

THE Cathedral Courier

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

21 September 2025



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

PASTOR

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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pmanikyalarao@dwc.org

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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 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

September 21 - 28, 2025

SUN 21 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 pm (Sat) Mass for + Martin Blanchette
7:30 am Mass for the Parishioners
10:30 am Mass for Most Rev. James E. Michaels
(Anniversary of Death - 2010)

MON 22 Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 pm Mass for + Carole Sacco
7:00 pm Infant of Prague Novena

TUE 23 Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina

12:05 pm Mass for + JR Purpura

WED 24 Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 pm Mass for + Thomas Gompers
6:00 pm 40 Days for Life Mass & Procession
(St. Alphonsus)

THU 25 Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 pm Mass for + Chapman/Owens Family
6:00 pm Eucharistic Missionaries Series (Cantina)
7:30 pm Catholics in Recovery (St. Alphonsus)

FRI 26 Optional Memorial of Sts. Cosmas and Damian

11:00 am Confessions
12:05 pm Mass for + Donald Hinton

SAT 27 Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul

9:00 am Mass for the Living & Deceased Members
of the CCHS Class of 1961
11:00 am Confessions
6:00 pm Mass for the Parishioners

SUN 28 Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Mass for + Frank & Helen Pasden
10:30 am Mass for + Nepomuceno Dario

*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 reminds us that we cannot serve both God and wealth (Luke 16:13). The Lord calls us to place Him at the center of our lives, using all that we have not for selfish gain but for the good of others and the glory of His Kingdom. True discipleship means that everything - our time, our gifts, and even our resources - belongs to God and should be put to use for His mission.

That is why this Stewardship Sunday is such an important moment for us as a parish family. After all the weekend Masses, we will host our Ministry Fair on the Cathedral sidewalk. This is more than just an event - it is an invitation to live out today's Gospel. Every one of us has something to offer, whether in liturgical ministries, service groups, prayer, or hospitality. I encourage you, from the youngest to the oldest, to prayerfully consider signing up for at least one ministry or group. By sharing your time, talent, and treasure, you help our Cathedral to grow stronger as a community of faith and service.

This week also marks the beginning of our 40 Days for Life observance. On Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., we will celebrate Mass at St. Alphonsus Parish, followed by a Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Wheeling ending at the Cathedral, where we will conclude with Benediction. This is a powerful public witness to the sanctity of life and the centrality of the Eucharist. I invite you to join us in prayer and presence, that together we may be a voice for the most vulnerable and a sign of hope in our city.

Let us ask the Lord to help us serve Him with undivided hearts. May we be faithful stewards of all we have received, and may our witness of faith draw others to Christ, who alone is Lord.

In Christ,
Father Pen



ANNUAL NOVENA TO THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

Hope Does Not Disappoint



Week 3 - September 22
"Hope in the Promise of Salvation"

Deacon Jacob Manning
Cathedral of St. Joseph &
St. Alphonsus Parishes, Wheeling

Nine Consecutive Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Stewardship Weekend

This Weekend - September 20/21 following Masses

Join us this weekend following all the weekend Masses for our Parish Stewardship Fair! We'll showcase some of our wonderful current groups and ministries — as well as introduce a few new ones. Please prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to get more involved and share your gifts in service to our parish family.

Memorial Offerings

Parishioners and friends are welcome to honor or remember a loved one through the following weekly memorial offerings. Intentions will be published in the Cathedral bulletin. To schedule a memorial, please contact the parish office.

Bread and Wine Offering - \$25

Loved ones can be remembered weekly with the bread and wine consecrated at Mass.

Sanctuary Candles - \$20

The sanctuary candles burn before the Blessed Sacrament, reminding us of His Real Presence among us.

Mass Intention - \$10

Have a Mass offered for a specific intention or in memory of a loved one.



Mark your calendars for our annual parish festival — a celebration for the whole community! **We need everyone's help to make it a success.** A sign-up sheet is available in the back of the church; **please take a moment to volunteer.** Once you sign up, we'll contact you to schedule you for areas where you feel most comfortable helping. Together, we can make this year's festival our best yet!

• UPCOMING EVENTS •

September 20/21 - Stewardship Weekend

September 24 - 40 Days for Life Opening Mass, 6pm
(Begins at St. Alphonsus)

October 4 - Rosary Altar Society, 9am Mass

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 Tuesday, September 16, 2025, by:**

- Visiting the Parish Office
- Calling the office at 304-233-4121
- E-mailing 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.

MEMORIAL OFFERING



Sanctuary Candles

The Sanctuary Candles this week burn for the **Jochum & Miller Families**

Donated by: Todd & Patti Miller

COLLECTION & ATTENDANCE

September 14, 2025

Envelopes: \$1722 • Loose: \$1402 • Online: \$636 • Total: \$3760
Maintenance Fund: \$1310

Attendance: 291

Thank you for your generous support!



SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of September 21

THIS SUNDAY

Amos 8:4-7
Ps 113:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13

MONDAY

Ezra 1:1-6
Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6
Luke 8:16-18

TUESDAY

Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20
Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5
Luke 8:19-21

WEDNESDAY

Ezra 9:5-9
(Ps) Tobit 13:2, 3-4, 4, 7-8
Luke 9:1-6

THURSDAY

Haggai 1:1-8
Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 9
Luke 9:7-9

FRIDAY

Haggai 2:1-9
Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4
Luke 9:18-22

SATURDAY

Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15
(Ps) Jeremiah 31:10, 11-13
Luke 9:43-45

NEXT SUNDAY

Amos 6:1, 4-7
Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

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 Seven Sorrows of Our Lady

A Path of Compassion and Hope

The Church has always looked to Mary not only as the Mother of Jesus but also as a mother who walks with her children in both joy and in sorrow. Among her many titles, one of the most moving is "Our Lady of Sorrows." Under this title, the faithful are invited to contemplate the sufferings she endured throughout her life, sufferings that reached their depth when she stood at the foot of the Cross. To pray with her in these moments is to learn how to trust, how to persevere, and how to love even when the heart is pierced. For this

reason, the entire month of September is set aside in her honor, a time to reflect on her sorrows with particular devotion and gratitude.

The Seven Sorrows devotion draws us into seven events from Mary's life that reveal the mystery of her heart. First came Simeon's prophecy in the Temple, when she heard that a sword would pierce her soul. Then came the flight into Egypt, as she and Joseph fled to protect the infant Jesus from Herod's violence. She knew the anxious searching for her Son when He was lost in the Temple for three days. On the way to Calvary, she met Him face to face, wounded and carrying the Cross. She stood beneath that Cross as He suffered and died, receiving His body into her arms before seeing Him laid in the tomb. Each sorrow was a wound, yet each was also a moment of grace. In truth, Mary suffered many more sorrows during her life; yet these seven are the ones the Church has called us to contemplate with particular reverence and devotion, for they draw us deeply into the mystery of Christ's Passion and the heart of His Mother.

This devotion has deep roots in the history of the Church. The Servite Order, founded in the 13th century, took the sorrows of Mary as a central part of their spiritual life, seeing in her example a guide for all who suffer. Over the



centuries, popes encouraged the faithful to take up this devotion, especially in times of trial. Pope Pius VII, who endured exile as a prisoner of Napoleon, found comfort in Our Lady of Sorrows and promoted her chaplet as a source of strength.

The Chaplet of Our Lady of

Sorrows is a beautiful way to pray through these mysteries. Much like the rosary, it is prayed on beads – seven groups of seven Hail Marys, each recalling one of the sorrows. This rhythm of prayer allows the faithful to place themselves beside Mary, sharing in her compassion and asking her to intercede in times of need. It has comforted countless Christians through the centuries, especially those weighed down by grief or uncertainty.

This message remains urgent today. Division and violence tear at the fabric of our own country and ripple across the world. Families, communities, and nations suffer wounds of hatred, conflict, and indifference. Mary shows a different way. To stand at the Cross, as she did, is not to give up hope but to cling to it more tightly. She shows that God's love can bring life out of death, hope out of despair, peace out of conflict. When we pray with her sorrows, we discover that our own suffering is not meaningless but a place where God can work His grace.

GROUPS & MINISTRIES



SONS of
SAINT JOSEPH

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.

40 Days for Life Kick-Off Mass & Procession
Wednesday, September 24 at 6:00 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Church, Wheeling

FORMATION • FELLOWSHIP • WORSHIP • SERVICE

St. Monica Prayer Group

Wednesday, October 1 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, October 5 at 9:00 a.m. | Cantina

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



Adult Faith Formation

Our next three course will be on Angels

Starting October 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Chancery

Please RSVP now by emailing tgreenwood@dwc.org or calling 304-233-4121

Stewardship Reflection

On this Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jesus tells the parable of the dishonest steward, reminding us that we cannot serve both God and wealth. The Gospel challenges us to examine where our true loyalty lies and how we use the resources entrusted to us. As Christian stewards, we are called to be trustworthy in small matters and generous in all things. Our time, talents, and treasure are not our own—they are gifts to be used wisely for the building up of God's Kingdom. May we live each day with integrity, generosity, and hearts set on the things that last.



Fall Kick-Off

Soup Swap

October 18, 2025

12 noon

Stephanie Bugaj's home
60 E Cardinal Ave, Wheeling

Bring your
Favorite
Soup to Share!

Not a soup maker....
No worries, just come
for the
fun and fellowship!

All-Around
Favorite Soup
will be
awarded the
GOLDEN
LADLE!

RSVP to Stephanie @ 304-281-4581 or thebugajs@gmail.com
with your name and the soup recipe you plan to bring!

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 or call the parish office at 304-233-4121.

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 27/28 Liturgical Ministers Schedule

	Greeter	Altar Server	Reader	EMHC
Saturday 6:00 pm	Judy M. Br. John B.	Martin I.	Roberta S. Deirdre B.	Patti D. Judy M.
Sunday 7:30 am	Debbie R. Paul R.	Julia S. Tamora M.	Jim E. Susanna K.	Philippa S.
Sunday 10:30 am	Walter B. Stephanie B.	The Brown Family Martin I.	Robert B. Roberta S.	Debbie T. John T.
Collection Counters for this Week		Cathy L., Catherine L., Libby B.		

LIVING OUR FAITH

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In Honor of St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, October 4, 2025

10:00 am

Cathedral Courtyard Plaza



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Matthew (1st century)

Feast Day: September 21

Saint Matthew, one of the Twelve Apostles, is also known as Levi, the tax collector. While sitting at his tax booth, he was called by Jesus, who simply said, "Follow me." Matthew left everything behind immediately to follow Christ, showing the power of conversion and God's mercy.



After the Resurrection, Matthew preached the Gospel, and tradition holds that he went on mission to regions such as Ethiopia and Persia. He is credited as the author of the first Gospel, which emphasizes Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and highlights His teaching on the Kingdom of God.

Once a public sinner, Matthew became an evangelist and saint, reminding us that no one is beyond the reach of God's call. He is the patron saint of accountants, bankers, and tax collectors.

Saint Matthew, pray for us!



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.

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Heavenly Father, as autumn begins, we thank You for the beauty of creation and the fruits of the earth. May this season remind us of Your providence and call us to deeper trust in Christ, who is our life and our hope. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

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



Catholic Charities
**Neighborhood
Center**

Spaghetti Dinner

Sept. 21 Sunday
11a-5p



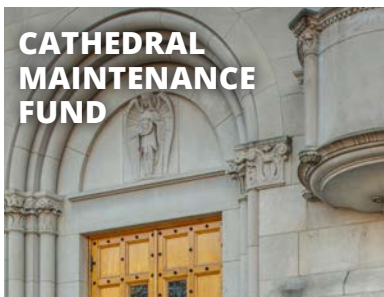
GET TICKETS
ONLINE or at

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ccwva.org



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
\$41,937 in donations.
Thank you for your support!**

Leave a Legacy Gift

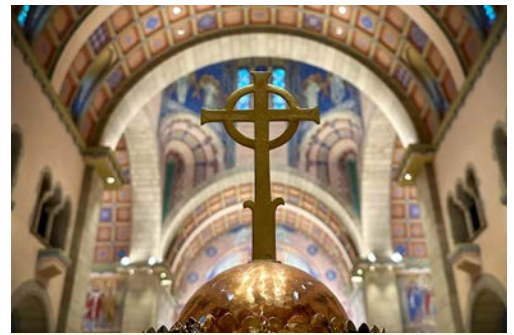
Do you hold the Cathedral close to your heart? Including it in your will or estate plan is a meaningful way to ensure our faith and ministry continue for generations.

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:

Getting Involved in the Church

Question:

Why is it important for me to get involved in parish ministries, groups, and volunteer opportunities rather than just attending Sunday Mass?

Answer:

The Eucharist is the heart of our Catholic life, but the Christian life is not meant to be lived in isolation. When we step forward to serve in a ministry, join a parish group, or volunteer our time, we are not only strengthening our parish community but also living out our baptismal call to be disciples. St. Paul reminds us that we are all members of the one Body of Christ, each with unique gifts given for the good of others. Your involvement allows those gifts to bear fruit and helps the Church carry out her mission.

Getting involved also deepens your own faith. By working alongside others, sharing prayer and fellowship, and contributing your talents, you will find yourself more connected to Christ and His Church. The friendships and sense of belonging that grow from parish involvement often become sources of encouragement and joy, especially in difficult times.

Finally, when you give of yourself in service, you reflect the love of Christ in a visible and practical way. Whether through liturgical ministries, service projects, or parish groups, your "yes" makes a difference. Together, we build up a stronger, more vibrant Church—one where the Gospel can truly take root in our community and beyond.

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



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.

Sponsored by our St. Gianna Pro-Life Group



Rosary Altar Society

“To Jesus Through Mary”

Our Mission

To foster devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary,
especially through the Holy Rosary,
care for the sacred beauty of our Cathedral,
build community and friendship, and
share Christ’s presence with the sick and homebound.

Join Us for Our Kickoff Gathering!

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Following the 9:00 a.m. Mass & Rosary
Cathedral of St. Joseph

What We Do

Pray: Monthly Rosary and Mass as a group

Serve: Care for altar linens, vestments, and liturgical items

Celebrate: Marian events and devotions

Support: Reach out to the sick and homebound

Grow Together: Formation opportunities, retreats, and fellowship

For more information, contact Cathy Leahy at 304-215-2077 or happyfeet905@gmail.com

We encourage you to support our sponsors!



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1850-2025

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