Bishop Brennan Celebrates Third Anniversary as Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

By Colleen Rowan

I t 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.

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 classrooms, 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 individual 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 academic 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 Hospital, 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.

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. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also partners 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 “Complaint Form for Allegations.”

To Report to the Diocese’s Victim Assistance Coordinator: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

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 checks; 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 workshops. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, click “Diocese,” then “Offices,” then “Office of Safe Environment.”
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.

At the Welcome Back Rally for St. Vincent de Paul Parish School in Wheeling, Father Jeezon 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 from the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

To learn more please visit WVCatholicSchools.org
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 ministry 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 instigated further changes: according 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 overturning 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.

On the other hand, Bishop Bertram Knop, a theologian from Erfurt who is a member of the Synodal Path in 2019 in the wake of Germany’s “Ministeria quaedam” doctrinal and pastoral measures, 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 Mhamali 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 between Rivers state to Imo state for a thanksgiving Mass when they were kidnapped. Kidnappings for ransom have been common in northern Nigeria but are starting to spread to other areas of the country.

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, according to curators, more than 330 participants, clerical and lay, will discuss their experiences with the Synodal Path in 2019 in the wake of Germany’s “Ministeria quaedam” doctrinal and pastoral measures. 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.

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 “dangerous improvisation and lack of firmness be reduced to extemporary 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 added.

“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.
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.

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service
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 Fatz, 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 festival goers 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, Adrianne 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

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.
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 afternoon 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 Community Builds New Home for a Family in Need

Charleston Catholic High School students, alumni, faculty, and friends build a home during their annual HOPE, housing outreach project.
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.
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 is also 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 Mans: The Gospel of Salvation.” He is host and author of Ascension’s “Great Adventure Catholic Bible.”

“‘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 D’Ambrosio.

“‘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,’” he added.

“‘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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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. They pressure washed the deck and rails. The second part of the project is to 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).
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.

“The Catholic Sharing Appeal is one of the many ways we are united in God’s love as Catholics and as members of our Diocesan Family.”

- Krissie Benson

End-of-Summer Hotdog Social

Saturday September 10th 2022
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Church Gymnasium
2111 Market Street, Wheeling, W.V.
Featuring:
- Kirk’s Ice Cream,
- 50/50, raffles,
- kid games,
- music, and more!
$5/person...10 and under FREE!!!

Visit DWC.ORG/CSA
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, abriendo 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, formulando 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 predecessor. Ese documento de 1972 determinó que los "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: emmendar la estructura ministerial que surge de este discernimiento es dinámica, viva, y flexible, como la acción del Espíritu, y cada estructura debe profundizar aún más su 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, te invitamos a cuidarlo 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.

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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 posible abuso de niños en los EE. UU. Si tiene motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido una conducta sexual inapropiada, comuníquese con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y visite www.reportbishopabuse.org.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación. Si tiene alguna duda, 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 Ninos y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anónimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diocesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diocesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiásticas apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la diocesis, 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.dwcv.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, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.


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 patrocinio o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de www.dwcv.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 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 Ninos: 304-293-6400.

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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.
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.
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 on 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.
- Coordinates 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 ongoing 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.
- Assists 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 religious 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.
- Assists the superintendent in 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
- Bachelor’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.
- 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.

Next Steps
- Qualified and highly motivated candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae or resume 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.
Our Emergency/Trauma Department is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians from WVU Medicine.

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

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