

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Bishop Brennan Celebrates Third Anniversary as Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

By Colleen Rowan

It has been three years since Bishop Mark Brennan was installed as bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. And for his third anniversary, he celebrated Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling with parishioners and diocesan employees gathered.

Bishop Brennan thanked all who attended the Mass "and so many people around the diocese for all of the support I have received."

Deacon Doug Breiding of the cathedral was deacon of the Eucharist for the Mass and Deacon Paul Lim, vice president of Mission Integration, Administration at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, was deacon of the word.

Bishop Brennan asked all for their continued prayers and invited everyone present for the Mass to join him at the chancery for a pizza lunch.



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan celebrates Mass for his third anniversary as bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. With him are Deacon Doug Breiding, left, and Deacon Paul Lim, right.

In Letter, Superintendent Shares Excitement for the New School Year

August 22, 2022

Dear Friends of our Catholic Schools of West Virginia,

It is time for the first morning bell of our 2022-2023 school year. In our 24 Catholic schools around the state our principals, teachers, support staff, and volunteers have put the final touches on our class-

rooms, hallways, labs, resource centers, libraries, and learning spaces.

At our diocesan schools' office, we have wrapped up three months of professional trainings, national meetings, new staff orientations, and state-wide administration team meetings all done to continue our

tradition of strong academics and extra-curriculars, while nurturing accountability, citizenship, and empathy.

From our little ones in preschool to our young men and women of the Class of 2023 in our high schools, our focus remains on our tradition of excellence – to encourage indi-

vidual and critical thinking, deepen faith, build self-esteem, and develop a sound moral foundation for them unapologetically rooted in our Catholic morals and virtues. All of this will give our students a strong competitive edge for not only future success, but success now.

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Obituary—Sister Nancy Miller, OSF

Sister Nancy Miller, OSF, who had a lifelong ministry in education, died Aug. 1, 2022, at Mount Carmel Grove City Hospital, Grove City, Ohio. She was 76.

Born Sept. 27, 1945, in Columbus, Ohio, the daughter of Francis and Ruth Grosh Miller, graduated from Rosary High School in Columbus, Ohio, and Rosary Hill College in Amherst, where she earned a bachelor's degree in 1968. She went on to earn a master's degree in Math Education from Fordham University, Bronx, in 1978, and a master's in education from the University of Dayton, Ohio, in 1993.

Sister Nancy entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity Sept. 8, 1963, at Stella Niagara. She professed her first vows Aug. 16, 1966, and her final vows five years later, taking the name Sister M. Antoinette.

Sister Nancy served the Diocese of Buffalo as a high school teacher at Stella Niagara Seminary from 1968-1970, and Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart in Eggertsville from 1972-1977. She also taught in the dioceses of Trenton, New Jersey; Wheeling/Charleston, West Virginia; and Columbus, Ohio. In the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, she served as aca-



ademic advisor. She was also coordinator of Academic Advising at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Sister Nancy served as a provincial councilor for the Sisters of St. Francis from 1999-2003.

She was also very active as a volunteer and speaker for the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition in Columbus which works to bring an end to human trafficking.

She worked with the children of her apartment complex, providing school supplies, designing a play area, and providing "read out" nights where she read to the children on her porch. She also, in collaboration with Mount Carmel St. Ann's Hospi-

tal, worked to obtain a bus shelter for the children of the apartment complex.

She had a great love and concern for the environment and was active through her parish church and other peace and justice organizations.

Sister Nancy was predeceased by parents and her brother, David F. Miller. She is survived by her other siblings Carol Ward, Thomas F. Miller, Mary Zeier, and Theresa Miller.

A funeral Mass was held Aug. 6 at St. Mary German Village in Columbus. Burial was to take place at St. Joseph Cemetery, Lockbourne, Ohio.

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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/Eparchies 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."

Now is the time to Talk!

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Web site: www.thecatholicspiritwv.org
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Freelance Writers: Martina Hart, John Sherwood,
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Letter...

Cont'd from Page 1


Our Catholic school students in West Virginia have again scored above national averages on the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) for their state-aligned, online Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. Not only do these test results chart that our students are scoring significantly higher than their counterparts, this specific NWEA assessment also tracks they are on the fast track for college and career readiness.

While we celebrate these accomplishments, we are always looking to set our goals higher and empower our students to exceed their own expectations.

We enthusiastically accept the responsibility to inspire them to be the peacemakers, problem solvers, builders, lawmakers, researchers, advocates, and genuine care givers that our world needs. As our children grow so does their faith. We are unapologetically Catholic and that identity shapes how we look at the world – with hope, peace, kindness, responsibility, dignity, empathy, and opportunity.

As we welcome our new families and staff members, we celebrate our growth. Each member is not just a student, parent, or educator, but a significant and valued part of our impressive Catholic school family.

Peace,



Mary Ann Deschaine Ed.S.
 Superintendent of Catholic Schools
 Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston



Fourth graders at St. Paul School in Weirton are pictured on their first day of school.

Courtesy Photo



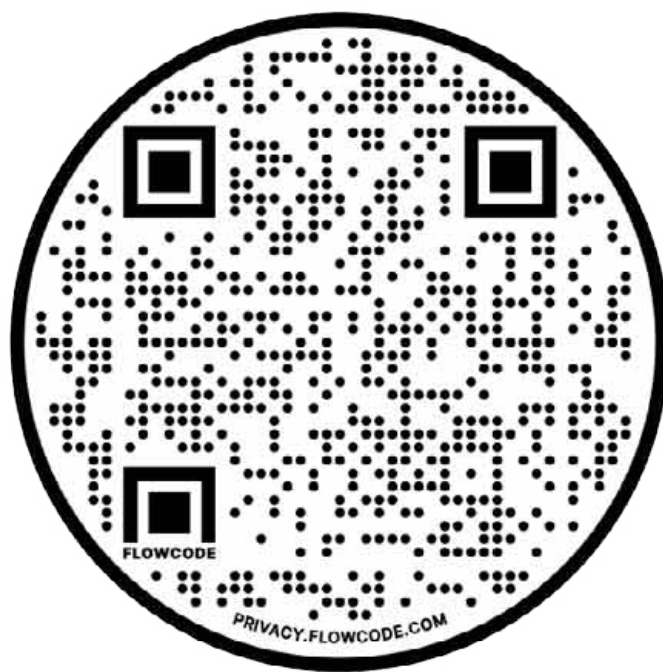
Colleen Rowan Photo

At the Welcome Back Rally for St. Vincent de Paul Parish School in Wheeling, Father Jeeson V. Stephan, MCBS, blesses the backpacks of students gathered on the altar at St. Vincent de Paul Church. Father Stephan, pastor, also blessed students, parents, teachers, and school staff.

Up to \$450,000 in tuition assistance now available to **ALL** families

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FAITH

Pope Wants Dialogue with Bishops about the Church's Ministries

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Fifty years have passed since St. Paul VI instituted the ministries of lector and acolyte, opening them to the laity, and Pope Francis wants a formal “dialogue” with the world’s bishops’ conferences to discuss their experiences with the ongoing promotion of the church’s ministries so they foster unity and evangelization.

The pope made the proposal for dialogue in a message published by the Vatican Aug. 24 and dated Aug. 15 — the 50th anniversary of his predecessor’s apostolic letter, “*Ministeria quaedam*.” That

document from 1972 determined that “minor orders” be called “ministries” and that these ministries — lector and acolyte — be open to laymen and no longer reserved only to candidates for ordination.

Since then, Pope Francis has instituted further changes: amending canon law so women can be formally installed as lectors and acolytes, and instituting the ministry of catechist as a formal office and vocation in the church.

In his message, the pope said these last two efforts “should not be interpreted as overriding previous doctrine, but as a further development made possible because (the

change) is based on the same principles — consistent with the Second Vatican Council’s reflection — that inspired ‘*Ministeria quaedam*.’”

Therefore, he wrote, “The best way to celebrate today’s significant anniversary is precisely to continue to deepen the reflection on ministries that St. Paul VI initiated.”

“Every ministry is a call by God for the good of the community,” Pope Francis wrote.

The Christian community is called to carefully discern what the Holy Spirit is prompting in relation to the concrete situation of each community, he added.

“Every ministerial structure that arises from this dis-

cernment is dynamic, lively and flexible, just like the action of the Spirit,” and each structure must further deepen its roots in the Holy Spirit “to avoid the risk that this dynamism become confusion, liveliness be reduced to extemporaneous improvisation and flexibility turn into arbitrary and ideological adaptations.”

A ministry must be based on the firm foundation that its origin is God working through the Holy Spirit and its purpose is always the common good and the building up of the community, he wrote.

“In order to be able to listen to the voice of the Spirit and not halt the process —

being careful not to want to force (the process) by imposing choices that are the fruit of ideological points of view — I believe that it is useful to share experiences over these past years, all the more so during this season of the synodal journey,” Pope Francis wrote.

For this reason, the pope said he wanted to “initiate a dialogue on the topic (of the church’s ministries) with the bishops’ conferences in order to be able to share the richness of the ministerial experiences that in these 50 years the church has lived.” Details would be coming later about the dialogue, which he wanted to begin “in the coming months,” he wrote.

Nuns Kidnapped in Nigeria Released, Says Order

By Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Four Catholic nuns kidnapped in southeast Nigeria Aug. 21 were released two days later, their order said.

“With hearts full of joy, the Sisters of Jesus the Savior wish to announce the unconditional and safe release of four of our sisters,” said an Aug. 23 statement from Sister Zita Ihedoro, secretary-general. She thanked people for their “prayers and moral support during this difficult moment.”

Fides, information service of the Pontifical Mission Societies, identified the four as Sisters Johannes Nwodo, Christabel Echemazu, Liberata Mbamalu

and Benita Agu, members of the Sisters of Jesus the Savior.

The Nigerian order has more than 160 members, with formation houses in River and Abia states.

The four nuns were abducted while traveling from Rivers state to Imo state for a thanksgiving Mass when they were kidnapped.

Kidnappings for ransom have been common in northwestern Nigeria but are starting to spread to other areas of the country.

U.S.-based National Public Radio reported that in June 2021 alone, about 45 people per day were kidnapped for ransom in Nigeria.

In May, Archbishop Matthew Ndagoso of Kaduna, vice president of the bishops’ conference, told an online forum: “Banditry has taken a new dimension in the last three to four years as bandits now use sophisticated weapons to massively destroy villages and their properties, kidnapping for ransom during the day time and at night.”

He blamed the country’s porous borders for the importation of increasingly sophisticated weapons that fuel growing insecurity. He also called on the government to control how arms and ammunition were being imported and to prosecute those found to illegally possess arms and ammunition.

Packed Program, Heated Debate Await Synodal Path Plenary Participants

By Catholic News Service

BONN, Germany (CNS) — Participants will face a packed agenda and heated debate at the upcoming fourth plenary assembly of the Synodal Path reform project on the future of the Catholic Church in Germany.

At their meeting Sept. 8-10 in Frankfurt, the approximately 230 delegates will discuss 14 papers, reported the German Catholic news agency KNA. These include texts on church sexual morality, the role of priests, the participation of women and the mandatory celibacy of Catholic priests.

Another text advocates the establishment of a synodal council in the Catholic Church in Germany. Made up of bishops and laypeople, it would be a permanent “advisory and decision-making body.” That and other plans

discussed in the Synodal Path have encountered strong opposition from more conservative Catholics and are also being viewed critically in the Vatican.

In a statement issued in July, the Vatican said the Catholic reform project in Germany “does not have the faculty to oblige bishops and the faithful to assume new forms of governance and new approaches to doctrine and morals.” An agreement first needed to be reached at the level of the universal church, it added, citing a possible “violation of church communion and threat to the unity of the church.”

In an interview with KNA, Julia Knop, a theologian from Erfurt who is a member of the Synodal Assembly, called for reforms. “Church teachings and structures did not fall from the sky,


they have grown historically. That is why they can also be developed further. If they no longer prove their worth in faith and life, they must be corrected. That is because they are not an end in themselves,” she told KNA.

On the other hand, Bishop Bertram Meier of Augsburg warned the Synodal Path not to act too fast. In an interview with the Catholic website *katholisch.de*, he said it was legitimate “that we in Germany address issues that affect us very closely — especially after the chronic abuse scandal.” But he said it was problematic to seek changes at the universal church level with synodal resolutions at the national level ahead of the worldwide Synod of Bishops on synodality convened by Pope Francis, scheduled for October 2023.

With regard to the need for reform

debate within the church in Germany, Bishop Meier said: “Reassurance is something different than rushing ahead. The German bishops’ conference and the Central Committee of German Catholics launched the Synodal Path in 2019 in the wake of Germany’s clerical abuse scandal. The process includes forums in which questions are discussed and assemblies at which people from the forums report back and proposals are discussed and voted on. Some texts not only must receive approval of more than two-thirds of all delegates, clerical and lay, but also must have the approval of more than two-thirds of the bishops.

The Synodal Path is scheduled to end with a fifth plenary assembly in March in Frankfurt, according to current planning.

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Pope Calls for End to Horror, Madness of War, on Anniversary War in Ukraine

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Marking the six-month anniversary of the start of Russia's war against Ukraine, Pope Francis renewed his appeal for prayers for an end to "the horror of war." Praying for all those being held prisoner, for the dead, for orphans and refugees, the pope also called for "concrete steps" to be taken "to end the war and avert the risk of a nuclear disaster in Zaporizhzhia," a city in southeastern Ukraine and home to Europe's largest nuclear plant. Both Russia and Ukraine have accused each other of shelling the plant, which has been under Russian occupation since March.

At the end of his general audience talk in the Paul VI hall Aug. 24, Pope Francis repeated his calls for peace, recalling the day marked six months since the start of the war.

"I renew my invitation to implore the Lord for peace for the beloved Ukrainian people who for six months now have been suffering the horror of war," he said.

The pope said he was praying for those who have been imprisoned, particularly those who are in a vulnerable or "fragile condition," and he called on authorities "to work for their liberation." "I think of the children, so many dead, and so many refugees, many of whom are here," he said, indicating a number of Ukrainians seated in the Vatican audience hall. "So many wounded. So many Ukrainian and Russian children have become orphans. Orphanity has no nationality. Both Russians and Ukrainians have lost a father or mother," he said.

The pope said his mind was also on the amount of cruelty on display and the number of innocent people "who are paying for the madness."

"The madness is on all sides because war is madness, and nobody who is in a war can say, 'No, I'm not crazy.' The madness of war," he said.

As an example, the pope spoke of "that poor girl flown into the air because of a bomb under her car seat in Moscow. The innocent pay for war. The innocent." While the pope did not identify the person by name, Vatican News confirmed the pope was referring to the Aug. 20 killing of 29-year-old Darya Dugina.

Dugina was a Russian journalist who strongly supported the war in Ukraine, and she served as press secretary for her father, Alexander Dugin — an anti-communist, ultranationalist philosopher calling for Russia to reclaim its former territories. Some reports speculated the father may have been the intended target of the attack.

Speaking to those gathered for his general audience, Pope Francis again criticized all those who profit from wars, including those selling arms, calling them "delinquents who murder humanity."

The pope also asked people to remember all the other wars being

waged around the world, such as in Syria and Yemen, where children are suffering from hunger. He also highlighted the plight of the Rohingya people, "who wander the world because of the injustice of being driven off their land." "But today, in a special way, six months

since the start of the war, let us think of Ukraine and Russia, two countries I consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that she, a true mother of these beloved countries, that she looks upon Ukraine and Russia and brings them peace. We need peace," he said.



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If you have any questions or if you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Diane at the parish office: 304-242-1560

Cathedral Community Festival Will be an Afternoon of Family Fun

By Colleen Rowan

The Cathedral of St. Joseph Community Festival in Wheeling will be an afternoon of family fun on Sunday, Sept. 4, from 3-7 p.m. Food trucks, vendors, games, and live music as well as tours of the cathedral will be part of the festival.

“This is an opportunity to not only engage with fellow parishioners, but also bring new families to our church. With an array of kids’ activities, a great band performing, hourly tours available, and an impressive lineup of food trucks and vendors, it’ll surely be a fun time for all in attendance.”

— Robert Felton, Festival Planning Committee

“Our church and courtyard are two of the most beautiful places in our city,” said Robert Felton, who serves on the Festival Planning Committee. “I’m very excited for the Cathedral Community Festival. This is an opportunity to not only engage with fellow parishioners, but also bring new families to our church. With an array of kids’ activities, a great band performing, hourly tours available, and an impressive lineup of food trucks and vendors, it’ll surely be a fun time for all in attendance.”

All are invited to attend the festival, which will be held in the Cathedral Courtyard Plaza, located between the cathedral

and Central Catholic High School, as well as the surrounding Byron and 13th streets. The band Seven South will be playing throughout the day.

The food lineup includes Butler’s Pantry, Desperado Dogs, Frost Fairy, Holey Rollers Donuts, Rocco Basil, Sons of Italy Sausage, Southpaw Eatz, and Tacos Juarez.

This is the first festival for the cathedral, and the idea was initially brought up by Bishop Brennan and the Cathedral Pastoral Council, parish officials said. The parish sees the festival as a way to reach out to the community and to simply invite everyone to come to campus and enjoy an afternoon of great food, live music, fellowship, and fun.

“I am sure it’s going to be a fun day,” said Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, JCL, vice rector of the cathedral. “We are actually making this a welcoming back of the people to the church.”

Many, he said, have not yet come back since COVID shutdowns. The festival and other initiatives of the parish, he said, are ways to help the people see “we’re all united in Christ.”

The purpose is not fundraising, but to bring people back to Christ, to the church “just like bringing back lost sheep,” Father Narisetti said. “It’s for welcoming back the people.”

Guided tours of the cathedral, Father Narisetti said, will be offered giving festivalgoers a chance to see the beauty of the church and to learn about its architecture as well as its importance in the diocese.

Serving with Felton on the Festival Planning Committee are Tiffany Boury, Christie Greenwood, Tyler Greenwood, Adrienne Manning, and Jacob Manning. Parish officials said they have been working diligently over the past several months in order to make the festival a success.

Missionary Daughters of the Eternal Father Visit the Cathedral



Courtesy Photo

The Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling was delighted to welcome Mother Mario-Francis and Sister Agnes from the Missionary Daughters of the Eternal Father who shared their congregation’s work in Nigeria at Masses last weekend. “Their congregation takes seriously the work of evangelization and they live a life of charity through caring for the poor, the aged, sick priests and religious as well as providing care and education to abused young girls and the less privileged,” parish officials posted on the cathedral’s Facebook page. “May God bless them in their ministry to those in need!” The sisters are pictured above with Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, JCL, vice rector of the cathedral.



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Charleston Catholic High School Community Builds New Home for a Family in Need

This summer students, alumni, faculty, and friends of Charleston Catholic High School tackled a “blitz-build” during HOPE, their annual housing outreach project.

They arrived on a Monday morning with just the foundation in place, and left Friday after-

noon after installing the last piece of vinyl siding on a local family’s new house.

“We appreciate everyone’s enthusiasm, positive attitude, and good humor throughout the week,” CCHS officials said. “Your decision to join us and your hard work will make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Thanks also to our participants who completed needed repairs at three other houses during the week as well. We are especially grateful to Bill and Addie Likens, as well as Hugh Roberts of Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission, who provided leadership and support. Never lose hope!”



Charleston Catholic High School students, alumni, faculty, and friends build a home during their annual HOPE, housing outreach project.

Courtesy Photos

Parkersburg and Lubeck Parishioners Invited to ‘Spiritually’ Adopt An Unborn Child

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg and St. Monica Parish in Lubeck announce that the weekend of Sept. 9, the faithful will have the opportunity to “spiritually” adopt a child who is newly conceived in the month of September.

“This is an adoption program for young and old,” program organizers said.

They also emphasized that not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born.

“In fact, in West Virginia last year more than 1,436 babies lost their lives to abortion,” they said. “You will be praying for these unborn babies who are in danger of being aborted.”

Participants will be asked to pray a 10-second prayer for nine months for the unborn child, organizers said, “with the hope that this

baby will be allowed to live, as God intended. You can name your baby. Many people put this prayer somewhere they can see it every day, such as the bathroom mirror, nightstand or refrigerator.”

Participants will be able to follow the baby’s development monthly in the bulletin for the parishes. There will be a small poster in the front bulletin board at the churches describing the development.

“There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers,” organizers said. “Won’t you please ‘spiritually adopt’ one and share the love of life that God has given you?”

There also will be forms in the pews next weekend at the churches. Just fill them out and drop them in the basket in the back.

“Thank you for adopting a little one!” organizers said.

St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg to Host Virginal Harpsichord Concert

PARKERSBURG—St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg is hosting a virginal harpsichord concert by the Austrian musician Sean Maxwell on Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. in the church. All are welcome, and there is no entrance fee.

Maxwell’s family resides in New Martinsville, but he has been living and playing in Europe for the past several years.

The program is music of William Byrd and some of his 16th century contemporaries with a photo presentation highlighting his dangerous life as a secret Catholic in the English court during the Reformation.

Maxwell will talk about the musical role of the virginal in secret Masses as well as its importance in secular life and domestic music making, and there are lots of nice period artworks to show, parish officials said.

IC Parish Nurses Sponsoring American Heart Association CPR/AED and First Aid Courses

CLARKSBURG—IC Parish Nurses at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg are sponsoring an American Heart Association-Family and Friends CPR/AED course from 8:30 a.m. to noon and a First Aid Classroom course from 1-4 p.m. at the parish center on Saturday, Sept. 24.

In these courses, participants will learn CPR/AED skills as well as basic first aid, the most common life-threatening emergencies and how to recognize them and how to help. AEDs are automated external defibrillators, which are used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest.

This video-based classroom course is designed for the layperson who wants to gain knowledge and skills that may help to save a life, IC Parish Nurses stated.

This is free but limited to 50 participants. Those interested are asked to register early. (Donations accepted to maintain AEDs located in Immaculate Conception Church and the parish center). Registration is required, so please register early. Deadline for registration is Sept. 16. Call (304) 669-6063 or (304) 622-4147 to register.

Tuition Angels Help Provide Catholic Education in Huntington

HUNTINGTON—The Tuition Angel program at Our Lady of Fatima Parish School in Huntington is a way of connecting benefactors with deserving students who desire an education and a brighter future. Each donation is an investment in Catholic education. “With the help of our Tuition Angels, we are able to make our education accessible to many deserving students and achieve our mission of an independent school for all who desire to receive a Catholic education, providing young people with new opportunities that will positively change their lives,” program officials said. “We invite you to join us in giving prayerfully and generously as a Tuition Angel. Your support will make a tremendous impact on the lives of students for generations to come.”

The pledged gifts, and increasing enrollment are all factors in growing Our Lady of Fatima Parish School to a school that makes a significant and vibrant difference in the community, program officials said. “Every gift will count, no matter the amount,” they said. To make a gift, visit <https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-3827>



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A Benefit Gala to Support Mary's Refuge, a Ministry of St. Joseph's Parish

TO BE HELD AT ST. LEO'S PARISH HALL, INWOOD, WV

Key Note Speakers

Sisters Of Life • Kathleen Wilson, Executive Director of Mary's Shelter, VA
Bishop Mark E. Brennan will be in attendance

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Calling all Middle and High School students!

Come and gather in the name of the Lord with other young people to celebrate our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist at the **Diocesan Youth Eucharistic Revival.**



On **Saturday, October 29th, 2022** from **11:00 AM to 7:00 PM**, join us at our Diocesan camp property: **225 Catholic Conference Center Huttonsville, West Virginia 26273**

We will celebrate Mass with our bishop, Mark E. Brennan. There will also be adoration, music, food, recreational activities, catechesis, and speakers.

Please register through The Diocese of Wheeling Charleston.

For more information, please call the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis at 304-233-0880, extension 374. Parents are encouraged to attend as well.

New Course Aims to Instruct New Catholics, Reenergize Lifelong Catholics

By Julie Asher, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new online study course titled “What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith” was “created by a few very imperfect disciples who happen to be crazy about Christ and his church,” said one of the authors and presenters of the course.

“The goal of the study is not only to instruct but to inspire and reenergize. Catholics who are joyful, excited and informed have very little trouble attracting others, even the young, to the church,” Marcellino D’Ambrosio told Catholic News Service.

“What is the Catholic Church all about? What does it mean to be Catholic? What do Catholics actually believe?” are some of the questions the 10-session course aims to answer for new Catholics, lifelong Catholics and those considering becoming Catholic.

D’Ambrosio and co-creators and co-presenters Andrew and Sarah Swafford recently filmed the course in Rome for Ascension. The three also wrote an accompanying book with the same title published by Ascension.

The course “was developed to cast a broad net” to meet the needs of Catholics “already hungry to know more about their faith” and non-Catholic Christians “curious about what Catholics believe,” said D’Ambrosio.

“The videos and/or the paperback book can be shared with those who are ‘nones,’” those who claim no affiliation with any religion, he said. The course also has something for those who are non-Christian or come from an atheist background, he added. “In fact the book is a great evangelist giveaway tool.”

He told CNS he has been “sounding the alarm for years about the fact that young people, millennials and Generation Z, are increasingly losing interest in the Catholic Church and organized religion.”

“If you probe a bit, the main reason young people themselves give for this is that they perceive Catholicism and organized religion in general as irrelevant to their real concerns like love, community and adventure,” he said.

“This study presents following Jesus in the fullness of Catholic faith as the greatest of all adventures, a journey made together with others, a journey home, into the heart of One who loves each person intimately and perfectly,” he said.

D’Ambrosio is currently a professor of theology at Catholic Distance University, a private online Catholic university based in Charles Town, West Virginia. A regular guest on both secular and Catholic TV and radio programs, he also is the co-founder and director of the Crossroads Initiative and

the author of five books and hundreds of articles.

Andrew Swafford is an associate professor of theology at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. He is host and author of Ascension’s DVD series “Hebrews: The New and Eternal Covenant and Romans: The Gospel of Salvation.” He also is editor and contributor to Ascension’s “Great Adventure Catholic Bible.”

Sarah Swafford is a national speaker and author of “Emotional Virtue: A Guide to Drama Free Relationships.”

“I think most of us have experienced one time or another being caught by surprise by a question or challenge about Catholic teaching and have found ourselves coming up short,” D’Ambrosio said.

“This study will prepare those who participate to have a better answer in these situations and ‘be ready to give a reason for their hope,’” he added, quoting from Chapter 3 of the First Letter of Peter.

He said the course also will correct the misconception he believes most people have, “even Catholics,” that Catholicism is an “ism,” a belief system and a code of ethics taught by an impersonal institution.”

In “What We Believe,” Catholic beliefs and the Commandments “are put in their proper context — a living relationship with Jesus

Christ who shares with us everything — his Father, his mother, his Holy Spirit, his inheritance, his righteousness, his entire family that stretches back thousands of years and upward to heaven,” he explained.

The course “lays out the Catholic faith as a rich treasury that is beautiful, liberating and empowering,” he added.

More information about the online course and the accompanying book can be found at www.ascensionpress.com/WhatWeBelieve.



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Bluefield Knights Help with Needed Upgrades at Abel Pegnancy Resource Center



Courtesy Photos

In their current outreach project, members of the Knights of Columbus Council #1404 of Bluefield perform needed work at Abel Pregnancy Resource Center in Bluefield pressure washing the deck and rails. The second part of the project is stain / seal the deck and rails. Abel Pregnancy Resource Center is a medical clinic focused on meeting the needs of women and men facing an unplanned pregnancy, according to its website. Since the location is on the West Virginia-Virginia state line, the center serves patients from southern West Virginia and southwest Virginia. The center has been serving the community since 1993 and offers a 24/7 hotline: (800) 712-HELP (4357).

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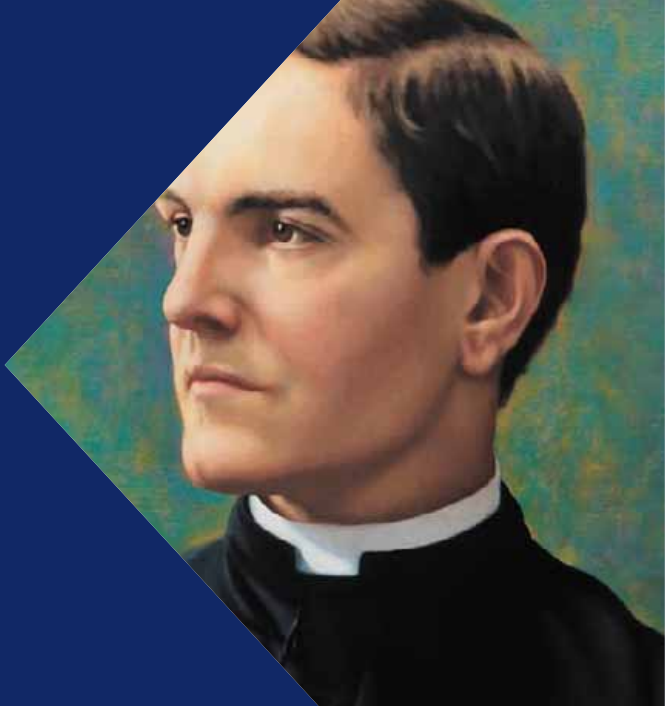
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 Territory Meeting



Helping Families Stretch Their Budgets

Jeremy and his wife found themselves struggling to keep food on the table for their family of five when Jeremy's hours were cut back at work. While his income had slowed, the bills did not. Medical issues did not slow, the family car still needed gas, and the kids still needed to eat.

Catholic Charities was able to help Jeremy and his family not only with their immediate food needs, but also with obtaining Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits through our SNAP Outreach Program.

With help from Catholic Charities, Jeremy and his family were able to get back on their feet. Jeremy used his extra time to obtain his contractor's license. His career is on an upswing, and he has started his own small business and now helps others who are struggling. Jeremy said,

"Charity isn't about accepting help; it's about understanding that we all need help and that God uses each of us to be his hands and feet."

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

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



Courtesy Photo
Catholic Charities West Virginia's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Program helps West Virginians in need apply for nutrition benefits..

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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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- Krissie Benson

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End-of-Summer Hotdog Social

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Papa quiere diálogo con obispos sobre ministerios de la iglesia

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — Han pasado cincuenta años desde que San Pablo VI instituyó los ministerios de lector y acólito, abriéndolos a los laicos, y el papa Francisco quiere un "diálogo" formal con las conferencias episcopales del mundo para discutir sus experiencias con la promoción continua de los ministerios de la iglesia, fomentando así unidad y evangelización.

El Santo Padre hizo la propuesta de diálogo en un mensaje publicado por el Vaticano el 24 de agosto y fechado el 15 de agosto, que es el 50 aniversario de la carta apostólica, "Ministeria quaedam", de su predecesor. Ese documento de 1972 determinó que las "órdenes menores" se llamaran "ministerios" y que estos ministerios -- de lector y acólito -- estuvieran abiertos a los laicos y ya no reservados exclusivamente para candidatos a la ordenación.

Desde entonces, el papa Francisco ha instituido más cambios: enmendar el derecho canónico para que las mujeres puedan ser instaladas formalmente como lectoras y acólitas e instituir el ministerio de catequista como oficio formal y vocación en la iglesia.

En su mensaje, el papa dijo que estas dos últimas intervenciones "no deben interpretarse como una superación de la doctrina anterior, sino como un mayor desarrollo hecho posible porque (el cambio) se basa en los mismos principios, en consonancia con la reflexión del

Concilio Vaticano II, que inspiró "Ministeria quaedam".

Por eso, escribió, "la mejor manera de celebrar el aniversario de hoy es precisamente seguir profundizando en la reflexión sobre los ministerios que inició San Pablo VI".

"Todo ministerio es un llamado de Dios para el bien de la comunidad", escribió el papa Francisco.

La comunidad cristiana está llamada a discernir con atención lo que el Espíritu Santo está suscitando en relación con la situación concreta de cada comunidad, añadió.

"Toda estructura ministerial que surge de este discernimiento es dinámica, viva, y flexible, como la acción del Espíritu", y cada estructura debe profundizar aún más sus raíces en el Espíritu Santo "para evitar el riesgo de que este dinamismo se convierta en confusión, la viveza se reduzca a improvisación extemporánea, y la flexibilidad se transforme en adaptaciones arbitrarias e ideológicas".

Un ministerio debe asentarse sobre el firme fundamento de que su origen es Dios obrando por medio del Espíritu Santo y su fin es siempre el bien común y la edificación de la comunidad, escribió.

"Para poder escuchar la voz del Espíritu y no detener el proceso, teniendo cuidado de no querer forzar (el proceso) imponiendo opciones que son fruto de puntos de vista ideológicos, creo que es útil compartir experiencias de estos últimos años, más aún en esta temporada del camino sinodal", escribió el

Sumo Pontífice.

Por eso, el papa dijo que quería "iniciar un diálogo sobre el tema (de los ministerios de la iglesia) con las conferencias episcopales para poder compartir la riqueza de las

experiencias ministeriales que en estos 50 años la iglesia ha vivido". Más adelante vendrán detalles sobre el diálogo, que el Santo Padre quiere comenzar "en los próximos meses", escribió.

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 variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis

al 304.230.1504. También puede llamar a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la Diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja están disponibles en línea en www.dwc.org, 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.

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

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.



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Director of Catholic Schools Religious Education and Evangelization

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

St. Joseph School in Martinsburg



St. Joseph School is hiring substitute teachers for infants through eighth grade.

Substitutes for infants through prekindergarten classes must be at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma.

Substitutes in grades K-8 must have a bachelor's degree. Experience working with children is a must. The pay is \$11 per hour.

If you are interested, please send a résumé to Principal Maria Byrd at mbyrd@sjsvw.org.

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