

St. John the Evangelist Church

November 23, 2025

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

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Christ the King as Represented in the Liturgy

The liturgy is an album in which every epoch of Church history immortalizes itself. Therein, accordingly, can be found the various pictures of Christ beloved during succeeding centuries. In its pages we see pictures of Jesus suffering and in agony; we see pictures of His Sacred Heart; yet these pictures are not proper to the nature of the liturgy as such; they resemble baroque altars in a gothic church. Classic liturgy knows but one Christ: the King, radiant, majestic, and divine.

With an ever-growing desire, all Advent awaits the "coming King"; in the chants of the breviary we find repeated again and again the two expressions "King" and "is coming." On Christmas the Church would greet, not the Child of Bethlehem, but the Rex Pacificus — "the King of peace gloriously reigning." Within a fortnight, there follows a feast which belongs to the greatest of the feasts of the Church year — the Epiphany. As in ancient times oriental monarchs visited their principalities (theophany), so the divine King appears in His city, the Church; from its sacred precincts He casts His glance over all the world... On the final feast of the Christmas cycle, the Presentation in the Temple, holy Church meets her royal Bridegroom with virginal love: "Adorn your bridal chamber, O Sion, and receive Christ your King!" The burden of the Christmas cycle may be summed up in these words: Christ the King establishes His Kingdom of light upon earth!

If we now consider the Easter cycle, the luster of Christ's royal dignity is indeed somewhat veiled by His sufferings; nevertheless, it is not the suffering Jesus who is present to the eyes of the Church as much as Christ the royal Hero and Warrior who upon the battlefield of Golgotha struggles with the mighty and dies in triumph. Even during Lent and Passiontide the Church acclaim her King. The act of homage on Palm Sunday is intensely stirring; singing psalms in festal procession we accompany our Savior singing: Gloria, laus et honor tibi sit, Rex Christe, "Glory, praise and honor be to Thee, Christ, O King!" It is true that on Good Friday the Church meditates upon the Man of Sorrows in agony upon the Cross, but at the same time, and perhaps more so, she beholds Him as King upon a royal throne. The hymn *Vexilla Regis*, "The royal banners forward go," is the more perfect expression of the spirit from which the Good Friday liturgy has arisen. Also characteristic is the verse from Psalm 95, *Dicite in gentibus quia Dominus regnavit*, to which the early Christians always added, a ligno, "Proclaim among the Gentiles: the Lord reigns from upon the tree of the Cross!" During Paschal time the Church is so occupied with her glorified Savior and Conqueror that kingship references become rarer; nevertheless, toward the end of the season we celebrate our King's triumph after completing the work of redemption, His royal enthronement on Ascension Thursday.

Neither in the time after Pentecost is the picture of Christ as King wholly absent from the liturgy. Corpus Christi is a royal festival: "Christ the King who rules the nations, come, let us adore" (Invit.). In the Greek Church the feast of the Transfiguration is the principal solemnity in honor of Christ's kingship, *Summum Regem gloriae Christum adoremus* (Invit.). Finally at the sunset of the ecclesiastical year, the Church awaits with burning desire the return of the King of Majesty.

We will overlook further considerations in favor of a glance at the daily Offices. How often do we not begin Matins with an act of royal homage: "The King of apostles, of martyrs, of confessors, of virgins — come, let us adore" (Invit.). Lauds is often introduced with *Dominus regnavit*, "The Lord is King". Christ as King is also a first consideration at the threshold of each day; for morning after morning we renew our oath of fidelity at Prime: "To the King of ages be honor and glory." Every oration is concluded through our Mediator Christ Jesus "who lives and reigns forever." Yes, age-old liturgy beholds Christ reigning as King in His basilica (etym.: "the king's house"), upon the altar as His throne.

—Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

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 - 1-2 p.m. (Next week this time changes to 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 Fifth Precept of the Church: You shall help provide for the needs of the Church.

At first glance, this precept might seem like the most mundane of them all. After all, it speaks about money, resources, and support, not the stuff of spiritual excitement. Yet hidden within this brief command is a profound expression of discipleship and a challenge to the modern heart. The Fifth Precept reminds us that the Church is not merely a place we go, but a family we belong to. And families are sustained by the generosity of their members.

This precept calls each of the faithful to take responsibility for the material needs of the Church: the upkeep of our parishes, the support of our priests and religious, the maintenance of sacred spaces, and the outreach to the poor, the vulnerable, and those in need of the Gospel. But it is more than a matter of budgeting. It is an act of love.

We do not “subscribe” to the Church like we do a magazine or a streaming service. We belong to her as living members of the Body of Christ. As such, we are co-responsible for her life and mission. This precept springs not from institutional necessity but from ecclesial identity. We give not because the Church demands it, but because love compels it.

Jesus did not establish a Church to be sustained by the wealthy elite or subsidized by the state. He entrusted her to the poor in spirit, to the ordinary believer, to men and women who give from their daily bread and who understand that even the widow's mite has eternal value when offered with faith.

From the Old Testament to the New, Scripture consistently affirms the importance of material generosity in the worship of God. The people of Israel were commanded to tithe: to give a tenth of their harvest, flocks, and income for the support of the Levites and the Temple. Their giving was not optional. It was part of their covenant relationship with God.

In the New Covenant, while the exact percentage is not specified, the spirit of giving deepens. The Acts of the Apostles tells us that the early Christians held everything in common, and that no one among them was in need (cf. Acts 4:32-35). St. Paul exhorts the churches to give generously for the needs of the Church in Jerusalem, reminding them that “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7).

But he also insists that giving must be sacrificial. “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,” Paul writes, “that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor 8:9). Our generosity should mirror Christ's own: self-emptying, joyfully given, and rooted in love.

The “needs of the Church” are many, and they differ from place to place. At the local level, your parish has real material costs: heating and cooling, maintenance and repairs, salaries for staff, liturgical supplies, insurance, and outreach ministries. These are not luxuries. They are part of making the parish a true house of God and a beacon in the community.

Then there are diocesan needs: seminarian formation, Catholic schools, missions, retired priests, campus ministries, and programs of evangelization. These too depend on the generosity of the faithful.

But the Fifth Precept goes beyond money. It includes time, talents, and presence. Are you supporting your parish with your gifts of service? Are you volunteering, helping with liturgical ministries, serving the poor, teaching the faith, mentoring youth, or simply being present as a faithful member of the community?

Money is necessary, but the Church also needs witnesses, men and women who live their faith with joy and give their lives in love. This precept includes both.

Christian giving is not just philanthropy. It is an act of worship. Every Sunday, we bring bread and wine to the altar, not because God needs them, but because He uses what we offer to work the miracle of the Eucharist. In the same way, when we offer the fruits of our labor, our money, our time, our energy, we unite them to the sacrifice of Christ.

The offertory is not a commercial intermission in the liturgy. It is a sacred moment in which we present ourselves to the Lord. The collection is not a transaction. It is a liturgical gesture.

It says, “Lord, everything I have is from You. I return it in gratitude, trusting You to multiply it for the good of others.”

Our giving becomes holy when it flows from a grateful heart. Not from guilt, not from pressure, but from love. The true measure of our generosity is not the amount, but the heart behind it.

While the Church does not mandate tithing in the strict sense, it has always commended the practice of giving a regular and sacrificial portion of one's income. Many Catholics aim for a percentage, often 5% to the parish and 5% to other charitable causes. Others give in different ways, based on their means. I, as your pastor, give 10% to the parish.

What matters is consistency, intentionality, and generosity. Giving should not be an afterthought or what's left over. It should be a planned and prioritized part of the Christian life.

If you do not yet give regularly to your parish or the wider Church, begin with something modest, but commit to it. Over time, stretch your heart to give more. Remember that God is never outdone in generosity. If you seek first His kingdom, He will provide.

One of the dangers in our time is the rise of “consumer Catholicism”: a mentality that sees the Church as a service provider and parishioners as customers. In this model, we come to Mass expecting a good homily, nice music, clean facilities, and smooth operations, but without assuming any responsibility to provide for those things.

But the Church is not a business. She is a family. And families work together. A Catholic who benefits from the Church's life, who is nourished by the sacraments, supported in suffering, accompanied in joy, yet gives nothing back, is like a branch drawing life from the vine while refusing to bear fruit.

This Precept is a call to maturity. It says: do not just come to Mass. Belong to your parish. Build it. Sustain it. Support it.

The lives of the saints overflow with generosity. St. Lawrence, a deacon of the early Church, was ordered by Roman officials to produce the treasures of the Church. He returned with the poor, the sick, and the outcast and said, “Here are the treasures of the Church.” He gave his life in defense of them.

St. Francis of Assisi stripped himself of all wealth to follow Christ more closely. St. Elizabeth of Hungary used her royal fortune to care for the sick and the poor. St. Katharine Drexel gave millions to establish Catholic schools for Native and African Americans.

Generosity is not just for the wealthy. The saints teach us that all of us have something to give. Even the poorest can give with great love. Even the busy can find time to serve. Even the struggling can pray for others and offer their suffering for the needs of the Church.

Finally, the Fifth Precept is a barometer of conversion. Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Mt 6:21). If we are truly converted, our priorities change. Our wallets begin to reflect our worship. Our calendars begin to reflect our values. Our checkbooks become theological documents.

When we give to the Church, we are saying: “I believe in this. I stake my life on this. I want this Gospel to go forward.” That kind of giving changes us. It forms the heart. It makes us generous like God.

And it builds the Church, not just physically, but spiritually. It ensures that the Mass is offered, the poor are fed, the young are formed, the truth is preached, and the light of Christ continues to shine in the darkness.


So let us take this precept to heart. Let us give with joy. Let us support our parishes not reluctantly or sparingly, but abundantly and with gratitude. For the Church is not only God's house. She is our home.

-Father Golna

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 22	4:00 P.M.	For Hilda Tarquinio (100 Years) Requested by: Michael Serevicz
Sunday, November 23	8:00 A.M.	Pro Populo
Sunday, November 23	10:30 A.M.	For the repose of the soul of Michael Zdinak † Requested by: Pat Ferry
Monday, November 24	8:30 A.M.	For the repose of the soul of Jimmy Sperlazza (Canada)† Requested by: Eleanor Rockey
Tuesday, November 25	8:30 A.M.	Intention of the Priest
Wednesday, November 26	5:30 P.M.	For the TOR Sisters Requested by: Gordon Smith & Maryann
Thursday, November 27	8:30 A.M.	Intention of the Priest
Friday, November 28	5:30 P.M.	Intention of the Priest
Saturday, November 29	4:00 P.M.	Pro Populo
Sunday, November 30	8:00 A.M.	For the repose of the Soul of George Long † Requested by: Toot & Joan Lazear
Sunday, November 30	10:30 A.M.	For the repose of the Souls of George & Mildred Bayless † Requested by: Cindy Crabtree

The sanctuary lamp is burning in memory of Anne & Michael Zdinak by Pat Ferry Nov. 21-Dec. 4



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	40
Sunday 8:00	50
Sunday 10:30	78
Total Attendance	168
Regular Collection	\$2436
Online Giving	\$75
Weekly Needs	\$5,000
Votive Candles	\$30
Elevator	\$70
Building and Maintenance	\$647
Elevator Annex Loan Balance	\$58,781.95

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, Christine Rose, Matthew Dillard, Lloyd VanHorn, and James Baker, Marissa Bandibas Jewer, Mary Fluharty, Marie Reck, Karen & Son, Tonette Alward, Coleen Rushing and Madeline Brozstek.

Those who have died: 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 Dericco

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.



Special collection
Nov. 22-23



\$1,000,000
Campaign Goals:

- Roof Replacement
- Exterior Stone Repair
- Interior Repair & Restoration



Let Us Go Rejoicing
to the House of the Lord
Psalm 122:1
Celebrating 100 Years of Faith.



A Cathedral for All the Faithful

The Cathedral of St. Joseph is more than a parish—it is the spiritual heart of the entire Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. It is where we gather as one Church for Christ Mass, ordinations, diocesan celebrations, and moments of mourning and hope.

As we mark 100 years of grace, we invite every Catholic across the Diocese to participate in preserving this sacred treasure that belongs to all of us.

Support the Cathedral of St. Joseph
by donating online at:
saintjosephcathedral.com/100th

GOLNA HAPPEN
Sunday November 23

CCD 9am

*Collection for Restoration of the
Cathedral*

Tuesday November 25

Coffee & Catechesis

Wednesday November 26

Adoration & Benediction 9-5

Men's Group 7pm

Sunday November 30

No CCD 9am

November 27 & 28

Office Closed

Happy Thanksgiving

Starting Nov. 30

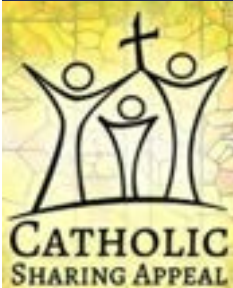
New Sunday confession time from

9:15 to 10am.

Monday, Dec. 15

Advent Penance Service 6 p.m.

Mass Intentions can now be booked through
June 30, 2026! Please call the office or put one of
the pink envelopes in the collection.



We are 7% from completion. Goal \$18,200 Raised \$16,900 93% 32 gifts

Thank you to EVERYONE who has given to the 2025 Catholic Sharing Appeal. Since we have reached 50% of our \$18,200 goal, EVERY PENNY donated is returned to our parish free from Cathedralricum and PHRA assessment. Donations for the Catholic Sharing Appeal can be made through the parish for those who don't like to give online.

Please write CSA in large letters on the envelope or the memo line of the check!

<https://csa.dwcministries.org/donate/>

Ryan Brink 11/24

Laura Kemp 11/25

Brynna Jackson 11/26

Toni Staffileno 11/29

Cody Bland 11/29

William Garvey 11/29



La Fiesta de
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Catedral de San José
1300 East St. Wheeling, WV

La misa será celebrada por el
Obispo Mark Brennan.

Misa en español el viernes,
12 de diciembre
a las 6:00 p.m.

Agradecemos su presencia en la
recepción que se celebrará después
de la misa.

Todos Son Bienvenidos! You're All Welcome!

Cathedral of St. Joseph
1300 East St. Wheeling, WV

Mass will be celebrated by
Bishop Mark Brennan.

Friday, December 12
6:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Reception following the Mass.

Congratulations Steve Brown & Nicole Michaux on Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation



Profiles in Holiness




Saint Catherine Labouré (1806–1876), a French Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, received apparitions of the Virgin Mary in 1830 that led to the design and widespread devotion to the Miraculous Medal (Our Lady of Graces). Despite these extraordinary mystical experiences, she lived in complete humility and obedience, spending over 40 years quietly nursing the elderly and infirm in a Paris hospice without revealing her role in the medal's origin until shortly before her death. She is the patron saint of the Miraculous Medal, the elderly, and the infirm; her feast day is celebrated on November 28.



Saint Andrew, a fisherman and brother of Simon Peter, became one of Jesus' first disciples after following John the Baptist's testimony and was called with Peter to be a "fisher of men." He is known in the Gospels for bringing Peter to Jesus, presenting the boy with loaves and fishes, and introducing Greek seekers to Christ. Tradition says he preached in Greece and Asia Minor, was martyred on an X-shaped cross in Patras, and his feast day is November 30.

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

	Saturday, November 29, 4:00 p.m.	Sunday, November 30, 8:00 a.m.	Sunday, November 30, 10:30a.m.
Greeters	Rob Morris	Anna & Jeje	Mary Beth Harvey
Servers	Avery & Liam	Judith Aracich	Stothard
Reader	Marcie Morris	Maryanne Capp	Pam Ferguson

Daily Readings and Feasts

November 22, 2025 (Saturday); 1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Psalm 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19; Luke 20:27-40

November 23, 2025 (Sunday) The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe; 2 Samuel 5:1-3; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43

November 24, 2025 (Monday); Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Luke 21:1-4

November 25, 2025 (Tuesday); Daniel 2:31-45; Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Luke 21:5-11

November 26, 2025 (Wednesday); Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Luke 21:12-19

November 27, 2025 (Thursday); Daniel 6:12-28; Daniel 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74; Luke 21:20-28

November 28, 2025 (Friday); Daniel 7:2-14; Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Luke 21:29-33

November 29, 2025 (Saturday); Daniel 7:15-27; Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Luke 21:34-36

November 30, 2025 (Sunday) First Sunday of Advent; Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

The readings for this weekend can be found on page 1029 of the green hymnal in your pew

Advent Healing Prayer Service

"Immanuel, Our Healer & Restorer"
led by Rev. Sunil Thomas

6:00 pm: Talk

6:45 pm: Exposition of the Eucharist & Confessions

7:45pm: Healing Prayer & Benediction

St. Paul Church
Tuesday, December 9, 2025



Sacred Heart of Mary Christmas Kielbasa & Sausage Sale

This Christmas Sacred Heart of Mary will be taking orders for Jacob & Sons Kielbasa & Sausage. Price is \$6/pound. Weights will vary. Orders are due by Monday, December 15th and will be available for pick up on Friday, December 19th from 12:00p to 4:00p in the cafeteria at SHM. Payment due at time of pick up. To order, call the church office at 304-723-7175 during office hours or by dropping order form in the weekly collection basket or dropping it off at St. Joe's church office.

Name _____

Phone _____

Smoked Kielbasa _____ # Lbs. Fresh (unsmoked) Kielbasa _____ #Lbs.

Mild Garlic Sausage _____ # Lbs. Mild Hot Sausage _____ # Lbs. Old World Italian Sausage _____ # Lbs.

Orders Due By Monday, December 15; Pick Up Friday, December 19 12:00p-4:00p

Pay by cash or check day of pick up (check made out to Sacred Heart of Mary).

Spread Christmas Joy with a \$10 Kroger Gift Card!

Dear Parish Family,

This holiday season, let's fill hearts and baskets with hope! The Food Pantry is preparing Christmas Baskets to bless local families in need—and we need your help to make them extra special.

Here's the simple way you can help:

Drop off a \$10 Kroger gift card (or more!) at the parish office or collection basket by November 30

Mullenbach Funeral Home

Celebrating Life...

Joseph M. Mullenbach

Licensee in Charge

www.mullenbachfh.com

Cody R. Rice
Funeral Director

(304) 527-4090

Fax (304) 527-3793

mullenbachfh@comcast.net

Kayla A. Schoonmaker
Funeral Director

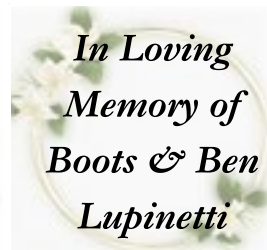
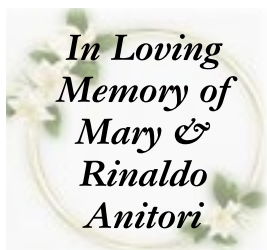
P.O. Box 272

669 Main Street

Follansbee, WV 26037



Reasner Funeral Home
Robert Morris L.D.C.
Owner and Director
ReasnerOfWellsburg.com
304-737-3231



Please consider advertising and directly supporting the parish! All advertising dollars are used to offset the printing costs of this beautiful bulletin.

\$50 per month	\$500 per year	\$975 per year
\$15 per week	\$750 per year	
\$20 per month	\$750 per year	

\$1400 per year