



Bishop Brennan Addresses Canon Law Society of America on Restoring Trust in the Church

By Colleen Rowan

"You make a promise, and you keep it," that is how trust in the Catholic Church will be restored, Bishop Mark E. Brennan said. The bishop shared this and other thoughts when sat down with The Catholic Spirit Nov. 22 to talk about his Oct. 13 presentation "Lack of Trust in the Institutional Church and the Need to Restore It" to the Canon Law Society of America (CLSA) in San Diego, Calif.

"I was asked to speak about the lack of trust in the institutional church," Bishop Brennan said. "But I also wanted to talk about how you restore that trust. How do we move towards building up trust in the church? Basically, you do this by proving you're trustworthy. You keep your word. You keep your promises."

That is what Bishop Brennan has been focusing on in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston since becoming

its ninth bishop in the summer of 2019. He has since been traveling the diocese and getting to know his people. "I've been to almost all the parishes now," the bishop told The Catholic Spirit. "I've been to 23 of our 24 Catholic schools since the school year began in late August."

The bishop shared this in his address to the CLSA as well as other efforts in the diocese to restore trust, starting with the Diocesan Finance Council.

The bishop emphasized that canons 492 and 493 envision a council that truly functions to assist the bishop in diocesan finances.

"Building on the efforts of Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, who served as apostolic administrator of Wheeling-Charleston for a year and gave it much attention, I was able to increase its geographical representation and include more women on the

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Pro-Lifers Hopeful about Outcome of Dobbs Case, Urge Prayers for Court

By Julie Asher, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' pro-life committee Dec. 1 urged Catholics, people of other faiths and all people of goodwill to unite in prayer that the U.S. Supreme Court will overturn *Roe v. Wade* in its eventual ruling on Mississippi's ban on most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

His statement was issued the same day the court heard oral arguments in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, an appeal from Mississippi. Its ban was struck down by a federal District Court in Mississippi in 2018 and upheld a year later by the New Orleans-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit.

The Mississippi law is being challenged by the state's only abortion facility, the Jackson Women's Health Organization. It's the first major abortion case the court has heard in decades.

"In the United States, abortion takes the lives of over 600,000 babies every year," said Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities. "*Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* could change that."

"We pray that the court will do the right thing and allow states to once again limit or prohibit abortion, and in doing so protect millions of unborn children and their mothers from this painful, life-destroying act," he added. "We invite all people of goodwill to uphold the dignity of human life by joining us in prayer and fasting for this important case."

If the court's ruling, expected in July, upholds the ban, it possibly also could overturn *Roe* and send

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Pro-life activists and other supporters protest outside the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington Dec. 1 ahead of the court hearing oral arguments in the case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, an appeal from Mississippi to keep its ban on abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

CNS Photo/Jonathan Ernst, Reuters

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Audit Shows Protocols Have Impact on Reducing Risk of Abuse

The results of the 2020 Annual Audit relative to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People indicate that the implementation of Safe Environment protocols in dioceses throughout the United States continues to have an impact on reducing risk and prompting survivors of abuse to come forward.

There are 22 allegations nationwide involving current cases of abuse, according to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection, the office that released the results of the report on Nov. 9. The report covers the annual audit

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 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.

period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 and reflects statistics for the entirety of the U.S.

"Our goal here in the United States will always be to see zero allegations," Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Bishop Mark Brennan said. "Even one allegation is too many. This statistic does, however, give us hope that nationwide efforts in keeping children safe and prompting survivors to come forward are making a difference."

There were 4,250 total allegations reported nationwide during the 2020 annual audit period, with the overwhelming majority of them stemming from the 1960s to the 1990s, according to the report. Three percent of the total allegations nationwide stem from the years 2000 to present, and, as indicated, 22 of the total allegations nationwide are from the current year. According to the report, 195 dioceses and eparchies across the U.S. participated in the annual audit.

"When we see the number of current allegations decreasing across the country, it indicates that prevention efforts are working. When we see the total number overall, with most of the allegations coming from decades ago, it indicates that survivors are taking the courageous step to come forward and disclose. This step, although painful and difficult, is oftentimes the first step toward healing," Bishop Brennan said.

A combination of various Safe Environment protocols and efforts, legal rulings and proceedings at the state level, investigations, and media coverage over the past few years in the U.S. continues to prompt survivors to come forward, according to the report.

"As time goes on, we continue to see current numbers decreasing and survivors disclosing and getting the help and resources they need to move toward healing," Bishop Brennan said. "All across the U.S., employees, volunteers, and children are much more aware today as compared to the past because of Safe Environment requirements. They have the knowledge to recognize warning signs and the mechanisms to report concerns and allegations. Nonetheless, we still have more work to do. Now is not the time to relax on any of our efforts as far as the sex abuse crisis is concerned. As a diocese and as a country, want to keep moving forward. We want to keep seeing decreases in those numbers. We want to foster healing."

The report states that during the 2020 audit period, approximately 5.6 million adults and children received sex abuse awareness training and approximately 2.5 million background checks were conducted for employees and volunteers who work with children across the U.S. These are two of the primary ways Safe Environment protocols in the U.S. help protect children. The Charter requires that every diocese in the U.S. implements sex abuse awareness training for adults and children, background checks for employ-

ees and volunteers, and a sex abuse policy specifying zero tolerance. The Charter also requires that every diocese convenes a lay-led Sexual Abuse Review Board to help determine the credibility of allegations and ensure that reporting to civil authorities is accomplished in accordance with state and local laws. U.S. dioceses and eparchies are regularly audited for compliance with the Charter. The auditing agency is Stonebridge Business Partners, based in Rochester, New York.

At the local level, since 2018, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has implemented the following measures to help establish and grow a culture of safety, in addition to aforementioned Charter requirements:

- Release of the lists of credibly accused here and elsewhere

- Implementation of Navex Global's EthicsPoint platform which facilitates reporting of suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of any priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the diocese, parish, or Catholic school in West Virginia

- Promotion of the USCCB's third-party reporting system called the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service, reportbishopabuse.org

- Implementation of fingerprinting of priests, deacons, teachers, principals, and Catholic school-related personnel

- Engagement of an independent, third-party organization – Corporate Security and Investigations of Monaca, PA – to conduct audits and spot checks for compliance with Safe Environment protocols; this is in addition to the required and regular USCCB audits conducted by Stonebridge Business Partners

"The Catholic Church in the U.S. is no longer a place where sex abuse is facilitated, tolerated, or covered up. Catholics in the church today are much more informed and empowered when it comes to this crisis. They have recognized over time that preventive measures and robust mechanisms for reporting are making a difference all across the country," Bishop Brennan said.

In June, at the USCCB's virtual Spring General Assembly, Bishop Brennan stressed the importance of on-site audits at the parish and school level and encouraged his brother bishops to increase this component of Safe Environment efforts in their dioceses and eparchies. He was lauded by the chair of the USCCB National Review Board for his stance.

"The safety of children and the healing of survivors come first," Bishop Brennan said. "There is no end date for these two endeavors. We will continue our work toward building a culture of safety in our diocese and all across the U.S. Children deserve a culture where they can safely grow and thrive. Survivors deserve a culture where they can find support and healing."

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."



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Mark Sadd Elected Chair of the U.S. Bishops' National Advisory Council

By Colleen Rowan

CHARLESTON—Mark A. Sadd of Charleston has been elected chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' National Advisory Council (NAC). Bishop Mark E. Brennan, who also serves on the NAC, is happy that Sadd is serving in this role.

"We're very proud that our West Virginia voice is going to be heard," Bishop Brennan said. "I think he will be respectful that everyone gets a chance to be heard." Bishop Brennan went on to commend Sadd for the presentation he gave to the U.S. bishops during their November assembly in Baltimore.

The NAC, Bishop Brennan said, is comprised of committed Catholics from around the country. "They take their responsibility very seriously," he said, noting that the council is mostly lay people.

Sadd has been serving on the council since 2019. In his role as chair, he leads the NAC's Executive Board. "The Holy Spirit has really surprised me with my time on the NAC, in-



Mark A. Sadd

cluding my appointment in the first place," Sadd said. "I never would have imagined that I would be in a position to address all of the U.S. bishops on behalf of so many."

The U.S. bishops founded the council in 1966 as a new expression of synodality in the church, Sadd said. "The NAC thinks and acts with the faith and doctrine of the church to give our bishops our best consensus advice and insights on how to proceed with their substantial work through the

USCCB. It's important to understand that the advice of the NAC is just that, advice. I have observed that our bishops seriously listen and respond to the NAC's advice, and input," Sadd said.

The council has 44 members, mostly lay women and men from all around the nation. Serving with them are five bishops, six priests, two deacons, one religious brother, and four religious women and men. "In a nice coincidence," Sadd said, "I am honored to serve as chair while Bishop Brennan is serving as a NAC member."

As chair, Sadd and five council colleagues plan meetings throughout the year. "We make sure that we take up important and timely issues that the bishops face or want to address in the USCCB's strategic plan for the church in the United States," Sadd said. "For example, the bishops now, rightly, are emphasizing the growing unbelief in the truth of the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist as Christ's

unique gift of grace to us. During the last meeting, we addressed the state and future of Catholic elementary and secondary education in the United States. We have weighed in heavily on the disgrace of abuse within the church. One NAC meeting just before I joined the group was devoted entirely to that topic."

In 2019, Sadd's NAC colleagues elected him to serve as chair-elect for 2021 and then as chair for 2022. The 2021 chair, Scott Voynich of Georgia, served in that capacity until he became very ill in September and was unable to complete his term as chair through the end of the bishops' meeting in Baltimore in November, Sadd said. Father Michael Fuller, USCCB general secretary, appointed Sadd as chair to complete Voynich's term through the end of 2021. He has been serving as chair since mid-October and will complete his term through 2022. He will then serve as past chair through 2023, when his time on the NAC ends.

Sadd was nominated to serve as an at-large member on the NAC in 2018 by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore. The bishops who serve on the USCCB's governing body approved his appointment, and his first meeting was in spring 2019.

Sadd is a member of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston and a member of the Knights of Columbus St. Michael the Archangel Council 12630. He is also president of both the Serra Club of Charleston and St. Paul Radio Co., which owns or operates three Catholic radio stations, WLUX, WNUX and WOUX. He is also a Knight Commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

"It has been a joy to be able to represent our Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in this small way to seek the greater good for the church," Sadd said, "and I don't let the NAC members ever forget that I am a Mountaineer."

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Council," Bishop Brennan told the CLSA. "I also directed the council to work with the Diocesan Finance Department in the formation of the annual budget. That was new to everyone but, with a few bumps and scrapes along the way, a good budget was formed for the current fiscal year. Archbishop Lori promised that the annual audit of diocesan finances would be published. We have done that for two years with generally favorable reviews."

Bishop Brennan then pointed to the establishment of the Diocesan Pastoral Council. He noted that the history of such councils in the U.S. is uneven but thought it would be good for Wheeling-Charleston, especially since the people had no voice with which to express their views in the light of the scandals the diocese had endured.

"I wanted this to truly be a council reflective of our Catholic people, so I told my pastors to ask their parishioners to nominate persons they considered appropriate for such a council," the bishop told the CLSA, describing the diocese's vicariate structure and the election process. He shared that the council has 18 lay men and women, including a number of young adults. A few members are ex officio, such as the vicar general and vicar for

clergy, a representative of consecrated persons and a permanent deacon elected by his fellow deacons.

"I find the council to be full of zeal to work for the cause of Christ in our state," the bishop told the CLSA. "I believe the council will be a very fruitful consultative body for our local church if it has substantive work to do. It also reflects Pope Francis' emphasis on synodality in which communion with one another in the Holy Spirit is affirmed, participation of all is assured and the Church's mission to evangelize is promoted."

In more efforts, Bishop Brennan pointed to "healing circles" in the diocese where clergy, religious, and the faithful can talk openly about the scandals of the church. Talking about it helps, the bishop said, but cautioned the faithful to not just focus on the past.

"My overall impression is that West Virginia Catholics don't want to get stuck in the past. They do want to move forward," Bishop Brennan told *The Catholic Spirit*.

Looking beyond West Virginia, Bishop Brennan said in his address to the CLSA, that parishes, schools and youth programs are safer for young people today than they were 30, 40 or 50 years ago.

"In addition to those diocesan Review Boards that function well," he said, "we do extensive screening of candidates for the priesthood and dia-

conate, Catholic school teachers, youth ministers and volunteers who work with youth."

Bishop Brennan went on to tell the CLSA of that as a parish priest in 2002, he thought the bishops should have applied the provisions of the Dallas Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People to themselves. "I still think so," he said in his address. "In the 2018 revision of the charter in a section near the end entitled, 'Statement of Episcopal Commitment,' we bishops said: 'We will apply the requirements of the Charter also to ourselves, respecting always Church law as it applies to bishops.' I would favor a definitive vote by the Bishops' Conference saying exactly that and asking for Rome's approval to make it particular law for the church in the United States. That would give the statement teeth. I hope that some people might say, 'A little late in the game but the right move,' and that it would enkindle a little more confidence in episcopal leadership, give encouragement to our Child Protection officers and remove resentment from priests and deacons who know that, presently, the Dallas norms that apply to them do not apply to bishops."

Bishop Brennan also told the CLSA that a better effort must be made in reaching out to victim survivors of clerical child abuse. While monetary settlements are made, he said, they do

not bring healing. Counseling is offered either through the church or by a counselor of the victim's choice. Many bishops have spent hours listening to the stories of those who survived abuse, Bishop Brennan said, but it is difficult to reach victims.

"The wounds are so deep and stay so raw," Bishop Brennan said. "I have met with a few victims but not many have accepted my invitation to meet with them. The lack of trust in bishops becomes very palpable in this experience. But we must keep trying, especially because the spiritual good of these brothers and sisters is at stake."

These are just some of the issues Bishop Brennan shared with the CLSA. His talk will be printed in full in an upcoming CLSA publication.

In ending his address to the CLSA, the bishop said: "The Catholic Church has been through worse times than these but that does not excuse indifference and inaction on our part today. This is, after all, the Church Christ founded, the sacrament of his salvation for a world that desperately needs his saving grace. It is the Lord's will that his church have shepherds at different levels. That makes it imperative to show by our words and deeds that our people can trust us. Only when they hear the echo of Christ's voice in ours will they follow us. Only when we lead with integrity will we be worthy of our calling."

A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Brennan

1. Advent

As we enter into the season of Advent, a season of “joyful anticipation,” we first stir up the embers of our hope for Christ’s return in glory, a hope that is so easily suffocated in the activities and concerns that fill our daily lives. It is good to remember that Jesus promised to return and, being a God-man of his word, he will do so at a time and in a way that he considers right. It will be a wonderful thing when he returns to manifest to the whole world his saving work. How do we prepare for his coming? By following him in faith and love. Should we die first, as have our forebears, our faith in him and love for God and neighbor will allow us to be confident as we meet him and learn our eternal destiny.

In early Advent we relive ancient Israel’s yearning for a Savior but then we turn our focus in the latter part of the season to the events immediately preceding Christ’s coming: the annunciation of his conception in the Virgin Mary, the conception and birth of John the Baptist, Joseph’s marriage to Mary at God’s command, the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem for the census. Finally, the Messiah is born and we rejoice in song and flowers and wreaths in our Christmas Masses. God has kept His promise to give us a Savior.

Between his first coming in humility and his final coming in glory, the Lord comes to us gently in our prayer, our reception of him in the Eucharist, our devout confessions, our meditation on his Word, our acts of kindness to others. Read Revelations 3:20 to grasp the personal encounter he wants to have with you. Even before his final return, you will understand St. Paul’s words: Rejoice in the Lord always! I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near [Philippians 4:4-5]. He is near to all who will open the door to him and let him in. Be that person and you will have a fruitful Advent.

2. The US Bishops’ Recent Meeting

You may or may not pay much attention to what the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops does at its semi-annual meetings but we had one in mid-November in Baltimore, MD, the first diocese in the newly independent United States. It was our first in-person meeting in two years and on that score alone was a blessing. As a participant, I found the bishops strongly committed to working for the good of our people. We heard addresses from Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Pope’s Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, from Archbishop José Gómez of Los Angeles, the President of our Conference, and from West Virginian Mark Saad, now the chair of the National Advisory Council, which proposes agenda items to the bishops and responds to the bishops’ decisions. All spoke of the need for unity among Catholics in a country increasingly polarized. Happily, that unity was evident among the bishops in Baltimore.

What did we do? We approved new English and Spanish translations of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, which is in use in all of our parishes and will guide parish teams in preparing catechumens for baptism and non-catechized Catholics for the other sacraments of initiation. We heard a presentation on the new penal section of the Code of Canon Law, issued by Pope Francis in June of this year, that deals with punishments of clergy and laity in Church service who abuse persons or use their positions for personal gain. I think the recent scandal in this Diocese may have contributed to the strengthened provisions of the Code. We also approved our 2022 budget and, not surprisingly, the assembled bishops decided not to raise the tax on their dioceses (but they did not lower it either).

We voted to move up to the summer of 2022 the review of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People that was originally scheduled for 2025. The implementation of the Charter since 2002 has greatly reduced new cases of the sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy but we decided we could not wait three more years to see if any gaps needed to be filled or provisions needed to be strengthened. We also overwhelmingly voted to have Mother Teresa of Calcutta’s feast (September 5) be added to the US liturgical calendar. We agreed with the bishops of Honolulu and Lafayette in Louisiana that they should advance at the local level the causes for the beatification and canonization of two laymen – Joseph Dutton, who served with St. Damien among the lepers of Molokai, and Auguste Robert Pelafigue, a renowned catechist – and a laywoman – Charlene Marie Richard, whose sanctity at her death at age 15 was testified to by many people and whose intercession is linked to miracles. We need American saints!

The bishops also approved having a national Eucharistic Congress in 2024 as part of our Eucharistic Revival Project to reaffirm Catholic belief in Christ’s true presence in the Eucharist. We heard presentations on marriage, family life and youth and on a prolife effort called “Walking with Moms in Need,” in which parishes and pregnancy centers team up to offer more effective help to struggling mothers. There were other presentations on immigration, Catholic Charities, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Services and the diocesan phase, already in motion, of the Synod Pope Francis has called to strengthen the Church in communion (being one in faith and love), participation (leaving no one out) and mission (bringing Christ and his Gospel to others). At times the week felt like a forced march but I think we did some good.

The only thing much of the media seemed interested in, along with some folks who gathered outside our hotel, was a document called The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church. We disappointed those who hoped we would

fight over whether or not President Biden should be denied Holy Communion. That was not our objective nor the competence of our Conference. We wanted a theological and pastoral document that would undergird our Eucharistic Revival Project. The vote was 220 to 8 in favor. Our unity could not have been clearer.

3. The need for a Eucharistic Revival Project

The Eucharist, both its celebration in the Mass and its reception in Holy Communion, is central to our Catholic faith, for we believe this sacrament is unique in that it becomes what it signifies: the very Person of Jesus, the Son of God, once crucified for us and now risen from the dead. It is distressing that, long before the COVID-19 pandemic, many Catholics have stayed away from Mass and therefore from the Lord who wants to give himself to them in the Eucharist. Moreover, the bishops of our country have learned from both national surveys and anecdotal evidence that many Catholics, even some who regularly go to Mass and receive Holy Communion, do not believe that they truly receive Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar.

For this reason we will launch a Eucharistic Revival Project nationwide on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 19, 2022. We need this Project because, as pastors of souls, we are concerned that our brothers and sisters who lack the Church’s faith in Christ’s real presence in the Eucharist may not receive any benefit from their reception of the Sacrament. The Lord presents himself – “Body of Christ, Blood of Christ” – but if we say, “No, it’s not you; it’s just a piece of bread or a reminder of you,” can we expect him to bless us? He stands at the door and knocks but what if we won’t let him in? How can he dine with us? [See Revelation 3:20]

How could it come to pass that many Catholics today do not share the Church’s faith, believed and taught from the days of the Apostles, that Jesus Christ makes himself substantially present in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood? I suspect it is in part a result of a diminished sense of the supernatural leading to a practical materialism. This materialism does not allow for the sovereign God to intervene in His creation to change, in a mysterious and spiritual way, bread and wine into Christ’s Body and Blood while leaving the material elements unchanged. Everything is interpreted on the horizontal level; the vertical level is left out. So, as this thinking goes, the Eucharist could not possibly be Jesus.

In addition, Americans’ high regard for individualism can lead to unfortunate results if it reaches beyond its proper limits. Sadly, we see many examples in our society of a heightened individualism that prioritizes personal opinion over even the strongest consensus of others, thus undermining the common good. I think that the resistance to being vaccinated against the Coronavirus and wearing masks when in group settings is a prime example. But this heightened individualism also influences some Catholics’ view of the Eucharist. They hold to their erroneous opinion despite the testimony of Scripture and Tradition and the experience of saints and ordinary Catholics through the centuries who have found such great strength through the Lord whom they received in the Sacrament.

We need, then, to stir up our people’s faith in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist, lest it cease to be the “source and summit” of the Christian life and our sacrament of unity with the Lord and with one another. That is why the US bishops approved The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church. It will give us a useful theological framework for our Eucharistic Revival Project and provide some marvelous testimony of Catholics, ordained, religious and lay, to the immense spiritual power of the Sacrament.

4. The worthiness to receive Holy Communion

Regarding a person’s reception of Holy Communion, the bishops repeated traditional Catholic teaching in our Eucharistic document that we should approach the Sacrament only if we are not conscious of having committed mortal sins of which we have not repented and been absolved in the Sacrament of Penance. This applies to everyone. Prominent Catholics bear a special responsibility not to lead others into error by receiving the Eucharist if they teach or live in a manner that contradicts authentic Catholic doctrine. Those

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William Keimig, DMin.
Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio

December 13 & 14, 2021 | 7:00 pm
Penance Service— December 15, 2021 | 7:00 pm

St. John the Evangelist Church
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prominent Catholics include anyone with influence in others' lives, starting with parents, teachers and coaches and reaching up to university officials and professors, CEOs and their teams, labor leaders, media and entertainment personalities and politicians. Remember Jesus' words: Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea (Matthew 18:6). Being looked up to brings a heavy moral and spiritual responsibility to one who has influence over others.

The great error of those who persist in receiving Christ in the Eucharist while continuing to betray Christ in practice is their separation of personal piety from the demands of truth, justice and love. Through the prophet Amos, in a passage often quoted by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., God said to the people of Israel: I hate, I spurn your feasts, I take no pleasure in your solemnities; your cereal offerings I will not accept, nor consider your stall-fed peace offerings. . . . But if you would offer me holocausts, then let justice surge like water and goodness like an unfailing stream [5:21-24]. Isaiah directed the same message to the princes and people: What care I for the number of your sacrifices, says the Lord. I have had enough of whole-burnt rams and fat of fatlings. . . . When you spread out your hands, I close my eyes to you. Though you pray the more, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood! Wash yourselves clean! Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes; cease doing evil; learn to do good. Make justice your aim: redress the wronged, hear the orphan's plea, defend the widow [1:10:17]. God expects us who pray to and worship Him to treat our fellow human beings with justice and mercy; otherwise, He says, our worship is worthless and our prayers go unheard.

So, what is to be done if a prominent person continues to receive Holy Communion while speaking or acting publicly in a gravely sinful manner? Canon 915 of the Code of Canon Law expressly says: "Those who . . . , obstinately persevere in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to holy communion." The canon is directed to the individual minister of Holy Communion (clerical or lay), who must be certain of three things: that the person has committed a sin that is objectively grave, that, after being warned, he or she refuses to desist from committing that sin, and that the sin is widely known by the Catholic faithful. That is a high bar. Canon 915 does not give authority to a bishop to forbid a person from receiving the Eucharist throughout his diocese; that would require a formal trial in which the accused would have the right both to the presumption of innocence and to self-defense (see canon 221). By no means does canon 915 give to an episcopal conference the right to forbid a Catholic, even one who notoriously violates Catholic teaching, from receiving Holy Communion. So, canon law is not so easy to apply in this case.

Turning from Church law to the Scriptures, we find some very interesting situations in which objectively unworthy persons receive the Eucharist. The most obvious one is Judas Iscariot's reception of Christ's Body and Blood at the Last Supper (Luke 22: 14-23). Jesus knew that Judas was going to betray him [Matthew 26:21-23] yet he did not stop him from receiving the Eucharist. He did foretell that Judas would come to a bad end but not by his disciples' hands.

St. Paul in I Corinthians 11: 17-34 deals with a situation in which people are

receiving the Eucharist unworthily. The Corinthians were dividing themselves at the communal meals they had before they celebrated the Eucharist. Some members of the community brought food and ate well while poorer members had little or nothing to eat. Paul condemns the selfish behavior of the first group and then describes the Last Supper, in which Jesus said: This is my Body, that is for you. When you receive his sacramental Body, Paul tells the Corinthians, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. It was Jesus' physical body that died on the cross, not his sacramental body. So, when Paul tells the Corinthians that anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself, he is saying – given the context of reprimanding selfish behavior – that they have not discerned that Jesus' sacrifice of his body on the cross was a supreme act of love. The wealthier Corinthians should imitate Jesus' loving behavior by sharing their food rather than ignoring the bodily needs of their poorer brethren.

Yet Paul never tells the offending Corinthians to stop receiving the Eucharist. He puts the burden on them: a person should examine himself and so eat the bread and drink the cup. Like Jesus, he does speak of God's judgment on those who persist in acting selfishly: many among you are ill and infirm and a considerable number are dying. If we discerned ourselves, we would not be under judgment but since we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world. Paul leaves the punishment to God.

Before concluding that someone should be denied the Eucharist, ask yourself: did Jesus do the right thing or the wrong thing when he allowed Judas Iscariot to receive the Lord's Body and Blood? Did St. Paul do the right thing or the wrong thing in not forbidding the selfish Corinthians from receiving the Eucharist? It is hard to argue against the Lord's and his Apostle's example. If those who persist in manifest grave sin, after being warned, still receive the Lord in Holy Communion, they eat and drink a judgment against themselves. If they imitate Judas Iscariot, they are betraying the Lord they receive. We should pray for them, that they may be converted to the truth, for they remain our brothers and sisters.

5. To conclude: a thought on the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has not gone away. We must be patient and prudent. Simple protective measures, such as being vaccinated and wearing masks in group settings, make sense. I urge you to trust that the vaccines we prayed for will help you and others stay healthy. I hope you understand that wearing a mask is an annoyance but not a grave hardship. We are honoring the Lord's command, Love your neighbor as yourself, when we adopt these safety measures. Let us pray for all those who are sick, for those who died and for the consolation of their families, for our dedicated health care personnel and our essential workers.

At Christmas we will celebrate the birth of our Savior. He came to do us the immense good of freeing us from our sins and from eternal death. Let us, in the midst of this plague, do good to others and to ourselves by practicing both patience and prudence. A blessed Advent season and Christmas to you all!

Sincerely in Christ,



Bishop Mark E. Brennan

SYNOD Listening Sessions

Check updates at <http://dwc.org/synod-sessions/>

Sacred Heart, Bluefield: First Session—Dec. 14, 1 p.m.; Second Session—Dec. 16, 6 p.m.

St. Catherine of Siena, Ronceverte: First Session: Dec. 5— 12 p.m.; Second Session—Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

St. John, St. Marys: First Session—Jan. 25; Second Session—Inclement weather date, Feb. 1

St. Michael, Wheeling: Second Session—Jan. 9, 6 p.m.; Third Session—Jan. 25, 6-8 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs: First Session—Dec. 8 immediately after the 5 p.m. Mass; Second Session—Jan. 6, 5 p.m.; Third Session—Jan. 22, 10 a.m.; Fourth Session—Feb. 6, 10:30 a.m.; Fifth Session—Feb. 23, 2 p.m.

Court...

Cont'd from Page 1

the abortion issue back to the states to decide laws on it. Archbishop Lori directed people to www.prayfordobbs.com for Catholic and ecumenical prayers and resources for community engagement and action "as we await the court's decision in this case."

Pro-life advocates and supporters of keeping abortion legal gathered outside the Supreme Court. Beyond the court building's steps, statements about the Mississippi law and predictions about the outcome of the case came from all quarters. U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., predicted there would be "a revolution" if Roe v. Wade is overturned.

U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., called on the Senate to Pass the Women's Health Protection Act. The measure, passed by the House Sept. 24, codifies Roe and establishes the legal right to abortion on demand at any stage of pregnancy in all 50 states under federal law.

Many pro-lifers hoping Roe will be overturned emphasized how many scientific advances have been made in the nearly 50 years since that decision was

handed down, advances they argued that have led to unprecedented information on the developmental stages of the unborn child from conception to birth.

Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, pointed to what he called the "utterly weak and time-worn arguments" that he said were made by Justices Stephen Breyer, Elena Kagan and Sonya Sotomayor, considered the liberal members of the court.

Among their comments was Sotomayor's claim that only "fringe" doctors believe in the existence of fetal pain as a reason to restrict abortion.

"They do not acknowledge that the changes in science are real, or that the confusion thrust upon judges and legislators by the court's approach to abortion is also real," Father Pavone said in a statement. "These and other objective reasons have led us to the day when Mississippi, and other states, believe it is time to enact stronger protections for the unborn, and for unelected judges to stop imposing policies that the legislatures should be responsible for instead," he said.

At the rally outside the court, Grazie Pozo Christie, a radiologist and a senior fellow with The Catholic Association,

similarly commented that "incredible advances in science and fetal medicine have rendered viability a totally incoherent legal standard."

"Science and common sense tell us children in the womb are as undeniably human as the rest of us," remarked Brian Burch, president of CatholicVote. "We know for instance that by 15 weeks they already have beating hearts, can suck their thumbs, and even feel pain."

"It is time to overturn Roe and allow Americans to once again pass laws that reflect these basic values," he said.

He added that "millions of faithful Catholics across the nation are hopeful after today's oral arguments that the Supreme Court of the United States will restore sanity to its abortion jurisprudence which has enabled over 62 million American children to be aborted since 1973 when Roe v. Wade was decided."

"Protecting innocent life is the preeminent moral issue for Catholics but it is also the condition of any just society, and abortion robs our most vulnerable citizens of that most basic human right," Burch said.

A Special Section, Pages 6-16

December 2021

Dear Jubilarians,

You have responded to the Lord's call to ordained and consecrated life for many years and have reached another milestone in your service to God's people. I offer you my sincere respect and congratulations.

Milestones mark progress in a journey. For each of you, that journey has been unique in its timing, types of ministry, experiences, graces received, challenges met and people encountered. Yet you have not walked alone. Others have walked with you, cherishing your friendship in Christ, benefiting from your help and often helping you to offer God faithful service. They join me in thanking God for you and in praying for your perseverance in joy and holiness.

Some of you are actively engaged in pastoral ministry, others are officially retired but "helping out" in various ministries, and still others, for reasons of advanced age or poor health, offer your prayers and sufferings to God for the rest of us. However you serve, draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation [Isaiah 12:4], the source of refreshment for all who serve the Lord. Whatever your age or condition, trust God: They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; they will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint [Isaiah 40:31].

Keep the matter of vocations to the ordained ministry and consecrated life close to your heart and in your prayers. We must support and pray for married and single people as well, but ask the Lord to raise up men and women for our own vocations, which do so much good for the laity, as they themselves attest.

May God pour out His blessings upon you and keep you in His care!

Faternally in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan

+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

Dear Fathers and Sisters:

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston celebrates your spirit of commitment and dedicated service to the Lord and His Church as we honor all of you in this year of Jubilee. Your faithful presence and ministry have made a lasting impact on the good people of West Virginia. The Church has grown because of your love. Our Diocese remains grateful for your collaboration in building up the Kingdom of God. May the Lord continue to bless you with good health, happiness and peace.

Respectfully yours in Christ,
Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr.
Episcopal Vicar for Clergy

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It's Jubilee time once more and this means stepping back and remembering the highlights of your years of ministerial service, giving thanks for all the blessings, and acknowledging God's handiwork in and through you! Every year of vows and promises had its own challenges and outcomes that reflect your shared commitment to the Church of Jesus Christ – especially the years here in West Virginia; not to mention the tremendous experience that we have had in the past two years with Covid that affected our lives in every part of our being, challenging us to be creative and courageous. It's my hope that each one of you can find time and space to celebrate this milestone well, even as you journey on!

Sister Martha Gomez, RGS
Delegate for Consecrated Life

In Gratitude

of our Priests and Religious in West Virginia

For your years of faithful ministry to the people of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, we thank you. Our prayers and heartfelt wishes are with you as you celebrate your Jubilee Anniversaries.

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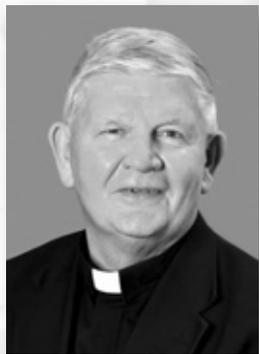
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The Serra Clubs of Charleston & Clarksburg

Congratulate the 2021 Jubilarians

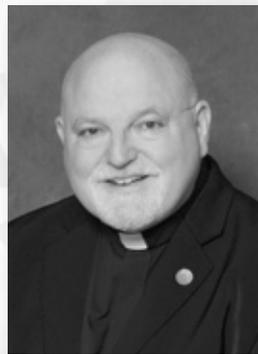
for your Anniversaries of Priesthood & Religious Life



Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus
55 Years



Father John N. Duhaime
50 Years



Father William K. Matheny, Jr.
25 Years



Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ
80 Years



Sister M. Diane Busee, SAC
65 Years



Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC
60 Years



Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ
60 Years



Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC
55 Years



Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, SJI
25 Years

(Not pictured are Father Pius Akajiofor, 25 Years; and Father John Hue Tran, SVD, 25 Years)

It is our honor to honor you today.

The Serra Clubs of Charleston and Clarksburg are committed to promoting and praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Today, we join Bishop Mark Brennan and everyone across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in honoring you, our dear jubilarians, and to thank you for your ministry as priests and women religious, for your lives of dedicated service to God's people in West Virginia, and for the kindness and love you have shown throughout your lives. Be assured of the continued prayers and support of our members.

Serra Club of Charleston
Mark A. Sadd, President



Clarksburg Serra Club
Dr. Tom Condron, President

Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus, 55th Anniversary

Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus is a native of Ranshow, Pa., and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Wheeling May 14, 1966. He is a graduate of St. Anthony Parochial School and St. Edward Catholic High School in Shamokin, Pa., and continued his education at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, graduating with a degree in philosophy in 1961. He received his master's in English literature from The Catholic University of America in Washington and attended seminary in the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio. Msgr. Sacus also received a degree in secondary education from the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies in 1976. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Joseph H. Hodges at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling May 14, 1966. He then served as associate pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg until 1970. From 1970 to 1971, he was associate pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Moundsville. He received his first pastorate in 1971 serving in Radford, Va. From 1972 to 1977, he served as pastor at St. John Parish in Mullens and then served as chaplain at Wheeling Hospital from 1977 to 1979. From 1979 to 1982, he was an active duty chaplain in the United States Air Force as a captain. During his service with the Air Force he was stationed in Dover, Del.; Incirlick, Turkey; and Shreveport, La.



He later retired from the Air Force Reserves as a lieutenant colonel. After active duty, he was assigned as pastor of St. Peter Parish in Farmington in 1982. From 1983 to 1986, he served as pastor of St. Francis Xavier in Moundsville. While there he also served as chaplain at the West Virginia Penitentiary in Moundsville and taught religion to high school juniors. From 1986 to 1996, he was assigned as pastor of Mater Dolorosa Parish in Paden City, Holy Rosary Parish in Sistersville and St. Lawrence Mission in Middlebourne. He became pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley in 1996.

In 2008, Pope Benedict XVI named Msgr. Sacus a Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, entitling him to be addressed as monsignor. Msgr. Sacus also served as vicar forane of the Beckley Vicariate and on the Presbyteral Council. Msgr. Sacus retired from active ministry Oct. 1, 2015. He came out of retirement in October of 2020 to serve as temporary administrator of St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling, St. John Parish in Benwood, and St. James Parish in McMechen. He was elected to a three-year term on the Diocesan Presbyteral Council and is currently priest in residence at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston.

Father John N. Duhaime, 50th Anniversary

Father John N. Duhaime is originally from Manchester, N.H. He attended Salette Minor Seminary in Enfield, N.H., and St. Mary Queen of the Clergy Seminary in Quebec, Canada. He also attended St. Francis Seminary in Loretto, Pa., and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.



Father Duhaime was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Joseph H. Hodges at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling on May 29, 1971. From 1971 to 1973, he was associate pastor of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish in Fairmont. He then served as associate pastor at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley from 1973 to 1975 and at St. Paul Parish in Weirton in 1975. In 1974, he was appointed as chaplain of the veterans hospital. He served as pastor of Christ the King Parish in War from 1976 to 1978, Our Lady of Victory Parish in Gary from 1978 to 1986, and Sacred Heart Parish in Rainelle from 1986 to 1996. He also served as chaplain at the Federal Reformatory for Women in Alderson. In 1996, he became pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Hinton and St. Mary of the Greenbrier Mission in Alderson.

Father Duhaime retired from active ministry in 1998 but continued as chaplain at the Federal Reformatory for Women until 2015. In 2020, he moved to the Welty Home for Assisted Living in Wheeling.



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Father William K. Matheny, Jr., 25th Anniversary

Father William K. Matheny, Jr., is from Charleston. He attended St. Francis of Assisi School in St. Albans from 1961 to 1969. He then went to St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary in Vienna for high school and graduated in 1973. He went on to Wheeling College graduating in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts in history. He received a master of divinity from the Pontifical College of the Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, in 1992 and a master's in counseling from West Virginia Graduate College in Institute in 1996.



Father Matheny was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Bernard W. Schmitt June 1, 1996, at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston. He was appointed parochial vicar at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley in 1996 where he served for the next two years. He then became associate pastor of St. John University Parish in Morgantown in 1998. He was appointed pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg in 2001. He was appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield in 2004, serving there until 2007. While there he took on a number of other assignments: vicar forane of the Beckley Vicariate and pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Powhatan and Sacred Heart Parish in Princeton. In 2007, he returned to serve as pastor of St. John's in Morgantown. He was also elected to the Presbyteral Council and served as chaplain of the Serra Club of Morgantown from 2010 to 2011. He became associate pastor of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling in 2011. He was elected to the Priests Health and Retirement Association board of directors in 2012, serving until 2015. He was associate pastor of St. Jude Parish in Glen Dale and St. Francis Xavier Parish in Moundsville in 2013. He then was appointed administrator of Assumption Parish in Keyser in 2013. He served as chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Council 10545 for a year and then was appointed administrator of Our Lady of Grace Parish in Romney in addition to his appointment in Keyser in 2015. He was appointed pastor of Assumption and Our Lady of Grace in 2015.

Father Matheny was appointed associate pastor at All Saints Parish in Bridgeport in 2016 and then St. Michael's in Wheeling later that year. He was appointed chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Carroll Council 504 in Wheeling in 2017. He then served as temporary administrator of St. Patrick Parish in Hinton and Sacred Heart Mission in Rainelle in 2018. In 2019, he was appointed administrator of Ascension Parish in Hurricane, chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Council 9483, and then pastor of Ascension Parish where he continues to serve today.

Father Pius Akajiofor, 25th Anniversary

Father Pius Akajiofor is a priest of the Archdiocese of the Military Services, USA. He is originally from Ogbaku, Imo State, South Eastern Nigeria and completed undergraduate studies at St. Joseph Major Seminary in Ikot Ekpene, Nigeria, and theological studies at Bigard Memorial Seminary in Enugu State, Nigeria. He was ordained to the priesthood on Aug. 24, 1996, for the Diocese of Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria. Following his ordination he served different parishes of the Orlu Diocese from 1996 to 2004.

In the U.S., he served at St. Joseph Hospital from 2008 to 2010, and St. Agnes Hospital in Baltimore from 2010 to 2016. He received a master of arts from Wayne State University in Michigan in 2007 and a Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Foundation in Indiana in 2015. Father Akajiofor came to West Virginia in 2016 to serve as chaplain at the Martinsburg VA (Veterans Affairs) Hospital, where he serves today.

Father John Hue Tran, SVD, 25th Anniversary

Born in Vietnam, Father John Hue Tran attended Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, graduating in 1989. In 1996, he received a master of divinity from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and a master of religious studies from Loyola University, Chicago. He was ordained a priest for the Society of the Divine Word on March 23, 1996. He served in the development office at Divine Word College from 1996 to 2000, as director of the Divine Word Retreat Center from 2000 to 2012 then as administrator of St. Kevin Parish in Georgia until 2017. He was rector of the Divine Word Residence in Iowa from 2017 to 2018. He came to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in May 2019 and was appointed priest in residence at Holy Rosary Parish in Buckhannon.

Wishing our Chaplain

Father William K. Matheny, Jr.

*Happy 25th Anniversary of Priesthood, June 1
and Happy 67th Birthday, December 1*



*Knights of Columbus Council 9483
Hurricane, West Virginia*

Happy Anniversary

to our former pastor, Msgr. Sam Sacus,
still a full-service priest!



Msgr. Sam Sacus

Fifty-Five Years of Priesthood

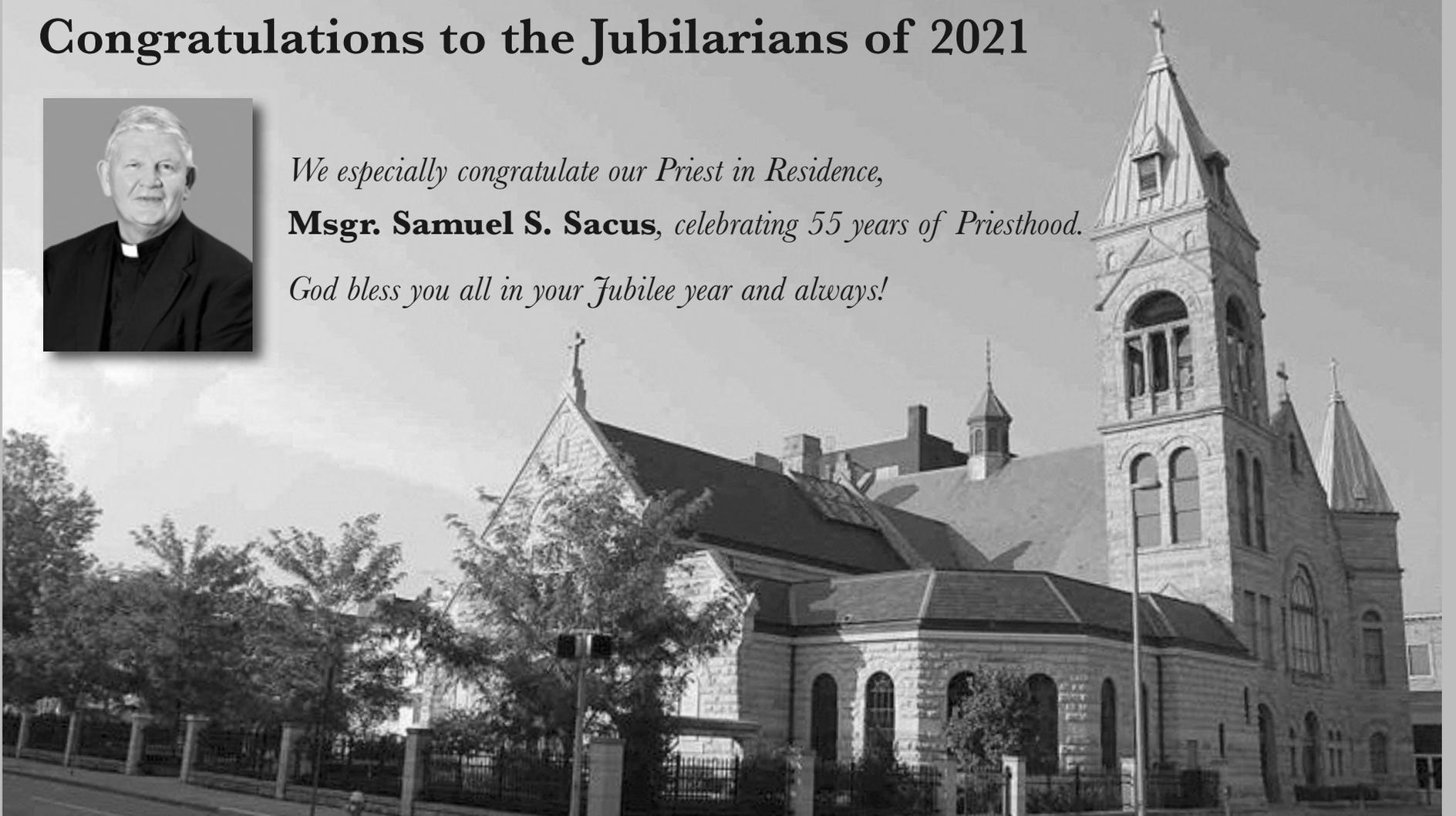


*Wishing you, our former pastor,
a very happy anniversary!
From all of us at St. Francis de Sales
Parish and School, Beckley*

Congratulations to the Jubilarians of 2021



*We especially congratulate our Priest in Residence,
Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus, celebrating 55 years of Priesthood.
God bless you all in your Jubilee year and always!*



The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston

CELEBRATING **2021** JUBILARIANS

PRIESTS

- ⊕ **55 Years**
Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus
- ⊕ **50 Years**
Father John N. Duhaime
- ⊕ **25 Years**
Father Pius Akajiofor
- ⊕ **25 Years**
Father William K. Matheny, Jr.
- ⊕ **25 Years**
Father John Hue Tran, S.V.D.



WOMEN RELIGIOUS

- | | |
|---|---|
| ⊕ 80 Years
Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ | ⊕ 60 Years
Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC |
| ⊕ 65 Years
Sister M. Diane Bushee, SAC | ⊕ 55 years
Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC |
| ⊕ 60 Years
Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ | ⊕ 25 Years
Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, SJI |



Our congratulations to

Priests and Women Religious of the Mountain State

Celebrating their Jubilee Anniversaries

80th Anniversary

≈ Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ

65th Anniversary

≈ Sister M. Diane Bushee, SAC

60th Anniversary

≈ Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ
≈ Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC

55th Anniversary

≈ Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus
≈ Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SC

50th Anniversary

≈ Father John N. Duhaime

25th Anniversary

≈ Father Pius Akajiofor
≈ Father John Hue Tran, SVD
≈ Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, SJI

The Intelligencer.

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Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ, 80th Anniversary

Sister Angelina Cavallaro entered the Congregation of St. Joseph from her home parish of St. Francis Borgia in Anmoore Aug. 15, 1941. Following her novitiate experience, she professed her vows on St. Joseph's Day in 1944. Sister received a B.S.Ed. degree in elementary education from Duquesne University and an M.S.Ed. degree in special education from St. Louis University. As a teacher, Sister Angelina served first in Diocesan elementary schools: St. Agnes in Charleston; St. Peter School and St. Joseph Villa Kindergarten in Fairmont; St. Francis Xavier in Moundsville; and Blessed Martin in Wheeling. She also served as house parent and teacher at St. Vincent Home for Girls in Wheeling. From 1961 until 1969 she provided a Special Education Class for special needs students in Wheeling and neighboring cities. From 1969-1979, she served as a faculty member in the Department of Education at West Liberty State College. Following preparation and certification in clinical pastoral education, Sister Angelina embarked on a new career in pastoral ministry in 1979. Until her retirement to Mount St. Joseph in 1997, she served the pastoral needs of patients and families at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, and St. Joseph Hospital in Parkersburg. Sister Angelina is currently active in prayer ministry at Mount St. Joseph, and expresses deep gratitude to her family, her community and especially to God for all her life's blessings.



Congratulations 2021 Jubilarians!

*Thank you for sharing your lives
and your ministry with the people
of West Virginia.*



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A great achievement

Sister Angelina Cavallaro entered the Congregation of St. Joseph from her home parish of St. Francis Borgia in Anmoore, West Virginia, on August 15, 1941. She spent many years as a special education teacher and college instructor before embarking on a new career in pastoral ministry in 1979. Until her retirement to Mount St. Joseph in 1997, she served the pastoral needs of patients and families at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, and St. Joseph Hospital in Parkersburg. Sister Angelina is currently active in prayer ministry at Mount St. Joseph, and expresses deep gratitude to her family, her community, and especially to God for all her life's blessings. We congratulate her as she celebrates her 80th Jubilee Anniversary – and thank her for the years of service to the Catholic Church and to the people of North Central West Virginia.

Sister M. Diane Bushee, SAC, 65th Anniversary

Sister Diane Bushee, SAC (Theresa Frances) entered the Pallottine Missionary Sisters in Huntington July 16, 1953. Sister made her first vows on August 15, 1956, at St. Mary's Hospital Chapel, Huntington.



She earned her Diploma in Nursing from St. Mary's School of Nursing in 1959 and her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Nursing Administration from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Sister Diane made her Final Vows on August 15, 1962, in Huntington. She served as Director of Nursing Service from 1964-1974 and Assistant Administrator from 1974-1977 at St. Mary's Medical Center. Sister Diane was elected Provincial of the North American Province of Pallottine Missionary Sisters, a position she held from 1977 to 1986. Following her service as Provincial Superior, sister served as interim principal of St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel, Md., from 1987-1988. Sister Diane then completed an Internship in Mission Integration at Mercy Center, Farmington Hills, Michigan, after completing her term as Provincial.

Sister served in a part time position as the Diocesan Coordinator of Health Affairs for Wheeling-Charleston from 1992-1998. Sister retired from her position as Vice President of Mission Integration at St. Mary's Medical Center, a position she held from 1990 until March 2021. Sister Diane was joined by members of the Pallottine Sisters Community in Huntington and friends as she celebrated her 65th Jubilee on August 15 at St. Mary's Medical Center Sisters Chapel. The Mass was presided by Father Gideon Olugbami, Chaplain.

Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC, 60th Anniversary

Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC (Irma Monsanto) entered the Pallottine Missionary Sisters in Belize, Central America on January 4, 1959. After graduation from St. Catherine's Academy in 1953, Irma Monsanto, presently Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, began her teaching career at St. Joseph's Grade School, teaching seven of her siblings. In 1957 Sister Elizabeth enriched her professional education at St. John's Teacher's College in Belize, earning her Teaching Diploma there. Immediately after her studies, she entered the Novitiate of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province.



During her teaching ministry, Sister Elizabeth was Principal at the Grade School, in Benque Viejo del Carman for 13 years; sister continued her education in the United States, at Notre Dame College, Indiana, earning her Bachelor's Degree, in Speech and Drama, in 1972. She then returned to Belize as Principal of St. Francis Xavier High School where she served until 1978. Sister Elizabeth journeyed back to the USA for medical reasons and, became a member of the North American Province of Pallottine Missionary Sisters in 1979; sister spent a brief time in Huntington; she then moved to Florissant, Mo., where she generously served as Director of Teen Retreats, at the Pallottine Renewal Center for 34 years. While in St. Louis, sister served as the Superior of the local Pallottine Community. Sister also took on the sacred task of Days of Re-Creation for Senior Citizens. Sister Elizabeth, spent three summers at Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., where she earned her Master's Degree in Christian Spirituality. Sister Elizabeth moved to the St. Mary's local community in Huntington in 2011. She has shared her cooking and baking talents with the sisters since her arrival and has been a supporter of the Congregation through her prayer ministry.

Joined by members of the Pallottine Sisters Community in Huntington and friends Sister Elizabeth celebrated her 60th Jubilee on Sunday, August 15 at St. Mary's Medical Center Sisters Chapel. The Mass was presided by Father Gideon Olugbami, Chaplain.

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65th Jubilee

Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC
60th Jubilee

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Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ, 60th Anniversary

Sister Virginia (Ginny) Yeager, originally from St. Michael Parish in Wheeling, entered the Congregation of St. Joseph in 1961, having graduated from Wheeling Central Catholic High School. She made her first profession of vows on the Feast of St. Ignatius in 1964. Sister received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education from St. John College in Cleveland; a certificate in Spirituality and Worship from the Jesuit School of Theology, and an MA in Applied Theology through the School of Applied Theology in Berkeley, California; certification as both a Board Certified Chaplain and supervisor through the National Association of Catholic Chaplains as well as Board Certified Educator with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education.



Initially she taught in parochial schools: St. Francis Xavier in Moundsville, Blessed Trinity in Wheeling and at Fairmont Catholic. She also served as pastoral associate at St. Theresa Parish in Morgantown and provided pastoral service as a staff member of the Wheeling-Charleston Office of Spirituality and Worship. She ministered at St. Francis Hospital/Thomas Health System in Charleston as Vice-President for Mission and Director of Pastoral Care and the Clinical Pastoral Education Program from 1991 until her retirement in 2019. In times past, she served within her congregation as Coordinator of Formation and Novice Director as well as in Community Leadership for ten years as well served on the original CSJ Community Life and Ministry Committee.

Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC, 55th Anniversary

Sister Mary Irene Sorber has been in religious life for 55 years, beginning with the investing ceremony into the Novitiate of the Sisters of Christian Charity in Mendham, N.J. During those years she worked in education as a primary teacher and as a vice-principal. She was also on the administration team of her community, was administrator of Villa Pauline Retreat House, and served as Local Coordinator of the new Motherhouse of the Sisters of Christian Charity. Currently, Sister Mary Irene ministers at the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality in Charleston as an itinerant Spiritual Companion/Director. She is willing to help in parishes any way that is needed in spirituality.



“Picking out one significant event in my life is difficult since there have been many. Most recently my service to our community stands out. God has asked a lot of letting go from our Sisters as we had to leave both our Infirmary in Danville, Pa., after 50 years and our Motherhouse after 84 years to move into a new Motherhouse which brought both groups of Sisters into one new way of being. It was my privilege to be the coordinator of this move. Of course, this was not done solely by me but with the help of all my religious Sisters in some way, our Companions of Pauline and many other volunteers in addition to our nursing staff, facilities management and food service. The Sisters’ beautiful willingness and self-giving were a true witness to me as our name implies...Sisters of Christ-like Love. I will never forget their love and witness of God’s will in their lives.”

Congratulations

2021 Jubilarians

Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ
80th Anniversary



Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ
60th Anniversary



Congratulations to our Jubilarians and all those in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston celebrating this year. We thank you for sharing your lives and ministry with the people of West Virginia.



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Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, SJI, 25th Anniversary

Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, a member of the Sisters of the Child Jesus of Zimbabwe, celebrates 25 years of Religious Profession. She made her First Profession of vows on January 6, 1996.



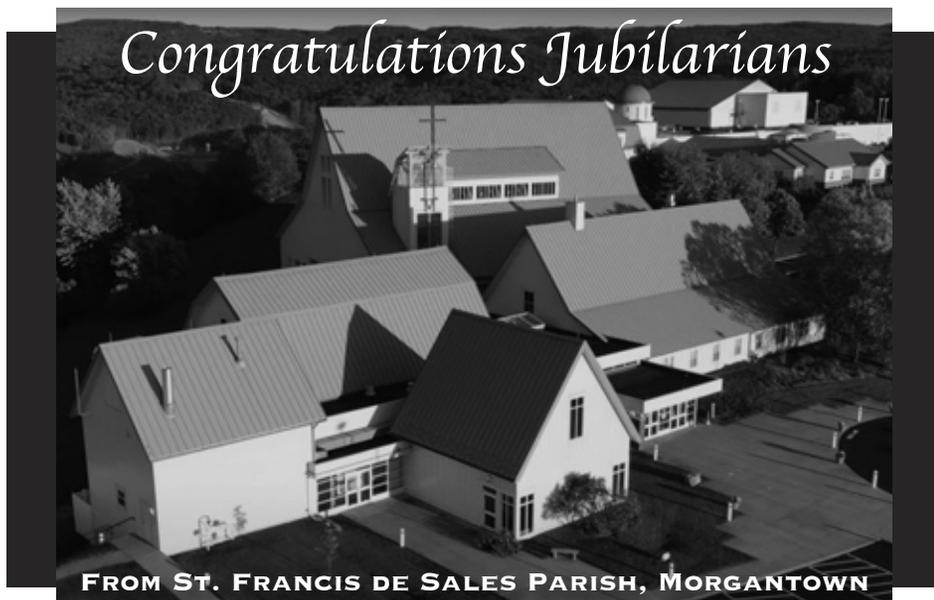
Before coming to West Virginia in 2004, she worked as a High School Religion Teacher in Zimbabwe. Currently, Sister Maria is involved in Parish Ministry, serving as DRE at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg.

"It doesn't seem possible that I have been a Sister for 25 years! Wow, it sounds long and old, but I'm thankful and grateful for my life and for all the people who have been part of it. In my early years, my family and teachers nurtured in me a love for God and the joy of being a Catholic. My mother, in particular, is very devoted to St. Ann and the blessed Mother. I learned to pray the rosary at a tender age. Being a Sister of the Sisters of the Child Jesus, I have been given the chance to teach children in Zimbabwe and here in West Virginia. I got the opportunity to meet many types of people and learn from them. I have so many memories of my students, their parents, and Catechists over the years. Now, as a missionary in a foreign land I have left my country, my parents, my siblings, my friends, and all my relatives, whom I love so much. How much I emptied myself, that much God filled me with His graces. To all of you who worked with me in Zimbabwe and those journeying with me at Immaculate Conception in Clarksburg, at this stage of my life, I say thank you for all the spiritual opportunities you have given me and I am deeply grateful. This event of my 25th Jubilee brought many wonderful memories and a deep sense of gratitude to God's mercy and faithfulness, as well as to my SJI Sisters' kindness, companionship, and all the spiritual opportunities that have been given me, I am deeply grateful."

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." (Luke 1: 46-47) Thank you and God bless you All!!!

Happy 25th Anniversary Sister Maria!

We love you!




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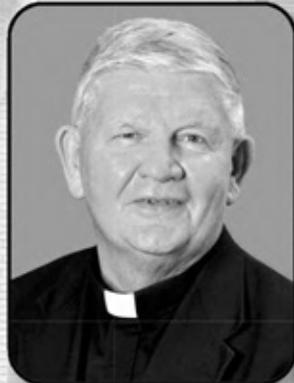
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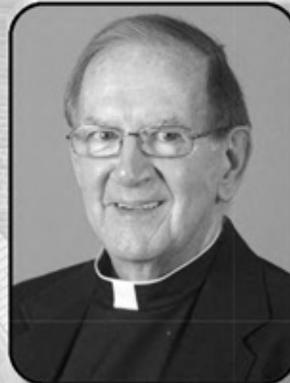
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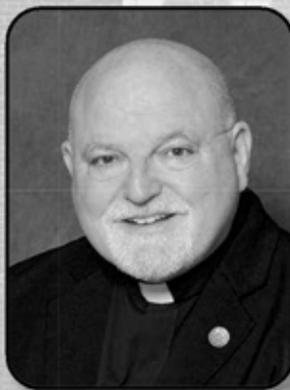
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(photo unavailable)



Sister Angelina Cavallaro, CSJ
80 years



Sister M. Diane Bushee, SAC
65 years



Sister Virginia Yeager, CSJ
60 years



Sister Elizabeth Monsanto, SAC
60 years



Sister Mary Irene Sorber, SCC
55 years



Sister Maria Sheri Rukwishuro, SJI
25 years

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Catholic Schools to share Christmas Song and Prayers

By Joyce Bibey

The eight Catholic schools in the Northern Panhandle are excited to be collaborating to present the gift of song and prayer for the Ohio Valley.

On Saturday, Dec. 18, the schools, which include St. Joseph the Worker School, St. Paul School, and Madonna High School, all of Weirton; Corpus Christi School, St. Michael School, St. Vincent de Paul School, and Central Catholic High School, all of Wheeling; and Our Lady of Peace School, of Marshall County, will join together to perform classic Christmas Carols at 7 p.m. at the Nutcracker Village in Steubenville, Ohio. "The joint choir performance is going to be a great event," said Kim Edmiston, Advancement Director for St. Paul School. "The 8 Northern Panhandle Catholic Schools have been collaborating on this event since summer! We are so excited that it's finally time to join our voices for Christmas."

The individual schools have been working with their local music teachers with tracks provided to all the schools by Jay Yelenic of St. Vincent de Paul School and Matt White of Central Catholic High School. Carrie Shultz from St. Paul School will be directing the choir at The Nutcracker Village. Prior to the pandemic the schools collaborated in 2020 to present "Lord, Let Me Walk" a Lenten reflection with prayer, song, interpretation, and meditation at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

"We have learned in the past that when we gather our Catholic Schools together amazing things happen," Edmiston said, as she recalled the hundreds of people from the four counties in the Northern Panhandle, who attended their last event to celebrate their faith through music and prayer.

For those unable to attend, the performance will be shared on the diocesan Facebook page.

CDU Offers New Literature Course This Winter

WEST VIRGINIA—Catholic Distance University's new faculty member Brandon Harvey will teach ENG 111 Introduction to Literature in the Winter II term, which begins March 14. Students who complete this eight-week, online course will become familiar with some of the works of the great authors of the past and become comfortable conversing about them to explore the ideas of today. With the addition of this course, BA degree completion students can now complete all nine of their required English Language Arts credits at CDU. ENG 111 is an initial survey of the importance of literature and some of the great works of Imaginative Literature. Harvey will lead students through an examination of texts that provide examples of different literary forms and genres from various time periods to engage the Great Conversation of Western Civilization through such literature but also within the Catholic Tradition. Students will engage these masterpieces through both critical and reflective reading to develop and analyze key ideas. Visit cdu.edu/upcoming-terms/ for a full list of courses, and e-mail admissions@cdu.edu or call 1-888-254-4CDU with questions.



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CCWVa Emergency Assistance Helps

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fully recovered. She couldn't earn money. So Mary fell behind on her electric bill. And when she got a shut-off notice from the power company, her stress level skyrocketed. She reached out for help. CCWVa staff collaborated with other organizations to get her bill taken care of. Through a combination of grant funds and generous donations, we were able to offer Mary some of the safety and security she deserves. For Mary, being "safe and secure" means she can keep the lights on as she focuses on her recovery. It means she is part of a loving community that cares.

To learn more, visit www.Catholic-CharitiesWV.org.



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La colección ayuda al envejecimiento en las órdenes religiosas

WEST VIRGINIA — La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston llevará a cabo la colecta del Fondo de Jubilación para Religiosos del 11 al 12 de diciembre. La apelación parroquial está coordinada por la Oficina Nacional de Jubilación Religiosa (NRRO) en Washington, D.C. Las ganancias ayudan a las comunidades religiosas de todo el país a cuidar a los miembros mayores. “En los últimos años, los católicos de West Virginia han sido muy generosos al apoyar las necesidades de los religiosos y religiosas jubilados que han servido en sus parroquias, escuelas y hospitales”, dijo la hermana Martha Teresa Gomez, RGS, Delegada de Vida Consagrada para el Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston. “Todavía disfrutamos de la presencia de religiosos y religiosas en todo el estado. Su generosa donación sostiene a muchos en su jubilación al brindarles atención física y espiritual”.

El año pasado, la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston donó \$ 67,050.45 a la colección. “Me alienta continuamente la abrumadora generosidad de los católicos estadounidenses”, dijo la directora ejecutiva de NRRO, la hermana Stephanie Still,

miembro de las Hermanas de la Presentación de San Francisco. “Incluso en tiempos difíciles, encuentran una manera de retribuir a aquellos que han trabajado incansablemente para servir a nuestra Iglesia y nuestro mundo”.

Cientos de comunidades religiosas estadounidenses enfrentan una gran brecha entre las necesidades de sus miembros mayores y los fondos disponibles para apoyarlos. Históricamente, las hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas católicas, conocidos colectivamente como religiosos y religiosas, servían por poco o nada. Como resultado, muchas comunidades ahora carecen de ahorros de jubilación adecuados. Al mismo tiempo, los gastos de atención médica continúan aumentando y un número cada vez mayor de religiosos mayores requiere servicios especializados. Los datos de la NRRO muestran que 26,330 mujeres y hombres religiosos en los Estados Unidos son mayores de 70 años. El costo total de su atención excede los \$ 1 mil millones anuales. Las distribuciones se envían a la casa central de cada pedido elegible y proporcionan fondos complementarios para necesi-

dades, como medicamentos y atención de enfermería. Las donaciones también financian recursos que ayudan a las comunidades religiosas a mejorar el cuidado de los ancianos y planificar las necesidades de jubilación a largo plazo. Las órdenes religiosas no suelen recibir financiación diocesana, sino que son económicamente autónomas y, por lo tanto, son responsables del apoyo y el

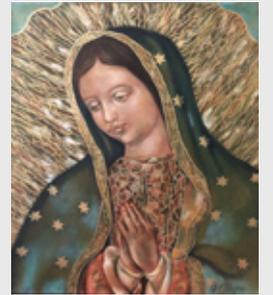
cuidado de todos sus miembros. Si bien muchas diócesis realizan llamamientos separados para el fondo de sus sacerdotes jubilados, la colecta anual del Fondo de Jubilación para Religiosos es para miembros de órdenes religiosas de EE. UU. Y beneficia tanto a hombres como a mujeres religiosas. Visite retiredreligious.org para obtener más información.

Gran Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe se Celebrará en Martinsburg

La parroquia de San José en Martinsburg invita a todos a su Gran Fiesta a la Virgen de Guadalupe el 12 de Diciembre del 2021.

El 12 de Diciembre nos reuniremos en “Lackey Hall” de la Iglesia de San José a cantarle “Las Mañanitas a la Virgen, comenzando a las 5:00 de la mañana seguido a las 6:00 con la Misa en su honor. Después de la Misa nos trasladamos en procesión hacia la Escuela San José y se seguirá celebrando en el salón de la cafetería con platos mexicanos, bailes y mucho más.

Para obtener mayor información o donativos, llame al (304) 267-7307 or (304) 267-4898.



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

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352. 6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a 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.

Collection Helps Aging in Religious Orders

WEST VIRGINIA—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will hold the Retirement Fund for Religious collection Dec. 11-12. The parish-based appeal is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) in Washington, D.C. Proceeds help religious communities across the country to care for aging members.

“Over the past years, West Virginia Catholics have been very generous in supporting the needs of retired religious men and women who have served in their parishes, schools, and hospitals,” said Sister Martha Teresa Gomez, RGS, Delegate for Consecrated Life for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. “We still enjoy the presence of religious

women and men throughout the state. Your generous gift sustains many in their retirement by providing for their physical and spiritual care.”

Last year, the diocese donated \$67,050.45 to the collection. “I am continually heartened by the overwhelming generosity of U.S. Catholics,” said NRRO Executive Director Sister Stephanie Still, a member of the Sisters of the Presentation of San Francisco. “Even in difficult times, they find a way to give back to those who have worked tirelessly to serve our church and our world.”

Hundreds of U.S. religious communities face a large gap between the needs of their

older members and the funds available to support them. Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests—known collectively as women and men religious—served for little to no pay. As a result, many communities now lack adequate retirement savings. At the same time, health-care expenses continue to rise, and an increasing number of older religious require specialized services. NRRO data shows that 26,330 women and men religious in the United States are older than age 70. The total cost for their care exceeds \$1 billion annually. Distributions are sent to each eligible order’s central house and provide supplemental funding for

necessities, such as medications and nursing care. Donations also underwrite resources that help religious communities improve eldercare and plan for long-term retirement needs.

Religious orders typically do not receive diocesan funding but rather are financially

autonomous and thus responsible for the support and care of all members. The once-yearly Retirement Fund for Religious collection is for members of U.S. religious orders and benefits both men and women religious. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn more.

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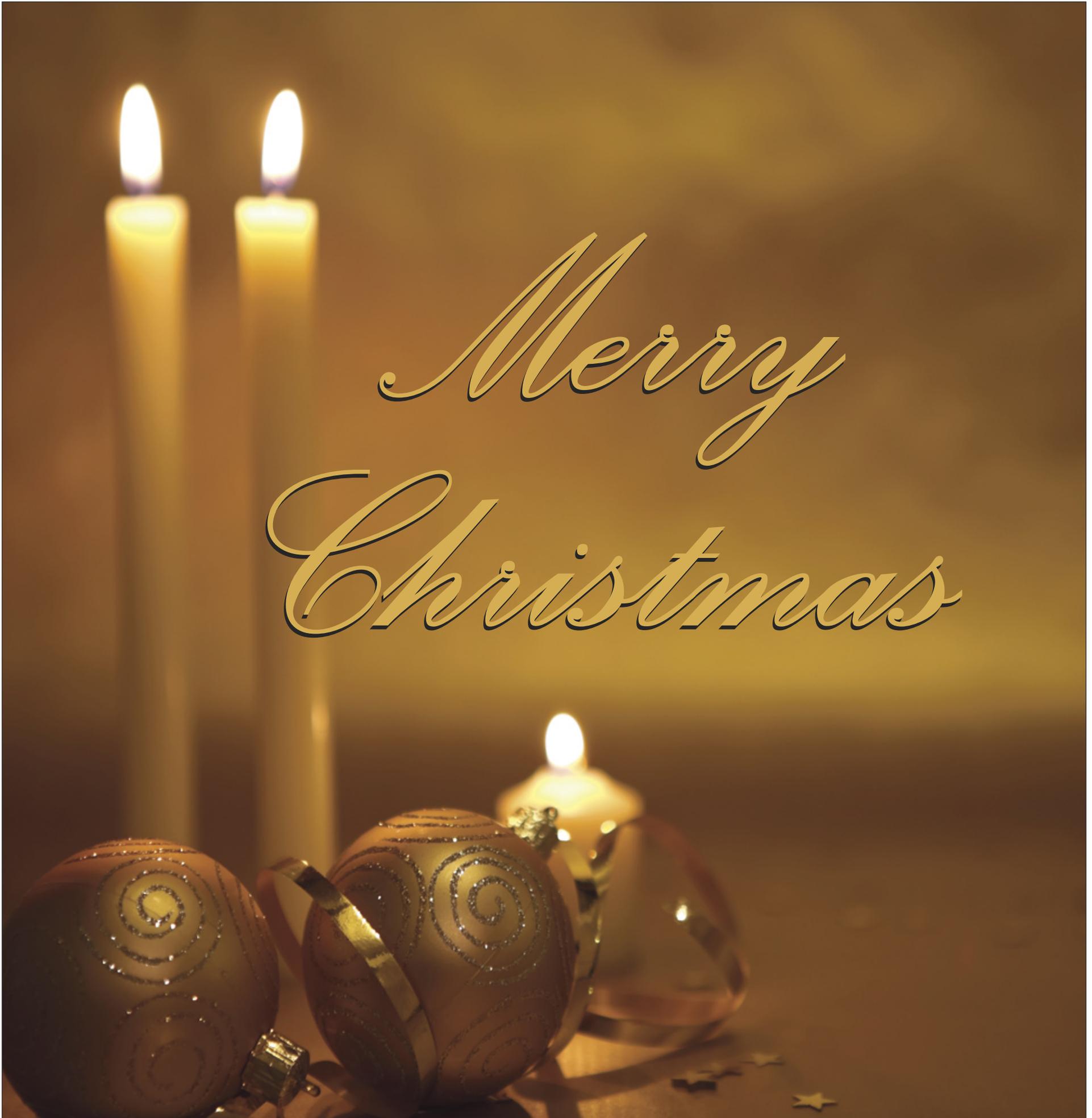
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Dr. Miravalle to Present Talk on St. Joseph in Weirton

World-renowned Mariologist Dr. Mark Miravalle will present a talk on St. Joseph Dec. 10 from 7:30-8:15 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton followed by Q & A. All will pray the rosary before the event at 7 p.m. Call the rectory at (304) 723-2054 for more details.

He has been a professor at Franciscan University of Steubenville since 1986, where he has been the recipient of several teaching awards and holds the St. John Paul II Chair of Mariology. He is president of the International Marian Association "comprised of more than 130 theologians, bishops, clergy, and laity worldwide who seek to promote Marian devotion and doctrines" such as the Blessed Virgin Mary as Co-Redemptrix and Mediatrix. He has made numerous appearances on radio and television, including EWTN, National Family Catholic Radio, CNN Latin America, BBC, Fox News, and the NBC Series "Dateline." He has authored more than 20 books on Mariology and Spiritual Theology.

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11 Days Catholic Ireland. Sep 12-22, 2022

\$xxx. Includes 1 night Limerick, 2 nights Kilkenny, 3 nights each in Galway and Dublin. With Fr Art Bufogle from Marlinton, WV.

For brochures or more information, contact John Tagnesi by calling 1-888-544-4461 or by e-mail to jtag1964@verizon.net

Dr. David Burkland
Medical Director of the Emergency/Trauma Department

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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.

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