

St. John the Evangelist Church

1300 Charles Street
Wellsburg, WV 26070
(304) 737-0429

March 29, 2026

Lent

Palm Sunday



Today is Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion during which we commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem for the completion of the Paschal Mystery. In Liturgical Calendar preceding Vatican II, the Church celebrated Passion Sunday two Sundays before Easter, and then Palm Sunday was the beginning of Holy Week. The Church has combined the two to reinforce the solemnity of Holy Week.

The Palm Sunday procession is formed of Christians who, in the "fullness of faith," make their own the gesture of the Jews and endow it with its full significance. Following the Jews' example we proclaim Christ as a Victor... Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. But by our faith we know, as they did not, all that His triumph stands for. He is the Messiah, the Son of David and the Son of God. He is the sign of contradiction, acclaimed by some and reviled by others.

Sent into this world to wrest us from sin and the power of Satan, He underwent His Passion, the punishment for our sins, but issues forth triumphant from the tomb, the victor over death, making our peace with God and taking us with Him into the kingdom of His Father in heaven.

CHURCH INFORMATION

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH. WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

St. John the Evangelist Parish

1300 Charles Street

Wellsburg, WV 26070

Email: office@stjohnwellsburgwv.com

Parish Office: (304) 737-0429

Pastoral Team:

Pastor.....Very Rev. Justin Golna, J.C.L., J.V.

Secretary.....Trisha Vaders

Director of Music/Organist.....Zac Gordon

Director of Religious Education.....Monica Biery

Parish Council Chair.....John Alvarez

Finance Council Chair.....Bill Garvey

Sacraments:

Baptism: For infants: Parents make arrangements with the pastor/office. For Adults: Baptism will be given at the Easter Vigil after completing the OCIA program. For details, please contact the 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 office for arrangements.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9-4pm



Mass Schedule

Monday - 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday - 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Friday - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 am & 10:30 a.m.

(See the Weekly Schedule for changes to Mass times)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - 8-8:25 a.m.

Tuesday - 8-8:25 a.m.

Wednesday - 6-6:30 p.m.

Thursday - 8-8:25 a.m.

Friday - 6-6:30 p.m.

Saturday Vigil - 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Sunday - 9:15 - 10 a.m.

Adoration

Wednesday : 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

For Sacramental Preparation or Religious Education for children (CCD) or adults (OCIA), please contact the parish office for times of classes or check the bulletin and bulletin board in the vestibule.

Protecting God's Children

St. John the Evangelist takes seriously this 'VIRTUS' pursuit of excellence in our community. With the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, we are committed to making every environment – a safe environment. All employees and volunteers are required to complete VIRTUS Training. Participants of this training complete short video modules to learn how to best protect the vulnerable in our community. These short sessions empower participants to accurately identify and correctly report all instances of suspected child abuse. To create or update your account, please go to virtusonline.org.

Thank you for your continued support in making the environment at St. John the Evangelist safe for everyone.

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 of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. Or you may call Rev. Don Higgs, 304.685.2367, the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504, or Victims Assistance Coordinator Erin McFarland at 304.559.6742. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

The confessional is available for use by new and nursing moms during Mass. Feel free to use that space for your feeding needs.

Pastor's Perusings-The King We Welcome and Reject

At the threshold of Holy Week, the Church places before us a striking contrast. The liturgy begins with joy. Christ enters Jerusalem, and the crowds go out to meet Him with palm branches. They cry out, "Hosanna to the Son of David." The long-awaited King has come.

Yet within the same liturgy, that joy gives way to the solemn proclamation of the Passion. The same voices that welcomed Him will soon cry out, "Crucify him." The Church does not allow us to remain only with the palms. She leads us immediately to the Cross.

This contrast is not accidental. It reveals something essential about the human heart.

The people who welcomed Christ were not insincere. Their joy was real. They recognized something in Him. They hoped in Him. They desired salvation. Yet their understanding of who He was remained incomplete.

They expected a king who would restore Israel, who would bring visible triumph, who would establish justice in a way they could recognize and celebrate. They welcomed Him, but they welcomed Him on their own terms. When Christ did not fulfill those expectations, their enthusiasm gave way to disappointment, and their disappointment hardened into rejection.

This is the tragedy of Palm Sunday. The crowd did not suddenly become hostile. Rather, their hearts were revealed. They welcomed Christ as long as He corresponded to their desires. When He did not, they turned away.

The Gospel invites us to recognize ourselves in this pattern.

We too welcome Christ. We welcome Him when He consoles us, when He strengthens us, when He answers our prayers in ways we can understand. We are ready to follow Him when His presence brings peace or clarity or hope.

But when Christ leads us into the Cross, when He asks for sacrifice, when He calls us to conversion that costs something real, we often hesitate. We begin to resist. We may not cry out "Crucify him" with our lips, but we do so in more subtle ways. We delay. We excuse. We hold back.

Holy Week begins with this question: Do we truly receive Christ as He is, or only as we wish Him to be?

The Passion narrative shows how this drama unfolds in different hearts.

Peter loves Christ, yet when faced with fear, he denies Him. Pilate recognizes Christ's innocence, yet chooses expedience over truth. The crowd yields to pressure and confusion, preferring a familiar criminal to the One who has come to save them.

Each of these responses reveals something of the human condition. Sin is not always a dramatic rejection of God. More often, it is weakness, compromise, or the desire to preserve ourselves at the cost of truth.

And yet, in the midst of this, Christ remains steadfast.

He does not withdraw. He does not defend Himself according to worldly logic. He does not abandon His mission. Instead, He moves forward freely, embracing the Cross.

Here we see the true nature of His kingship.

Christ reigns not by force, but by self-gift. He conquers not by domination, but by obedience. His throne is the Cross, and His crown is one of thorns.

This is not the kingship the crowd expected. It is not the kingship we would have imagined. Yet it is precisely this kingship that reveals the love of God.

In the Passion, Christ does not merely suffer. He gives Himself. He enters fully into the consequences of sin, not because He is subject to them, but because He chooses to redeem us from within them.

The Cross is not a failure. It is the victory of divine love.

Throughout this Lent, the Church has led us step by step toward this moment. We have seen our need for conversion. We have seen how sin blinds the mind and leads the soul toward death. We have heard the voice of Christ calling us out of the tomb.

Now we see what that call costs.

It costs the Cross.

Palm Sunday therefore becomes a moment of decision. It is not enough to walk in the procession or to hold the palm branch. The question is whether we will remain with Christ when the path leads to suffering, sacrifice, and surrender.

To follow Christ is not simply to admire Him. It is to unite our lives to His.

This is why the sacramental life of the Church is so essential, especially in these days. In confession, we bring before Christ the ways in which we have resisted Him, the ways in which we have preferred our own will to His. We acknowledge that we have not always followed Him to the Cross.

And in the Eucharist, we receive the One who gives Himself completely. The same Christ who entered Jerusalem now gives Himself to us under the appearance of bread and wine. He does not withdraw His love because of our weakness. He remains present, inviting us to deeper communion.

Holy Week is not simply a remembrance of past events. It is a present encounter. Christ still comes to us. He still invites us. He still calls us to follow Him.

The question is whether we will remain.

As we enter these sacred days, let us ask for the grace of perseverance. Let us not remain at the level of the crowd, moved by passing enthusiasm. Let us become true disciples, willing to follow Christ not only in moments of consolation, but also in the way of the Cross.

For it is only by passing through the Cross that we come to the Resurrection.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

-Father Golna

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 28	4:00 P.M.	For the repose of the soul of Dorothy Sacripanti † Requested by: Eleanor Sacripanti
Sunday, March 29	8:00 A.M.	Pro Populo
Sunday, March 29	10:30 A.M.	For Derek Golna
Monday, March 30	8:30 A.M.	For the repose of the soul of Dorothy Sacripanti † Requested by: Angela Cipriani
Tuesday, March 31	8:30 A.M.	For the repose of the soul of Frank Martino † Requested by: Chris & Eleanor Manack
Wednesday, April 1	5:30 PM	For the repose of the souls of Kristian White † Requested by: Sam & Margaret White
Thursday, April 2	7:00 PM	Pro Populo
Friday, April 3	3:00 PM	Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
Saturday, April 4	9:00 P.M.	For the repose of the soul of Charles Olszeski † Requested by: Eleanor Sacripanti
Sunday, April 5	10:30 A.M.	Pro Populo

*The sanctuary lamp is
burning in memory of
Mark Kowcheck
March 27-April 9
By: Theresa Kowcheck*



*Contact the parish office to sponsor
the sanctuary lamp for a two week
period!*

Please write separate checks for each collection.
Collections are split between various accounts
and it is not possible to split one check into
more than one account. Thank you!

Attendance & Collections

Saturday 4:00 PM	59	\$977
Sunday 8:00 AM	37	\$623
Sunday 10:30 AM	65	\$4435
Total attendance	161	
Collection Total	\$6035	
Online Giving	\$1200	
Weekly Needs	\$5,000	
Votive Candles	\$10	
Easter Flowers	\$165	

Adorer Enrollment Status

9-10	
10-11	
11-12	
12-1	
1-2	
2-3	
3-4	
4-5	
Need 2 Adorers	
Need 1 Adorer	
Need 0 Adorers	

Prayer List

Those who are sick: Dr. Scott Benefield and Family, Gary Antigo, Mary Antigo, Joe Bibbo and the Summers Family, Mary A. Rose, Matthew Dillard, James Baker, Marissa Bandibas Jewer, Mary Fluharty, Marie Reck, Karen & Son, Tonette Alward and Colleen Rushing, Madeline Brozstek, Kristen Newton, Clyde Gray and Diana DeGarmo.

Those who have died: Especially Frank Martino. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**All Veterans, and Military Personnel
Vocations to the Priesthood and
Religious Life**

All seminarians: Especially Joe Derico
**The Priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-
Charleston:** Especially Fr. Justin Golna
**Former priests and religious of
and from our parish.**

**Those who are homebound,
in assisted living or nursing
homes.**

**All married couples
struggling with infertility.**

To add or remove names to the prayer list, please call or email the parish office! You can also request prayers on our website.

EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY- APRIL 2ND

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
Altar of Repose until 11PM

GOOD FRIDAY- APRIL 3RD

No Mass
3:00PM Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
5:30PM Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY- APRIL 4TH

9:00PM Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY- APRIL 5TH

10:30AM Mass

*IN STILLNESS, THE EARTH AWAITS THE
RESURRECTION*



GOLNA HAPPEN

Tuesday March 31

Coffee and Catechesis 9am

Chrism Mass - 4 p.m. @ Cathedral

Wednesday April 1

Adoration and Benediction 9-5

Tenebrae 7:30 pm

Thursday April 2

No morning Mass or Confessions

Holy Thursday Collection

Friday April 3

*Stations of the Cross 5:30pm followed
by Confessions*

Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Saturday April 4

Confessions - 2:30 to 3:30 pm

Friday April 3 & Monday April 6

Office Closed

Tuesday April 7

Altar & Rosary meeting 4:30pm

Mass Intentions can now be booked through December 31, 2026! Please call the office or put one of the pink envelopes in the collection.

If you are divorced and civilly remarried, in a civil marriage not recognized by the Church, or have questions about a prior marriage, please know that you are not alone and that the Church desires to walk with you.

If you are unsure about your marital situation, are considering an annulment, or believe your current circumstances may affect your full participation in the sacramental life of the Church, please contact Father Golna. These conversations are always confidential and respectful.

The Church's marriage law exists not to exclude, but to serve the truth of marriage and the dignity of the persons involved. When questions arise, the Church seeks clarity so that consciences may be at peace and lives may be ordered toward full communion with Christ and His Church.

If this applies to you or to someone you love, please do not hesitate to reach out. Taking this step is not about paperwork or judgment, but about healing, truth, and the freedom to live fully the life God desires for you.

Happy Birthday

Kim Caldwell 3/31 Richard Scott 4/1 Robert Morris 4/1 Trinity Rouse 4/4
Jackie Demark 4/1 Bridget Burns 4/1 Evelyn Queen 4/2 Elizabeth McLaughlin 4/5
Roberta Alvarez 4/1 Jason Kusic 4/1 Misty Ferguson 4/3 Linda Bolen 4/5



The Twelve Apostles



- **St. Peter:** The "Prince of the Apostles" and first Pope; despite denying Jesus three times, he was chosen to lead the Church and was the first to convert a Gentile.
- **St. Paul:** A former persecutor of Christians who, after a dramatic conversion, became the "Apostle to the Gentiles" and a prolific New Testament author.
- **St. John:** The "Beloved Disciple" and only apostle at the Crucifixion; Jesus entrusted the Virgin Mary to his care.
- **St. James the Greater:** A member of Jesus' inner circle and the first apostle to be martyred (A.D. 44).
- **St. Andrew:** The first apostle called by Jesus; he immediately recognized Him as the Messiah and brought his brother, Peter, to Him.
- **St. Thomas:** Infamous for his initial doubt of the Resurrection, which ultimately served to provide physical proof of Christ's risen body for future believers.
- **St. Matthew:** A former tax collector who abandoned his worldly profession to follow Christ and later evangelized in India.
- **St. Bartholomew (Nathanael):** Initially skeptical of Jesus' origins but became a believer instantly upon meeting Him.
- **St. Philip:** Responsible for bringing Bartholomew to Jesus; he famously questioned how to feed the 5,000.
- **St. James the Less:** The leader of the Church in Jerusalem who ruled that Gentile converts were not bound by Jewish ceremonial laws.
- **St. Simon the Zealot:** A former political radical whose passion was redirected toward spreading the Gospel.
- **St. Jude (Thaddeus):** At the Last Supper, he questioned the nature of Christ's revelation to the world; he is often associated with lost causes.
- **St. Matthias:** The apostle chosen by lot to replace Judas Iscariot, having been a witness to Jesus' ministry from His baptism.
- **Judas Iscariot:** The treasurer of the group who betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver and later took his own life.

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	Thursday, April 2 7:30 p.m.	Friday, April 3 3:00 p.m.	Saturday, April 4, 9:00 p.m.	Sunday, April 5 10:30 a.m.
Greeters	Trisha	Pam	Trisha & Joanie	Linda Stuckey
Servers	Patrick	Patrick, Avery & Liam	JPV et al.	Stothard
Reader	Judith	Monica	Judith & Monica	Fred Casale

THE READINGS FOR HOLY WEEK CAN BE FOUND ON PAGES, 898A FOR PALM SUNDAY, 899 FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY, 900 FOR GOOD FRIDAY, 901 FOR THE EASTER VIGIL, 902 FOR EASTER SUNDAY OF THE GREEN HYMNAL IN YOUR PEW.

Daily Readings and Feasts

March 28, 2026 (Saturday) Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; John 11:45-56

March 29, 2026 (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion) Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 (or shorter form Matthew 27:11-54)

March 30, 2026 (Monday of Holy Week) Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; John 12:1-11

March 31, 2026 (Tuesday of Holy Week) Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17; John 13:21-33, 36-38

April 1, 2026 (Wednesday of Holy Week) Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34; Matthew 26:14-25

April 2, 2026 (Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper) Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

April 3, 2026 (Good Friday of the Lord's Passion) Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

April 4, 2026 (Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil) Genesis 1:1-2:2; Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 55:1-11; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10

April 5, 2026 (Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord) Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Colossians 3:1-4 (or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8); John 20:1-9 (or Matthew 28:1-10; or at evening Mass Luke 24:13-35)

Tenebrae
Wednesday April 1st 7:30 PM



Mullenbach Funeral Home

Kayla A. Schoonmaker
Funeral Director

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669 Main Street
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Celebrating Life...

Joseph M. Mullenbach

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Cody R. Rice
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of Kristian
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year

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\$1400 per year