



Colleen Rowan Photo

Our Lady's Assumption is depicted in this beautiful stained glass window at Assumption of Our Lady Church in Keyser.

Blessed Virgin Mary is a 'Beacon of Hope,' Bishop Brennan Says on Solemnity

By Colleen Rowan

In his celebration of Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, Bishop Mark Brennan said Mary stands as an exemplary

model of faith and charity. "As a generous intercessor before her son on our behalf," the bishop said in his homily for the Aug. 15 Mass.

"But she also stands up as a beacon of hope regarding our final

destiny," the bishop continued. "We rejoice today that Mary, as her earthly life ended, did not suffer the corruption of the body but rather was taken up body and soul to heaven to join her risen son."

Mary, he said, experienced a

transformation of her mortal body into an immortal body still joined with her soul.

"She gives us hope of a similar transformation of our bodies through our resurrection from the

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Pope Says Not Enough Evidence to Try Cardinal for Sexual Assault

By François Gloutnay, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A preliminary Vatican investigation into allegations against Cardinal Marc Ouellet concluded there was not sufficient evidence to warrant opening up formal proceedings against the cardinal for sexual assault, a Vatican spokesman said. However, the Jesuit who did the investigation was a long-time associate of the cardinal.

Pope Francis has been made aware of these findings and, after further consultation, has declared that “there are insufficient elements to open a canonical investigation for sexual assault by Cardinal Ouellet against person F,” Matteo Bruni, head of the Vatican press office, said in a written statement Aug. 18.

Bruni wrote that a preliminary investigation ordered by Pope Francis had been completed and that it concluded there were no facts or “elements to initiate a trial against Cardinal Ouellet for sexual assault.” The Canadian cardinal is prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for Bishops.

Bruni confirmed that Belgian Jesuit Father Jacques Servais had been chosen by the pope to conduct the preliminary study after he was accused of actions allegedly committed against a young laywoman, identified as “F” in Canadian court documents in a class action lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Quebec.

Bruni sought confirmation of the Vatican investigation directly from Father Servais, who replied: “There are no grounds to open an investigation into the sexual assault of F. by Card. M. Ouellet. Neither in his written report sent to the Holy Father, nor in the testimony via Zoom that I subsequently collected in the presence of a member of the (arch)diocesan ad hoc committee, did this person make any accusation that would provide grounds for such an investigation.”

Based on these findings and after “following further relevant consultations, Pope Francis declares that there are insufficient elements to open a canonical investigation for sexual assault by Cardinal Ouellet against person F,” Bruni said.

Cardinal Ouellet is a close adviser to Pope Francis, and he has been the prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, formerly the Congregation for Bishops, since 2010. He was appointed to the position by Pope Benedict XVI.

However, Pope Francis’ 2019 *motu proprio*, “*Vos estis lux mundi*,” states that any person helping in the investigation of potential abuse “is required to act impartially and must be free of conflicts of interest. If he considers himself to be in a conflict of interest or be unable to maintain the necessary impartiality required to guarantee the integrity of the investigation, he is obliged to recuse himself

and report the circumstances to the metropolitan.”

Father Servais and Cardinal Ouellet were both members of the Lubac-Balthasar-Speyr Association, first assembled in 1991 at the initiative of then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who gathered together a group of disciples and friends of Henri de Lubac and Hans Urs von Balthasar, coming from various countries and belonging to diverse ecclesial or religious states. Father Servais chaired the association, and Cardinal Ouellet, then a priest, was one of the founding members. Now-Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna and U.S. Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio were among other members of the six-member group.

In the class action lawsuit, Cardinal Ouellet was accused of actions allegedly committed against a young laywoman who was employed as a pastoral worker in 2008, when the cardinal was archbishop of Quebec. Court documents filed Aug. 16 indicate the actions consisted in “non-consensual touching of a sexual nature.”

Another bishop appears in the list. Auxiliary Bishop Jean-Paul Labrie, who died in 2001, served in the Quebec Archdiocese from 1977 to 1995. In his case, the alleged abuse occurred in 1968 when he was the superior of the seminary of Saint-Victor de Beauce in Quebec.

The class action suit was authorized by a judge of the Superior Court of Quebec May 19. It was filed on behalf of all “people having been sexually abused by a member of the diocesan clergy” or “by a religious, a lay pastoral staff member, an employee, and a lay or religious volunteer” under the responsibility of the Quebec Archdiocese between January 1, 1940, and the upcoming ruling in the case. The archdiocese originally asked that the names of the alleged abusers identified by 101 plaintiffs not be disclosed. The archdiocese’s lawyer advised the court July 22 that the arch-

diocese no longer sought to keep the names confidential.

The lawsuit includes the names of priests associated with the Quebec seminary, as well as those serving in the archdiocese, in parishes and at educational institutions. Most of those named are deceased. Many of the victims were younger than 18 at the time of the first alleged abuse.

Archdiocesan authorities were informed in January 2021 of the allegations against Cardinal Ouellet. A leader of the Archdiocesan Committee for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Persons even asked the victim to personally write a letter to Pope Francis.

An email from the Vatican Feb. 23, 2021, acknowledged that the pope read the letter and that he had appointed an investigator to the case: Father Servais, rector of the Casa Balthasar in Rome, a residence for young people discerning a call to religious life and for theology students. Court documents indicate that in August 2008, a 23-year-old woman identified as “F” started working as a pastoral agent in the Quebec Archdiocese and attended a meeting with all archdiocesan personnel. There, she met Cardinal Ouellet, for the first time.

She was sitting in the back of the room, documents said, when she “suddenly felt two hands on her shoulders, and they started to strongly massage her shoulders.” She recognized the cardinal right away, and “he smiled at her and caressed her back before leaving.”

“F was frozen following this intrusion and didn’t know how to react,” the lawsuit said. She recognized she felt troubled, and “a feeling of unease stayed with her for the rest of the day.” A few months later, she again met the cardinal during a reception. He kissed her “with familiarity” and “firmly pressed her against him while caressing her back with his hands,” the document said.

In February 2010, during a party,
See “Cardinal” on Page 4

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 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, 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. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (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, click “Diocese,” then “Offices,” then “Office of Safe Environment.”



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Mailing: PO Box 230
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(304) 232-0444
Fax: (304) 233-8551

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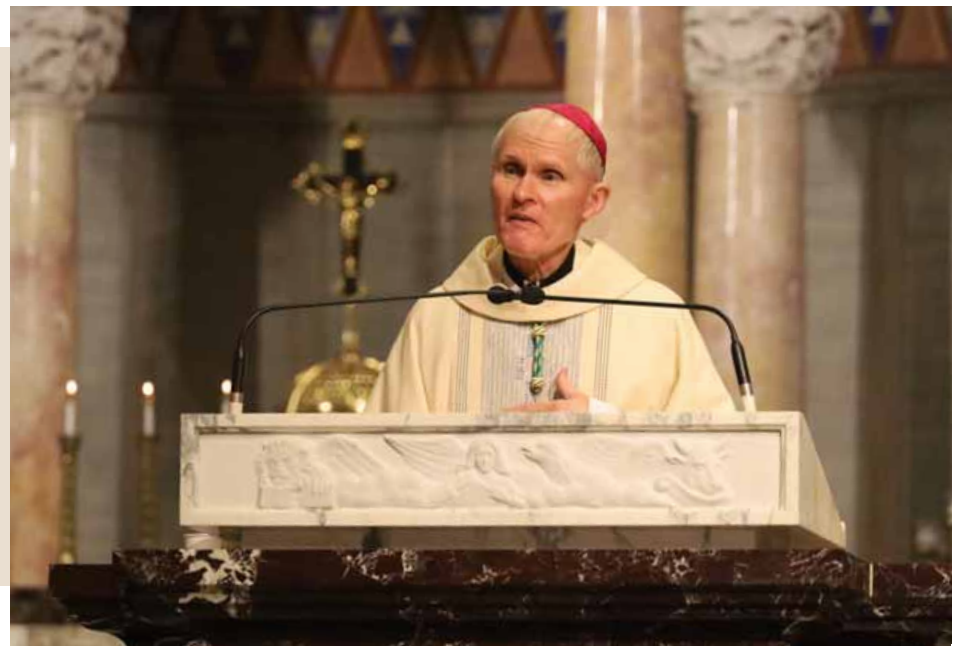
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Advertising: contact Colleen Rowan
Freelance Writers: Martina Hart, John Sherwood,
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“We rejoice today that Mary, as her earthly life ended, did not suffer the corruption of the body but rather was taken up body and soul to heaven to join her risen son.”

—Bishop Mark Brennan, Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan offers his homily during the Mass he celebrated on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling Aug. 15.

Mary...

Cont'd from Page 1

dead when Christ returns to the world," he said.

Bishop Brennan noted that in the second reading for the Mass, St. Paul teaches: "For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first-fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:20-27).

But in between Christ's resurrection at the first Easter and ours at the end of time there is room for the Assumption of the Lord's mother, the bishop said.

God never intended that we should die, Bishop Brennan said,

emphasizing that it was not part of his original plan.

"In his original plan it would have been a smooth transition from this natural life to supernatural life," the bishop said. "No more traumatic than seeing a loved one off on a journey or a vacation. As St. Paul tells us, death as we know it—a rupture in our personal existence—came about as a penalty for human sin. The reason our savior had to die and rise again was not only to forgive our sins but to take away the penalty of death.

"Mary's Assumption body and soul to heaven tells us that God is true to his word," the bishop continued. "We also shall rise again free of sin..."

Mary, he said, is not only a real

person but an image, a symbol of the church: "What she experiences, we disciples of her son also experience only later and in a different way." In her Immaculate Conception she was free of original sin; and we are freed of original sin in our baptism.

"Mary's Assumption, body and soul into heaven, anticipates our bodily resurrection at the end of time. So, we celebrate this great privilege given to the mother of

God," Bishop Brennan said.

He encouraged everyone to ask Our Lady to pray for all, for the church, and for the world. At the Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-12), Mary convinces Jesus to change the water into wine, the bishop said, and this shows that Jesus listens to his mother.

"He gave her to us as our spiritual mother," the bishop stressed. "So, let us accept the gift and make good use of it that we may join her one day in the glory of heaven."



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join us at our Diocesan camp property:
**225 Catholic Conference Center
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We will celebrate Mass with our bishop, Mark E. Brennan. There will also be adoration, music, food, recreational activities, catechesis, and speakers.

Parents are encouraged to attend as well.

Catholic Agencies Say Inflation Reduction Act Addresses Long-Standing Goals

By Dennis Sadowski,
Catholic News Service

Landmark legislation to address climate change, reduce prescription drug costs and establish a minimum tax on large corporations once thought dead but was suddenly passed by the Senate is being hailed by Catholic advocates.

"It's a minor miracle that it got passed," Dan Misleh, founder of the Catholic Climate Covenant, said of the Inflation Reduction Act, which was approved 51-50 Aug. 7. Vice President Kamala Harris cast the deciding vote.

Misleh and his organization have long advocated for passage of the climate-related components of the renamed bill, a pared down version of President Joe Biden's original \$2-trillion Build Back Better plan. The bill includes \$369 billion in funding for investments in clean energy, domestic manufacturing of batteries and solar panels, electric vehicle tax breaks and greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

Environmental advocates said such provisions will bring the U.S. closer to meeting its pledges to reduce carbon emissions under the Paris climate agreement. Taken together, the bill's components are projected by 2030 to reduce the country's carbon emissions by 40% from 2005 levels, the highest ever recorded.

The Democrat-controlled House of Representatives approved the bill by a 220 to 207 vote Aug. 12. No Republicans voted for the measure. Biden signed it into law Aug. 16 during a ceremony in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington.

Catholic Climate Covenant staff and volunteers have urged passage of the legislation's environment-related components in one form or another for months. A covenant-sponsored sign-on letter to members of Congress that calls for action on the climate garnered more than 300 institutional partners including parishes, religious congregations, dioceses, nonprofits and schools.

"We're just delighted that the United States is back in the game (to address climate change) internationally and nationally," Misleh told Catholic News Service Aug. 10.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Cath-

olic Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, also expressed support for the Senate vote.

He particularly cited the bill's provisions tackling environmental concerns and lowering drug prices in an Aug. 9 statement. He also said it was "prudent" that the measure "contains revenue provisions to offset the investments when concerns around inflation and the economy are high."

"Climate change is a global challenge that requires courageous, long-term action from Congress, and I am grateful for the many substantial climate provisions that bring the United States closer to honoring its emissions reductions goals under the Paris Agreement, which Pope Francis has strongly encouraged us to meet," the archbishop said.

"I am also grateful for provisions in the bill that will lower prescription drug costs for those who rely on Medicare, and continue to call on lawmakers to ensure all health care policy respects the inherent dignity and right to life of every human being," he added.

Misleh, a longtime environmental advocate, said the legislation's support for renewable energy projects are designed to aid Catholic facility managers choose to add solar panels and energy-efficient equipment to their buildings.

"It's going to make a lot of economic sense to do so," Misleh said. He also welcomed \$60 billion for environmental justice priorities, including \$15 billion for reducing carbon emissions and providing clean energy for low-income and disadvantaged communities.

The Inflation Reduction Act has undergone a metamorphosis in order to attract the votes of Democratic Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona. Republicans unanimously opposed the measure from the beginning.

Despite it being renamed in an effort to address the high inflation American families are facing, economic analysts have said the bill is unlikely to do little to either fuel or slow rising prices.

An analysis from the Penn Wharton Budget Model at the University of Pennsylvania estimates that act would cause inflation to rise "very slightly" through 2024 and then fall in later years.

It also would reduce cumulative federal deficits by \$248 billion over the next decade, according to the analysis.

A summary from Senate Democrats projects the bill would reduce the federal deficit by about \$300 billion.

While the bill still is largely focused on addressing environmental concerns, there are a wide range of provisions that would reach across the economy, including the health care sector.

Lisa Smith, vice president of advocacy and public policy, at the Catholic Health Association of the United States, said the bill would extend expanded subsidies for uninsured people to pay for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act through 2025. Households with incomes up to 400% of the federal poverty level, about \$106,000 for a family of four, would be able to receive help to pay for insurance premiums.

The expanded subsidies were scheduled to end in December under the American Rescue Plan passed in response to the pandemic.

"When it went (under the American Rescue Plan) into effect we saw an increase of 20% of people eligible for the subsidies," Smith said.

Another provision caps premium payments at 8.5% of income.

For people eligible for Medicaid, the bill will cover the cost of vaccines. Smith said about 4.1 million people will be eligible for free vaccines.

She also welcomed a provision that will allow the Medicare program to negotiate the cost of a limited number of prescription drugs. It is expected that the change will result in significant cost savings beginning in 2026. Currently drug manufacturers set drug prices.

In a related step, the bill caps out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors at \$2,000. Smith said the law would allow such costs to be spread over 12 months rather than be paid all at once before the limit kicks in.

Smith added that the health care provisions will help hospitals and long-term care facilities as they continue

to struggle with the effects of the pandemic that have driven supply and staffing costs and led to staffing shortages.

"This will reduce the uncompensated cost of care," she said, especially as people remain eligible for subsidies to pay health insurance premiums.

Meanwhile, key revenue-producing measures in the Inflation Reduction Act would offset the costs of its expenditures and tax incentives. They include:

— Setting a 15% alternative minimum tax on corporations with at least \$1 billion in income. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the tax would generate \$313 billion during fiscal years 2023 through 2030.

— Providing \$80 billion for the IRS, with more than half the amount boosting the agency's tax collection enforcement efforts. The Congressional Budget Office projects the proposal would result in an additional \$204 billion in revenue through 2030, yielding a net gain of \$124 billion.

Catholic Charities USA also welcomed the Senate vote and was looking to the House of Representatives to follow suit.

"It's a positive bill. There are many positive elements," Anthony Granado, vice president of government

relations, told CNS.

Still, the agency is disappointed that provisions related to rental assistance and child nutrition were excluded.

Granado said Catholic Charities will pursue broader funding of vital social services in upcoming negotiations on the fiscal year 2023 appropriations bills at a time when rents continue their rapid ascent and more people are visiting food banks as they struggle with high food costs.

A key concern is reimplementation of the enhanced child tax credit, Granado said, stressing the success it had before it expired in December.

A priority of social service agencies and advocates for low- and moderate-income families, the enhanced child tax credit was in place for most of 2021 under the American Rescue Plan.

Parents across the country reported being able to better provide food and other needs for their families with the additional payments received under the expanded credit.

The credit covered 61 million children in more than 36 million households, according to the Center on Poverty and Social Policy at Columbia University. The monthly payment in November kept 3.7 million children out of poverty, the center found.

Cardinal...

Cont'd from Page 2

the cardinal said to the young woman that "he could surely kiss her again, 'for there isn't any harm in spoiling oneself a bit.' F found this comment completely inappropriate," the document said. The cardinal went ahead and "slid his hand down F's back, down to her buttocks," it said.

Afterward, according to the document, F avoided all meetings and locations where she might run into the cardinal. "When F dares to speak of her uneasiness toward the cardinal, she is told that he is very warm and friendly, and that she isn't the only woman to have had this sort of problem with him," the filing stated.

It was 10 years later, following a workshop on sexual abuse, that the pastoral worker "understood that the actions of Cardinal Ouellet were nonconsensual touching of a sexual nature, and therefore a sexual aggression," the document said. In November 2020, without revealing the cardinal's name, the complainant sent an email to the Archdiocesan Committee for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Persons. In January 2021, she mentioned Cardinal Ouellet's name to the diocesan authorities. They answered that the pope should immediately be informed.

The young woman is one of 101 people who contacted the Arsenault Dufresne Wee Avocats law firm since May when the class-action suit was authorized by Superior Court Judge Bernard Godbout.

Gloutnay writes for *Présence info* in Montreal. Carol Glatz at the Vatican contributed to this story.

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Sisters Invite Young W.Va. Catholic Women to Join in DOYMAR Prayer Movement

By Colleen Rowan

West Virginia's young Catholic women have received an invitation from the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus in Steubenville, Ohio, to join in their prayer movement called DOYMAR. The goal of the movement is to help young women be true disciples of Jesus and to encounter him in prayer.

The sisters have been visiting parishes in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, including St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton last weekend and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling this past weekend, Aug. 14.

Speaking to the congregation following Mass at St. Vincent's was Sister Catalina Maria. She explained that DOYMAR is a Spanish acronym that, translated to English, stands for Prayerful and Marian-Apostolic Disciples of the Redemption. DOYMAR is a prayer movement by the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus whose motherhouse is in Madrid, Spain. The congregation has houses in nine countries, and the only one in the United States is in Steubenville.

Sister Catalina Maria described DOYMAR as an encounter, that the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus have at their convent (Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory) in Steubenville on a Saturday near the end of each month. The gathering is just a few hours. Each one begins at 10 a.m. with Mass followed by a short talk by a sister, time for adoration, and time for sharing.

For the younger children, she said, there are age-appropriate activities such as crafts and games. "They have a good time with the friends they make," Sister Catalina Maria said. The gathering ends at 1:30 p.m. Families are welcome to attend as well, she said.

"We want to help young people to discover how they can be true disciples of Jesus and how they can encounter him in prayer," she said to the congregation. "We have him right now in our hearts as we just received holy Communion. He really is the treasurer of our lives as Catholics — the Eucharistic heart of Jesus. And we wanted to share with young people through these meetings, through these prayer encounters, how we can be his disciples."

DOYMAR pamphlets, distributed by the sisters following Mass, highlight categories of the movement: Pre-Eucharistic Girls—first



Colleen Rowan Photo

From left are Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus Sister Miryam Taranee, Sister Maria Ecclesiae, and Sister Ellen Marie from Steubenville, Ohio, during their visit to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling Aug. 14.

through second grade girls; Eucharistic girls—third through fifth grade girls; and Traveling Teens—sixth through 10th grade girls. A second pamphlet described DOYMAR for high school and college-age young women, ages 16 to 25. This includes Friday adoration at 9:30 p.m., Saturday gathering with 10 a.m. Mass, prayer, shared formation in faith, and service.

The pamphlets state that under the protection of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, the DOYMAR prayer encounters began in 1984. On May 31, 2012, DOYMAR was recognized as an international public association of the faithful. "Join us for a time of prayer, fellowship, and fun with the sisters," the order states in the pamphlets. "Together with Mary, every month we gather in prayer as disciples to listen to Jesus in the Eucharist, experience the mystery of the redemption and become apostles who bring others to that same life-changing encounter with Christ."

ing encounter with Christ."

In her talk at St. Vincent's, Sister Catalina Maria also spoke about the different gatherings and prayer opportunities the sisters have during the year, such as novenas to their patroness, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. She also told the congregation that the sisters will be keeping the parish in their prayers and asked that they pray for the sisters as well.

Father Jeelson V. Stephan, MCBS, pastor of St. Vincent's, thanked the sisters for their visit "and sharing with us your ministry. Your presence here in the church means a lot."

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory is located at 700 Lovers Ln., Steubenville. For more information and to RSVP to participate in DOYMAR, call (740) 346-2625. For more about the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus and DOYMAR, visit www.hsmcj.org.

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St. Monica Mass for the Conversion of Lost Souls to be Celebrated at Cathedral

WHEELING—The Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling will celebrate a Mass for the Conversion of Lost Souls on Friday, Aug. 26, the eve of the Memorial of St. Monica, at 6 p.m.

In addition to being one of the patron saints of mothers, St. Monica is most often invoked for the conversion of children who have left the church. The cathedral will celebrate this Mass to pray in a special way for all those who have wandered from the practice of the faith.

During the Mass, everyone present will have an opportunity to write the names of their loved ones and entrust them to the powerful intercession of St. Monica.

'Adopt a Class' Program Provides Support for Parkersburg Catholic Schools

PARKERSBURG—There is still time to "Adopt a Class" in Parkersburg Catholic Schools. This is a program in which donors can "adopt" a classroom for a minimum of \$250, providing needed support for the year. Teachers are free to spend the funds any way they want that benefits their class. This helps a lot, school officials said in a post on Facebook, as many teachers buy classroom items out of their own pockets.

"We are happy to announce that all our elementary classrooms have been adopted," school officials said in the post. "We still have several middle and high school classrooms up for grabs. We were blessed and grateful to have every single class adopted last year and we would love to have the same this year."

To adopt a class or for any questions, call Kelli Lewis at (304) 428-7528 or send e-mail to: kewis@pchs1.com.

Martinsburg Catholic Daughters' Event Will Partially Benefit St. Joseph School

INWOOD—The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 392 of Martinsburg, in cooperation with St. Leo Parish in Inwood, is sponsoring "Happiness is Yelling Bingo" on Sept. 11 with 50 percent of the proceeds to benefit St. Joseph School in Martinsburg.

The event will be held at St. Leo's with a snack bar open for lunch, a bake sale, a basket sale, and a silent auction. Doors open at noon and games begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance. See a Catholic Daughters member for purchasing advance tickets.

For specific information about the games and for more information about the event, call Judy Risdon at (703) 928-4977 or e-mail CDA392BINGO@gmail.com.

Women, age 18 and older of the Catholic faith, can join the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 392 of Martinsburg. Court 392 is the only court serving the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

Wheeling Central Students Committed to Service



Courtesy Photo

Getting a head start on earning service hours are incoming Wheeling Central Catholic High School freshmen Bella Rine, Helene Crall, and Maddie Miehle (pictured from left). These young Knights volunteered at the Lace Up for Kids Event sponsored by the United Way. All CCHS students are required to earn service hours every year.

Morgantown Magnificat to Host Inspirational Prayer Breakfast Featuring Susan Pivarunas

MORGANTOWN—Morgantown Magnificat will host an Inspirational Prayer Breakfast Aug. 27 at St. John University Parish Hall in Morgantown (New Magnificat location). The gathering will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (doors open 8:45 a.m.).

The featured speaker is Susan Pivarunas, who will share her story of how God orchestrated miraculous

events to give her family hope when her husband suffered a serious heart attack. A continental breakfast will be served.

Register by Aug. 20 at Magnificat-ministry.net (click on Chapters, States, Morgantown Chapter of WV.) Tickets are \$20.

For questions, e-mail Claire at CLRPL09@gmail.com, or call Mary Paul at (304) 319-2747.



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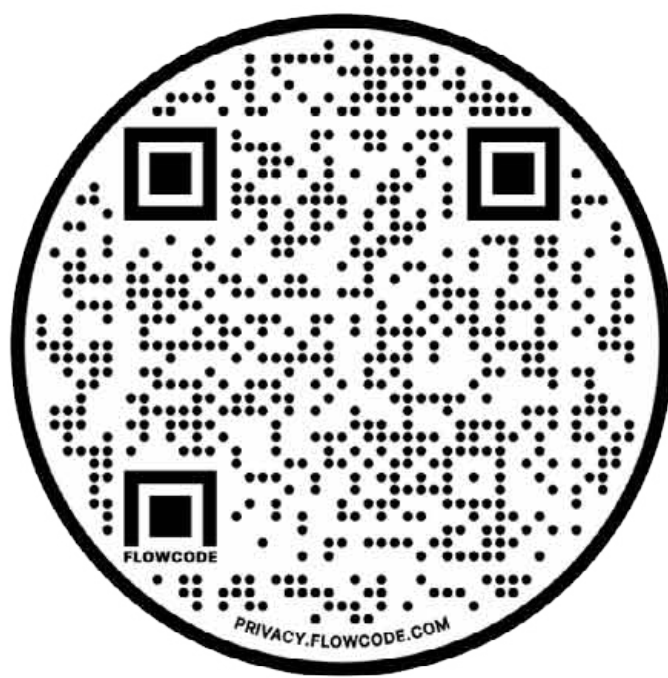
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FAITH

St. Joseph Retreat Center Announces Upcoming Virtual Events

"The Ministry of Jesus"



The home of Jesus in Capernaum, the Mt. of Beatitudes, and Tabgha – the place of the Multiplication of the Loaves. Migdal was the home of Mary Magdalene.

"The Infancy Narratives"



The Chapel at the Basilica of the Annunciation, Nazareth. "Here the Word was made Flesh."

"The Triduum"



The Way of the Cross

WHEELING—The St. Joseph Retreat Center in Wheeling has announced three upcoming virtual events. All are invited to participate.

The first is **A Virtual Pilgrimage Series with Sister Sallie Latkovich, CSJ**. This is a virtual pilgrimage to the Holy Land, to experience the places in the Gospel. All are invited to join in this journey of the heart to the homeland of Jesus.

The pilgrimage includes three journeys: Thursday, Sept. 22, "The Ministry of Jesus"; Thursday, Oct. 20, "The Infancy Narratives"; and finally, Thursday, Nov. 17, "The Triduum."

The cost is \$30 for the entire series or \$10 per session. All of the sessions are from 7-8:15 p.m. via Zoom.

For questions or to register, contact atroiani@csjoseph.org or call (304) 232-8160, ext. 112.

The Social Justice Series: Educate, Organize, and Lobby with NETWORK is the second of the upcoming virtual events.

"Interested in learning more about faith-based advocacy, with a focus on racial and economic justice? The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph is partnering with NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice to deepen our commitment to political ministry and to our purpose that all people may be united with God and with one another," organizers of the event say in promotional materials.

The dates are Sept. 29, Nov. 3, Dec. 8, and Jan. 26—all at 7 p.m. Each session is 90 minutes on Zoom.

The cost is \$40 for the whole series, or \$15 per session. (There

will be no charge for CSJ sisters or associates.) Associates, sisters, friends, and neighbors are all welcome to attend this four-part workshop series.

Register online at <https://csjthewell.org/programs/network-workshop/>. The registration deadline for the whole series or first session is Sept. 22.

This social justice series is sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, The Well Spirituality Center, and the St. Joseph Retreat Center.

The third virtual event is **"Thomas Merton's Way of Living in Unity with Earth"** co-sponsored by the Well Spirituality Center and St. Joseph Retreat Center.

Sister Kathleen Noone Deignan, CND, Ph.D., will present this series on Zoom Saturday, Sept. 17, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

"Join us to encounter Thomas Merton, the ecological prophet and visionary, in a morning of cre-



Sister Kathleen Noone Deignan, CND, Ph.D., is presenting the virtual event: "Thomas Merton's Way of Living in Unity with Earth"

ative and lively exploration," organizers of the event say in promotional materials. "Come with deep questions. Come with an open mind and empty hands. Come ready to receive illumination and blessing."

The cost is \$25. This program will be presented on Zoom. Those interested can watch from their home or with others in person at either the Well Spring Spirituality Center or the St. Joseph Retreat Center. Sister Kathleen will only be on Zoom.

Sister Kathleen is a sister of the Congregation of Notre Dame and professor emerita of religious studies at Iona College where she serves as founder and director of the Deignan Institute for Earth and Spirit, a multi-faceted project in support of the emergence of the global ecological civilization. Her publications include "When the Trees Say Nothing: Thomas Merton's Writings on Nature"; "Thomas Merton: A Book of Hours"; and numerous published articles on integral spirituality.

Register at csjtgewell.org/programs/thomas-merton/

St. Joseph Retreat Center, is a ministry of the Congregation of St. Joseph, Wheeling Center, located in Wheeling. The mission of the center serves as a means of extending the mission of loving unity to which the Congregation of St. Joseph is called. Through their programs and peaceful environment, the congregation strives to provide a place where individuals and groups may nourish their spiritual lives.

For more information about the St. Joseph Retreat Center, visit its website at <http://stjosephretreatcenter.org>.

Mountain Church Pilgrimage:

Connecting with your West Virginia Catholic Roots:
September 6-9, 2022

Get acquainted with three unique churches in the Mountain State while you meet, pray and develop spiritual friendships with other Catholics. Motor coach tour starts in Summersville, West Virginia, and features Mass, rosary, discussion sessions and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Masses will be celebrated at St. Bernard Chapel in Snowshoe by Father Arthur Bufogle Jr. and at Holy Family Church in Richwood by Father Quy Dang.

Cost is \$600, which includes motel, tour bus and most meals. Registration and \$100 down payment required by August 23, with a maximum of 30 attendees. If less than 20 sign up, the trip will be cancelled and down payment returned to you.

For details and to sign up, text or call (304) 644-9906, or email jbard11@frontier.com.

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|------------------|--|
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| 6:30 WTOV FOX 9 | Wheeling-Steubenville |
| 8:00 WBOY NBC 12 | Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont |
| 8:30 WVNS FOX 59 | Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg) |
| 11:00 WDVM 25 | Hagerstown-Washington D.C. |

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The Elderly Can Unite All Generations, Save Humanity, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis dedicated his general audience talk to the urgent need for young and old to come together so older people can share their faith and wisdom about the world.

“Let’s think about dialogue, about the alliance between old and young,” he said, as well as make sure this bond is not broken. “May the elderly have the joy of speaking, of expressing themselves with young people and may young people seek out the elderly to receive the wisdom of life from them.”

It was an appeal one small boy in the Vatican’s Paul VI audience hall seemed to take to heart, walking past the guards and straight up to the pope to stand transfixed by his side during the final greetings at the audience’s end.

The pope affectionately rubbed the boy’s close-cropped hair and reassured him he was welcome to stay.

“During the audience we talked about dialogue between old and young, right? And this one, he has been brave and he’s at ease,” the pope said about his small guest to applause.

The pope continued his series of

talks on old age and reflected on how reaching a ripe old age is a reassurance of eternal life in heaven.

In fact, “the image of a God, who is watching over everything with snow-white hair, is not a silly symbol, it is a biblical image, it is a noble image, even a tender image,” the pope said. To depict God the Father as venerable in age and authority “expresses God’s transcendence, his eternity and his constant care for this world and its history,” the pope’s talk said.

The vocation for every older man and woman, the pope said, is to bear witness to the faith and to the wisdom acquired over the years.

“The witness of the elderly is credible to children. Young people and adults are not capable of bearing witness in such an authentic, tender, poignant way, as elderly people can,” the pope said.

He said it is also very compelling when the elderly bless life as it comes their way and show no resentment or bitterness as time marches on and death nears.

“The witness of the elderly unites the generations of life, the same with the dimensions of time: past, present

and future, for they are not only the memory, they are the present as well as the promise,” the pope said.

“It is painful and harmful to see that the ages of life are conceived of as separate worlds, in competition among themselves, each one seeking to live at the expense of the other. This is not right,” he said.

An alliance between the elderly and young people “will save the human family,” he said. “There is a future where children, where young people speak with the elderly. If this dialogue does not take place between the elderly and the young, the future cannot be clearly seen.”

Humanity, even with all its progress, still seems “to be an adolescent born yesterday,” which needs “to retrieve the grace of an old age that holds firmly to the horizon of our destination.”

Death is a very difficult passage in life, the pope said, but it “concludes the time of uncertainty and throws away the clock,” ushering in “the beautiful part of life, which has no more deadlines.”

During the last part of the general audience, when the pope offers special greetings to those attending from dif-

ferent parts of the world, the pope reaffirmed his prayers for Ukraine, asking that people not forget “this martyred people.”

There was also a brief interruption during the greetings when a Swiss guard, who was standing behind one of the language speakers, fell face forward, dropping his halberd. Two men from security assisted him in standing back up and another Swiss guard took his place.

Pope Warns Somalia at Risk of Famine, Appeals for Aid

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called on the international community to help the people of Somalia who are at risk of famine due to severe drought.

“The populations of this region, who already live in very precarious conditions, now find themselves in mortal danger due to drought,” the pope said Aug. 14 during his Sunday Angelus address.

“I hope that international solidarity can respond effectively to this emergency,” he said. “Unfortunately, war diverts attention and resources, but these are the objectives that demand the utmost commitment: the fight against hunger; health; and education.”

According to an Aug. 5 report by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, the rise in food insecurity brought on by the drought has caused “more than 900,000 people to flee their homes in search of humanitarian assistance since January last year.”

As conditions worsen, “people living in eight areas of the country could be experiencing famine by September,” the organization said.

“We cannot wait for famine to be declared; we must

act now to safeguard livelihoods and lives,” Rein Paulsen, director of the FAO, said in a statement. “We are deeply concerned about the drought situation and how vulnerable households are being affected.”

In an interview with Vatican News published Aug. 12, Bishop Giorgio Bertin, apostolic administrator of Mogadishu, Somalia, said the drought is “one of the worst in the last 40 years.”

Furthermore, the risk of famine has also worsened due to a fragile government as well as repeated attacks across Somalia by the al-Shabab terrorist group.

Bishop Bertin said that, despite the difficulties, the Catholic Church is mobilizing efforts to assist the people of Somalia, especially those forced to flee their homes.

He also said he met with Archbishop Antoine Camilleri, apostolic nuncio to Ethiopia and Djibouti and apostolate delegate for Somalia, to discuss the dire circumstances.

“I urged the nuncio that he inform the Holy See and the Holy Father directly, so that attention to this part of the world does not fade,” Bishop Bertin told Vatican News.



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Hurricane Knights Donate More Than \$700 in Gift Cards to State VA Home in Barboursville

Courtesy Photo
The Hurricane Knights of Columbus donated more than \$700 in gift cards to the State VA Home in Barboursville. From left are Rick Burgess, Sandy Merritt, Rusty Rice, John Hall, and Fred Deissinger, PGK.



Pilgrims Walk 'in the Footsteps' of Blessed Michael McGivney on Feast Day

By Andrew Fowler Catholic News Service

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (CNS) — Christopher Casey, a college student from Philadelphia, has only come to learn about Blessed Michael McGivney by attending Mass at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, where the parish priest founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 and where he is laid to rest.

The student has lived in the Elm City, New Haven's nickname, for the past 11 weeks, recently completing an internship at a local pharmaceutical company.

It was at Mass he first heard about a bus tour sponsored by the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center — "In the Footsteps of Blessed Michael McGivney." When his college friend, Alfred Kivowem, visited for the weekend, Casey felt inspired that the two should participate in the pilgrimage.

On Aug. 13, they were among 50 pilgrims — composed of religious, families and others — who visited sites of significance in the life and spiritual formation of Blessed McGivney in Waterbury and Thomaston, Connecticut.

The tour coincided with the liturgical memorial of Blessed McGivney, observed annually in the Archdiocese of Hartford, and the second since his beatification Oct. 31, 2020. The feast day falls between his Aug. 12 birth and his Aug. 14 death.

"We felt it was worthwhile to try to give those that are devoted to Father McGivney a greater perspective of his lifetime," said Peter Sonski, the education outreach director at the pilgrimage center. "We organized these trips that would lead people to some of the sites that they might not be as familiar with."

Participants walked in the literal

footsteps of Blessed McGivney's life — including an opera house stage and steps at a local cemetery.

They also were presented with several lectures regarding his relevancy in the 21st century, witnessed the unveiling of a refurbished statue dedicated to the American blessed in Waterbury and heard testimony from a family who reportedly received a favor from his intercession.

"It was great to be in the space Father McGivney inhabited, worked in, did his ministry in — I think that helped me contextualize who he was and his life," Casey said.

At the Thomaston Opera House, Joseph and Megan Hermsillo of Frederick, Maryland, along with their six children (ages 2-12), were invited to the stage to give testimony of receiving a favor they said was granted by the intercession of Blessed McGivney.

More than a century earlier the priest had graced the same stage to perform in theater productions such as the Irish folk play "Handy Andy."

The couple said they prayed to Blessed McGivney and that his intercession saved Joseph from dying of COVID-19. What was a mild case became life-threatening, and Joseph had to be placed on a ventilator Jan. 8.

When they sought someone to pray to, a trusted pastor pointed them to Blessed McGivney. With their prayers, Joseph began to show improvement.

The couple then contacted the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center requesting a relic to venerate as part of the prayer campaign for Joseph's healing. A relic was eventually transported to the hospital in Maryland.

Joseph was blessed with it, and four days later he was removed from

the ventilator. He made incremental progress until he could be discharged. In total, he spent 32 days in the hospital. Today, he has made a full recovery.

One of the leaders of "In the Footsteps of Blessed Michael McGivney" pilgrimage, Sister Veronica Sullivan, has her own story to share about praying to the Knights founder on behalf of someone — her brother.

The Sister of Life, who has had a deeply spiritual connection with Blessed McGivney for nearly 20 years, said that in 2006 she suddenly awoke in the middle of the night, overcome with an urgent need to pray for someone.

That someone, she eventually discovered, was her brother Dennis, who had suffered a massive heart attack. His chances of surviving were grim. He had no pulse for more than 40 minutes. Even if he survived, he would surely have long-term brain damage.

Visiting him in the hospital, "I didn't even recognize him in the bed," Sister Sullivan said. His body

had swelled to three times its normal size.

She went to the hospital window, pleading with God that "this can't happen" for her mother's sake; her mother had recently lost her husband and oldest son. In that moment, she felt an urge to pray for Father McGivney's intercession.

"I went to my brothers, Jim and John, and I said, 'I think we need to go to the tomb of Father McGivney. I'm just overcome with a sense we should pray to him for a miracle for Dennis,'" she said.

While at St. Mary's Church, she felt a presence in the pew during her intense prayer.

"I knew he was there. And I heard a voice clearly ask me, 'Tell me what I have to do.' Instantly, I felt awake," she recalled. Formerly a cardiac nurse at St. Raphael Hospital in New Haven, she listed what needed to happen, praying for no brain damage.

After the presence departed, she felt at peace believing Dennis would

See "Pilgrims" on Page 12

In honor of Father McGivney's Beatification.....

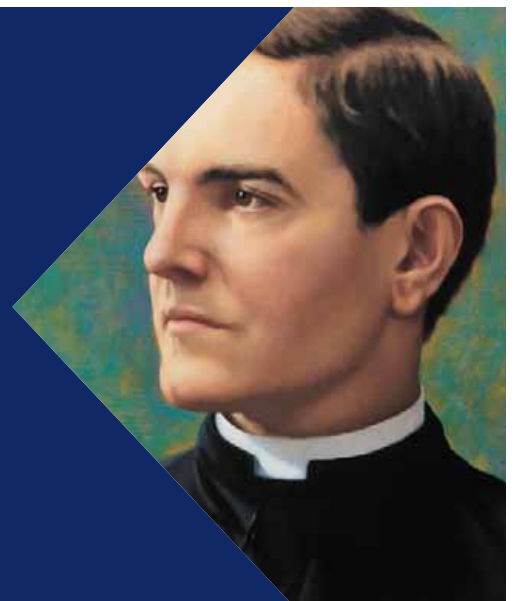
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Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

- Sunday, August 28: St. Sebastian, Kingwood, 5 p.m.
- Friday, September 16: Holy Spirit, Monongah, 6 p.m.
- Sunday, October 2: St. James the Apostle, Clarksburg, 4 p.m.
- Sunday, October 9: SS. Peter & Paul, Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, October 16: St. Agnes, Shepherdstown, 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, October 20: Ascension, Hurricane, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 22: Blessed Sacrament, South Charleston, 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, October 23: Combined Confirmation: Sacred Heart, Huntington, & St. Peter Claver, Huntington, at Sacred Heart Parish, 9 a.m.
- Sunday, October 30: Holy Rosary, Buckhannon, 9 a.m.
- Sunday, November 6: All Saints, Bridgeport, 10 a.m.

Pilgrims...

Cont'd from Page 11

survive. Within hours, Dennis' prognosis positively reversed. He lived another healthy 12 years.

Since then, Sister Sullivan has assumed a responsibility for researching, preserving and sharing insights into Father McGivney's life.

For the "Footsteps" pilgrimage, she guided the participants to the former site of St. Thomas Church where the blessed was a pastor for six years until his death in 1890. The site is marked only by a yellow rope on the slope of a highway.

The new St. Thomas Church is now on the other side of the tracks, closer to the center of town on "Father McGivney Way."

The tour then proceeded to St. Thomas Cemetery, specifically to walk several stone steps imprinted in the hillside near an old horse-and-buggy path. In Blessed McGivney's time, the steps were the cemetery's original entryway — another tangible link to the priest's past, which is now regularly maintained by local Knights of Columbus councils.

"He's become very real to me, very personal to me, almost like family," Sister Sullivan said. "I love seeing other people come to know him and I love to make him real for them."

"That's what these tours typically do — they help people come to

know him to be just an ordinary neighbor, brother, parish priest yet extraordinary in every way."

Following the excursion in Thomaston, the tour returned to Waterbury for a vigil Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.

With a relic of Father McGivney in their midst, attendees were invited to process from the basilica to a circle at a nearby intersection for the unveiling of a refurbished statue of Waterbury's native son. The original was initially erected in 1957 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Knights of Columbus' founding.

"May the vision of Father McGivney, son of Waterbury and son of the church, be an inspiration in our own call to preach the Gospel," said Father Jim Sullivan, rector at the basilica and brother of Sister Sullivan, as the statue was unveiled.

Blessed McGivney's great-grand-nephew John Walshe, who attended the 1957 ceremony, helped take the drapes off his relative.

Based on the enthusiastic turnout for the Aug. 13 pilgrimage, the Blessed McGivney center plans to provide more such trips.

"When he is canonized, and I believe he will be, we're going to have that interest," Sonski said. "People are going to want to come here, and they'll want to know more about him and have this experience that some of the people had today."



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CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA MISSION MOMENT

‘Pop-Up’ Distributions Provide Needed Food

As the cost of nearly everything continues to rise across the country, food insecurity is plaguing more and more households. In an effort to alleviate some of this worry, the Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes Outreach Center in Hinton is hoping to provide more “pop-up” food distributions in southern West Virginia.

These distributions, typically held in parking lots, welcome anyone who needs help. Food is distributed as well as other items that may help struggling households extended their budgets.

Our first special distribution took place in a parking lot in Princeton with volunteers from Princeton Sacred Heart Parish. The event was held on a weekend to give those who typically work business hours the opportunity to come.

Items distributed included fresh bread, potatoes, onions, a bag of non-perishable foods, a bag of hygiene items, and clothing. A total of 84 families received help that day, with many families expressing how thankful they were to receive the help.

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



Courtesy Photo

Catholic Charities West Virginia staff and volunteers coordinate a “pop-up” food distribution for those in need.

collaborates with community partners, parishes, and families to provide caring and com-

passionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

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Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María

Foto de Colleen Rowan
El obispo Mark Brennan y el diácono Doug Breiding distribuyen la Comunión durante la Misa de la Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María en la Catedral de St. Joseph en Wheeling el 15 de agosto.



DIÓCESIS DE WHEELING-CHARLESTON CALENDARIO DE CONFIRMACIÓN

Obispo Mark E. Brennan, Celebrante

Domingo 28 de agosto: San Sebastián, Kingwood, 5 p. m.

Viernes, 16 de septiembre: Espíritu Santo, Monongah, 6 p.m.

Domingo 2 de octubre: Santo Santiago el Apóstol, Clarksburg, 4 p.m.

Domingo 9 de octubre: Santos Pedro y Pablo, Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.

Domingo 16 de octubre: Santa Inés, Shepherdstown, 10:30 a. m.

Jueves 20 de octubre: Ascensión, Hurricane, 6:30 p. m.

Sábado 22 de octubre: Santísimo Sacramento, South Charleston, 5:30 p. m.

Domingo, 23 de octubre: Confirmación combinada: Sagrado Corazón, Huntington y San Pedro Claver, Huntington, en la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón, 9 a. m.

Domingo 30 de octubre: Santo Rosario, Buckhannon, 9 a. m.

Domingo 6 de noviembre: Todos los Santos, Bridgeport, 10 a. m.

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 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.

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



Director of Catholic Schools Religious Education and Evangelization Needed

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Catholic Schools, in West Virginia, is accepting letters of interest from qualified and highly motivated candidates for the position of Director of Catholic Schools Religious Education and Evangelization.

Ideal Candidate:

A skilled instructor and administrator with passion both for your field of content expertise and for leading students, staff and faculty in learning and growing in our Catholic Faith. Demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to ensuring that every student learns in a Faith-based environment based in Gospel values.

You are motivated to provide learning that is rich with motivation, active engagement in cognitively challenging tasks, regular assessment and feedback, as well as modeling and providing differentiated forms of re-engagement and support for administrators, staff, faculty and students.

You value experiential learning, that is rooted in a community of Catholic heritage and culture inspired by the rich educational tradition in our Catholic schools. You see relationships of mutual respect and rapport as foundational to learning.

You value professional growth through collaboration with other educators both at the school level and in partnership with others. You collaborate well in various collegial structures for professional and ministerial growth.

Core Competencies

- Assists in the development and implementation of goals and objectives for the Department of Catholic Schools.
- Confers regularly with the Superintendent, School/ Designated principal and religious education chairperson of each school to assess the school religion program.
- Observes teachers of religious education in the schools as part of the on going program assessment.
- Provides opportunities for professional and spiritual development of religion teachers in schools.
- Works collaboratively with the Superintendent of Schools to provide leadership and support to school administrators.
- Assists school administrators as needed in recruiting and selecting qualified religion teachers.
- Creates and monitors implementation of Religious Education Guidelines.
- Assist with the creating of Religious Education curriculum mapping.
- Oversees Catholic Schools Religious Education Certification program used by our teachers for professional development.
- Works to maintain and update list of religion texts recommended for use in the schools and parish programs.
- Works with principals to ensure that all religion teachers are certified (or working toward certification) according to Diocesan policy.

- Serves as a resource person for religious education/formation by maintaining a library of texts, manuals, support materials, current literature and media.

- Meets regularly with the religion teachers of secondary schools to evaluate the program, discuss needed changes and make recommendations.

- Assist the superintendent by gathering, organizing and correlate information on teacher certification in the Catholic Schools.

- Travels significantly during the week and on weekends and participates in evening and weekend job related activities.

- Participates with members of the department in workshops and in-service training sessions.

- Assists in the orientation of new principals and new teachers.

- When requested, observes teachers to assist the administrator in guiding them towards improvement in the teaching of religion.

- Reviews religious education/formation policies in the school policy handbook and suggests revisions when appropriate.

- Maintains religious education files and issues certificates as appropriate.

- Assists superintendent in implementing special programs in the schools; Virtue in Education program

- Oversees the Assessment of Religious Knowledge (ARK) testing program and works with schools to analyze and utilizing the assessment data.

- Performs other job related duties as collaboratively determined and within the limits of time, energy and priorities.

Qualifications

Base

- Master's degree (MA) in Theology, or Religious Education, or related field.

- Must adhere to the teachings of the Magisterium of the Church.

- Experience teaching religion in parochial elementary and secondary schools.

- Must possess leadership, organizational and interpersonal communication skills.

- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

Preferred

- Working experience as school administrator or related administrative, department head or lead teacher responsibility.

- Worked as a teacher with teacher certification.

Next Steps

Qualified and highly motivated candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae or résumé to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org. Candidates who meet the qualifications for this position will be contacted about the interview process and invited to submit a full set of application materials.

Kindergarten Aide Custodian Needed at Corpus Christi School, Wheeling

Corpus Christi School in Wheeling is seeking positive, energetic, qualified individuals to fill the following positions for the starting the 2022-2023 school year.

- Kindergarten Aide (FULL TIME 8:30-3:30, experience preferred)

- School Custodian (PART TIME 1pm -6pm , 5 days a week)

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and three references to Principal Shannon Wall at swall@ccwheeling.net

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