

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Pope Sets Today, Aug. 22, as Day to Pray, Fast for Peace in Ukraine, Holy Land

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Leo XIV asked Catholics to observe Aug. 22 as a day of prayer and fasting for peace and justice, particularly in Ukraine and in the Holy Land.

At the end of his general audience Aug. 20, the pope noted that the church will celebrate the

feast of the Queenship of Mary Aug. 22.

“While our world continues to be wounded by wars in the Holy Land, in Ukraine and in many other regions of the world,” he said, “I ask all the faithful to spend Aug. 22 in fasting and prayer, asking the Lord to grant us peace and justice and to dry the tears of those who suffer because of the armed

conflicts underway.”

“May Mary, queen of peace, intercede so that people would find the path of peace,” he prayed.

The night before his audience, as he was greeting people who gathered outside the Villa Barberini in Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo told reporters the new diplomatic moves aimed at ending Russia’s war on Ukraine are a reason for hope,

but much remains to be done.

“There is hope. We still have to work hard, pray hard and seek the way forward,” the pope told reporters late Aug. 19 as he prepared to leave the villa and return to the Vatican.

Encountering the pope the day after U.S. President Donald Trump met with Ukrainian President **See “Peace” on Page 4**

Bishop Brennan Announces a Special Collection for Gaza Relief

August 18, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In recent months, our hearts have been deeply moved by the suffering of so many in the Holy Land, particularly in Gaza, where ongoing conflict has led to devastating humanitarian consequences. Thousands of families have been displaced, and essential resources such as food, water, medical care, and shelter remain critically scarce. Amid these hardships, our Christian brothers and sisters in the region continue to bear witness to the Gospel in the face of profound adversity.

In solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land and in response to the call of Pope Leo XIV for the global Church to offer both spiritual and material support, I am asking all parishes in our diocese to participate in a Special Collection for Gaza Relief on the weekend of September 6-7, 2025. Funds collected will be sent to The Catholic Near East Welfare Association and Catholic Relief Services, both reliable Catholic charitable organizations who are already working on the ground to provide **See “Collection” on Page 4**

New High School Brings to Life Dreams of Expanding Catholic Education



Courtesy photo

The first freshman class at the new St. Joseph High School stands on the steps of the school in Martinsburg on Aug. 19. Front row, from left: Elianna Kaudy, Annabelle Ayers, and Maya Byers. Second row, from left: Addison Michael, Madison Regalia, Shayla Do, Mia MacDonald, and Gabriela Galicia Ruiz. Back row, from left: John Farmer, Matthew Billmyer, Oliver Heng, Jeane Acuna, James White, and Veronica Perkowski.

By Meg H. Partington
MARTINSBURG — Orientation for the first freshman class at the new St. Joseph High School in Martinsburg was a time of reunion and homecoming for several of

the 14 students.
John Farmer, 14, of Shepherdstown, jokingly referred to himself as a prodigal son when warmly greeted at the downtown Martinsburg school on Aug. 13 by former

St. Joseph School classmate Oliver Heng, who will join him in the freshman class. Farmer attended St. Joseph School from kindergarten to seventh grade, then **See “School” on Page 7**

Inside:

Day of Reflection for Those in the Second Half of Life to be Held in Wheeling and Charleston, Page 3



Obituaries

Sister Constance Dodd, SM

Marist Sister Constance Dodd died peacefully on Friday, Aug. 8, in the loving care of her community. She was born June 4, 1933, in Ballinadon, County Sligo, Ireland, the 7th of 8 children.



She ministered for 12 years in Wheeling with the poor and homeless at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center. She really loved the ministry there, and was in many ways the face of service to the most disadvantaged of the area. She said once that, at the end of each day, she could say:

“The hungry were fed today. The poor were clothed. The sick were visited.” During those years, she received from Pope Benedict XVI the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal, the highest honor a non-cleric can receive in the Church. She valued even more highly the honorary doctorate she received from Wheeling Jesuit University for her committed service to the poor.

She was 21 when she entered the Marist Sisters in Ireland, having attended their boarding school during her high school years. She came to the United States in 1956, the last surviving member of the first 5 Marist Sisters who brought the community in the U.S. She attended college at Marygrove, and taught at St. Albert the Great School in Dearborn Heights, MI, which she also served as principal. Moving to Canada, she had some happy years in the school system in the Province of Quebec. She served in the General Administration in Rome, Italy, which allowed her to experience the poverty in Mexico, Colombia and Brazil, where the Marist Sisters minister in some poorer areas.

Her last years were spent in Michigan, where she continued to serve the Marist Sisters’ congregation and beyond in many ways. May Constance rest in God’s peace in the company of her family, Sisters and friends.

Sister Eveleen Forkin, SM

Marist Sister Eveleen Forkin died peacefully on Tuesday, July 15, in the loving care of St. Angela Hospice. Eveleen was born in Caracastle, Co Mayo, Ireland on January 8, 1927. She was the oldest of ten children. She and her siblings attended the local schools.

From an early age Eveleen felt a call to religious life but it was when she met the Marist Sisters in high school that she clinched her plan. She entered the novitiate in Paignton, England, in November 1944, and in 1945 went to France for three years where she continued her formation. The next call to Eveleen was to go to Canada where a mission had already begun in New Brunswick. Always up to a challenge from her early years and with a very generous heart, Eveleen’s response was a whole-hearted “yes” and she set sail for the new endeavor. While in Canada she completed her education and became an outstanding teacher. Her focus and her heart were always with the children. She had remarkable empathy and compassion for those least attractive or those experiencing problems.

After twenty years in Canada when the mission had started to bloom and to sprout new growth, she came to the U.S. where she taught for eight years at St. Albert the Great in Dearborn Hgts., MI, and did pastoral work at St. James in Ferndale for about 12 years. She also spent 6 years in West Virginia as principal of Our Lady of Peace School in Wheeling. A sabbatical changed her direction once more and she started Personal Human Development groups. The groups flourished and she saw many of the participants on a one-to-one basis. She remained with this ministry until the time of her death.

Eveleen loved being a Marist Sister. May she now rest in God’s peace with the many Marist Sisters she dearly loved.

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 Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese’s Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504 or the Diocese’s sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under “Accountability.” Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click “Diocese” on the menu bar, then “Offices,” then “Safe Environment”, then “Download Files and Forms.” The form is titled “Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor.” The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. **To Report to the Diocese’s Victim Assistance Coordinator:** call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. The Diocese partners with Navex Global to offer EthicsPoint to report other concerns such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in WV. EthicsPoint can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under “Accountability”, then “Report Misconduct” or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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

The Catholic Spirit’s Print Schedule for 2025

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

2025 Print Issues and Dates: Triumph of the Cross, September 12; Month of the Rosary, October 3; Advent, November 21; Christmas, December 19

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Day of Reflection for Those in the Second Half of Life to be Held in Wheeling and Charleston

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA — Men and women in their later years are the “wisdom keepers” and they have so much to offer. This is the message the diocese’s director of the Department of Faith Formation, Shirley Carter, wants to get across at the upcoming “Day of Reflection (for those in the second half of life)” next month.

“It’s really important that as wisdom keepers, which is what the people in the later half of life are, support one another and know that the gifts they have are so important to offer to the church and to society and to their communities,” Carter said.

The retreat will be held in both the northern and southern parts of West Virginia for anyone over the age of 60 and will offer time for meaningful presentations, prayer, reflection, and discussion centering around issues relevant to both men and women in this stage of life. Participants do not have to be Catholic. The retreat is open to all and will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston and Thursday, Sept. 25, at St. Joseph Retreat Center in Wheeling.

“It’s going to be a combination of talks, reflection, and discussion tailored to people who are in their second half of life or their later years,” said Bernadette McMasters Kime, director of the diocese’s Worship and Sacraments Office which is co-sponsoring the Day of Reflection with the Department of Faith Formation.

Topics of discussion will include worries about grown children, struggles with aging and health issues, “not being able to do what I used to,” and how all of this affects spirituality, morale, and how one sees himself or herself.

The retreat is still in the planning stages, but some of the presenters have been announced and will be giving male and female perspectives. Carter will be presenting at both the Wheeling and Charleston gatherings and will also be offering the female perspective. One of her focuses will be how spirituality is integrated more fully in the second-half of life and helping people to share their gifts.

“As people get older they feel like they don’t have anything to offer and, really, they’re

“It’s really important that as wisdom keepers, which is what the people in the later half of life are, support one another and know that the gifts they have are so important to offer to the church and to society and to their communities.”

—Shirley Carter, director of the Department of Faith Formation

the wisdom keepers,” Carter stressed.

Her talk will be guided by the book, “Let This Be the Time, Spiritual Essentials for Life’s Second Act” which partly looks at how people in the later stage of life are regarded in different societies and cultures. Carter said that in this country when one hears the word elder or aging, most often, it is viewed with negative stereotypes.

“In other countries it’s very different,” she said. “You hear ‘elder’ and you hear wisdom, you hear ad-

vice, you hear respect. It’s a whole different paradigm.”

Carter really wants to help participants see this difference and begin to view the stage of life they are in as positive.

“One of the things that I’m going to be talking about is ageism and how that affects people in the later half of life and tends to make them not want to offer their gifts and bring forward what they have,” she said.

Giving the male perspective at the Wheeling gathering will be Brother John Byrd, FMS. He will

discuss issues such as retirement and how that feels and questions such as “How am I going to occupy my time?” Issues for husbands and wives and retirement and how that will affect their relationship are also on the agenda.

A male presenter for the Charleston gathering has not been announced.

The need for the Day of Reflection was evident in data produced by the CLI (Catholic Leadership Institute) survey. Kime said results showed there was a need to offer spiritual growth opportunities for Catholics in this age group and that many of them feel like they are not being served and their needs are not being met.

“This is our first step to try to meet the needs that were identified,” Kime said.

Spaces are limited. The cost is \$25 per person. Click here to register online.

For more information or for those who cannot afford the cost, call Karen Muenze at (304) 233-0880, ext. 268.



Day of Reflection (for those in the second half of life)



Co-sponsored by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Department of Faith Formation & Office of Worship and Sacraments

Join us for a day of meaningful presentations, prayer, reflection, and discussion centering around issues relevant to both men and women.

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston

or

Thursday, September 25, 2025

Saint Joseph Retreat Center, Wheeling

9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Spaces are limited - Cost is \$25 per person

(* if you cannot afford this fee, please contact 304-233-0880 ext. 268.)

Register at <https://dwc.org/day-of-reflection/>

For Gazans, the Deep Silence of Hunger has Replaced Noise of Daily Life

By Diaa Ostaz, OSV News (OSV News)—The streets of Gaza are quieter than they used to be — not because peace has returned. The deep silence of hunger has replaced the noise of daily life.

Every corner bears the marks of a deepening humanitarian catastrophe: gaunt faces of children, long lines at makeshift aid points, and parents who have nothing left to give but words of comfort and prayer.

The humanitarian collapse in Gaza did not happen overnight. On March 2, the Israeli Defense Forces sealed all crossings into the enclave — 16 days before the collapse of the temporary ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. With borders sealed, the already limited flow of food, medicine and fuel stopped entirely. Within weeks, hunger and malnutrition spread at an unprecedented pace. Preventable diseases began to take hold.

By early August, the Hamas-run Ministry of Health in Gaza reported 201 people had died from famine and malnutrition since the start of the war, including 98 children. Those numbers rise daily.

In the middle of Gaza City, amid rubble and market stalls selling a handful of overpriced simple popular sweets, 35-year-old Ahmed al-Sawafiri described the reality of survival:

“Out of poverty, we have children we want to feed — nothing more or less,” he said in an interview for Catholic Near East Welfare Association, or CNEWA. “The situation in general is really difficult, really tragic, and we hope from God things get better.”

Hunger, he added, is now part of everyday life. “The famine is great; children



OSV News photo/Mahmoud Issa, Reuters
Young Palestinian ana Ayad, who is malnourished, according to medics, lies on a bed July 29 as she receives treatment at a hospital in Gaza City, Gaza Strip, amid a worsening hunger crisis.

sometimes sleep without eating. What can we do? We just need to get by. It's all in God's will.”

For Sawafiri, faith is both a comfort and a lifeline. “Hopefully for the better,” he said, glancing at the street around him. “We ask God that things get better.”

A few steps away, a boy in a small stall, barely tall enough to see over the market crowd, spends his days trying to earn enough to support his eight siblings, “so we can eat and live, and feed my little siblings.” Abdul Rahman Barghouth, 12, dreams of school, but for now his hope is that “the war ends, and

prices go down.”

Faith runs through these conversations as naturally as breath. People speak of God's will even as they recount the impossible choices they face, whether to send a child to line up for aid despite the risk of shelling, whether to sell the last piece of jewelry for a bag of rice, whether to skip their own meal so a child can eat.

For 54-year-old Mozayal Hassouna, those choices leave deep emotional scars. “Some days we spent four days without bread,” she said. “My youngest son tells me, ‘You let me go to sleep hungry, Mom.’ But I can't provide anything. My husband is 65

and sick; he can't run after trucks for aid. We lost our stall in the market; our house was bombed like others. We have no income, nothing left to sell, but we do not object to God's will.”

Her son has developed a stutter, which a doctor says is the result of trauma from bombardment. Now they live in a tent, displaced for two

months. “I hope the war ends all over Gaza,” she says. “Let us live, and the children live a little.”

No story captures the cruel intersection of war, siege and hunger clearer than that of 2-year-old Muhammad Al-Mutawaq. His mother, Hidayah, has been displaced seven times since the war began on **See “Hunger” on Page 5**

Peace ...

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Volodymyr Zelenskyy and a delegation of European leaders, the reporters asked Pope Leo if he had heard from any of the leaders.

“I hear from some of them from time to time,” the pope said, but he did not respond to a journalist who asked if he speaks with Trump.

Pope Leo, who marked the 100th day of his papacy Aug. 16, also was asked how that was going.

It has been “a blessing from God,” he said. “I receive so much. I really believe in the Lord's grace, and I am so thankful for the reception I have received.”

Ending his short, second stay at Castel Gandolfo, Pope Leo said he would return. “It's a grace to be here.”

Collection ...

Cont'd from Page 1

emergency humanitarian assistance. Checks are to be made payable to your respective parish/mission and on the memo line indicate Gaza Relief Collection. The parish/mission will then send one check for all contributions for this collection to the DWC Finance Department, attention – Flor Prianti.

I urge you to give as generously as you are able. Please also continue to pray fervently for peace in the Holy Land, for those who suffer from violence and displacement, and for our Church's ongoing witness of hope and reconciliation in this sacred yet wounded region.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mark E. Brennan

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

Hunger ...

Cont'd from Page 4

Oct. 7, 2023, sparked by Hamas' attack on Israel.

Her husband was killed early in the conflict in Jabalia, leaving her alone with four children. Before the recent escalation, Muhammad weighed 20 pounds. Today, he weighs just 13.

"There is no aid entering Gaza," she told CNEWA. "Borders are closed; prices are very high. His only cure is to eat and drink."

She has tried hospitals, aid groups and community kitchens, but nothing has been enough. "I registered in many associations as a mother of orphans, but I didn't benefit at all," she said. "I got really tired going to hospitals, associations, schools, trying to find something for him."

Muhammad suffers from muscle relaxation, worsened by malnutrition. Physical therapy has helped, but without proper food, recovery is impossible. "Since I lost my husband, these are all God's tests," she said. "We will be patient, and hopefully it will end, and Muhammad will be like he used to be."

UNICEF spokesperson Salim Oweis calls the situation "a man-made catastrophe." He warns hunger is now killing children in staggering numbers. "Over 90 have died from malnutrition since the war began — a staggering increase of more than 50 percent in less than three months," he said. "We are witnessing a generation growing up with toxic stress, deprivation and trauma that will probably last a lifetime."

In July, nearly 12,000 children were diagnosed with acute malnutrition, compared with 2,000 in February.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, a collaborative initiative of worldwide crisis relief organizations, including UNICEF, warned in mid-July that Gaza's food consumption and nutrition indicators were at their worst since the war began. More than one in three people were going days at a time without eating, and half a million people — nearly a quarter of Gaza's population — were enduring famine-like conditions.

"Every hour we wait, more children will die — if not from bombs, then from the humanitarian crisis that follows them around every corner,"



Palestinians gather to receive food from a charity kitchen amid a hunger crisis in the central Gaza Strip July 29. Despite daunting odds, Catholic Relief Services and its on-the-ground partners have managed to deliver aid to 1.7 million people in Gaza since 2023, according to new data.

OSV News photo/Hatem Khaled, Reuters

Oweis said. While some aid trickles in — the IDF controls what little aid is allowed into Gaza — he described it as "a drop in the ocean of needs."

Airdrops, though symbolic, are inefficient, expensive and dangerous, sometimes killing people in the scramble for supplies. "They don't compare to what could come in through land routes if full and unimpeded access is allowed," he said.

At Al-Ahli Hospital, medical director Dr. Maher Ayyad describes a health system on the brink of collapse.

"Really, it is catastrophic," he says. "We are short of medicine, supplies, equipment. Our machines are damaged, and there are no spare parts or engineers to repair them. We are dependent entirely on generators, needing about 238 gallons of fuel daily — often unavailable."

Much of the hospital's trained staff has fled or been displaced.

"Sometimes we receive 400 casualties in a single day," Ayyad said. "We cannot deal with all of these patients, and we are sorry to lose some because of shortages."

While Al-Ahli is primarily a surgical hospital, famine's shadow is visible there, too.

"We can see people are

starving," he said. "Some goods are in the market, but they are so expensive nobody can buy them."

Ayyad expressed gratitude for the symbolic gestures of airdropped aid but warns that without stopping the war, relief will always fall short.

"Please work for peace," he urges. "Without stopping this war, the problem will go deeper and deeper."

The layers of collapse in Gaza reach into every part of life. Drinking water is scarce, forcing people to drink untreated water that carries the risk of cholera and other diseases. Tens of thousands live in tents or overcrowded shelters, with no privacy and little safety. Livelihoods have been erased as markets are bombed, fishing is blocked, and farmland is inaccessible. Schools lie in ruins or serve as shelters, and many children have forgotten how to read or write under the weight of trauma.

The Ministry of Health warns of a dangerous increase in Guillain-Barré syndrome and other diseases linked with poor nutrition and sanitation, calling the situation "a warning of a real, potential infec-

tious disaster."

The common refrain is not only that aid is scarce, but that it is uneven. "Some people eat and some don't," Sawafiri said.

Hassouna describes how her family cannot physically reach aid drops, either because they are too far or because the scramble is too dangerous. UNICEF's Salim Oweis confirms this, saying that security risks, coordination delays and desperate crowds make it almost impossible to distribute aid fairly. The difference between survival and starvation, he says, can come down to whether someone is young and strong enough to run for a bag of flour.

Despite the destruction, there is a shared refrain: "Alhamdulillah," praise be to God. Faith becomes the language that fills the space where certainty used to be.

For Sawafiri, that means believing things will "get better and better." For young Abdul Rahman, it means thanking God for whatever food comes. For Al-Mutawaq, it means viewing her son's suffering as a test from God, one that will one day end.

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sist this crisis is not inevitable — it is preventable. UNICEF has called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, unrestricted entry of humanitarian and commercial supplies, and protection for civilians and aid workers. Without these steps, the warnings are stark: Famine will deepen, disease will spread, and more children will die.

"All the help will not be enough without stopping this war," said Ayyad. "The situation is catastrophic. I hope soon the leaders will reach comprehensive peace in this area."

As Gazans wait for peace, Mozayal Hassouna repeated her faith-filled wish: "We have no objection to God's will. But I hope the war ends completely, so we can live, and the children can live a little."

To support CNEWA's emergency campaign in Gaza, click here: <https://cnewa.org/what-we-do/support-emergency-relief-in-the-holy-land>.

(Diaa Ostaz writes from Gaza for Catholic Near East Welfare Association. This story was originally published by CNEWA on its blog and distributed through a partnership with OSV News.)

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Catholic Charities Helps Families Home Again Following Ohio County Flood

As recovery continues following June's devastating floods in Ohio County, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is playing a critical role in helping families begin rebuilding their homes and their lives.

While emergency response efforts addressed immediate needs – like food, shelter, and cleanup – survivors are now entering the next phase: long-term recovery. Catholic Charities is working closely with the Ohio County Long-Term Recovery Committee to ensure a coordinated and compassionate response.

"Disaster recovery doesn't end when the floodwaters recede – it's just beginning," said Lora Pierce, CCWVa Disaster Services Specialist. "Disaster case managers are walking with families through each step of this journey, making sure no one falls through the cracks."

What Long-Term Recovery Really Means

Long-term recovery is about more than rebuilding homes. It's about restoring stability, and that takes time.

Catholic Charities staff began by helping displaced families find safe temporary housing. Disaster Case Managers are helping those families navigate application processes for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster assistance, Small Business Administration (SBA) loans, and other support. This critical step ensures that families can access all available resources before relying on limited private funds.

Once those options are exhausted, private donations – like those raised through the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's disaster relief appeal – are used to cover remaining needs: housing repairs, appliances, furniture, and other essentials.



Lisa Marple, CCWVa's outreach specialist, mobilized the day after flooding to assist displaced families. She continues supporting survivors—helping them return to safe, clean homes.

Courtesy photo

"We are deeply grateful for the generosity of the parishioners across the diocese who have stepped forward to support our flood recovery efforts. Your compassion brings hope and healing to the survivors of the June flooding in Ohio and Marion Counties," stated Pierce.

Catholic Charities West Virginia is committed to being a responsible steward of every donor dollar. As federal and state aid is assessed, charitable contributions will be directed to unmet needs where they will have the greatest impact.

A Statewide Presence in Long-Term Disaster Recovery

Catholic Charities West Virginia is proud to be one of the few organizations in the state with the capacity, training, and infrastruc-

ture to provide long-term disaster recovery.

"Our team brings years of experience walking alongside West Virginians after floods, fires, and other disasters," Pierce said. "We're honored to collaborate with strong local leaders like the United Way of the Upper Ohio Valley and the Tygart Valley United Way to support this community's recovery."

How the Public Can Help

- **Volunteer:** As rebuilding efforts move forward, skilled and general volunteers will be essential to helping families return home.

- **Stay Informed:** Understanding the recovery process helps strengthen trust, accountability, and lasting community support.

Stay tuned for updates as this recovery journey continues and follow Catholic Charities West Virginia for ways to stay involved, support your neighbors, and witness the power of community in action. Visit www.ccwva.org for more information.



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School ...

Cont'd from Page 1

transferred to St. Mary Catholic School in Hagerstown, Maryland, where his mother, Brandi Farmer, teaches STEM.

"I'm hoping it's better than my eighth-grade experience, and that was a great experience," Farmer said.

Farmer likened all the unknowns of the coming school year to going to a film with no background information.

"It's kind of like seeing a movie without (reading) any reviews," he said.

Madison Regalia and Elianna Kaudy are ready to continue their studies at SJHS after being together for the last two years. Regalia, 14, of Shenandoah Junction, joined the Crusader family in sixth grade and Kaudy, 14, of Ranson, enrolled in seventh grade.

"It's just another year," Regalia said. "I'm not worried about it. (I'm) excited."

Kaudy admitted to feeling "a little nervous" about being part of the school's first freshman class since the high school closed in 1970. The Daughters of Charity from Emmitsburg, Maryland, established St. Joseph School in 1883. Since the high school's doors were shuttered, the only Catholic school in the Eastern Panhandle has served children from infants through eighth grade, and this year is welcoming more than 480 children ranging from toddlers to teens.

Jeanene Acuna, 14, of Charles Town, is new to the school family.

"I'm excited for the cybersecurity and the uniforms," said Acuna, who previously was home-schooled.

The cybersecurity she referred to is part of the school's early college and career design, through which it plans to partner with Shepherd University and Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. Not only will those who complete their senior year at St. Joseph High School receive a diploma, but they will have opportunities to enter college as juniors, earn an associate degree in a career pathway or leave with a career credential.

Jeanene's mother, Kemberly Acuna, said she was attracted to SJHS because of the curriculum, which is similar to the Catholic program her daughter was using as a home-schooler.

"I'm excited that you offer a two-year college program," Kemberly added.

James White, 15, of Shepherdstown, said learning in a school setting appealed to him after being part of an online school with live instruction for half of seventh grade and all of eighth. He's particularly enthused about the science and religion courses.

His father, Joseph White, was happy to bring James back for high school; his son attended St. Joseph School in fifth and sixth grades and half of seventh.

"I just want him to grow here emotionally and spiritually," Joseph said. "We were happy you were having a high school again."

Administrators at the local and state levels heard how parents were looking for educational alternatives and wanted to provide one.

"Parents and families have been praying for this opening for years," said Principal Maria Byrd. "With the unfortunate closing of St. Maria Goretti Catholic High School (in Hagerstown), the Rev. Thomas Gallagher and I, along with our administration, agreed that the time to reopen a Catholic high school in Martinsburg was now. Beyond the pillars of academics and service, we will provide the pillars of discipleship and faith — which a freshman cannot find elsewhere — within the Catholic framework of the fullness of the faith. I believe this is God's will."

Jennifer Hornyak, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, added, "Many parents shared that they wanted a Catholic education option in the Martinsburg area that spanned pre-K to 12th grade. That dream was made a reality."

A significant factor in creating that reality was the support of Bishop Mark Brennan, Hornyak said.

"I want to express my gratitude to Bishop Brennan for his support of

the new high school," she said. "We are so blessed with his prayerful support and encouragement, as well as his financial support, to expand Catholic education in the Eastern Panhandle."

Byrd and Hornyak view the resurrection of the high school as a fitting way to mark the diocese's 175th anniversary.

"I think it is significant that we are celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope and the 175th anniversary of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in the same year that we are opening the high school," Hornyak said. "What a great way to celebrate hope!"

Looking into the future, Byrd expects that St. Joseph High School could make a significant impact in many ways.

"If we could restore the schools we had, like St. Joseph High School, and grow beyond that, we would positively impact the education and future of our state," Byrd said. "These future graduates will go on to do great things for others and the glory of God."

The role the high school is meant to play goes far beyond academic growth.

"My initial goal for the high school is to build a strong foundation by integrating our talented new faculty and support team; providing opportunities for growth for the whole person (spiritual, academic, humanities, etc.) for each of our pupils; and securing a path beyond high school graduation, including career and/or technical/workforce skills for those who seek it," Byrd said.

"My goal is that we can provide a strong Catholic high school experience for our students that prepares them for all areas of life," Hornyak added. "We need to help our students grow in mind, body and spirit in a Christ-centered learning environment. My hope is that as the high school evolves, we will find new ways to accompany families in challenging their children to recognize, develop and share their God-given gifts and talents. I look forward to the new traditions that will be built as part of the high school experience at St. Joseph."

For more information about St. Joseph High School, contact Byrd at (304) 267-6447 or mbyrd@sjswv.org; or go to sjswv.org.

Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin
Sunday Mornings

6:30 WTOV FOX 9 Wheeling-Steubenville
6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Huntington-Charleston
8:00 WBOY NBC 12 Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
6:30 WOAY ABC 4 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
9:30 WVVA NBC 6 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
9:30 DC News Now Hagerstown-Washington D.C.
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Welcome Back, Students!



Courtesy photos

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Catholic schools have begun welcoming students back to classrooms for the new school year. Clockwise from above are students at Parkersburg Catholic Elementary School with their designated pastor, Very Rev. Sebastian Devasya, V.E., and their teachers; fifth-graders at Our Lady of Fatima Parish School in Huntington with their teacher, Taylor Yanero; students at Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg; and students on the first day of school at St. Francis of Assisi School in St. Albans.



Evangelization Weekend & Social to be Hosted by Oak Hill Parish Aug. 23 and 24

OAK HILL—Come and See” and “Welcome Home” Evangelization Weekend & Social will be held at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Oak Hill Aug. 23 and 24.

“Bring your friends who want to know more about the Catholic Church and it’s teachings, and invite those you know who have been away from the church,” parish officials said. “Plan to stay for the social following the Masses and meet seminarian Clifton, Deacon Rick, Rev. Jojan and Evangelization team with your questions.”

Officials also remind parishioners to pick up Parish Info/Evangelization Cards from the back of the church to hand out.


Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

St. Monica Mass for the Conversion of Loved Ones to be Celebrated at the Cathedral

WHEELING—Join us at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling on Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 6 p.m. for a special Mass on the Memorial of St. Monica.

Known as the patron saint of mothers and a powerful intercessor for those who have strayed from the faith, St. Monica teaches us the power of prayer and perseverance.

Come pray for loved ones in need of conversion and a return to Christ.



Holy Family Statue Gifted to St. Joseph School in Martinsburg


St. Joseph School in Martinsburg thanks the eighth-grade class of 2024 for providing a beautiful statue of the Holy Family (shown above). The Aparicio family put much sweat and dedication into creating this beautiful shrine for them at the back entrance to the school. *Courtesy photo*

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<p>Benwood-McMechan 214 Marshall Street McMechen, WV 304-232-1710</p>	<p>Moundsville 118 Grant Avenue Moundsville, WV 304-845-4560</p>	<p>Beck-Altmeier 204 West Main Street St. Clairsville, OH 740-695-0475</p>



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Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality Movie
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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
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MASS OF THANKSGIVING
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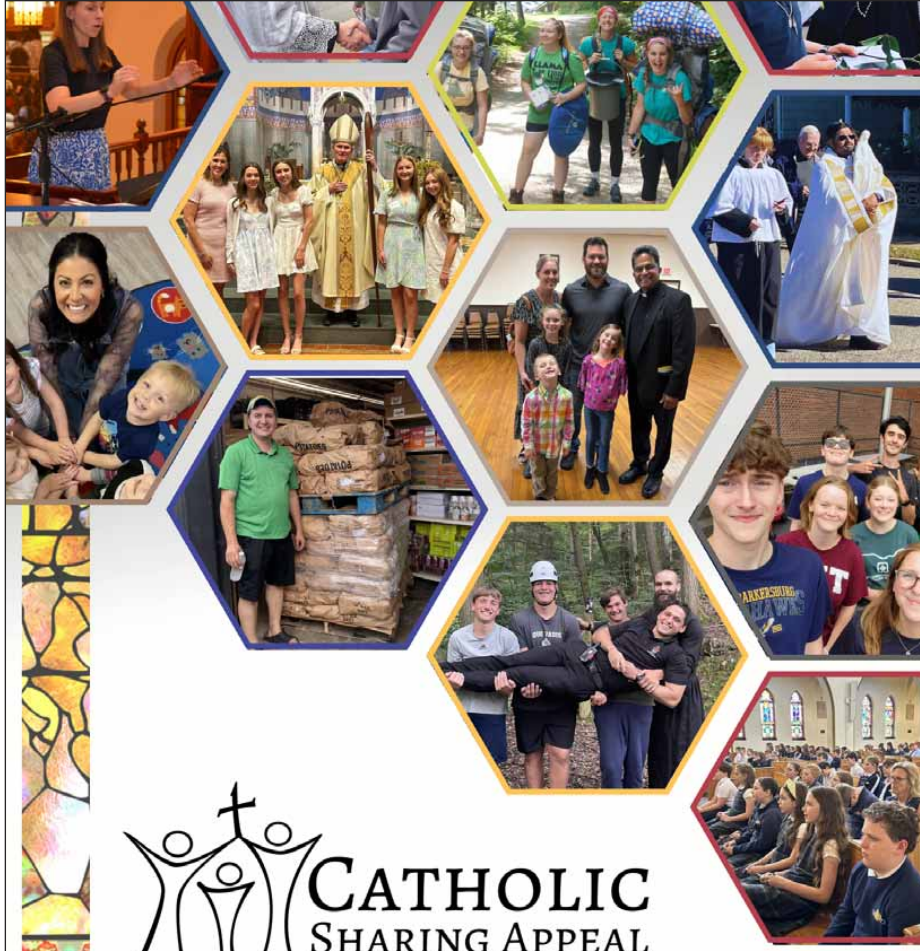
St. Michael Angelus Center ~ National Rd, Whg

September 19th 4:00 – 7:00pm
September 20th 8:00 – 12:00

Drop-Offs are 4:00-7:00*
St. Michael Angelus Center


Wednesday, September 17th
through
Friday, September 19th

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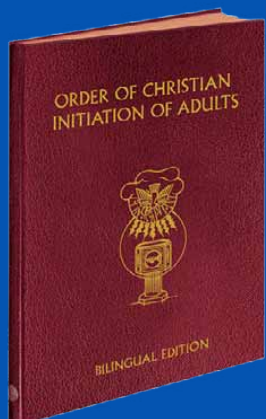
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**To register, call or text
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Presenter Cynthia García has been a
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director in the diocese of Wheeling-
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Registration is required but cost is FREE - please register here at <https://dwc.org/ocia-workshop/> or call 304-233-0880 ext. 268.

Dates	Locations
August 16, 2025	St. Michael Parish Angelus Center, Wheeling
August 23, 2025	St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, Parkersburg
September 6, 2025	Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, S. Charleston
September 13, 2025	St. Francis de Sales Parish Hall, Beckley
September 20, 2025	St. Leo Parish Hall, Inwood
September 27, 2025	All Saints Parish Hall, Bridgeport

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Confirmation Schedule, Fall 2025

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Sunday, Sept. 28: St. James the Apostle Parish, Clarksburg, 11 a.m.

Thursday, Oct. 9: St. Anthony Parish, Fairmont, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18: St. Anthony Parish, Charleston, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19: Sacred Heart Parish, Huntington, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15: St. Francis Xavier Parish, Parkersburg, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 18: St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6: St. Anthony Parish, Follansbee, 4 p.m.

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Friday, September 12

St. Joseph Cathedral Parish
Wheeling, WV

5:30 P.M. EXPOSITION OF
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6:30 P.M. INFORMAL DINNER
FOLLOWED BY ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSION

Saturday, September 13

Pittsburgh, PA

Gathering of Catholic Men's Conference

Noon to 4:30 p.m. (Mass at 4:30 p.m.)

For more information and to register for
Pittsburgh conference, go to:

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RSVP TO



Tyler Greenwood
tgreenwood@dwc.org
304-233-4121

OR

Mike Tupta
mjtdds@cisinternet.net
304-541-5177

A message from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council

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

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When the world says men should step aside, Knights of Columbus step up.

We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be.

Become a Knight.

Click here

El Papa establece el 22 de agosto como día de oración y ayuno por la paz en Ucrania y Tierra Santa

Por **Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service**

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — El Papa León XIV pidió a los católicos que observaran el 22 de agosto como día de oración y ayuno por la paz y la justicia, especialmente en Ucrania y Tierra Santa.

Al final de su audiencia general del 20 de agosto, el Papa señaló que la Iglesia celebrará la memoria de la Santísima Virgen María Reina el 22 de agosto.

"Mientras nuestra tierra sigue siendo herida por las guerras en Tierra Santa, en Ucrania y en muchas otras regiones del mundo", dijo, "invito a todos los fieles a vivir una jornada, la del 22 de agosto, con ayuno y oración, pidiendo al Señor que nos conceda paz y justicia, y que seque las lágrimas de quienes sufren a causa de los conflictos armados en curso".

"Que María, Reina de la Paz, interceda para que los pueblos para que puedan alcanzar el camino y la vía de la paz", rezó.

La noche antes de su au-

diencia, mientras saludaba a las personas que se habían reunido fuera de la Villa Barberini en Castel Gandolfo, el Papa León dijo a los periodistas que las nuevas iniciativas diplomáticas destinadas a poner fin a la guerra de Rusia contra Ucrania son motivo de esperanza, pero que aún queda mucho por hacer.

"Hay esperanza. Todavía tenemos que trabajar duro, rezar mucho y buscar el camino a seguir", dijo el Papa a los periodistas el 19 de agosto, mientras se preparaba para salir de la villa papal y regresar al Vaticano.

Al encontrarse con el Papa al día siguiente de que el presidente de Estados Unidos, Donald Trump, se reuniera con el presidente ucraniano, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, y una delegación de líderes europeos, los periodistas le preguntaron al Papa León si había tenido noticias de alguno de los líderes.

"De vez en cuando tengo noticias de algunos de ellos", respondió el Papa,



Foto CNS/Lola Gómez

El Papa León XIV se dirige a los visitantes durante su audiencia general en la Sala de Audiencias Pablo VI del Vaticano el 20 de agosto de 2025.

pero no respondió a la pregunta de un periodista que le preguntó si hablaba con Trump.

Al Papa León, que el 16 de agosto cumplió 100 días de papado, también le pre-

guntaron cómo le estaba yendo.

Ha sido "una bendición de Dios", dijo. "Recibo mucho. Creo firmemente en la gracia del Señor y estoy muy agradecido

por la acogida que he recibido".

Al terminar su segunda y breve estancia en Castel Gandolfo, el Papa León dijo que volvería. "Es una gracia estar aquí".

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

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

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

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

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

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales correspondientes. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. También puede llamar a la Oficina de

Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al 304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la diócesis al 833.230.5656.

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

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

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

Enlaces e información:

Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de crímenes contra a menores: 304-293-6400.

Employment Opportunities

Theology Teacher, Charleston Catholic High School

Charleston Catholic High School is seeking a high school theology teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. The theology program forms students intellectually, morally and spiritually through Catholic teaching, striving to help students grow in faith by fostering gospel values. The candidate should be a practicing Catholic, have knowledge of Catholic teaching, hold at least a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field, and demonstrate a willingness to pursue certification as specified by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to colleen.hoyer@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, Maintenance Worker

St. Joseph School in Martinsburg is in need of a full-time, experienced maintenance worker.

Responsibilities include sweeping; mopping; dusting; emptying trash cans; cleaning restrooms, doors and windows; vacuuming; cleaning out flower beds; shampooing carpets; and stripping floors.

The hours are 3 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The pay starts at \$14 per hour, based on experience.

We are an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

Please send a letter of introduction and resume to Principal Maria Byrd at mbyrd@sjsvw.org.

Stem Coordinator/Teacher, Central Catholic High School, Wheeling

Central Catholic High School is seeking a full-time Stem Coordinator/Science Teacher.

The position of the STEM Program Coordinator will collaborate with the principal, instructional team, and teachers to plan, organize, and promote STEM curriculum and expanded learning opportunities through the integration of successful strategies and multiple technologies to best prepare CCHS students for college and beyond. The STEM coordinator will facilitate the completion of the STEM certification, identify areas of growth for STEM education, develop our current curricular offerings, and expand community engagement. The candidate must also be able to teach Physics and preferably lead our Robotics program.

A teacher at CCHS must possess the ability to teach using 21st century instructional methods and educational technology; be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, technology rich environment with fellow teachers; and demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitating learning of all students while being willing to fully participate in the CCHS community and embrace our mission as a Catholic high school.

How to Apply: Applications are being accepted through July 1, 2025. A cover letter, resume, and letters of professional reference can be sent to the administrative assistant to the principal, Sarah Petry, at spetry@cchsknights.org

Housekeeper, St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston

The Housekeeper at St John XXIII Pastoral Center, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ and offering hospitality to our guests.

The Housekeeper is responsible for cleaning and preparing the facility, laundry and guest relations.

Works evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed. Helps in kitchen as needed.

Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or gwright@dwc.org to schedule an interview or for more information.

Cook, St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston

The Cook at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ and offering hospitality to our guests.

The Cook is responsible for the preparation, service, clean-up and storage of all meals, snacks and food service for special functions.

Assures the kitchen/dining room/dish room areas are clean and in good order at the end of a shift or function.

Oversees and assists kitchen aides in the preparation, service and storage of food and cleanliness of the kitchen/dining area.

Works early mornings, days, evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed.

Prefer a minimum of one year experience in food service.

Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or gwright@dwc.org to schedule an interview or for more information.

Mt. Calvary Cemetery Worker, Wheeling

The Mt. Calvary Cemetery Worker performs maintenance tasks, grounds maintenance and other duties to open and close grave sites.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Opens and closes graves, crypts or niches; assists in disinterment and disinterments; performs all general maintenance on grounds such as snow removal, grass cutting, digging, sodding, mulching, leaf collection, marker setting, etc.; operates equipment as needed and assigned.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES: Other job related as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: To perform the job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed are representative of the knowledge, skills, and ability required: High School Graduate or GED; valid driver's license; ability to follow directions; must work well with others; knowledge, understanding and use of basic buildings and grounds maintenance tools and equipment; referred experience in use of dump truck, ex-

cavators (backhoe and mini), folk lift and riding mowers.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform this job: The employee is regularly required to stand, walk, use hands to finger, handle or feel. The employee is required to reach with hands and arms; climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl, talk and hear. The employee must be able to move or lift up to 50 pounds and in excess occasionally. The employee must use close and distance vision, peripheral and depth perception and ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described are those an employee encounters while performing this job: Employee regularly works outdoors in varying weather conditions. The employee regularly works with and near moving equipment and mechanical parts noise level can be loud. Employee may work irregular schedule and hours.

Click here to apply.

Elementary and Middle School Music Teacher, St. Michael Parish School, Wheeling

St. Michael Parish School is accepting applications for a part-time Elementary and Middle School Music Teacher.

We seek a passionate and committed individual who will value the mission of a Catholic education and who can help nurture both the intellectual and spiritual development of our students. Applicants should be committed to creating engaging and supportive learning experiences for our students across the school.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in music education or related field, valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure, experience working with children in a classroom setting, strong classroom management, communication skills and curriculum development skills, willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution, fluency in piano preferred but not required, should be willing to discuss extra curricular activities such as middle school choir and participation in a spring musical

Interested individuals can apply via email to: Adrienne Manning at mrsmanning@smpswv.org and/or Sara Herron at mrsherron@smpswv.org

Middle School Mathematics Teacher, St. Michael Parish School, Wheeling

St. Michael Parish School is accepting applications for a full time Middle School Mathematics Teacher.

We seek a passionate and committed individual who will value the mission of a Catholic education and who can help nurture both the intellectual and spiritual

development of our students. Applicants should be committed to creating engaging and supportive learning experiences for our students across our middle school grade levels. A knowledge of teaching 5th grade math through Algebra 1 is essential.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in edu-

cation or related field, valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure, experience working with children in a classroom setting, strong classroom management, communication skills and curriculum development skills, willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution.

Interested individuals can apply via email to: Adrienne Manning at mrsmanning@smpswv.org and/or Sara Herron at mrsherron@smpswv.org Send a resume with three references.

Employment Opportunities

Campus Minister – Concord, University

The Campus Minister's responsibilities are to plan and implement a broad campus ministry for the Concord Catholic Community, based on the principles of Empowered by the Spirit.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Develop and implement, in a collaborative manner, a strategic plan for campus ministry for the Concord Catholic Community

- Coordinate and facilitate the schedule of Masses and Sacramental ministries.

- Develop and implement, in consultation with students and faculty, catechetical opportunities and pastoral services appropriate to the needs, concerns, and schedules of the community; to include retreats, faith-sharing groups, formational gatherings, etc.

- Manage the day-to-day operation of the center.

- Represent the Catholic Church on campus, becoming actively involved in the academic community while ministering not only to students but faculty, staff, and administration as well.

- Form and support Catholic student groups or organizations on campus.

- Work irregular hours including weekends and evenings.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES:

- Collaborates with the Office of Faith Formation and the Vicariate in offering joint young adult ministry opportunities.

- Participate in and attend Vicariate, Diocesan, and other professional enrichment gatherings.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise support staff of the center.
- Support ministry volunteers and committees.

- Support volunteer peer ministers.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required.

- M.A. in Theology, Religious Education or related field preferred.

- C.C.M.A. Certification preferred.

- Working knowledge of USCCB CM document "Empowered by the Spirit."

- Sound knowledge of the Theological tradition of the Catholic Church.

- Practical experience and theoretical knowledge of young adult Catholics and the special needs, concerns, and developmental tasks which are theirs.

- Experience in and knowledge of campus life.

- Interpersonal communication skills.

- Word processing and related computer skills.

- Effective presentation skills.

- Ability to organize and facilitate meetings.

- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

Click here for full job description and to apply.

Campus Minister, West Liberty University and Bethany College

The Campus Minister's responsibilities are to plan and implement a broad campus ministry for the Hilltop Catholic Community, based on the principles of Empowered by the Spirit.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Develop and implement, in a collaborative manner, a strategic plan for campus ministry for the Hilltop Catholic Community

- Coordinate and facilitate the schedule of Masses and Sacramental ministries.

- Develop and implement, in consultation with students and faculty, catechetical opportunities and pastoral services appropriate to the needs, concerns, and schedules of the community; to include retreats, faith-sharing groups, formational gatherings, etc.

- Manage the day-to-day operation of the center.

- Represent the Catholic Church on campus, becoming actively involved in the academic community while ministering not only to students but faculty, staff, and administration as well.

- Form and support Catholic student groups or organizations on campus.

- Work irregular hours including weekends and evenings.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES:

- Collaborates with the Office of Faith Formation and the Wheeling Vicariate in offering joint young adult ministry opportunities.

- Participate in and attend Vicariate, Diocesan, and other professional enrichment gatherings.

erings.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise support staff of the center.

- Support ministry volunteers and committees.

- Support volunteer peer ministers.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required.

- M.A. in Theology, Religious Education or related field preferred.

- C.C.M.A. Certification preferred.

- Working knowledge of USCCB CM document "Empowered by the Spirit."

- Sound knowledge of the Theological tradition of the Catholic Church.

- Practical experience and theoretical knowledge of young adult Catholics and the special needs, concerns, and developmental tasks which are theirs.

- Experience in and knowledge of campus life.

- Interpersonal communication skills.

- Word processing and related computer skills.

- Effective presentation skills.

- Ability to organize and facilitate meetings.

- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

Click here for full job description and to apply.



project rachel

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DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON WV PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

- **Cathedral of St. Joseph**
1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling
- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**
1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg

Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (*at site*): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
- **Holy Communion**
- **Pray for the Pope**

For information and updates go to: dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025

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Deepak Hooda MD
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