October 4, 2026

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF PRESTON COUNTY

— ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, TERRA ALTA • ST. SEBASTIAN, KINGWOOD • ST. ZITA, MASONTOWN —

Three Churches, One Catholic Family

Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.

Matthew 21:33

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday
4:00 pm ~ St. Edward
6:00 pm ~ St. Sebastian

Sunday
8:30 am ~ St. Zita
10:30 am~ St. Sebastian

Tuesday ~ St. Edward
4:00 pm ~ Weekly Mass
3:00 pm First Tuesday
Holy Hour/Rosary/Confession

Wednesday ~ St. Zita
6:30 pm ~ Weekly Mass
5:30 pm First Wednesday
Holy Hour/Rosary/Confession

Friday - St. Sebastian
8:30 am ~ Weekly Mass
9:00 am ~ Holy Hour/Rosary/Confession

First Friday of the Month
8:30 am ~ First Friday Devotion
Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading – Isaiah 5:1-7: A friend cultivates a vineyard with great care but gets wild grapes. He questions what more he could have done and decides to abandon the vineyard, letting it turn into a wasteland. This vineyard is an allegory for the house of Israel, where expected justice turns to chaos.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 80: God planted a vine from Egypt, cleared the land, and let it flourish. Then, its walls were broken, making it vulnerable to beasts and trespassers. A plea is made for divine care and restoration so that the vine, representing Israel, will thrive and its people will be saved.

Second Reading – Philippians 4:6-9: Don't worry, but instead bring your concerns to God through prayer. When you do, God's peace will guard your heart and mind. Focus on things that are true, honorable, just, pure, and lovely. By following this guidance and emulating good examples, you'll find peace.

Gospel – Matthew 21:33-43: A landowner leases a vineyard but the tenants mistreat his servants and kill his son. When asked, the elders agree that the owner will evict these tenants and find new ones. Jesus warns that those who reject the cornerstone will lose the kingdom of God.

DAILY READINGS
OCT 5 - OCT 11 , 2026

Monday: Gal 1:6–12 / Ps 111:1b–2, 7–8, 9 and 10c / Lk 10:25–37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13–24 / Ps 139:1b–3, 13–14ab, 14c–15 / Lk 10:38–42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1–2, 7–14 / Ps 117:1bc, 2 / Lk 11:1–4
Thursday: Gal 3:1–5 / Lk 1:69–70, 71–72, 73–75 / Lk 11:5–13
Friday: Gal 3:7–14 / Ps 111:1b–2, 3–4, 5–6 / Lk 11:15–26
Saturday: Gal 3:22–29 / Ps 105:2–3, 4–5, 6–7 / Lk 11:27–28
Sunday: Is 25:6–10a / Ps 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6 / Phil 4:12–14, 19–20 / Mt 22:1–14 or 22:1–10

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Facebook: Catholic Church of Preston County
St. Edward the Confessor | 1204 East State Street, Terra Alta
St. Zita | 33 Maple Street, Masontown
St. Joseph Cemetery Chapel | 12 Church Drive, Kingwood

Pastor: Father Dominic Athishu | dathishu@dwc.org
Emergency after hours: 304-534-0945
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Buildings and Grounds:
St. Edward the Confessor: Chris DeLauder 304-441-4463
St. Sebastian: Mike Barlow 304-698-4943
St. Zita: Art Centofanti 304-288-6871
Summer Home Repair Coordinator: Theresa Marthey
304-329-7318 SummerHomeRepairCCPC@gmail.com
Cemetery Committee: Mike Barlow 304-698-4943
Teresa Livengood 304-288-1779
Parish Councils:
Finance Council Chair: Eric Belldina 304-276-5066
Pastoral Council Chair: Richard Riggins 304-698-6845
St. Vincent DePaul Help Line: 304-329-6229
Raymond Wolfe Center: 304-329-3644

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please join us for **Holy Hour, Rosary, and Confession** at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, October 6, at St. Edward the Confessor and at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, October 7, at St. Zita.
- **Knights of Columbus** will meet today, Sunday, October 4, after the 10:30 am Mass at St. Sebastian. All men of the Catholic Church of Preston County are encouraged to attend.
- **St. Sebastian Altar Society** will be held on Monday, October 5 at 6:00 pm. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.
- St. Zita's - **Prayers for Mary Ellen Wildston** and her family on the death of her grandson, Michael. She and her family (Julie, Amy, and Eric) were former members of St. Zita's.

HAPPY Anniversary

Celebrating 70 Years of Marriage!

Please stay after the 8:30 am Mass this Sunday at St. Zita Church and join the family of
George and Louise Krynicki
as they celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary!

For 70 years, George and Louise have shared a beautiful example of love, faith, and commitment with their family, friends, and church community.

We are blessed to celebrate this wonderful milestone with them!

Everyone is welcome!

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us of God's loving care and our responsibility to respond with faithfulness. The readings use the image of a vineyard to show how God provides for His people and calls them to bear good fruit. In Isaiah, God carefully tends His vineyard, yet it produces wild grapes, representing sin and injustice. The Gospel continues this imagery as Jesus tells of tenants who reject the owner's servants and even kill his son. The parable warns us about rejecting God's call and failing to use His gifts responsibly.

Paul offers a hopeful response in the second reading. He encourages us not to worry, but to bring our needs to God in prayer and focus on what is true, honorable, just, and good. These readings invite us to examine our lives, trust God, and faithfully care for what He has entrusted to us. When we do, we can bear good fruit and experience God's peace.

Prayer Lord, You care for us and provide all that we need. Help us to trust You, follow Your ways, and bear good fruit in our lives. Give us wisdom to care for the gifts You have given us. Lead us in truth and guide our hearts toward what is right. Amen.

Teachings of the Saints

5 of 6: THE PRACTICE OF VIRTUE - Continuation
An extract from introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

Moreover, our business is only to become good, devout people, pious men and women; and all our efforts must be to that end. If it should please God further to endow us with angelic perfection, we should then be prepared to become good angels; but meanwhile let us practice, in all simplicity, humility and devotion, those lowly virtues to the attainment of which our Lord has bidden us labor,—I mean patience, cheerfulness, self-mortification, humility, obedience, poverty, chastity, kindness to our neighbor, forbearance towards failings, diligence, and a holy fervor. Let us willingly resign the higher eminences to lofty souls. We are not worthy to take so high a rank in God's service; let us be content to be as scullions, porters, insignificant attendants in His household, leaving it to Him if He should hereafter see fit to call us to His own council chamber.

Mass Intentions

SE - St. Edward | SJ - St. Joseph
SS - St. Sebastian | SZ - St. Zita
HH - Hopemont Hospital

Saturday, October 3	
4:00 pm ~ SE	People of the Parish
6:00 pm ~ SS	+ Mike Miller
Sunday, October 4	
8:30 am ~ SZ	+ Lydia Main
10:30 am ~ SS	+(A) Matthew and Bertha Riggins
Tuesday, October 6	
4:00 pm ~ SE	+ Carolyn Zagorsky
Wednesday, October 7	
6:30 pm ~ SZ	+ Jacob and Sophia Chetock
Friday, October 9	
8:30 am ~ SS	+(B) Gail Snyder
Saturday, October 10	
4:00 pm ~ SE	+ Jim Lobb
6:00 pm ~ SS	+(B) Mike Todesko
Sunday, October 11	
8:30 am ~ SZ	+ Chief Warrent Officer 3 Leo Basile
10:30 am ~ SS	+ John and Ocie Childers' Family

+ Deceased (A) Anniversary (B) Birthday (S) Sick (SI) Special Intention

Offertory Gifts: If you are having a Mass said for someone and would like to take the offertory gifts up to the altar, please let one of the ushers know before the start of Mass.

COMMUNION *for the Homebound*

Are you or a loved one home-bound or in the hospital? To have communion brought to you, please contact the church office or one of the following communion ministers:

St. Zita
Bob Galusky ~ 304-698-6701
Darrell Fedeles ~ 304-282-6917
Janice Polce ~ 304-864-5656

St. Edward the Confessor
Charlotte Wiles ~ 304-789-6371
Anne Talley ~ 508-395-1570
Pat and Shelia DeLauder ~ 304-282-4664
Margaret Gearhart ~ 443-975-1754
Jessie Hart ~ 304-435-5848

St. Sebastian
Pauline Bernatowicz ~ 304-329-1337
Mary Somerruk ~ 304-329-1082
Charlie Wolfe ~ 304-441-8426
Camille Western ~ 304-282-9696
Sue Alberico ~ 304-698-8174

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Helen Bjorkman, Shirley Clark, Sue Clark, Patti Davidson, David DeLauder, Tom DeLauder, Adam Joshua DeWitt, Carolyn Fischer, Mary Galusky, Karen Gellner, Shelley Hendershot, Ron Haynes Jr, Chris Hines, Jennifer Livengood, Connie Marshall, Theresa Marthey, Derrick McElroy, Billy Minihan, Eddie Murphy, Debra Murray, Bill Platt, Mary Lou Polce, Nathaniel Pratt, Diana Radabaugh, Scott Rehe, Bill Riggins, Judy Riggins, Paul Riggins, Renee Singley, Danny Smith, Steve Stewart, Gary Thorn, II, Fred Turner, Daryl Wolfe, Liz Zuchowski

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped staff the Catholic Church of Preston County booth at the Buckwheat Festival!

Your time, enthusiasm, and warm smiles helped us share the wonderful things happening in our parish with festival visitors. We are grateful for your willingness to volunteer and represent our Catholic community.

Your support helped make our outreach a success!

18th Annual WV Chestnut Festival

Sunday, October 11
9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Rowlesburg Park

Food - Vendors - Exhibits - Tours
Activities for Everyone!

While you're there, be sure to visit the Historic Rowlesburg School Szilagyi Center

www.wvchestnutfestival.com
www.rowlesburg.info

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

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. In addition to civil authorities, you may also report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel or volunteers of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, by contacting one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. You may also visit www.dwc.org, under Accountability" for additional reporting mechanisms.

HEROES OF OUR FAITH

SAINT
FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

OCTOBER 5

Saint Faustina Kowalska was born Helena Kowalska on August 25, 1905, in Poland. She grew up in a poor but deeply religious family and was the third of ten children. From an early age, Helena felt called to serve God and desired to become a religious sister. Although her parents did not initially support her vocation, she continued to pray and help her family.

At age 16, Helena left home to work as a housekeeper. Her desire for religious life remained strong, and in 1925 she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She took the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Her life in the convent was simple, filled with prayer and ordinary duties such as cooking, cleaning, and gardening.

Sister Faustina experienced visions of Jesus and received a special mission to share His message of Divine Mercy. Jesus reminded her that God's mercy is greater than any sin and that those who turn to Him with trust can receive forgiveness. He asked her to have an image painted showing Him with rays of light coming from His heart, beneath the words, "Jesus, I trust in You."

At the request of her spiritual director, Sister Faustina recorded her spiritual experiences in a diary. Her writings emphasized trust in God's mercy and the importance of showing mercy to others. She also shared the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a prayer for mercy for ourselves and the whole world.

Saint Faustina died on October 5, 1938, at the age of 33. Although she was little known during her lifetime, her message eventually spread throughout the world. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1993 and canonized her on April 30, 2000. He also established Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated on the Sunday after Easter.

Saint Faustina's feast day is October 5. Her life reminds us that God can work through ordinary people. Her message continues to encourage us to trust in God's mercy, seek His forgiveness, and extend mercy, kindness, and compassion to others.

"O Jesus, I want to live in the present moment, to live as if this were the last day of my life. I want to use every moment scrupulously for the greater glory of God, to use every circumstance for the benefit of my soul. I want to look upon everything from the point of view that nothing happens without the will of God. God of unfathomable mercy, embrace the whole world and pour Yourself out upon us through the merciful Heart of Jesus" (St. Faustina's Diary, 1183).

TIME · TALENT · TREASURE
Stewardship
A WAY OF LIVING

September 26-27, 2026
1st Collection

St. Edward the Confessor	$	857.00
St. Zita		1,135.00
St. Sebastian ~ Saturday		593.00
St. Sebastian ~ Sunday		1,375.00
Total 1st Collection	**$**	**3,960.00**

Other Collections

Votive Candles (SS)	$	70.00
Poor Fund (SS)		5.00
In Memory Of (IMO)		100.00
Cemetery		500.00
Catholic University of America		1,048.00
Total Other Giving	**$**	**1,723.00**

Weekend Attendance: 245
St. Edward: 31 | St. Zita: 71
St. Sebastian: Saturday 42 | Sunday 101

HAUNTED HOUSE

Come join us for some fall fun for the whole family at St. Joseph Gym in Howesville!

Friday & Saturday, October 2 & 3
Friday & Saturday, October 9 & 10
7:00 pm –10:00 pm

Haunted House Tickets: $15
Additional Activities & Games: $1-$2/each

Proceeds benefit Camp McKenna

Are you new to the Catholic Church of Preston County?

Welcome

We're so glad you're here! Registration forms are available at each of our churches, or you can contact the parish office by phone or email to register. If you have any questions or need assistance, we're always happy to help!

Support our church easily & securely with online giving!

- ✔ It's the **easiest & most secure** way to give to our church and its ministries!
- ✔ You can make one-time donations or you can set up automatic, recurring giving!

Give Today by Scanning the QR Code or Visiting:
https://catholicchurchofprestonc.flocknote.com/give