



On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.

JOHN 20:1



Bit by Bit

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Looking for proof of the resurrection is like looking for proof of love. Sometimes, we realize only gradually—bit by bit—that we are loved. John's Gospel abounds with images of light and darkness. So when this Sunday's Easter Gospel recounts Mary of Magdala going to the tomb early in the morning while it was still dark, the gospel is not simply marking the time of day. It's noting that what was taking place was before they believed in the resurrection, when they were still in the dark. All sorts of hints about the resurrection begin to occur: Mary sees the stone rolled away, Peter and the other disciple go to the tomb and find the burial cloths. They see the cloth that had covered his head rolled up and set aside. No apparition of Jesus, no men in white garments, no angels. Only hints that with the resurrection of Jesus,

God has made all life new and destined for resurrection.

What, then, might one do who is plagued by doubts? Look for hints of resurrection, of life coming about where one expects only death (as if to symbolically enter the tomb). What types of hints? Going for counseling, as frightening as that may be, and finding peace. Talking through a problem in marriage. Finding that empty-nesting gives way to new life. Discovering retirement's gifts. Making a dreaded move to a new city or school. The resurrection of Jesus means God makes all life new. We only need to see it and discover that, bit by bit, it leads to faith. ●

Reflect

What are the hints of resurrection surrounding me? Have I missed any?

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

APRIL 19 & 20, 2025



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

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)

Tuesday, April 22 - 12:00 Noon

✠ NO MASS. ~Fr. Out of Town, Office Closed

Wednesday, April 23 - 9:00 AM

✠ NO MASS ~Fr. Out of Town

Saturday, April 26 - 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. Donal O'Donovan by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

Sunday, April 27- 9:00 AM

✠ Kenneth Franklin by Julia Harrison

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

April 30: Finance Council Meeting 6:00 pm

May 2: First Friday Mass 6:00 pm

May 3: First Saturday Reconciliation 10-11 am

May 4: First Holy Communion

May 5-6: Presbyteral Council ~No Daily Mass

May 7: Sisters of Elizabeth Convent Visit at Mass

May 11: Mother's Day

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

PARISH SECRETARY: Lucy Brinegar
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

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

PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Kim Hickman
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

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 Family in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Truly, He is risen! I greet you all with great joy and love this Easter Sunday as we celebrate the most important feast of our faith, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May this glorious day's peace, hope, and joy fill your hearts and homes.



Easter is a time of great blessing—when we remember Christ's ultimate triumph over sin and death. Through His resurrection, we are given the hope of eternal life, which is unshakable and ever-present, no matter the trials we face in this world. As Christians, we are called to live in this hope and to share it with others. The resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith, and it affirms the universal truth that through Christ, we are saved. "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). But *because* He is risen, we are invited into a new life—a life filled with grace, forgiveness, and eternal hope.

As we rejoice in the resurrection, let us also extend warm and heartfelt congratulations to those who have entered the Church this Easter through the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. You are now fully united with the Body of Christ, and your journey of faith is just beginning. We welcome you into our community with open arms and pray that you will continue to grow in the love and knowledge of the risen Lord.

This year, as we celebrate the "Jubilee of Hope," we are reminded that hope in Christ is not just a fleeting emotion but a living, breathing reality that sustains us throughout our lives. The resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate manifestation of hope—hope that death does not have the final word, hope that God's love is stronger than anything the world can throw at us. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).

In today's Gospel, we hear the glorious account of the empty tomb and Mary Magdalene's encounter with the risen Christ (John 20:1-9). This is a powerful moment of revelation and transformation. Just as the disciples found hope in the risen Christ, so too can we find hope in Him today. The message is clear: death has been conquered, and we are invited to walk in the light of Christ's resurrection.

In our celebration of Easter, let us also remember the significance of the Church and our families. This is a time for coming together—within our own households and as a church family—to rejoice in the gift of new life. Let us cherish these moments with our loved ones, offering prayers of thanksgiving and praise for the many blessings we receive each day.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped make this Holy Week and Easter celebration possible. To the visiting priests who have participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the OCIA team, our beautiful choir, sacristans, liturgy committee, decoration committee, lectors, altar servers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, greeters, and all who have helped lead the Stations of the Cross, decorated the church, and worked tirelessly behind the scenes, your efforts have made this sacred season extremely meaningful. Your dedication is a true gift to our parish, and I am deeply grateful for all you do.

As we celebrate the risen Lord, remember His promise: "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die" (John 11:25-26). May we always live in the light of His resurrection, with hearts full of hope and hands ready to serve Him.

May God bless all of you with the joy and peace that only He can give. I wish you a blessed and joyous Easter surrounded by your family's love, your church family's support, and the hope that comes from our risen Lord.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

With blessings of joy and peace,

Father Sebastian Devasya



FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation 2025

Scripture: "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad"

The schedule through Spring 2025:

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. First Communion Rehearsal TBA. 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 during 9 am Mass. Sponsors need to attend.

May 11, 18, and June 1

Class Retreat Date will be on May 17th beginning at 10 am.

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.

Congratulations to our Newly Received into the Church

Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist

Jacob Lawless

Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist

Janet Belcher & Cody Jewell



Baby Baptisms



Welcome to Sacred Heart!

Pray for our Newest Baptized Child,

Elizabeth Maryellen Ott

Daughter of Lucas & Carey Ott

Godparents: Josh Ott & Shelley Parkerson

Baptized on April 20, 2025



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 Rebuck by Deb Rebuck
Gifted by Michael & Sandy Romeo
Araceli Buendia
Genara Buendia
Francisco Tumbokon
by Dennis & Marietta Tumbokon
Gifted by Gina Vescio
Gifted by Courtney West





Fr. Sebastian Devasya Holy Year Italy Pilgrimage

September 2-11, 2025 - 10 Days

\$5,999 from Charlotte

For Information and Reservations,

Contact Ms. Gina Boggess,

Sacred Heart Parish, Princeton WV 24740

Telephone: 304-920-7047

Email: gina@sacredheartprinceton.org

For the Full Flyer about the Trip:

<https://bit.ly/DevasyaItaly>



St. Anne's Altar Society

St. Anne's Altar Society/Threads of Love are proud to announce that our recent Bake Sale was a super success and it was because of the kindness and generosity of all of you! We thank each and every parishioner and ask God to Bless each of you.

You all have always been very supportive of St. Anne's and Threads of Love, which we are eternally grateful.

Millions of Thanks & God Bless every one!

St. Anne's Altar Society/Threads of Love

Sacred Heart's Adult Dayton Bible Class

**Christian Repsonse to U.S. Poverty and
Around the World**

Sacred Heart invites you for fellowship and enlightenment with our new class with Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu!

Jesus' ministry was to the poor. The Beatitudes call out for us to thirst for justice, to seek God in the stranger, the hungry, the marginalized, and the suffering. During this Easter Season take some time to more deeply understand this fundamental call of our faith: to respond to the needs of others with steadfast love and transforming action. In this course we will explore our Judeo-Christian response to poverty as rooted in Scripture and the Catholic Social Tradition and ask essential questions such as the following. What faith-based strategies for both domestic and global poverty are possible? We will study this question and more.

You may sign up for the entire class or you can come to our first session and see if you like it.

You can sign up with Deborah Garton at dkgarton43@gmail.com



**Join us with
Dr. Rodica
Stoicoiu for
fun with
learning!**

May 1, 2025 4:00 PM Church Lounge

April 2025 Ministry Schedule

Mass Date Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters		
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	B. Buzzo J. Monaco	D. Shumate M. McCoy		
4/18 6 pm Good Friday	J. McCloud		R. Aiello	D. Garton	Jean McCloud	John Monaco			
4/19 8 pm Easter Vigil	Purita Buenafe		D. Kelley	T. Behrmann		1.T. Hager 2.V. Hager 3.L. Mariotti		The Pascasio's	
4/20 9 am Easter Sunday	The Winfree's		S. Copolo	B. Buzzo	1.K. Kirk 2.S. Copolo 3.D. Garton	Steve Copolo			
4/26 Sat. 6 pm	P. Buenafe		V. Hager	Dave	Tom	1.A. Robinson 2.D. Garton 3.J. McCloud		The Pascasio's	The Aiello's
				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					

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.

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

VIRTUS[®] Online

ANYTIME 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
- background check every 3 years
- Initial training documents
- Monthly training bulletins

Local VIRTUS Coordinator:

Kim Hickman, 304-920-2440
khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

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 communities.



Sacred Heart Prayer List

Parishioners: George Bowling, Mary Bruch, 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, Patrick Clark, 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, Judge Kornish, Robert Martin, Conner McKenzie, 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% and over raised goes straight towards Sacred Heart.



GIVE ONLINE TODAY AT:

SacredHeartCatholicChu64.flocknote.com/give/30362

OR SCAN THE QR
CODE TO DONATE
SECURELY FROM
YOUR PHONE



Weekly Collection	weekend April 12-13	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	4,181.00	59,610.60	63,000.00
Maintenance	200.00	1,809.00	1,400.00
Loose Offertory	506.00	6,174.43	7,000.00
Total Contributions	\$ 4,887.00	\$ 67,594.03	\$ 71,400.00
DWC: Holy Land	75.00	75.00	1,000.00
Attendance:	6pm: 57	9am: 113	

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 was baptized as a baby, but I never really went to church. Lately, I've been attending Mass. Are there steps I should take before I receive Communion?

The first step is to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation (confession). This is a wonderful opportunity to be officially welcomed back into full practice with the Church. After such a long absence, it is important to examine your conscience and celebrate the forgiveness of the Lord before you receive holy Communion.

I would also recommend that you “beef up” your understanding of what it means to be a practicing Catholic. You might do this by participating in your parish’s process for the Christian Initiation of Adults (called OCIA or sometimes RCIA). The Liguori Publications program, *Journey of Faith*, is one resource used by many parish communities. Another possibility is to use some of the resources offered online, such as Bishop Robert Barron’s *Word on Fire* website, which has a fine reputation.

I am happy you have responded to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit within you and answered the call to deepen your spiritual practice and journey. The Church needs you. The people of God welcome you. You are beloved among us, and your response in faith is a powerful witness, a reminder to those who may be tempted to take for granted the gift of faith. Thank you. ●



A candidate and his sponsor sit for a photo after an Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) class. LOS ANGELES TIMES VIA GETTY IMAGES

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27
<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Octave of Easter</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Easter / Sunday of Divine Mercy</i>
Acts 2:14, 22-33 Mt 28:8-15	Acts 2:36-41 Jn 20:11-18	Acts 3:1-10 Lk 24:13-35	Acts 3:11-26 Lk 24:35-48	Acts 4:1-12 Jn 21:1-14	Acts 4:13-21 Mk 16:9-15	Acts 5:12-16 Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 Jn 20:19-31

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We welcome the Easter message: “Peace be with you!” Brothers and sisters, let us allow the peace of Christ to enter our lives, our homes, our countries!... Let there be a decision for peace.... Please, please, let us not get used to war!... May the leaders of nations hear people’s plea for peace.

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE, ROME, APRIL 17, 2022