



And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours.”

LUKE 6:20

## It's All about the Roots

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**here we put down our spiritual roots matters. For some, the old adage “Bloom where you are planted” may offer wisdom; however, the prophet Jeremiah reminds us that if we find ourselves planted in a lava bed or a salty and empty land, we won’t do much blooming. We’ll be no more than a shriveled, barren bush. So, where we plant our inner spiritual lives makes a difference.

This week’s gospel may seem to sap all the joy out of life. Woe if you have money to spend, a banquet to feast on, fun and laughter to dress up your days. Woe to you, it seems to caution, because when you die, the opposite will be your lot. What’s so wrong, we wonder, with having cash in our pockets, food on our tables, and a good time once in a while? Life can be downright dreary otherwise.

The answer, of course, is that there is nothing wrong with any of that—unless that’s where we put down our roots. In other words, if that’s what life is all about, sooner or later, we are likely to discover we have become a barren bush standing in lava waste. Jesus didn’t come to suck the joy out of life but to give us a heads up on how to live a life that is full. He hoped we might avoid the lure that can become a wasteland. He hoped we might become “like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream” (Jeremiah 17:8). ●

### Reflect

***Where are your roots? Are you growing and thriving?***



# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

FEBRUARY 15 & 16, 2025

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

### Saturday, February 15 - 6:00 PM

✠ Lisa Smith Oakley by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

### Sunday, February 16 – 9:00 AM

✠ Dr. Brian Richards by Ron & Sherry Ciccolini

### Tuesday, February 18 - 12 Noon

✠ Fr. James Murphy by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

### Wednesday, February 19 – 9:00 AM

✠ Frances Mckenzie by The McKenzie Family

### Saturday, February 22 - 6:00 PM

✠ People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

### Sunday, February 23- 9:00 AM

✠ People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

### ATTENTION

The parish office phone lines have been updated and are working again.

Thank you for your patience during this time.

### **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

February 20: Dayton Bible Class 4 pm

February 20: PPC 6pm

February 24: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm

March 1: First Saturday Reconciliation 10-11 am

March 5: Ash Wednesday ~ 12 Noon & 6:00 pm

March 7: Stations of the Cross 5:30 pm

First Friday Mass 6:00 pm

March 9: First Sunday of Lent

March 9: Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 10: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm

March 11: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11am

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Every Friday from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

February 21: Bluefield                      March 14: Bluefield

February 28: Princeton                      March 21: Princeton

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E.

sdevasya@dwc.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.

304-396-5706

julia@sacredheartblfd.org

**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

*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.*

# A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you who completed the *Disciple Maker Index* survey from the Catholic Leadership Institute. Your participation in this important effort is a testament to your commitment to the life of our parish, and I am deeply grateful for the time and effort you took to complete the survey.

On average we have 152 parishioners join us for Mass each week. I am thrilled to share that 118 of you completed the digital survey, along with 8 completed the paper surveys. This is a wonderful response that speaks to our dedication to seeing our parish continue to grow and thrive. I would also like to thank Ann Robinson, Connie Saunders and Lucy Brinegar for all their help administering this survey in our parish.

Just to recap, last Fall Bishop Brennan challenged us all to “Bring people to Christ” by growing in our faith, creating disciples, and increasing our evangelization efforts in our Diocese. To assist us, Bishop Brennan enlisted the help of The **Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI)** which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering Catholic leaders to guide and strengthen their parishes and dioceses. It offers various services aimed at helping church leaders, including priests, pastoral staff, and lay leaders, improve their leadership skills, create a strong vision for their communities, and build a culture of discipleship.

One of the key tools CLI provides is the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)**, which is a survey designed to gather feedback from parishioners about their faith life and experiences at their parish. The DMI assesses factors such as spiritual growth, engagement, and the effectiveness of the parish in helping members grow as disciples of Christ.

For our parish, the **Disciple Maker Index** will:

- **Provide Insight:** The survey gives a clear picture of where parishioners stand in their spiritual journey, how connected they feel to the church community, and what areas the parish is excelling in or where it can improve.
- **Identify Strengths and Weaknesses:** The DMI will help parish leadership identify areas of strength and places that need attention, such as worship, adult faith formation, community engagement, or outreach programs.
- **Guide Decision Making:** The data from the survey will help our parish leadership make informed decisions about where to focus resources, what programs to enhance, and how to better meet the needs of the parishioners.
- **Empower Growth:** The feedback helps our parish become more focused on nurturing discipleship, improving communication, and creating environments where parishioners can deepen their faith and sense of belonging.
- **Shape the Future:** The insights gained from the survey can be used to develop long-term strategies for growth, engagement, and faith formation.

Now that the survey results have been gathered, the Catholic Leadership Institute team will begin analyzing the information. Once compiled, our parish team will receive the data and work diligently to share it with all of you. Together, we will reflect on the findings, engage in thoughtful conversation, and begin to develop a plan for the future of our parish. This process will help us understand how we live as disciples of Christ and where God calls us to grow in faith and service.

I am excited about the path ahead and look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will guide us in the coming months. This journey we are on as a parish is not just about planning for the future but about each of us sharing our unique gifts—our time, our talent, and our treasure—to build up the Body of Christ. We are a family, united in faith, and we can achieve great things together.

Again, thank you for your participation and ongoing commitment to our parish. I am filled with hope for the future, and I believe God has many blessings in store for us as we continue this journey together. May we remain open to His will and be ever more faithful in our mission to live as disciples of Christ.

With deep gratitude and blessings,  
Father Sebastian

## FAITH FORMATION



### *Faith Formation 2025*

*Scripture: "Blessed are they who hope in the Lord" Psalm 1*

*The schedule through March 2025:*

*February 16, 23 ~ Regular Sessions*

*March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ~ Regular Sessions*

## 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. The next meeting will be:*

***Wednesday, February 19th at 4:30 pm in the School Building.***

## CRUSADERS YOUTH MINISTRY



### Youth Meeting

Sunday, March 2nd at 6:00 pm

Location: Wendi's House

Please join us for food and to work on prayer boards!

## ASH WEDNESDAY



**Please Join us for Holy Mass and Distribution of Ashes**

**In Celebration of Ash Wednesday**

**March 5, 2025**

### Ash Wednesday Mass Times

**12 Noon ~ Fr. Sebastian Devasya**

**6:00 pm ~ Fr. Rey Landicho**

Attention parishioners with homebound family members or those in nursing homes. If you would like ashes and Holy Communion brought to your loved one on Ash Wednesday, please call the parish office and give them their name.





## JUBILEE OF HOPE PILGRIMAGE 2025

Led by Father Sebastian Devasya

September 2nd - 11th

# Italy

**INCLUDES: AIRFARE, HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS,  
TRANSPORTATION, AND EVENT TICKETS**

**Destinations:**

**Florence, Siena, Assisi and Rome.**

**We will visit:**

- Academia Gallery to see Michelangelo's David
- Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore and Basilica of Santa Croce
- Cupola by Brunelleschi
- Arno River and Ponte Vecchio (Bridge of Gold)
- Celebrate Mass at the Dominican Church commemorating St. Catherine of Siena
- Mass at Basilica of St. Francesco, visit the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi, and visit the Church of St. Clare.
- Basilica of St. Mary of Angels and Portiuncula - Francis' Church of Little Portion
- Vatican City, where we celebrate Mass below St. Peter's, visit Vatican Museum, Michelangelo's restored frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, and sculpture La Pieta.
- Michelangelo's sculpture "Moses".
- St. Peter's for an audience with Pope Francis (If he is in residence)
- Visit the Catacombs and celebrate Mass in the view of 2nd & 3rd-century frescoes.
- **Pass through 4 of the 5 Holy Doors:**
  - St. Peter's
  - St. Mary Major
  - Holy Stairs and Basilica of St. John Lateran
  - Basilica of St. Paul

## Book Now

Contact Us



**Gina Boggess 304-920-7047**

**gina@sacredheartprinceton.org**



<https://www.unitours.com/showtrip.aspx?tripid=2702>



February Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters (Sundays)
2/15 Sat. 6 pm	Jean McCloud	Maria Zalduondo	Purita Buenafe	Feleesha Moran	1.C. Saunders 2.J. McCloud 3.T. Hager	The Pascasio's	Delores Shumate
2/16 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	TBA	C. Tran	T. Bales	1.A. Robinson 2.M. Romeo 3.C. Havens	Rocky Malamisura	Marilyn McCoy
			E. Husband	C. Ott			
2/22 Sat. 6 pm	Patty Peretti	Deborah Garton	E. Peretti	Tom Behrmann	1.A. Peretti 2. L. Mariotti 3. C. Saunders	John Monaco	Wendi Aiello George Aiello
			A. Froy				
2/23 Sun 9 am	M. Malamisura	Barbara Musolin	R. Aiello	C. Lampert	1.G. Aiello 2.W. Aiello 3.T. Lampert	Steve Copolo	
			A. Zinsmeister	R. Ciccolini			

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE LOST AND FOUND:**



- ◆ Silver Bracelet with engraving on inside.
- ◆ White Water Bottle
- ◆ Black Eye Glasses
- ◆ Rosary Beads
- ◆ Small Wooden Cross



**IF ANY OF THESE ITEMS ARE YOURS, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 304-327-5623**

**New Year! New Training!**



**Attention All Volunteers, There is a new Virtus Training program that we all must watch. Please log into your virtus account today to see if you are up-to-date on your training at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). The new videos only take 45 minutes to complete. If you have questions about your log-in info or would like to come into the office to do your new training, please call Kim or Lucy at the parish office at 304-327-5623.**



## Sacred Heart Prayer List

**Parishioners:** Stephanie Blevins, George Bowling, Mary Bruch, John Burton, Loretta Carrigan, Ron Ciccolini, Carl Cook, Benny Disibbio, Carolina Ferrare, Angie Genovesi, Valerie Hager, Daniel Kirk, Claire & Terry Lampert, Tommie Jo Longworth, Mary Malamisura, Cindy McGraw, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen, Family of Dr. Mark Shaffery

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, 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, Donald Bowles, Shelby Bowles, Teddy Bradshaw, Mark Burnette, Patrick Clark, Chuck Comer, Carolyn Crigger, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Jason Fortney, Beth George, Laura Haines and unborn son. Steve Hamm, Skip Harless, Larry Hicks, Yael Issacs, Natalie Jackson, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Stan Lawson, Bill Lester, Bob Mahood, Robert Martin, Connor McKenzie, Doug & Kim Miller, Ken Mulkey, Angelo Perri, Walt "Buddy" Pierce, Dr. Amanda Hale Reese, Leanna Smith, Larry Sarever, Abby Taylor, Judy Tolbert, Kay Trimble, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Steve Vaught, Alma Wheeler

If there is anyone you would like to add to our prayer list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at [lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org](mailto:lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org)



Weekly Donations	weekend Feb 8-9	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	3,020.00	23,492.00	30,000.00
Maintenance	10.00	997.00	700.00
Loose Offertory	275.00	2,497.01	3,000.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 3,305.00</b>	<b>\$ 26,986.01</b>	<b>\$ 33,700.00</b>
Food Pantry	3,185.00	6,094.00	0.00
DWC: Home Missions	307.50	659.50	800.00
DWC: Black & Native American Mission	467.50	467.50	400.00
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>6pm: 47</b>	<b>9am: 93</b>	

## SACRED HEART CENTENNIAL

You still have time to help with the publishing of our History Book. For \$15 you can get a memorial spot and for \$100 you become a Century Club donor. Contact Jean McCloud at Saturday mass or Theresa Bales at Sunday mass. If you drop the donation off at the office, be sure to tell who and what it is for to help us with paperwork.

We also still have ornaments for \$20, cookbooks for \$15, note cards for \$5, and a few magnets for \$5. These are available after church. You can contact Ann Robinson or Theresa Bales to purchase any of these items.



### 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 have always been an “every Sunday” Catholic. My problem is that holy Communion doesn’t feel that special. I believe that it’s the Body and Blood of Christ, but receiving feels “routine.” Sometimes I’m even distracted while receiving. Help?*



REIMER / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you remember the story of the transfiguration of Jesus? (See Luke 9:28–36.) Jesus took his three special disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on the mountain, and while Jesus was praying, what did they do? They fell asleep! In the very presence of Jesus, their Lord and Master.

Human beings cannot maintain feelings of awe and ecstasy for long periods of time. We would be exhausted. Feelings don’t always reflect the specialness of the moment. That is why good habits are so important. Feelings may elude us, but we can fall back on the habit of Sunday Mass. Just as two contented, long-married people don’t feel like they did on their honeymoon, they still quietly enjoy the habit of each other’s company.

Lent is coming soon. You might consider shaking up your routine a little. Attend one weekday Mass. Prepare for Sunday Mass by reading the Scriptures for that Sunday and praying the entrance antiphon or the psalm. If you don’t already, consider volunteering as a choir member, lector, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion. Meanwhile, continue to receive holy Communion, giving thanks that it is readily available, and perhaps offer a prayer for communities where Communion every Sunday is not possible. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



STUDIO ROMANTIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Jesus says [his people] are blessed because they are poor. In what sense? In the sense that Jesus’ disciples do not find their joy in money, power, or other material goods; but in the gifts they receive every day from God: life, creation, brothers and sisters, and so on. These are gifts of life.*

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

### Monday

February 17  
Weekday  
Gn 4:1–15, 25  
Mk 8:11–13

### Tuesday

February 18  
Weekday  
Gn 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10  
Mk 8:14–21

### Wednesday

February 19  
Weekday  
Gn 8:6–13, 20–22  
Mk 8:22–26

### Thursday

February 20  
Weekday  
Gn 9:1–13  
Mk 8:27–33

### Friday

February 21  
Weekday  
Gn 11:1–9  
Mk 8:34–9:1

### Saturday

February 22  
*The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle*  
1 Pt 5:1–4  
Mt 16:13–19

### Sunday

February 23  
*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
1 Sm 26:2, 7–9, 12–13, 22–23  
1 Cor 15:45–49  
Lk 6:27–38