

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA
SHARING OUR TREASURE
DECEMBER 10, 2023

Attendance at 11 a.m. on December 10 = 53	
Regular Collection	\$ 2833
Mass Intention Stipends	
Maintenance	
Christmas Flowers	\$ 309
Diocesan—Retirement For Religious	\$ 145
Total Collection	\$ 3289

Financial Summary for St. Catherine of Siena November 2023	
Offerings received	\$ 3302
Expenses for November	\$ 5196
Net	\$ - 1894

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO
SHARING OUR TREASURE
DECEMBER 10, 2023

Attendance at 4 p.m. on December 10 = 25 Attendance at 9 a.m. on December 10 = 57	
Regular Collection	\$ 1026
Mass Intention Stipends	\$ 150
Christmas Flowers	\$ 145
Diocesan—Retirement Religious	\$ 327
Poor Box Donations	\$ 2224
Total Collection	\$ 3872
Roof Donations	

Financial Summary for St. Charles Borromeo November 2023	
Offerings received	\$ 4886
Expenses for November	\$ 5735
Net	\$ - 849

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND SERVICES

Saturday December 23, 2023 at 4 p.m. St. Charles
Sunday December 24, 2023 at 9 a.m. St. Charles
Sunday December 24, 2023 at 11 a.m. St. Catherine's

Christmas Eve

Sunday December 24, 2023 at 5 p.m. St. Charles
Sunday December 24, 2023 at 7 p.m. St. Catherine's



Christmas Day
Monday December 25, 2023
at 10 a.m. St. Charles

Christmas Flowers

There will be baskets in the foyer of each church for donations for poinsettias and greenery for church decorations. This is an opportunity to honor a loved one still living or remember someone who has died. The names of those loved ones will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin. There is no set donation amount.

The envelopes for St. Catherine's are green and can be returned to the collection basket. The envelopes at St. Charles are pink.

Please print clearly when you write the names of those you would like to honor or remember.



DECEMBER 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

We are having our annual Advent Service of Reconciliation at 4 p.m. on Sunday December 17 at St. Charles. Father Tom Collins from Virginia will be here to hear confessions, in addition to Father Jim Conyers. Please plan to attend this important service.



**PREPARING THE WAY:
RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT**

Do not fear.

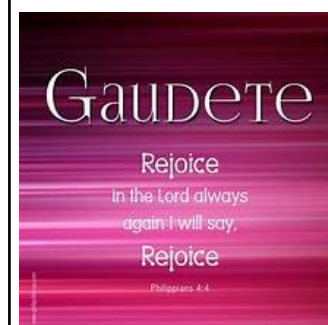
Is 41:10



"There are people who are afraid to go to confession, forgetting that they will not encounter a severe judge there, but the immensely merciful Father"

POPE FRANCIS

GAUDETE SUNDAY



"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God; to comfort all who mourn;" — Isaiah 61:1-2

These words begin the first reading on the third Sunday of Advent, which is called Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" (pronounced gow-deh-tay) is Latin for "rejoice," which refers to the first word of the entrance antiphon. "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near." (paraphrase, Philippians 4:4-5).

The word "advent" originates from the Latin "adventus" which means coming. As the four weeks of Advent progress, so does the anticipation. On Gaudete Sunday, the celebrant wears rose vestments to signify joy, that the waiting is half over and Christmas is near.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COAT AND TOY DRIVE**

The Knights of Columbus are collecting new and gently used clothing to be distributed this month to those in need. Please bring coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, mittens, etc. **The deadline for bringing donations of winter clothing is Sunday December 17th.**

The Knights of Columbus are also collecting new toys (or money to purchase toys) for children. **Please bring new toys or your donations to St. Charles Church by Sunday December 17th.**



ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO

Established 1903
40798 Midland Trail E.
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986
www.stcharlesborromeowv.org



Sunday Confession 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mass noon
Friday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Sat. Confession 3:30 p.m.
Saturday Mass 4:00 p.m.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Established 1892
163 Walnut Street
Ronceverte, WV 24970
www.stcatherinewv.org



Sunday Rosary 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Confession 12:15 p.m.
Tuesday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Thursday Mass 6:30 p.m.

U.S. CATHOLIC SISTERS AGAINST
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
Sistersagainsttrafficking.org

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, please contact the diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880.

Pastor: Father Jim Conyers. email: jconyers@dwc.org Phone: 304-667-9043
Deacon: Robert Holliday. email: rholliday@dwc.org Phone: 304-646-4476
Deacon: Bill Strange. email: deaconbill@frontier.com Phone: 304-237-4470 (cell) 304-536-2333 (home)
The Church Office for both churches is located at St. Charles Borromeo on the lowest level of the Rectory.
Church Secretary: Leah Trent. office email: stcharlesborromeocc@gmail.com **Phone: 304-536-1813**
Office Hours next week are Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9 a.m. til 2 p.m.
Church Office address: 40798 Midland Trail E. White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986

Dear Family,

In the Church, the month of December has many references to the Blessed Virgin Mary. One of those is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Gaudalupe on December 12. This is the celebration of one of the most amazing events in Church history. Perhaps you are familiar with it, but if not, it is well worth looking it up on the internet on a Catholic website and reading or hearing about this miraculous incident around Mexico City.

On December 9, 1531, Juan Diego, one of the few indigenous people of Mexico who converted to Christianity, was in a hurry to make it to Mass. However, he was stopped by the beautiful sight of a radiant woman who introduced herself, in his native tongue, as the "ever-perfect holy Mary, who has the honor to be the mother of the true God."

Mary told Juan Diego she was the mother of all those who lived in his land and asked him to make a request to the local bishop. She wanted them to build a chapel in her honor there on Tepeyac Hill, which was the site of a former pagan temple.

When Juan Diego approached Bishop Juan de Zumarraga telling of what happened, he was presented with doubts and was told to give the Bishop time to reflect on the news. Later, the same day, Juan Diego encountered the Virgin Mary a second time and told her he failed in granting her request. He tried to explain to her he was not an important person, and therefore not the one for the task, but she insisted he was the man she wanted.

Juan Diego returned to the Bishop the next day and repeated his request, but now the Bishop asked for proof or a sign the apparition was real and truly of heaven. Juan Diego went straight to Tepeyac and, once again, encountered the Virgin Mary. After explaining to her what the Bishop asked, she agreed and told him she'd provide him with proof. She also requested that she be known under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

On December 12, Juan Diego encountered the Virgin Mary and asked him to climb to the hill and collect the flowers growing there. He obeyed and found many flowers blooming in December on the rocky land. He filled his tilma (cloak) with flowers and returned to Mary. The Virgin Mary arranged the flowers within his cloak and told him this would be the sign he is to present to the bishop. Once Juan Diego found the bishop, he opened his cloak and the bishop was presented with a miraculous imprinted image of the Virgin Mary on the flower-filled cloak.

News of Juan Diego's miracle quickly spread, and he became very well-known. However, Juan Diego always remained a humble man. The bishop first kept Juan Diego's imprinted cloak in his private chapel, but then placed it on public display in the church built on Tepeyac Hill the next year.

Many miracles have been associated with the image, and news of Our Lady's apparitions caused a wave of nearly 3,000 Indians a day to convert to the Christian faith. Details of Juan Diego's experience and Mary's words moved them deeply.

Our Lady of Guadalupe has a deep connection with the people of Latin American, but she appeared for all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere, in fact of all the world.¹

May God richly bless in this holy season,
Fr. Jim Conyers

¹ Thanks to www.catholic.org/saints



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Location Tepeyac, Mexico City, Mexico
Date 9 December 1531
Witness Saint Juan Diego
Type Marian apparition
Holy See approval 25 May 1754, pontificate of Pope Benedict XIV
Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tepeyac, Mexico.

ROOF REPLACEMENT UPDATE

We want to extend a **heartfelt thank you** to all the parishioners and visitors who have so generously contributed to our Roof Replacement Fund so far. As some of you already know, we need to replace the roof on the Rectory Building at St. Charles.

So far we have raised \$ **111,539** We welcome donations. If you would like to donate with a check, please make your check payable to "St. Charles" and write the word "Roof" in the memo line.

Centimark has finished the first stage of the roof on the Rectory. The second stage of repairs will be completed next year.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

All events at St. Charles

Sunday December 17

Meet at 2:30 p.m. to decorate outside of St. Charles Church

5pm The all-church annual Christmas Dinner, held at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church



This next Diocesan Collection will be on December 25 for the **Catholic Charities of West Virginia**

This weekend's Social Concern Collection at St. Catherine's will be for the **Ronceverte Food Pantry**

CHURCH CALENDAR	OTHER EVENTS	ST. CHARLES BORROMEO IN WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS SCHEDULE	ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA IN RONCEVERTE SCHEDULE
Saturday Dec. 16		3:30 p.m.—Confession 4 p.m. Mass for Cheryl Hoover (L) <i>Reader: Julie Burton</i>	
Sunday Dec. 17		8:30 a.m.—Confession 9:00 a.m.— Mass for Carmen Withrow (D) <i>Reader: Debbie McComb</i> 4:00 p.m. Service of Reconciliation 5:00 p.m. All-Church Dinner	11 a.m.— Mass for Paul Pannone (D) <i>Reader: Connie Brown</i> 12:15 p.m.—Confession
Monday Dec. 18	Office open 9 a.m.— 2 p.m.	<i>No Mass</i>	<i>No Mass</i>
Tuesday Dec. 19	Office Closed		8:30 a.m. Mass for Richard Razzano (D) 9:15 a.m. Adoration / Confession
Wednesday Dec. 20	Office open 9 a.m.— 2 p.m.	11:00 a.m. Adoration / Confession 12 noon Mass for Nick Scobbo (D)	
Thursday Dec. 21	Office Closed		5:30 p.m. Adoration / Confession 6:30 p.m. Mass for J.J. O'Brien and Jean Foley (D)
Friday Dec. 22	Office open 9 a.m.— 2 p.m.	8:30 a.m. Mass for John Withrow (D) 9:15 a.m. Adoration / Confession	
Saturday Dec. 23		3:30 p.m.—Confession 4 p.m. Mass for John Withrow (D) <i>Reader: Bill Martin</i>	
Sunday Dec. 24		8:30 a.m.—Confession 9:00 a.m.— Mass for Margaret Huff (D) <i>Reader: Cheryl Hoover</i> 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass for Elizabeth Cox (D) <i>Reader: Carol Herrick</i>	11 a.m.— Mass for Jean Foley (D) <i>Reader: Jack Lampton</i> 12:15 p.m.—Confession 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass for Maggie Yoder (L)
Monday Dec. 25		10 a.m. Christmas Day Mass <i>Reader: Jeanne Scobbo</i> Merry Christmas!	

Requiescat in Pace: John Withrow Please pray for the following people:

Ronnie Hollandsworth, Lonnie Withrow, John Boyle, Clyde Bowling, Dr. Joan Moore, Chad O'Donnell, Perk & Sue Berry, Mary Thompson, Ed DeLong, Charlie Friedman, John and Ann Withrow, Margie Sheppard

At Stonerise
Frankie Musselman

At The Seasons
Carol Spencer
Serving in our Military
Paul Roshau

Call the Church Office to add names to our prayer list:
304-536-1813.



The Greenbrier Chapter of West Virginians for Life

meets at Emmanuel Community Church, located on Route 60 in Harts Run. Their next meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. For more info, contact Paula McLaughlin
Phone: 304-661-9866
Email: greenbrierwv4life@gmail.com



Readings for 12-17-23

Isaiah 61: 1-11

Luke 1: 46-50

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

