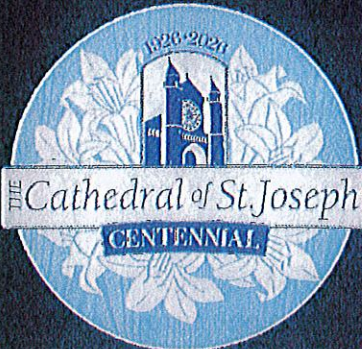


Special collection
Nov. 22-23



\$1,000,000
Campaign Goals:

- **Roof Replacement**
- **Exterior Stone Repair**
- **Interior Repair & Restoration**



Let Us Go Rejoicing
to the House of the Lord
Psalm 122:1
Celebrating 100 Years of Faith.



A Cathedral for All the Faithful

The Cathedral of St. Joseph is more than a parish—it is the spiritual heart of the entire Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. It is where we gather as one Church for Christ Mass, ordinations, diocesan celebrations, and moments of mourning and hope.

As we mark 100 years of grace, we invite every Catholic across the Diocese to participate in preserving this sacred treasure that belongs to all of us.

Support the Cathedral of St. Joseph
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The readings for this 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time focus on the importance of enduring trials and persecutions without losing faith. Jesus promises that those who persevere will "secure their lives". We must trust in God's presence and guidance, even in the midst of conflict and destruction. In the Gospel reading from Luke 21:5-19, Jesus discusses signs of the end times, encouraging his followers to be steadfast, speaking of a final judgment, but also of the promise of renewal and vindication through God's power, which is a source of hope.

This "ending-beginning" lens does not evaporate after the feast of Christ the King. Those images will carry over into the First Sunday of Advent. The lack of a clear demarcation between the end of the liturgical year and the beginning of another is symbolic of our own life journey, continuously marked with endings and beginnings.

In this gospel, Jesus predicts the destruction of the Jewish Temple with graphic language: "there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down." Beyond the demolition of that beloved sanctuary, Jesus announces widespread unrest and turmoil, nations rising against nations, even the created world wreaking havoc with earthquakes and famine.

Is Jesus just a prophet of doom? Is he trying to scare his disciples into believing, or is there some other revelation here? Luke's gospel was written long after the predicted destruction of the Temple occurred at the hands of the Romans in 70 AD. This key fact helps us understand that this passage is not a prediction of what is to come, as much as reflecting on the loss, challenges, destruction, and death punctuating the lives of all believers. Such unsettling imagery is employed for its shock effect: jolting believers into reckoning with God's reign breaking forth all around us.

Hurricanes are a growing threat to major US population centers. The effects of hurricanes such as Katrina (2005), Sandy (2012) and Harvey (2017) are still being felt; the impact of hurricane Ian (2022) will last for decades. Because they are so powerful, and can cause such destruction and loss of life, they are a focus of much scientific study. Meteorologists observe and track hurricanes from their genesis to their dissipation. They read sea temperatures, wind velocity and other factors to predict their paths.

While we don't all live in hurricane zones, we understand the challenging and destructive winds of change that blow through our society and our lives. Sometimes we experience calm – like the eye of a hurricane – but that calm is not insured. Today's liturgy calls us to be attentive to these challenges but is not a summons to anxiety or fear.

On the contrary, Jesus presents himself as a sign of hope; he is the calm in the eye of the storm: providing wisdom in the face of judgment, love in the face of hatred, perseverance in the face of persecution, and protection in the face of adversity. Jesus is our bedrock of hope, no matter what is ending and beginning in our lives, something that must be cultivated and revealed in his body, the church.

We are a community of "spiritual meteorologists": assisting sisters and brothers to monitor the storms in their lives, providing shelter when that is necessary, pitching in to help rebuild when the inevitability of loss occurs, and acknowledging the breaking through of God's reign in the joys and sorrows of our sometimes-turbulent existence. Our faith does not promise a life of calm in the hurricane's eye but offers every hope that in mutual care and support we can weather any storm.