



The Feast of Corpus Christi

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

"If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion."

Reread that quote from St. Maximilian Kolbe.

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi - Latin for "the Body of Christ".

It is the celebration of Christ's Presence in the Eucharist.

Don't let yourself go on cruise-control. Be intentional. Be present. Make it personal.

Take time to focus on and contemplate your own relationship with Christ.

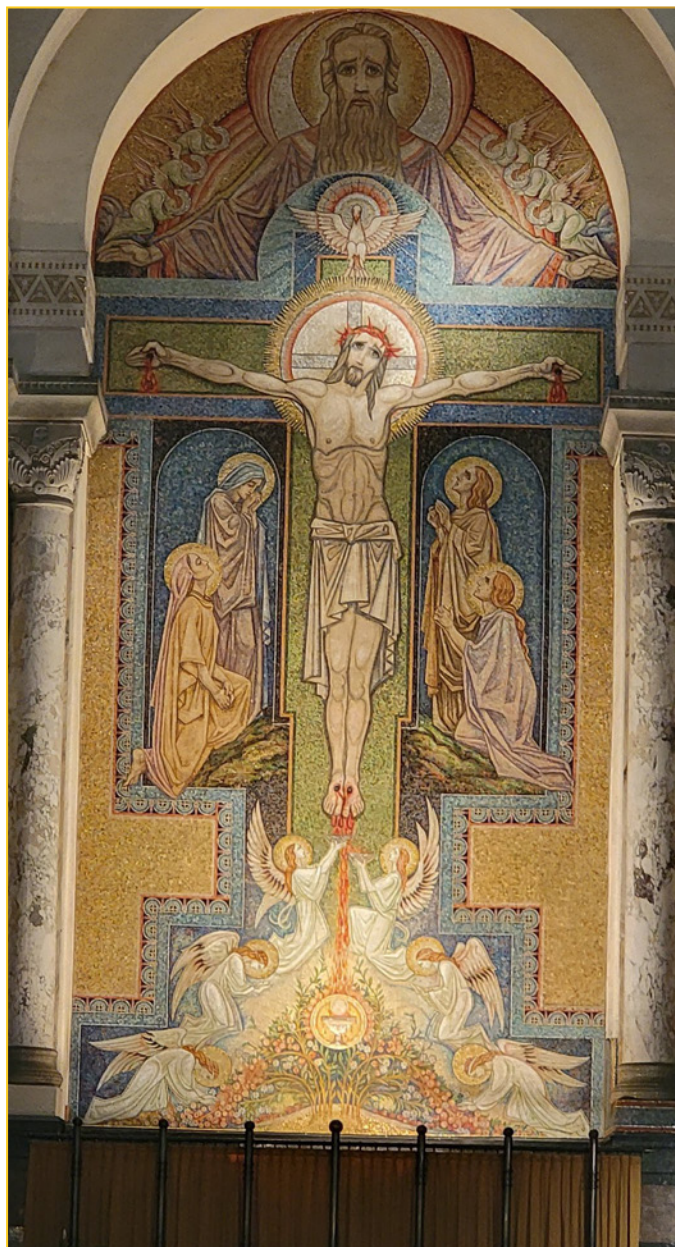
As Catholic faithful we know that during the Eucharist the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is the heart of our faith. The Eucharist draws us in the Presence of our Lord and Savior.

Let us renew our spirit this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ and not take our Eucharist for granted.

Make a commitment to yourself and for yourself to honor Christ more. Love more. Spend more time with Him in the Eucharist.

The solemnity of Corpus Christi is a time to reaffirm our faith in Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.



Don't limit it to Mass. Go to Adoration.

When passing a Catholic church, make the Sign of the Cross to let God know you are of His Real Presence in the tabernacle.

Be a part of planning Adoration and Eucharistic processions to proclaim our devotion to the Body of Christ.

Saint John the Apostle's Gospel gives us the Bread of Life Discourse in John 6:22-71. Reread it in a quiet space to deepen our understanding as Bishop Brennan describes it as "the intense love that moves the Son of God to give himself to us as food for our journey of faith."

"For My Flesh is true food, and My Blood is true drink (John 6:55)," Christ said.

"Many of the disciples heard it and said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' (John 6:60)"

"Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. (John 6:62-64)"

Unite and celebrate the Eucharist - the source and

summit of Christian life (Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 1324).

LET ST. IRENAEUS' EXAMPLE

Untangle Your Hot Mess

Feeling overwhelmed or like life right now is a hot mess out of your control?

Call for the intercession of our saints, specifically this week to St. Irenaeus.

When your life is tied in knots look to St. Irenaeus, who we honor June 28th.

He was a second century Greek bishop, who described Eve's sins as knots of disobedience, and the Virgin Mary as the undoer of knots through her faith and devotion to God.

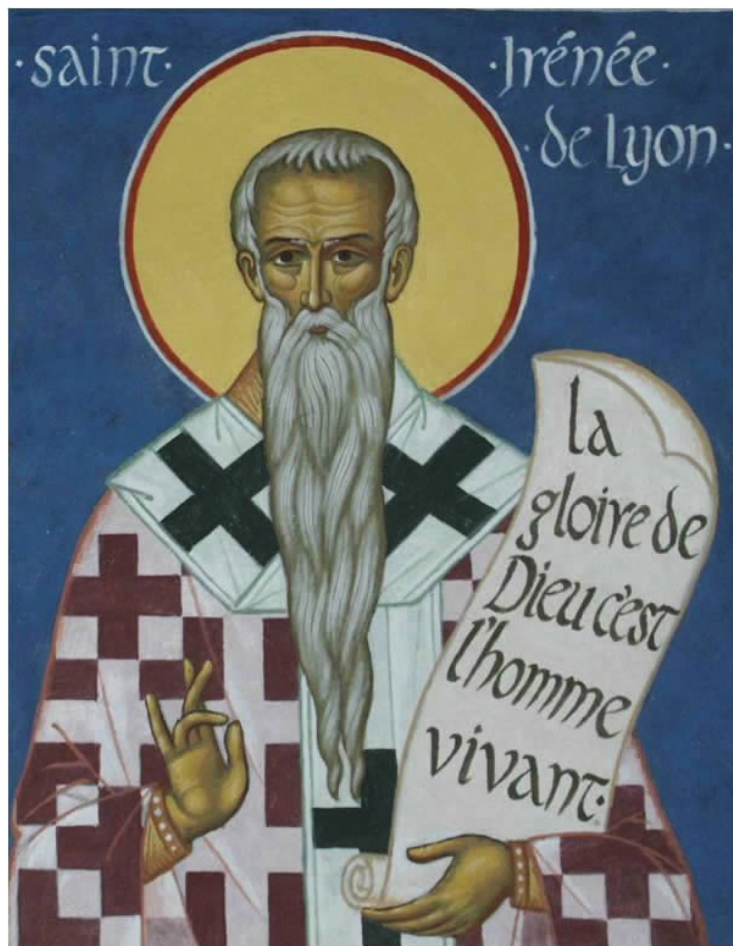
He wrote, taught, and preached about fundamental beliefs, doctrines, and theology – the Incarnation, the Eucharist, and the how the Old Testament prepared the way for Christ. He spoke adamantly and complete certainty that Christ is truly present in the Holy Eucharist. Additionally, that the Church is built on apostolic succession and the role of the pope – of which keep the Church organized and accountable.

Centuries later in the 1600s, St. Irenaeus' teachings were the inspiration of Fr. Jakob Rem, as he counseled a married couple who considered divorce. Fr. Rem held up their old wedding ribbon tied with knots before an image of Mary. As he and the couple prayed, he untied the knots, when he finished the ribbon miraculously became sparkling white. This event led to the commissioning of a famous painting by the couples grandson 85 years later.

Let us all honor St. Irenaeus's vision and turn to Mary, Undoer of Knots, when the knots in our lives seem impossible to untie alone – marriage troubles, money problems, unemployment, illness, loneliness, loss, depression, and

self-pity. Have the confidence of St. Irenaeus with Mary as our intercessor to keep moving forward and placing all of our trust in Jesus.

Note: September 28th is the Feast Day of Mary, Undoer of Knots.



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON WV PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



- **Cathedral of St. Joseph** 1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling
- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart** 1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg

Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (at site): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
- **Holy Communion**
- **Pray for the Pope**

For information and updates go to:
dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025

HONOR THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Prepare the Way of the Lord in The Lives of Others

A great intercessor and forerunner of Christ. He is the transition between the two covenants – the Old Testament and the New Testament. St. John the Baptist!

We honor his birth as a Church – the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist – on June 24. It is one of the oldest feasts in the Church, dating back to 506 AD.

In the spirit of the Great Baptizer, go to the lost sheep in your family, in your community, and wherever God puts you – and bring them into the love and light of Christ. We were all built for that mission. By sharing God – who He is, how He loves, and your love for him – will you're your graces and strengthen your relationship with Christ.

In Luke's Gospel, we learn about the birth of this great prophet, born to prepare the way for Jesus Christ. John was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, who although had prayed for children were childless and considered way too old for children. Despite the latter, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah, telling him Elizabeth

would give birth to a son, who will be filled with the Holy Spirit even in her womb, and they were to name him John.

The Nativity of St John the Baptist comes three months after the celebration of the Annunciation, when the Archangel Gabriel told the Blessed Virgin Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was in her sixth month of pregnancy, and the child would be born six months before the Christmas celebration of the birth of Jesus.

The exact dates are not what we celebrate, but a way to link our history.

Let the Nativity of St. John the Baptist renew in us the saving grace of the Lord, encouraging us to share his love to others not only by our words, but also through our actions.

May we follow the example of St John the Baptist and prepare the way of the Lord in the lives of others.

Editor's note: the art with this post is titled "His Name is John" – the nativity scene of St. John the Baptist with Zechariah writing the blessed baby's name. The painting (a desco da parto) is by Pontormo Carucci of Italy. Circa 1526.



Psalm 110:4 for Sunday, the Feast of Corpus Christi:

"You are a Priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek."

Let us pray for our priests,
who live in the midst of the world
without wishing its pleasures;
To be a member of each family,
yet belonging to none;
to share all suffering;
to penetrate all secrets;
to heal all wounds;
to go from men to God
and offer Him their prayers;
to return from God to men

to bring pardon and hope;
to have a heart of fire for charity,
and a heart of bronze for chastity;
to teach and to pardon,
console and bless always.
My God, what a life;
And it is yours,
O priest of Jesus Christ.

-St. Jean Baptiste Henri Lacordaire, O.P.
(1802-1861)

SACRED HEART OF JESUS REVEALS HIS LOVE FOR US ALL

“My Divine Heart is so passionately in love with humanity....” - Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673.

Christ appeared before St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun, several times between 1673-1675. Each time he appeared he shared his love for us – a love that is not just words, but real and obvious, pouring out from His pierced Heart on the Cross.

These visions lead to the Feast Day of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which we celebrate on Friday, June 27th. It is always the Friday after Corpus Christi Sunday - the second Sunday after Pentecost.

Honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus began centuries before 1673.

The Church has references as early as the second century through St. Justin Martyr and in the 7th century by Pope Gregory the Great.

Both preached that John 19:34-35 is a metaphor for the divine graces that will forever flow from the heart of the crucified Jesus: *“But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth—that you also may believe.”*

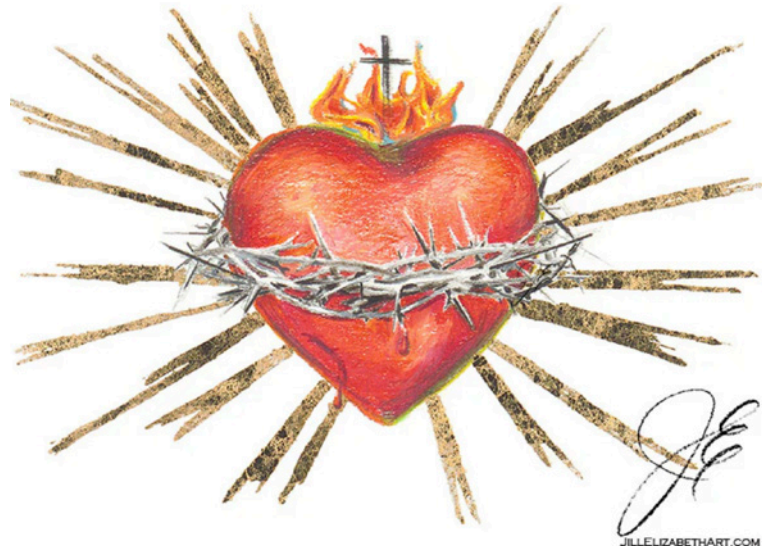
Saints Bernard of Clairvaux and Anselm of the 12th century, preached of the love of the Sacred Heart is for everyone, because we were all redeemed by His Passion and Death.

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque recorded that Christ told her that a feast day should be given to His Sacred Heart and those devoted to it would be granted graces, deepening their relationship with Him.

It was in 1765, when Pope Clement XIII named the feast day in France. However, it wasn't until 1856, when Pope Pius IX declared the feast day should be extended to the universal Church.

Pope Pius IX wrote, “(Jesus) showed His Heart to us bearing about it the symbols of the passion and displaying the flames of love, that from the one we might know the infinite malice of sin, and in the other we might admire the infinite charity of Our Redeemer, and so might have a more vehement hatred of sin, and make a more ardent return of love for His love.”

IMAGERY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Flames - represent the infinite fire of love that Christ has for each soul.

Crown of Thorns - *“And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe”.* (John 19:2). Although Christ suffered the crown of thorns on His head, all that He suffered in the crucifixion He suffered in the depths of His Heart.

Wounded Heart - the wound of the guard's sword is visible – the wound in which blood and water flowed. *“Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.”* (John 19:34). Both the water and blood are very symbolic to our Church - our faith – with the water of Baptism and the Blood of the Eucharist.

The Cross - The cross at the top of the Heart seems dwarfed by the Heart and almost implanted at the top. St. Margaret Mary said, “The entire reality of the crucifixion derives its meaning from and cannot be understood apart from the Heart of Jesus.” It is His Heart that supports the weight of the cross!”

JESUS' 12 PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

shared with St. Margaret Mary Alacoque for us all who are reverent to the devotion:

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.

continue...

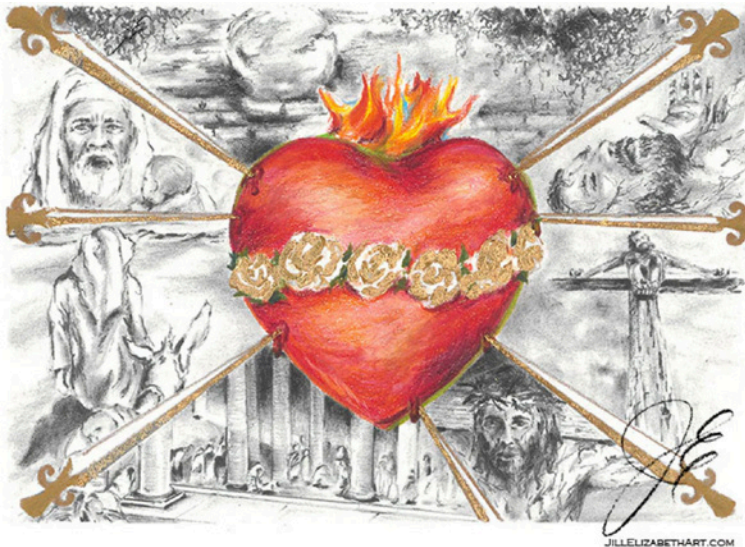
3. I will comfort them in their trials.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and, above all, in death.
5. I will shed abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in My Heart an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls will become fervent.
8. Fervent souls will rapidly grow in holiness and perfection.
9. I will bless every place where an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.

11. The names of those who promote this devotion will be written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.

12. I promise thee, in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

Editor's note: the art of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is by Jill Rund of Jill Elizabeth Art. Her Catholic art and ministry are available at: JILLELIZABETHART.COM

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



On June 28th the Church celebrates the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The radiant flames from her maternal heart burn with love for Jesus and for all of us created in His image.

Mary's Immaculate Heart is often illustrated pierced by a sword representing Mary's sorrow at Jesus' suffering, while roses symbolize her Immaculate Conception, sinlessness, and purity.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the heart is "the depths of one's being, where the person decides for or against God" (CCC 368).

The Church teaches us that the Immaculate Heart of Mary signifies, first of all, the great manifested in her "Yes" to the Father at the Incarnation; her love for the Son of God in His redemptive mission; and her obedience

to the Holy Spirit, enabling her to remain free of the stain of personal sin throughout her life.

Mary's Immaculate Heart, therefore, points us to her profound interior life, where she experienced both joys and sorrows, yet remained faithful, as we, too, are called to do.

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, full of goodness,
show your love towards us.

Let the flame of your heart, descend on all people.
We love you immensely.

Impress true love in our hearts so that we have
a continuous desire for you.

O Mary, gentle and humble of heart,
remember us when we are in sin.

You know that all sin.

Give us, by means of your Immaculate Heart,
spiritual health.

Let us always see the goodness of your
motherly heart and may we be converted
by means of the flame of your heart.

Amen.

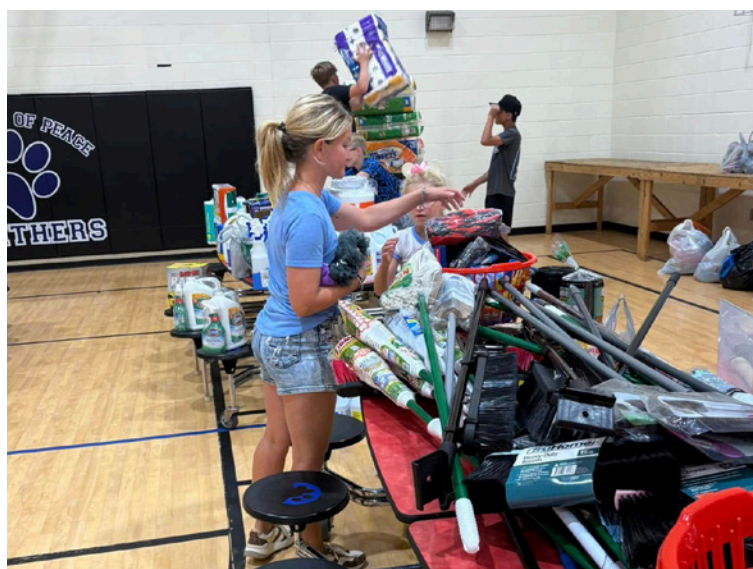
Editor's note: This profound image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary surrounded by depictions of the seven sorrows of Mary (with seven swords piercing her heart instead of the traditional one) is by Jill Rund of Jill Elizabeth Art. Her Catholic art and ministry are available at: jillelizabethart.com

LET US CONTINUE TO BE THE PEOPLE OF PEACE, PITCHING IN TO HELP, AND NEVER TIRING IN PRAYER.

God's greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself - Matthew 22:36

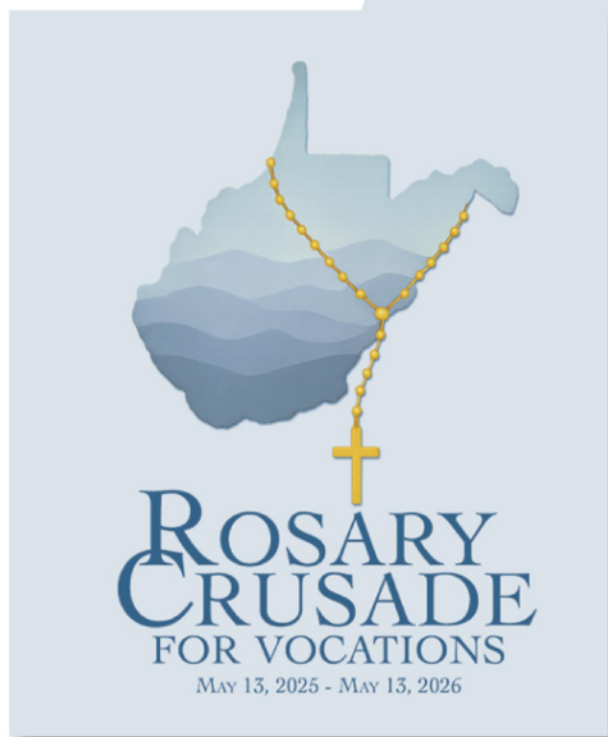
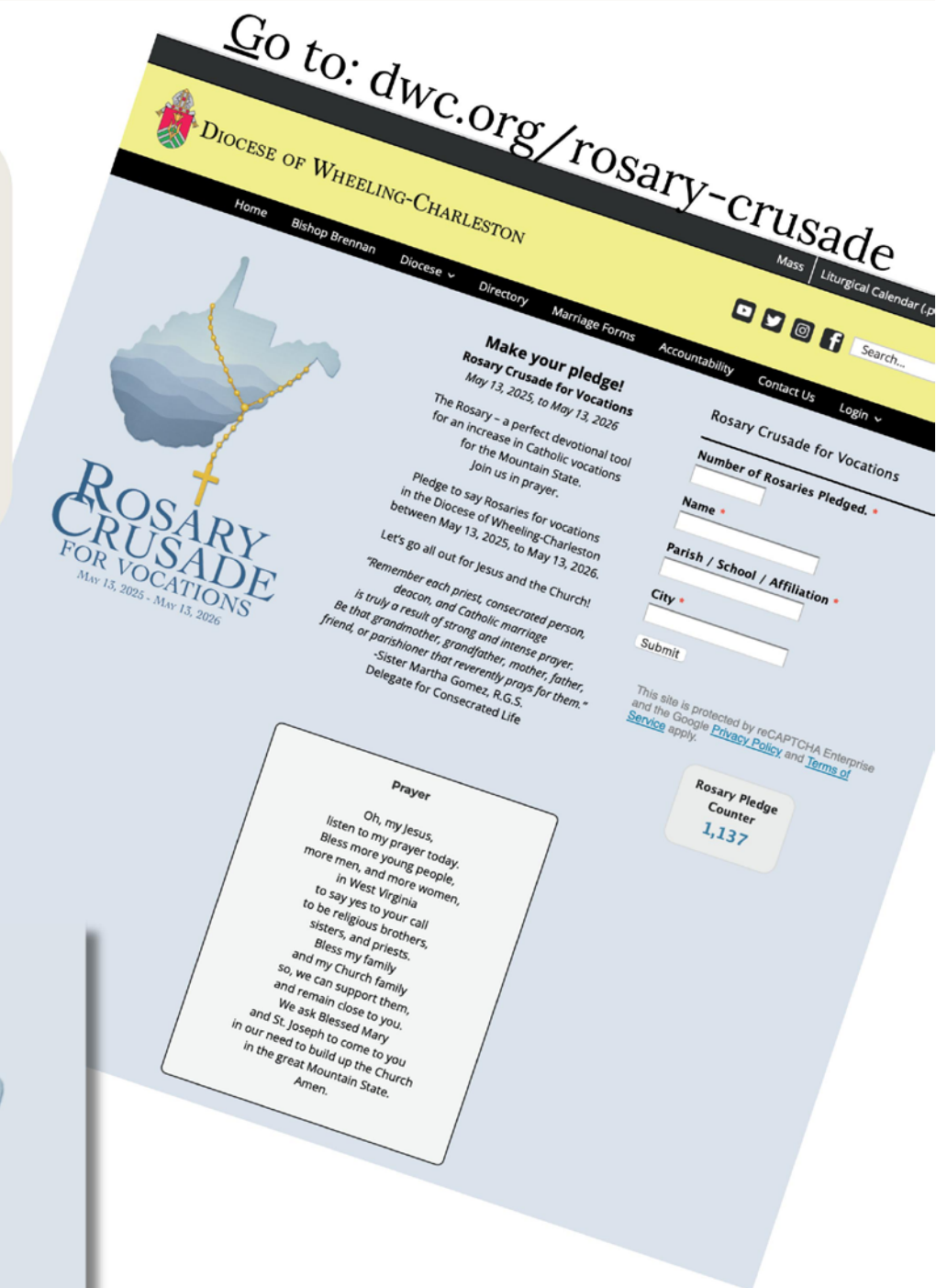
Just a glimpse of our members young and old in our parishes, schools, chancery, and Mt. Calvary cemetery working in and behind the scenes to help our Wheeling community. Clearing debris, collecting items, cleaning homes, making meals, and distributing needed food and supplies - anything and everything to make a difference!

This and the blessings of Catholic Charities West Virginia is the Light of Christ!



ROSARY CRUSADE FOR VOCATIONS IN WV

SCAN ME!



From May 13, 2025, to May 13, 2026, faithful around the world can join our Rosary Crusade for Vocations in WV.

PRAYER WORKS!

Step up for Jesus and His Church!

Pledge. Share. Pray.

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2. CLICK ON RETREATS TAB

3. SELECT ST. JAMES THE GREATER

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Prayer Does Work Miracles!
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Immaculée Ilibagiza Retreat
July 25-26, 2025

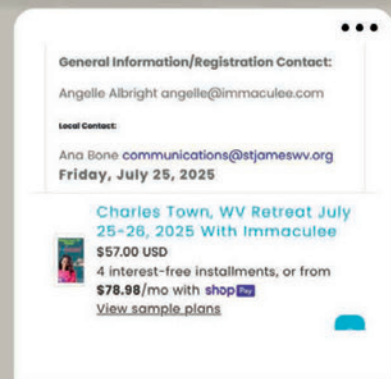
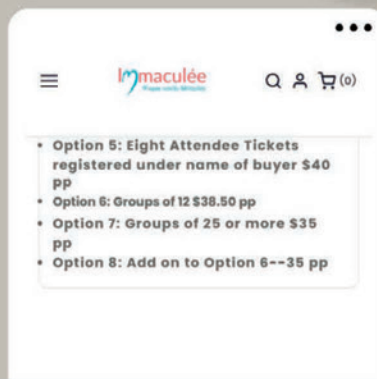
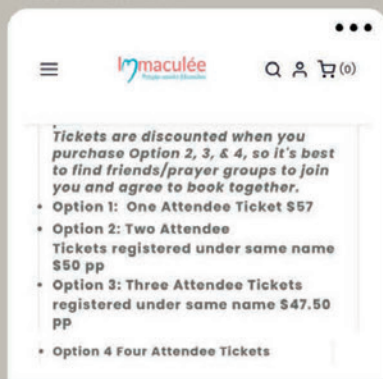
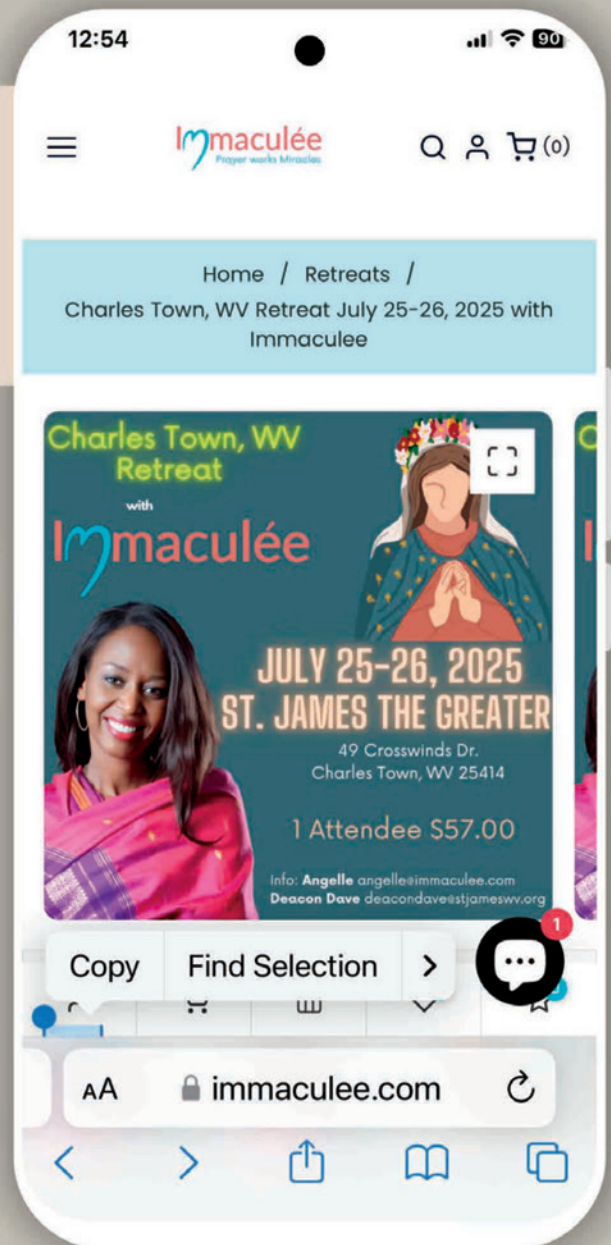
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THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

First Reading: Genesis 14:18-20

Over bread and wine, the mysterious
Melchizedek blessed the Lord.

Responsorial: Psalm 110

"You are a priest forever, in the line of
Melchizedek!"

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Every time we eat the Lord's body and drink his
blood, we proclaim his life-giving death. Let us
become Christ's body for those hungering for
God's goodness and to know him.

Gospel: Luke 9:11b-17

With five loaves and two fishes, Jesus fed the
multitudes, satisfying all. God's goodness is
overflowing.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that by acknowledging the Real
Presence of Christ in the Eucharist we gain the
strength and confidence to make sacrifices for others,
giving of ourselves for those in need, let us pray to the
Lord. . .

For elected leaders, that they may hear and respond to
the cries of the hurting, lost, and hungry, let us pray to
the Lord. . .

For all who suffered on any and all levels from the
flash flooding that recently tore through Ohio, Marion,
and Monongalia counties, may they be comforted and
feel the endless love of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and
Mary, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For the Church family, that our participation in the
Eucharist may steadily transform us into the body of
Christ and the voice of His love, let us pray to the
Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our
website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.