

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Bishop Brennan is on the Road for Holy Week

Will Bring 13 into the Church at Easter Vigil in Gassaway

By Colleen Rowan

Bishop Mark Brennan will again be celebrating Holy Week and Easter Masses at different churches in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Each year, different parishes welcome him for these celebrations.

This tradition always begins in Charleston at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. The bishop will celebrate the basilica's Palm Sunday Mass on Saturday, April

12, at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday, April 13, at 10:30 a.m.

Bishop Brennan stays in Charleston to celebrate the first of two Chrism Masses at the basilica on Monday, April 14, at 4 p.m. Priests of the southern and central regions of the diocese will concelebrate. Bishop Brennan will then return to Wheeling to celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph on Tuesday, April 15, at 4 p.m. with the priests of the northern region and

Eastern Panhandle of the state concelebrating. It is during the Chrism Masses that the bishop consecrates the sacred Chrism and blesses the oils. "For it is with the sacred Chrism consecrated by the bishop that the newly baptized are anointed and those to be confirmed are signed. It is with the Oil of Catechumens that catechumens are prepared and disposed for Baptism. Finally, it is with the Oil of the Sick that those who are ill are comforted in

their infirmity," The Order of Blessing the Oil of Catechumens and of the Sick and of Consecrating the Chrism (OBO), no. 1.

Deacons of the diocese will also participate in these celebrations.

Catholics of Nicholas and Webster counties will then welcome Bishop Brennan for the Easter Triduum. On Holy Thursday, April 17, he will celebrate Mass at St. Anne Parish in Webster Springs at 4 p.m., **See "Holy Week" on Page 3**

Catholic Daughters Prepare Palm Crosses for Eastern Panhandle Parishes, Veterans, and Hospice



Courtesy photo

Members of Martinsburg Court #392 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, parishioners of Martinsburg's St. Joseph Parish, and Father Joyson P. Varghese show the palm crosses they made.

Martinsburg Court #392 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas took time April 4 for their Annual Palm Cross project. For the last nine years, the court has provided a palm cross and card for the sick and homebound "as a reminder that we are praying for them," members said.

This year, the court invited parishioners of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg to come to Lackey Hall and learn how to weave a cross.

"It was great to see families come together to help with service hours for some of our Confirmation Candidates," members said. "In less than two hours, the group had made over 230 crosses."

Father Joyson P. Varghese, parochial vicar at St. Joseph's, stopped in to help make three special crosses. Father Thomas R. Gallagher, pastor of St. Joseph's and chaplain for Court #392, blessed the crosses which

were then packaged.

The palm crosses will go to parishes in Berkeley and Jefferson counties as well as the local Veterans Affairs Hospital and Hospice of the Panhandle.

"As it was First Friday at St. Joseph's, we attended Adoration/Benediction, and Stations of the Cross," members said. A simple supper was prepared and served by the Parish Music Ministry after Stations.

Msgr. Lawrence J. Luciana

Msgr. Lawrence Luciana was born of parents Dominic Luciana and Lena Staffileno August 30, 1937 in Dennison, Ohio. Msgr. Luciana's parents and their two sons, Eugene and Lawrence, moved to Steubenville, Ohio, in his early childhood. He attended St. Peter School, Steubenville, 1943 to 1951. He attended Steubenville Catholic Central School from 1951 to 1953 and entered St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale, during his sophomore year of high school.



Church, Steubenville, 1/6/84. He remained pastor there until his retirement from active ministry 11/4/93.

During his active ministry, he served as a member of the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission for three years. He received the Bishop John King Mussio Award from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1990 in recognition of this service to the Catholic Church. He was director for the Catholic Woman's Club, Visitation Deanery, 11/22/71 and chaplain for the Catholic Woman's Club, Assumption Deanery, 2/9/80.

After his retirement from active ministry in 1993, he took up residence at St. Ambrose Church, Belpre, Ohio, for almost three years. During this time, he celebrated Masses in the two St. Ambrose Churches, Belpre and Vincent and, also, in churches in Parkersburg. In 1996 he was asked by Bishop Bernard W. Schmitt to become administrator of St. Stephen Church, Ona. Msgr. Luciana was excardinated from the Diocese of Steubenville 12/20/99 and was incardinated into the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. He served as pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Huntington for almost 15 years and, for part of that time, as pastor of St. Peter Claver Parish in Huntington until his failing health led to his retirement from active ministry.

Msgr. Luciana was ordained May 23, 1963 in Sacred Heart Church, Pomeroy, Ohio. He was assigned to reside at St. Joseph Church (Wolfhurst) Bridgeport, Ohio, June 8, 1963 and was a full time instructor at St. John High School, Bellaire, Ohio, for three years. During this time he was administrator of Immaculate Conception Mission, New Matamoras and Hannibal Mission, Ohio. He had residence at St. John Vianney Church, Powhatan Point, Ohio, 6/6/64 to 8/27/66. He served as administrator of St. Henry Church, Harriettsville, Ohio, 12/17/65 to 5/5/69, during which time he took up residence, St. Peter and Paul Church, Lore City, Ohio, 6/4/66 to 8/17/68, to begin his priestly work as full-time instructor, Guernsey Central, Cambridge, Ohio, for three years. During this time he was also assistant Vocation Director. He was appointed an assistant in residence, St. Mary Church, Fulda, Ohio, 8/17/68.

Msgr. Luciana's ministry of almost 15 years at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, Ohio, began as administrator pro tem 3/28/69 at the time of the sudden death of Father Stephen Patala. Msgr. Luciana was appointed pastor there 3/25/71. Bishop John King Mussio named Msgr. Luciana a Prelate of Honor (Monsignor), August 1977. He was appointed pastor of St. Peter

Msgr. Luciana retired from active ministry on May 1, 2012. He was a popular priest known for his devotion to every aspect of pastoral care. He has proven to be an exemplary administrator, an inspiring preacher, and a consummate evangelizer, having brought untold numbers into the Catholic Church wherever he was assigned in his 50 years as an active priest.

Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced at www.regerfuneralhome.com.

The Rev. Brian Shoda

The Rev. Brian Shoda died April 7, 2025. He was ordained in the Roman Catholic Church and, prior to his reception into The Episcopal Church, served at St. Leo Parish in Inwood for 22 years. He is the brother of the late Father Richard W. Shoda, J.C.L. He is survived by one brother, Randy.

Details about funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Episcopal Church of West Virginia.

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.report-bishop-abuse.org. **To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement:** numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer. **To Report to Diocesan Authorities:** The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504 or the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under "Accountability." Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment", then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. **To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator:** call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. The Diocese partners with Navex Global to offer EthicsPoint to report other concerns such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in WV. EthicsPoint can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops requires all Dioceses/Eparchies have a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer, directly or indirectly, with children: background check; receipt of the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children; sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Training may be completed online or via live workshop. For information, go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."

The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2025

There are 10 print editions in 2025. Below are the names of the issues and the publishing dates. Please note, the publishing dates may or may not be on feast days. Digital issues are published every Friday, delivered by e-mail to subscribers, and posted on thecatholicspiritwv.org.

2025 Print Issues and Dates:

Easter, April 18; Month of Mary, Mother of God, May 23; Month of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 13; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15; Triumph of the Cross, September 12; Month of the Rosary, October 3; Advent, November 21; Christmas, December 19

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Dr. Judy Romano, Pediatrician for 30 years now serves her community as a certified Yoga Medicine Specialist. She is also a Certified Brain Longevity Specialist through the Alzheimer's Research and Prevention Foundation.

Dr. Judy's interest and expertise in early childhood brain development was reflected in her professional work at the local, state, and national levels. She was a national speaker for the American Academy of Pediatrics on the science of early brain development and continues to serve the Governor of Ohio on the Ohio Early Childhood Advisory Council. She is currently interested in how the principles of brain health are applicable across the life span and how research is ushering in a new paradigm for all ages.

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Holy Week ...

Cont'd from Page 1

and at Holy Family Parish in Richwood at 6 p.m. He will also gather with the faithful of these two parish for the Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, April 18, at St. Anne's at 3 p.m., and at Holy Family at 5 p.m.

It's then on to Braxton County for the 8 p.m. celebration of the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 19, at St. Thomas Parish in Gassaway where he will bring 13 people into full communion with the Catholic Church—10 from St. Thomas and three from Risen Lord Mission in Clay.

The bishop then returns to Wheeling for the celebration of Easter Sunday Mass at the cathedral April 20 at 10:30 a.m. The Mass will be televised live around the state. See the ad at right for a listing of stations. Easter Sunday Mass as well as Mass of the Lord's Supper-Holy Thursday and Passion of the Lord-Good Friday will be livestreamed at www.dwc.org/Mass. See the ad for times and more information.

Among those coming into the Church in Gassaway is the McLaughlin family from St. Thomas Parish—candidates Joshua and Robin McLaughlin and their four children Molly, William, and Mathew (members of the elect) and 2-year-old Ciaran who will be baptized. To receive the sacraments from the bishop is an added blessing to the family.

"We are very excited to be coming into the Church this Easter," Robin said. "We are thankful for all that God has done for us and continues to do. We have come to know many wonderful people who have such loving hearts for Christ. It is an honor for Bishop Brennan to visit our parish!"

Also members of the elect from St. Thomas to receive these sacraments are the Shaver family—Caleb James and his wife Shaina and their children Beva and Fiona.

From Risen Lord Mission are candidate Damion Shanafelter and his daughter Summer Shanafelter, a member of the elect, who are coming into the Church together.

Another candidate is Victoria Gross, also of Risen Lord.

"When my parishioners learned that our bishop would be coming to celebrate the Easter Vigil with us, they were so overwhelmed by the news," said Father Thien Duc Nguyen, SVD, pastor of St. Thomas and Risen Lord. "Some people even

thought I was joking! ... It's wonderful to hear their excitement, such as: 'This is a blessing for our parish! Great news for us! Fantastic! Such a great encouragement...'"

Parishioner Larry Schoonover said, "We are blessed with St. Thomas, Risen Lord, and Bishop Brennan as we are all immersed

and enlightened with the Holy Spirit during this most holy season. Grace abounds for us as we welcome all to our church. Thanks be to God!"

Parishioners Candy Teubert texted to Father Thien: "I feel honored that he has chosen our parish to personally bless our new members."

Over the last couple of weeks, Father Thien and his parishioners have been discussing and preparing for a reception to be held after the Easter Vigil to welcome the bishop, the new members of our church, and their families.

"We hope that many more people will join our church in the future," Father Thien said.

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Broadcast of Holy Week and Easter Masses

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - Holy Thursday

April 17 at 6:00 p.m. - *Live Stream*

PASSION OF THE LORD - Good Friday

April 18 at 3:00 p.m. - *Live Stream*

EASTER MASS - Sunday, April 20

Live Stream and Broadcasted

10:30 a.m. - WVNS/FOX - Beckley/Bluefield

WOWK/CBS - Charleston/Huntington

WBOY/ABC - Clarksburg/Fairmont/Morgantown

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Connecting Campus to Community



Courtesy photo

Pictured in the Sisters of St. Joseph's community garden are from left to right in front: Elisa Thompson and Lorelei Eagle; second row Samuel Trusty, Ayden Ash, and Daniel Pitts.

WHEELING — One of the roles of Campus Ministry, in addition to accompanying students on their faith journeys, is to connect them with the communities near their respective campuses. This is often accomplished through various service projects when needed.

A great example of this happened this past weekend when Elisa Thompson, the Co-President of the Sustainability Club and a student at West Liberty University, organized efforts of the club to help the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph prepare their community garden at Mt. St. Joseph for spring planting.

Elisa is an active student in Campus Ministry and Shirley

Carter, the Director of Hilltop CM at West Liberty, helped connect the two groups.

"I was so happy to work with Elisa in reaching out to Sr. Kathleen Durkin of the Congregation for this project," Carter stated. "It not only aligned with the mission of the club but helped the Sisters as well who, in turn, help the community."

According to Thompson, "our club goals are to better our campus and Wheeling community through promoting sustainable practices and education, and we had fun doing it!"

Other club members who helped were Co-President Lorelei Eagle, Samuel Trusty, Ayden Ash, and Daniel Pitts.



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Seminarians Installed as Acolytes



Photo provided by Mount St. Mary's Seminary

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston seminarians Michael Aiello (left), Bryan Tedeschi (fourth from left), and Dominic Re (right) were installed as acolytes at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md., April 5 by Bishop Douglas Lucia of the Diocese of Syracuse (second from left). With them is Msgr. Andrew R. Baker, S.T.D., rector of Mount St. Mary's University (third from left).

Two Upcoming Faith Formation and Catechetical Certification Opportunities

WEST VIRGINIA—There are two upcoming Faith Formation and Catechetical Certification Opportunities.

These are five-week courses beginning April 28. They are offered through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF). These courses are hybrid models and are composed of both weekly live two-hour Zoom lectures/discussions as well as a rich variety of online course materials and discussion experiences through the VLCFF. The courses are being underwritten by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, who pays 100% of the tuition and the cost of any books associated with the courses. The course instructor is Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu. For further information or to register, please contact Stoicoiu at rodicastoicoiuphd@gmail.com.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston offers Catechetical Certification and recognizes VLCFF courses for various levels of certification. Certain courses are especially designed for volunteer catechists, Catholic school religion teachers, members of OCIA teams and all those who would be enriched by formal training in this field. For further information regarding the VLCFF certification program please contact Stoicoiu or Shirley Carter at scarter@dwc.org.

There are six required courses for level one certification including the Images of Jesus class below. Both classes are open to ALL adults interested in deepening their faith and growing in their understanding of the theology and Tradition of the Church.

Images of Jesus

Spend time this Easter Season developing a deeper understanding of Jesus by encountering him through the Gospels (we will be using modern scriptural methods of reading the Gospel texts), theology, history and the liturgy. We will be exploring answers to the question that Jesus asked his followers "who do you say I am?" and by the end of the course students will be able to form a personal answer to this question. This course is open to everyone, some background in reading scripture will be helpful. Images of Jesus is part of the Certificate in Catechesis and will be a foundational course for catechists, members of OCIA teams, and all those interested in deepening their faith. The class will meet on Wednesday evenings on Zoom at 7 p.m. beginning on April 30. To register or for further information please contact Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu rodicastoicoiuphd@gmail.com.

Poverty in the U.S. and Around the World

Jesus' ministry was to the poor. The Beatitudes call out for us to thirst for justice, to seek God in the stranger, the hungry, the marginalized, and the suffering. During this Easter Season take some time to more deeply understand this fundamental call of our faith: to respond to the needs of others with steadfast love and transforming action. In this course we will explore our Judeo-Christian response to poverty as rooted in Scripture and the Catholic Social Tradition and ask essential questions such as the following. In a world of poverty and economic injustice how are we to respond? What faith-based strategies for both domestic and global poverty are possible? We will study these questions and more, with an emphasis upon the connections that work, living wage and immigration have to poverty today. This course is part of the Certificate in Social Justice series and is open to all (some background in the social justice teachings of the Church will be helpful) two Zoom sections being offered for this course: Monday evenings at 7 p.m. and Thursday afternoons at 4 pm. All sections begin the week of April 28. To register or for further information please contact Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu rodicastoicoiuphd@gmail.com.



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Holy See Warns Global Nuclear Disarmament, AI Regulation 'Imperative' at UN

By Gina Christian, OSV News

(OSV News) — With fear “the driving force” in the current global climate, nations must recommit to nuclear disarmament and the regulation of artificial intelligence, said Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, the Holy See’s permanent observer to the United Nations.

The Holy See established diplomatic relations with the U.N. in 1957, representing the Vatican City State as well as the supreme authority of the Catholic Church, including the pope as bishop of Rome and the head of the college of bishops.

In remarks Archbishop Caccia delivered to the U.N. Disarmament Commission April 8 in New York, he restated the Holy See’s call to all nations to “overcome the fallacy of nuclear deterrence” and “to accede to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”

Adopted by the U.N. in 2017, the treaty serves as a legally binding instrument towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. To date, there are 94 state signatories and 73 states party to the treaty.

Neither the U.S. nor Russia, which together account for approximately 88% of the world’s nuclear weapons, have adopted the treaty.

Archbishop Caccia urged “a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect” at an upcoming session regarding the treaty in order to further its advancement.

The regulation of AI, which has increasingly trans-

formed the defense industry, is also crucial, said the archbishop.

He cited the “multiple challenges posed by the use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence,” noting that their “increasing weaponization could pose further existential risks.”

In his statement, Archbishop Caccia surveyed the broader context for his calls to action.

“As political instability and conflicts continue to rise across various regions of the world, many states have turned to military solutions in an effort to safeguard their sovereignty and protect their interests,” said Archbishop Caccia.

As a result, he said, deterrence is “often seen as the essential guiding principle.”

Currently, more than 120 conflicts are taking place throughout the world, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Among the most prominent are Russia’s war in Ukraine; the Israel-Hamas war; civil wars in Myanmar and Sudan; insurgencies in various African nations, as well as in Afghanistan and Pakistan; and armed gang violence that has destabilized Haiti.

Defense spending has soared worldwide, with the global total reaching a record high of close to \$2.5 trillion in 2024, up more than 7% from 2023 and averaging just under 2% of nations’ gross domestic product. The European Union, the United Kingdom and Canada have

accelerated defense investments, as moves by the U.S. under the Trump administration have unsettled longstanding defense alliances.

Archbishop Caccia said the shift towards defense investment “comes at a significant cost, not only in terms of financial resources but also in terms of the erosion of multilateralism, dialogue and international cooperation, which have long been the cornerstones of our collective efforts.”

He quoted St. John XXIII’s 1963 encyclical, “Pacem in Terris” (“Peace on Earth”): “There is a common belief that under modern conditions peace cannot be assured except on the basis of an equal balance of armaments ... If one country increases its military strength, others are immediately roused by a competitive spirit to augment their own supply of armaments.”

Those words “resonate deeply today,” said Archbishop Caccia, adding that “the cycle of arms buildup and the logic of deterrence foster an atmosphere of suspicion and division.” This in turn, he said, “pushes the international community further from the prospect of achieving lasting peace.”

In particular, he said, “the

threat of nuclear conflict is once again alarmingly close,” stressing that “it is imperative to recommit, with renewed urgency, to the path of disarmament.”

Nuclear proliferation, along with other weapons of mass destruction, “multiplies risks and offers only the illusion of peace,” while obscuring “the true path to peace,” said Archbishop Caccia.

Moreover, pursuit of nuclear deterrence fails to account for “the changing nature and complexity of conflicts and the undeniable reality that any use of these weapons would have catastrophic humanitarian and environmental consequences,” he said. “These repercussions would not discriminate between combatants and non-combatants and would cause lasting damage, harming both present and future generations.”

While a legal framework on AI may be “beyond the immediate scope” of the U.N.’s disarmament commission, he said, “the principles, guidelines, and recommendations developed here” can contribute to instruments that ensure “the use of new and emerging technologies does not fuel violent escalation of any kind, but

rather benefits all humanity and peace worldwide.”

Archbishop Caccia concluded by quoting Pope Francis’ January address to diplomats accredited to the Holy See, saying, “In the face of the increasingly concrete threat of a world war, the vocation of diplomacy is to foster dialogue with all parties, including those interlocutors considered less ‘convenient’ or not considered legitimized to negotiate.”

“Only in this way is it possible to break the chains of hatred and vengeance that bind and to defuse the explosive power of human selfishness, pride and arrogance, which are the root of every destructive determination to wage war,” said the pope.

(Gina Christian is a multimedia reporter for OSV News.)

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Riches Can be Burdens, Preventing People from Following Jesus, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Jesus loves people as they are, not based on their merit or righteousness, said the text for Pope Francis' weekly general audience.

"Precisely because Jesus looks within each one of us, he loves us as we truly are," said the text prepared for April 9.

"What does Jesus see when he looks within every one of us and loves us, despite our distractions and our sins? He sees our fragility, but also our desire to be loved as we are," he wrote.

While Pope Francis was not holding audiences since he was still recovering from double pneumonia and multiple infections, the Vatican has been publishing the texts prepared for his general audiences each Wednesday.

During the Holy Year 2025, the pope's audiences have focused on "Jesus Christ our hope." Continuing a series looking at Gospel stories of Jesus' encounters with different people and how meeting him changed their lives, the April 9 text focused on St. Mark's presentation of Jesus' encounter with "the rich man."

The Gospel account (Mk 10:17-31) tells the story of an unnamed rich man who asks Jesus what he must do to "inherit eternal life" after insisting he has observed all the commandments since his youth.

Pope Francis, in his text, asked people to notice that the man uses the verb "inherit," indicating that "eternal life is for him an inheritance, something that is obtained by right, through meticulous observance of commitments."

However, "since observance of the law did not give him the happiness and security of being saved, he turns to the master Jesus," the pope wrote.

The man realizes something is missing and is still searching for the meaning of his life, the text said. "Indeed, beyond the things we do, our sacrifices and successes, what truly counts in order to be happy is what we carry in our heart."

"What is striking is that this man does not know the vocabulary of gratuitousness," the pope wrote. "Everything seems to be owed. Everything is a duty. ... But in a life lived in this way, although certainly for good purpose, what space can love have?"

Jesus, however, looks at the man and loves him even before he invites the man to follow him, the pope wrote. "He loves him just as

he is. Jesus' love is gratuitous: exactly the opposite of the logic of merit that has beset this person."

"We are truly happy when we realize we are loved in this way, freely, by grace," he wrote. "And this also applies to the relationships between us: as long as we try to buy love or beg for affection, those relationships will never make us feel happy."

Jesus then invites him to sell everything he has, give to the poor and "change his way of living and relating with God," he wrote. "Jesus recognizes that inside him, as in all of us," the thing that is lacking is "the desire we carry in our heart to be loved."


To fill this void, "we do not need to 'buy' recognition, affection, consideration: instead, we need to 'sell off' everything that weighs us down, to make our hearts freer. There is no need to continue to take for ourselves but rather to give to the poor, to provide, to share," the pope's text said.

Jesus also invites this man no longer be alone and sad, but to follow him, create a bond and experience a relationship, he wrote. "Perhaps today, precisely because we live in a culture of self-sufficiency and individualism, we find ourselves more unhappy because we no longer hear our name spoken by someone who loves us freely."


Sometimes, the pope wrote, "what we think are riches are instead only burdens that are holding us back. The hope is that this person, like each one of us, will sooner or later change and decide to set sail" with Jesus as the guide and companion.

The pope asked people to pray for "all people who are sad and undecided, so that they may feel the loving gaze of the Lord, who is moved by looking tenderly within us."

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30 Years Later: St. John Paul II's Enduring Challenge to Culture in 'Evangelium Vitae'

By **John M. Haas, OSV News**

(OSV News) — Pope St. John Paul II could well be called the “apostle of life.” He spent his entire pontificate boldly proclaiming the inviolability of innocent human life.

On his first pastoral visit to the United States in 1979, he stood on the Mall in Washington amid the symbols of U.S. institutional power and he called on all Americans “to stand up for life.” Throughout his reign, the pope never hesitated to declare the right to life in the presence of heads of state, power brokers and arbiters of national social policy.

When it came to the life issues, this pope was best known for his powerful 1995 encyclical “*Evangelium Vitae*” (“The Gospel of Life”). This year marks its 30th anniversary, but it is no less relevant. St. John Paul spoke of “atrocious crimes” and “murderous violence” in contemporary societies. He said that those who would choose abortion have an attitude that “is shameful and reprehensible.”

What is distinctive about the pope’s teaching on life issues, however, is that they do not deal simply with personal morality. They are always placed in a cultural context. Above all else, “The Gospel of Life” is a penetrating analysis and critique of contemporary “advanced” societies.

In the encyclical, the pope spoke of “attacks, affecting life in its earliest and its final stages, attacks that ... raise questions of extraordinary seriousness. It is not only that ... these attacks tend no longer to be considered as ‘crimes’: paradoxically, they assume the nature of ‘rights,’ to the

point that the state is called upon to give them legal recognition and to make them available through the free services of health-care personnel.” He says we have come “to interpret ... crimes against life as legitimate expressions of individual freedom, to be as acknowledged and protected as actual rights.”

The cultural decline, the loss of social protections for innocent life, are what seemed to baffle and dismay the pope above all else. “How did such a situation come about?” he asked. “In the background there is the profound crisis of culture, that generates skepticism in relation to the very foundations of knowledge and ethics, and that makes it increasingly difficult to grasp clearly the meaning of what man is, the meaning of his rights and duties.”

The pope saw civilization itself faced with the danger of its own self-destruction. He writes elsewhere that “we are facing an immense threat to life: not only to the life of individuals, but, also, to that of civilization itself.”

St. John Paul told us that nations once considered civilized are reverting “to a state of barbarism.” Whenever we see legally sanctioned abortion, we are dealing with a “tyrant state” engaging in a “tragic caricature of legality” through such actions as Supreme Court rulings.

These developments, the pope told us, “have a perverse and evil significance” as we suffer “the most alarming corruption and the darkest moral blindness.” The pope’s words were not hyperbolic. Since abortion was legalized nationwide in the U.S. with *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, around 65 million children

have died from abortion. While the Supreme Court’s 2022 *Dobbs* decision overturned *Roe*, it has not stemmed the numbers of abortion in the U.S. Available data actually points to a slight increase in the number of annual abortions in 2023, the most recent year for which data is available, when compared to the years immediately preceding *Dobbs*.

The problem, of course, is that the social threat to innocent human life is not fundamentally a political or juridical problem at all. It is, as the pope showed us, a cultural problem.

When the pope visited Los Angeles in 1987, he gave a description of culture as “all those things that reflect the soul of a nation.” He asked, “How is American culture evolving today? ... Your music, your poetry and art, your drama, your painting and sculpture, the literature that you are producing — are all those things that reflect the soul of a nation being influenced by the spirit of Christ for the perfection of humanity?”

A nation’s culture reflects its deepest beliefs. And it is fundamentally religion that gives rise to culture.

Our nation has always afforded protection to the vulnerable in our midst because we cherished each individual human life. At one

point, unborn children were protected by law because we cherished children. Infanticide and euthanasia were unspeakable — indeed, unthinkable. There was an underlying respect and love for human life that came to be reflected in the law. This love and respect did not arise from the law, however. Its roots were much, much deeper.

Our nation in its origins was Christian, a fact that the pope acknowledged repeatedly during his second pastoral visit to the United States. We afforded profound respect to human beings because we believed each person was the very image and likeness of God himself.

In “The Gospel of Life,” the pope reminded us that the Incarnation “reveals to humanity not only the boundless love of God who ‘so loved the world that He gave His only Son’ (Jn 3:16), but also the incomparable value of every human person.”

The dignity of every person can be seen in the fact that each is the image and likeness of God, and each has been redeemed “at a great price” by Jesus Christ. It is this profound religious insight that gave rise to the reverence shown the innocent in the laws of our nation.

St. John Paul taught us that the most fundamental

place to begin to restore legal safeguards to human life is in deepening the religious beliefs of our people, and that God is the ultimate source of the dignity of the human person.

Following the teachings and example of St. John Paul, there is absolutely nothing more important that our bishops and priests can do to restore a sense of the sacredness of human life than to celebrate Mass with devotion and reverence and to offer this greatest of all prayers for the protection of innocent life.

In “*Evangelium Vitae*,” the pope taught us the Eucharist is the infinite gift of love. If we can instill once again, in the people of God, a sense of wonder and awe in the presence of Jesus Christ in the most holy sacrament of the altar, then we shall begin to see a culture of death begin to crumble, and we will witness the emergence of a culture of life and a civilization of love.

(John M. Haas is the John Cardinal Krol Professor of Moral Theology at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary near Philadelphia. He was the president of The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia from 1996 to 2019 and then served as senior fellow until January 2025.)



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To start this ministry in your parish, contact:

Kathleen Barton, Director of Social Ministry for the
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston
(304) 3233-0880, Ext. 289; kbarton@dwc.org

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Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Confirmation Schedule, Spring 2025 Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Monday, April 28: St. John University, Morgantown;
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 30: Sacred Heart, Chester; 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 4: Our Lady of Fatima, Huntington,
and St. Stephen, Ona, at Our Lady of Fatima; 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6: St. Joseph, Huntington; 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 7: St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown;
5:15 p.m.

Sunday, May 11: Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling;
10:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 11: St. Mary, Star City; 4:00 p.m.

Monday, May 12: St. Michael, Wheeling; 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 14: St. Michael, Vienna; 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 16: St. Joseph, Martinsburg; 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 17: St. James, Charles Town; 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 17: St. Leo, Inwood; 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 18: St. Bernadette, Hedgesville; 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 18: St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs;
5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21: St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton;
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 22: St. Thomas Aquinas, Thomas;
5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 25: St. Paul, Weirton; 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 28: St. Patrick, Weston; 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 31: Annunciation of Our Lord, Fort Ashby;
4:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 1: St. Luke the Evangelist, Cheat Lake;
2:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 7: St. Francis of Assisi, St. Albans; 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 8: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley; 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 8: Sacred Heart, Bluefield, 4:30 p.m.

A message from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council

Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend.

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Las riquezas pueden ser una carga que impide a la gente seguir a Jesús, dice el Papa Francisco

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) -- Jesús ama a las personas tal y como son, no en función de sus méritos o su rectitud, dice el texto para la audiencia general semanal del Papa Francisco.

"Precisamente porque Jesús mira en el interior de cada uno de nosotros, nos ama tal como somos realmente", dice el texto preparado para el 9 de abril.

"¿Qué ve Jesús cuando mira en nuestro interior y nos ama, a pesar de nuestras distracciones y nuestros pecados? Ve nuestra fragilidad, pero también nuestro deseo de ser amados tal como somos", escribió.

Mientras el Papa Francisco no celebraba audiencias por encontrarse aún convaleciente de una neumonía bilateral y múltiples infecciones, el Vaticano ha ido publicando cada miércoles los textos preparados para sus audiencias generales.

Durante el Año Santo 2025, las audiencias del Santo Padre se han centrado en el tema "Jesucristo, nuestra esperanza". Continuando con una serie de catequesis que analiza los encuentros de Jesús con diferentes personas que son narrados en los Evangelios y cómo el encuentro con él cambió sus vidas, el texto del 9 de abril se centró en la presentación de San Marcos del encuentro de Jesús con "el hombre rico".

El relato evangélico (Mc 10, 17-31) narra la historia de un hombre rico anónimo que pregunta a Jesús qué debe hacer para "heredar la vida eterna", después de insistir en que ha observado todos los mandamientos desde su juventud.

El Papa Francisco, en su texto, pidió

a la gente que se fijara en que el hombre utiliza el verbo "heredar", indicando que "la vida eterna es para él una herencia, algo que se obtiene por derecho, a través de una meticulosa observancia de los compromisos".

Sin embargo, "como la observancia de la ley no le ha dado la felicidad y la seguridad de ser salvado, se dirige al maestro Jesús", escribió el Papa.

El hombre se da cuenta de que le falta algo y sigue buscando el sentido de su vida, decía el texto. Y en efecto, "más allá de las cosas que hacemos, de los sacrificios o de los éxitos, lo que realmente importa para ser feliz es lo que llevamos en el corazón".

"Lo que llama la atención es que este hombre no conoce el vocabulario de la gratuidad", escribió el Papa. "Todo parece debido. Todo es una obligación. ... Pero en una vida vivida así, aunque ciertamente a fin de bien, ¿qué espacio puede tener el amor?".

Jesús, sin embargo, mira al hombre y le ama incluso antes de invitarle a seguirle, escribió el Papa. "Lo ama tal como es. El amor de Jesús es gratuito: exactamente lo contrario de la lógica del mérito que atormentaba a esta persona".

"Somos realmente felices cuando nos damos cuenta de que somos amados así, gratuitamente, por gracia", escribió. "Y esto también vale en las relaciones entre nosotros: mientras intentemos comprar el amor o mendigar afecto, esas relaciones nunca harán que nos sintamos felices".

Jesús le invita entonces a vender todo lo que tiene, dárselo a los pobres y "cambiar su forma de vivir y de relacionarse con Dios", escribió. "Jesús reconoce que, dentro de él, como en

todos nosotros", lo que falta es "el deseo que llevamos en el corazón de ser queridos".

Para llenar este vacío, "no hay que 'comprar' reconocimiento, afecto, consideración; en cambio, hay que 'vender' todo lo que nos pesa, para liberar nuestro corazón. No sirve de nada seguir quedándonos con las cosas, sino más bien dar a los pobres, poner a disposición, compartir", dice el texto del Papa.

Jesús también invita a este hombre a no seguir solo y triste, sino a seguirle, crear un vínculo y experimentar una relación, escribió. "Quizá hoy, precisamente porque vivimos en una cultura de autosuficiencia e individualismo,

nos descubrimos más infelices, porque ya no oímos pronunciar nuestro nombre por alguien que nos quiere gratuitamente".

A veces, escribió el Papa, lo que pensamos que son riquezas "en cambio, son solo pesos que nos están bloqueando. La esperanza es que esta persona, como cada uno de nosotros, tarde o temprano pueda cambiar y decidir ir a alta mar" con Jesús como guía y compañero.

El Papa pidió rezar por "todas las personas tristes e indecisas, para que puedan sentir la mirada de amor del Señor, que se conmueve al mirar con ternura dentro de nosotros".

El Papa ora por las víctimas de la tragedia en un club nocturno dominicano

SANTO DOMINGO, República Dominicana (OSV News) — El Papa Francisco manifestó que está acompañando a la República Dominicana en su profunda tristeza tras el catastrófico derrumbe del techo de una discoteca en Santo Domingo que ha dejado al menos 218 muertos y 200 heridos. En un telegrama del 9 de abril, el Papa ofreció oraciones y aliento, invocando a la Santísima Virgen María para que traiga consuelo y esperanza a los afligidos. El techo de la discoteca Jet Set se derrumbó durante un concierto de merengue, poco después de la medianoche del 8 de abril. El querido merengero Rubby Pérez fue una de las víctimas, junto con políticos y los ex jugadores de béisbol Octavio Dotell y Tony Blanco. Las autoridades siguen investigando la causa del derrumbe. La Conferencia del Episcopado Dominicano instó a la oración y la solidaridad, y el arzobispo Richard G. Henning de Boston, donde reside una gran comunidad dominicana, pidió unidad en el dolor y la esperanza. Las labores de rescate concluyeron el 10 de abril, pero el país siguió de luto mientras las familias y los líderes religiosos se aferraban a la promesa de resurrección y sanación de Cristo.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

La diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston te exhorta a denunciar cualquier delito ante las autoridades civiles. Para realizar una denuncia en contra de cualquier obispo en todos los Estados Unidos, favor de reportarlo en la página web www.repostbishopabuse.org. Y si, además, existen motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido alguna conducta sexual inapropiada favor de comunicarse con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y también puede realizar un reporte en la página web antes mencionada.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación.

Si considera que alguien está en peligro inmediato, favor de llamar al 911.

Para informar de forma confidencial sobre cualquier sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, favor de comunicarse con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia, llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 1-800.352.6513.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesásticas correspondientes.

Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264.

También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al 304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la diócesis al

833.230.5656.

Los formularios de quejas están disponibles en línea en la página web www.dwc.org, favor de hacer clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", en "Ambiente seguro" y en "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede enviar por correo en Estados Unidos a: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis: Favor de llamar a Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742. Además de las vías mencionadas anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la diócesis se ha asociado con la compañía Navex Global que ofrece la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar cualquier inquietud adicional, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de la página web www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381.

EthicsPoint es una herramienta de denuncia confidencial y anónima, ellos se encargarán de transmitir su denuncia directamente a las autoridades civiles y a las autoridades diocesanas correspondientes, y lo más importante al denunciar a través de ellos, la identidad de la persona que denuncia está protegida.

Enlaces e información:

Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>.

Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de crímenes contra a menores: 304-293-6400.

Employment Opportunities

Executive Assistant Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa)

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices.

The Executive Assistant schedules appointments, meetings and handles conference arrangements, agendas, notifications, etc., gives information to callers and otherwise relieves the Chief Executive Officer of clerical work and minor administrative duties and details.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Types correspondence, records, and reports; Answers telephone, gives information to callers, or routes calls to appropriate person; Maintains files, records, and correspondence; Coordinates and schedules Catholic Charities Board meetings, committee meetings and other meetings as directed by the Chief Executive Officer; Records, transcribes and disseminates minutes of Board meetings, Executive Committee meetings, and other Committee meetings; and Coordinates and schedules Maintenance Worker and duties for the Main building.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES: Orders and purchases materials and supplies for office; Add/delete/make changes to Diocesan Directory; Contacts Diocesan Building & Properties for building issues; and Performs other job-related duties as assigned.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: Supervises Maintenance worker at Main office.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily, demonstrating initiative and responsibility. The requirements are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required: Ability to type 60 WPM; Good interpersonal skills; Ability to follow directions and work well with others; Ability to maintain a high degree of confidentiality; Proficient in Microsoft Office and basic office procedures preferred; and Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit. The employee frequently is required to talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 20 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

[Click here to apply.](#)

St. Joseph High School Biology Teacher, Martinsburg

St. Joseph High School is a newly established Catholic high school opening in August 2025, dedicated to providing a rigorous academic education and character formation in a faith-based environment. Our mission is to foster intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and moral integrity, preparing students for success in higher education and beyond. We seek educators who are passionate about their subject areas and committed to creating an engaging and supportive learning experience.

We are seeking a qualified and enthusiastic high school biology teacher to join our founding faculty. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in science education, be skilled in creating engaging and challenging lesson plans, and be willing to be part of a collaborative and mission-driven school community. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a new school and contribute to building a dynamic and inspiring learning environment.

Responsibilities:

- Teach biology courses to high school students, incorporating hands-on labs, experiments and interactive learning experiences.
 - Develop and implement a rigorous, comprehensive curriculum aligned with national and collegiate-level science standards.
 - Foster a positive, inclusive and engaging classroom environment that encourages inquiry, collaboration and academic excellence to support student growth.
 - Integrate ethical discussions and a values-based approach into scientific topics, where appropriate.
 - Collaborate with fellow faculty and administration to build a strong academic foundation for the school.
 - Participate in school-wide activities, faculty meetings and professional development.
 - Communicate effectively with students, parents and colleagues to support student success.
- Qualifications:**
- Bachelor's degree in biology, science education or a related field
 - Hold valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure
 - Strong classroom management, communication and curriculum development skills
 - Willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution
 - Experience teaching high school science is preferred.

SJHS educates in the spirit of the Gospel, inspiring Catholic values, academic excellence, global awareness and service to those in need. We are an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

The position will begin in August 2025 (contractually) and continue through July 2026 with a salary of \$40,000 to \$50,000, depending on level of education and experience.

Please email a résumé, cover letter and three professional references to Deacon Patrick Michel, Ed.D, head of school, at deaconpat@stjosephwv.org.

Human Resources Generalist

The Human Resources Generalist as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services' Mission Statement. The Human Resources Generalist will work as part of the HR team with a focus on supporting the Catholic Schools throughout the Diocese and serve to drive the onboarding process within the Diocese.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Performs all onboarding for Diocese, including schools and parishes; Works directly with school administration and staff to ensure accuracy and proper use of entire HRIS system; Supports person for Family Medical Leave and Short Term Disability; Ensures all ACA reporting and maintains file accuracy in the payroll system; Assists with open enrollment for all benefit platforms; Helps maintain organizational guidelines; Maintain employee files and records electronically; Monitors HR Help Desk; Backup for Diocesan Pension Plans.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school graduate. Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources or Business; Five(5) years' experience in human resources; Firm knowledge and understanding of human resources best practices; Knowledge and experience working with payroll and HRIS applications. Labor relations and policy experience a plus; Ability to maintain confidentiality; Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment; Qualified candidates should forward a cover letter and current resume to: Debbie Turziano, Director of Human Resources at dturziano@dwc.org.

DWC is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. [Click here to apply.](#)

Cook

The Cook at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ and offering hospitality to our guests. The Cook is responsible for the preparation, service, clean-up and storage of all meals, snacks and food service for special functions. Assures the kitchen/dining room/dish room areas are clean and in good order at the end of a shift or function. Oversees and assists kitchen aides in the preparation, service and storage of food and cleanliness of the kitchen/dining area. Works early mornings, days, evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed. Prefer a minimum of one year experience in food service. Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or gwright@dwc.org to schedule an interview or for more information.

Housekeeper

The Housekeeper at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ and offering hospitality to our guests. The Housekeeper is responsible for cleaning and preparing the facility, laundry and guest relations. Works evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed. Helps in kitchen as needed. Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or gwright@dwc.org to schedule an interview or for more information.

Employment Opportunities

Principal – PK-8th Grade Fairmont Catholic Grade School, West Virginia

Fairmont Catholic Grade School is seeking a dedicated and dynamic individual for the position of PK-8th Grade Principal. The ideal candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church teachings and serve as a role model and motivator in upholding the Catholic philosophy of the school.

Qualifications:

The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts.

The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration (preferred), or be in the process of completing the degree requirements; or the candidate should hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.

A minimum of three years of successful educational experience is required, with preference given to those with administrative experience.

Application Instructions:

Please submit your resume, along with three professional references, in PDF format to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org. Resumes will be accepted until April 25, 2025.

Head Volleyball Coach

Central Catholic High School, a co-educational college preparatory Catholic high school in Wheeling, W.Va., is accepting applications for the Head Varsity Volleyball Coach. CCHS is a member school of the WVSSAC and competes in Class AA and a member school of the OVAC in Class 3A. Job Type: Seasonal. Job Overview: CCHS is looking for a dynamic, knowledgeable coach who will embrace the CCHS mission and values. The Head Volleyball Coach is responsible for the overall vision, strategy and direction of the high school volleyball program. A successful candidate should be able to:

- Lead and manage the girls' volleyball team during the season.
- Develop training programs and strategies to enhance team

performance.

- Communicate effectively with students, staff, and parents.
- Foster a positive team culture that promotes commitment and hard work.
- Integrate the school's mission and values into coaching and team management.

Qualifications:

- Previous head high school coaching experience is preferred.
- Must be 21 or older.
- Candidates must complete a background check, Virtus training and currently possess or be able to meet all WVSSAC coaching requirements.

To apply, please forward a resume to Seth Staskey, Athletic Director, at staskey@cchsknights.org. For more information you can contact him at 304-233-6237.

Finance Director

Central Catholic High School, a Catholic co-educational college preparatory Catholic high school in Wheeling, W.Va., is accepting applications for the administrative position of Finance Director. Job Type: Full-time, 12 month employee.

Qualifications: Central Catholic High School is seeking an experienced and dynamic Finance Director who is responsible for the daily management of financial and administrative functions. This position involves overseeing all financial aspects of the school including accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, reconciliations, and financial reporting. The Finance Director will also be the liaison to the Diocesan Human Resource Office, ensuring the school follows best practices in hiring, onboarding, compensation, benefits, policy implementation, conflict resolution, corrective action, and compliance with all employment laws and diocesan policies. Additionally, the role involves collaborating with the Principal, Finance Council, and other stakeholders to determine the annual budget, manage benefit programs, and supervise school employees.

The Finance Director is a key con-

tributor to the continuing culture of excellence of Central Catholic High School.

A qualified candidate should have:

- Minimum of Bachelor's degree with 3-5 years of comparable experience
- Understanding and ability to uphold the CCHS Catholic school mission.
- General understanding of accounting principles and preparation of financial statements
- Human resources experience preferred
- Exceptional leadership and communication abilities
- Skilled in collaboration
- Comfort with systems in general (QuickBooks, Excel, Word, etc.)
- Excellent analytical, and problem-solving skills
- Ability to meet deadlines and interact collaboratively with both internal and external constituents
- Process confidential and sensitive information with discretion and professionalism

To apply, please forward a cover letter along with a resume to Sarah Petry at spetry@cchsknights.org.

Ask your doctor to refer you to Good Shepherd for:

- Physical therapy
- Speech therapy
- Occupational therapy



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6:30 WOAY ABC 4	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
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