of who He is, but also a sign of who we are called to become.

Through our own baptism, we are united to Christ's death and resurrection. We are freed from sin, made children of God, and incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Church. At baptism, the Father claims us as His own, the Holy Spirit dwells within us, and we are sealed with an indelible mark that can never be erased. Baptism is not merely a moment in the past, it is the foundation of our entire Christian life.

Each year, the Church invites us on this feast to reflect on the baptismal promises made on our behalf and renewed throughout our lives. We renounce sin and profess our faith, choosing again to reject whatever leads us away from God and to embrace the truth of the Gospel. These promises are not symbolic words.

They are commitments that shape how we live, how we speak, and how we love.

Living out our baptismal promises means choosing Christ daily. It means turning away from sin, even when it is difficult, and striving for holiness in the ordinary circumstances of life. It means professing our faith not only with our lips, but through acts of charity, forgiveness, and integrity. It means allowing the Holy Spirit to guide our decisions and trusting that God's grace is sufficient.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord also reminds us that baptism sends us on mission. Just as Jesus emerged from the Jordan ready to proclaim the Kingdom of God, we are sent forth to be witnesses of Christ in the world. Our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities become the places where our baptism bears fruit.

As the Christmas season concludes, this feast invites us not to leave the mystery behind, but to carry it forward. The Child revealed at Christmas and the Son proclaimed at the Jordan calls each of us by name. May this feast renew our gratitude for the gift we have received and strengthen our resolve to live each day as beloved sons and daughters of God, faithful to the promises made in our baptism.

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.

Our Men's Group wishes everyone a very Happy and Blessed New Year!

FORMATION • FELLOWSHIP • WORSHIP • SERVICE

Rosary Altar Society

Saturday, February 7 after 9am Mass & Rosary

We foster devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary through prayer, care for the altar and sanctuary, and service to the Cathedral family.



Faith Sharing Book Club

Sunday, February 1 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. Monica Prayer Group

Wednesday, January 7 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.

Stewardship Reflection

As we prepare to begin a new year, it's the perfect time to reflect, reset, and renew your involvement in parish life. This is a natural moment to ask: How is God calling me to grow this year? Whether it's through prayer, ministry, service, or stewardship, every person has something to offer. Make this the year you get involved, deepen your connection, and help your parish flourish in faith and community.

St. Gianna Pro-Life Ministry

Help us create a culture of life in Wheeling!



Donate to our new mobile baby pantry:

St. Gianna's Goods on the Go!

We'll be making regular deliveries of baby, toddler, and maternity supplies to parents at public housing and service organizations.

Contact: Amy Carlson Miesel
(304) 312-9051 or
Jennie Adams (304) 281-1349

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 gathering.**



Liturgical Ministers Needed

Are you looking for a way to deepen your faith and serve our Cathedral community? We are currently seeking volunteers to serve as liturgical ministers during weekend Masses:

Readers: Proclaim the Word of God during Mass.

Altar Servers: Assist the priest at the altar and help ensure the Mass runs smoothly.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Help distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass.

If you feel called to serve in one of these roles, we invite you to sign up! Contact the parish office during the week or speak with one of our priests after Mass to learn more.

January 17/18 Liturgical Ministers Schedule

	Greeter	Altar Server	Reader	EMHC
Saturday 6:00 pm	Cheryl J.	Martin I.	Charla F. Br. John B.	Patti D. Judy M.
Sunday 7:30 am	Debbie R. Paul R.	Sarah M. Tamora M.	Mark B. Julia S.	Debbie F. Pat F.
Sunday 10:30 am	Catherine L. Diane F.	Martin I.	Vivienne P. Robert B.	Cathy L. Diane F.
Collection Counters for this Week		Leslie M., Deb Y.		

LIVING OUR FAITH



Marriage Announcement

Congratulations to
Lauren Turturice & Mitchell Jubas
who were united in the Sacrament of
Matrimony on January 4, 2026.
May the Lord bless them with a lifetime of love,

Please remember in your prayers:

Bill Hehr	Joe Bechtel	Pat Edmon
Blanche Kirkland	Laine Castello	Pete Cuffaro
Charlie Gotard	Maria Workman	Susan Ackerman
Cheryl Garrison	Marsha Bartlett	Our Homebound
Crystal Vines	Millie Kirkpatrick	Parishioners

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION

January: For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



Throughout the month of January, we give special honor to the Most Holy Name of Jesus. Saint Paul wrote to the Philippians: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). We hold the name of Jesus in special reverence. The very name of Jesus is a prayer.

A Way to Honor the Holy Name of Jesus

Adopt the pious practice (that used to be more widely practiced and is so meaningful and fitting) of bowing your head whenever you say or hear the name of Jesus (just as we should bow or genuflect before the Real Presence in the tabernacle or make a sign of the cross as we pass a Catholic Church). The Council of Lyons in 1274 stated: "Each should fulfill in himself that which is written for all, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow; whenever that glorious Name is recalled, especially during the sacred Mysteries of the Mass, everyone should bow the knees of his heart, which he can do even by a bow of his head." This devotion also helps to make amends for blasphemous use of the Holy Name.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Anthony the Abbot (251-356)

Feast Day: January 17

Saint Anthony the Abbot, also known as Anthony of Egypt or Anthony the Great, is called the "Father of Monasticism." Born in Egypt to wealthy Christian parents, he gave up his inheritance as a young man to live a life of poverty, prayer, and solitude in the desert.



Anthony sought to grow closer to God through asceticism, inspiring others to follow his example. Though he lived as a hermit, his wisdom, humility, and miracles drew many disciples, laying the foundation for Christian monasticism.

Devoted to Christ, Anthony also defended the faith against heresies of his time and encouraged perseverance in spiritual battles. Saint Anthony the Abbot, pray for us!

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

2026 Men's Discernment Retreat

WWW.WVPRIESTS.ORG

FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 15

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Register Today!



CATHEDRAL MAINTENANCE FUND



Our beautiful Cathedral, rich in history and faith, needs essential repairs to preserve it for generations to come. Please consider making a donation. Every gift makes a difference. Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

So far we have received \$48,873 in donations. Thank you for your support!

Leave a Legacy Gift

Do you hold the Cathedral close to your heart? Including it in your will or estate plan is a meaningful way to ensure our faith and ministry continue for generations.

You can:

- Name the Cathedral as a beneficiary on an account
- Leave a specific gift in your Will or Trust
- Designate a percentage of your estate

Wording for bequests: "Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church of Wheeling-Charleston, for the use and benefit of the Rector of the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, WV, for the Cathedral."

Thank you for considering this lasting gift of faith!



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Baptizing Children

Question:

Why do we baptize babies?

Answer:

For adults who want to be baptized, the celebration only takes place after a long, guided, and thoughtful process through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is also true for many Protestant Christians, who are baptized later in life, often after a personal, transforming religious experience. So, it seems fair to ask why our Catholic tradition includes infant baptism. After all, if we make adults who want to become Catholic wait months and even years as they grow in their understanding of Christ and his teachings, why should babies — who "do nothing" — be baptized?

Our custom of infant baptism dates back to the earliest days of the Church, when St. Paul baptized entire households, including, we presume, children (see Acts 16:15, 33; 18:8). That had become common practice by the second century. When Christianity was legalized 200 years later, infant baptism became the normal practice throughout the Church.

We recognize that in Baptism, we are given the grace to overcome original sin — the human tendency to choose ourselves and our own wills over God — and to become members of the Church. This is the gift we give to infants in Baptism.

In its essence, the baptism of infants also reminds us adult Christians that the gift of salvation and membership in the Church (i.e., the Body of Christ) is God's initiative. It is freely offered to us, regardless of where we might be in life's journey. Salvation isn't something we earn. Instead, we see that Baptism is the beginning of a lifelong process of growing into the kind of disciples that Jesus wants us to be.

If you have a question you'd like answered, please email tgreenwood@dwc.org.

Epiphany Recap

This past Sunday, we joyfully celebrated the Solemnity of the Epiphany with the traditional blessing of water, salt, and chalk, a beautiful and ancient devotion that was very well attended.

Afterwards, everyone gathered in Columbia Hall for a wonderful Epiphany Party, with a great turn out from both Saint Alphonus and The Cathedral of St. Joseph Parishes! We sincerely thank all those who attended and to those who assisted in putting together the event.





Mardi Gras Pot-Luck

Saturday, February 7 at 7pm
Great Hall of Wheeling Central

Join us for an evening of
Fellowship, Music, Games



and the
Crowning of
Mardi Gras
Royalty!



Please bring a covered dish to share.
Meat, beverages & KING CAKES provided!



We encourage you to support our sponsors!



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