Departure of Jesuit Community from Wheeling University Announced

The following is a statement on the departure of the Jesuit Community from Wheeling University by Rev. Joseph O’Keefe, SJ, Provincial, USA East Province of the Society of Jesus; Mrs. Ginny Favede, President, Wheeling University; and Bishop Mark Brennan, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:

Reluctantly, we announce to the Wheeling University community and the Upper Ohio Valley community that the remaining Jesuits at the University – Rev. Ignatius Hadi Sasmita, SJ, Campus Minister; Rev. Richard McCouch, SJ, Director of the Appalachian Institute; and Rev. James Conroy, SJ, local Jesuit Superior and retreat master – will be reassigned to other apostolic works of the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus in the summer of 2022.

Faced with a declining number of Jesuit priests available for ministry, coupled with a large institutional presence in universities, high schools and retreat centers in the eastern United States, the Province was compelled to inform the University and the Diocese of

Wheeling’s Catholic Community Gathers for Mass for Healing for Survivors of Abuse

Deacon Doug Breiding, center, leads the Litany for Healing at St. Michael Church in Wheeling during the Mass for Healing for Survivors of Abuse celebrated by Bishop Mark Brennan, right, April 25. Concelebrating the Mass is Father Carlos Melocoton, Jr., pastor of St. Michael’s, left.

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—In his celebration of the Mass for Healing for Survivors of Abuse at St. Michael Church in Wheeling April 25, Bishop Mark Brennan said victims need prayers and to be heard. The trauma they have endured and the emotional anguish it has brought, he stressed, will stay with them for a very long time.

“I have listened to a number of their stories. They need healing, strengthening, and peace,” Bishop Brennan said in his homily, “especially when the abusers were priests or other church personnel who should have followed Christ’s example in the gospel and be a blessing to children instead of leading them away from him.”

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Office of Safe Environment invited everyone in the Catholic community to the Mass, which was concelebrated Father Carlos Melocoton, Jr., pastor of St. Michael’s. Deacon Doug Breiding of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling served as deacon of the word and led the congregation in praying the Litany of Healing.

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Diocesan Official Appointments

Bishop Mark E. Brennan has made public the following appointments:

In consultation with Bishop Remegiose Inchananiyil of Thamarasserry (Syro-Malabarism), India, Father Babu Joseph Elamuruthil is appointed pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Grafton and St. Elizabeth Parish in Philippi with residence at the parish rectory in Grafton, effective May 11, 2022.


To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

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.reportbishopabuse.org.

To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau of 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 Miller, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. You may also call the Diocese’s Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also call the Diocese’s sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. 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: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional 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 West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform 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.


Departure...

Wheeling-Charleston that the Province was no longer able to provide members of the Society for pastoral work at Wheeling University, which it has continued to do, even after its official sponsorship of the University ended in 1919.

The University and the Diocese are actively pursuing the possibility of having a rotation of teaching Jesuits who would spend a semester or a year at Wheeling University, so that future generations of Wheeling students might have the benefit of the Jesuit approach to higher learning. This would maintain a connection with the Society of Jesus, which for so long staffed the school.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Eparishes have in place a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. In accordance with these requirements, 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; and sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Sexual abuse training may be completed online or via live workshop. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, click “Diocese,” then “Offices,” then “Office of Safe Environment.”


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The priests of the Society of Jesus have bought many blessings to the students and faculty of what began as Wheeling College, became Wheeling Jesuit College, then Wheeling Jesuit University and is now Wheeling University. We salute the great Jesuits who have taught or served in administration at the University during its 68 years of existence and we are most grateful to God for them.

We ask God’s blessings upon the Society of Jesus and upon the Mountain State’s only residential Catholic University, which remains grounded in and faithful to the ideals of Catholic education. May God show His kindness to both.

Published by Bishop Mark E. Brennan

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The Catholic Spirit 3

Healing...

Cont’d from Page 1

Victims of abuse, the bishop said in his homily, need a restoration of faith, and this begins with prayer. He has a mental list of victims of abuse that he prays for every day. “My faith tells me that God will not be deaf to my pleas for these men and women,” he said. “I hope you have such faith too, and I encourage you to pray for the victims of abuse especially those you know.

“We can also listen to their stories, should they choose to share them with us,” he continued. The bishop then recalled a story from when he was in his original diocese. A man had told him he had been abused by a priest. The bishop said that he apologized, on behalf of all priests working with children and young people trying to lead them to Christ, that he had suffered this abuse and condemned what the other priest had done to him. “Listening, I have found can be an element of healing. In making a heartfelt response, if that seems appropriate, shows solidarity with the victim survivor,” the bishop said.

The diocese provides help for victims who have been abused by clergy or others in the church by covering the cost of counseling. The bishop said the diocese is also working on providing retreats for those who have suffered trauma from abuse.

“We invite victims to come forward and let us know what happened to them—whomever the perpetrators were—and we will do our best to assist them,” Bishop Brennan said.

“We must trust too that offering Masses and inviting victims who have been abused by anyone is a healing act,” he said. “Here, the risen Christ makes himself present with the same love with which he died for us on the cross. He is a remedy for all that ails us.”

“In all these different ways—prayer retreats, listening, having these Masses—we can open the door to hope for those who have suffered abuse as children or adolescents,” the bishop said. Noting the words of St. Paul, “In hope you are saved,” Bishop Brennan said, “We need hope, not despair.”

Forgiveness is difficult, the bishop said, and it’s difficult to speak of forgiveness to people who have suffered great losses or who have been severely abused. It would be difficult at this time, he said for example, for Ukrainians to forgive the Russian president and army.

“But we follow Jesus Christ who, from the cross, asked his father to forgive those who were killing him,” the bishop said, “and he taught us to forgive others if we want our own sins forgiven. I know people who have forgiven deep hurts such as betrayals in marriage or in politics, murder of loved ones and, yes, the sexual abuse by family members or clergy. It is not easy, but with God’s help it is possible. And like drops of water falling on a hard marble surface, constant prayer to be able to forgive can wear away the hard coating around our hearts so that we are free to forgive; and that freedom releases energies that are bound up by resentments, hatreds, and desires for revenge. If we can move a victim of abuse to consider forgiving the abuser, we are doing the victim survivor a favor.”

The rebuilding of trust is also necessary to show that the church takes seriously the protection of all young people, the bishop said. He pointed out that this summer marks the 20th anniversary of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, often called the Dallas Charter for the city where the meeting was held. The bishops will be revising the charter to make it more effective, Bishop Brennan said, adding that he is in favor of even more.

“I’m proposing that we have on-site audits every year in our parishes and schools, not just every three years,” he said. “You learn what’s going on when you visit and whether our program, which is good, and the protocols are being implemented appropriately or not.”

Bishop Brennan said he wishes that more Catholics and all Americans realize the dedication and hard work of child protection coordinators at the parish and diocesan levels, principals and teachers in Catholic schools, religious education directors and catechists, adults serving in youth groups along with the bishops’ conference and secretariat for child protection. Their great dedication and hard work, he said, has resulted in making Catholic parishes, schools, and youth programs much safer for young people than ever before.

“Indeed, in many ways because we owned up to the problem,” he said. “In some significant ways, our church is a model now for how to protect young people.”

The gospel for the Mass (Matthew 19:14) provides a model for how adults should relate to children and adolescents—“be like Jesus, be a blessing to them,” the bishop said. He recalled a time in his service as vocations director for the Archdiocese of Washington.

“I urged the seminarians not to stay away from children and adolescents, but to show them the loving care that Jesus did…” the bishop said. “The Lord said, ‘Let children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.’ And with those who have been abused seeing us filling that role with integrity, that may also bring some measure of healing because they will see that the Christian people have learned an important lesson and today’s children and those in the future will likely avoid the most unfortunate experience of abuse that the victims underwent.”

At the end of the Mass, Bishop Brennan reminded the faithful of the Confraternity of St. Nicholas, which was established in the diocese last fall after the urging of Adam Marquart. The Confraternity of St. Nicholas is a public association of the faithful who, through prayer, fasting, and good works, are dedicated to the protection of all children from scandalization, abuse, and trafficking.

All are invited to join, the bishop said. More information can be found on the diocese’s website at https://dwc.org/evangelization-and-catechesis/confraternity-of-st-nicholas.
One Mission One Day Provides Opportunity to Support Catholic Schools

By Colleen Rowan

It’s One Mission One Day (OMOD) to Make a Difference for the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on May 3.

Heidi Sforza, director of Annual Giving for the diocese, said the event provides Catholic schools funds to support anything from tuition assistance, to building upgrades, classroom enhancements, and teacher bonuses.

“Not only has OMOD become a tremendous fundraiser for all Catholic schools — it has also become a fun and exciting community builder because of all the hard work, dedication and creativity our schools put into it,” Sforza said. “From creating themes and videos, to holding contests and giving away prizes it is a fun day for students and donors alike.”

Donations go directly to the school of one’s choice, she said, and all of the Catholic schools are registered to participate.

The website, OneMissionOneDay.org is up and running now and will continue to accept donations until midnight on May 5. The website, Sforza said, is sponsored by the Catholic Sharing Appeal at no cost for schools’ participation. The website provides information on the reason to support One Mission One Day and video of a “Prayer for Catholic Schools” by students and school administration from across the state including Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine and Bishop Mark Brennan. The site also provides a profile on each school, an option to donate, as well as donation tallies.

“The OMOD giving day is one of my favorite days of the year!” Sforza said. “There is so much excitement wrapped up in the day! I enjoy following all of our schools on social media and watching the numbers and donations roll in on the website.

Sforza announced that this year, the West Virginia Catholic Foundation has agreed to give $500 to the school that raises the most money and to the school with the most donors at midnight on May 4.

OMOD began in 2020, Sforza said, and has grown immensely.

“Over the last two years we’ve been able to raise more than $750,000 for Catholic schools across the diocese and I’m really hoping after this year, that number will grow to over $1 million!” she said. “OMOD became especially important to our schools during the Covid pandemic,” Sforza continued. “It was one of the only events to not be canceled that spring, because it could be run entirely online. Now that we are back in school and able to gather together again, it just creates a more exciting environment for the day!”

In addition to accepting donations through the website, donations can be sent directly to the school. Some schools will even set up specific donation drop off locations and times, Sforza said.

“Be sure to follow your school on social media to stay up to date on any exciting plans they have and share their posts!” she said.
Faithful Gather with Bishop at Shrine in Spencer on Divine Mercy Sunday

Bishop Mark Brennan visited Holy Redeemer Parish in Spencer April 24 to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. He had been scheduled to attend the annual celebration two years earlier before it was cancelled due to COVID-19.

The church in Spencer broke ground for the shrine on Aug. 15, 2014 (the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and, upon completion of construction the following year, held a dedication ceremony Oct. 3, 2015.

Each year since then, prior to COVID, the church has had a celebration on Divine Mercy Sunday, set as the Sunday after Easter by Pope John Paul II in the year 2000 to recognize the appearance of Jesus to a Polish nun in 1931. Sister Faustian Kowalaka was canonized in 2000.

The celebration in Spencer began with the Sacrament of penance and reconciliation, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. During that time parishioners and visitors recited the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Bishop Brennan celebrated Mass at 4 p.m. with Father Ron Prechtl, pastor, and visiting priests Father Penumka Manikyalarao and Father George Nedeff.

In his homily, Bishop Brennan recognized the Sacrament of penance and reconciliation as God’s Divine Mercy to all.

The parish provided the following: “The message of Divine Mercy: Trust in Mercy is that God is merciful. He is love itself poured out for us and he wants no one to escape that merciful love.

“The message is that God wants all of us to turn to Him with trust and repentance while it is still a time of mercy, before he comes as the just judge. This turning with trust to him who is mercy itself is the only source of peace for mankind. Turning to and imploring God’s mercy is the answer to the troubled world we live in.”

The faithful stand at the Shrine of Divine Mercy at Holy Redeemer Church in Spencer.
Bishops Back Administration’s ‘Uniting for Ukraine’ Refugee Initiative

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chairman of its Committee on Migration have voiced their support for the Biden administration’s “Uniting for Ukraine” initiative to welcome Ukrainian refugees coming to the United States.

“Many European countries have shown great concern for Ukrainians, welcoming them with open arms, and we should do the same,” said an April 22 joint statement from Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB president, and Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville, Migration Committee chairman.

“We are particularly concerned with the most vulnerable and hope that support will be given to separated families, the elderly, and those with urgent medical needs,” they said. “This sort of initiative requires that the federal government provide an array of services for arriving families, in addition to those supplied by individuals and private institutions, such as churches.”

The two bishops added: “As a national refugee resettlement agency, the USCCB is eager to support displaced Ukrainians in the United States, together with Catholic organizations, parishes and people of goodwill across the country.”

The USCCB and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia have partnered with Welcome.US on the Uniting for Ukraine initiative.

Under the provisions of Uniting for Ukraine, Ukrainians must have been residing in Ukraine as of Feb. 11, have a U.S.-based financial sponsor — either an individual or an entity — have received certain vaccinations and meet other public health requirements, and pass a series of background checks and security screenings.

However, Ukrainians seeking to enter at U.S. ports of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border will be denied entry without a valid visa or pre-authorization to travel to the United States.

That last provision caught the eye of Archbishop Gomez and Bishop Dorsonville.

“All persons seeking asylum at our borders must consistently be offered the same opportunities for protection set out in U.S. and international law, in accordance with their God-given dignity,” they said.

Another concern they had: “This new program does not include authorization for basic services or access to permanent legal status and could unnecessarily strain communities eager to welcome. This is why we and others have requested a more robust use of the resettlement program, both for Ukrainians and other displaced persons, which affords refugees the ability to integrate within American communities, temporarily or as aspiring Americans.”

The two bishops said: “We call on the administration and Congress to work together to ensure Ukrainians seeking refuge in the United States are truly welcomed and receive all of the support that entails. And we ask that this same welcome be extended to those of other nationalities who have fled persecution, violence and disaster, including passage of legislation that would provide our new Afghan neighbors with a pathway to permanent legal status.”

Learn more about sponsoring a Ukrainian who wants to come to the United States at https://ukraine.welcome.us/

Supreme Court Examines ‘Remain in Mexico’ Asylum Rule

By Carol Zimmermann, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After nearly two hours of oral arguments April 26, the Supreme Court justices had mixed views on the Biden administration ending a Trump-era immigration policy called “Remain in Mexico.”

The policy is in question is the Migrant Protection Protocols, or MPP, which requires asylum-seekers to stay in Mexico until their cases can be heard in U.S. immigration courts.

Immigration supporters, including many Catholic organizations, have spoken out against this policy. And during oral arguments, activists held a rally outside the Supreme Court holding signs with the message “safe not stranded.”

The policy, put in place in 2019, has been a headache for the Biden administration. Once President Joe Biden took office in 2021, he paused the policy, then formally sought to end it a few months later in June.

But in August of that year, after Texas and Missouri sued to maintain the program, a judge with the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas told administration officials that they had to continue complying with the policy, saying they had not ended it properly.

Last December, a federal judge reinstated the program with some changes made by the Biden administration, including a pledge to resolve cases within six months and to pay for migrants’ transportation to and from hearings.

The question now before the nation’s high court is whether immigration officials must send asylum-seekers to Mexico or if they can allow them to stay in the United States while they await their hearings.

Some of the justices questioned the administration’s ability to transfer immigrants into the United States, but they also questioned how Texas courts can determine public policy.

Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar said the law does not contain a provision requiring migrants to be returned to Mexico, and she also pointed out that there is a “public benefit” to allowing migrants who pass criminal background and other checks into the U.S., freeing the detention beds for those who are more dangerous.

She also said it was impossible on a practical level to detain all migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border since there are less than 40,000 immigration detention beds.

Chief Justice John Roberts said that although the government can’t possibly detain all who cross the border, he wondered if releasing large numbers of them into the U.S. was in compliance with federal law.

Since reinstating the immigration rule, the Biden administration has enrolled 3,012 migrants in the Remain in Mexico program, primarily asylum-seekers from Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

Texas Solicitor General Judged Stone stressed that federal law requires U.S. border officials to either detain or return migrants to Mexico and said that if the U.S. has reached capacity limit to detain migrants, immigration officials should be returning them to Mexico where they can await their asylum hearings.

But those being forced to wait in Mexico have said they have been in dangerous situations and have found it hard to find lawyers to handle their cases.

“The legal rights, safety and humanity of thousands of men, women and children have been ignored as they have been forced to wait in life-threatening conditions in Mexico due to MPP,” said Anna Gallagher, executive director of Catholic Legal Immigration Network, known as CLINIC.

“We pray that the Supreme Court will recognize that MPP is both illegal and immoral so that the Biden administration can put an end to the shameful program once and for all,” she said in an April 26 statement.

CLINIC filed an amicus brief in this case urging the Supreme Court to reverse the lower court ruling brought by Texas and Missouri, which ordered the government to reinstate the policy.

Joan Rosenhauer, executive director of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA had a similar take. “For over three years, MPP has forced thousands of asylum-seekers to wait for their asylum hearings in dangerous border towns, subjecting them to systemic danger and violence,” she said in a statement, adding that her organization “works directly with people in northern Mexico as they await their opportunity to pursue asylum and find safety in the U.S. We hear every day of the violence and suffering they experience.”

Last December, the head of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ migration committee, Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington, also said the policy should be stopped.

“We are deeply dismayed by the reimplementaion of MPP,” he said. “Unfortunately, attempts by the administration to make this program ‘more humane’ — however well-intentioned — will not cure its inherent faults, nor will they alleviate its inevitable toll on human lives.”

A decision in this case, Biden v. Texas, is expected by late June.

(Contributing to this report was Rhina Guidos in Washington.)

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Knights of Columbus Inwood Council Hosts District Gathering

INWOOD—Knights of Columbus Council 10756, Inwood, hosted a District wide Fraternal Benefits Night April 19 in the Council Knights Hall. Guests in attendance included brother knights, their wives, and members of parishes within the local Knights of Columbus district.

Present from the Knights of Columbus Abbate Insurance Agency were Robert Abbate, senior agency agent, and Dan Evans, field representative assigned to the local district. All in attendance began the evening with a group social which served as a segway to a presentation that offered a clear and deeper understanding of the benefits the Abbate Agency brings to the Knights of Columbus in West Virginia. All in attendance enjoyed the evening, council members said.

 Courtesy Photo
 From left are Robert Abbate, senior agent of the Knights of Columbus Abbate Agency; Greg Hilleary, grand knight of Knights of Columbus Council 10756 in Inwood; and Dan Evans, field representative for the Abbate Agency.

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Hope and Joy Reawaken When Old and Young Come Together, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — If young people recognize all that they have received with gratitude and older people take the initiative of relaunching hope in young people for their future, then nothing can stop the flourishing of God’s blessings among people, Pope Francis said.

Urging visitors to make sure they help bring young and older people together to talk and connect, the pope said, this is a “bridge that we have to reestablish more strongly,” because it is through this connection that salvation, hope and joy flow.

The pope made his remarks April 27 during his weekly general audience in St. Peter’s Square, where he also asked that people “persevere in praying constantly for peace.”

In his greetings to visitors after his main catechesis, the pope asked that people pray for weapons to be silenced “and may those who have the power to stop this war listen to the cry for peace of all of humanity.”

The pope continued his series of talks dedicated to the meaning and value of “old age” and focused on how important it is there be an “alliance” between old and new generations, highlighting the widow Naomi and her daughter-in-law, Ruth, as an example.

The story, presented in the Book of Ruth, of “these two faithful women shows that, in God’s providential plan, the covenant of love and fidelity uniting the generations can prove immensely enriching for families and for the growth of a society that respects the dignity and gifts of each of its members, however young or old,” according to the summary of the pope’s catechesis.

Pope Francis said Ruth’s devotion helps Naomi stop being so pessimistic and even inspires her to take the initiative of relaunching their future, they help bring young and older people together to talk and connect, the pope said, this is a “bridge that we have to reestablish more strongly,” because it is through this connection that salvation, hope and joy flow.

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Pope Francis said Ruth’s devotion helps Naomi stop being so pessimistic and even inspires her to take the initiative of relaunching their future, they help bring young and older people together to talk and connect, the pope said, this is a “bridge that we have to reestablish more strongly,” because it is through this connection that salvation, hope and joy flow.

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Catechetical Leadership Formation Program

“The importance of the ministry of catechesis... would suggest that there should be in a Diocese a certain number of religious and laity publicly recognized and permanently dedicated to catechesis who, in communion with priests and the Bishop, give to this diocesan service the ecclesial form which is proper to it.” ~ Directory for Catechesis, 123

2021-2022 Catechetical Leadership Formation Program Members

Nick Chancey  
Campus Minister  
Marshall University  
Huntington

Bob Glass  
DRE  
Sacred Heart Parish  
Chester

Michael Kemlock  
DRE  
SS. Peter & Paul Parish  
Oak Hill

Carolina Leachman  
DRE & Youth Minister  
Ascension Parish  
Hurricane

Mark Tirona  
DRE  
St. Joseph the Worker Parish  
Weirton

The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis invites you to learn more about this wonderful program and consider joining!

Please visit dwc.org/clfp or scan the QR code below to learn more and join.
Confirmation Schedule

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

April 30: St. Alphonsus, Wheeling, 5:30 p.m.
May 1: Combined Confirmation: Sacred Heart, Chester, and Immaculate Conception, New Cumberland, 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart, Chester
May 3: St. Michael, Vienna, 6 p.m.
May 5: Combined Confirmation: Holy Trinity, Nitro, and St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft, 6 p.m. at St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft
May 7: Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston, 5:30 p.m.
May 9: St. Michael, Wheeling, 5:30 p.m.
May 12: St. Jude, Glen Dale, 6:30 p.m.
May 18: St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton, 6:30 p.m.
May 19: St. Bernadette, Hedgesville, 6 p.m.
May 20: St. Leo, Inwood, 6:30 p.m.
May 21: St. James, Charles Town, 10 a.m.
May 22: St. Joseph, Martinsburg, 3 p.m.
May 24: St. Anthony, Follansbee, 6 p.m.
May 28: Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg, 4:30 p.m.
May 29: St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg, 2 p.m.
June 4: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, 5 p.m.
June 25: St. Brendan, Elkins, 5 p.m.

Confirmation in Morgantown

Bishop Mark Brennan confirmed 26 young people, pictured with him above, at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Morgantown April 23. With them is Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, pastor of the parish.
Obispos apoyan iniciativa del gobierno que apoya a ucranianos

Por Catholic News Serv-

WASHINGTON (CNS) — El presidente de la Con-
ferencia de Obispos Católi-
cos de Estados Unidos, USCCB y el presidente del Comité de Migra-
cción de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, dio su apoyo a un pro-
grama de reasentamiento que apoya a ucranianos procedentes de Ucra-
nia.

Los dos obispos dijeron: “Pedimos a la administra-
ción y al Congreso que tra-
bajen juntos para garanti-
zar que los ucranianos que buscan refugio en los Esta-
dos Unidos sean realmente bienvenidos y reciban todo el apoyo que eso conlleva. Y pedimos que esta misma bienvenida se extienda a aquellos ucranianos que han huido de la persecución, la violencia y el desastre, incluida la ap-
robación de legislación que nos permita a nuestros vecinos afganos traer a sus familiares a un camino hacia un estatus legal permanente”.

El presidente de la Con-
ferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, Wil-
li J. Lori, y el obispo auxiliar de Los Án-
geles, presidente de la USCCB, y el obispo auxiliar de Los Ángeles, presidente de la USCCB, apoyan la iniciativa Union Unidos por Ucrania, que busca apoyar a los ucranianos desplazados que buscan refugio en los Estados Unidos. Los dos obispos expresaron su apoyo a Union Unidos por Ucrania, que busca apoyar a los ucranianos desplazados que buscan refugio en los Estados Unidos. Los dos obispos expresaron su apoyo a Union Unidos por Ucrania, que busca apoyar a los ucranianos desplazados que buscan refugio en los Estados Unidos.

En español: "Pedimos a la administra-
cción y al Congreso que tra-
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dos Unidos sean realmente bienvenidos y reciban todo el apoyo que eso conlleva. Y pedimos que esta misma bienvenida se extienda a aquellos ucranianos que han huido de la persecución, la violencia y el desastre, incluida la ap-
robación de legislación que nos permita a nuestros vecinos afganos traer a sus familiares a un camino hacia un estatus legal permanente".

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños: La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar ante las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También alentamos a utilizar www.report bish opabuse.org para hacer un infor-
forme sobre cualquier obispo en los EE. UU. Si tiene motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido una conducta sexual inapropiada, comuníquese con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción corres-

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien esta en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar con-
fidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Ninos y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anónimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha come-
tido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas. para reportar casos sospe-
chosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1888.434.6237 o 304.223.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuikens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al 304.230.1504. También puede lla-

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Victimas de la Diócesis: llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6898. Además de los métodos enumerated anteriormente para denun-
ciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras in-
quietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o em-
pleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a traves de www.dwc.org, en “Rendición de cuentas”, luego “Informar mala conducta” o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sis-
tema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida. Enlaces e informacion: Depar-
tamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp. Policía Estatal de Virginia Oc-
cidental, Unidad de Crimen contra Ninos: 304-293-6400.
Supporting Our Clients’ Goals

Tara enrolled in our adult education courses at our Catholic Charities Community Center of Huntington early in this year. Our adult education instructor helped her to identify and work toward her long-term career goals, gaining skills in Microsoft, QuickBooks and other programs.

Tara also spoke to our team about finding better employment in the short term. During the process of helping Tara build her resume, we learned more about her current situation. Tara began working a second job that requires a commute, and she struggled with reliable transportation.

CCWVa assisted Tara with critical car repairs, making her commute possible. Catholic Charities will continue to support Tara with the resources and educational tools necessary to make her professional dreams come true.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, please visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes, and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

Tara said she is grateful to have reliable transportation to her new job, through help from Catholic Charities.

Global Catholic Tours of Va

9 Days Holy Land. Sep 12-20, 2022
$3199. 1 night Tel Aviv, 2 nights Galilee, 5 nights Jerusalem. With Fr. Dan Pizzino from Petersburg, WV.

10 Days Vienna-Salzburg-Budapest Sep 19-28, 2022
$3999. Includes 3 nights Vienna, 3 nights Salzburg, 4 nights Budapest. With Fr. Bjorn Lundberg from Winchester, VA.

13 Days Istanbul-Greece-Crete Nov 7-19, 2022
$4999. Includes 2 nights-Istanbul, 1 night each in Kavala, Thessaloniki, Kalambaka & Delphi, 2 nights in Crete & 4-nights in Athens. With Fr. Eric Shafer from Colonial Beach, VA.

11 Days Catholic Ireland. Sep 12-22, 2022
$3950. Includes 1 night Limerick, 2 nights Kilkenny, 3 nights each in Galway and Dublin. With Fr Art Bofogle from Mannington, WV.

For brochures or more information, contact John Tagnesi at 1-888-544-4461 or jtag1964@verizon.net
Principal Needed
St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, WV

Saint Joseph Catholic Church of Martinsburg, West Virginia, is seeking a principal for Saint Joseph School, which has students in preschool through eighth grades.

The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts, and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school.

The ideal candidate must have a master’s degree in educational leadership or administration, or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid educational leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.

The candidate must have a minimum of five years of successful educational experience, with preference given to one with administrative experience.

Previous applicants need not reapply.

A résumé with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Meg Partington (mpartington@sjswv.org) by Thursday, May 12, 2022.

Principal Needed
St. Paul School, Weirton, WV

St. Paul School in Weirton is seeking a Principal for the 2022-2023 school year. Qualified candidates will be a practicing Catholic, have a passion for Catholic Education, holds or qualifies for WV administrator's certification, and proven leadership and fundraising ability. Interested and qualified candidates are to submit a resume, letter of interest, and three references to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org by April 30, 2022.

St. Paul School, located in Weirton, West Virginia is seeking an experienced elementary school principal (grades Pre-K through 8) effective July 1, 2022. St. Paul School serves approximately 144 students in Weirton and other surrounding areas. The principal, who is a practicing Catholic in good standing, reports directly to the Parish Pastor.

Qualifications include the following: strong mission-focused leadership and commitment to Catholic identity; exceptional knowledge of curriculum; familiarity with church documents on Catholic school education; operates collaboratively in a team environment; at least three years teaching experience; MA in educational leadership/curriculum & instruction preferred; holds or qualifies for WV administrator's certification.

Responsibilities include:
- Promotes Catholic Identity by integrating Gospel values and Christian principles in all aspects of the school.
- Gives evidence of personal commitment to the Catholic faith and models an active faith life.
- Hires and terminates teachers and staff members.
- Supervises the educational program and maintains an ongoing evaluation of the program, staff and students.
- Sets annual goals with faculty and staff.
- Nurtures an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- Provides opportunities for staff development, curriculum development, and professional development.
- Demonstrates effective organization skills for day-to-day operations of the school.

Interested and qualified candidates are to submit a resume, letter of interest, and three references to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org by April 30, 2022.

Principal Needed
St. Patrick School, Weston, WV

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Weston, West Virginia is seeking a Principal for St. Patrick Catholic School, pre-school through eighth grades.

The Candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school.

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

The candidate will have a minimum of five years of successful educational experience with preference for administrative experience.

A résumé with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Rev. Father Douglas A. Ondeck, dondeck@dwc.org or mailed to 210 Center Ave., Weston, WV.
Our Emergency/Trauma Department is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians from WVU Medicine.

Don't ignore signs of strokes, heart attacks and other emergency conditions.

We'll protect you, and take good care of you.

Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Adventure Camp

With Him on the Mountain

We are a Catholic youth adventure camp that ministers to youth through rock climbing, equestrian activities, archery, Adoration, overnight backpacking, outdoor Mass and more!

Register your camper at CampCarowv.org by June 1st to receive our early bird rate of $275.

**June 26th – July 2nd**, A “catch all week” from 3rd grade through 12th grade.

**July 3rd – July 9th**, Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.

**July 10th – July 16th**, Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.

**July 17th – July 23rd**, A “catch all week” from 3rd grade through 12th grade.

**July 24th – July 30th**, “A Camp Carlo Summer Vacation” free program for 7–12 year olds who receive support from the government or Catholic Charities.

Contact Assistant Director, Sadie Shields, for more information: sshields@dcre.org or 304-292-4915

OUR ER WILL PROTECT YOU.

Do Not Ignore Warning Signs of Other Illnesses Because of COVID-19.

Dr. David Burkland
Medical Director of the Emergency/Trauma Department