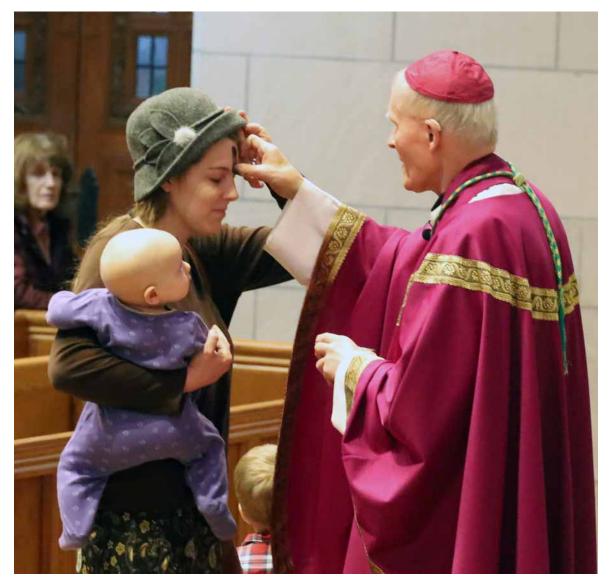


Take Advantage of the Rich Graces of this Holy Season, Bishop Brennan Says on Ash Wednesday



Colleen Rowan Photo

Katrina Smay receives ashes from Bishop Mark Brennan on Ash Wednesday at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling Feb. 14. She is holding her 7-month-old daughter Alma.

By Colleen Rowan

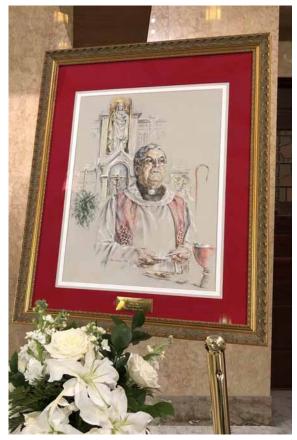
The ashes today symbolize the repentance of sin and our desire to overcome the selfishness that separates us from God and neighbor, Bishop Mark Brennan said to the faithful on Ash Wednesday at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling.

"You will wash off the ashes tonight but do not wash off your desire to take advantage of the rich graces of this holy season," he said. "Let this be the best Lent you have ever kept so that you may be the best Christian you have ever been..."

Lent is the time to face sin squarely, the bishop said to those who packed the cathedral for the noon Mass that day. "It really is possible to overcome sin," he added, "even deeply embedded ones if we will only trust God."

The words of the prophet Joel in the first reading for the Mass, the bishop said, encourages us: "Even now, says the LORD, **See "Holy Season" on Page 2**

West Virginia Mourns Passing of Msgr. Sadie



Courtesy Photo

Msgr. P. Edward Sadie, P.A., S.T.L., is depicted in artwork displayed at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston where he served as rector for more than 36 years. Msgr. Sadie passed away Feb. 11.

By Colleen Rowan

est Virginia's Catholic community and many others across the state are mourning the passing of Msgr. P. Edward Sadie, P.A., S.T.L., beloved, long-serving former rector of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston. Officials at the basilica co-cathedral announced his passing on social media early Feb. 11: "It is with great joy that we pray in hope for his eternal glory. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace."

Msgr. Sadie was 93 and a priest for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston for more than 66 years. Thirty-six of those years he spent as rector of the basilica co-cathedral. He remained in that role until his retirement from active ministry in 2016.

Today, (Friday, Feb. 16) at 11 a.m., Bishop Mark Brennan and priests of the diocese will **See "Sadie" on Page 3**

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2024 Lenten Liturgical Guidelines

Lent is a special season within the March 28. Church year that focuses on the twofold theme of repentance and Baptism. We prepare ourselves to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ.

Lent begins with the celebration of Ash Wednesday, February 14, and ends with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday,

Holy Season ... Cont'd from Page 1

return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment" (Jl 2:12-18).

The whole purpose of the son of God becoming man was to free us from sin and open for us the path to eternal life, Bishop Brennan said. Jesus forgave many people in his public ministry as a sign of how to forgive everyone's sins. He will not turn you away if you honestly repent, the bishop said.

"That's the real business of Lent-to overcome sin. What is the sin that trips you up the most? Don't be afraid of facing it. Ask God's help in tackling it. Nothing is impossible for God as the angel told Mary."

> -Bishop Mark Brennan, Ash Wednesday at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling

Imagine that sin is a cancer of the soul, Bishop Brennan said. What treatments are available?

"The sacrament of penance," he said, "is like the surgery that removes a cancerous tumor-necessary for serious sins, mortal sins, but effective as well for lesser or venial sins."

Efforts to fortify spiritual life through daily prayer, faithful Sunday worship, reading of scripture and spiritual writings, participation in good works, he said, are like the chemotherapy that keeps any remnants of sin from spreading. The result is the radiation we receive from God's grace.

God will help you if you let him," the bishop said.

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR ALL CATHOLICS

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by everyone 18 years and older, who has not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, enough to

In the gospel for the Mass, the bishop said the Lord outlines the spiritual program for Lent. First he encourages almsgiving, which is any form of help one can give to his or her neighbor.

"Who might you help to bring some relief or encouragement?" the bishop asked those gathered. "Is there someone with whom you need to be more patient? Do you need to forgive someone?"

All of these ways and many others do good for other people, the bishop said, but the Lord does not want us to do it for show or to draw attention to ourselves or to pat ourselves on the back.

Second, the bishop said, is public liturgical prayer, which the prophet Joel pointed to: "Gather the people, notify the congregation; Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast; Let the bridegroom quit his room and the bride her chamber. Between the porch and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep, And say, 'Spare, O LORD, your people, and make not your heritage a reproach" (Jl 2:12-18).

This is the prayer the people were engaged in at the Ash Wednesday Mass, "the prayer of the whole people—liturgical prayer," Bishop Brennan said.

Jesus also commends private prayer, the bishop said, pointing to the gospel: "go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you" (Mt 6:1-6, 16-18).

Bishop Brennan encourages those who have lost the habit of prayer to find it again. "What time works best for you to give some time to God each day?" the bishop asked. "Decide and then be faithful to it."

Bishop Brennan also encourages the faithful to read the scriptures and think about them, and to pray. "Prayer waters the soul as rain

waters the lands," he said. The final part of what the Lord

outlines in the gospel is fasting

"But the true fasting for Lent is the fasting from sin," the bishop said. "That's the real business of Lent—to overcome sin. What is the sin that trips you up the most? Don't be afraid of facing it. Ask God's help in tackling it. Nothing is impossible for God as the angel told Mary."

maintain strength, may be taken, according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but consuming liquids, including milk and juices, is allowed. Abstinence is observed by everyone 14 years of age or older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note

that when health or the ability to work is affected, the law does not apply. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays during Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence. If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops requires all Dioceses/Eparchies have a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. 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, go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment.

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.reportbishop abuse.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; or Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. 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. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under "Accountability." Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment", then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Com-plaint 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 Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. 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 "Accountabil-ity", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocescan authorities and the identity of the person reporting is protected 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.

Office: 1322 Eoff St. Mailing: PO Box 230 Wheeling, WV 26003 (304) 232-0444 Fax: (304) 233-8551 Web site: www.thecatholicspiritwv.org Diocesan Web site: www.dwc.org February 16, 2024, Vol. 55, No. 7 Publisher: Bishop Mark E. Brennan..... Executive Editor: Colleen Rowan, Ext. 347 crowan@dwc.org Advertising: contact Colleen Rowan Freelance Writers: Martina Hart, John Sherwood, Member: Catholic Press Association, West Virginia Press Association, National Press Photographers Association, Inc.

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Sadie ... Cont'd from Page 1

gather in Msgr. Sadie's beloved basilica co-cathedral to celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial. Deacons, religious, and Catholic faithful from across the diocese and beyond will come to Charleston to celebrate the life and ministry of this great man and to take him to his final rest. Very Rev. Casey Mahone will be the homilist. Monsignor will be buried with his parents at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Parkersburg.

"Msgr. Sadie will be remembered for his commitment not only to the pastoral needs of the faithful in the Charleston area and specifically to the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, but to the community as a whole," Bishop Brennan said in a statement. He said he joins the faithful in mourning monsignor's passing.

"Msgr. Sadie leaves a legacy of service to others, which will be carried on through the work of the parish he loved and ministered to for many years. Monsignor was devoted to Christ. May the Lord now receive him with open arms. I ask everyone to join me in prayer for comfort for Monsignor's family and friends, as well as those who bore witness to his ministry in the diocese."

Following the basilica co-cathedral's announcement of Msgr. Sadie's passing on Facebook, tributes came pouring in and many shared memories and prayers, including Sen. Joe Manchin, III (D-W.Va.).

"I'm heartbroken to learn of the passing of Msgr. Sadie... a guiding light & a pillar of our community. Please join me in praying for his family & the entire Sacred Heart community," Manchin posted.

Msgr. Sadie's long-time friend, Rabbi Victor Urecki of B'nai Jacob Synagogue in Charleston, took to social media as well: "Mourning the passing this morning of one of my dearest of friends, great mentor, spiritual leader, and pillar of our community, Father Ed Sadie. Thanks to him and his dedication to interfaith work, we became a constant duo at The Root and the Branch, a public forum to discuss religion and the common threads we share. For decades, he not only faithfully shepherded our Catholic community with grace and goodness but helped make this city a more tolerant and loving place for Muslims, Jews, Christians and people of every faith.

Rabbi Urecki continued in his post, saying, "I will forever be grateful for his outreach, his friendship, his wisdom, and dedication to his community and to bringing people together. I will cherish his mentorship, his love, and his friendship. I am a better rabbi and a better human being because he touched my life. His ascent to Heaven is secure and unimpeded. Rest in peace, dear Father. Love you, my brother."

Prayers, memories, and words of thanks were posted by basilica cocathedral parishioners and others.

"Msgr. Sadie has graced my youth, my wedding, my children's baptism and holy Communions... Our whole family will miss him very much," Lore Santiago Wilkes commented.

"A great visionary. A man who left a giant legacy of the power of faith. A creator in the image of The Creator. St. John Paul prayed that his hands would be the hands of Jesus' salvation. Father Ed Sadie's hands were the hands of Jesus for us. Eternal rest grant unto Father Sadie, O Lord. A good and faithful servant," John Knight posted.

"Rest in peace Msgr. Sadie! Thank you for all you did to make Sacred Heart what it is today! And thank you for instilling faith in our families as we have three plus seminarians who grew up under your guidance!" Susan Kawash Aiello shared. Those seminarians are Michael Aiello, Timothy Kawash, and Michael J. Tupta.

Following his appointment as rector of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in 1980, Msgr. Sadie facilitated the growth of the parish in many ways, including renovations and campus expansion and the celebration of the Red Mass (for members of the legal profession) and Rose Mass (for those in the medical field). Through his efforts, Sacred Heart was elevated to a minor basilica in 2009 and designated a Diocesan Shrine of Santo Niño de Cebu, patron and protector of the Philippines, in 2007.

Msgr. Sadie had an unwavering commitment to Catholic education in the diocese and was deeply dedicated to Charleston Catholic High School, where he served as president for a time, and Sacred Heart Grade School in Charleston, where he started the day care program.

"Msgr. Sadie has always been a presence in my life," said Colleen Hoyer, principal of CCHS. She grew up attending Sacred Heart Grade School, Charleston Catholic, and the basilica co-cathedral parish. "It's hard to imagine these communities without him. There was no question about his passion for Catholic education and for helping people grow in faith. When Charleston Catholic was struggling decades ago, Msgr. Sadie was the driving force to turn things around and get it on the right track. We are able to celebrate our 100th year this year because of Msgr. Sadie's efforts and decisions years ago.

"He was a thinker and a doer," Hoyer added. "He was always reading and sharing articles. He had such energy and enthusiasm he never stopped! He was always willing to share his wisdom and advice with others, me included. Monsignor also worked behind the scenes, quietly offering help and assistance to those who needed it. We are all blessed to have had him in our lives."

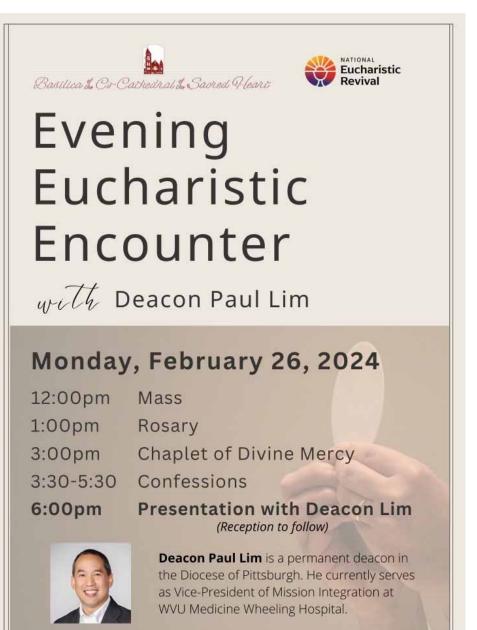
Msgr. Sadie is originally from Parkersburg, born Dec. 15, 1930. He was ordained to the priesthood June 1, 1957, by Bishop Thomas J. McDonnell. Msgr. Sadie served as rector of the Basilica Co-Cathedral from 1980 until his retirement from active ministry in 2016.

Before that time, he was the associate pastor of St. Mary Parish in Blacksburg, Va., from 1957-1963; vice rector of St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary in Vienna from 1963-1969; and pastor of St. Agnes Parish in Charleston from 1969-1980. He served as administrator of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in St. Albans, director of St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston in 1984, and dean of the Charleston Deanery in 1978.

Msgr. Sadie was named monsignor in 2005 by Pope Benedict XVI. He previously served as vicar forane of the Charleston Vicariate and as a diocesan consultor. He also served on the board of trustees for the Diocesan Priest Health and Retirement Association and on the board of directors of St. Francis Hospital in Charleston and Wheeling Jesuit University. He served on the Commission for Religious Unity, the Commission for Evangelization, the Vocations Committee, the Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission of West Virginia, and the Methodist/Catholic Commission of West Virginia. He also served on the Religious Coalition for Community Renewal and the Clay Center for Science and Arts, and an advisor on the City Cemetery Committee.

Msgr. Sadie remained in Charleston in his retirement and was very much involved in the basilica co-cathedral community.

See Msgr. Sadie's obituary on Pages 4 and 5 of this issue of The Catholic Spirit.



Obituary—Monsignor P. Edward Sadie

"The Glory of God is a human being fully alive."

- St. Irenaeus of Lyons

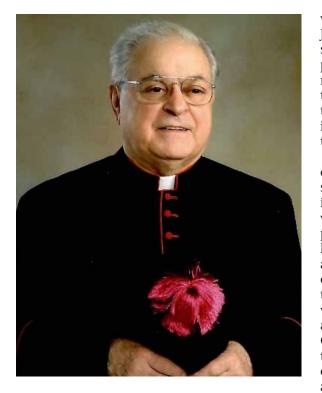
n Sunday, February 11, 2024, Monsignor P. Edward Sadie, P.A., S.T.L., of Charleston, West Virginia, passed peacefully in his sleep.

Monsignor was preceded in death by his parents Timothy and Jennie Sadie of Parkersburg, West Virginia, and brother James Robert Sadie of Montgomery, Alabama. Left to honor his memory and legacy are his Alabama family including sister-in-law Edna Abdelnour Sadie; nephews Timothy Joseph Sadie, James Edward Sadie, John Anthony Sadie (Lisa), and Mark Edward Sadie (Ashley); nieces Elizabeth Marie Sadie Sutton (William), Jennifer Rose Sadie Booth, Jeanne Marie Sadie Anderson (James), Ann Michelle Sadie Osten (Charles), Kristin Maria Sadie Schwarz (David); numerous grandnephews and grandnieces; as well as trusted advisors, Nick Casey, Ralph Hoyer, Dick Walker, Wayne Johnson; Madeleine Blankenship, his secretary of 35 years; and Debra Sullivan who served as principal of his two schools for 28 years. Monsignor was grateful for the outpouring of support offered by parishioners, friends, students and educators, fellow priests, Christian and non-Christian clerics, and others who encouraged him during his lifetime.

A happy and compassionate man of deep faith and humility, a dreamer and a visionary, a builder of lives both young and old, Monsignor certainly did his part. Through his lifetime of service, he touched lives in untold and profound ways. Through his example, he challenged all who knew him to find the better angels in themselves and in others and to look beyond what is and imagine what might be.

Monsignor Sadie was born on December 15, 1930, into the Syrian-American community of Parkersburg. His father, a Melkite Catholic who immigrated from Syria at age 15, started as a merchant selling home goods to farmers along Route 50 from Marietta to Clarksburg. He moved his goods by mule, then horse, then car, eventually opening a grocery store and tavern near the Wood County Court House which specialized in fish sandwiches and cream pies. Eventually, he became a prominent, successful, highly respected businessman. His mother, whose parents immigrated from the same village as her husband-tobe, was a strong presence in the immigrant community, helping Syrians who could not speak English. She referred to Monsignor as a "just and fair son."

Monsignor's pride in his Syrian and Melkite Catholic roots and his deep love of his parents and brother James were touchstones throughout life. His devotion to God, appreciation of art and music, belief in the power of education, and commitment to human rights were shaped by his family. At age 6 he began what was to become his lifelong passion for learning, attending St. Francis Xavier Grade School in his hometown, where he was taught by the Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus. As a youth, he was a Boy Scout and played the mandolin and the violin, eventually earning First String position on the WPA Junior Orchestra. After ninth grade, he transferred to St. Charles Pre-



paratory Seminary in Catonsville, Maryland, to complete his high school years and his college freshman and sophomore years. The only child of an immigrant studying at St. Charles at the time, Monsignor immersed himself in his studies and extracurricular life, running track and playing football intramurals. He completed his college junior and senior years at St. Mary's Major Seminary in Baltimore, earning an A.B. in philosophy 1953 and eventually S.T.B./S.T.L. theology degrees in 1957. During his theology studies in Baltimore, he taught catechism to deaf children who were required to learn by reading lips. He learned sign language to instruct deaf adults. In conjunction with his S.T.L. degree, Monsignor studied medical ethics which he later taught to student nurses at St. Joseph Nursing School in Parkersburg. He later earned an M.A. in Latin from the University of Michigan.

Not known to even many of his friends, in 1956 Monsignor petitioned Church authorities to transfer from the Eastern Melkite Catholic Church, in which he could marry before ordination, to the Western Latin Church which required celibacy, all because he wanted to minister as a priest in West Virginia.

Monsignor returned to his home parish of St. Francis Xavier in Parkersburg where Bishop Thomas McDonnell ordained him as priest for the Diocese of Wheeling (now Wheeling-Charleston) on June 1, 1957. Four others were ordained that day and remained lifelong friends. Following ordination, Monsignor was assigned to southwestern Virginia, at that time the outpost of the Diocese. For 6 years he served as associate pastor of St. Mary's Church and missions in Blacksburg and as the chaplain at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Radford College, ministering to collegeage men and women. During those years in a predominantly Protestant part of the Diocese, he developed close ties with Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, and Lutheran ministers, spur ring his lifelong interest in ecumenism and the study of other faiths. He later cherished a decadeslong friendship with Rabbi Victor Urecki of Charleston and formed deep relationships with the Muslim community.

In 1963, Monsignor was called back to Vienna, just outside Parkersburg, where he was named

vice rector, treasurer, and Latin instructor at St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary, a four-year high school program for young men considering the priesthood. During those years he became even more committed to the power of a good education. It was there, too, that he was introduced to the intricacies of financial management, acquiring knowledge and skills that would affect his future parish assignments.

St. Agnes Catholic Church in Charleston welcomed him as pastor in 1969, where he happily served for 11 years. Admired and loved by parishioners young and old, his homilies, wisdom, devotion to Catholic schools, and service were applauded as he evolved into activities that became hallmarks of his priesthood — eliminating school and parish debts, expanding the church-school complex, strengthening educational opportunities, upgrading facilities, bringing together individuals from a variety of backgrounds as trusted advisors, and becoming involved in the broader Christian and non-Christian community. During these years at St. Agnes, Monsignor conducted energetic initiatives to attract inactive Catholics and successfully petitioned then Bishop Hodges for permission to commission women as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, making them the first women in the Diocese permitted to distribute Communion in a parish. He formed close bonds with families and the greater Charleston community, ties which continued to grow throughout his life.

Monsignor capably dealt with current issues while dreaming of future possibilities. Where some saw blight, he saw possibilities. Recognizing the value of real estate and the necessity of implementing solid financial practices to grow the parish and diocesan presence in the Charleston area, while at St. Agnes Monsignor developed contiguous parish property that had been used as a dump for refuse from the glass plant that formerly operated at the east end of Kanawha City. With a combination of careful removal and remediation, grading, and filling, he doubled St. Agnes' footprint, creating an athletic field for the school as well as a playground and additional parking for school staff and parishioners. He purchased a house adjacent to the University of Charleston on behalf of the Diocese to open a campus ministry office for college students. And Monsignor negotiated the purchase of land on Corridor G where St. John XXIII Pastoral Center is now located.

In 1980, Bishop Hodges named Monsignor as pastor of the Co-Cathedral Parish of the Sacred Heart, later through Monsignor's efforts to be designated as Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, in downtown Charleston, where his priestly leadership continued to flourish. A humble man who sought no recognition for himself, Monsignor's valuable service was recognized in 2005 with his appointment as Monsignor, Prelate of Honor to His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, and in 2013 as Protonotary Apostolic, the highest rank of Monsignor. Monsignor took to heart the words of St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests: "Remain humble, remain simple. The more you are so, the more good you will do."

Reassignment to Sacred Heart brought new challenges and opportunities as Monsignor continued to grow as a collaborator and visionary, enlisting the good ideas and help of others to advance parish initiatives. A community builder, he

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Obituary ... Cont'd from Page 4

inspired parishioners to share their own talents and energy through a variety of activities. Monsignor launched the annual Red Mass and St. Thomas More liturgy for legal professionals, and the annual Rose Mass for members of the medical community, with invitations sent to all regardless of religious affiliation, inviting notable bishops, archbishops, and cardinals as guest speakers. He encouraged parishioners' support of missionary efforts, the Gabriel Project to help infants by providing basic needs, Catholic education throughout the Diocese, and funding for retired religious orders. Monsignor celebrated the international diversity of the parish, hosting liturgical celebrations associated with specific nationalities and welcoming pilgrims from across the country and the world. He recruited religious Sisters to relocate from Zimbabwe to extend parish outreach efforts.

In addition to working nonstop to fulfill his daily pastoral duties, Monsignor was ever mindful of the future needs of the parish, planning for the spiritual and facility needs of parishioners, and keeping an eye on the physical and fiscal needs of the church building itself and the two schools under his supervision. Monsignor believed that a strong Catholic presence downtown contributed mightily to the vitality of the city he loved.

Early in his years at Sacred Heart, he told then Bishop Hodges that Sacred Heart was landlocked and that, with the Bishop's permission, he planned to buy all the adjacent, boarded up properties he could "hit with a rock." And he did. Early on he bought and demolished dilapidated buildings at the corner of Leon Sullivan Way and Quarrier, building a parking lot for Sacred Heart Grade School staff, and then redeveloped it years later as home to the Parish Hall and the Sacred Heart Childhood Development Center. With the purchase of the Charleston Newspapers lot along Leon Sullivan Way and the Beury property on Virginia Street, a beautiful statuary garden and ample parking area for parishioners and Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School staff were constructed.

During his over 36 years as pastor, he beautified Sacred Heart's downtown campus by using architecture, art, and landscaping to glorify God, teach tenets of the faith, and lift human hearts. With careful attention to the historical significance of the church building, and to economic feasibility, functionality, architectural detail, and aesthetics, Monsignor upgraded and expanded the original Sacred Heart Church building and grounds, making alterations to serve the cradleto-grave needs of parishioners well into the future. Monsignor refurbished the 1897 church, carefully restoring the woodwork, Italian marble altar, stained glass windows, statuary, and tile flooring, while upgrading the lighting and sound systems. A Schantz pipe organ was installed, the sanctuary was extended, and an artisan-crafted Appalachian wooden altar, Bishop's chair, and other furnishings were put in place. Flags representing the many nationalities of parishioners were on display in the church's nave. With Monsignor's particular devotion to the Blessed Virgin, an expansive collection of artistic renderings of the Annunciation found a nome at Sacred Heart. In keeping with the style of the original church, the original rectory was demolished to make room for the Cathedral's expansion. The Cenacle Retreat House on Virginia Street was renovated to provide living quarters for parish priests as well as office space for parish operations and a chapel and meeting areas.

Monsignor was widely recognized for his deep

commitment to improving educational opportunities for children of all faiths. Students and staff -Catholic, non-Catholic, and non-Christian–living in Kanawha, Clay, Fayette, Raleigh, Putnam, Boone, Logan and other counties came together to create a family within the two schools. As pastor, Monsignor was chief administrator of Sacred Heart Grade School, and early in his years with the parish he petitioned Bishop Hodges for himself to assume the role as president of the then struggling Charleston Catholic High School. His devotion to the spiritual, intellectual, social-emotional, and physical development of children and youth was evident in the thought and energy he put into these schools. He worked diligently to ensure that the schools were excellent. Both grew in enrollment and quality as Monsignor focused on recruiting and retaining dedicated and capable staff, upgrading and expanding facilities, instituting sound financial practices, and providing upto-date teaching resources.

Through the generosity of parishioners and the school community, Monsignor ensured that school facilities were safe, state-of-the-art, and conducive to learning. He reimagined an asphalt area located between the church and grade school, enclosing it for a gym and activity room. Upgrades to the original Sacred Heart Grade School and Seton Hall provided additional classroom space. Monsignor purchased the old Kanawha Valley Hospital at Dunbar and Virginia streets, setting the stage for a playground and space to meet school and parish needs. As the grade school continued to expand, Monsignor oversaw the acquisition and renovation of the Hoyer Building at the corner of Dunbar and Quarrier streets for additional classroom and storage space. Realizing that the parish needed room for youth and other groups, Monsignor refurbished a boarded-up building on Quarrier Street into the Sacred Heart Family Life Center.

With generous parishioners rallying to the call, Monsignor was able to purchase additional properties to provide income to the parish and schools. He purchased a rundown building on Dunbar Street across from Charleston Catholic High School, transforming it into office space rented to a federal agency. For years he had his eye on the West Virginia Career College building – a stone's throw away – for future use by parish and schools. The parish eventually completed the deal.

Charleston Catholic High School benefited mightily from Monsignor's careful stewardship. By gathering the support of parishioners, staff, students, parents, alumni, businesses, and others in the community, in 1995 Monsignor spearheaded the complete renovation of the original 1940's school building and the construction of a 30,000 square foot classroom and commons/cafeteria addition, including infrastructure to accommodate the eventual addition of a fourth floor to the wing. Understanding that it was unlikely that suitable property adjacent to the school would become available or be affordable for construction of an athletic facility, in 2004 Monsignor, his advisors, and supporters purchased an indoor tennis facility on Hillcrest Avenue, transforming the property into the CCHS Athletic Facility with a gym, auxiliary gym, outdoor tennis courts, weight room, and meeting rooms along with rental offices.

Monsignor was a major player in endeavors beyond parish and schools. A highly esteemed leader, he was routinely sought out by civic, religious, and business leaders to lend a hand to improve Charleston and West Virginia ecumenically, educationally, economically, and socially. A prolific writer, he was a frequent contributor to state and regional newspapers commenting on public issues. He served as executive director of the Catholic Conference of West Virginia and was a member of the Diocesan Commissions for Religious Unity and for Evangelization, the Diocesan Vocations Committee, the Anglican-Roman Catholic and the Methodist-Catholic Commissions of West Virginia, and the St. Francis Hospital and Catholic Charities boards of directors. He cofounded the Root and the Branch, an ecumenical effort bringing different faith traditions together to build understanding. He happily supported the Coptic Christians in Charleston as they worked to find and renovate worship space. He was always available to share ideas.

When Monsignor retired in 2016, he began the next chapter on his life's journey. Building on his decades-long interest in providing a Catholic school education for those who desired it regardless of financial ability, he established the Father Sadie Educational Fund. Using his own financial resources, he opened a pathway for minority children and children of immigrants to attend Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School. Through his vision and generosity, individual lives will continue to be touched.

To his sister-in-law, Monsignor was simply "Eddie," and to nieces and nephews, he was "Uncle Eddie." As the last surviving member of their father's family, he was a source of incredible wisdom, faith, and guidance. He often advised them, with direct honesty and tremendous love, on matters related to faith, finances, hardships, and relationships. Furthermore, he provided for them an example of a person whose deep faith was enriched by his extensive education and pastoral experience, so that his faith was not simply in "the head," but a living one in the world. To his family, his life mirrored the first line of the encyclical document, Gaudium et Spes: "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ."

Although Monsignor was humble in assessing his own impact, the extent of his presence speaks for itself. A West Virginia treasure, Monsignor will be remembered for his vision, example of faith, life of service, boundless energy, humor, hope for the future, bedrock belief in the power of a good education, and commitment to the worth of every human being. Through his words, deeds, and challenges, he has left his mark on so many lives, the community, and the State.

Visitation began on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on Leon Sullivan Way in Charleston with a vigil service at 7:00 p.m. by the Very Reverend Donald X. Higgs as presider and Monsignor Paul Hudock as homilist. There will also be visitation at the Basilica on Friday (February 16) from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 16, at The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart by Bishop Mark Brennan as presider and the Very Reverend Casey Mahone as homilist. Monsignor will be buried with his parents at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Parkersburg.

In lieu of flowers or other acknowledgements, the family requests that donations be made to The Father Sadie Educational Fund, 1033 Virginia Street East, Charleston, WV 25301.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.barlowbonsall.com.

Barlow Bonsall Funeral Home of Charleston is honored to assist the family and parish with arrangements.

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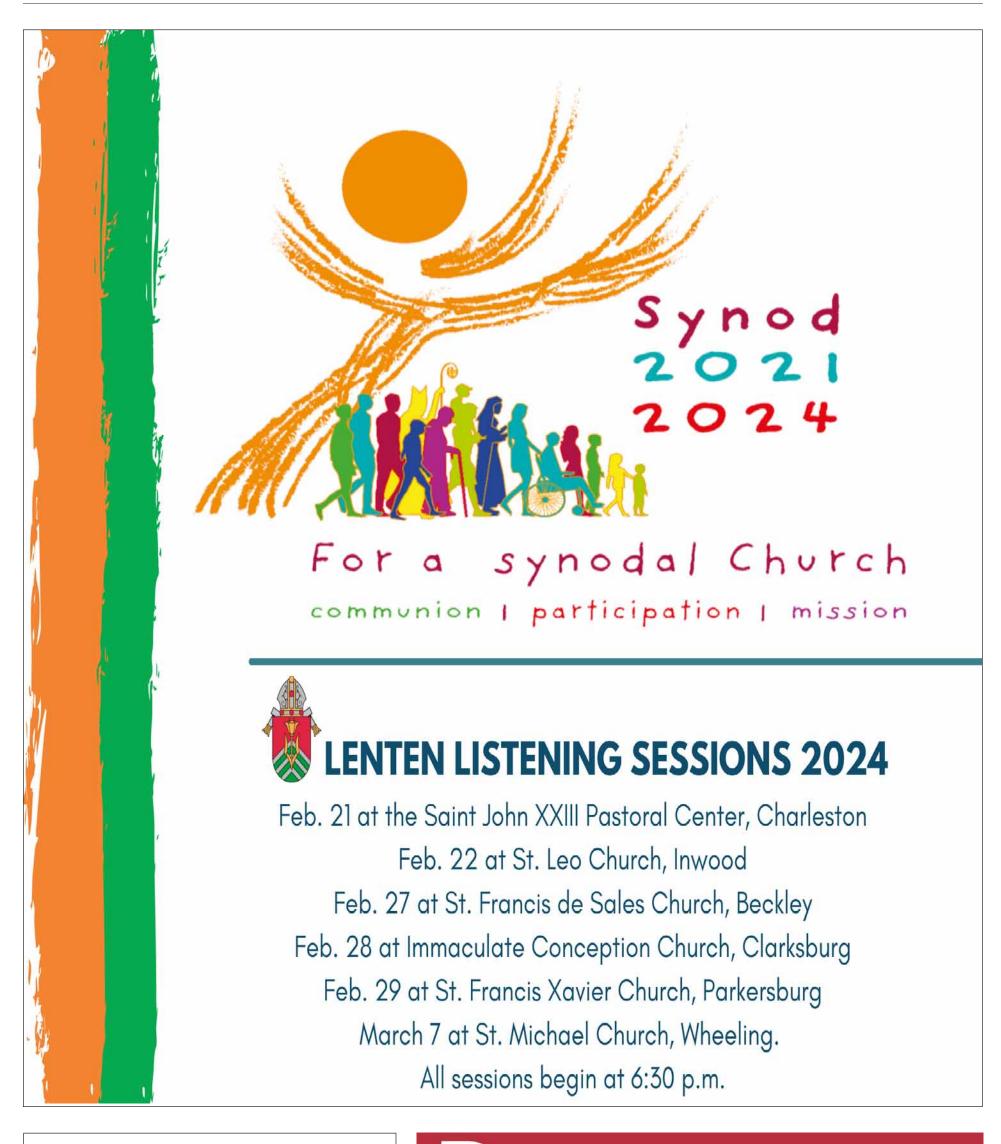
Panhandle

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Lenten Retreat: Book Helps People Explore Pope's Teaching on Belonging

IVEREIGH

LOYOLA PRESS

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis's concern for migrants and refugees, his focus on ecology, his calls to "go out" to share the good news of salvation, even his support for the controversial possibility of informally blessing LGBTQ+ couples flow from his conviction that people need to know they belong to God, to one another and to creation.

"All the life-threatening crises that beset us around the world, from the ecological crisis to the wars, the injustices against the poor and vulnerable, have their roots in this rejection of our belonging to God and to each other," the pope wrote in a foreword to "First Belong to God: A Retreat with Pope Francis," a book released Feb. 13, the day before the beginning of Lent.

To understand Pope Francis and his teaching, it is helpful to understand — and even experience — the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius that have shaped his spirituality since he joined the Jesuits in 1958, said Austen Ivereigh, author of the new book.

Ivereigh, who has written two biographies of the pope, has woven together a classic eight-day preached version of the Spiritual Exercises with five decades of spiritual reflections by Pope Francis in the book, which was published in Ireland by Messenger Publications and in the United States by Loyola Press.

"The big overall theme is belonging, or the crisis of belonging to which the pontificate is, in many ways, a response," Ivereigh said.

Pope Francis continually returns to the theme, insisting each person was created by God, is loved by God and is called to recognize that he or she belongs to God.

Remembering that first belonging inspires humility and gratitude but also frees people from erroneously thinking they can or should be able to control everything and everyone around them.

The pope's repeated reminder to young people at World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal, that there is room in the church for "todos, todos, todos" — everyone, everyone, everyone — also flows from that basic conviction that every person is loved by God. That love comes first—before a person acts on it or even accepts it.

"What Pope Francis has done with his bold 'the church is for everyone' message is show that the church exists to communicate the unconditional love of God for all his creatures, and that our conversion begins with embracing that truth," Ivereigh told Catholic News Service.

"We do not earn God's love by changing but change by accepting God's love," he said. "That's hard for us, because we prefer to believe that what is of value must be earned or deserved."

That temptation, he said, can be seen "in much of the reaction to 'Fiducia Supplicans,'" the document of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith that opened the possibility for priests and other ministers to give nonliturgical blessings to gay and other couples not married in the church.

"People find it hard to accept that we are all blessable," he said, thinking instead that "we must first change in order to belong."

But, Ivereigh said, "like St. Ignatius, Pope Francis goes the other way. No, he says: first you belong. Then, as you absorb that truth, you will change."

Ivereigh pairs major documents by the pope with each part of the "belonging," showing a progressive development of the theme throughout Pope Francis' pontificate: the 2013 "The Joy of the Gospel" emphasizing belonging to God; the 2015 "Laudato Si', On Care for Our Common Home," about belonging to creation; and the 2020 "Fratelli Tutti, on Fraternity and Social

AUSTEN IVEREIGH



FIRST BELONG TO GOD ON RETREAT

POPE FRANCIS

CNS Photo/Courtesy Loyola Press

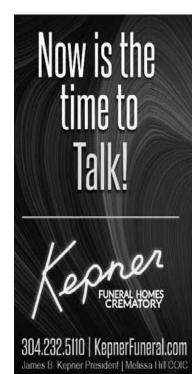
"First Belong to God: A Retreat with Pope Francis," a book by Austen Ivereigh, is published in the United States by Loyola Press. Using a classic eight-day preached version of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola and five decades worth of spiritual reflections by Pope Francis, the book is a retreat guide for individuals or groups.

Friendship," exploring how charist," people belong to each other. icates the In his foreword, Pope "to medi Francis wrote that to help God's me

Francis wrote that to help people resist the temptation to reject "our belonging to God and to each other," the church offers prayers and spiritual practices, including confession, the regular celebration of the Eucharist and spiritual retreats.

In the full 30-day Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, Ivereigh said, the saint "urges weekly confession and Eucharist," but he also dedicates the whole first week "to meditating on sin and God's mercy," themes that stand out in Pope Francis' personal journey of faith and in his preaching.

"We meditate on these



not to 'wallow' but the opposite: to realize that we need our Savior, and that God's mercy is the real power in this world," Ivereigh said.

The book also includes repeated references to Pope Francis' homilies during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and how he used them to emphasize humanity's belonging to God, to each other and to the created world.

Grasping those connections, the pope had said, would determine whether humanity would come out of the pandemic better or worse off than before.

"I don't think anyone would say that the world is better now than in 2019," Ivereigh told CNS. "I think most people, including Pope Francis, would say the opposite. We seem to be in a dark time that is set to get darker, and in many ways, we've doubled down and gone backward."

"But I think Francis would also want to point to some of the signs of hope: for example, the awakening to abuse, the concern for our common home, the awareness of suffering and inequality — all these were maybe helped by COVID," he said.

"But in any case, our hope as Christians doesn't assume that the world will get better," Ivereigh said. The last chapter of his book, focused on Jesus' passion and death, "is called 'The Triumph of Failure' because in human, worldly terms we might not see success at all, but God will use our apparently fruitless actions to bring about redemption."





Nigeria's Mass Attendance is One of Highest in the World — So is its Persecution

By Ngala Killian Chimton

(OSV News) — Nigeria is one of the countries in the world with the best Mass attendance. As many as 94% of self-identified Nigerian Catholics surveyed said they attend weekly or daily Mass, according to a study published in early 2023 by Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate.

The World Values Survey, which conducted the poll, doesn't survey all countries in the world, but among those asked, Nigerian Catholics had the highest Mass attendance, followed by Kenya (73%) and Lebanon (69%).

At the same time, both Christian Concern and Open Doors, organizations that track Christian persecution in the world, rank Nigeria as one of the worst countries for Christians to live in after North Korea, and followed by India, Iran, China, Pakistan and Eritrea as top countries for Christian persecution.

Open Doors reported that 90% of the more than 5,600 Christians killed for their faith last year were from Nigeria, with the total number of Christians killed in 2023 up 80% from five vears ago.

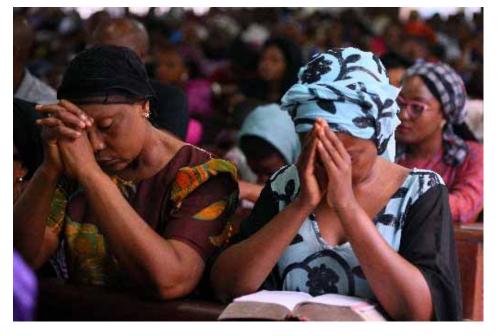
More than 7,600 Nigerian Christians were killed between January 2021 and June 2022.

On Christmas Eve 2023, at least 140 Nigerians were slain across some 15 central villages by rampaging herders wielding guns and machetes, the worst such attack in the region since 2018. The area has for several years been prone to clashes between Muslim Fulani herdsmen and mainly Christian farmers.

In the most recent wave of attacks, a gunman ambushed a Christian school bus Jan. 29, carrying more than a dozen schoolchildren under the age of 10, and two priests of Nigeria's Diocese of Pankshin were kidnapped Feb. 1.

Six kidnapped pupils and three teachers of a primary school in Ekiti, in southwest Nigeria, regained their freedom after a week, according to the police, but the bus driver was killed.

Father Kenneth Kanwa and Father Jude Nwachukwu, who were abducted from St. Vincent de Paul Fier Parish, were released Feb. 10. The kidnapping of priests and the attacks on schools and Christian villages are a plague in Nigeria.



OSV News Photo/Afolabi Sotunde, Reuters

Women are pictured in a file photo praying during Mass at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Abuja, Nigeria. A report published in early 2023 shows that the Mass attendance rate in Nigeria is one of the highest in the world, but at the same time the nation's persecution of Christians and other non-Muslims ranks among the worst on the planet. The Open Doors organization reported that 90% of the more than 5,600 Christians killed for their faith in 2023 were from Nigeria.

steadfast.

Father Moses Iorapuu, director of social communications for the Diocese of Makurdi, told OSV News that Christianity should continue to grow in an environment as hostile as Nigeria

"This is the mystery of our faith: The blood of the martyrs remains the seed of Christianity," the leading Nigerian priest said.

The Intersociety advocacy group in Nigeria has said over 100,000 unarmed and defenseless citizens have died directly or indirectly outside the law in the hands of security forces in the past eight years, between August 2014 and December 2023.

"Shockingly, about 70% of the direct dead, tortured, abducted and disappeared victims are found to have (been) ... Christians and non-Muslim others," the report stated.

The director of Intersociety, Emeka Umeagbalasi, said the killings are part of a government agenda to "Islamize Nigeria."

In April 2023, Intersociety published a report that made headlines around the world, indicating that since 2009, when the Boko Haram Islamist militant group began its murderous campaign to set up a caliphate across the Sahel, at least 52,250 Christians, however, remain Christians and 34,000 moderate Muslims had been butchered or hacked to death.

"It's genocide," Umeagbalasi told OSV News.

"There is a silent genocide going on in Nigeria — a genocide of Christians," he said, all because "the leaders have refused to govern the country multiculturally and multireligiously.

At the same time, 94% of selfidentified Nigerian Catholics surveyed said they attend weekly or daily Mass.

Father Iorapuu identified several factors accounting for the nation's high rate of Mass attendance, explaining that the church offers several services in areas where "the government has failed," he said.

"Christians are still responsible for education, health care, provision of social amenities, and priests and pastors remain agents of change in a manner that the average politician is no match," Father Iorapuu said.

"The access the people have to priests gives them the kind of hope the politicians do not represent. The people are emboldened to believe that things will change for the better through the availability of priests and pastors who attend to their immediate needs," Father Iorapuu said. This is because the faith planted eroon.)

in Nigeria was not limited to church and spirituality. It was all embracing and holistic. Our impact is felt even among non-Christians," he added.

The priest said that Nigeria has always been a deeply religious country, where "you can find 10 churches on one street."

"The Catholic faith is generally very strong in the country and I think it is the prayer of the faithful that has not wiped out Christianity in Nigeria," Father Iorapuu told OSV News.

Intersociety's Umeagbalasi added that the high Mass attendance "is occasioned by those that believe in Christian faith, those that have been hearing (the) Gospels, and those that have been evangelized."

Father Iorapuu regretted that at the same time, those persecuting Christians in Nigeria have paradoxically benefited from Christian services.

"Some of those who persecute us today have attended our schools or their children have, or are attending. This is why their acts are senseless and inhumane" he said.

The priest blasted the jihadists and terrorists for trying to exterminate Christians and vet failing to offer any alternatives. He praised Christian leaders for enduring the suffering, noting that "if the leaders of the church had encouraged revenge, Nigeria would have gone up in flames."

"We believe in the peace and reconciliation we preach!" the Nigerian priest stressed.

Father Iorapuu, however, voiced concern over what looks like the "complicit silence" of the international community.

"Unfortunately, the same international community spends months and months holding special sessions on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, especially after the October 7 massacre of Israelis by Hamas, but the genocide going on in Nigeria does not attract as much as 10 minutes of (their attention)," he told OSV News.

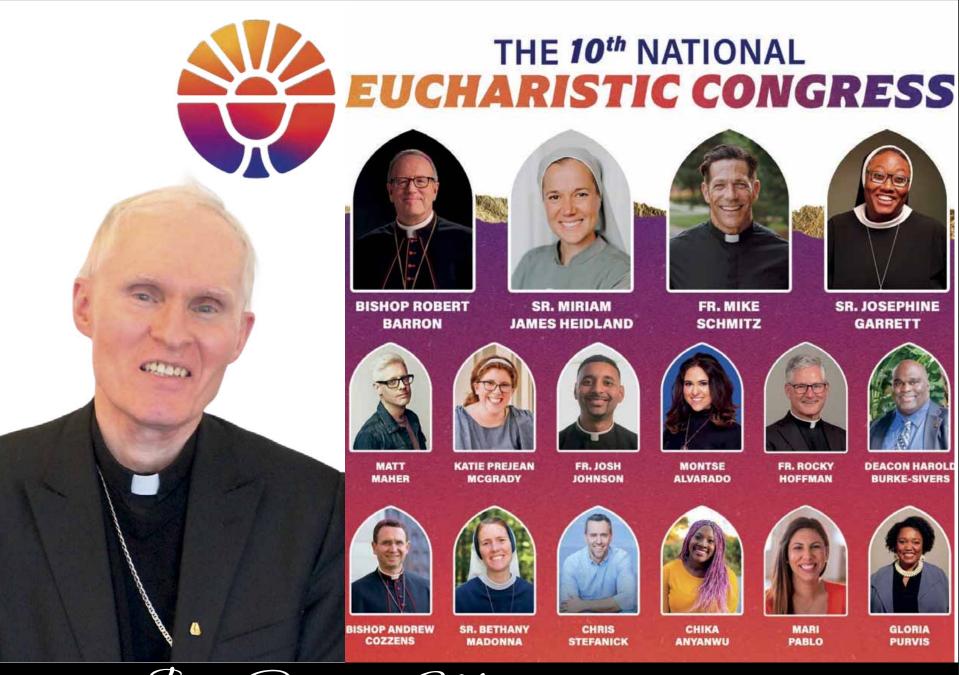
Father Iorapuu said the government has continued to frame what's happening in Nigeria as a "farmers' conflict," noting that "as long as those providing information are government-sponsored, nothing will ever be revealed contrary to their narrative."

(Ngala Killian Chimtom writes for OSV News from Yaounde, Cam-

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The complimentary five-day pass is available to all the faithful in the diocese with the WV delegation's travel package.

Bishop Mark encourages parishes (priests, parish council, Knights of Columbus, women's groups, etc.) to work together to find ways to finance the travel package for their parish representatives.

Sign up now before it's too late! <u>https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/</u>

St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, Sixth-Grader to Compete at Regional Social Studies Fair

INWOOD—A sixth-grader from St. Joseph School in Martinsburg placed first at the Berkeley County Social Studies Fair on Feb. 10, making him eligible to compete in the regional fair on March 16 at Musselman High School.

Reston Barrow dominated the anthropology category with his project titled "California's Air: Breathe Cleaner" at the county event, held at Musselman Middle School. All 12 of the St. Joseph School students who presented their projects on Feb. 10 earned ribbons. Their displays were among 155 entered in the fair.

Three Crusaders placed second: Lorelei Oligmueller in geography with "Malts vs. Milkshakes"

Savannah Bischoff in economics with "Who's Counting: Was The Eras Tour or the NFL Better for the Economy?"

Chase Domenico in world history with "The Vietnam War"

Five SJS students took third place: Lane Smith in economics with "The History of Limousin Cattle: Economic Advantages to the Farmer"

Andrew Egress in U.S. history with "East Broad Top: The Railroad That Could"

Ethan Severance in geography with "Railroads in West Virginia: Where They Are and Why They Are There"

Shaan Sood in sociology with "How Sports Can Enhance Students Academically"

Micah Kovacs in psychology with



Courtesy Photo

St. Joseph School students who participated in the Berkeley County Social Studies Fair on Feb. 10 at Musselman Middle School included, front row, from left: Savannah Bischoff, Rebecca Par, Ricky Monroe, Shaan Sood, Lorelei Oligmueller, Reston Barrow and Micah Kovacs. Back row, from left: Harlan Harmison, Chase Domenico and Andrew Egress. Not pictured are Lane Smith and Ethan Severance. Also qualifying for the county event but unable to attend was SJS eighth-grader Riley Kilmer.

"The Mind and the Matter"

Honorable mention was awarded to: Harlan Harmison in world history with "Lacrosse: Its Origins and Current State"

Rebecca Par in sociology with "Men or Mice: Is the Practice Ethical?" Ricky Monroe in U.S. history with "The History of the Big Boys"

Also qualifying for the county event but unable to attend was SJS eighth-grader Riley Kilmer.

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DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



Inwood Parish's Ministry Joins Cradle Club with Donation to Mary's Refuge

MARTINSBURG — At Mary's Refuge, located in Martinsburg, they believe in the power of compassion and community to make an everlasting impact on those who need it most. They recently introduced the Cradle Club, a foundational initiative embodying the spirit of support and hope for expectant mothers seeking a hand-up. The mission of this initiative is to bring together 200 caring individuals or businesses who can each contribute \$1,000 to provide vital assistance to mothers-to-be in need. With the funds being used to directly support the expectant Mothers, they can offer 2 years of safe housing and structured support while helping them find and thrive in independence.

"Our mission at St. Leo Catholic Church Homeless Ministry/Monica Cressin Memorial Coalition (SLCCHM), is to provide whatever assistance we can to the most vulnerable members of our community and to strive to help alleviate and even prevent homelessness by contributing our resources, gathered through the generosity of St. Leo's parishioners and friends, to those programs that meet the criteria stated," SLCCHM members said.

"Our ministry felt that the Cradle Club met that criteria and having visited the home and understanding the valuable work they were doing, we decided we would love to be part of this Club," they said. "We needed a bit of help, however, and we reached out to St. Leo's Knights of Columbus Council #10756 and to the Ladies Auxiliary and together we were able to come up with the funds to donate to the Cradle Club."

On Feb. 6, a group representing SLCCHM, the Knights and the Ladies Auxiliary presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Eilis Power, program manager at Mary's Refuge, and

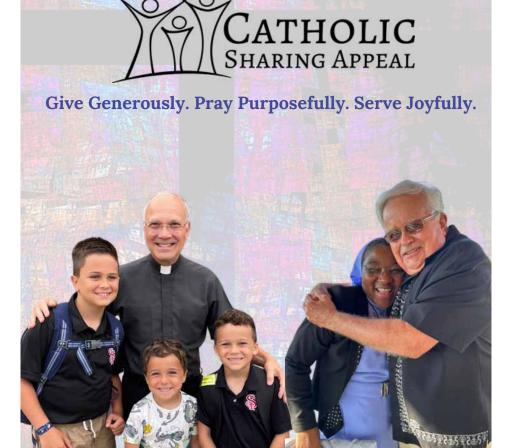


Monica Mangino Photo

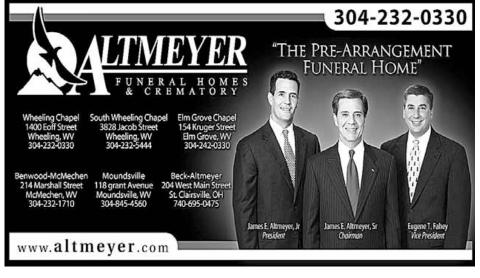
From left are Karen Bageant (SLCCHM, Ladies Aux), Eilis Power (program manager), Ellen Mangino (SLCCHM, LadiesAux), Allison Ferrell (director), Peg McDonagh (SLCCHM), Gabi Torlone (SLCCHM, Ladies Aux) and Patrick Mangino (KofC#10756,SLCCHM).

Allison Ferrell, director of Mary's Refuge.

"We were then given a tour of the home where we met some beautiful people and adorable babies," SLCCHM members said. "We feel honored and blessed to have been able to contribute to the wellbeing and support of these courageous women and to carry on the mission of our founder, Monica Cressin, in Jesus' name."



Click the Link to Donate Today! dwc.org/CSA





'The History of the Sumner-Ramer Memorial School' Film to Premiere Feb. 17

MARTINSBURG—February is Black History Month, and St. Agnes Parish in Shepherdstown invites all to attend the premiere of the film "The History of the Sumner-Ramer Memorial School" on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the historic Apollo Civic Theatre (128 East Martin Street, Martinsburg).

"Former students featured in the film will be attending (including our own Leonard and Helen Harris, parishioners of St. Agnes), followed by a Q&A session led by Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic," parish officials said.

More information may be found at https://pulse.ly/ h5hwvpyjt5. The film is presented by the Martinsburg Berkeley County NAACP.

"Please join in sharing stories and building connections as we celebrate our diverse community's rich history and achievements!" parish officials said.

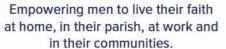
Applications Open for 2024 Father Mark T. Gallipeau Scholarship

EKLINS—The Elkins Council 603 of the Knights of Columbus is pleased to announce the 2024 Father Mark T. Gallipeau High School Scholarship. Applications are open to all active members of the Holy Rosary in Buckhannon, St. Patrick's in Coalton, and St. Brendan's in Elkins. One, \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded (divided into four, \$500 payments over four years as long as the student is enrolled in a full-time program).

The Father Mark T. Gallipeau Memorial Scholarship is intended to recognize a Catholic High School senior who has demonstrated commitment to their school, church, and community, and exhibited academic achievement. The scholarship information with application can be downloaded on the home page of the St. Brendan/St. Patrick web site (http://stbrendanwv.weebly.com) by clicking on the appropriate button.



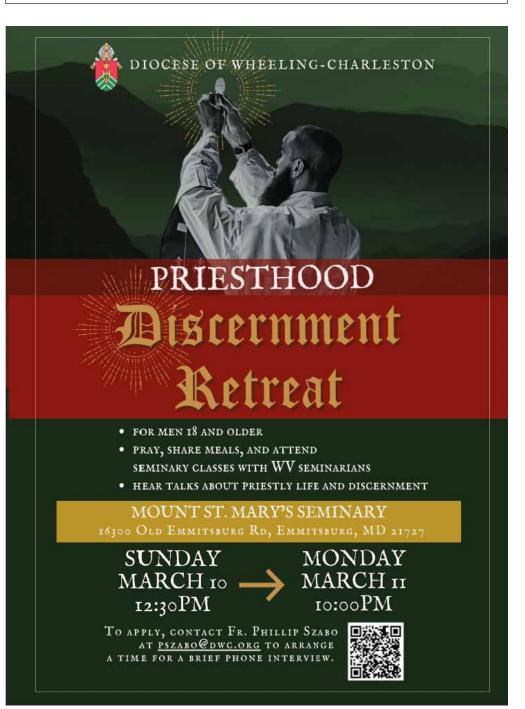
For more information visit:



Knights of Columbus* West Virginia State Council Former Pastor of St. James in Charles Town to Lead Parish Mission in July

repare yourselves because it will be awesome!" officials at St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town announced on Facebook. "Abbot Elijah Owens, OSB, better known as our former pastor until 2010... Father Brian!" will return to St. James for a parish mission in July. Abbot Owens is pictured at right. More information about the mission will be released in the coming months.





20120 VISION SERIES A YEAR WITH THE SAINTS

Join us as we journey throughout the year focusing on various Saints and their legacies, presented by those among us who live out these legacies in their lives and in their communities.

Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

January 29	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Sr. Mary Clark, SC
February 26	St. Brigid of Kildare - Sr. Karen Kirby, CSJ
March 18	St. Joseph – Sr. Kathleen Durkin, CSJ
April 29	St. Mary Euphrasia - Sr. Martha Gomez, R.G.S.
May 20	Blessed Virgin Mary - TBD
June 24	Marcellin Champagnat - Brother John Byrd, FMS
July 29	St. Ignatius of Loyola - Lou Volpe
August 26	St. Dominic – Sr. Ellen Dunn, OP
September 30	St. Lorenzo Ruiz - Fr. Carlos Melocoton
October 28	Jesuit Martyrs - TBD
November 18	Servant of God Dorothy Day - Kate Marshall
December 16	St. Stephan - Deacon John Yaquinta

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

Cost for complete series: \$120.00 Or \$15.00 per session. RSVP – Anna Marie Troiani: atroiani@csjoseph.org



RETREAT CENTER



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON Office of Consecrated Life Sr. Martha Gomez, RGS

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE – Spring 2024

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Sunday, March 17: St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg; 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 6: St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown; 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 10: Our Lady of Peace, Wheeling; 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 11: St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton; 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 14: SS Peter and Paul, Oak Hill; 10:30 a.m.

Monday, April 15: Corpus Christi, Wheeling; 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 20: St. Sebastian, Kingwood; 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 21: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Stonewood; 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 28: St. Jude, Glen Dale; 9:00 a.m.Sunday, May 5: St. Brendan, Elkins; 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 11: St. John the Evangelist, Wellsburg; 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 11: St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling; 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 12: Immaculate Conception, New Cumberland; 8:30 a.m.

Monday, May 13: St. Michael, Wheeling; 5:30 p.m. Sunday, May 19: St. Agnes, Charleston; 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 22: Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg; 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 25: St. James, Charles Town; 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 25: St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs; 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 26: St. Joseph, Martinsburg; 4:00 p.m.Saturday, June 1: St. Francis Xavier, Moundsville;4:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 8: Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston; 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 9: Sacred Heart, Princeton; 11:00 a.m.Saturday, June 15: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley; 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 16: St. John the Evangelist, Summers-ville; 9:00 a.m.

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6:30 WOAY ABC 4

9:30 WVVA NBC 6

11:00 WDVM 25

ivin

6:30 WTOV FOX 9 Wheeling-Steubenville

6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Huntington-Charleston

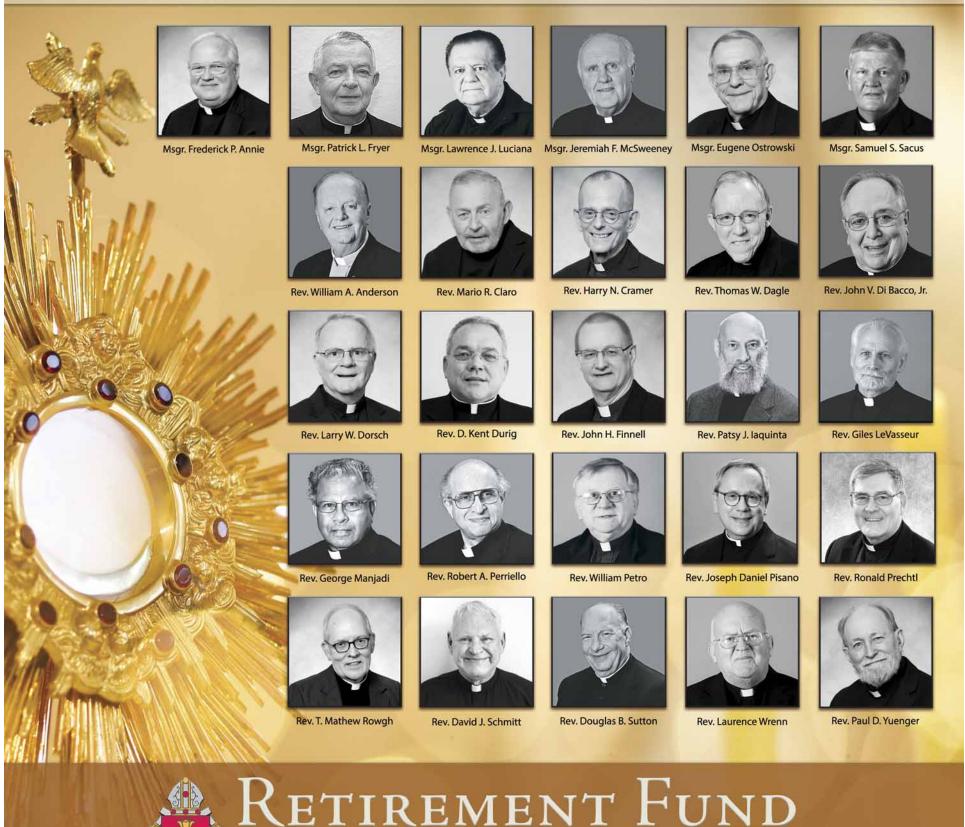
8:00 WBOY NBC 12 Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont

8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)

Plus watch online at - www.mydailyliving.com and YouTube

with Fr. Chapin

"For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love you have demonstrated for his name by having served and continuing to serve the holy ones." -Hebrew 6:10



FOR DIOCESAN PRIESTS COLLECTION DATE: March 3, 2024

En Español



Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de ninos: La Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar ante las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. Tambien alentamos a utilizar www.report bishopabuse.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, comuniquese con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdiccion correspondiente y visite www.reportbishopabuse.org.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuniquese con la policia local; los numeros variaran segun su ubicacion. Si cree que alguien esta en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuniquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Proteccion Infantil de Ninos y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la linea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta linea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diocesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha come- tido un delito. La diocesis tambien alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiasticas apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de ninos por parte del personal de la Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diocesis, comuniquese 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; Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270; o Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. Tambien puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la Diocesis al 304.230.1504. Tambien puede llamar a la linea directa de abuso sexual de la Diocesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja estan disponibles en linea en www.dwc.org, haga clic en "Diocesis" en la barra de menu, 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, Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Victimas de la Diocesis: llame a la Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742.

Ademas de los metodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diocesis tambien 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, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diocesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela catolica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a traves de www.dwc.org, en "Rendicion 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 informacion: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp. Policia Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crimenes contra Ninos: 304-293-6400.



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