



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WEST VIRGINIA

2026 Cycle of Prayer

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.

--Colossians 1:9-10

Proclamation of the date of Easter on Epiphany

There is an ancient tradition of announcing the date of Easter on the Feast of the Epiphany. In the past, when calendars were not common, it clearly had functional value to give the date and feasts dependent on the date of Easter Day. It still has value as a proclamation of the centrality of the resurrection of Christ in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year. The proclamation may occur immediately before the offertory sentences or after the post Communion prayer. A deacon would typically read the proclamation but it may be read by a priest or lay person in the absence of a Deacon.

Dear brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of his return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation.

Let us recall the year's culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: his last supper, his crucifixion, his burial, and his rising celebrated between the evening of the 2nd day of April and the evening of the 4th day of April, Easter Sunday being on the 5th day of April.

Each Easter — as on each Sunday — the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death.

From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy.

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the 18th day of February.

The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on the 14th day of May.

Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on the 24th day of May.

And, this year the First Sunday of Advent will be on the 29th day of November.

Likewise the pilgrim Church proclaims the Passover of Christ in the feasts of the holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

January

January 4

The Second Sunday after Christmas

Grace Church, Elkins
Grace, Middleway
Grace Church, St. Mary's
Grace Church, Ravenswood

January 6

The Epiphany

We pray that we may have the strength and courage
to lead others to Jesus.

January 11

The First Sunday after the Epiphany *The Baptism of our Lord*

The Confession of Saint Peter: January 18

St. Peter's, Huntington

January 18

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

The Conversion of Saint Paul: January 25

St. Paul's, Sistersville
St. Paul's, Weston
St. Paul's, Williamson

January 25

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

The Feast of St. Timothy: January 26

St. Timothy's in-the-Valley, Hurricane

February

February 1

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Septuagesima

We pray for our Diocesan Youth Council and our
Children & Youth Ministries across the state.

February 8

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sexagesima

Church of the Heavenly Rest, Princeton

February 15

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Quinquagesima

The Feast of St. Sebastian: February 20

The St. Sebastian's Worshipping Community,
Lost River

February 18

Ash Wednesday

We pray for the work and witness of the West Virginia Council of Churches

February 22

The First Sunday in Lent

The Feast of St. Matthias, the Apostle: February 24

St. Matthias, Grafton

March

March 1

The Second Sunday in Lent

We pray for our Diocesan Reading Camp Programs—for leaders, teachers, administrators, and campers.

March 8

The Third Sunday in Lent

We pray for the governing bodies of our Diocese—the Standing Committee, the Diocesan Council, and for our Diocesan Trustees. We pray also for our Committee on Constitution and Canons and for our Diocesan Property and Loan Committee. We pray that they may be faithful stewards and wise leaders.

March 15

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

We pray for our Diocesan Staff — for our Canons, Archdeacons, Deans, Directors, administrators, Chancellors, and others who serve our common life and witness as the Diocese of West Virginia.

March 22

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

We pray for all Clergy Spouses and Families, that may not only support the work of our clergy, but feel supported in all that they do.

March 29

Palm Sunday

All Christians who face persecution

April

April 2

Maundy Thursday

Episcopal Armed Forces and Federal Ministries

April 3

Good Friday

The Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem

April 4

Holy Saturday

For those preparing for Baptism

April 4

Easter Vigil

For the faith & witness of all Christians everywhere

April 5

Easter Sunday

Thanksgiving for all those who have come to faith

April 12

The Second Sunday of Easter

We pray for the work of our Diocesan Commissions and Committees, that they may bring us to a closer awareness of God's plan for us and for our Diocese.

April 19

The Third Sunday of Easter

The Feast of St. Mark, the Evangelist: April 25

St. Mark's, Berkeley Springs

St. Mark's, St. Albans

April 26

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday

Good Shepherd, Hansford

Good Shepherd, Parkersburg

May

May 3

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Feast of St. Philip and Saint James: May 1

St. Philip's, Charles Town

May 10

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Church of the Redeemer, Ansted

May 14

The Day of the Ascension

We pray that we may be faithful in proclaiming the name of Christ to all nations.

May 17

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Feast of the Ascension: May 14

Ascension, Hinton

May 24

The Day of Pentecost

Whitsunday

Commission on Ministry, Postulants & Candidates for Holy Orders and for those discerning their vocations

May 31

The First Sunday after Pentecost

Trinity Sunday

Holy Trinity, Logan
Trinity, Huntington
Trinity, Martinsburg
Trinity, Morgantown
Trinity, Moundsville
Trinity, Parkersburg
Trinity, Shepherdstown

June

June 7

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Barnabas Day: June 11

Christ Church, Clarksburg &
St. Barnabas Chapel, Bridgeport

June 14

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

We pray for our Lilly Endowment-funded programs, Seeds of Faith and Seeds of Hope, that these programs will help us learn and share God's story and our own stories.

June 21

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

West Virginia Day: June 20

The State of West Virginia, its People, and its Future

June 28

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Independence Day: July 4

For the People of the United States, for Justice, for
Peace, for Prosperity, and for Hope

July

July 5

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Peterkin Camp & Conference Center—for campers,
counselors, staff, and its Board

July 12

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Lawrencefield Parish, Wheeling

July 19

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Christopher: July 25

St. Christopher, Charleston

July 26

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. James: July 25

St. James', Lewisburg

August

August 2

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Anne: July 26

St. Ann's, New Martinsville

August 9

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Zion, Charles Town

Mt. Zion, Hedgesville

August 16

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

We pray for Bishop Matthew & Melissa Cowden,
that they feel and know the grace of the Holy Spirit
and the support of the people of the Diocese.

August 23

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Bartholomew Day: August 24

St. Bartholomew's, Leetown

August 30

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

We pray for all schools, colleges, universities, students, teachers, and education paraprofessionals, throughout our state and for all Episcopal seminaries and schools of theological education.

September

September 6

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Suicide Prevention Week

We pray for those who suffer from depression, anxiety, or any mental illness, for the end of any stigma associated with them, and that we may all seek hope and help together.

September 13

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September is National Recovery Month

We pray for those suffering with substance abuse disorder, both those in active addiction and those in recovery, along with their families and the advocates who are in ministry with them.

September 20

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Matthew: September 21

St. Matthew's, Charleston

St. Matthew's Wheeling

September 27

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels: September 29

St. Michael's, Kingwood

October

October 4

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Sandscree Conference & Retreat Center

October 11

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

The Highland Educational Project

October 18

The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

The Feast of St. Luke: October 18

St. Luke's, Wheeling

October 25

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

We pray for our Young Adult & Campus Ministries around the State, particularly Vespers at Marshall University, and the St. Thomas Aquinas Community at West Virginia University.

November

November 1

All Saints Sunday

All Saints', Union

November 8

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Diocesan Convention: November 13-15 at Oglebay Park Resort

Our upcoming Diocesan Convention, including all delegates and committees

November 15

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Convention Weekend

We pray that we, as the Diocese of West Virginia, may boldly proclaim the love of God throughout the Mountain State.

November 22

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

Christ Church, Bluefield

Christ Church, Fairmont

Christ Church, Point Pleasant

November 29

The First Sunday of Advent

The Feast of St. Andrew: November 30

St. Andrew's, Oak Hill

December

December 6

The Second Sunday of Advent

The Feast of St. Stephen: December 26

St. Stephen's, Beckley

St. Stephen's, Romney

December 13

The Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

The Feast of St. John the Evangelist: December 27

St. John's, Charleston

St. John's, Huntington

Olde St. John's, Colliers

St. John's, Marlinton

St. John's, Ripley

December 20

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Feast of St. Thomas: December 21

St. Thomas', Weirton

St. Thomas', White Sulphur Springs

December 24

Christmas Eve

We pray that each of us may, like the angels, tell of God's glory to a world that lies in darkness all around and lead others to the knowledge and love of the Word made flesh.

December 25

Christmas Day

We pray for peace on earth and for all those who live in war-torn and dangerous places, that there may be goodwill toward all.

December 27

The First Sunday after Christmas

The Feast of St. Thomas a Becket: December 29

St. Thomas a Becket, Morgantown

Church of the Incarnation, Ronceverte

Emmanuel, Keyser

Other Holy Days & Holidays

January 1	The Feast of the Holy Name
January 6	The Feast of the Epiphany
January 18	The Confession of St. Peter
January 25	The Conversion of St. Paul
February 2	The Feast of the Presentation
February 24	St. Matthias, the Apostle
March 25	The Feast of the Annunciation
April 25	St. Mark, the Evangelist
May 1	St. Philip and St. James, Apostles
May 14	The Feast of the Ascension
June 1	The Feast of the Visitation
June 11	St. Barnabas, the Apostle
June 20	West Virginia Day
June 24	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 29	St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles
July 4	Independence Day
July 22	St. Mary Magdalene
July 25	St. James, the Apostle
August 6	The Feast of the Transfiguration
August 15	St. Mary, the Blessed Virgin
August 24	St. Bartholomew, the Apostle
September 7	Labor Day
September 14	The Feast of the Holy Cross
September 21	St. Matthew, the Evangelist
September 29	St. Michael and All Angels
October 4	St. Francis Day
October 18	St. Luke, the Evangelist
October 23	St. James of Jerusalem, the Brother of Our Lord
October 28	St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles
November 1	The Feast of All Saints
November 2	The Feast of All Souls
November 26	Thanksgiving Day
November 30	St. Andrew, the Apostle
December 21	St. Thomas, the Apostle
December 26	St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr
December 27	St. John, the Evangelist
December 28	Feast of the Holy Innocents

A Prayer for the Diocese

O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, Matthew, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--BCP page 817



The Harvest is Here