

*Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,
and he saw and believed.*

JOHN 20:8

Life without a Blankie

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

F aith can have the look of high dives and learning to ride a bike without training wheels and life without one's "blankie." All are confrontations with the specter of death asking us to have faith. From youth to old age, our lives seem to be laced with the loss of control, and unless we embrace such moments, not only will we never really grow up, neither will we ever become people of faith who live in the resurrection.

The Easter Gospels are about women and men who arrive at the tomb but hesitate going in; it is the home of death. Yet they become believers after they have entered that home of death and discover it to be abandoned. Over the years, I have become convinced that the only way to become a believer in the resurrection is to walk into the tomb yourself and there discover that where you thought death

was present now has been abandoned. That is the pattern of coming to faith.

Usually such moments do not have the look of faith. They tend to seem more akin to death than any promise of new life—like having to move to a new city or a new school, or abandoning an addiction, or confronting a problem through counseling, or aging, or grieving over lost love. They all can have the look of tombs yet they are also where we find the beginnings of new life. Risk it often enough and so discover new life, and we begin to believe in the reality of resurrection—Jesus' and ours. ●

Reflect

***Have you ever experienced life flowing
from what appeared to be a death?***

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

MARCH 30 & 31, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 30- 8:00 PM ~Easter Vigil

✠ Jeanne Ameli by Knights of Columbus

Sunday, March 31- 9:00 AM ~Easter Sunday

✠ Aldo Lijoi by Vittoria Lijoi

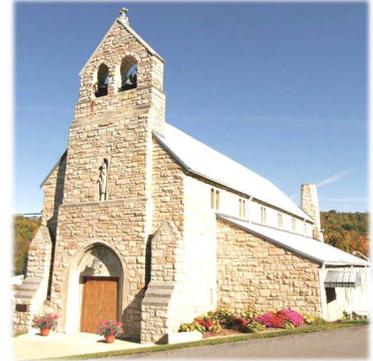
Saturday, April 6 - 6:00 PM

✠ Mario A. Lijoi by Natalie & MaryAnn Lijoi

Sunday, April 7- 9:00 AM

✠ Michael Rogers by Danny & Ann Robinson

***There will be No Daily Masses
while Fr. Sebastian is Out of Town***



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

April 1-15: Fr. Sebastian Out of Town ~No Daily Mass

April 5: First Friday Mass 6:00 pm

April 6: Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner 5-8pm

April 7: KofC Spaghetti Dinner Take-Out 11am-1pm

April 7: Handbell Choir Practice 4:00 pm

April 8: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 pm

April 9: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11:00 am

April 10: RCIA Meeting at 5:00 pm

April 22: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 pm

April 25: PPC Meeting 6:00 PM

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.
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

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.*

Hallelujah! My dear brothers and sisters may the peace of the risen Christ be with you always. I wish each of you a happy and blessed Easter! Our hearts rejoice as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



The resurrection of Jesus holds immense significance for Christians. The Gospel readings begin with the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary Magdalene and the other women. This is followed by Jesus' appearances to his disciples, including the famous story of Doubting Thomas. The readings also include the story of the Emmaus disciples, who encounter the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus, and the commissioning of the disciples to spread the Good News to all nations. These readings underline the transformative power of faith in the resurrected Jesus and his message. For instance, in the story of Doubting Thomas, we witness how Thomas's initial skepticism is transformed into unwavering faith when he encounters the risen Jesus. This story is a powerful reminder that even in moments of doubt, Jesus is there to reassure us and strengthen our faith, inspiring us to transform our lives.

I want to congratulate and welcome those who will enter our church at the Easter Vigil. They will receive new Life in the Sacrament of Baptism. These individuals will die and rise again with Christ to the newness of life, the very meaning of the Easter mystery. Each year, we are reminded of the miracle of Christ's resurrection and invited to renew that same miracle in our lives. As we journey with Christ in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection, we are bestowed with the perseverance and grace we need for the true goal of our lives—to journey to Eternal Life. This invitation is a call to rejuvenate our faith and embrace the power of Easter in our lives.

Easter is a time of great rejoicing! My heart is filled with gladness as we commemorate the Resurrection of Christ. Our parish is very blessed, and I wish to express my gratitude to all those who have helped prepare the church for this special and holy celebration. So many have quietly contributed to the beautiful decorations, the uplifting music, and the liturgy; every detail has been carefully planned and executed to create a joyous and spiritual experience for all to enjoy and to honor the risen Christ.

In conclusion, we are an Easter people, and our faith centers on the hope and promise of Christ's resurrection. May we all be inspired to live in a way that reflects this incredible gift and share Jesus's love and grace with those around us. May God bless you and your families abundantly!

Let us thank God for the love He has shown us through resurrection
by offering up our prayers of gratitude:
Most Loving and Gracious God,
Thank you for the incredible sacrifice you made for us on the cross.
We are grateful for the joy and hope we find in the resurrection
of your Son and the new life it offers us.
Help us live our lives in a way that reflects your love and grace,
and share this amazing gift with those around us.
May we be transformed by the power of Easter,
and may we always remember the true meaning of this special holiday.
Amen.

Joyfully,

Fr. Sebastian

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Spring of 2024

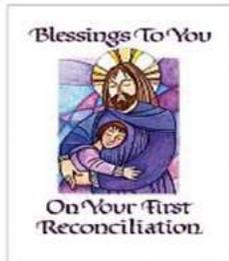
“Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.” Matthew 11:28



The schedule through May 2024:

- March 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



Congratulations to Brayden and Jillian for Receiving their First Reconciliation last Friday

RCIA



Next RCIA meeting is Wednesday, April 10th at 5:00pm in the school.

HANDBELL CHOIR

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 7th at 4pm



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

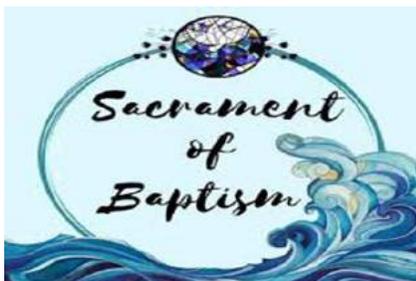
Annual Seminarian Support Raffle



Tickets available from any
Knights of Columbus member
Donation \$5.00

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

HAPPY BAPTISM



*Welcome to Sacred Heart!
And pray for Michael Carl Rebeck III
Son of Michael and Ashley Rebeck
Grandparents: Debbie Rebeck & Joel Hammond
Sisters: Madison and Molly
Baptized on March 31, 2024*



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

Angie Genovesi

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

Tullio & Linda Ramella

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

Mary & Sam Genovesi

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

April Birthdays

Joanne	Ercoline	1	Theresa	Lowery	14	Joan	Zingale	22
Walid	Azzo	5	Fr.	Sebastian	14	Pamela	Miller	23
Jon	Vescio	5	Deborah	Garton	15	Ryder	Black	24
Ron	Ciccolini	6	Alex	Ercoline	15	Greg	Rogers	24
Ann	Robinson	7	Rhys	Aiello	16	William	Thomason	24
Linda	Mariotti	8	Angie	Genovesi	17	Jackson	Wills	24
William	Albert	9	Rosalie	Owrey	17	Deborah	Ramella	25
Mary	Keenan	9	Lori	Warner	19	Mitzi	Romeo	25
Mary	Malamisura	10	Joshua	Brown	20	Cathy	Cook	29
Kristi	Maupin	12	Keith	Olson	20	Kenneth	Bales	30
Gene	Abromitis	13	Michael	Rebuck	20			
Mark	Hyduke	14	Eli	Peretti	21			

Happy Anniversary

- Apr 4 ~ Patty & Ted Marchal
- Apr 11 ~ Roberta & John Coppola
- Apr 19 ~ Nancy & Anthony Rasi
- Apr 20 ~ Lisa & Donnie Neal
- Apr 26 ~ Valerie & Tom Hager
- Apr 26 ~ Laura & Greg Rogers



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR. SEBASTIAN!

We Wish a very Happy Early Birthday to Fr. Sebastian, whose birthday is April 14th. Please help us in wishing him a happy birthday and safe travels on his upcoming trip!

Deepest Condolences

With Deepest Sympathy we announce that Vivian Romano passed away on March 25, 2024.

We send our sincerest condolences to her husband, Mark Romano Sr., and her children Mark (Linda) Romano Jr., Kellye (Daniel) Glover, Zack (Carly) Romano, Steven (Tom) Romano, and her many grandchildren, siblings, nieces, and nephews.

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

The Romano Family will be having a Celebration of Life Funeral Mass in honor of Vivian on Monday, April 1st at 2:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church. Visitation will be from 11:30 to 1:30 pm at Mercer Funeral Home.



Father Sebastian and the Staff of Sacred Heart Catholic Church wish you and your family a very blessed and glorious Easter!



Knights of Columbus

Annual
Spaghetti
Dinner

Come
and get a
taste of
Italy!

**Where: Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1003 Wyoming St. Bluefield, WV 24701**

When: Saturday, April 6th, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Take out only: April 7th, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Menu:

\$10 Spaghetti and meatballs dinner

\$12 Tour of Italy

\$5 for children under age 10

Ron Ciccolini (304) 320- 0268

Steve Copolo (276) 970- 1580

Rocky Malamisura (304) 952-7758

March Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters (Sundays)
3/28 6:30 Holy Thursday	M. Malamisura	No Rosary	M. Malamisura	M. Zalduondo	1.C.Havens 2.F. Moran 3.P. Peretti	Bob Buzzo	Ron and Tommy Jo
			A. Peretti A. Froy	T. Bales			
3/29 6pm Good Friday	J. McCloud		D. Kelley	A. Rebuck	J. McCloud	John Monaco	
			M. Malaisura R. Aiello T. Brown	A. Torrez			
3/30 8pm Easter Vigil	P. Buenafe		M.Malamisura	T.Behrmann	1.P. Peretti 2.T. Hager 3.L. Mariotti	The Pascasio's	
			P. Buenafe A. Peretti E. Peretti	V. Hager			
3/31 9am Easter Sunday	T. Lampert		M. Malamisura	B. Buzzo	1.C. Havens 2K. Kirk 3.T. Lampert	S. Copolo	
			M. Copolo S.Copolo	B. Musolin			

April 2024 Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters (Sundays)
Sat. 4/6 6:00 pm	P. Buenafe	T. Lowery	P. Buenafe	D. Garton	1.L. Mariotti 2.C. Saunders 3.J. McCloud	The Pascasio's	Randy Albert Cindy Albert
Sun. 4/7 9:00 am	The Winfree's	A. Torrez	C. Tran	R. Albert	1.T. Lampert 2.S. Copolo 3.A. Robinson	B. Buzzo	
			A. Froy	A. Torrez			
Sat. 4/13 6:00 pm	P. Peretti	V. Hager	A. Peretti	F. Moran	1.P. Peretti 2.V. Hager 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	David Duritz Rocky Malamisura
			E. Peretti				
Sun. 4/14 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	L. Ajulo	H. Wills	C. Ott	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kidd 3.K. Kirk	R. Malamisura	
			K. Wills	T. Bales			
Sat. 4/20 6:00 pm	P. Buenafe	P. Bunafe	D. Kelley	M. Zalduondo	1.J. McCloud 2.T. Behrmann 3.D. Garton	The Pascasio's	Delores Shumate Marilyn McCoy
Sun. 4/21 9:00 am	The Winfree's	T. Lampert	T. Brown	B. Buzzo	1.A. Robinson 2.M. Malamisura	S. Copolo	
			A. Froy	R. Ciccolini			
Sat. 4/27 6:00 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	P. Buenafe	A. Peretti	1.D. Garton 2.V. Hager 3.T. Hager	J. Monaco	
				C. Saunders			
Sun. 4/28 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	R. Aiello	A. Rebuck	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.C. Stacy	R. Albert	
			A. Zinsmeister	M. Rebuck			

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 Prayer List

Parishioners: George Bowling, Mary Bruch, 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, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

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

Catholic Sharing Appeal

We have raised \$17,250

which is 70% 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



Weekly Donations	Weekend Mar 23-24	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	5,289.00	59,870.10	56,000.00
Loose Offertory	408.00	5,918.00	5,500.00
Total Contributions	\$ 5,697.00	\$ 65,788.10	\$ 61,500.00
Food Pantry	350.00	8,610.00	0.00
Attendance:	6pm: 61	9am: 110	

St. Anne's Altar Society



St. Anne's Altar Society is very happy to report that once again, thanks to all of you, our Spring Bake Sale was a success. It's your kindness, support, and donations that help us to continue our work as well as the threads of love program.

A million thanks God Bless each and every one who contributed to our successful bake sale.

St. Anne's Altar Society & Threads of Love

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

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,

**Where did the idea of an Easter bunny come from?
What about the Easter egg?**

The Easter bunny is really a hare which, according to an Egyptian legend, is a symbol of the moon. Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon that occurs after the twenty-first day of March. Put this together, and we have an Easter bunny.

Early Christians gave new meaning to the Roman proverb *Omne vivum ex ovo*, which means, “All life comes from an egg.” A hatching chick represented the risen Christ emerging from the shell of a tomb on Easter morning. Consequently, eggs were prohibited during the Lenten fast and were reintroduced at the Easter meal and also shared as decorated gifts. In 1610, a prayer by Pope Paul V blessed the egg “that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating in thankfulness to Thee, on account of the Resurrection of Our Lord.”

In some parts of the world, children carry baskets and torches and sing Easter carols as they go from place to place. They are given brightly colored eggs to put in their baskets. In other places, eggs are carried to church and blessed by the priests. The eggs are taken home and placed in the center of the table as the main dish at the Easter feast. Visitors to the house during Easter week are offered this sacred food of the resurrection. Happy Easter! ●



SWITLANA MARTYNOWA / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7
<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</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	<i>(Sunday of Divine Mercy)</i> Acts 4:32-35 1 Jn 5:1-6 Jn 20:19-31

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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the light of the Risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is consolation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world.

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE, ROME, APRIL 4, 2021