

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Evangelization Office Announces Diocese's Plans for World Meeting of Families

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Evangelization and Catechesis Office has announced Masses and events planned in West Virginia this summer to celebrate the World Meeting of Families.

Daniel Maul, director of the office, made the announcement earlier this week saying the diocese

will celebrate Pope Francis' call for meetings of families across the world, in all dioceses, with days of celebration from June 22-26.

"Each day will be celebrated with a Mass, a reception, and speakers who will present talks on the intersection of our Catholic faith and issues pertaining to marriage and family life: parenting, sexuality, divorce, and health,"

Maul said in an e-mail to all parishes and priests.

The celebration begins in Charleston at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart with Bishop Mark Brennan presiding at Mass at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22. Speakers and a reception will follow. On Thursday, June 23, the faithful will gather at St. Leo Parish in Inwood. Father Alfred

Obiudu, pastor of St. Leo's will preside at a 6 p.m. Mass, and speakers and a reception will again follow.

"Our parish feels honored and delighted to be one of the five hosting sites for our diocesan celebration of the 'World Meeting of Families,'" Father Obiudu said. "A celebration which not only honors the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis'

See "Plans" on Page 3

Celebrating Marriage



Colleen Rowan Photo

World Marriage Day "honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family and salutes the beauty of faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily married life." These words were posted on the Facebook page of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling for World Marriage Day. To celebrate, all married couples present at Masses the weekend of Feb. 12-13 received a special blessing. Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, J.C.L., vice rector of the cathedral, bestows the blessing upon the married couples at the 10:30 a.m. Mass Feb. 13, World Marriage Day.

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2022 Lenten Liturgical Guidelines

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

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

Lent begins with the celebration of Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022 ends with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022.

Because COVID-19 is still present as well as other communicable illnesses (cold, influenza, etc.), core respiratory illness prevention strategies should continue. These include mask wearing, good hand hygiene, vaccination, and staying home when sick.

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 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.

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.

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion

Saturday, March 5, 11 a.m. – Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling

Sunday, March 6, 3 p.m. – Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston

Sunday, March 13, 4 p.m. – St. James the Greater Church, Charles Town

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."



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 18, Vol. 53, 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.



Published 24 times per year. All issues sent to each registered Catholic household free of charge. Donations to help offset the cost of producing The Catholic Spirit are welcomed. Out-of-diocese subscriptions are \$25 annually. The Catholic Spirit intends its news reports to be fair and accurate in every regard. The opinions of correspondents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Catholic Spirit. Submission of news releases, stories and color photos welcomed and encouraged. Not responsible for unsolicited material.

Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin
Sunday Mornings

6:30 WOWK 13	Huntington - Charleston
6:30 WTOV FOX 9	Wheeling-Steubenville
8:00 WBOY NBC 12	Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
11:00 WDVM 25	Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

Plus watch episodes online at - mydailyliving.com

Catholic Schools from Wheeling to Weirton Will Gather for a Lenten Reflection at Cathedral

WHEELING—On Sunday, March 6, the Catholic Schools in the Upper Ohio Valley (from Wheeling to Weirton) will gather for a Lenten Reflection. This collaborative ministry will include choir members from each of the schools....one voice, on a journey together.

Readings, narratives, dramatic interpretations and opportunities for reflection will encourage those in attendance to pray and think about the importance of Lent as a time to transform minds and hearts.

This Lenten Reflection is open to all school families, parishioners,

neighbors, friends and members of the community. It will be held at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling.

“This is a beautiful way to journey through Lent and ignite the HOPE in our hearts for a Blessed Easter season. LORD, LET ME WALK.”



Plans...

Cont'd from Page 1

encyclical, 'Amoris Laetitia,' and concludes the Year of 'Amoris Laetitia Family,' but also provides an opportunity, at all levels of the church, to look at many challenges families face today in living out the Catholic faith. With open arms, we welcome everyone coming to our parish ... for this memorable event, and pray God's guidance and protection of our families."

The celebration will continue Friday, June 24, at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston with Msgr. Samuel Sacus presiding at Mass at 6 p.m., with speakers and a reception to follow. Msgr. Sacus is priest in residence at the basilica co-cathedral.

On Saturday, June 25, a special outdoor fest will be held at St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School in Morgantown. There will also be Mass, confessions, adoration, music, speakers, activities for kids, and food.

"I commend any endeavor to revitalize a sense of belonging to the church today," said Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, designated pastor of

the school and pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Morgantown. "The World Meeting of Families can be a real boost for our communities in gathering us at the Altar of the Lord and learning the depths of his love for us and then sharing that love with our world."

The diocese's celebration will culminate on Sunday, June 26, in Wheeling with Bishop Brennan presiding at Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 3 p.m. Speakers and a reception will follow.

Bishop Brennan noted the diocese's upcoming gatherings for World Meeting of Families in his Feb. 4 Pastoral Letter on Marriage and Family Life. In the letter, he speaks of the need for the church to help married couples and families.

"Marriage and family life are the way God calls most of His children to live out their baptismal vocation, so it always deserves our attention but all the more so in our times, when the nature of marriage and the given-ness of sexual identity are challenged by dominant forces in our society," the bishop says in his letter. "There is a radical sanity in the Catholic under-

standing of marriage and family life, which is a lifeline for a society floundering in a sea of uncertainty about these fundamental relationships."

To read the bishop's letter in full, see Pages 3 and 4 of the Feb. 4 issue of The Catholic Spirit in print or online at: thecatholicspiritwv.org/download/spirit_pdf/February-4-2022.pdf

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops website notes that in place of the public worldwide gathering, the Vatican is strongly encouraging that all dioceses, with their local bishops, celebrate the World Meeting by gathering families for a customized, local experience of formation, prayer, and fellowship. Maul invited all to participate in the upcoming celebrations across West Virginia this summer.

"Please join us for any or all of these days of celebrating our faith, our marriages, and our families in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston," Maul said.

For more information, contact Jeanne McKeets at the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, at (304) 233-0880, ext. 374, or by e-mail to jmckeets@dwc.org.



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Pope, Cardinal Look at What Ails the Priesthood, Offer Antidotes

By **Cindy Wooden,**
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)

— Opening an international conference on priesthood, Pope Francis insisted that those who are not close to God in prayer, close to their bishop and other priests and immersed in the lives of their people are simply “clerical functionaries’ or ‘professionals of the sacred.’”

“A priest needs to have a heart sufficiently ‘enlarged’ to expand and embrace the pain of the people entrusted to his care while, at the same time, like a sentinel, being able to proclaim the dawning of God’s grace revealed in that very pain,” the pope said Feb. 17 as he opened the conference in the Vatican audience hall.

With some 500 people attending in person and hundreds more online, the Feb. 17-19 symposium was organized by Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, and aimed at renewing a theological understanding of Catholic priesthood.

The cardinal told participants he understood how people could wonder about the purpose of such a conference given “the current historical context dominated by the drama of sexual abuse perpetrated by clerics.”

“Should we not rather refrain from talking about the priesthood when the sins and crimes of unworthy ministers are on the front pages of the international press for betraying their commitment or for shamefully covering up for those guilty of such depravity?” he said they could ask. “Shouldn’t we rather keep silent, repent and look for the causes of such misdeeds?”

A discussion of priesthood today, he said, must

begin with expressing “our sincere regret and asking again for forgiveness from the victims, who suffer for their lives destroyed by abusive and criminal behavior, which has remained hidden for too long and treated lightly out of a desire to protect the institution and the perpetrators instead of the victims.”

But looking at the priesthood, including ways that it has been distorted by clericalism, could help the church truly turn a new page, Cardinal Ouellet said.

Clericalism, he said, involves “a set of phenomena — abuse of power, spiritual abuse, abuses of conscience — of which sexual abuse is only the tip of the iceberg, visible and perverse, emerging from deeper deviations to be identified and unmasked.”

A rediscovering of the priesthood of all believers, conferred through baptism, and its relationship to the ministerial priesthood must be the starting point, he said. Beginning there also provides a way to value the role of women in the church and the gifts that they bring.

In his talk to the conference, Pope Francis did not mention the abuse crisis specifically, but instead focused on what he said he has learned in more than 50 years of priesthood and from listening to and assisting priests as a Jesuit provincial, archbishop and pope.

“It may be that these reflections are the “swan song” of my own priestly life,” the 85-year-old pope said, “but I can assure you that they are the fruit of my own experience.”

He insisted, as he often has told priests, that “closeness” is essential to their ministry and identity: closeness to God in prayer, closeness to their bishop or



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

Pope Francis holds the text of his opening talk as he concludes his address at an international symposium on the priesthood at the Vatican Feb. 17. Also pictured is Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops.

superior, closeness to other priests and, especially, closeness to the people of God.

Proximity, he said, allows the priest “to break all temptations of closure, self-justification and of living like a ‘bachelor.’”

Closeness in all four areas allows priests “to manage the tensions and imbalances that we experience daily,” the pope said. They are not “an extra assignment,” but “a gift” that the Lord gives “to keep the vocation alive and fruitful.”

Closeness to God and closeness to the people are intimately and intrinsically linked, he said, “since the prayer of a shepherd is nurtured and becomes incarnate in the heart of God’s people. When he prays, a pastor bears the marks of the sorrows and joys of his people, which he presents in silence to the Lord.”

At a time when many people experience a growing sense of being “orphaned,” Pope Francis said,

a pastor who is close to his people knows how to gather them and form a community where people, including priests, grow in their sense of belonging.

“This sense of belonging will in turn prove an antidote to the distortion of vocation that happens whenever we forget that the priestly life is owed to others — to the Lord and to the persons he has entrusted to us,” he said. “Forgetting this is at the root of clericalism and its consequences.”

“Clericalism is a distortion because it is based not on closeness but on distance,” the pope said.

The church is and is meant to be a community of believers who help one another, share each other’s burdens, rejoice with each other and work together to proclaim the Gospel, he insisted.

Pope Francis cited the African proverb, “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go with others,” and told conference participants that

while “sometimes it seems that the church is slow — and that is true — I like to think of it as the slowness of those who have chosen to walk in fraternity.”

Priests need to be “clear” and honest about how much envy exists within their ranks and how destructive it is, he said. “And there are also clerical forms of bullying.”

But “when priestly fraternity thrives and bonds of true friendship exist, it likewise becomes possible to experience with greater serenity the life of celibacy,” Pope Francis said. “Celibacy is a gift that the Latin church preserves, yet it is a gift that, to be lived as a means of sanctification, calls for healthy relationships, relationships of true esteem and true goodness that are deeply rooted in Christ.”

“Without friends and without prayer,” he said, “celibacy can become an unbearable burden and a counter-witness to the very beauty of the priesthood.”

Pope Restructures the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As part of ongoing measures to reform the Roman Curia, Pope Francis has approved restructuring the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the oldest of the congregations.

Once comprised of a doctrinal office, a discipline office and a marriage office, the new structure will see the doctrinal and discipline offices become their own special sections led by their own secretaries; the marriage office will become part of the doctrinal office.

The two secretaries will serve under the congregation's prefect. Spanish Cardinal Luis Ladaria, who has been prefect of the congregation since 2017, will celebrate his 78th birthday April 19. The heads of Vatican offices are required to offer their resignations to the pope when they turn 75.

In "Fidem servare" (Preserving the Faith), pub-

lished "motu proprio," (on his own initiative) Feb. 14, Pope Francis said the main task of the congregation has been to safeguard or "keep the faith." The changes went into effect the same day. Over time, the congregation has seen modifications to its areas of responsibilities and how it is configured, and now, Pope Francis said, further change is needed "to give it an approach more suited to the fulfillment of its functions."

The doctrinal section will be responsible for matters concerning "the promotion and safeguarding of the doctrine of the faith and morals."

Its aim, the pope wrote, is to promote studies aimed at fostering "the knowledge and transmission of the faith in the service of evangelization, so that its light may be the criterion for understanding the meaning of existence, especially before questions posed by the progress of science and the develop-

ment of society." When dealing with faith and morals, the doctrinal section will examine documents to be published by other dicasteries of the Roman Curia, "as well as writings and opinions that appear problematic for the correct faith, encouraging dialogue with their authors and proposing suitable remedies," according to previously established norms. The section will also study any questions arising from personal ordinariates for Anglicans entering into full communion with the Catholic Church through the Apostolic Constitution, "Anglicanorum Coetibus."

The doctrinal section will absorb the duties covered by the congregation's marriage office, which deals with questions involving the validity of marriages when one of the spouses is not a baptized Christian.

The discipline section, through the currently existing discipline office, will handle those offenses and

crimes reserved to the congregation — particularly clerical sexual abuse cases — and its supreme tribunal. It will prepare and elaborate procedures in accordance with canon law so as to "promote a correct administration of justice."

To that end, the discipline section will promote needed formation initiatives that the congregation can offer to bishops, dioceses and canon lawyers "to promote a correct understanding and application of canonical norms."

The congregation's archive will continue to preserve documents for consultation, including its historical archives.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is the oldest of the congregations. It began in the 16th century as a commission of six cardinals, known as the Sacred Roman and Universal Inquisition, which served as a tribunal for judging suspected cases of heresy and schism. Seeing a

number of changes over the centuries, St. Paul VI changed its name from the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office to the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and he changed its methods used for doctrinal examination. A more positive disposition of correcting errors, together with the protection, preservation and promotion of the faith prevailed over the more punitive tendency of condemnation. With changes to the Roman Curia by St. John Paul II, the congregation maintained its competence over all that in any way touches upon the doctrine of faith and morals and was explicitly given "prior judgment" over any other curial documents that enter into its area of competence.

While for decades it also handled requests for dispensations from celibacy from priests seeking laicization, that responsibility later was given to the Congregation for Clergy.

Pope Amends Canons to Give Greater Authority to Bishops, Conferences

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Saying he wanted to promote a "healthy decentralization" of some aspects of church life, Pope Francis made several changes to church law, granting greater authority to individual bishops, bishops' conferences and synods of bishops of the Eastern Catholic churches.

The changes, the pope said, should "foster a sense of collegiality and the pastoral responsibility" of bishops and religious superiors who are closest to the matters being decided and therefore have a better understanding of what is appropriate.

Pope Francis' amendments to both the Code of Canon Law of the Latin-rite church and the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches were published by the Vatican Feb. 15, the day they were to go into effect.

The modifications, the pope said, "reflect even more the shared and plural universality of the church," which includes many legitimate differences, but preserves its unity in communion with the pope.

At the same time, he wrote, the changes "encourage a more rapid ef-

ficacy of the pastoral action of governance by the local authority, which is facilitated by its very proximity to the persons and situations which require it."

For setting up an interdiocesan seminary, drafting a program for the formation of priests or publishing a national catechism, with the new law the bishop or bishops' conferences involved simply need to obtain a "confirmation" from the Vatican and are no longer required to seek the "approval" of the Vatican.

In church law, "approval," as opposed to "confirmation," entails a greater commitment and involvement" of the Roman Curia. "Therefore, it is evident that the shift from requiring 'approval' to requiring 'confirmation' is not only a terminological change, but a substantial one, which moves precisely in the direction of decentralization," Bishop Marco Mellino, a member of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, told Vatican News Feb. 15.

In another change, Pope Francis gave local bishops the authority to determine when there is "a just and necessary cause" for reducing the number of Masses to be said in fulfill-

ment of a will or legacy left to the church. Previously such a decision was reserved to the Vatican.

Bishop Mellino told Vatican News the law still insists that donations left to the church be used for the donor's intentions, but recognizes that over time, especially if the money was left decades ago, adjustments may be necessary.

Pope Francis also added a new paragraph to the canon dealing with consecrated virgins to make clear

that a bishop may establish an association for consecrated virgins in his diocese and a bishops' conference may do the same on the national level.

In addition, he gave religious superiors, when acting in consultation with their councils, broader authority for authorizing long absences from the community or for dismissing or accepting a request of a member with temporary vows to leave the community permanently.

In honor of Father McGivney's Beatification.....

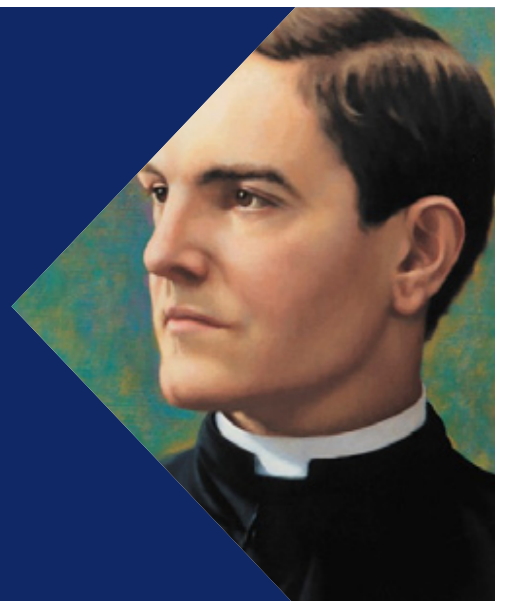
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Love, Protect the Church Despite Its Faults, Pope Says

By Junno Arocho Esteves,
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The same love that gave St. Joseph the strength to protect Jesus and Mary must inspire Christians to love the church, especially when calling out its sins and flaws, Pope Francis said.

Love “makes us capable of speaking the truth fully in a nonpartisan way; of saying what is wrong but also of recognizing all the goodness and holiness that are present,” the pope said Feb. 16 during his weekly general audience.

“Nowadays it is common, it is an everyday occurrence, to criticize the church, to point out its inconsistencies — and there are many — to point out its sins, which in reality are our inconsistencies, our sins, because the church has always been a people of sinners who encounter God’s mercy,” the pope said. “Let us ask ourselves if, in our hearts, we love the church.”

Reflecting on St. Joseph as the patron of the universal church, the pope said he was concluding his series of audience talks about the foster father of Jesus.

The Gospel stories involving St. Joseph note that he takes Jesus and Mary with him and obeys God’s commands, thus highlighting his role as their protector, the pope said.

Departing from his prepared remarks, he added that “a very beautiful aspect of the Christian vocation” is protecting life and “protecting human development.”

“The Christian is — we may say — like St. Joseph: he or she must protect,” he said. “To be a Christian is not only about receiving the faith, confessing the faith, but protecting life, one’s own life, the life of others, the life of the church.”

Christians, he continued, “must always ask ourselves whether we are protecting with all our strength Jesus and Mary, who are mysteriously entrusted to our responsibility, our care, our custody.”

St. Joseph, “in continuing to protect the church, continues to protect the child and his mother, and we too, in loving the church, continue to love the child and his mother,” he said.

Loving the church, he added, means protecting and walking with all its members.

“The church is not that small group that is close to the priest and bosses everyone around; no. We all are the church, all of us,” he said. “This is a good question: when I have a problem with someone, do I try to protect them or do I immediately condemn them, speak ill of them, destroy them? We must protect, always protect!”

Pope Francis encouraged Christians to seek St. Joseph’s intercession, especially in “the most difficult times in your life and the life of your communities.”

“Where our mistakes become a scandal, let us ask St. Joseph to give us the courage to speak the truth, ask for forgiveness and humbly

begin again. Where persecution prevents the Gospel from being proclaimed, let us ask St. Joseph for the strength and patience to endure abuse and suffering for the sake of the Gospel,” the pope said.

St. Joseph’s intercession, he added, is also a source of comfort for the poor and the suffering and

an encouragement for those “who serve the least, the defenseless, the orphans, the sick, the rejected of society.”

“How many saints have turned to him! How many people in the history of the church have found in him a patron, a guardian, a father!” the pope said.



CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH
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FRIDAY, MARCH 18
An Evening of Music and Prayer ~ **7 p.m.**
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Pastoral Center (light reception will follow)

SATURDAY, MARCH 19
Celebration to Close the
Diocesan Observance of the Year of St. Joseph
Arrive and Check-In ~ **9:30 a.m.**
Prayer/Adoration/Confessions ~ **10 a.m.**
Reflections on Saint Joseph/Tours of the Basilica ~ **11 a.m.**
Boxed Lunch ~ **12:30 p.m.**
Session 3: Reflections on Saint Joseph ~ **1:15 p.m.**
Music Program/Concert ~ **2 p.m.**
Closing Mass with Bishop Mark Brennan ~ **3 p.m.**

Please register at www.dwc.org/pilgrimage or by scanning the QR code.

Overnight accommodations available at Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center
located at 100 Hodges Road, Charleston. Please call 304-342-0507.

The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart is located at 1114 Virginia Street East, Charleston



Erin Sikora Reflects on 16 Years as Principal of St. Francis of Assisi School in St. Albans

By Colleen Rowan

After 16 years as principal of St. Francis of Assisi School in St. Albans, Erin Sikora has announced her retirement. Remembering fondly her time at the school, she shared that she has been part of SFS since 1992 when her family moved to St. Albans.

"In the 90s I volunteered as a librarian, on hot dog days, as a tutor, and was the PTO treasurer," Sikora said. "All three of my children attended the school."

In 2006, Father Patrick McDonough, pastor of the school and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in St. Albans, invited her to take on the role of principal.

"I felt like I was home," Sikora recalled. "I threw myself into the administration of the school and loved every minute."

When she began as principal, the school had 114 students. Sixteen years later, SFS averages 170 students.

"The school grew because of the outstanding faculty and staff, state of the art technology, use of cur-



Erin Sikora

rent teaching methods, adding two county preschool classes, and third-party funding," she said. "The students and families love the Christian family atmosphere and the caring, faculty and staff. The school is a treasure!"

SFS's Office Manager and Advancement Director Kelly Oxley began working with Sikora 12 years ago and now considers her a close friend. Sikora has taught her a lot, Oxley said, most importantly lessons that are

unforgettable. Oxley will also not forget the example that her friend has shown as principal "who has fully devoted herself to the families and children of St. Francis of Assisi over the years, inside and outside of the school."

"She puts in countless hours that are not accounted for to make sure things go as planned," Oxley said. "I will miss not seeing her with a paintbrush in her hand touching up areas throughout the building days and nights before the first day of school. I love the gentle way that she deals with the children. She's the best at getting to the bottom of a situation with a fair solution. I will be forever grateful for the years that we have spent together. I wish her the best on her new traveling adventure with her husband and family. I will miss her dearly."

Sikora will retire at the end of this school year, and when that time comes it will be the students that she will have a hard time saying goodbye to.

"I will miss seeing the children," she said, "listening to their imaginative stories, and especially greeting them each morning as they enter the school. Children are so innocent and honest and speak from the heart; they often make me laugh. I will miss a first grader who gives me a daily post-it note of encouragement. She writes me messages, such as 'Good job, Mrs. Sikora' at the end of each day."

She continued saying she will also miss her wonderful colleagues and friends.

"Mrs. Kelly Oxley and Father Pat are the administration team whom I have had the pleasure to work

with closely and I will miss them dearly," she said.

"I feel so blessed to have been given this opportunity to serve the children, families, faculty and staff and parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi," she shared. "I know the Lord will continue to protect and bless SFS as well as the people within its walls."

After her husband retired two years ago, she said, they purchased a camper to travel the country. They are camp hosting at Assateague Island, Md., for a month this summer and hope to camp host in national parks out west, she said, adding that she will also be assisting her parents and babysit for grandchildren.

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Discernment Retreats for Young Women to be Held

For young women seeking to discover God's will for their lives in their vocation, the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus offer Pre-consecrated Life Discernment Retreats for young women up to age 33.

"It is an opportunity to set time aside to be with the Lord in the Eucharist and discover the beauty of a total consecration to God through talks, prayer, testimonies, Holy Mass, the liturgy and silence," retreat organizers said. "These retreats are recommendable for any stage of the journey, whether you have just begun to consider the call or if you have been considering the vocation for some time. You have nothing to lose and the greatest love to encounter."

The retreats are offered three times a year at the congregation's Marian Fountain of Living Faith Novitiate in Steubenville, Ohio. The next two dates are: March 25-27, and Oct.14-16.

For more information or to register via phone, call (740) 346-2625.

"May Our Lady of the Sacred Heart show herself your mother and guide to reach the fullness of life for which you were created!" retreat organizers said.

Applications Being Accepted for Father Mark T. Gallipeau Scholarship

ELKINS—The Knights of Columbus Council 603 is pleased to announce the 2022 Father Mark T. Gallipeau High School Scholarship.

The scholarship was established through the vision of the Elkins Council and is offering (1) scholarship to an active Catholic high school senior. Applications are open to all active members of Holy

Rosary Parish in Buckhannon, St. Patrick Parish in Coalton, and St. Brendan Parish in Elkins.

The deadline for applications is April 22. To download a copy of the scholarship information and application, go to the St. Brendan webpage at stbrendanwv.weebly.com and click on the scholarship link on the home page.

Adult Catechesis Now Available For All at St. Stephen's in Ona

ONA—At the suggestion of Father George, pastor of St. Stephen Parish in Ona, bi-monthly Adult Catechesis "Faith Refresher" session began Feb. 6 facilitated by John Patrick Grace. The sessions will correspond to time allotted for the G.I.F.T. children's catechesis and are being held primarily to benefit parents of the G.I.F.T.s children. Nonetheless all St. Stephen parishioners are invited to participate. A growing number of Catholic parishes around the country are offering such sessions.

Patrick Grace is a former seminarian who later covered the Vatican for The Associated Press and served two years as religion editor for The Greensboro (N.C.) News and Record. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Catechesis degree program (online) with Catholic University of America.

The Adult sessions will focus on the essentials of the Catholic faith—the three creeds we use (Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian), the formation of the early church and the canon of scripture, the scriptural bases for the seven sacraments, precepts of the church, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, and more. Methods: handouts with outlines, and discussion. More info: Patrick Grace publishersplace@gmail.com or (304) 617-1292.



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Students ‘Stuff the Bus’ for Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling



Courtesy Photo
Pictured are provisions collected through the “Stuff the Bus” campaign.



Courtesy Photo
Students from St. Michael Parish School in Wheeling are pictured at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling after dropping off provisions collected through the “Stuff the Bus” campaign.

As a Catholic Schools Week service initiative, St. Michael Parish School in Wheeling has been running a “Stuff the Bus” campaign to benefit the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling. The collection concluded Feb. 14.

“We collected personal hygiene items and cleaning supplies (the great-

est current need at the center),” school officials said. “Together, and with a little help from our friends at Central Catholic High School, we took 1,343.5 pounds of donations down to the Neighborhood Center!

“This was an amazing service project that our students truly enjoyed.”



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July 3rd – July 9th, Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.

July 10th – July 16th, Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.

July 17th – July 23rd, A “catch all week” from 3rd grade through 12th grade.

July 24th – July 30th, “A Camp Carlo Summer Vacation” free program for 7-12 year olds who receive support from the government or Catholic Charities.

Contact Assistant Director, Sadie Shields, for more information: sshields@dwc.org or 1 (304) 476-9015



Synod listening sessions are in full swing across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston for the faithful to engage in sharing about Church life. Bishop Mark Brennan and our parish priests encourage everyone to be alert to their parish's routine means of communication, such as bulletins, websites, social media pages, and emails, which will announce specific details about their local synod process.

Find a listening session near you at: dwc.org/synod-sessions/

Synod Listening Sessions Continue Across WV



Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston: Fourth Session—Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m.; Fifth Session—Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling: Feb. 28, 6-8 p.m. in the Chancery Lobby; March 8, 1-3 p.m. in Columbia Hall at St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling

Holy Redeemer, Spencer: First Session—March 20, 10 a.m.; Second Session—March 27, 10 a.m.

Holy Spirit, Monongah: First Session—Feb. 19, 5 p.m.; Second Session—Feb. 20, 10 a.m.; Third Session—Feb. 26, 5 a.m.; Fourth Session—Feb. 27, 10 a.m.

Immaculate Conception, New Cumberland: First Session—March 6, 9:30 a.m.; Second Session—March 11, 6 p.m.; Third Session—March 20, 9:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Peace, Wheeling: First Session—Feb. 17, 7 p.m.; Second Session—Inclement weather date, Feb. 24.

Sacred Heart, Bluefield: First Session—March 27, 10 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Princeton: First Session—March 20, 12:30 p.m.

St. Anthony, Charleston: Second Session; Feb. 21, 1 p.m.; Third Session—March 12, 10 a.m.; Fourth Session—April 3, 11:40 a.m.

St. Anthony, Follansbee: First Session—Feb. 28

St. Augustine, Grafton: First Session—March 27, 10 a.m.-noon

St. Bernadette, Hedgesville: First Session—March 2, 10 a.m.-noon; Second Session—March 3, 6-8 p.m.

St. Brendan, Elkins: Second Session—Feb. 20, after 11 a.m. Mass

St. Edward, Terra Alta: First Session—March 6, 2 p.m.

St. Elizabeth, Elizabeth: First Session—March 13, 1 p.m.; Second Session; If needed, April 3, 1 p.m.

St. Elizabeth, Phillipi: First Session—April 3, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown: Second Session—Feb. 19 after 5:15 p.m. Mass; Third Session—March 8, 10 a.m.

St. Francis Xavier, Parkersburg: Third Session—Feb. 20, 11:30 a.m.; Fourth Session—March 16, noon; Fifth Session—March 26, 1 p.m.

St. James, Charles Town: First Session—March 5, 1 p.m.

St. James, McMechen: Third Session—Feb. 23.

St. John the Evangelist, Wellsburg: Third Session—Feb. 19, 5 p.m.; Fourth Session—Feb. 24, 7 p.m.

St. Joseph, Martinsburg: First Session—Feb. 26, 2-4 p.m.; Second Session—Feb. 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

St. Leo, Inwood: First Session—March 11, 5-7 p.m.; Second Session: March 25, 5-7 p.m.; Third Session—April 3, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; Fourth Session—Virtual Session—TBA

St. Luke the Evangelist, Morgantown: First Session—Feb. 27, 9:15-10:40 a.m.

St. Michael, Vienna: First Session—Feb. 27, 10 a.m.; Second Session make up date, March 13, 10 a.m.

St. Patrick, Hinton: Second Session—Feb. 15, 6-8 p.m.

St. Patrick, Coalton: First Session—Feb. 6, after 8:30 a.m. Mass; Second Session—Feb. 20, after 8:30 a.m. Mass

St. Peter, Farmington: First Session—March 20, following Sunday Mass

St. Peter the Fisherman, Fairmont: Second Session—Feb. 20, 11:45 a.m. and 2 p.m.; Third Session—March 6, 11:45 a.m. and 2 p.m.; Fourth Session—March 20, 11:45 a.m. and 2 p.m.

St. Sebastian, Kingwood: First Session—March 20, 2 p.m.

St. Thomas, Gassaway: First Session—March 13, 12:15 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs: Fourth Session—Feb. 23, 2 p.m.; Fifth Session—March 1, 6:30 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling: Second Session—Feb. 16; Third Session Inclement weather date, Feb. 20

St. Vincent de Paul, New Martinsville: First Session—Feb. 11, 6-8 p.m.

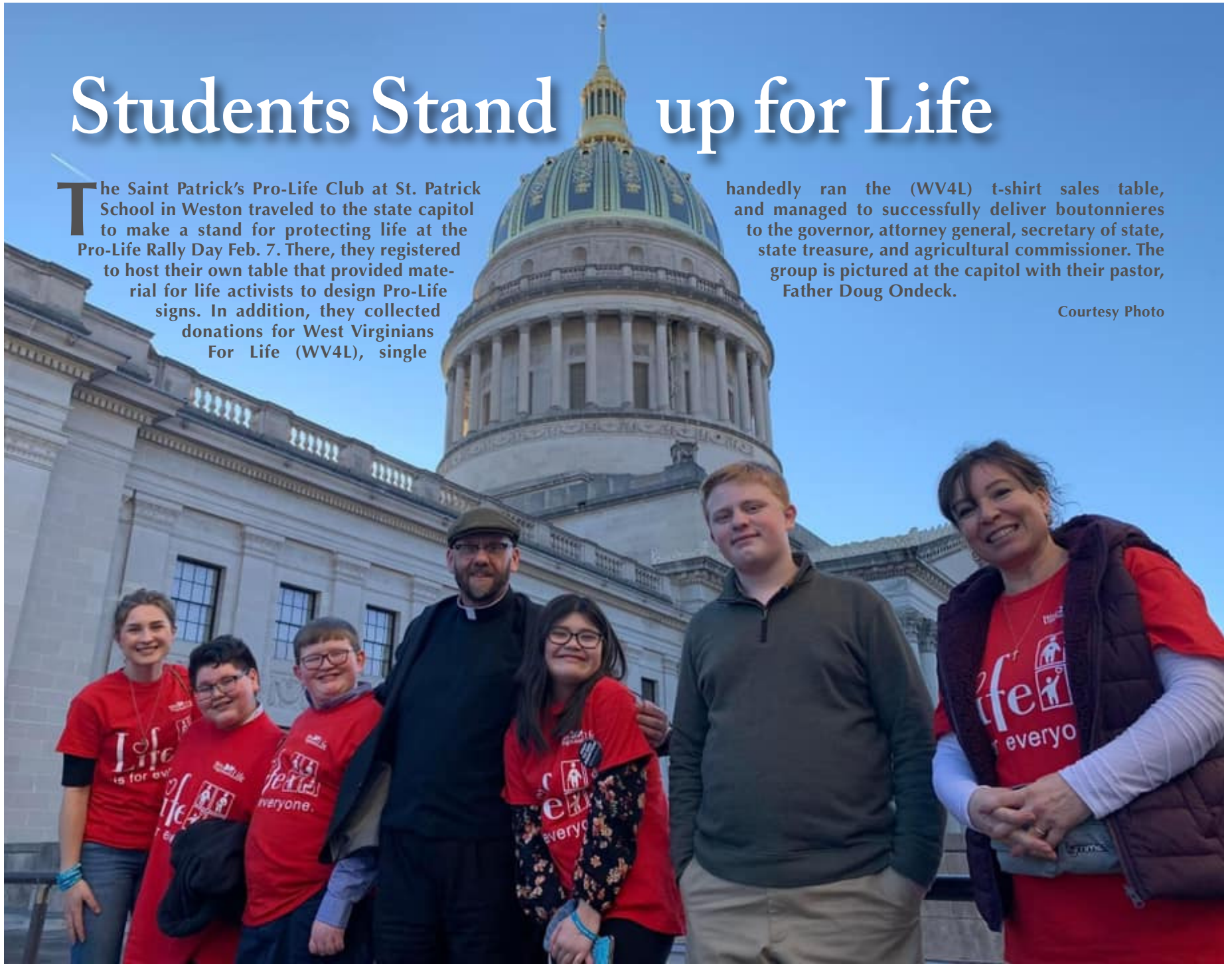
St. Zita, Masontown: First Session—March 13, 2 p.m.

Students Stand up for Life

The Saint Patrick's Pro-Life Club at St. Patrick School in Weston traveled to the state capitol to make a stand for protecting life at the Pro-Life Rally Day Feb. 7. There, they registered to host their own table that provided material for life activists to design Pro-Life signs. In addition, they collected donations for West Virginians For Life (WV4L), single

handedly ran the (WV4L) t-shirt sales table, and managed to successfully deliver boutonnieres to the governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasure, and agricultural commissioner. The group is pictured at the capitol with their pastor, Father Doug Ondeck.

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Confirmation Schedule

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

- March 23: Our Lady of Peace, Wheeling, 6 p.m.
- April 2: Annunciation of Our Lord, Fort Ashby, 4:30 p.m.
- April 23: St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown, 5:15 p.m.
- April 26: St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling, 6 p.m.
- April 27: St. John the Evangelist, Wellsburg, 5:30 p.m.
- April 28: Corpus Christi, Wheeling, 6 p.m.
- April 30: St. Alphonsus, Wheeling, 5:30 p.m.
- May 1: Combined Confirmation: Sacred Heart, Chester, and Immaculate Conception, New Cumberland, 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart, Chester
- May 3: St. Michael, Vienna, 6 p.m.
- May 5: Combined Confirmation: Holy Trinity, Nitro, and St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft, 6 p.m. at St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft
- May 7: Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston, 5:30 p.m.
- May 9: St. Michael, Wheeling, 5:30 p.m.
- May 12: St. Jude, Glen Dale, 6:30 p.m.
- May 18: St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton, 6:30 p.m.
- May 19: St. Bernadette, Hedgesville, 6 p.m.
- May 20: St. Leo, Inwood, 6:30 p.m.
- May 21: St. James, Charles Town, 10 a.m.
- May 22: St. Joseph, Martinsburg, 3 p.m.
- May 28: Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg, 4:30 p.m.
- May 29: St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg, 2 p.m.
- May 31: St. Anthony, Follansbee, 6 p.m.
- June 4: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, 5 p.m.
- June 25: St. Brendan, Elkins, 5 p.m.



Birthday Milestone

Courtesy Photo

Alice Priester celebrated her 102nd birthday Feb. 2. She celebrated at her parish of St. Peter's in Farmington Feb. 6. She serves on the parish council, women's society, alter services, and is the official coffee maker for all events. Alice is a two-time cancer survivor and has two sons, Richard and Fred. She has been a great inspiration to her church. Alice is pictured above with Father Binu Emmanuel, parish administrator.

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA MISSION MOMENT

Catholic Charities Volunteers Provide Free Tax Preparation for Low-Income Families

By Trina Bartlett, CCWVa Eastern Regional Director

The Catholic Charities West Virginia Martinsburg office is once again offering the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for low- and moderate-income taxpayers. Certified Catholic Charities volunteers must pass several tests before they can prepare and file taxes.

While taking tests and doing taxes might not be what some people think about when they consider volunteering, our VITA volunteers keep coming back to help year after year. When asked why, here is how some responded:

“Most people find taxes a daunting challenge. In addition, if they are in the lower income brackets, they do not have the funds to afford a professional tax preparer. In the Gospels, Jesus tells us to help those in need. Since I understand the tax return process, this is a small way in which I can comply with the Gospel and help fellow citizens with this process.” - Mike Conk, 6-year VITA Volunteer

“I volunteer because it’s my turn to help. I used VITA many years ago while in the military and was so grateful for the assistance I received; now it’s time for me to return the favor.” - Jill Creigh, 7-year VITA Volunteer

“As a retired economist, one thing I know is that tax policy

is also social policy. By helping the low- and moderate-income community navigate a complex system to access their rightful tax benefits, we are doing good work.” - Jeff Hornbeck, 2-year VITA Volunteer

“As an IRS employee, I’ve always been interested in becoming a volunteer. I have wanted to use my tax knowledge and learn more about my own tax benefits, to make a difference in the community at the same time.” - Tim Beachley, 2-year VITA Volunteer

“Being a VITA Volunteer is very satisfying because it provides me a technical challenge to apply the Federal and State tax codes in a constructive manner to get working families the maximum benefits that they are allowed under the laws.” - Jim Dyer, 6-year VITA Volunteer

These volunteers help with taxes from February through the first week of April. For more information about the VITA program at the Martinsburg office, contact Eastern Regional Director Trina Bartlett at (304) 267-8837, ext. 8, or tbartlett@ccwva.org.

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



Volunteer Jim Dyer meets with a client to help prepare her taxes.

Courtesy Photo

Save the Date! ‘Pasta-bilities’ Fundraiser for CCWVa Feb. 27 in Charleston

“Pasta-bilities” on Sunday, Feb. 27, at the St. Anthony Parish Center in Charleston will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Funds raised through the event will support the vital programs and services provided by CCWVa’s Western Region.

Due to COVID restrictions, this will be a carry out lunch/dinner. Tickets are \$15. Donate items needed for the event: tomato paste, tomato juice, pasta penne, and zip closure sandwich bags.

Orders may be placed at www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org/Pastabilities2022

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Part-Time Music Director Needed

St. Leo Parish in Inwood, West Virginia, is seeking a part-time Music Director for our parish. Candidate must be available for regular parish weekend Masses (Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9 a.m.), solemnities, and other special liturgical celebrations, which include but are not limited to Confirmation, First Holy Communion, Weddings, Funerals, Christmas, Triduum, Easter, etc. Weekday hours are flexible. Responsibilities: serving as principal organist; selecting music repertoire for liturgies and collaborating with the Pastor, the Deacon and the Liturgy Committee in selecting music for the liturgical seasons; leading regular practice sessions with the choir and cantors; and working with the choir and cantors to promote a singing assembly.

Requirements: Applicant must be a proficient piano and organ player; playing the organ is not technically required but would be a plus. Applicant expected to be able to lead the choir in choral conducting as well as sing solo (when needed); possess knowledge of a variety of Catholic liturgical music (classical, traditional and contemporary) and be willing to incorporate all these musical genres in liturgy.

Resume submissions with references should be directed to Lisa Feeley, Secretary, St. Leo Catholic Church, P.O. Box 93, Inwood, WV 25428. You may also email your resume to secretary@stleo.com.

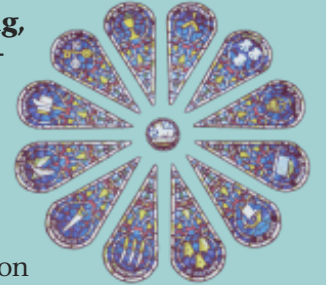
Any questions, please call the parish office at (304) 229-8945.



Principals Needed at Three Catholic Schools

St. Vincent de Paul Church, Wheeling,

West Virginia is seeking a Principal for St. Vincent de Paul Grade Catholic School, preschool through 8 grades. Candidates for principal must be willing to assume responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the school as well as assist in developing long range goals for school advancement.



We seek a leader with strong communication skills, capable of developing and maintaining an excellent academic program. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward our mission to instruct students in the Catholic faith. The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification. The candidate will have a minimum of five years of successful educational experience with a preference for administrative experience.

Salary will be competitive and negotiable, depending on qualifications and years of experience. This position begins on July 1 for the 2022-23 school year. Applications must be submitted by February 28, 2022.

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Martinsburg,

West Virginia, is seeking a principal for St. Joseph School, which has students in preschool through eighth grades. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts, and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school.



The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration, or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification. The candidate will have a minimum of five years of successful educational experience, with preference given to one with administrative experience.

A résumé with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Fr. Thomas Gallagher (tgallagher@dwc.org) by Friday, March 11, 2022.

St. Francis of Assisi Church, St. Albans,

West Virginia, is seeking a principal for St. Francis of Assisi School, preschool through 5th grade. Candidates for principal must be willing to assume responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the school as well as assist in developing long range goals for school advancement. We seek a leader with strong communication skills, capable of developing and maintaining an excellent academic program. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward our mission to instruct students in the Catholic faith. The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certificate from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.



Salary will be competitive and negotiable, depending on qualification and years of experience. This position begins on July 1 for the 2022-23 school year. Applications must be submitted by February 25, 2022.

A résumé with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Kelly Oxley at koxley@sfsww.com or mailed to St. Francis of Assisi School, Attn: Ms. Kelly Oxley, 525 Holley St, St. Albans, WV 25177

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Larry Dean, COIC

Papa: Amen y custodien a la iglesia aun con sus incoherencias

Por Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — El mismo amor que le dio a San José, la fuerza para proteger a Jesús y María, debe inspirar a los cristianos a amar a la iglesia, especialmente cuando denuncian sus pecados y defectos, dijo el papa Francisco.

El amor "nos hace capaces de decir plenamente la verdad, de forma no parcial; de decir lo que está mal, pero también de reconocer todo el bien y la santidad que están presentes", dijo el papa el 16 de febrero durante su audiencia general semanal.

"Hoy es común, es de todos los días criticar a la Iglesia, subrayar las incoherencias —hay muchas—, subrayar los pecados, que en realidad son nuestras incoherencias, nuestros pecados, porque desde siempre la Iglesia es un pueblo de pecadores que encuentran la misericordia de Dios", dijo el papa. "Preguntémonos si, en el fondo del corazón, nosotros amamos a la Iglesia así como es".

Reflexionando sobre San José como patrono de la iglesia universal, el papa dijo que estaba concluyendo su serie de charlas de audiencia sobre el padre adoptivo de Jesús.

Las historias del Evangelio que involucran a San José dicen que lleva a Jesús y María con él y obedece los mandatos de Dios, destacando así su papel como su protector, dijo el papa.

Agregó que "un aspecto muy hermoso de la vocación cristiana" es proteger la vida y "pro-

teger el desarrollo humano".

"El cristiano es, podemos decir, como San José: él o ella debe custodiar", dijo. "Ser cristiano no es solo recibir la fe, confesar la fe, sino custodiar la vida, la propia vida, la vida de los otros, la vida de la iglesia".

Los cristianos, continuó, "también nosotros debemos preguntarnos siempre si estamos protegiendo con todas nuestras fuerzas a Jesús y María, que están misteriosamente confiados a nuestra responsabilidad, a nuestro cuidado, a nuestra custodia".

"José, a la vez que continúa protegiendo a la iglesia, sigue amparando al Niño y a su madre, y nosotros también, amando a la iglesia, continuamos amando al Niño y a su madre", dijo.

Amar a la iglesia, agregó, significa proteger y caminar con todos sus miembros.

"La iglesia no es ese grupito que está cerca del sacerdote y manda a todos, no. La Iglesia somos todos, todos. En camino", dijo. "Es una bonita pregunta, esta: yo, cuando tengo un problema con alguien, ¿trato de custodiarlo o lo condeno enseguida, hablo mal de él, lo destruyo? ¿Debemos custodiar, siempre custodiar!"

El papa Francisco animó a los cristianos a pedir por la intercesión de San José, especialmente en "precisamente en los momentos más difíciles de vuestras vidas y de vuestras comunidades".

"Allí donde nuestros errores se convierten en escándalo, pidamos a san José la valentía de enfrentar la verdad, de pedir perdón y empezar de

nuevo humildemente. Allí donde la persecución impide que el Evangelio sea anunciado, pidamos a san José la fuerza y la paciencia de saber soportar abusos y sufrimientos por amor al Evangelio", dijo el papa.

La intercesión de San José, añadió, es también fuente de consuelo para los pobres y los que sufren y de aliento para los "que sirven a los más pequeños, a los indefensos, a los huérfanos, a los enfermos, a los rechazados de la sociedad".

"¡Cuántos santos se han vuelto a él! ¡Cuántas personas en la historia de la iglesia han encontrado en él un patrón, un guardián, un padre!" dijo el papa.

Anunciar con El Espíritu Católico

Póngase en contacto con Colleen Rowan en crowan@dwc.org

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños:

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

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

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

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