

Saint John the Evangelist Parish

1300 CHARLES STREET • WELLSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26070

Email: stjohn1300@comcast.net Parish Office: 304-737-0429



DECEMBER 2024

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor.....Very Rev. Justin Golna, J.C.L., J.V.
Bookkeeper.....Steph Russell
Parish Secretary.....Amanda Manner
Dir. Of Music/ Organist.....Zac Gordon
Dir. of Religious Education.....Monica Biery
Parish Council.....John Alvarez
Finance Council.....Bill Garvey

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: For Infants: Parents make arrangements with the pastor/office. For Adults: Baptism will be given on Easter Vigil after completing the RCIA program. For details, please contact Parish Office.

MARRIAGE: Please make arrangements with the pastor. Six months minimum notice is required for the celebration of marriage.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Please contact the Parish office for arrangements.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Mon, Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday and Friday: 5:30 p.m.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00 - 8:25 a.m.
Wednesday and Friday: 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

ADORATION

Wednesday: 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the family of St. John the Evangelist Parish commit ourselves to the call of Baptism: To Listen, To Learn, To Live and To Share the Word of God through our lives.

Pastor's Perusings— Not one iota

At the end of last week's column, we began to explore the phrase "God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father". While the first part of the phrase was formulated to make clear that the Son of God is coeternal with the Father, the word "consubstantial" became the focus of a great debate at the Council of Nicaea.

At the Council of Nicaea, there were two positions being pushed: the first was that Jesus' true divinity was *homoousion* to the Father which is translated as consubstantial with the Father. This means that Jesus, the Son of God, is of the **same substance** as the Father or one in being with the Father. This word, *homoousion*, became the battle cry for those professing the orthodox (which means right teaching) faith. The other position being pushed at the Council of Nicaea was the position supported by the arch-heretic Arius who wanted to have a slightly different word inserted into the Creed, namely *homoiousion*. This word, pushed by Arius and his supporters, is translated as "similar substance to the Father" or "a like substance with the Father" and was there way of trying to defend their position that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was created before time and not coeternal with the Father. Arius and his supporters failed in their heretical teachings as seen by how we still profess that Jesus Christ is consubstantial with the Father.

The difference between the two words in Greek comes down to a single letter: i. In Greek, this letter is called "iota". The faithful followers of the Lord at the Council of Nicaea also had another battle cry which is still in use today: following the teachings of our Lord in Matthew 5:18, they were willing to tolerate "not one iota" of heresy.

Next up is the phrase "Through him all things were made". This is a direct quote from John 1:3. Before the insertion of the phrase "one in Being with the Father," this probably flowed a little better as "begotten, not made, through him all things were made." Together, this means that the Son is not a created thing; rather, He is an agent through Whom all created things came into being.

Next in the Creed, we profess "For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven". Jesus' sole purpose for becoming man was to forgive sin for the salvation of man. He did this through His once and complete sacrifice on the cross of salvation at Calvary. Prior to His sacrifice and ascension into Heaven, the gates of Heaven were

closed to men.

When we utter the next phrase in the Creed, we normally **bow** or, at Christmas and the Annunciation, **we all genuflect**: "by the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man".

From the first formulations of the Christian faith, the Church has held that Jesus was conceived solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, also proclaiming the corporeal aspect of this event: Jesus was conceived "by the Holy Spirit without human seed." The Church sees the virginal conception as the sign that it truly was the Son of God who came in a humanity like our own. What was the greatest work of the Holy Spirit? Not Jesus' Baptism and not raising Jesus from the dead. It was Jesus' conception and birth. Why? Because it is this supreme grace, the grace of union, that is the source of every other grace. Through the Incarnation, the union of the human and divine that was divided by sin is reunited.

Next we profess: "For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried". The emphasis here is that His sacrifice was totally for us and totally within His power to give.

Why pick on Pilate? Wasn't it Herod the Great who tried to slay Jesus at birth, resulting in the slaughter of the innocents? Wasn't Pilate under Herod's jurisdiction and 9 wasn't it Herod and his soldiers who mocked Jesus at His trial? Wasn't it the Pharisees who tried to trick Jesus at the trial? Wasn't it the High Priest who handed Jesus to Pilate, charging Jesus with crimes against Caesar? And didn't Pilate offer Barabbas to the people instead of Jesus, washing his hands of the decision? The answer is that it was Pilate's decision that counted, as a representative of Caesar. And Symbolically, Pilate represents all of those (in times past and today) that contribute to the passion and death of Jesus through sin -- that means you and me!

Why was Jesus crucified and not put to death in some other way? Crucifixion was considered the worst possible death - not only from the fact that it was long and painful (death came as a result of suffocation), but also because the public humiliation was reserved for the worst of criminals. Regardless of the crime, Romans could not be crucified. For the Jews, it was even worse, as Jewish scripture read "anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse" (Deuteronomy 21:23). We continue our Creedal journey next week.—Fr. Golna



Sat 4:00 pm Robert Stuckey Jr. +

Sun 8:00 am Richard & Benny Buoy +

Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish

Mon 8:30 am Suzie Zimsen +

Tue 8:30 am Arthur Brice +

Tue 6:00 p.m. Priests of the DWC (living and deceased)

Wed 10:30 am People of the Parish

Thur 8:30 am Juliana Frank +

Fri 5:30 pm Sister Lucine Mary +

Sat 4:00 pm Matthew & Eleanor Evans +

Sun 8:00 am Sister Salvinette, M.C.

Sun 10:30 am People of the Parish

Readings

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2, Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8, Mt 2:13-18

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14, Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5., Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17, Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17, Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17, Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21, 96:1-2, 11-12, 13, Jn 1:14a, 12a, Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8, Galatians 4:4-7, Hebrews 1:1-2, Luke 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 John 2:22-28, Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, Hebrews 1:1-2, John 1:19-28

Friday: 1 John 2:29-3:6, Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6, John 1:14a, 12a, John 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 John 3:7-10, Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9, Hebrews 1:1-2, John 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13., Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6, Matthew 2:2, Matthew 2:1-12



JANUARY 4, 4:00 PM

Gre: Rob and Marcie

Ser: Avery and Liam

Lec: Marcie Morris

JANUARY 5, 8:00 AM

Gre: Toot and Joanie

Ser: Judith Aracich

Lec: Fred Casale

JANUARY 5, 10:30 AM

Gre: Susie Mullenbach

Ser: Will and Stothard

Lec: Monica Biery

USHERS PLEASE COUNT

January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Vigil Mass will be at 6 p.m. on December 31st and Mass on January 1st will be at 10:30 a.m.

THE READINGS for this weekend are in the Hymnal at 876

Christmas Collection hasn't been counted and will be included in next week's bulletin.

The FOOD PANTRY will be open on Wednesdays from Noon to 3:00pm to assist Brooke County residents. A valid ID & proof of address required. If you would like to donate any non perishable items please leave them in the red bin located in the vestibule.

December 22nd, 2024

<u>Collection</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Weekly Envelopes	113	\$4064.00
Building and Maintenance		\$40.00
Candles		\$368.75
Christmas Flowers		\$25.00
Christmas		\$100.00
Mary Mother of God		\$5.00
Registered Parishioners/ Budget	249	\$2,900



Sat:

Sun: Brittany Staffileno

Mon:

Tues: Gunner Yost & Grant Yost

Wed:

Thur:

Fri:

Sat:

Sun:



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning in memory of
Doris Sperlazza
(Eleanor Sacripanti)
From January 03, 2025 to January 16, 2025.

Prayer List

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND THEIR INTENTIONS IN YOUR PRAYERS:
DR. SCOTT BENEFIELD AND FAMILY, PAULA HENDERSON, DOMINIC CIPRIANI, MARY ROSE AND FAMILY, DIANE BAYLESS, HILDA TARQUINIO, JOE BIBBO, BEVERLY SCHWERTFEGER, CHERYL BLAND, LISA CHIODO, DONNA SULLIVAN, SANDY, ELEANOR ROCKEY, COLLEEN RUSHING, ELEANOR SACRIPANTI, JIM AND SHARON PAVLIC, JOSIE NEWTON, DEBBIE, RICK MERCER, AND PATTY WATERS.

Please keep the parish office updated of anyone you have added to the PRAYER LIST every 30 days.

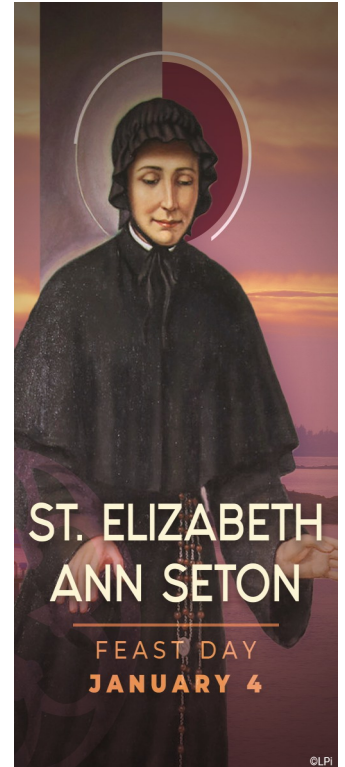
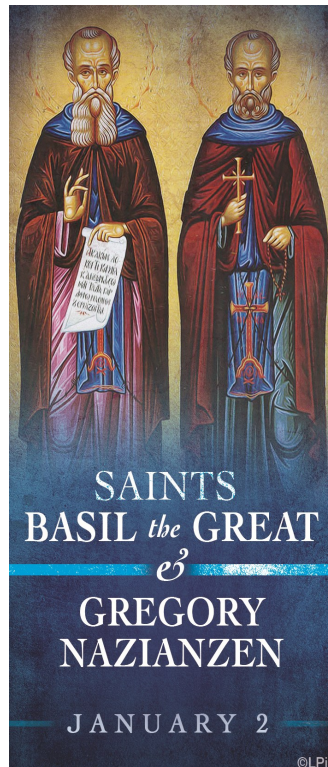
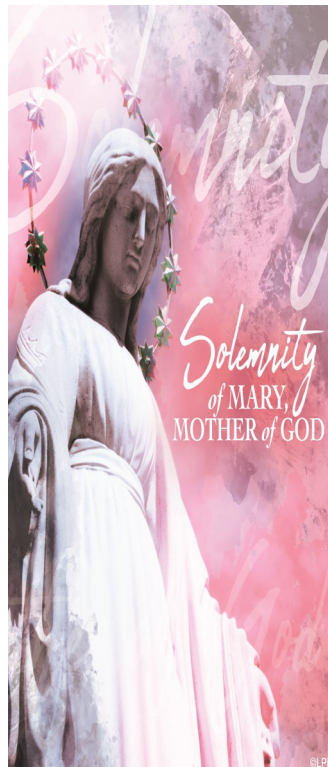


THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.
- Lk 2:51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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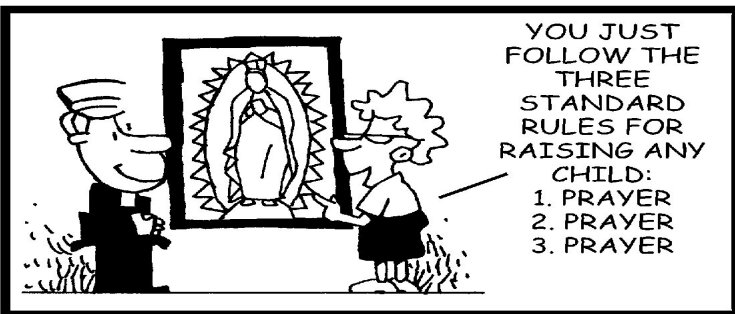
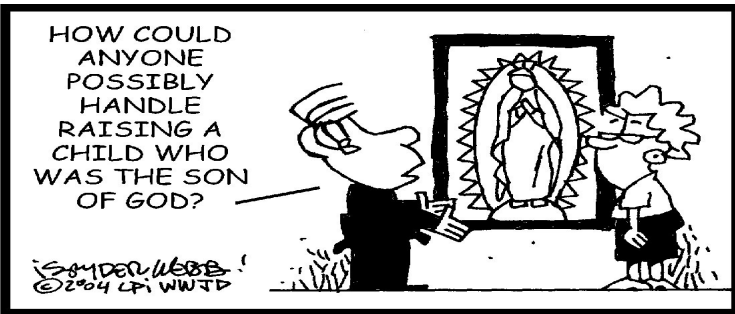


DECEMBER 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis	4 6:30 P.M. Altar & Rosary Meeting	5 6:30 P.M. Pastoral Council Meeting	6	7
8	9 Solemnity of Immaculate Conception 12 P.M. / 6 P.M. Mass	10 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis	11 11 A.M. Altar & Rosary Soup and Sandwich	12	13	14 4 P.M. 100th Year Anniversary Mass and Gathering
15	16	17 9 A.M. Coffee & Catechesis 6 p.m. Advent Penance Service	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



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 304-233-0880 or 888-434-6237: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Father Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. Visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for more information.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

December 31st at 6:00 p.m.: Vigil Mass for Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

January 1st at 10:30 a.m.: Mass for Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE
By Bud Ozar**

The Gospel Today shows that Mary and Joseph weren't perfect parents. If you have ever been amazed and astonished at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you didn't understand you children or felt anxious about their behavior so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough but it is also the stuff of holiness.

As many of you know we are going to be printing our bulletin in-house completely as of February 2025. This will have some added paper and ink costs, so we are looking to offset costs of our bulletin with Advertisers. We have several different size options and time frames to suit your advertising needs. If you own a business, please consider supporting your parish directly by advertising in our bulletin and let anyone you know who owns a business that we are accepting new advertisers to help support our beloved parish!

We are also going to offer Memorials in the bulletin as well. The memorials will be \$20 and will look similar to the photo below. These will run the entire month of your choosing and can say whatever you would like them to.

If you or anyone you may know would be interested in advertising or our new Memorials but please call the office anytime!

A blue-toned illustration of a nativity scene with silhouettes of Mary, Joseph, the infant Jesus in a manger, and three wise men on camels under a starry night sky.

*A Concert for
Christmas & Epiphany*
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025 AT 3PM
**CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH
1300 EOFF STREET, WHEELING, WV**

featuring
Cathedral Schola • St. Michael Parish Handbell Choir
Katie Shaffer, *flute* • Erin Marion, *oboe*
Chad Carter, *handbells* • Robert Troeger, *organ*
Deborah Podolski Breiding, *piano* • Amanda Sable, *vocalist*
Christie Greenwood, *vocalist* • Braden Mills, *vocalist*

Free Admission
Donations will be accepted for the *Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center*

The Cathedral of St. Joseph



Our 2024 CSA total raised so far is \$8,995 of our \$15,970 goal. We would like to thank everyone who has already donated. We would like to give a little information on all the services and projects the CSA contributes to. In 2024 two hundred and fifty faithful from our Diocese were able to attend the National Eucharistic Revival this summer, funds are provided to children who cannot afford to pay for Camp Carlo, and parish leaders have the opportunity to continue their education at the PACE Conference. Other programs consist of the Walking with Moms program, tuition assistance, faculty & staff professional development and much more. For a complete list of ministries, programs and grants supported through the CSA, please visit the website, dwc.org/csa. I invite you all to join me as you have done in the past by supporting the annual *CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL* today.



It has been brought to our attention that the Sarris Candy Bars are a little hard to sell at \$3 each so we are going to make them 2 for \$5. From what we were told this was the first time that Sarris has raised their prices in several years, they also worked with us to help us get the maximum donation amount. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding with the situation.

Mullenbach Funeral Home

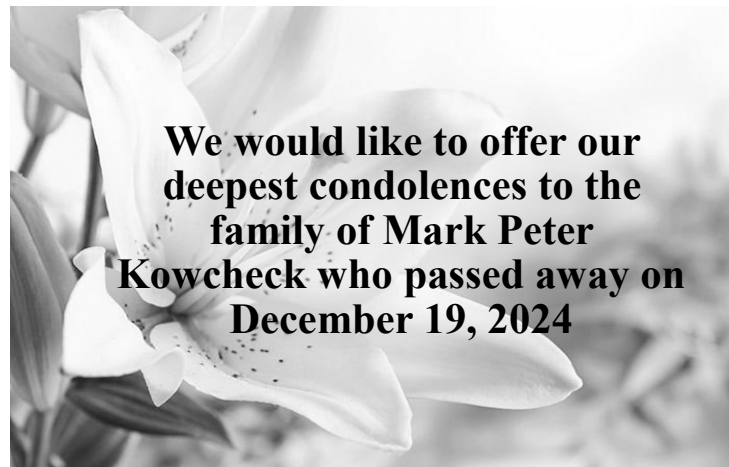
Celebrating Life...

Joseph M. Mullenbach
Licensee in Charge

Kayla A. Schoonmaker
Funeral Director

Cody R. Rice
Funeral Director

P.O. Box 272 (304)527-4040
669 Main Street Fax (304) 527-3793
Follansbee, WV 26037 mullenbachfh@comcast.net
www.mullenbachfh.com



We would like to offer our deepest condolences to the family of Mark Peter Kowcheck who passed away on December 19, 2024

We're more than a Convenience store

Mark's Deli & Catering
304-737-0065



- Deli
- Broaster Chicken
- Catering
- Delivery
- Lent Specials



markscarryout.com



Reasner Funeral Home

Robert Morris L.I.C.

Owner and Director

ReasnerOfWellsburg.com

304-737-3251

