

*And this is the verdict,
that the light came into the world,
but people preferred darkness to light,
because their works were evil.*

JOHN 3:19

The Saving Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

A long time ago, I came across a piece that I still remember because it's pretty much a commentary on how life is for most of us. It goes something like this: At the age of ten, we think we can live forever. When we're twenty, we think we can save the world. When the big thirty rolls around, we think we can save the company. When the fortieth birthday arrives, we think we can save our children. Then, when we're fifty, we think we can at least save our marriage. And by the time we're sixty, we think we should just save aluminum cans.

A bit flippant perhaps, but it reminds me that even given my own best efforts, I really do not save much of anything. It is always God who does the saving, not me.

It's a conversation replayed in our heads again and

again. We find ourselves unwittingly thinking that if we do all the right things, when we die and go to heaven, then God will have to take us in. If we say the right prayers and follow all the rules, then we will have earned salvation. Yet then we will have saved ourselves and there will have been no need for God's gracious goodness. Then we will have lifted ourselves up by our own bootstraps and not by the Lord Jesus.

Then we will proclaim ourselves as the light to overcome darkness, and it will not be the death and resurrection of the Lord which does so. ●

Reflect

*How have you been saved and
how do you need saving now?*

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

MARCH 9 & 10, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 9- 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. Leo Lyden by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

Sunday, March 10- 9:00 AM

✠ Pete & Inez Bellini by Vittoria Lijoi

Tuesday, March 12- Noon

✠ Fran Derenge by Barbara Lynch

Wednesday, March 13- 9:00 AM

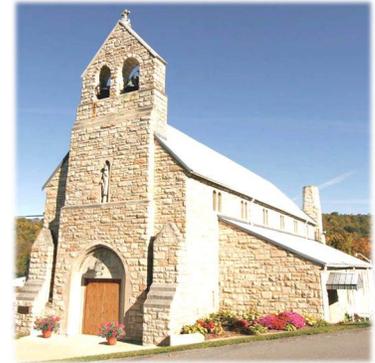
✠ Anne Gergely by Cathy & Carl Cook

Saturday, March 16- 6:00 PM

✠ Fran Derenge by Centering Prayer Group

Sunday, March 17- 9:00 AM

✠ Delores Prichett by Beth Staton



Office Hours: 304-327-5623

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

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

Food Pantry Hours:

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11: 6-7pm Lenten Reflection in the Church

March 12: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11am

March 16-17: St. Anne's Bake Sale

March 17: Youth Sunday

March 21: PPC Meeting 6pm

March 28: Holy Thursday Mass 6:30 pm

March 29: Good Friday Service 6pm

March 30: Easter Vigil Mass 8 pm

March 31: Easter Sunday Mass 9am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE

Fridays at 6:00 pm

March 15 ~ Altar Servers **March 22 ~** Food Pantry Volunteers

CHURCH STAFF

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

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PARISH SECRETARY: Lucy Brinegar
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PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Kim Hickman
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

NEWMAN CENTER: Paul Krause
pkrause@dwc.org 216-402-1450

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.

4th Sunday of Lent

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we approach the Fourth Sunday of Lent, we reach the midpoint of the Lenten season. We, as a community, are called to reflect on our spiritual journey and renew our commitment to living a life of faith.

The first reading from 2 Chronicles is a testament to God's unwavering faithfulness and mercy. It tells us of the Israelites' disobedience and subsequent exile in Babylon. Despite their failures, God remained faithful to his people and offered them a path to redemption. This serves as a powerful reminder that no matter how far we may have strayed from God's path, there is always a way back through repentance and belief.

In the second reading from Ephesians, St. Paul teaches us that we are called to live as children of light, avoiding the darkness of sin and striving for holiness. This requires us to be honest with ourselves, examine our lives, acknowledge our faults, and seek forgiveness. We are called to fight against sin and trust in the Lord's mercy and grace.

In the Gospel reading, we hear the story of Nicodemus, who seeks guidance from Jesus on living a life of faith. Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born again to enter the kingdom of God, emphasizing the need for spiritual renewal and a turning away from sin. This call to repentance and belief is at the heart of the Lenten season, reminding us that it is a time to reflect on our lives and to trust in the Lord as our path to holiness.

As we continue journeying toward Easter, I am pleased to announce that Daniel Maul, the Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, will present a highly anticipated Lenten Program on Sunday, March 10th, at 4 pm in Princeton Sacred Heart and on Monday, March 11 from 6-7pm in Bluefield Sacred Heart. Daniel will speak about the Lenten season and how it is a time to repent, believe, fight sin, and trust in the Lord. I encourage you to participate in this Lenten opportunity; deepen your faith and grow closer to God.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with humble and contrite hearts, seeking your forgiveness for our sins.

We ask that you help us to turn away from sin and to trust in your mercy and grace.

Please give us the strength to fight against temptation and to live as children of light, striving for holiness and seeking to do your will in all things.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Sebastian



Faith Formation Spring of 2024

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.” Matthew 11:28



The schedule through May 2024:

March 10, 17 ~ Regular Sessions

March 24, 31 ~ No Faith Formation in Observation of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday

April 7, 14, 21 ~ Regular Sessions

April 28 ~ Last Sunday of Faith Formation

May 5 ~ First Communion Sunday

Please Pray for Our First Communicants ~ Brayden Farmer and Jillian West

RCIA

*Next RCIA meeting is Wednesday,
March 13th at 5:00pm in the school.*



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Annual Seminarian Support Raffle

Tickets available from any
Knights of Columbus member

Donation \$5.00

1st Place - \$1,000 2nd Place - \$500 3rd Place - 3 \$100 Winners

CRUSADERS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

March 17 ~ Youth Sunday

**March 17 - Youth Ministry Meeting from
6-7:30 pm. Dinner to follow, bring a friend!**



HANDBELL CHOIR



PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 10 at 4 pm

Sunday, March 17 at 4 pm

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Eucharistic Reflection

March 9-10, 2024

“Lord, I am not worthy...”



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Pilgrimage**

May 17 - July 16, 2024

In celebration of the National Eucharistic Congress this year in Indianapolis, there will be a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage across the country with the final destination being the Congress on July 16th.

There are four different routes being taken across the country leading to the final destination. One in particular will be stopping in Wheeling, WV for several days, The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route.

To learn more about the Pilgrimage and the route that goes through our Diocese, visit [St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route – From the East \(eucharisticpilgrimage.org\)](http://St.ElizabethAnnSetonRoute-FromtheEast(eucharisticpilgrimage.org))

Thank You!

Thank you to all who attended the Lenten Penance Service this past week and special thanks to the 6 priests who contributed to the service. We are very happy that so many participated in receiving the sacrament of reconciliation.

Lenten Reflection
Facilitated by Daniel Maul
Director of Evangelization & Catechesis
For the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston
Monday, March 11 in the Church
6:00pm – 7:00pm



Join us to deepen our spiritual lives with the topic:
Fighting Sin and Trusting the Lord:
Our Path to Holiness
Everyone welcome!



Food Pantry Report February 2024

Date	Adults over 18	Children under 18	Total Clients	New Families	Clothing	Hygiene Products	Total # of Distributions
7-Feb	153	63	216	2	102	73	86
14-Feb	157	62	219	4	227	59	89
21-Feb	150	54	204	4	246	103	96
28-Feb	117	46	163	0	159	113	69
Monthly Totals	577	225	802	10	734	348	340
Y-T-D Distribution	1053	444	1547	24	1163	822	652

Deepest Condolences

With Deepest Sympathy we announce that Tony Colobro passed away on March 3, 2024.

We send our sincerest condolences to his daughter Susan (Ray) Maupin, Sons Nick (Carol) and Tony Colobro II, and all Tony's grandchildren and great grandchildren.

May our Lord comfort all of you and give peace to those who mourn, and may Tony rest eternally in the arms of Jesus, and in the company of all the angels and saints.

St. Anne's Altar Society Bake Sale

March 16 & 17



Goodies, Goodies, and More Goodies! Spring is just around the corner and that means it's time for St. Anne's yearly spring Bake Sale! Which will be after each mass on the weekend of March 16th and 17th. Please join us, you don't want to miss getting your Easter treat!. As always, any donations whether baked goods or monetary will be most appreciated.

Holy Week SCHEDULE

March 28th ~ Holy Thursday

6:30 pm Mass

March 29th ~ Good Friday

6:00 pm Service

March 30th ~ Easter Vigil

8:00 pm Mass

March 31st ~ Easter Sunday

9:00 am Mass



Easter Flowers

Donated By:

Randy & Cindy Albert

Don & Carol Asbury

Hobe & Susan Bauer

Frank & Lilian Brady

Bob & Cathy Buzzo

Richard Canterbury

Vearl & Betty Clayton

John & Debbie Crist

Julia Harrison

Tom Harrison

Carol Havens

Katie Kidd

Daniel & Kathleen Kirk

Terry & Claire Lampert

Natalie Lijoi

Vickie Lijoi

Rocky & Sandra Malamisura

Jean McCloud

Jimmie & Marilyn McCoy

Mary McGonagle

James & Barbara Musolin

Steven & Patty Peebles

Johnny & Eugenia Rasi

Michael & Debra Rebuck

Connie Saunders

Dennis & Marietta Tumbokon

In Memory/Honor Of:

Dr. Apolinario & Carolyn Marquinez

Evelyn & Ralph K. Canterbury Sr., Bird Canterbury,
Ralph R. Canterbury Jr., Kay Canterbury Cox, Robert W. HaynesJohn Crist Sr., Elizabeth Crist, Ann Crist Byrd, Mary Ann Franklin,
Mary Williams

Robert & Frances L. Harrison

Frances A. Harrison

The Kirk Family & The Sullivan Family

F.W. & Joan Turner, Eugene & Polly Lampert, Joy Formica,
Harry Formica, Fr. Gregory Lyttle

Mario A. Lijoi

Jimmy Maiolo

Barry McCloud

Ray L. Shumate, Mary Shumate

Elizabeth & Mike Musolin

The Baldrige Family & The Rasi Family

Mitch Rebuck

Audrey Mayberry

Jose Buendia, Genara Buendia

March Ministry Schedule

Mass Date Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
3/9 Sat. 6 pm	P. Peretti	V. Hager	D. Kelley	M. Zalduondo	1.P. Peretti	The Pascasio's	D. Duritza R. Malamisura
					2.L. Mariotti 3.. T. Hager		
3/10 Sun 9am	The Winfree's	B. Musolin	H. Wills	A. Torrez	1.K. Kidd	R. Malamisura	
			K. Wills	R. Ciccolini	2.T. Lampert		
3/16 Sat. 6pm	Theresa Lowery	T. Lowery	A. Peretti	D. Garton	1.T. Behrmann	J. Monaco	D. Shumate
			E. Peretti		2.F. Moran 3.J. McCloud		
3/17 Sun. 9am Youth Sunday	T. Lampert	Youth TBA	Youth TBA	Youth TBA	1.M. Romeo	S. Copolo	M. McCoy
					2.S. Romeo 3.C. Havens		
3/23 Sat. 6pm	Purita Buenafe	M. Zalduondo	D. Kelley	M. Zalduondo	1.L. Mariotti	The Pascasio's	W. Aiello G. Aiello
				V. Hager	2.T. Hager 3.V. Hager		
3/24 Sun. 9am Palm Sunday	The Winfree's	A. Torrez	R. Aiello	T. Lampert	1.W. Aiello	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	R. Ciccolini	2.G. Aiello 3.C. Stacy		

THIS WEEK ON FORMED...



Week Four | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT

In week four of Restore, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on almsgiving and how it heals your relationships with others. One of the most powerful ways to heal your brokenness is to give—not only money or clothing, but also your presence and love—to those whom God has placed in your life, even those who have wounded you.

[Week Four | Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT - Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT - FORMED](#)

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL



A Big Thank You to Bob Buzzo who spoke on behalf of the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

We have started the year off wonderfully with some very big donations.

We have already raised \$16,625

which is 68% of our goal of \$24,620.

Please continue to donate if you can. You can click the icon to donate or you can go to

Catholic Sharing Appeal's website www.dwc.org/CSA

Attention Parishioners

We have refreshed our prayer list, if there is anyone you would like to add to our new list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

Sacred Heart Bluefield Prayer List

Parishioners: George Bowling, Ron Ciccolini, Donella Crigger, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Sharon Rothausen

Homebound Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Tony Colobro, Alex Ercoline, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Puckett, Kathy Richards, Rosalie Rochetti, Vivian Romano, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

Friends & Family: Teddy Bradshaw, Chuck Comer, Lisa Dalton, Christina Easton, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Chase Miller, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom

	Mar 2-3 weekend	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	5,196.00	46,536.10	42,500.00
Maintenance	218.00	963.00	1,200.00
Loose Offertory	528.00	4,756.00	4,000.00
Easter Flowers	240.00	936.00	1,300.00
Total Contributions	\$ 6,182.00	\$ 53,191.10	\$ 49,000.00
Fund Raisers	130.00	2,690.00	0.00
Votive Candles	15.00	149.00	0.00
Food Pantry	1,645.00	7,413.00	0.00
Dioc: Black & Native American Mission	100.00	465.00	750.00
Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund	1,520.00	1,520.00	1,500.00
Attendance:	6pm: 56	9am: 106	

THANK YOU!
We are grateful.

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,

In the Church's eyes, what constitutes pornography? Art museums have statues of nude men and women, some of which are quite explicit. Is the only difference the respectability of the venue?

The “respectability” of the location or publisher doesn’t matter. A product is pornographic if it was created to sexually arouse users of the product regardless of the venue. Michelangelo’s intention in carving his famous statue of David was not to arouse the people who look at it, so the Church does not call it pornography.

Pornography has existed for centuries, but it didn’t arrive in our homes uninvited until recently. People with internet access are regularly confronted by pornographic images and literature, and many find it a very powerful temptation. In response, the US bishops issued a helpful document, which is available online at usccb.org: *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*.

From this document: “Using and/or producing pornography is a sin against chastity and against human dignity....The sin of pornography needs the Lord’s forgiveness and should be confessed in the sacrament of penance. Pornography objectifies people and brings hurt and pain. It is an illusory substitute for real relationships and intimacy, which in the end bring true joy. Many good people struggle with the sin of pornography and [strive] to cultivate chastity. You are not alone. Jesus is with you, the Church offers you love and support. Trust in the Lord’s mercy and his power to free and heal you.” ●



MICHELANGELO'S DAVID / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

If God is the God of life...

then it is wrong for us to kill our brothers and sisters in his Name.

If God is the God of peace...

then it is wrong for us to wage war in his Name.

If God is the God of love...

then it is wrong for us to hate our brothers and sisters.

PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS OF WAR, IRAQ, MARCH 7, 2021



MONDAY

March 11
Lenten Weekday
Is 65:17–21
Jn 4:43–54

TUESDAY

March 12
Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1–9, 12
Jn 5:1–16

WEDNESDAY

March 13
Lenten Weekday
Is 49:8–15
Jn 5:17–30

THURSDAY

March 14
Lenten Weekday
Ex 32:7–14
Jn 5:31–47

FRIDAY

March 15
Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12–22
Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30

SATURDAY

March 16
Lenten Weekday
Jer 11:18–20
Jn 7:40–53

SUNDAY

March 17
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31:31–34
Heb 5:7–9
Jn 12:20–33

Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.