



Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

MATTHEW 2:1B-2

In Search of God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We are always in search of something or other, it seems—an intangible something that tends to shift and change over the course of our lives, like the tumbling pieces of a kaleidoscope. Sometimes, it is love we seek. Other times, meaning. Or inner peace, freedom from anxiety or guilt. Or perhaps freedom from all that ties us down. And sometimes, it is God we seek. Like the Magi, we too are on a quest for the Holy One.

One afternoon, Tom, a high-school sophomore, stopped by. He asked if we could talk about God—or, more exactly, about what God was like. He had been in a study hall, waiting for the bell to ring, when the person behind him asked, “When you die, do you think you’re going to see God?” Tom said he thought he would, but then the other student replied, “Well, you won’t, because God doesn’t have a body. There isn’t something to see.”

The bell rang, Tom said, and they never finished the conversation. Tom wondered whether God had a body or not, and, if not, then what was God like? Tom was searching for a God that made sense amidst galaxies and black holes and light years of time, but also a God who was personal and knowable and lovable. He wasn’t sure how to put the two together. He had become one of the Magi on a journey to find God. ●

Reflect

Where are you on your journey to know and discover God?

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

JANUARY 4 & 5, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 4 - 6:00 PM

People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

Sunday, January 5- 9:00 AM

People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

There will be No Daily Mass January 6- 29

Saturday, January 11 - 6:00 PM

People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

Sunday, January 12 - 9:00 AM

People of the Parish (Pro Populo)



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

January 6-23: Fr. Sebastian in India

January 13: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm

January 14: St. Anne's Meeting 11am

January 19: 2nd Collection: Churches in the Developing Worlds

January 23: Dayton Bible Class 4 pm

January 27: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm

February 1: First Saturday Reconciliation 10-11 am

February 7: First Friday Mass 6 pm

February 10: Knights of Columbus Meeting 6 pm

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

There will be No Eucharistic Adoration during the month of January. Adoration will resume at the start of February.

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

BISHOP BRENNAN'S EVANGELIZATION INITIATIVE



Sacred Heart Catholic Church is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ in our parish community. Together we must embrace Christ's vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

The very first step in this process involves **assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities**, and that is where the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** comes in! The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at Sacred Heart. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:

- ◆ Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- ◆ Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions to improve the parish.
- ◆ Help parishioners grow in their faith.

The **10–15-MINUTE SURVEY** can be accessed through <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x13d16> starting **January 7, 2025** and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. **Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not have the ability to complete the survey online.**

If you have any questions please reach out to our point persons

Ann Robinson at 304-887-2421 or Connie Saunders at 304-920-1051

THANK YOU

Special Thanks and Congratulations to all because of the generosity of this awesome parish, **the St. Anne's Bake Sale** was once again a big success and we couldn't have done it without you! God bless you and may you know each of you are always in our prayers.

St. Anne's Altar Society

Threads of Love



2nd Collection: Churches in Developing Worlds January 18 – 19, 2025

This collection will include three individual collections: Churches in Latin America, Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, and Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.

The Latin America Church Collection - Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe - It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.

Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa - provides grants to finance pastoral projects that support the maintenance and growth of the Church in Africa. Funded projects include outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers.

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation 2024-2025

*Theme – “Lord, When Did We See You Hungry”
Matthew 25:37b*

The schedule through January 2025:

January 5, 12 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday
January 19, 26 ~ Faith Formation Regular Sessions

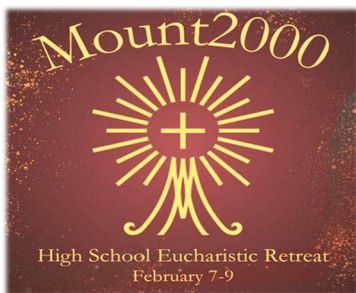
OCIA



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, January 8th at 4:30 pm in the School Building.

YOUTH MINISTRY



MOUNT 2000 HIGH SCHOOL EUCHARISTIC RETREAT

Who: Beckley Vicariate High School Youth

What: Mount2000 Eucharistic Retreat **When:** February 7-9, 2025

Where: Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland

Final Sign Up Date: January 5, 2025

For More Info: Lorin Albin, Youth Ministry Coordinator at Sacred Heart, Pctn
540.529.6495 or lorinjalbin@gmail.com

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 or call 304-920-8104 to purchase any items.

The Centennial Committee would like to thank you for all you have done to make this celebration a success!





DAYTON BIBLE STUDY CLASS

“God and Social Responsibility”

- Do Catholics have a particular responsibility in this world?
- Do you have a particular responsibility in this world as a catholic?
- Do you think God expects you to assume responsibility to advocate for social justice?
- What is social justice?
- How can you do God’s will if you don’t know how?
- Do you need answers? Most of us do!

Please join us to help discern the answers to these questions in a once a week, 5 week course every Thursday at 4:00 pm beginning January 23rd. Contact Deborah Garton at 304-589-6561 or email her at dkgarton43@gmail.com for more information!

EVERY THURSDAY | JAN. 23–FEB.20 | 4:00–6:00 PM

SAFE ENVIRONMENT



The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop’s designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free)

January Ministry Schedule

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
1/04 Sat. 6:00 PM	P. Peretti	D. Garton	Dave	Maria	1.P. Peretti 2.C. Saunders	The Pascasio's	R. Albert C. Albert
			Kelley	Zalduondo	3.F. Moran		
1/05 Sun. 9 am	Winfree's	T. Lampert	H. Wills	C. Ott	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kidd	R. Albert	
			K. Wills	B. Buzzo	3.TBA		
1/11 Sat. 6 pm	J. McCloud	V. Hager	A. Peretti	Deborah	1.J. McCloud 2.T. Hager	J. Monaco	D. Duritza
			E. Peretti	Garton	3.L. Mariotti		
1/12 Sun. 9 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	R. West	M. Rebuck	1.S. Copolo 2.A. Robinson	R. Malamisura	R. Malamisura
			K. Oakes	A. Rebuck	3.M. Romeo		
1/18 Sat. 6 pm	TBA	M. Zalduondo	Dave	C. Saunders	1.P. Peretti 2.A. Peretti	The Pascasio's	D. Shumate
			Kelley	F. Moran	3.TBA		
1/19 Sun. 9 am	Winfree's	T. Lampert	C. Tran	C. Lampert	1.T. Lampert 2.C. Havens	B. Buzzo	M. McCoy
			E. Husband	C. Ott	3.TBA		
1/25 Sat. 6pm	J. McCloud	V. Hager	A. Peretti	Tom	1.J. McCloud 2.T. Hager	J. Monaco	The Aiello's
			E. Peretti	Behrmann	3.D. Garton		
1/26 Sun 9pm	M. Malamisura	T. Lowery	R. Aiello	R. Albert	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello	S. Copolo	
			A. Zinsmeister	R. Ciccolini	3.M. Romeo		

Sacred Heart Prayer List

Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, 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, Frank Mamone,, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen, Family of Dr. Mark Shaffery

Homebound Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Alex Ercoline, 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: 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, Dolly Hager, 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, Brian Richards, 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

End of Year Donations	weekend Dec 21-22	Christmas Masses	weekend Dec 28-29	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	5,318.00		3,035.00	267,631.20	245,000.00
Loose Offertory	516.00		235.75	24,132.95	25,000.00
Holiday Flowers	60.00			1,987.00	2,500.00
Holy Day- Christmas	190.00	7,017.00		9,807.00	5,000.00
Total Contributions	\$ 6,084.00	\$ 7,017.00	\$ 3,270.75	\$ 303,558.15	\$277,500.00
Votive Candles	10.00	63.00		407.60	500.00
Food Pantry	2,640.00	1,120.00	100.00	30,846.00	
DWC: Catholic Charities WV	30.00	494.00	95.00	659.00	1,200.00
Attendance: 6pm	48	(4pm) 174	44		
9am	108	44	79		
7pm		72			



We have raised **\$36,511** for the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

Which has surpassed our goal of \$24,620!

Thank you everyone for your generous donations this year.

We are truly grateful! May 2025 inspire even more generosity.

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 into horoscopes. A friend told me that astrology is nonsense and against the Catholic faith. What do you say?

Stargazing is as old as the human race. We know with certainty that ancient Chaldea was known for its stargazers. Many of the constellations' names originated during that time. Some scholars believe that the three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the newborn Savior were themselves Chaldean stargazers.

Astrologers believe that the zodiac signs under which we were born largely control our human destiny. The Christian objection to astrology is that it insults almighty God, who alone knows the future. God alone, in cooperation with the free will of humans, controls the future. To suppose that stars, planets, animals, or inanimate objects can, independent of God, direct or influence our lives opposes the first commandment: "I am the LORD your God.... You shall not have other gods beside me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

The Old Testament clearly spells out that it is vain to imagine "either fire, or wind, or the swift air, or the circuit of the stars, or the mighty water, or the luminaries of heaven" as "the governors of the world" (Wisdom 13:2).

Don't give credit to or blame the stars for what you do and who you are. See past them to the God who made them, and who made us, and who cares for all creation.



TANYA ANTUSENOK / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

God made us: brimming with desire, directed, like the Magi, towards the stars.... We are what we desire. For it is our desires that...drive our lives forward, beyond the barriers of habit, beyond banal consumerism, beyond a drab and dreary faith, beyond the fear of becoming involved and serving others and the common good.

HOMILY, ROME, JANUARY 6, 2022



CNS PHOTO

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 3:22-4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19-5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday

January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

January 11
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

Sunday

January 12
The Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1-4, 6-7
or Is 40:1-5, 9-11
Acts 10:34-38
or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22