



## 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

**See “Departure” on Page 2**

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



Colleen Rowan Photo

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 by 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 Thamarassery (Syro-Malabarese), India, **Father Babu Joseph Elamturuthil** 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.

In consultation with Very Rev. Mathew Vadakeputhenpura, M.C.B.S., vicar provincial of the Missionary Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Zion Province in Kerala, India, **Father Binu Sebastian, M.C.B.S.**, is appointed pastor of St. Paul Parish in Weirton with residence at the parish rectory, effective May 11, 2022.

In consultation with Very Rev. Joseph Maleparampil, M.C.B.S., superior general of the Missionary Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in India, **Father Jeason V. Stephan, M.C.B.S.**, is appointed pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling and Our Lady of Seven Dolors Mission in Triadelphia with residence at the parish rectory, effective July 18, 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.report-bishopabuse.org](http://www.report-bishopabuse.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](http://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 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 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](http://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](http://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.

## 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 2019.

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.

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.

### Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Epararchies 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 awareness training may be completed online or via live workshop. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."



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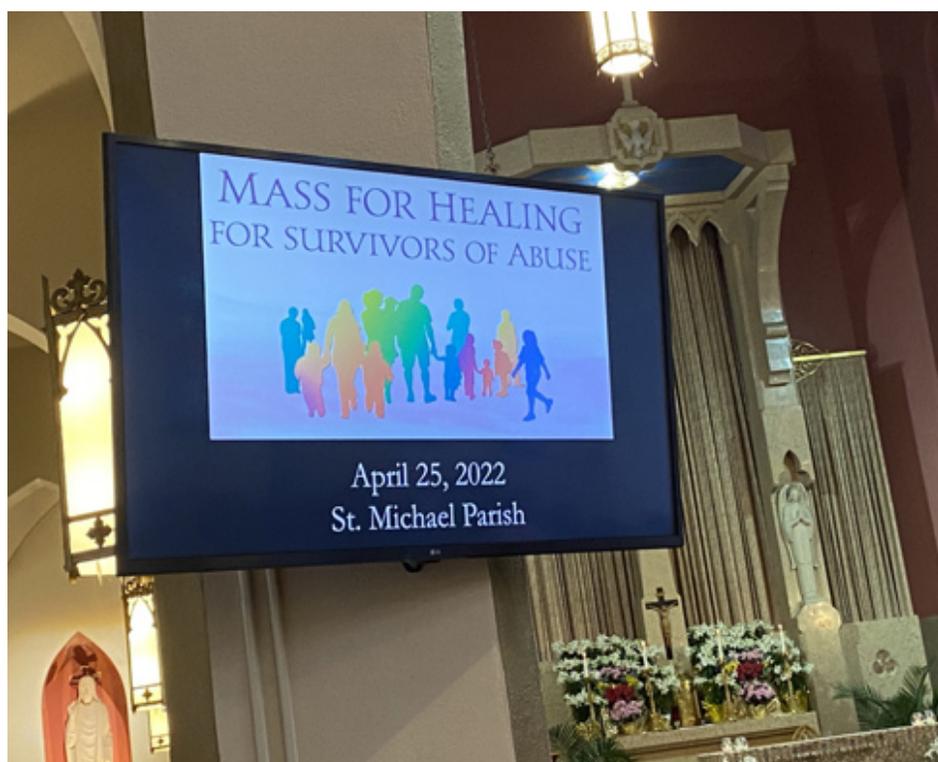
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Colleen Rowan Photo

One of the many screens throughout St. Michael Church in Wheeling displays graphics for the Mass for Healing for Survivors of Abuse.

## 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—whoever 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/>



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bill and Edie Fullers present the gifts to Bishop Mark Brennan at the Mass for Healing for Survivors of Abuse at St. Michael Church in Wheeling.

# 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](http://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 en-

tirely 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.

One Mission One Day  
to Make a Difference  
May 3, 2022

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Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston  
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A DIFFERENCE

# Faithful Gather with Bishop at Shrine in Spencer on Divine Mercy Sunday

**B**ishop 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.



Courtesy Photo

Front left: Father Penumaka Manikyalarao, pastor of St. Matthew Parish in Ravenswood; Father Ron Prechtel, pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in Spencer; Bishop Mark Brennan; and Father George Nedeff stand at the Shrine of the Divine Mercy at Holy Redeemer Church in Spencer.

Bishop Brennan celebrated Mass at 4 p.m. with Father Ron Prechtel, pastor, and visiting priests Father Penumaka 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 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 faithful stand at the Shrine of Divine Mercy at Holy Redeemer Church in Spencer.

Courtesy Photo

# 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 met 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 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 into the United States while they await their hearings.

Some of the justices questioned the administration's ability to release 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 Judd 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-threat-

ening 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 reimplementa-tion 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



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.

**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

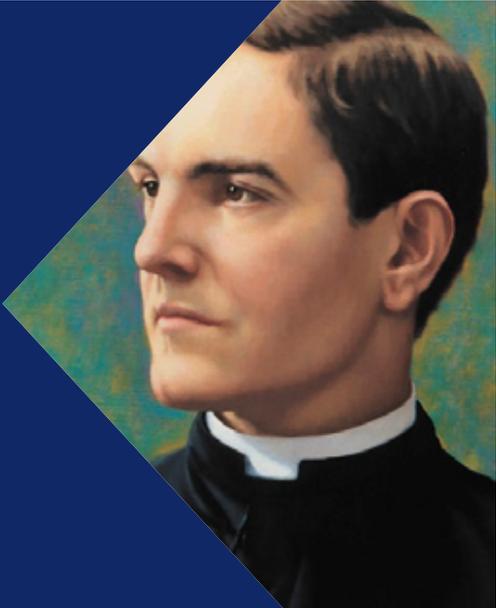
agent, and Dan Evans, field representative assigned to the local district.

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.

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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 to help Ruth build a new future, by guiding and encouraging her.

"In some cases, the tendency of the elderly toward pessimism needs to be countered by the affectionate pressure of the young," he said.

There are all sorts of clichés and prejudices when it comes to family members, especially between a mother-in-law and daughter-



**Pope Francis greets the crowd during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 27.**

ter-in-law, he said.

Pope Francis, known for cracking jokes about mothers-in-law, said — jokes aside — it is important to recognize and honor their role as the mother of one's spouse.

"She is a mother, she is older. One of the most wonderful things about grandmothers is them seeing their grandchildren. When their children have children, they come back to life," he said.

The pope asked that families take special care in maintaining a good relationship with their in-laws, even if they sometimes act like they are "a little bit special."

The parents of one's spouse have still sacrificed a lot, he said, and families can at least try to make their in-laws happy, so they can live out the rest of their years in joy, he said.

"And if they have some kind of flaw, help them to correct it. And to all the mothers-in-law out there, let me say, be careful with what you say, because the tongue is one of the ugliest sins of mothers-in-law. Be careful," he said.

The pope asked that people "rediscover the Book of Ruth," especially its reflections on love and its catechesis on the family. "This short book also contains valuable teaching on the alliance of the generations: where youth shows itself to be capable of restoring enthusiasm to mature age, and old age discovers it is capable of reopening the future

ceived and the elderly take the initiative of relaunching their future, nothing can stop the flourishing of God's blessings among peoples!" he said.

When greeting Polish pilgrims, Pope Francis recalled that April 27 marked the eighth anniversary of the canonization of St. John Paul II. "We pray for his intercession so that we might be faithful witnesses to Christ and his merciful love in the world, our families and places of work."

He apologized for needing to sit during the meet-and-greet portion at the end of the audience.

"This knee just will not get better, and I can't be on my feet too long," he said.

Reporting previously that he has a strained ligament and swelling of the knee, the pope was having even more difficulty than usual walking from the popemobile to his chair at the audience. He has had to cancel a number of scheduled meetings and appointments due to his doctor's insistence he rest.

to wounded youth."

"If the young open themselves to gratitude for what they have re-

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## Confirmation in Morgantown

Regina Kalisz Photo

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.

### 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.

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# Obispos apoyan iniciativa del gobierno que apoya a ucranianos

**Por Catholic News Service**

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — El presidente de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos, USCCB y el presidente del Comité de Migración han expresado su apoyo para la iniciativa de gobierno de Biden llamada "Unidos por Ucrania" que da la bienvenida a refugiados ucranianos que llegan a Estados Unidos.

"Muchos países europeos han mostrado una gran preocupación por los ucranianos, dándoles la bienvenida con los brazos abiertos, y deberíamos hacerlo mismo", dijeron en una declaración conjunta del 22 de abril el arzobispo José H. Gómez de Los Ángeles, presidente de la USCCB, y el obispo auxiliar Mario E. Dorsonville, presidente del Comité de Mi-

gración.

"Estamos particularmente preocupados por los más vulnerables y esperamos que se brinde apoyo a las familias separadas, los ancianos y aquellos con necesidades médicas urgentes", dijeron. "Este tipo de iniciativa requiere que el gobierno federal proporcione una variedad de servicios para las familias que llegan, además de los proporcionados por individuos e instituciones privadas, como las iglesias".

Los dos obispos agregaron: "Como agencia nacional de reasentamiento de refugiados, la USCCB está ansiosa por apoyar a los ucranianos desplazados en los Estados Unidos, junto con organizaciones católicas, parroquias y personas de buena voluntad en todo el país".

La USCCB y la Archie-

parquía Católica Ucraniana de Filadelfia se han asociado con Welcome.US en la iniciativa Unidos por Ucrania.

Según las disposiciones de Unidos por Ucrania, los ucranianos deben haber residido en Ucrania a partir del 11 de febrero, tener un patrocinador financiero con sede en los Estados Unidos, ya sea un individuo o una entidad, haber recibido ciertas vacunas y cumplido con otros requisitos de salud pública, y pasar una serie de verificaciones de antecedentes y exámenes de seguridad.

Sin embargo, a los ucranianos que buscan ingresar en los puertos de entrada de los Estados Unidos a lo largo de la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México se les negará la entrada sin una visa válida o una autorización previa

para viajar a los Estados Unidos.

Esa última disposición llamó la atención del arzobispo Gómez y del obispo Dorsonville.

"A todas las personas que buscan asilo en nuestras fronteras se les deben ofrecer consistentemente las mismas oportunidades de protección establecidas en el derecho estadounidense e internacional, de acuerdo con su dignidad dada por Dios", dijeron.

Otra preocupación que tenían: "Este nuevo programa no incluye la autorización para servicios básicos o el acceso a un estatus legal permanente y podría tensar innecesariamente a las comunidades ansiosas por acoger (a refugiados). Es por eso que nosotros y otros hemos solicitado un uso más robusto del pro-

grama de reasentamiento, tanto para ucranianos como para otras personas desplazadas, que brinda a los refugiados la capacidad de integrarse dentro de las comunidades estadounidenses, temporalmente" o permanentemente.

Los dos obispos dijeron: "Pedimos a la administración y al Congreso que trabajen juntos para garantizar que los ucranianos que buscan refugio en los Estados Unidos sean realmente bienvenidos y reciban todo el apoyo que eso conlleva. Y pedimos que esta misma bienvenida se extienda a aquellos de otras nacionalidades que han huido de la persecución, la violencia y el desastre, incluida la aprobación de legislación que proporcionaría a nuestros nuevos vecinos afganos 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.reportbishopabuse.org](http://www.reportbishopabuse.org) para hacer un informe 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 correspondiente y visite [www.reportbishopabuse.org](http://www.reportbishopabuse.org).

**Para informar a las autoridades civiles:** comuníquese con la policía local; los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anonimamente 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 cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos 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 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de

Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al 304.230.1504. También puede llamar a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la Diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja están disponibles en línea en [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), haga clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", luego en "Ambiente seguro", luego "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede devolver por correo de EE. UU. A: Office of Safe Environment, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

**Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis:** llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta 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 Niños: 304-293-6400.



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ical 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.

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





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## 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@sjsv.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](mailto: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.

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- 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](mailto: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 resume with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Rev. Father Douglas A. Ondeck, [dondeck@dwc.org](mailto:dondeck@dwc.org) or mailed to 210 Center Ave., Weston, WV.

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

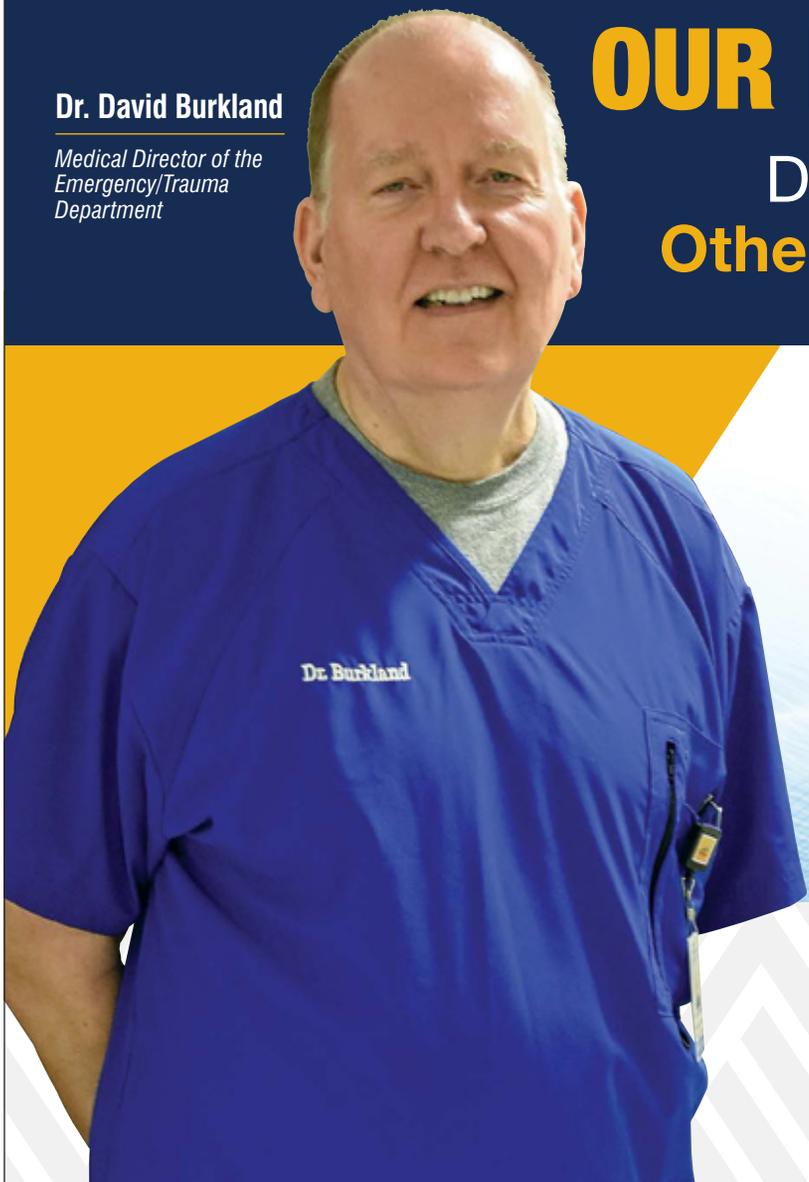
**July 10th – July 16th**, Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.

**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.

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