

# CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WARRI

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## DIOCESAN YEAR OF SACRAMENTAL LIFE

**Objective:** To deepen the faithful's understanding, appreciation, and active participation in the Sacraments of the Church through a year-long catechetical, theological, and scriptural journey.

### DECEMBER 2025. INTRODUCTION TO THE SACRAMENTS: THE TRINITARIAN FOUNDATION OF THE SACRAMENTS: CHRIST, THE SACRAMENT OF GOD; SACRAMENTS AND THE INCARNATION

**Catechetical Focus:** Definition, institution, purpose, efficacy, and the Trinitarian foundation of the sacraments. Christ's coming makes the sacraments possible.

**Theological Background:** God's presence through signs. The sacraments as outward signs of inward grace instituted by Christ (cf. CCC 1131).

**Biblical References:** John 1:14, Colossians 1:15-20  
John 1:16-17, Ephesians 1:3-10

**Activities:**

- Parish-wide inauguration Mass
- Catechesis on the nature of sacraments
- Bible study sessions introducing sacramental theology
- Christmas catechesis on sacraments
- Sacramental art and drama

### JANUARY 2026. THE CHURCH: THE SACRAMENT OF CHRIST.

**Theological Basis:** The Church as both the sign and the instrument of grace.

**Biblical Basis:** Ephesians 1:22–23; 1 Peter 2:9

**Catechetical Emphasis:** CCC 774–776

**Activities:**

- Parish community retreat on the Church's sacramental identity
- Bible study on the Mystical Body of Christ
- Bulletin inserts on the ecclesial nature of sacraments

## **FEBRUARY 2026: SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION & RCIA: ENTRY INTO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**

**General introduction:** These lay the foundation of every Christian life.

Baptism

Confirmation

Eucharist

**Theological Basis:** Initiation as a gradual process into divine life.

**Biblical Basis:** Acts 2:38–41, Romans 6:3–5

**Catechetical Emphasis:** CCC 1212

**Activities:**

- Testimonies from RCIA candidates
- Parish RCIA open house for enquirers
- Children's Liturgy focus on initiation symbols

## **MARCH 2026: SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: THE GATEWAY TO ALL THE SACRAMENTS**

**Catechetical Focus:** Baptism as the gateway to the spiritual life and foundation of communion.

**Theological Background:** Cleansing of original sin; rebirth in the Holy Spirit.

**Biblical References:** Matthew 28:19, John 3:5, Romans 6:3-4

**Activities:**

Seminar for parents and godparents

Baptism renewal rites

Sharing testimonies of conversion

## **APRIL 2026 SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CHRISTIAN ADULTHOOD.**

**Catechetical Focus:** The fullness of the Holy Spirit and Christian maturity.

**Theological Background:** Continuation of Pentecost in the Church.

**Biblical References:** Acts 2:1-4, Acts 8:14-17, Isaiah 11:2

**Activities:**

Youth workshops on spiritual gifts

Diocesan or regional confirmation.

Teaching on the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit

## **MAY 2026: SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST: THE LIFESTREAM OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Catechetical Focus:** The Real Presence, source and summit of Christian life.

**Theological Background:** Transubstantiation, communion with Christ.

**Biblical References:** John 6:51-58, Luke 22:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

**Activities:**

Eucharistic Adoration  
Catechesis on the Mass and liturgy  
Eucharistic procession around the church

**JUNE 2026: SACRAMENTS OF HEALING: RECONCILIATION AND THE RENEWAL OF GOD'S PEOPLE; SACRAMENT OF MERCY.**

These restore the body and soul in times of illness and sin.

- Reconciliation (Penance/Confession)
- Anointing of the Sick

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION**

**Catechetical Focus:** Forgiveness, conversion, and spiritual healing.

**Theological Background:** Confession as restoration of grace and communion.

**Biblical References:** John 20:21-23, Luke 15:11-32, James 5:16

**Activities:**

Penitential services  
Retreat on mercy and forgiveness  
Lectures or catechetical instructions by priests.

**JULY 2026. SACRAMENTS OF HEALING: SACRAMENTAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK; SACRAMENT OF STRENGTH, REJUVENATION AND ACCOMPANIMENT.**

**Catechetical Focus:** Healing and strengthening grace in times of illness.

**Theological Background:** Union with Christ's suffering and hope in resurrection.

**Biblical References:** James 5:14-15, Mark 6:13, Isaiah 53:4-5

**Activities:**

Masses for the Sick  
Home and hospital visits  
Catechesis on suffering and redemptive value

**SACRAMENTS AT THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION (OR MISSION)**

These sacraments are directed toward the salvation of others, serving to build up the People of God.

- **Holy Orders** – for the sanctification and service of the Church through ordained ministry.
- **Matrimony** – for the mutual sanctification of spouses and the upbringing of children in the faith.

**AUGUST 2026: HOLY MATRIMONY: SACRAMENT OF CREATION AND SUSTENANCE OF THE HUMAN FAMILY.**

**Catechetical Focus:** Covenant of love and fruitfulness in marriage.

**Theological Background:** Participation in God's creative and redemptive plan.

**Biblical References:** Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:6, Ephesians 5:25-33

**Activities:**

Marriage enrichment programs  
Mass wedding ceremony  
Talks on Catholic parenting

**SEPTEMBER 2026: HOLY ORDERS: SACRAMENT OF SERVICE AND SANCTIFICATION; SUSTENANCE OF CHRIST'S REDEMPTIVE MISSION.**

**Catechetical Focus:** Service through ordained ministry.

**Theological Background:** Apostolic succession and priestly character.

**Biblical References:** Acts 6:1-6, 1 Timothy 4:14, John 20:21

**Activities:**

Vocational fairs and seminars  
Prayer for seminarians and clergy  
Priestly or diaconate ordination.

**OCTOBER 2026: SACRAMENTS AND MISSION**

**Catechetical Focus:** Empowerment for evangelization.

**Theological Background:** Living the sacraments beyond the church walls.

**Biblical References:** Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8

**Activities:**

Evangelization outreaches  
Testimonies of sacramental grace  
Workshop on Christian witness  
October Devotion  
Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Visitation Shrine, Oleri

**NOVEMBER 2026. SACRAMENTAL LIFE AND CHRISTIAN LIFE: JOURNEYING WITH CHRIST, IN HIS CHURCH, TO FULL COMMUNION WITH GOD; SACRAMENTS AND THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS**

**Catechetical Focus:** Sacraments connecting Church militant, suffering, and triumphant.

**Theological Background:** Eschatological hope and intercession.

**Biblical References:** Rom 12:1; Hebrews 12:1, Revelation 7:9-17

**Activities:**

- All Saints and All Souls devotions
- Catechesis on purgatory
- Prayers for the dead