

As [Jesus] rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.... They proclaimed: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.”

LUKE 19:36, 38

## The Emptying Process

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e like to fill life with good things—good friends, good times, good jobs, good memories. They are all graced moments of life. Life is also marked by an emptying process. Friends move away, good times come to an end, jobs become boring. Saint Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa) once noted how even God can't fill what is already full. The emptying process may very well be the action of God in our lives, emptying us to make room for God's gift of resurrection and life in its fullest.

Holy Week is the story of such a process—one long saga that begins with Palm Sunday as it focuses on how Jesus willingly emptied himself even unto death. The story moves on to Holy Thursday and the gift of the Eucharist to sustain us in the emptying. On to Good Friday, where, once more, a narration in stark liturgical strokes tell of the emptying of Jesus. Finally, the Easter Vigil and the Feast of the Resurrection, the culmination of a journey through death into life. We tell this weeklong story because the story of Jesus is also our story—more of God working in us rather than our own doing. The Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner once noted that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well. Our willingness to learn that lesson, again and again, is how we begin to share in the resurrection, even as we live our lives today. ●

### Reflect

*How does my faith help me through times of emptiness?*

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

APRIL 12 & 13, 2025

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 12 - 6:00 PM

✠ Jamie Garton by Deborah Garton & Fred Butler

Sunday, April 13 9:00 AM

✠ Richard Canterbury by Ron & Sherry Ciccolini

Tuesday, April 15 12:00 Noon

✠ Charles & Opal Garton by Deborah Garton & Fred Butler

Wednesday, April 16 9:00 AM

✠ Alma Wheeler by The Crigger Family

Saturday, April 19 - 8:00 PM ~Easter Vigil

✠ Anthony Peretti by Peretti Family

Sunday, April 20- 9:00 AM ~Easter Sunday

✠ People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

*Holy Week*  
**SCHEDULE**

April 17 ~ Holy Thursday  
6:00 pm Mass

April 18 ~ Good Friday  
6:00 pm Service

April 19 ~ Easter Vigil  
8:00 pm Mass

April 20 ~ Easter Sunday  
9:00 am Mass

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 13: Palm Sunday

April 14: Knights of the Columbus Meeting 6 :00 pm

April 17: Holy Thursday Mass 6:00 pm

April 18: Good Friday Service 6:00 pm

April 19: Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 pm

April 20: Easter Sunday Mass 9:00 am

April 21-25: Fr. Sebastian's Trip ~No Daily Mass

April 22: Office Closed ~Electrical Updates

April 27: Rite of Entrance for our Confirmandi

April 28: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:00 pm

May 2: First Friday Mass 6:00 pm

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Every Friday from 6:00-7:00 pm

May 9 ~ Bluefield

May 23 ~ Bluefield

May 16 ~ Princeton

May 30 ~ Princeton

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E.  
sdevasya@dwc.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.  
julia@sacredheartblfd.org 304-396-5706

**YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:** Wendi Aiello  
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Lucy Brinegar  
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

**PARISH BOOKKEEPER:** Kim Hickman  
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

**Office Hours:** 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

**Confession:**

Before Weekend Masses, During Eucharistic Adoration,  
First Saturday's of Month, By Appointment

**Food Pantry Hours:**

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

*To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion. Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest, so we will know that you wish to receive a Blessing. We are grateful for your presence.*



Dear Beloved Sacred Herat Family,

As we approach the end of this blessed Lenten season, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to each of you for your dedication and faithfulness in observing the practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. As we move forward into the final week of Lent, I encourage you to continue your spiritual journey with hearts full of gratitude and anticipation for the joy that awaits us in the Easter season.

This Sixth Sunday of Lent, we hear the familiar and profound words of the Gospel, which call us to contemplate the nature of Jesus' love for us. The readings speak powerfully to the themes of sacrifice, humility, and divine mercy. In the Gospel, we encounter the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, a moment that begins the events of Holy Week. Jesus, who is adored by the crowds, will soon face betrayal, suffering, and death. Yet, knowing the cost, His willingness to enter Jerusalem reveals the depth of His love and obedience to the Father's will.

In our second reading, St. Paul's letter to the Philippians reminds us of Christ's humility. Though divine, He emptied Himself to take on human form, humbling Himself to the point of death on a cross. This passage highlights Christ's selfless love and calls us to follow His example of humility and service. The first reading, from the prophet Isaiah, also speaks of suffering and trust in God's faithfulness, pointing forward to Christ's own suffering for our salvation.

As we reflect on these readings, we see the common thread of sacrifice and love woven through each one. Jesus' sacrifice is not only a historical event but a living reminder of God's unwavering love for us and our call to live in that love every day. This week, as we enter Holy Week, we are invited to unite ourselves with Christ's passion and walk with Him on the road to the Cross.

Holy Week is a time of great significance, and I encourage you to fully immerse yourself in the sacred rituals that bring us closer to the Paschal Mystery.

**Palm Sunday** will mark the beginning of our celebration of Holy Week. We will gather to commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem when the crowds shouted "Hosanna!" and laid palm branches before Him. This moment of joy contrasts with the sorrow that follows, reminding us of the fleeting nature of worldly acclaim and the path of suffering that Jesus chose for us.

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**Taize Prayer (April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. In Princeton Sacred Heart)** is a meditative prayer characterized by its meditative, repetitive chants, simple melodies, and quiet reflection. The service usually includes Scripture readings, short prayers, and periods of silence, creating a peaceful and contemplative atmosphere. The repetitive nature of the chants allows participants to focus and connect with God on a deeper spiritual level.

**Chrism Mass (Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m. Charleston):** We will gather for the Chrism Mass at the Co-Cathedral, where the bishop will bless the oils that will be used in the sacraments throughout the coming year. The Mass is a beautiful celebration of unity in the diocese and an opportunity to reflect on our shared faith.

**Holy Thursday (April 17<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in Princeton and 6 p.m. in Bluefield)** invites us to reflect on the Last Supper, at which Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist and the priesthood. At the Lord's Supper Mass, we will remember His example of humble service as He washed the feet of His disciples. This moment calls us to serve one another with love and humility, just as Christ served us.

**Good Friday (April 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. in Princeton and 6 p.m. in Bluefield)** is a day of solemn reflection and reverence. We will commemorate Jesus' passion and death on the Cross. The solemn liturgy invites us to contemplate the immense sacrifice that Christ made for our salvation. We will participate in the Veneration of the Cross, acknowledging His suffering and death as the source of our redemption.

**Easter Vigil (April 19<sup>th</sup>, 8 p.m. in Bluefield and Princeton)** will be a night of celebration and new life. As we gather in darkness and await the light of Christ's Resurrection, we will listen to the sacred Scriptures, remembering God's saving acts throughout history. The Vigil will culminate in the joyous proclamation of the Resurrection and the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation, welcoming new members into the Church. This is a powerful reminder of our hope and new life in Christ.

As we enter this most sacred time of year, let us pray for one another and for the strength to fully embrace the mystery of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. May our hearts be filled with gratitude, and may our lives reflect the love of the Savior who gave His life for us.

Prayerfully,

*Father Sebastian Devasya*



**FAITH FORMATION**



**Faith Formation 2025**

*Scripture: "The Lord has done great things; we are filled with joy"  
Psalm 126*

*The schedule through Spring 2025:*

*April 13, 27: Regular Sessions*

*April 20: No Faith Formation ~ Easter Sunday*

*April 27: Except for the Confirmation Class/Last day of Faith Formation*

*First Holy Communion will be May 4 during the 9am Mass.*

*Please continue to pray for our First Communicants: Kaiden Bryant, Adalynn Farmer, and Alexander Rose*

**Confirmation Class Schedule**

*All of the classes listed above for Faith Formation and the following:*

*April 27 - Rite of Entrance for our Confirmandi. Sponsors need to attend.*

*May 11, 18, and June 1*

*Class Retreat Date will be on May 17th*

*Confirmation Mass Rehearsal is June 7th at 10 am in the Church.*

*Confirmation Mass is June 8th at 4:30pm with Dinner to follow with Bishop Brennan*

**OCIA**



**Formerly Known As RCIA**

*If you are interested in the OCIA process please contact, Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office.*

*Please pray for our Elect ~ Jacob Lawless, Janet Belcher, and Cody Jewell*

*Congratulations to Janet Belcher and Cody Jewell on receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation this past week.*

**VIRTUS ~ SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

**VIRTUS<sup>®</sup> Online**

**ANYTIME** [www.virtusonline.com](http://www.virtusonline.com)

THIS ONLINE PROGRAM IS REQUIRED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS IN THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING CHARLESTON AND SACRED HEART

**VIRTUS Requirements:**

- yearly training video
- Initial training documents
- background check every 3 years
- Monthly training bulletins

**Local VIRTUS Coordinator:**  
Kim Hickman, 304-920-2440  
khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

**if you SEE something SAY something**

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. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Office of Safe Environment at 304 - 230 - 1504.



# Easter Flowers

Mary, Ken, and Roger Mash  
Bill & Mary Albert  
Ada Mae, Nancy, and Bill Williams  
Hattie Helke  
Karen Noble  
Rose, Delores, Margaret Pendleton  
Judy White  
By Randy & Cindy Albert  
Gianato & Bauer Families  
by Hobe & Susan Bauer  
Gifted by Frank & Lillian Brady  
Gifted by Bob & Cathy Buzzo  
Gifted by Vearl & Betty Clayton  
Gifted by James & Donella Crigger  
John Crist, Sr.  
Elizabeth Crist  
Kenneth & Mary Ann Franklin  
Mary Williams  
Ann Crist Byrd  
by John & Debbie Crist  
Mary & Sam Genovesi  
by Angie Genovesi  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Harrison  
by Julia Harrison  
Frances A. Harrison  
by Tom Harrison  
Gifted by Percy Johnson

Ray & Mary Shumate by Katie Kidd  
Family of E. M. Lampert  
Family of F.W. Turner  
O.E. Clemins  
Harold "Sandy" Bright  
by Terry & Claire Lampert  
Mario A. Lijoi by Natalie Lijoi  
Teresa Soulis by Vickie Lijoi  
Barry McCloud by Jean McCloud  
Ray L. Shumate & Mary Shumate  
by Jimmie & Marilyn McCoy  
Gifted by Mary McGonagle  
Gifted by James & Barbara Musolin  
Anthony Paul Peretti by Patty Peretti  
Gifted by Tullio & Linda Ramella  
Mitch Rebeck by Deb Rebeck  
Gifted by Michael & Sandy Romeo  
Araceli Buendia  
Genara Buendia  
Francisco Tumbokon  
by Dennis & Marietta Tumbokon  
Gifted by Gina Vescio  
Gifted by Courtney West



# HOLY WEEK & EASTER

AT SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Holy Week is a time to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Remembering Jesus' actions, reflecting on his messages and recommitting to living as his disciples in the world today.

We hope this schedule helps you plan to observe these important days, both on your own and with others. May you have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

*"As we embark on our own Lenten journey, we are called to follow Jesus' example of retreat, fasting, and prayer. Our world today, filled with distractions and busyness, can make it difficult to create space for God. Yet, Lent offers us the precious opportunity to step away from our daily routines and focus on our spiritual needs. Let us take this time to pause, reflect, and return to God with renewed hearts."*

*From Fr. Sebastian's  
Message for Lent 2025*

## HOLY WEEK

Saturday | April 12, 2025

6:00 pm Palm Sunday Mass

Sunday | April 13, 2025

9:00 am Palm Sunday

Holy Thursday | April 17, 2025

6:00 pm Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday | April 18, 2025

6:00 pm Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday | April 19, 2025

8:00pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday | April 20, 2025

9:00am Mass

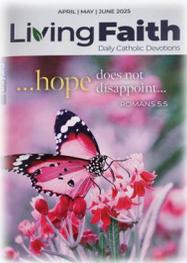


**Sacred Heart**  
Catholic Church

1003 Wyoming St. | Bluefield, WV 24701  
304-327-5623 | sacredheartblfd.org

April 2025 Ministry Schedule

Mass Date Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
4/12 Sat. 6 pm	P.Peretti	F. Moran	A. Froy	V. Hager	1.A. Peretti 2.L. Mariotti 3.T. Hager	The Pascasio's	D. Duritza
			E. Peretti	D. Garton			
4/13 Sun 9 am Palm Sunday	Winfree's	L. Ajulo	T. Brown	C. Ott	1.M. Romeo 2.S. Copolo 3.T. Lampert	R. Malamisura	R. Malamisura
			A. Zinsmeister	T. Bales			
4/17 6 pm Holy Thursday	Patty Peretti	NO Rosary	P. Buenafe A. Peretti E. Peretti	V. Hager C. Saunders	1.T. Hager 2.P. Peretti 3.F. Moran	TBA	D. Shumate M. McCoy
4/18 6 pm Good Friday	J. McCloud		A. Froy	A. Rebuck	1.T. Behrmann 2.D. Garton	John Monaco	
4/19 8 pm Easter Vigil	Purita Buenafe		P. Buenafe A. Peretti E. Peretti	R. Ciccolini B. Musolin	1.T. Hager 2.V. Hager 3.L. Mariotti	The Pascasio's	
4/20 9 am Easter Sunday	TBA		S. Copolo	B. Buzzo	1.K. Kirk 2.S. Copolo 3.D. Garton	Steve Copolo	
			M. Copolo	C. Ott			
4/26 Sat. 6 pm	P. Buenafe		V. Hager	Dave	Tom	1. A. Robinson 2.D. Garton 3.J. McCloud	
		Kelley		Behrmann			
4/27 Sun 9 am	Winfree's	L. Ajulo	R. Aiello	R. Albert	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.C. Havens	TBA	
			A. Zinsmeister	B. Musolin			



**Living Faith Booklets**

Thanks to an anonymous donor we have received the wonderful Living Faith Daily Catholic Devotions booklets. Please feel free to pick one up when you come to Mass.

**Pontifical Good Friday for the Holy Land Collection**  
April 18, 2025

The Good Friday Holy Land Collection supports the Holy Places, but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local



**Church Directory**  
**Mark Your Calendar**

Family pictures will be taken the following days:

- Sunday, April 13 After Mass
- Thursday, April 17 Before Mass
- Friday, April 18 Before Mass
- Saturday, April 19 Before Mass
- Sunday, April 20 After Mass

We are still needing family pictures for the new church directory. Each family who submits a picture will receive a free directory. Those who do not submit a photo will have to pay \$10 for their directory.



## Sacred Heart Prayer List

**Parishioners:** George Bowling, Mary Bruch, John Burton, , Ron Ciccolini, Benny Disibbio, Carolina Ferrare, Angie Genovesi, Valerie Hager, Daniel Kirk, Claire & Terry Lampert, Tommie Jo Longworth, Mary Malamisura, Sabrina Mazol, Cindy McGraw, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Rosalie Rochetti, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

**Friends & Family:** Lorin Albin, Yvonne Blevins, Mark Burnette, John Burton, Chuck Comer, Beatrice Dunn, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Angela Buzzo Gess, Laura Haines and baby Carmelo, Skip Harless, Yael Issacs, Natalie Jackson, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Robert Martin, Angelo Perri, Walt "Buddy" Pierce, Annette Pike, Dr. Amanda Hale Reese, Audrey Snyder, Kay Trimble, Cathleen Underwood, Orpha Welch

### Catholic Sharing Appeal

We have raised \$7,230  
which is 29% of  
our goal of \$25,200.

A reminder that the first 50% of our goal goes towards ministries all over the diocese, the second 50% raised goes straight towards Sacred Heart.



GIVE ONLINE TODAY AT:

[SacredHeartCatholicChu64.flocknote.com/give/30362](https://SacredHeartCatholicChu64.flocknote.com/give/30362)

OR SCAN THE QR  
CODE TO DONATE  
SECURELY FROM  
YOUR PHONE



Weekly Collection	Weekend Apr 5-6	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	6,997.00	55,331.00	55,500.00
Loose Offertory	264.00	5,668.43	6,500.00
Easter Flowers	100.00	875.00	1,000.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 7,361.00</b>	<b>\$ 61,874.43</b>	<b>\$ 63,000.00</b>
Votive Candles (Gross)	56.00	81.00	125.00
Food Pantry	452.00	11,154.20	0.00
attendance:	6pm: 51	9am: 97	

### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

**In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying:** {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

**In case of illness:** Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

**Nursing homes & Hospitals:** are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

# Dear Padre,

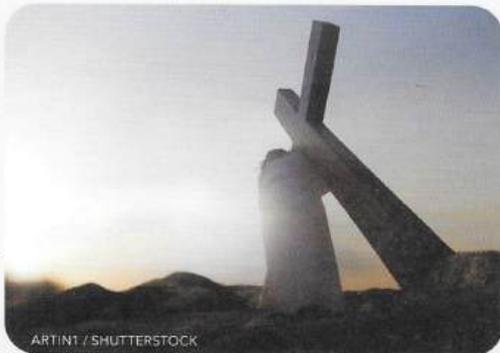
*I'm thinking about going to the Easter Vigil, but why does it have to be so long?*

When an event seems long, it may have to do with our expectations. If we go to the Easter Vigil and expect it to be like a Sunday Mass, then it will seem long. The typical parish Easter Vigil lasts two to three hours. There are some communities who vigil all night. Why does it have to be so long? Because this is one night of the year when we Catholics tell our whole story.

There are four parts of the Vigil. Part One is the *Lucernarium* (Light) when we gather around the paschal fire from which the paschal candle is lit. Then follows the passing of the light to members of the congregation, who are holding candles. By candlelight, we hear the Exsultet—the Easter Proclamation, sung only on this night. Part Two is the Liturgy of the Word, when we take our time listening to readings, singing psalms, and reflecting on salvation history. Part Three is the Sacraments of Initiation, when new members are welcomed into the Church, baptized, and confirmed, and all renew their baptismal promises. And Part Four is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when new members receive holy Communion for the first time. The Easter Vigil is rich with meaning, solemn as well as joyful, and to fully experience it, we must take our time. ●



*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We are preparing to celebrate the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death.... But today, there is a war.... Christ bore his cross to free us from the dominion of evil. He died so that life, love, peace may reign.... What victory is there in planting a flag on a pile of rubble?*

ANGELUS, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022

### Monday

April 14  
*Monday of Holy Week*  
Is 42:1–7  
Jn 12:1–11

### Tuesday

April 15  
*Tuesday of Holy Week*  
Is 49:1–6  
Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

### Wednesday

April 16  
*Wednesday of Holy Week*  
Is 50:4–9a  
Mt 26:14–25

### Thursday

April 17  
*Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)*  
*Chrim Mass:*  
Is 61:1–3a, 6a, 8b–9  
Rv 1:5–8  
Lk 4:16–21  
*Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:*  
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14  
1 Cor 11:23–26  
Jn 13:1–15

### Friday

April 18  
*Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)*  
Is 52:13–53:12  
Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9  
Jn 18:1–19:42

### Saturday

April 19  
*Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)*  
Gn 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a  
Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18  
Ex 14:15–15:1  
Is 54:5–14  
Is 55:1–11  
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4  
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28  
Rom 6:3–11  
Lk 24:1–12

### Sunday

April 20  
*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
Acts 10:34a, 37–43  
Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8  
Jn 20:1–9