



Life at the Edge

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We find ourselves living at the edge sometimes, when life could go either way, up or down. We may experience this as we begin marriage or first become parents. At other times, it may be frightening or sad, but also exciting, such as when graduation nears, or when we are faced with an “empty nest.” Then, we stand at the edge of a new beginning, eager for the onset of what we’ve dreamt of for so long, but also uncertain whether we will be able to navigate it. We also find ourselves living at the edge when someone we love dies.

The other day, someone came by, wanting to talk. She spoke of the chaos of her life, its pain, and of not knowing how to cope. As she was about to leave, she commented how, in spite of it all, it seemed

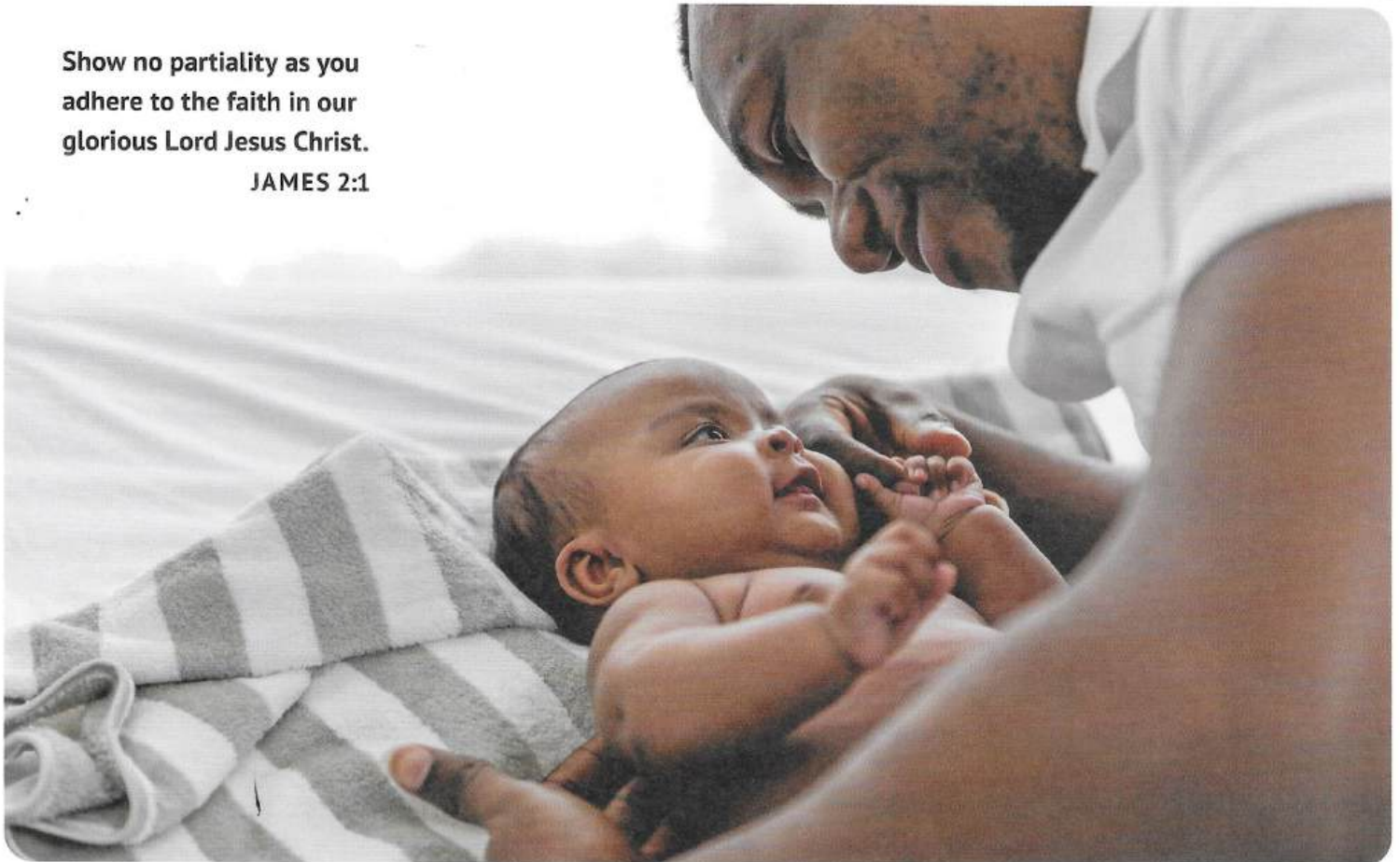
strange that God was also very much present. Strange indeed, yet chaotic times are when God’s presence is often perceived in our lives, perhaps out of our need, perhaps because we are not distracted by life’s glitter, or perhaps because, at last, we have nowhere else to turn. It was St. James who asked then and asks us now, “Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith?” (James 2:5). There are indeed many different ways of being poor, of being in need. For people of faith, it is often at the edge when we sense most clearly that God is with us. ●

Reflect

Do you feel God’s presence differently in hard times than you do in easy times?

Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

JAMES 2:1



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 7- 6:00 PM

✠ Pro Populo

Sunday, September 8- 9:00 AM

✠ Roy Rogers by Loretta Hammond

Tuesday, September 10 - Noon

✠ Larry Butler by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

Wednesday, September 11- 9:00 AM

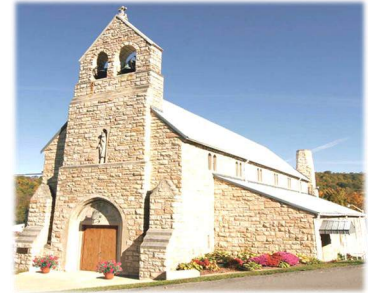
✠ People of the Parish

Saturday, September 14 - 6:00 PM

✠ Fran Derenge by Centering Prayer Group

Sunday, September 15 - 9:00 AM

✠ 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

September 9: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 pm

September 10: St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11 am

September 12: Centennial Committee Meeting 6 pm

September 14: Crusaders Youth Picnic 4 pm

September 15: Catechetical Sunday

September 15: Volunteer/Staff Appreciation Dinner 6pm

September 21-22: 2nd Collection- Catholic Extension

September 23: Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Friday's from 6:00-7:00 PM

September 13: Princeton September 27: Princeton

September 20: Bluefield October 11: Bluefield

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

NEWMAN CENTER: 304-534-8093

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 Our Priest...

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach **Catechetical Sunday**, it is important to reflect on its significance. This day is set aside to recognize the importance of teaching the faith and to commission catechists. This year's theme, "Lord, when did we see you hungry" (Matthew 25:37), reminds us of our call to serve others and to be Christ-like in our actions.

St. John Paul II once said, "The universal call to holiness is closely linked to the universal call to mission." This serves as a powerful reminder that we are all called to holiness and to share the message of the Gospel with others. As we gather to celebrate Catechetical Sunday, let us open our hearts to be eucharist by word and action to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I extend a warm welcome to all our students as we begin a new year of faith formation. I am grateful to our dedicated catechists for their hard work and commitment to passing on the faith to our younger members. I also want to recognize our OCIA team and inquirers as they begin the OCIA process, as well as all leaders and members of prayer groups in our parish. Lastly, I thank the parents, grandparents, and guardians for their role in their child's spiritual formation and for ensuring their presence in our Church.

We must recognize the importance of passing down the faith to future generations. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2226) reminds us, parents are the primary educators of the faith and have a vital role in shaping the religious identity of their children. Your role is crucial and empowering in this journey of faith formation.

As we embark on a new year of faith formation, I humbly ask for your prayers and support for our catechists and students. Let us unite as a community, each one of us contributing our prayers and support, to ensure this year's faith formation is a fruitful and enriching experience for all involved.

Let us pray:

Loving Father, we pray in a special way for our catechists.

We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

*Grant them your wisdom so that they may grow
in the understanding and teaching of your Word.*

*Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful
heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.*

*Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to
grant them wisdom about what is important;
knowledge of the truths of faith;
understanding of their meaning;
right judgement about how to apply them in life;
courage to persevere even in the face of adversity;
reverence before all that is sacred and holy;
and that loving zeal that leads
others to a transforming encounter with your Son.*

We pray this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

May God bless each of you as we grow in faith and mission.

Yours in Christ,

Father Sebastian

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation 2024-2025

Catechetical Sunday ~ September 15, 2024

Theme – “Lord, When Did We See You Hungry”

Matthew 25:37b

Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 15, 2024.

Faith Formation begins following Mass in the school building. Those who the Church Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called and formally commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is an invitation for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

If you are willing to help with Faith Formation this year, please call Julia at the parish office.

The schedule for September through January 2024:

September 15, 22, 29 ~ Regular Sessions

October 6, 13, 20, and 27 ~ Regular Sessions

October 26 ~ Fall Festival at 7 pm

November 3 ~ **No** Faith Formation – Church Centennial Celebration

November 10 ~ Regular Session

November 17 ~ **VIRTUS Lesson** first part of class. **All teachers please be present.**

November 24 ~ Regular Session

December 1 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Thanksgiving Holiday

December 8 ~ Regular Session

December 15 and 22 ~ Practice for Christmas Eve Children’s Mass in the Church

December 24 ~ Children to participate at 4pm Christmas Eve Mass

December 29 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 5, 12 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 19, 26 ~ Faith Formation Regular Sessions

OCIA



Formerly known as RCIA

Walking the path as a Catholic is a lifelong journey. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process that begins with an Inquiry Session which will be scheduled in the fall. The process is designed for adults who are coming to the Catholic faith from another tradition,

have been baptized in the Catholic faith, but have not received any other Sacraments, or have not been baptized in any particular faith tradition. The OCIA process allows you to journey through the full liturgical year and the timeline can vary from person to person as to the readiness of reception of the Sacraments of Initiation ~ Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

To learn more, please contact Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office.

ST. ANNE’S ALTAR SOCIETY

*St. Anne's
Altar Society*

St. Anne's will be meeting on Tuesday, September 10th at 11am in the parish lounge. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

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



VIRTUS® *Online*



If you have recently logged into your VIRTUS account, you may have noticed that you might have a new training module assigned for you to complete and/or some bulletins to read.

Why are volunteers and staff with older training being asked to update? There are actually a couple of reasons:

First, some of the information regarding Safe Environment has changed over the years. For example, trainings now include information about online safety which wasn't even a consideration in the 1990s when Safe Environment training and protocols first began. Second, the definition of Safe Environment has changed over the years. No longer is it just about children/youth; it now includes vulnerable adults. Also, as experts research and learn more information regarding Safe Environment best practices, VIRTUS trainings are periodically updated so they reflect the newest information. Finally, when the Diocese is audited yearly for Safe Environment compliance, we consistently have been marked as deficient in this category for not having employees and volunteers updated with the latest information to help keep our children, teens, and vulnerable adults safe. Therefore, the Bishop decided that the best option at this point was to ask all employees and volunteers to update their VIRTUS trainings to VIRTUS version 4.0 and complete yearly training modules thereafter.

Again, individuals who have completed VIRTUS training after 2022 already have the latest training, so there is nothing for them to do for 2024. For those of us that completed training before 2022, we can update our training by logging into our online VIRTUS accounts (www.virtusonline.org) and clicking on the link under our Training Module block and completing the new training. Another way to update your VIRTUS training includes an in-person option at your parish or school. A third option for completing training involves receiving and reading the training module in printed material form and signing an acknowledgement form.

The Diocesan Office of Safe Environment and the Bishop have also asked volunteers and staff to begin reading monthly VIRTUS bulletins. You might have noticed that this block also now shows as needing attention on your VIRTUS home screen when you log in. You can read the monthly bulletin from your logged in account. You may also pick up or read a printout of the monthly bulletin at a designated location in the parish or school, as indicated by parish staff. Your parish or school might include the monthly safety bulletin once a month in the parish bulletin that is regularly distributed at Mass. The purpose of these monthly safety bulletins is just another way to raise awareness and keep current with the latest information about keeping our children, teens, and vulnerable adults safe. The information presented in these bulletins is truly excellent knowledge for everyone.

Visit www.virtusonline.org/virtus

As always, if you have questions regarding this latest update or need assistance logging into your VIRTUS account, **please contact Kim Hickman**. We have been asked by the Bishop to have our VIRTUS accounts updated to Version 4.0 no later than 6 January 2025. After that date, a yearly module will be required for all employees and volunteers based on the date you completed VIRTUS Version 4.0.

Food Pantry Report for August 2024

Date	Adults over 18	Children under 18	Total Clients	New Families	Clothing	Hygiene Products	Total # of Distributions
7-Aug	125	46	171	2	113	337	82
14-Aug	118	28	146	5	203	428	69
21-Aug	163	79	242	7	140	643	86
28-Aug	180	74	254	5	185	662	106
Monthly	586	227	813	19	641	2070	343
Y-T-D	4733	1958	6741	155	5084	8050	2800

With Deepest Sympathies....

With Deepest Sympathy we announce that Barbara Ann Shumate Polatz passed away on August 26, 2024. We send our sincerest condolences to her son, Eric Polatz of Gulfport, MS, 2 granddaughters, Julia Ann and Christina, a brother, Richard Shumate, of the home, a sister, Patsy Smith of Bluefield, VA, a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews whom all adored their aunt, including a special nephew Brian Shumate who served as her caregiver for the past few years.

Barbara's Funeral will be Saturday September 7th at 11 am at Sacred Heart Church.

May our lord comfort and send you all of the angels and saints, peace to all who mourn, and may Barbara rest eternally in the arms of Jesus and in the company of all the angels and saints.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

RSVP

A GENTLE REMINDER TO OUR VOLUNTEERS TO RSVP TO OUR VOLUNTEER/STAFF APPRECIATION DINNER THAT WILL BE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT 6PM IN THE LOUNGE

Calling All Singers

We are forming a Sacred Heart Centennial Choir to sing for the Mass.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the parish office and let us know.



Church Directory

To go along with our Centennial Celebration this year we will be compiling a new church directory.

We need a family picture submitted digitally, if you already have one. It can be a picture taken with you cell phone.

We will not have picture packages or sales team involved.

Email shcc_bluefieldmedia@yahoo.com to submit a digital picture

If you need a picture taken, please call the church office or email the above address. We need a list so we can plan picture times.

If you are unsure how to turn your hard copy pictures digital, you can either email the above address or call the church office

SUICIDE INTERVENTION TRAINING

PRINCETON, WV



MEET THEM ^{IN THE} MIDDLE ^{FAITH-BASED VERSION} *Brother* UP

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Meet Them in the Middle Suicide Intervention Training helps individuals learn how to intervene, de-escalate and negotiate, when suicide is present, and life is in danger. Trainees are guided through how to facilitate an intervention and create a plan to avoid loss of life. Interventions can only happen when we meet people where they are and extend safety for immediate protection from this life and death situation. This highly interactive training allows for the understanding of personal experiences and follows a guided model rooted in evidence, best practices methods and evidence-based experiences. Training includes situational practices and requires self reflection and skills demonstration. Knowing where we end and the next person begins is crucial when it comes to saving lives. Suicide prevention is the responsibility of EVERYone and intervening with suicide is within the capability of ANYone. Understanding the components of a verbal intervention and recognizing when someone may be at risk of loss of life to suicide, while working with them to turn towards safety - can and does save lives.

LIMITED TRAINEE SPOTS AVAILABLE. MUST BE REGISTERED TO PARTICIPATE.

USE CODE PROVIDED BY YOUR CONTACT PERSON TO WAIVE YOUR TRAINING FEE.

Training Sponsored & Costs Covered By: Brother Up Foundation + LIFESAVERS Project

To Receive Link to Register, Please Contact One of the Individuals Below:

CORNERSTONE Church Contact: ERICA MORGAN @ cfcrunforgod@gmail.com

SACRED HEART Churches Contact: LORIN ALBIN @ lorinjalbin@gmail.com

Training Hosted By These Partners in the Fight Against Suicide:



CRUSADERS YOUTH PICNIC IN THE PARK

**Saturday, September 14
12 Noon - 2:00 PM
Bluefield City Park**

Looking for a fun and relaxing way to spend a day outdoors? Join us for a picnic in the park! We will have games, fellowship, and food. Everyone is welcome to bring a friend or two! Youth Ministry is open to all students in 8-12th grades.

If you have any questions please contact Wendi at 304-320-2150

September Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
Sat. 9/7 6:00 pm	P. Peretti	V. Hager	B. Zinsmeister	Maria	1.T. Hager 2.P. Peretti 3.C. Saunders	The Pascasio's	Randy Albert Cindy Albert
			A. Zinsmeister	Zalduondo			
Sun. 9/8 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	M. Malamisura	R. Albert	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kidd 3.TBA	S. Copolo	Randy Albert Cindy Albert
			E. Husband	C. Ott			
Sat. 9/14 6:00 pm	J. McCloud	D. Garton	Dave Kelley	Tom Behrmann	1.. A. Peretti 2.F. Moran 3.J. McCloud	J. Monaco	David Duritz Rocky Malamisura
Sun. 9/15 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	L. Ajulo	R. West	T. Bales	1.A. Robinson 2.K. Kirk 3.TBA	R. Malamisura	
			K. Oakes	B. Buzzo			
Sat. 9/21 6:00 pm	T. Lowery	M. Zalduondo	Purita Buenafe	Connie Saunders	1.T. Hager 2.L. Mariotti 3.TBA	The Pascasio's	Delores Shumate Marilyn McCoy
Sun. 9/22 9:00 am	M. Malamisura	TBA	H. Wills	A. Rebuck			
			K. Wills	M. Rebuck	1.TBA 2.S. Copolo 3.K. Kidd	R. Albert	
Sat. 9/28 6:00 pm	P. Peretti	P. Buenafe	A. Peretti E. Peretti	Feleesha Moran			1.T. Behrmann 2.P. Peretti
Sun. 9/29 9:00 am	M.Malamisura	B. Musolin	R. Aiello	TBA			
			C. Tran	R. Ciccolini	1.W. Aiello 2.G. Aiello 3.A. Robinson	B. Buzzo	

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We Need Help with Mass on Saturdays & Sundays

Consider Volunteering once a month or more often!

You can volunteer for the following:
Lectors, Rosary, Extraordinary Minsters, Sacristan

All Skill levels, any amount of time!

For More Information :

(304) 327-5623
ibrinegar@sacredheartbifd.org



Sacred Heart Prayer List

Parishioners: Linda Angelelli, Stephanie Blevins, George Bowling, Mary Bruch, Loretta Carrigan, Ron Ciccolini, Carl Cook, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Valerie Hager, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Tommie Jo Longworth, Mary Malamisura, Cindy McGraw, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen, Carolina Ferrare

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

Friends & Family: Donald Bowles, Shelby Bowles, Teddy Bradshaw, Patrick Clark, Chuck Comer, Carolyn Crigger, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Jason Fortney, Steve Hamm, Larry Hicks, Yael Issacs, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Stan Lawson, Bill Lester, Bob Mahood, Connor McKenzie, Ken Mulkey, Laura Lee Null, Dr. Amanda Hale Reese, Leanna Smith, Larry Sarever, Abby Taylor, Judy Tolbert, 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

Weekly Collection	weekend Aug 30 - Sept 1	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	4,826.00	180,530.20	157,800.00
Maintenance	166.00	2,720.00	3,600.00
Loose Offertory	779.00	15,843.20	16,400.00
Total Contributions	\$5,771.00	\$199,093.40	\$ 177,800.00
Food Pantry	390.00	19,492.00	0.00
DWC: Ed of Seminarians	10.00	1,502.00	500.00
DWC: Catholic University	250.00	250.00	500.00
Attendance:	6pm: 58	9am: 78	


EXTRA HELP NEEDED!!

Looking for a few extra people to help take pictures of parish events



You don't need a fancy camera, your cell phone will do

If you are willing to help out; call the church office or email shcc_bluefieldmedia@yahoo.com






**History Book
Church Building Pictures**

We are looking for pictures of:
Weddings
First Communion
Confirmation
Baptism
Any event that was in the Church

Email
shcc_bluefieldmedia@yahoo.com
to submit a digital picture or any memories you would like to share

If you are unsure how to turn your hard copy pictures digital, you can either email the above address or call the church office



**CATHOLIC
SHARING APPEAL**

We have raised **\$34,836** for the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Which has surpassed our goal of **\$24,620!**

Thank you everyone for your generous donations. Please continue to donate if you can!

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.

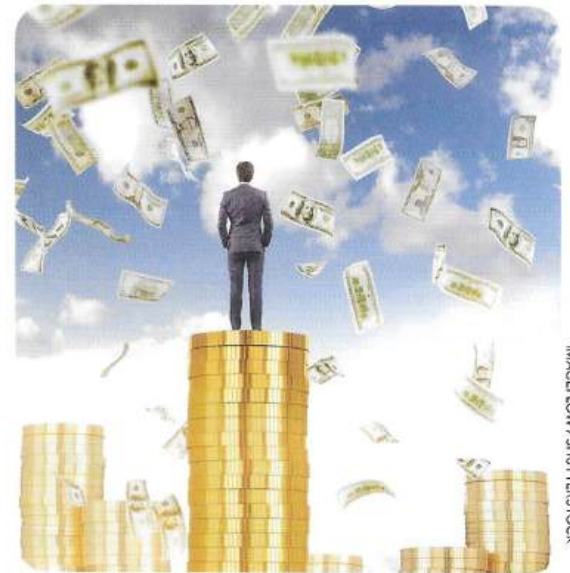
Nursing homes & Hospitals: are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

Dear Padre,

What is the “gospel of prosperity”? Does it mean that being rich is a sign of God’s favor?

That’s a good question, as this month we listen to the challenging words of St. James. If there is a “gospel of prosperity,” Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John didn’t write it, and it isn’t about Jesus. If anything, the Gospels would be called “Gospels of poverty.” Jesus himself was born in poverty. Had he wished to extol riches and prosperity, he would have been born into the lap of luxury. But God chose the poverty of a stable.

Although the subject of riches and poverty appears in all the Gospels, Luke writes about it the most. It is thought that Luke was concerned about this topic because he came from wealth and dealt with people of means. Luke sees money and goods as dangerous to salvation. Although “nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:37), Luke uses the image of a camel passing through the eye of a needle to explain that this impossible task is easier than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:25). Scary words. Yet, poverty itself is not hailed as good, nor are riches condemned in themselves. It’s what wealth does to people that is the core issue. When we focus on riches and possessions, we risk turning from God and growing deaf to the cries of the poor. Possessions and wealth are to be shared, not hoarded. ●



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us ask ourselves: how is my capacity to listen going?Think about family life: how many times do we talk without listening first, repeating the same things, always the same things!....

The healing of the heart begins with listening....

We hear the words of Jesus addressed to us:

“Ephphatha, be opened!” Open your ears.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Monday

September 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest

1 Cor 5:1–8

Lk 6:6–11

Tuesday

September 10

Weekday

1 Cor 6:1–11

Lk 6:12–19

Wednesday

September 11

Weekday

1 Cor 7:25–31

Lk 6:20–26

Thursday

September 12

Weekday

1 Cor 8:1b–7, 11–13

Lk 6:27–38

Friday

September 13

St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Cor 9:16–19, 22b–27

Lk 6:39–42

Saturday

September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b–9

Phil 2:6–11

Jn 3:13–17

Sunday

September 15

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 50:4c–9a

Jas 2:14–18

Mk 8:27–35