Catholic schools of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are ready to welcome their students for the 2020-2021 academic year, which will begin Sept. 8. Showing Fairmont Catholic Grade School’s message of welcome to students of the community are Principal Diane Burnside (left) and Curriculum and Instruction Director Joyce Evans. The diocese’s Catholic schools are preparing for five-days a week, in-school instruction. See the Sept. 4 issue of The Catholic Spirit for back to school coverage.

Catholic Schools Ready to Welcome Students!
To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.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 by children of 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: Sr. Ellen Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; 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, Internet Crimes Against Children

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.”

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Has Opening for Chief Finance Officer

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, located in West Virginia seeks a highly motivated and responsible individual to assume a leadership role in the financial management of the Diocese as its Chief Finance Officer. This individual is appointed by the Diocesan Bishop and is the principal advisor to the Bishop in matters of finance in cooperation with the Diocesan Finance Council.

The Chief Finance Officer will administer the overall accounting process, implement financial procedures to improve and maintain the financial health of the Diocese, and provide leadership in financial decision making that affects the Diocese. This person will also serve as a resource to parishes, schools, and institutions within the diocese in financial matters while evaluating and ensuring compliance with Federal and State regulations and advancing sound policies and practices regarding fiscal management. This person should have experience in the areas of risk management, employee benefits, and legal negotiations and settlements.

The selected person will be a practicing Catholic who adheres to the teachings and traditions of the church. This individual must have CPA Certification. The individual in addition will have a Masters of Business (MBA) or Doctor of Jurisprudence. This individual will have a minimum of eight (8) years of supervisory experience and be able to demonstrate a successful progression in a leadership position. The Diocese prefers a person who is familiar with the religious not-for-profit area in accounting and finance and have a general knowledge of Canon Law related to temporal goods.

Persons wishing to apply should send resume’ with three (3) letters of reference. You may visit the Diocesan Website for more information and a complete job description at www.dwc.org. Please forward your letter of interest and resume’ information by September 25, 2020 to: Human Resource Office, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, 1311 Byron Street, PO Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003; mnaud@dwc.org; (304) 233-0880; Fax (304) 233-0890.
Charity is Path to Perfection When Done for Jesus, Pope Says

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The central focus of a Christian’s life and all he or she does to help others must be Jesus Christ, Pope Francis said.

“Christian charity is not simple philanthropy but, on the one hand, it is looking at others through the eyes of Jesus himself and, on the other hand, seeing Jesus in the face of the poor,” the pope said Aug. 23 before reciting the Angelus prayer with visitors in St. Peter’s Square.

Pope Francis focused on the day’s Gospel reading, Mt 16:13-20, in which Jesus asks the disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” and then asks them, “But who do you say that I am?”

The disciples seemed to have a ready answer to the first question, the pope said. “The apostles liked talking about people, as we all do. We like to gossip. Speaking of others is not so demanding, which is why we like it.”

But, he said, when asked who they thought he was, the disciples seemed to pause.

“If I were to ask you now, ‘Who is Jesus for you?’ there would be a little hesitation,” the pope told people in the square.

Simon Peter gets the disciples off the hook by responding, “You are the Christ, the son of the living God.”

And, the pope said, Jesus points out that Peter did not come up with that answer all by himself, but that it was revealed to him by God.

“To confess Jesus is a grace from the Father,” the pope said. “To say that Jesus is the son of the living God, that he is the Redeemer, is a grace that we must ask for: ‘Father, give me the grace to confess Jesus.’”

After Peter makes his profession of faith, Jesus calls him the rock upon which he will build the church. The pope said, “The church goes forward always on the basis of Peter’s faith, that faith that Jesus recognizes (in Peter) and which makes him the head of the church.”

“Who is Jesus Christ for me? Who is Jesus Christ for you, for you, for you,” Pope Francis asked, pointing to people in different parts of the square. Each day, he said, Christians should think how they would reply.

“With so many forms of poverty and crises everywhere, he said, Christians are right to see charity as “the high road of the journey of faith, of the perfection of faith,” the pope said. “But it is necessary that works of solidarity, the works of charity that we carry out, not divert us from contact with the Lord Jesus.”

CNS Photo/Vatican Media

Pope Francis greets the crowd as he leads the Angelus from the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Aug. 23. The pope prayed for people persecuted for their faith, remembered the victims of the 2010 San Fernando massacre in Mexico and prayed for the victims of COVID-19.
Vatican, WCC Call for Interreligious Acts of Charity, Solidarity

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians must work with members of other religions in responding to “a world wounded by the COVID-19 pandemic and by the scourge of religious intolerance, discrimination, racism, economic and ecological injustice and many other sins,” said a new document from the Vatican and the World Council of Churches.

Drawing on the teaching and example of Jesus, Christians must recognize that their charity and advocacy cannot be limited to helping only other Christians or to rallying only other Christians to help, said the document released Aug. 27.

“Serving a Wounded World in Interreligious Solidarity” was written by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the World Council of Churches as part of their ongoing work to reflect together on Christian principles of interreligious dialogue and interreligious solidarity.

The document begins with a reflection on Jesus’ parable of the good Samaritan, who comes from a different religious community but is the only person who stops to help the man beaten and left by the side of the road.

“The story is an invitation to reflect on the need to transcend boundaries in one’s service to, and solidarity with, the suffering,” the document said. “It is also a call to overcome the negative assumptions we may hold and to recognize with humility and gratitude that the ‘other’ — the Samaritan in this case — may show us the true meaning of service and solidarity.”

The parable also teaches that Christians must “overcome religious prejudice and cultural biases” both in deciding whom to serve and who they are willing to serve with in order to help more people and build a more just world, the document said.

Action and cooperation are urgent, it said, because the pandemic has sown not only illness and death, but also increased poverty, domestic violence and isolation. In fact, it said, “global hunger could double due to this catastrophe.”

Acknowledging a sense of “shared vulnerability,” the Vatican and the WCC encouraged people to respond with “new forms of solidarity reaching across all boundaries,” because, as Christians profess, all people were created by God and share equal dignity as brothers and sisters.

Hope is the virtue that binds religious believers of all traditions, they said, and it is the virtue that motivates Christians to serve others, work to overcome situations of injustice and prepare themselves for an eternity with God.

Christians also “recognize that the virtues of mercy and compassion for all who are suffering resonate in other religious traditions, which also have rich examples of generosity and concern for those most in need,” the document said.

The hope, mercy and compassion religious believers share, they said, should motivate members of different religious traditions to explore “universal and shared ethical and spiritual values to inject a new hope into the pandemic-ravaged world.”

And, as far as Christian cooperation in those efforts, the document offered “principles to guide us in the work of serving each other in a wounded world, together with all people of faith and goodwill.”

The first requirement, it said, is “humility and vulnerability,” holding fast to one’s faith in Jesus, but being willing to listen, learn and serve. “It is pride, and the inability to open up to the other sufficiently to grow, that traps us in entrenchment and perpetuates division,” the document said.

The second principle, it said, is respect for others, their “unique and complex situation,” their sincerely held beliefs and their dignity and children of God.

Fostering “community, compassion and the common good” is the third principle, it said.

The fourth is a commitment to dialogue, which implies being open to learning from others, especially “in this time of crisis,” it said. “We should also be open to what God can teach us through those from whom we least expect to learn anything,” particularly the poor and wounded.

The enduring Christian principles of repentance and renewal or conversion are just as essential in interreligious relationships as they are within the Christian community, the document said. “With the reassurance that our God forgives, we need to ask how we, who are ourselves wounded by sin, have wounded others, and more widely all of God’s creation.”

“With an aching heart,” it said, “we recognize that, as communities, we also have a history of abuse that has wounded the most vulnerable among us. Confession of our complicity in suffering is the starting point for true renewal that will enable us to live more just lives.”

Gratitude, generosity and, most of all, love also are necessary, it said. “We are called to live Christ’s love, showing the world his face. We love because he first loved us.”

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**Sunday Mornings:** with Fr. Chapin
11 Nexstar WDVM Hagerstown, Md.
6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Charleston, Huntington
8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley, Bluefield, Lewisburg
8:30 WTVY METV Wheeling, Steubenville
9:30 WVFX FOX 10 Clarksburg, Fairmont, Morgantown
10:00 DireCable 367 World Harvest Television
Weirton-area Catholic men are invited to join a group that aims to “deepen their relationship with Christ by addressing challenging and relevant issues.”

The program is called That Man Is You! (TMIY), and is being offered at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton. According to the program’s website: “That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive!”

The program is offered through parishes across the country with 25,000 men participating. This is the second year that St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton is offering the program, which is open to all Catholic men of neighboring parishes.

“We had an amazing experience last year and those that completed the program have been truly impacted,” TMIY Core Team members said. “One of the great things about the program is that you can join anytime. If you have never attended, or simply came to a couple of meetings, that is not a problem.”

Men can benefit from the group no matter when they join, team members said, and participants come from Weirton’s St. Joseph, St. Paul, and Sacred Heart of Mary parishes.

“I initiated the program TMIY here in Weirton because I was looking for a ministry to support the men of our parishes regarding a deeper spirituality,” said Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., pastor of Sacred Heart of Mary and St. Joseph the Worker. “The Knights of Columbus and the Holy Name Society in our parishes are doing well and are excellent for fostering charity, fraternity, and patriotism. However, I was looking for a program that specifically had as its mission the deepening of our men’s relationship with Christ by addressing challenging and relevant issues.”

In the TMIY program, Father Schuelkens said, issues are addressed by national speakers through pre-recorded video. Following the video, participants break up into small groups “where Christ works in an amazing way by the power of the Holy Spirit through sharing and listening. Hearts are changed, healed, encouraged, and emboldened!”

Participants are not required to make every session. The group takes off the month of December and the summer.

Father Schuelkens said he received permission from local pastors to include their parishioners in the core group, so it is an effort from all local parishes. The core group consists of about 12 men who plan out the sessions in advance and have been facilitating meetings for one year.

TMIY members encourage their fellow Catholic men of the area to give the group a try. In it they will find men just like them who are supportive and welcoming.

“You will be joining a band of brothers that will support you on your journey. It is a powerful thing when you gather with a group of men striving to do right by God and their families. We know life is busy, but we just ask the you give the program a try,” team members said.

The program begins Sept. 6 and held every Sunday at 6 a.m. in the St. Joseph the Worker School cafe, followed by breakfast at 6 a.m. in the St. Joseph cafeteria at 6 a.m. For those that do not wish to meet in person or it is too early, a virtual TMIY is being offered on Zoom every Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Father Schuelkens said he was able to make most meetings last year offering a prayer and a few words of encouragement.

“At that time, I would leave the meeting because it is essentially a ministry planned and led by the laity,” he said. “I would highly recommend it for even the busiest pastor. You just need a group of men who want to grow in holiness and are willing to commit to some extra time during the week to plan out and be there.”

None of it would be possible without the TMIY core group from Corpus Christi, Father Schuelkens said, which inspired him to start the group at his parishes.

“Corpus Christi has been running this program for a number of years quite successfully,” Father Schuelkens said. “It was my connection with them that encouraged me to gather a group of men so that the core group from Corpus Christi could share with them the great possibilities for us bringing the TMIY program to our area.”

Those interested may sign up for the Virtual TMIY by calling or e-mailing Doug Velegol at (304) 670-8424 or dvelegol@gmail.com. There is no need to sign up for the live TMIY, just show up at the St. Joseph cafeteria at 6 a.m. Sunday.

For more information about the program, visit https://paradisus.org/that-man-is-you.
August 16 was a big day for little ones at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg. Pictured above, five young parishioners made their first Holy Communion.

The group’s mission—to serve, to protect, and honor life—remained. St. Francis Xavier’s Gabriel Project reported that clients were able to make contact by phone, provide a list of needed items, and schedule a time to pick up their items. One such client, going by the name Elaine, is typical. She called and told the volunteer what items she needed and scheduled a time to pick up the order. She did this once a month throughout the two and a half-month quarantine period.

“Elaine has four children, so she is always in need of basics—diapers, wipes, hygiene products, formula, baby food, and clothing,” St. Francis Xavier’s Gabriel Project officials said. “The mission also has provided her with new cribs and mattresses and new car seats, along with gently used baby equipment.”

Elaine has been a regular client since before the pandemic, through the quarantine, and now since the ministry has reopened without appointments. She visits once a month according to guidelines, and has referred others, most recently a relative.

Officials said that those served by the mission have responded well to adjustments and have adhered to guidelines.

“Clients have been patient with the new protocols and have willingly abided by the face mask mandate and use of hand sanitizer,” officials said. “Facemasks are given to any who forgets, but that has only happened once.”

Clients are permitted only as far as the entry way of Xavier Hall where they complete a form listing their needs. They must observe social distancing and stay in the entry way while a volunteer fills their order and brings it to them. This is a change from original protocols.

“Before pandemic, clients were able to ‘shop’ for themselves in the ‘GP Boutique,’” officials said. “The clients are cooperative about changes and just grateful to receive the help they need.”

A volunteer sanitizes the chair, clipboard, and pen once a client leaves. The process then starts over with the next client.

Volunteers are always welcome at St. Francis Xavier’s Gabriel Project, which is part of an ecumenical network throughout the state helping babies get a healthful start. The parish’s mission works out of Xavier Hall on Thursdays, and volunteer hours are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For those who need help or know of someone in need, client hours are 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call Cathy at (304) 845-3892 for more information.

August 16 was a big day for little ones at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg.

MOUNDSVILLE—The Gabriel Project mission at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Moundsville has remained present to families in need in the coronavirus pandemic, serving clients well during quarantine with protocols in place to protect clients and volunteers.

“Mourdsville has remained present to families in need in the coronavirus pandemic, serving clients well during quarantine with protocols in place to protect clients and volunteers.”

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For those who need help or know of someone in need, client hours are 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call Cathy at (304) 845-3892 for more information.
St. Paul School, Weirton, Student is Runner up in State PSA Contest

West Virginia Attorney General’s 2020 Kids Kick Opioids PSA Contest

DON’T BE A PRISONER TO OPIOIDS...

Mia Pietranton
St. Paul Catholic School

Mia Pietranton, who was in eighth-grade at St. Paul School in Weirton, received runner up in KIDS KICK OPIOIDS West Virginia Attorney General’s Youth Opioid Awareness PSA Contest. Her artwork is featured above.
**Infant of Prague Novena to be Held at Cathedral**

**WHEELING**—The Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling will celebrate the annual Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague beginning this year on Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. The Novena will be prayed on nine consecutive Monday evenings concluding on November 9.

Each week consists of Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, a homily given by a guest priest, music, and prayers to the Infant of Prague. The theme for this year will be the “Fruits of the Holy Spirit.” Everyone is invited.

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**St. Joseph Retreat Center Holding Online ‘Healing Circle’**

**WHEELING**—St. Joseph Retreat Center at Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling is holding an online ‘Healing Circle’ series facilitated by Dr. John Spiesman. The series is based on the work of Lynne McTaggart, internationally known for her groundbreaking work on consciousness and intention. She is also architect of the Intention Experiment, a global ‘laboratory’ involving thousands of readers around the world testing the power of group thoughts to heal the world, with great success.

“In our healing circles, we will practice using the power of intention to heal ourselves, each other, other concerns of our hearts, and the world,” organizers said.

The series began Aug. 13, and continues at 7 p.m. Sept. 10, Oct. 8, and Nov. 12.

For questions or to sign up, contact Anna Marie Troiani, executive director at St. Joseph Retreat Center, at atroiani@csjoseph.org or (304) 312-3691.

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**Immaculate Conception Parish Nurses Hold Drive Thru Donation/Collection**

**CLARKSBURG**—The Parish Nurse Ministry of Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg thanks all who contributed monetary or material donations during the drop off drive to help the Mustard Seed, Shepherd’s Corner and the Life Choice Pregnancy and Family Resource Center.

“The drive was very successful,” ministry officials said. “Thank you again for helping us to provide for our community during these trying times. Blessings to all of you. Thank you for your support!”

The drive thru was held in August in the alley between the church and the parish center.

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Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

If you or someone you know is facing an unplanned pregnancy, get support at 888-550-1588 (call/text)
La caridad es el camino a la perfección cuando se hace para Jesús, dice el Papa

Por Cindy Wooden, Servicio Católico de Noticias

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)—El enfoque central de la vida de un cristiano y todo lo que él o ella hace para ayudar a otros debe ser Jesucristo, dijo el Papa Francisco.

“La caridad cristiana no es simple filantropía, sino que, por un lado, es mirar a los demás a través de los ojos del mismo Jesús y, por otro lado, ver a Jesús en el rostro de los pobres”, dijo el Papa el 23 de agosto antes de celebrar la oración del Ángelus con los visitantes en la Plaza de San Pedro.

El Papa Francisco se centró en la lectura del Evangelio del día, Mt 16: 13-20, en la que Jesús pregunta a los discípulos: “¿Quién dice la gente que es el Hijo del Hombre?” y luego les pregunta: “¿Pero quién dice que soy?”.

Los discípulos parecían tener una respuesta lista a la primera pregunta, dijo el Papa. “A los apóstoles les gustaba hablar de la gente, como a todos nosotros. Nos gusta hacer un show, hablar de los demás no es tan exigente, por eso nos gusta”. 

Pero, dijo, cuando se les preguntó quién pensaban que era, los discípulos parecieron hacer una pausa.

“Si les preguntara ahora, ¿Quién es Jesús para ustedes?”, Habría una pequeña vacilación”, dijo el Papa a la gente en la plaza.

Simón Pedro saca a los discípulos del apuro al responder: “Tú eres el Cristo, el hijo del Dios viviente”. 

Y, dijo el Papa, Jesús señala que a Pedro no se le ocurrió esa respuesta por sí mismo, sino que fue revelada por Dios.

“Confesar a Jesús es una gracia del Padre”, dijo el Papa. “Decir que Jesús es el hijo del Dios viviente, que es el Redentor, es una gracia que debemos pedir: ‘Padre, dame la gracia de confesar a Jesús’”.

Después de que Pedro hace su profesión de fe, Jesús lo llama la roca sobre la cual edificará la iglesia. El Papa dijo: “La iglesia avanza siempre sobre la base de la fe de Pedro, esa fe que Jesús reconoce (en Pedro) y que lo convierte en la cabeza de la iglesia”.

“¿Quién es Jesucristo para mí? Quíen es Jesucristo para ti, para ti, para ti”, preguntó el Papa Francisco, señalando a las personas en diferentes partes de la plaza. Cada día, dijo, los cristianos deberían pensar cómo responderían.

Con tantas “formas de pobreza y crisis” en todas partes, dijo, los cristianos tienen razón al ver la caridad como “el camino alto del camino de la fe, de la perfección de la fe”, dijo el Papa. “Pero es necesario que las obras de solidaridad, las obras de caridad que realizamos, no nos desvíen del contacto con el Señor Jesucristo”.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños: La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También recomendamos utilizar www.reportbishopabuse.org para hacer un informe sobre cualquier obispo en los EE. UU. Si tiene motivos para creer que un obispo ha participado en una conducta sexual inapropiada o ha interferido con una investigación sobre conducta sexual inapropiada, comuníquese con las autoridades civiles en el lugar correspondiente. 


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 mal conducta” o llama- mando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que in- forma 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.dvhhr.org/report.asp; Policía del Estado de Virginia Occiden- tal, Unidad de Delitos contra los Niños, Crímenes de Internet contra los Niños.
Bishop Mark Brennan is pictured with young people from St. Agnes and St. Anthony parishes in Charleston for confirmation Aug. 8 at St. Agnes Church. Also pictured with the group, are Father Tijo George, MCBS, administrator of St. Anthony’s (left of the bishop) and Father Jose Manuel Escalante, pastor of St. Anges. The summer confirmation season will come to a close at Corpus Christi Parish in Wheeling Aug. 29 with confirmation at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Since July, Bishop Brennan has visited 15 parishes across West Virginia for confirmation.

**Summer Confirmations Coming to a Close**

*Courtesy Photo*

**CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE**

Corpus Christi, Warwood, Saturday, Aug. 29: 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

**Opening for Third-Grade Teacher at Fairmont Catholic**

Fairmont Catholic Grade School in Fairmont, WV, is seeking a 3rd grade teacher to serve as an effective instructional and spiritual leader starting September 1, 2020. The school seeks enthusiastic educators looking to follow the mission of our school in dedication to the academic development of all students and to their ongoing formation in faith, morality, and social justice. All interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to Principal Diane Burnside at dburnside@fairmontcatholic.com

**St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, is Searching for Substitute Teachers**

Do you enjoy working with children? Are you a certified teacher or substitute who wants to work in a small Catholic school whose mission is to challenge, inspire and educate students ages 2 through eighth grade? If so, Saint Joseph School in Martinsburg invites you to apply to become a substitute teacher.

If you are interested, please call the school office at 304-267-6447 or email Principal Patrick Blanc at pblanc@sjswv.org.

**Full-Time Adult Education Instructor Needed in Welch**

Catholic Charities West Virginia is seeking a full-time Adult Education Instructor for the McDowell County Adult Learning Center, Welch, WV. The Adult Education Instructor is responsible for setting educational goals with adult learners and helping them achieve those goals. The position requires travel between several learning sites in McDowell and Wyoming Counties.

Job duties include: overseeing all learning activities in basic skills, High School Equivalency, job readiness, and life coping skills; maintaining accurate student records and adhering to all procedures set by the WV Department of Education and Catholic Charities WV; recruiting new students, monitoring student progress, and designing student retention practices; focusing on individual goal-oriented instruction based upon individual education plans; reviewing and selecting texts, software, online courses, and other educational resources related to instruction; and building partnerships in the community and attending community meetings.

Qualifications include; Bachelor’s degree in Education, Social Services/Social Sciences, or related field required. A professional teaching certificate is preferred. If an individual doesn’t have a teaching certificate, then he or she must be eligible for an adult license for Adult Education. This requires a four year college degree with a minimum 2.5 GPA in original coursework and a minimum of 3.0 GPA in coursework used to maintain the adult license. Must have a valid driver’s license, reliable transportation, and the ability to work in multiple locations. Prior experience in teaching adults preferred.

Must be detail-oriented, self-starting, and computer literate. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are also required. Please submit a resume, cover letter and three professional references by September 4, 2020 to matwood@ccwva.org. Application materials can also be delivered to Matt Atwood, Southern Regional Director, Catholic Charities WV, 203 S. 7th Street, Princeton, WV 24740.
Hospitality House Empowers Families to Overcome Obstacles

By Katie Hinerman Klug, Catholic Charities West Virginia Marketing Communications Specialist

Many families are one unexpected expense away from experiencing homelessness. Without a support system, families are often separated at homeless shelters and continue to struggle to save money.

The Catholic Charities Hospitality House in Wheeling is a unique solution to this problem. The Hospitality House provides transitional housing for a family for three to six months. The family is able to stay intact and sleep under one roof while receiving intensive case management services to get back on their feet.

Recently, the Womack family stayed at the Hospitality House. Maria Womack and her husband had been sleeping in their car while their four kids were being juggled between friends’ couches. They struggled to pay for food and other basic needs, and they were not able to even begin to save money for rent payments.

“My life has changed for the better being in this program,” said Maria Womack. “Catholic Charities has helped me become a better person and mother to my children.”

As part of the Hospitality House case management program, residents meet with a representative from West Virginia Saves to learn about budgeting and saving money.

The Catholic Charities case manager also helps ensure that all members of the family are receiving the services they need, whether that’s quality daycare or early intervention services for the children, employment opportunities for adults, or any type of support family members need to reach their goals.

“I have opened a checking account and began saving money,” said Maria. “I am learning about budgeting and we have been helped with food, gas money for doctors’ appointments, filling out housing applications and so much more.”

After living in the Hospitality House for six months, the Womack family was able to move into their own 4-bedroom apartment. Both parents are employed, their oldest son with autism is receiving quality care, and the other children are enrolled in quality daycare and school programs. All members of the Womack family are thriving after receiving caring and compassionate services from Catholic Charities West Virginia.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, 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.
Wheeling University Sees 106 Percent Increase in New Students for Academic Year

WHEELING—Wheeling University kicked off the start of the academic year with a 106 percent increase in new students entering the institution this year.

On Friday, Aug. 21, the campus community welcomed 258 students during New Cardinal Move-In Day. Each year, the University sets aside one day for all its new Cardinals to move into their residence halls and take part in activities to acclimate them to college life. The day concluded with the annual New Student Convocation, when faculty and staff officially welcome the class as members of the Wheeling University family. This year, the event was on Bishop Schmitt Field in order to follow local and state social distancing guidelines.

Members of the class of 2024 come to Wheeling from 32 states and 14 countries. The University drew 30 percent of the class comes from nine of the 13 states (each), Florida (13) and California (12). In addition, 30 West Virginia (18), Pennsylvania and Maryland (17 each), Florida (13) and California (12). In addition, 30 percent of the class comes from nine of the 13 states that make up Appalachia.

“New Cardinal Move-In Day is an exciting time because it marks the beginning of another academic year, and is our opportunity to welcome the students and their families to this community,” said Wheeling University President, Ginny R. Favede.

“The numbers show that this is a diverse group, with students coming to Wheeling from across the country and the world. In addition, the figures indicate Wheeling University remains true to its mission to serve and educate the men and women of the Appalachian Region. Sixty-six years since our founding, this University continues to provide a quality, Catholic education to the people of this region of the country,” said Favede.

Wheeling University will offer a variety of activities throughout the weekend for new and returning students, said Andrew Lewis, vice president and chief Student Services officer. “Our team in Student Services has put together a variety of programming to give our new students a chance to bond with one another. Some of the activities during the weekend include; a flashback movie on Donahue lawn, a creekbank gathering, bingo and lawn games, Lewis explained.

While students have been gone from campus since mid-March, that doesn’t mean work stopped on campus. The University has made changes to its programs of study.

Last Spring, Favede announced the University would bring back Biology, Engineering Science and English as majors during the 2020-21 academic year. Additionally, Theology has been brought back, and several professional certificates have been added for undergraduates and working adults. She said all of the certificate programs are available online.

As part of the Business program, Wheeling now offers certificates in Integrated Marketing Communications, Sales and Salesforce Trailhead Training and Certification Sales, and Tourism and Hospitality Management. In the Engineering Science program, there is now a Construction Management Essentials certificate. Certificates are available in the Health Sciences in Health Services Management, Nursing Management and Post Master’s Nursing. Finally, in Theology a Pastoral Ministry Certificate can be obtained.

“The certificates now offered at the University can be obtained by individuals on a stand-alone basis. For students enrolled at Wheeling, they can earn a certificate in one of these areas, which adds value to the degree a student is seeking. This is just one more way Wheeling University is working to assist the residents of the region to advance their educational pursuits,” said Dr. Jacqueline McGlade, interim vice president and chief academic officer.

While Academic Affairs upgraded course offerings, many improvements were made the physical plant of campus.

“We have spent the summer making upgrades to residence halls and the campus grounds, all in preparation for our new and returning students. In addition to painting the exterior and interior of many buildings, we have paved our roadways and sealed and relined all of our parking lots. Improvements have been made to the patio outside our cafeteria, giving students an option to dine and socialize outside,” Favede added.

Classes at Wheeling University began Aug. 24.