

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Court Blocks Vaccine Mandate for Businesses, Allows it for Health Workers

By Carol Zimmermann, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Supreme Court in a 6-3 decision Jan. 13 blocked a rule by the Biden administration that would have required employees at large businesses to show proof of a COVID-19 vaccination or wear masks and get tested each week for the coronavirus.

In a separate 5-4 decision issued the same day, the court said the vaccine mandate for most health care workers could go into effect.

The rule for employees, at businesses with more than 100 employees, was issued last fall by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which estimated the requirement would affect about 80 million workers.

OSHA also said the rule would have saved thousands of lives and prevented hundreds of thousands of people from hospitalizations.

In an unsigned opinion, the justices said what many of them had expressed in oral arguments Jan. 7 in the emergency hearing about this mandate: that the administration was overstepping its authority.

“OSHA has never before imposed such a mandate. Nor has Congress. Indeed, although Congress has enacted significant legislation addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, it has declined to enact any measure similar to what OSHA has promulgated here,” the justices wrote.

In a joint dissent, Justices Stephen
See “Court” on Page 2

Diocese Welcomes Ursuline Franciscan Sisters Who Will Serve in Fairmont

Ursuline Franciscan Sisters arrived in Fairmont from India to teach religion at Fairmont Catholic Grade School and to help in pastoral ministry at St. Peter the Fisherman Parish in Fairmont. From left are Sister Mary Kezo Setsulu and Sister Reeta Lopez; Mary Ann Deschaine, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; Bishop Mark E. Brennan, who is wearing a Naga cultural vest coat of North East India; Sister Mary Joseph, the provincial superior; and Father Joseph Konikattil, pastor of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish.

Courtesy Photo



Inside: Pope Calls for ‘Reality Check’ Against Misinformation about Vaccines, Page 5

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion Dates Announced, Page 6

Pope, Cardinal Offer Condolences to Victims of Bronx Fire that Killed 17

By Mark Pattison, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis issued condolences to families of those killed in an Jan. 9 apartment building blaze in the Bronx that killed 17 people, including eight children. Initially, city officials said the death toll was 19 people and nine children, but they revised this figure the afternoon of Jan. 10. In a Jan. 10 telegram to Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, the archdiocese where the apartment building is located, Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin said: "His Holiness Pope Francis was saddened to learn of the recent devastating fire in the Bronx in which a number of children lost their lives."

"In offering heartfelt condolences and the assurance of his spiritual closeness to those affected by this tragedy, he entrusts the victims and their families to the merciful love of almighty God and invokes upon all consolation and strength in the Lord," the telegram said.

The five-alarm fire injured more than 60 others, with dozens going to hospitals in critical condition. More than 200 firefighters responded to the blaze in the 19-story building. Cardinal Dolan visited the site Jan. 10 and tweeted: "It doesn't get worse than what we witnessed in New York yesterday at that tragic fire in the Bronx. I'm visiting the scene with the fire companies that responded so that I might see how the church can assist. Thank God for the @FDNY." St. Simon Stock-St. Joseph Parish, which serves the Bronx neighborhood where the apartment building is located, celebrated a special Mass the evening of Jan. 10 for the deceased and all affected by the tragedy. An interfaith prayer vigil also took place that evening near the apartment complex. Carmelite Father Michael Kissane, parish pastor, reported that the church is located one block from the apartment building.

The apartment complex was home to a large number of Gambian immigrants, many of whom are Muslims. Only one registered family from the parish lived in the building. They lost everything in the fire, the priest said, and are now staying with a family member in New Jersey.

Brooklyn Bishop Robert J. Brennan, who was born in the Bronx, said in a Jan. 10 statement that he was "filled with much sadness and heartache" in the wake of the fire.

"I stand in solidarity with our city on behalf of my brothers and sisters of the Fordham Heights community who have been impacted. I remember in my prayers the 17 lives lost and ask God to heal those who have been injured," he said.

The bishop also thanked all the first responders, especially local police and firefighters who "were on the scene within minutes and saved many lives." He said he was "grateful for the efforts of the government agencies and local organizations, who are standing alongside the displaced families assisting them in recovery." An early indication was that a space heater may have set off the fire in the 120-unit building. New York City Fire Commissioner Louis Nigro said victims were found "on every floor, in stairways."

The building, Twin Parks North West, was built in 1972. One person who escaped the fire said it had interior stairways, but no exterior fire escapes.

It was the second U.S. apartment fire in less than a week that claimed double-digit casualties. A dozen fatalities were reported from a Philadelphia apartment fire Jan. 5, eight of them children.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York has set up a page where people can give donations to help the fire victims here: <https://bit.ly/3GhoCOg>.

Contributing to this story was Greg Shemitz in New York and The Tablet, diocesan newspaper of Brooklyn.

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.

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."

Court ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Breyer, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor disagreed, saying the government agency was acting within its authority, unlike the nation's high court, which they described as "lacking any knowledge of how to safeguard workplaces" while it remained "insulated from responsibility for any damage it causes."

The three justices disputing the court's ruling for businesses said that "in the face of a still-raging pandemic, this court tells the agency charged with protecting worker safety that it may not do so in all the workplaces needed."

They also said the court was undercutting the ability of federal officials to "protect American workers from grave danger."

The OSHA rule for large businesses had been challenged by several states and businesses, and lower courts had initially stopped the requirement from moving forward.

In lifting a stay on the regulation, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit had called the OSHA rule an "important step in curtailing the transmission of a deadly virus."

In its separate decision on health care workers Jan. 13, the Supreme Court said the requirement that these workers — who treat Medicare and Medicaid patients and need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 — could go into effect.

That requirement, which has medical and religious exceptions, had been blocked for 24 states by two federal appeals courts.

Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, who were among the four dissenting from the majority, wrote that the "challenges posed by a global pandemic do not allow a federal agency to exercise power that Congress has not conferred upon it."



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USCCB Invites Catholics to Take Part in '9 Days for Life' Jan. 19-27

By **Catholic News Service**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The 10th annual "9 Days for Life" novena, sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, takes place this year from Jan. 19 to Jan. 27.

Catholics nationwide are invited to take part in this novena for the protection of human life.

"This pro-life novena is an opportunity for recollection and reparation in observation of the anniversary of Roe v. Wade — the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States," said a news release. "The overarching intention of the novena is the end to abortion."

Novenas in the Catholic Church consist of prayers or actions over nine successive days. Each day of "9 Days for Life" has a prayer intention accompanied by a reflection, educational information and suggested daily actions "to help build a culture of life," according to the 9daysforlife.com website.

All are invited to sign up at the website to receive the novena in English or Spanish via email or text message or access it online. Participants can share their pro-life witness and invite their social networks to pray on social media with the hashtag #9DaysforLife.

A resource kit is available and features the daily prayer intentions and reflections, among other materials.

The novena encompasses the annual Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children Jan. 22, which is the anniversary of the 1973 Roe decision.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' pro-life

committee first launched "9 Days for Life" in 2013 to mark Roe's 40th anniversary.

Here's an example of a day's intention, prayers and reflection:

For Day 1, the intention is: "May the tragic practice of abortion end." This is followed by prayers: Our Father, three Hail Marys and the Glory Be.

The reflection for the first day reads in part: "At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. The presence of an illness, disability, or other challenging situation never diminishes the value of a human life. God does not call us to perfection of appearance or abilities, but to perfection in love. ... Abortion tragically rejects the truth that every life is a good and perfect gift, deserving protection.

"Christ invites us to embrace our own lives and the lives of others as true gifts. ... May our culture experience the power of God's transforming love, that all eyes may be opened to the incredible beauty of every human life.

Participants are then asked to choose one of two reparations:

— Take a break from television and movies today. Consider spending some of that time praying with today's reflection.

— Pray the short prayer "Every Life is Worth Living," reflecting on the gift of human life.

Finally, each day offers "One Step Further." On Day 1 this "step" is a link to an article titled "Another Look at Abortion," which provides a basic overview and summarizes key points on the abortion issue to "help you be better prepared to witness to the sanctity of human life."

Speakers Announced for the 49th Annual March for Life

WASHINGTON—The March for Life Education and Defense Fund announced its full list of speakers for the 49th annual March for Life on Jan. 21. Marchers will be addressed in person by Members of Congress, Down Syndrome advocate Katie Shaw, Duck Dynasty star Lisa Robertson, actor Kirk Cameron, and other prominent pro-life leaders whose stories will inspire marchers to build a culture of life. Father Mike Schmitz, the keynote speaker for this year's March for Life Rose Dinner, will also speak at the rally.

The theme for this year's March for Life, "Equality Begins in the Womb," highlights how true equality is only possible if we recognize that children in the womb also deserve protection.

"We are delighted to welcome these incredible speakers to the March for Life," said Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life

Education and Defense Fund. "Americans everywhere know that unborn children deserve equal rights and protection under the law. We expect this year's March for Life to be historic with even higher levels of enthusiasm from participants. We are hopeful that, with *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* before the Supreme Court, 2022 will bring us much closer to building the culture of life we have all marched for since *Roe v. Wade* was tragically imposed on our nation nearly 50 years ago."

March for Life Rally Friday, Jan. 21 begins at noon ET. Speakers include: Kirk Cameron, actor & producer; Julia Letlow, United States House of Representatives (LA-05); Toni McFadden, pro-life advocate and founder of Relationship Matters; Lisa Robertson, Duck Dynasty; Father Mike Schmitz, host of "Bible in a Year" podcast; Katie Shaw, Down Syndrome advocate; Chris Smith,

United States House of Representatives (NJ-04); George Schubert, student speaker – Christendom College; Kristen Waggoner, General Counsel – Alliance Defending Freedom; and Rachel Young, registered nurse.

Matthew West, the GMA Dove Award®-winning and GRAMMY Award®-nominated artist/songwriter, will be performing at this year's Pre-Rally Concert from 11 a.m.-noon.

Students from Christendom College in Front Royal, Va. and Immanuel Lutheran High School in Alexandria, Va. will carry the banner and flags at the front of this year's march.

The 49th annual March for Life, the world's largest annual human rights demonstration, will be held on Jan. 21 in Washington, D.C.

The March for Life will share more information on its website (<https://marchforlife.org>) as the march draws closer.

Nine-Day Novena for Life on LoL Catholic Radio in West Virginia

WEST VIRGINIA—The nine-day Novena for Life which began on Jan. 12 is on LoL Radio or online at www.rdo.to/WLOL.

The novena is being prayed nine days before the March for Life in Washington.

LoL (Light of Life) Radio is on the following stations: WVUS-AM 1190 [daylight hrs] serving North Central West Virginia including Grafton, Bridgeport, Clarksburg, Fairmont, and Morgantown; W248DB FM 97.5 [24hours per day / 7days per week] serving Clarksburg Bridgeport and Fairmont; WLoL-FM 89.7 [24hours per day / 7days per week] serving Star City, Morgantown, Granville, Westover; WDWC-FM 90.7 [24hours per day / 7days per week] serving the Upper Ohio Valley, including Wheeling and Moundsville and St. Clairsville and Martins Ferry in Ohio.



Catholic Radio

304-598-0026 www.LoLradio.org

throughout West Virginia 24/7 on the internet

www.rdo.to/WLOL

Grafton Fairmont Clarksburg Bridgeport Kingwood AM 1190

Wheeling Moundsville St Clairsville FM 90.7

Clarksburg Bridgeport FM 97.5 Morgantown FM 89.7

January TEC in Charleston Cancelled

TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Retreat set for Jan. 14-17 at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston has been cancelled.

Denying Dignity of Work Is An 'Injustice,' Pope Says

By Junno Arocho Esteves,
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — St. Joseph's work as a humble carpenter serves as an example of the dignity of hard work that today is often denied to those in need, Pope Francis said.

"Many young people, many fathers and mothers experience the ordeal of not having a job that allows them to live peacefully; they just live day by day. And how often the search for work becomes so desperate that it drives them to the point of losing all hope and the desire to live," the pope said Jan. 12 during his weekly general audience.

The value of hard work, he added, is also exploited in today's world where many people, including undocumented workers, are forced to do grueling tasks for unfair wages, and children, "who should be playing," instead are "forced to work like an adult."

"They are our brothers and sisters, those who earn their living this way, with jobs that do not recognize their dignity. Let us think about this; this is happening today in the world!" he said.

Pope Francis was continuing his series of audience talks about St. Jo-

seph, reflecting on his work as a carpenter.

The work of a carpenter or woodworker at that time, the pope explained, involved not only crafting tools or furniture but also building houses. From an economic point of view, "it did not ensure great earnings."

Pope Francis said the fact that St. Joseph, as well as Jesus, practiced carpentry reminded him "of all the workers in the world, especially those who do grueling work in mines and factories" as well as "those who are exploited through undocumented work" and the "victims of labor," who are injured or die on the job because of unsafe working conditions.

He also called on Christians to remember those who are without work and who return home every day, unsuccessful in their efforts to "earn their bread."

"Earning bread is what gives you dignity and if we do not give our people, our men and women, the ability to earn bread, this is a social injustice in that place, in that nation, in that continent," the pope said. "Leaders must give everyone the ability to earn bread, because this earning gives them dignity."



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

Pope Francis speaks as he leads his general audience in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican Jan. 12.

Departing from his prepared remarks, the pope called for a moment of silent prayer for those who lost their jobs during the pandemic and for those who, "crushed by an unbearable burden, reached the point of taking their own lives."

"I would like to remember each of them and their families today. Let us take a moment of silence, remembering these men, these women, who are desperate because they cannot find work," the pope said before bowing his head in prayer.

Pope Francis called on those

present to think about what they can do "to recover the value of work" and what the church can do "so that work can be redeemed from the logic of mere profit and can be experienced as a fundamental right and duty of the person, which expresses and increases his or her dignity."

He concluded his talk with a prayer to St. Joseph recited by St. Paul VI in 1969, asking for the saint's intercession to "protect workers in their hard, daily existence" and to defend "them from discouragement."

Let us Pray,

Use me God,
show me how to give generously,
pray purposefully, and serve joyfully
for a purpose greater than myself.

Amen.



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Pope Calls for ‘Reality Check’ Against Misinformation about Vaccines

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The COVID-19 pandemic calls for an urgent reality check against baseless information and for increased efforts so everyone has access to vaccines, medicines and diagnostic tools, Pope Francis told diplomats from around the world.

He urged individuals, governments and the international community to recognize the effectiveness and importance of immunizing as many people as possible as part of fighting the pandemic, which he called a “grave moment in the life of humanity.”

“Vaccines are not a magical means of healing, yet surely they represent, in addition to other treatments that need to be developed, the most reasonable solution for the prevention of the disease,” the pope told ambassadors from the 183 countries that have diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

At his annual meeting with the diplomatic corps Jan. 10, the pope also told them that facing today’s challenges “will require humanity to join together as one great family that, starting from different viewpoints, should prove capable of finding common solutions for the good of all.”

In his speech, the pope highlighted his hopes and concerns regarding the state of the world, ongoing wars and violence, the arms trade, today’s “cancel culture,” the treatment of migrants, the importance of increased funding for education and the need to step-up efforts for universal vaccinations for COVID-19.

Recalling the passing of Archbishop Aldo Giordano, a

well-respected Vatican diplomat who died of COVID-19 in December, the pope told the ambassadors the fight against the pandemic still calls for “significant effort” by everyone — on a personal, political and international level.

Effective vaccination campaigns have decreased the risk of the “severe repercussions of the disease,” he said. “It is therefore important to continue the effort to immunize the general population as much as possible.”

Individuals have a duty to care for themselves and their health, which includes “respect for the health of those around us,” he said. But “sadly we are finding increasingly that we live in a world of strong ideological divides” where people let themselves be influenced by ideologies built upon “baseless information or poorly documented facts.”

“Every ideological statement severs the bond of human reason with the objective reality of things,” he said. “The pandemic, on the other hand, urges us to adopt a sort of ‘reality therapy’ that makes us confront the problem head on and adopt suitable remedies to resolve it.”

Governments can help by engaging citizens more and fostering constructive discussion, he said. “The lack of resolute decision-making and clear communication generates confusion, creates mistrust and undermines social cohesion, fueling new tensions. The result is a ‘social relativism’ detrimental to harmony and unity.”

Another area of concern, he said, is the field of multilateral diplomacy, which is undergoing “a crisis of trust” due to the reduced credibility of many institutions.

When social or govern-

mental agencies make important resolutions or decisions “without a genuine process of negotiation in which all countries have a say,” the imbalance generates disaffection toward these groups and makes them “less and less effective in confronting global challenges,” he said.

The pope also criticized a “form of ideological colonization” that “leaves no room for freedom of expression.” He said it “is now taking the form of the ‘cancel culture’ invading many circles and public institutions.”

“Under the guise of defending diversity, it ends up cancelling all sense of identity, with the risk of silencing positions that defend a respectful and balanced understanding of various sensibilities,” he said.

Effective and respectful multilateral diplomacy is possible, he said, but it calls for mutual trust, the willingness to listen and share different views and to come to agreement and walk together.

The pope lamented the ongoing conflicts or tensions in Syria, Yemen, Libya, Sudan, Ethiopia, Ukraine and Myanmar, among other places.

And he encouraged Israel and Palestine to “rebuild mutual trust and resume speaking directly to each other, in order to reach the point where they can live in two states, side by side, in peace and security, without hatred and resentment, but the healing born of mutual forgiveness.”

He told the diplomatic corps these conflicts are worsened by the abundance and ready availability of weapons. “We deceive ourselves into thinking that these weapons serve to dissuade potential aggressors.”

Autonomous weapons’ systems must come under international scrutiny and nuclear arms must be abolished, he said, saying they “are an inadequate and inappropriate means of responding to security threats” and their possession “is immoral.”

Pope Francis also called for increased funding of education, which is critical for young people’s spiritual, moral and social growth.

“It pains me, then, to acknowledge that in different educational settings — parishes and schools — the abuse of minors has occurred,” he said. “These are crimes, and they call for a firm resolve to investigate them fully, examining each case to ascertain responsibility, to ensure justice to the victims and to prevent similar atrocities from taking place in the future.”

The pope also thanked those who work to ensure that migrants “are welcomed and protected, and to support their human promotion and integration in the countries that have received them.”

Some states face great difficulties with a large influx of people, he said, and “no one can be asked to do what is impossible for them, yet there is a clear difference between ac-

cepting, albeit in a limited way, and rejecting completely.”

“There is a need to overcome indifference and to reject the idea that migrants are a problem for others” and, instead, to adopt coherent and comprehensive ways to coordinate policies on migration and asylum, the pope said.

“The issue of migration, together with the pandemic and climate change, has clearly demonstrated that we cannot be saved alone and by ourselves,” he said, calling for people to recover “our sense of shared identity as a single human family.”

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Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion Dates Announced

WEST VIRGINIA—The dates for the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion have been scheduled for 2022 in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. For your convenience, the diocese has scheduled them in three locations as has been done in the past. The dates are:

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

Currently, it is planned to be the combined rite — Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion — which means both catechumens (unbaptized) and candidates (baptized) will be asked to participate.

“However, please realize that COVID-19 is still very much a part of our reality and we at the diocese continue to closely monitor

this serious situation,” said Bernadette McMasters Kime, director of the Office of Worship and Sacraments. “If it becomes necessary to either limit the Rite to just the catechumens and godparents or to delegate this celebration within the parishes, we will alert you as soon as Bishop Brennan makes a decision. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time of pandemic.”

Fifth Annual Donald Davis Memorial Toy Drive a Success



Courtesy Photo

Pictured are toys collected for the 2021 Donald Davis Memorial Toy Drive.

The fifth annual Donald Davis Memorial Toy Drive, which provides Christmas toy gifts for children in need in the Meadow River Valley including eastern Fayette County and western Greenbrier County, was “tremendously successful,” according to Patti Burwell, a spokesperson for the toy drive.

Financial support for the fifth annual drive was provided by members of Davis’ family in the area including cousins and friends, the Greenbrier Valley Council 8689 of Knights of Columbus, McElhenney Church of Dawson; Sacred Heart churches of Rainelle and Springdale, and several individuals.

Donald Davis lived in Northern Virginia and every year at Christmas time would load up his vehicle with

new toys and bring them to the Fayette/Greenbrier area for children who would not have had a toy for Christmas otherwise.

After his passing several years ago, his family members in the area and friends began to carry on his generosity benefiting the children in the area.

In addition to toys, the Donald Davis Drive also provided new coats, toboggans, hoodies, gloves, and some gift cards to three different public schools in the eastern Fayette/western Greenbrier area.

The committee in charge emphasized its appreciation to all those who contributed to the fund and all who worked hard in wrapping and distributing the gifts to the children.

St. Joseph School Principal Retiring

MARTINSBURG—For the past three years, St. Joseph School in Martinsburg has been blessed to have Patrick Blanc as its principal. He led the school through several challenges, including a difficult economy, COVID-19 and distance learning, always with God as a guide.

His wife, Linda, is retiring in the near future from Jefferson Medical Center after a career spanning more than 43 years, and their sixth grandchild is expected to arrive in March. With those milestones on the horizon and a goal of cherishing as much time together with family as he can, Blanc will retire at the end of the 2021-22 school year.

He had a goal of serving as a Catholic school principal, an achievement he fortunately reached at SJS.

Father Thomas Gallagher will work with the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to fill the position. “We are confident that a capable, reverent and effective person will be appointed as the new principal,” and Blanc plans to serve as a mentor to the new leader, SJS officials said. He also plans to serve SJS as a substitute teacher.

Blanc has provided solid leadership, and inspired the school's staff, students and families with his kind spirit and devout faith, SJS officials said.



Patrick Blanc

South Charleston Parish to Highlight Recycling Options

SOUTH CHARLESTON—The Recycling Team at Blessed Sacrament Parish in South Charleston presents: “Be a Smart Recycler” this weekend Jan.15-16.

“We will have many displays in our gathering space next weekend to share information about recycling in the Kanawha Valley,” parish officials said Jan. 9. “We’ll have

information for South Charleston and Charleston residents as well as options for everyone else. Come learn what you can and cannot recycle and how to do it.”

The parish also encourages all who have empty toothpaste tubes, empty floss containers, or old toothbrushes to bring them in for recycling.



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Moms' Retreat Will be Held in Kearneysville

KEARNEYSVILLE—The Moms' Retreat has returned for 2022 and is set to be held at Priest Field in Kearneysville from Friday, Jan. 28 to Sunday, Jan. 30.

"This will be a wonderful weekend for Catholic moms in the (Eastern Panhandle) and beyond!" officials from St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town posted on the church's Facebook page. "Share the good news and invite your friends!"

The retreat is for women 18 and over who are moms or want to be moms, and grandmothers. "Do you desire more time in the quiet? Do you desire confession in an unhurried environment? If the answer is yes to these questions then please consider joining us at Priest Field this year for a chance to spiritually prepare us for whatever our Lord has in store for each of us," retreat organizers said.

Through the teachings of Jesus Christ and drawing upon the examples of Louisa May Alcott, Prince and Catholic priest Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, and blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, "we will have a chance to keep walking with Jesus."

On Friday evening, retreatants normally gather at Kings Plaza in Inwood for the first meal together. Attendees are encouraged to bring a snack for that evening.

Lodging and meals, except for Friday dinner, are included. The cost is \$230 for single occupancy, and \$204 for double occupancy (per person).

To register, contact Susan Kersey at skersey@stjameswv.org on or before Jan. 24. For assistance with cost for attendance, contact Ana Boné at abone@stjameswv.org on or before Jan. 24.

Notre Dame High School Presents All-School Musical Disney's 'The Little Mermaid'

CLARKSBURG—Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg proudly presents its 2021-2022 All-School Musical Disney's "The Little Mermaid" at the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center in downtown Clarksburg Friday, Jan. 14 and Saturday, Jan. 15 at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances on Saturday, Jan. 15 and Sunday, Jan. 16 at 2 p.m.

All tickets are \$10.

For more information about the musical, visit the school's Facebook page or <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/notre-dame-high-school-presents-disneys-the-little-mermaid-tickets-227798831437>.

Fathers Crenwelge and Szabo Join Eastern Catholic Priests in Blessing of Waters for Theophany at Cheat Lake



Courtesy Photo

At Cheat Lake in Morgantown on Jan. 9 Father Brian Crenwelge, pastor of St. John University Parish in Morgantown (second from left), and Father Phillip Szabo, parochial vicar of the parish (left), participated in the Eastern Catholic Blessing of the Waters for Theophany with several Eastern Catholic priests from around the area (third and fourth from left). Theophany is the Eastern Catholic feast of Epiphany, but instead of focusing on the coming of the Magi it focuses on Christ's baptism in the Jordan River. There is an Eastern tradition of blessing large bodies of water on this day. At the end of the blessing some people in attendance jumped into the water, including Father Szabo.

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SYNOD Listening Sessions

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

Ascension, Hurricane: Jan. 17, 7 p.m. – Parish Pastoral Council; Jan. 25, 7 p.m. – Parish Men

Holy Trinity, Nitro:
Fourth Session—Jan. 15 after Mass; Fifth Session—Jan. 16 after Mass

Immaculate Conception, Fairmont
Jan. 17, 1 p.m.; Jan. 20, 7 p.m.; Jan. 22, 10 a.m.; and Jan. 23, noon

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

Sacred Heart of Mary, Weirton: Third Session—Feb. 9, 1-2:30 p.m.; Fourth Session—Feb. 9, 6-8:30 p.m.

St. Anthony, Fairmont: First Session—Feb. 1, 1 p.m.; Second Session, Feb. 6, 6 p.m. after Mass; Third Session—Feb. 5, 7 p.m. after Mass; Fourth Session—Feb. 6, noon after Mass; Fifth Session—Feb. 7, 10 a.m.

St. Anthony, Follansbee: First Session—Jan. 31, 7 p.m.

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

St. Brendan, Elkins: First Session—Jan. 30, noon after the 11 a.m. Mass

St. Elizabeth, Phillipi: First Session—April 3, 2022, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales, Beckley: Third Session—Jan. 18 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass

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

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

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

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

St. Patrick, Hinton: First Session—Feb. 9, 1-3 p.m.; Second Session—Feb. 15, 6-8 p.m.

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

St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs: Third Session—Jan. 22, 10 a.m.; Fourth Session—Feb. 6, 10:30 a.m.; Fifth Session—Feb. 23, 2 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling: First Session—Feb. 6; Second Session—Feb. 16; Third Session Inclement weather date, Feb. 20



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11:00 WDVM 25	Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

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Newborn Abandonment Case Prompts Renewed Emphasis on ‘Safe Haven’ Efforts

By Tom Tracy, Catholic News Service

In 20 years of community organizing, resulting in more than 300 cases of newborns saved from infant abandonment, Floridian Nick Silverio has never actually witnessed a criminal child abandonment in progress.

Until, that is, a group of people looking through a dumpster in New Mexico Jan. 7 discovered a newborn infant boy in Hobbs near the Texas border still alive and reportedly wrapped in a dirty blanket with its umbilical cord still attached.

Surveillance video taken outside near the dumpster and recently aired on national news led police to the arrest of a teen mother, showing the moments Alexis Avila, 18, allegedly tossed a black garbage bag into the dumpster.

Police have charged the woman, who has confessed to the crime, with attempted murder and child abuse.

Avila reportedly told police she gave birth to the boy in her parents' bathroom earlier in the day and panicked. She allegedly stuffed the baby inside two plastic bags, one with other trash, and put it in the dumpster.

"She got out of the car very slowly and threw the baby in like you would throw out the trash — we have never seen that happen (on video)," said Silverio, a former information technology business owner who is the founder of A Safe Haven For Newborns near Miami.

A network of volunteers, hospitals and fire departments in Florida works to save infants from the dangers of abandonment and an almost certain death, A Safe Haven for Newborns operates a 24/7 hotline that connects mothers in crisis around the U.S. with safe and legal options for placing their children in an adoptive home.

Many state laws allow mothers — or fathers — to take an unharmed newborn up to 7 days old to a designated safe haven drop-off location such as a local hospital instead of leaving them somewhere else or doing something they will later regret.

"It was horrific, it breaks your heart to see the callousness of someone abandon a life and destroying her own — her life is over now basically," Silverio said of the New Mexico incident.

If the teen had known about a safe haven, "would she have exercised that option?" he wondered.

If she did know of it, hopefully she would have sought help, he added. "I don't know what gets into the mind of someone like that; it seems they are not connected to society and do they know that there are options for such a situation."

"I've talked to different people in the last few days who've said, 'That's terrible' and 'What a horrible person,'" he told Catholic News Service, "but the idea is to take something negative and say, 'How are we going to fix this and what are going to do about it?'"

Silverio points out that in his home state of Florida, where there is now a strong safe haven network of community agencies, including state law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, and hospitals ready to step in and prevent child abandonment, there hasn't been a single illegal child abandonment in the past two years.

Like other states, New Mexico has a safe haven law, which allows parents to leave a baby younger than 90 days at a safe location without criminal consequences.

State legislatures around the nation began to pass these laws in the early 2000s in response to reports of gruesome baby killings and abandonments, which received copious

media attention.

Avila, the New Mexico mother, reportedly told detectives that she was not aware that she was pregnant until Jan. 6 when she sought medical attention for abdominal pain and the next day unexpectedly gave birth.

"It is not just teenagers, we have had (hotline) calls from women as old as 41," said Silverio, who is a member of Christ the King Parish in Perrine, Florida, as well as the Knights of Columbus and the Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem, known as the Lazarists.

Following his wife's death in 2000, Silverio saw a magazine article about child abandonment worldwide and discerned it was God suggesting a new purpose for the remainder of his life.

In keeping with his IT roots, Silverio said A Safe Haven for Newborns has a strong presence on social media where teen mothers are likely to find them.

The organization also has developed a mobile phone app and encourages participating high school students in Florida and elsewhere to earn community service hours doing projects related to safe haven principles and the crisis of infant

abandonment.

A successful intervention means not only that a child's life is saved, allowing the child grow to adulthood, but a parent also is saved from criminal prosecution and a lifetime of guilt, while the hopes and dreams of parents waiting to adopt also are fulfilled.

"It is a huge problem for the (New Mexico) woman, who will be charged with a serious crime and (be) incarcerated and stigmatized for the rest of her life, and the child the same: He will have to live for a lifetime with the knowledge of being thrown into a dumpster."

"We are reaching out in every way we can but would we have reached (the New Mexico mother)? I don't know," Silverio said, "but we need to keep on trying."

"When a baby is left with a safe haven," he added, "they grow up and discover there are mothers who loved them enough to provide a family for them."

To learn more about A Safe Haven for Newborns and its confidential, 24/7 multilingual referral helpline, go to <https://asafehavenfornewborns.com>.

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Raising Awareness about Poverty

January is Poverty Awareness Month, a month-long initiative to raise awareness and call attention to the growth of poverty in our country.

Across the state, Catholic Charities West Virginia staff and volunteers meet people and families daily who are impacted by poverty. Since poverty looks different from one person to another, it can be challenging to recognize.

Take the “Smith” family, for example. Both parents have jobs and a stable income. And yet, they and their two children had been living with extended family because they could not afford a home of their own. They were experiencing homelessness.

Consider the actual startup cost of finding a place to rent. You need to save up a security deposit and at least your first month of rent. You also need furniture — a bed for your children and a table for your family’s meals; cleaning supplies to help keep your family healthy; dishes, bedding, and towels.

Understandably, the Smiths had trouble saving enough to get started in their own place.

Many families are faced

with similar struggles. The minimum wage in West Virginia (\$8.75/hour) means that two earners, like the Smiths, can make \$36,400 if both are working full time. Rent for a 2-bedroom apartment takes about one-third of that gross income. Once you factor in taxes, childcare, clothing, and food, there’s not much left.

The Smiths came to us during a vulnerable time. They asked for help and we met this family with dignity and compassion. In addition to helping them with their security deposit, we invited other members of the community to help out as well. The response was overwhelming and the family received a table, chairs, twin bed, full bed, sofa, dresser, bath towels, dishes, and bedding.

Living in poverty can lead to feelings of despair and hopelessness. Pope Francis, in his message for World Day of the Poor, said, “Let us ask ourselves: what is demanded of us as Christians in the face of

this reality? We are required to nurture tomorrow’s hope by healing today’s pain.” We are grateful and humbled by this call to serve!

To learn more about

Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

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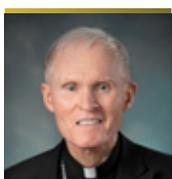
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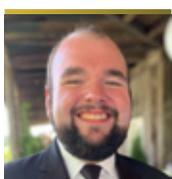
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Negar la dignidad de trabajo es una injusticia, dice el papa

Por Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — El trabajo de San José como humilde carpintero sirve como un ejemplo de la dignidad del trabajo duro que hoy en día a menudo se le niega a los necesitados, dijo el papa Francisco.

"Muchos jóvenes, muchos padres y madres viven el calvario de no tener un trabajo que les permita vivir tranquilos, solo viven el día a día. Y cuántas veces la búsqueda de trabajo se vuelve tan desesperada que los lleva al punto de perder toda esperanza y deseo de vivir", dijo el papa el 12 de enero durante su audiencia general semanal.

El valor del trabajo pesado, agregó, también se explota en el mundo actual, donde muchas personas, incluidos los trabajadores indocumentados, se ven obligados a realizar tareas agotadoras por salarios injustos, y los niños, "que

deberían estar jugando", en cambio, se ven "obligados a trabajar como un adultos."

"Son nuestros hermanos y hermanas, los que se ganan la vida así, con trabajos que no reconocen su dignidad. ¡Pensemos en esto, esto está pasando hoy en el mundo!" él dijo.

El papa Francisco continuaba su serie de charlas de audiencia sobre San José, reflexionando sobre su trabajo como carpintero.

El trabajo de un carpintero, o alguien que trabajaba la madera, en esos tiempos, explicó el papa, implicaba no solo fabricar herramientas o muebles, sino también construir casas. Desde el punto de vista económico, "no aseguraba grandes ganancias".

El papa Francisco dijo que el hecho de que San José, al igual que Jesús, practicaran la carpintería le hacían pensar en "todos los trabajadores del mundo, especialmente a los que hacen trabajos arduos en las

minas y fábricas", así como a "los que son explotados a través del trabajo indocumentado" y las "víctimas del trabajo", que se lesionan o mueren en el trabajo debido a condiciones de trabajo inseguras.

También llamó a los cristianos a recordar a aquellos que están sin trabajo y que regresan a casa todos los días, sin éxito en sus esfuerzos por "ganarse el pan".

"Ganar el pan es lo que te da dignidad y si no le damos a nuestro pueblo, a nuestros hombres y mujeres, la capacidad de ganarse el pan, esto es una injusticia social en ese lugar, en esa nación, en ese continente", dijo el papa. "Los líderes deben dar a todos la capacidad de ganarse el pan, porque ese ganarse les da dignidad".

Partiendo de sus comentarios preparados, el papa pidió un momento de oración en silencio por aquellos que perdieron sus trabajos durante la pandemia y por aquellos que, "aplastados por una carga in-

soportable, llegaron al punto de quitarse la vida".

"Me gustaría recordar a cada uno de ellos y sus familias hoy. Hagamos un momento de silencio, recordando a estos hombres, estas mujeres, que están desesperados porque no pueden encontrar trabajo", dijo el papa antes de inclinar la cabeza en oración.

El papa Francisco invitó a las personas presentes a pensar qué pueden hacer "para recuperar el valor del trabajo" y qué puede hacer la Iglesia "para que el trabajo se redima de la lógica del mero lucro y se viva como un derecho y un deber fundamental de la persona, que expresa y aumenta su dignidad".

Concluyó su intervención con una oración a San José recitada por San Pablo VI en 1969, pidiendo la intercesión del santo para "proteger a los trabajadores en su dura existencia diaria" y defenderlos "del desánimo".

Rito de Elección y Llamado a las Fechas de Conversión Continua Anunciadas

WEST VIRGINIA—El Rito de Elección y el Llamado a la Conversión Continua han sido programados para 2022 en la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston. Para su comodidad, la diócesis los ha programado en tres lugares como se ha hecho en el pasado. Las fechas son:

Sábado, 5 de marzo – 11 a. m. – Catedral de San José, Wheeling

Domingo, 6 de marzo – 3 p.m. – Basílica de la Concatedral del Sagrado Corazón, Charleston

Domingo, 13 de marzo – 4 p.m. – Iglesia de Santiago el Mayor, Charles Town

Actualmente, está previsto que sea el rito combinado - Rito de Elección y Llamado a la Conversión Continua - lo que significa que se les pedirá que participen tanto a los Catecúmenos (no bautizados) como a los Candidatos (bautizados).

"Sin embargo, tenga en cuenta que COVID-19 sigue siendo una parte muy importante de

nuestra realidad y nosotros en la diócesis continuamos monitoreando de cerca esta grave situación", dijo Bernadette McMasters Kime, directora de la Oficina de Adoración y Sacramentos. "Si es necesario limitar el Rito solo a los catecúmenos y padrinos o delegar esta celebración dentro de las parroquias, les avisaremos tan pronto como el obispo Brennan tome una decisión. Gracias por su comprensión y paciencia durante este tiempo de pandemia".

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños:

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

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

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

Full-Time Campus Minister, Shepherd University, Needed

Shepherdstown

The Campus Minister, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values articulated in the Diocesan Services' Mission Statement.

The Campus Minister's responsibilities are to plan and implement a broad program of campus ministry for the Catholic Community of students and faculty at Shepherd University based on the principles of Empowered by the Spirit and the new evangelization.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Develop and implement, in a collaborative manner, a strategic plan for campus ministry at Shepherd University; coordinate and facilitate the schedule of Masses and Sacramental ministries in collaboration with the designated priest Chaplain; develop and implement, in consultation with students and faculty, Chancery supervisor, catechetical opportunities and pastoral services including retreats, faith-sharing groups and other formational events, appropriate to the needs, concerns, and schedules of the community; manage day to day operation of the Campus Center, including buildings and properties, as well as maintain its website and social media; represent the Catholic Church on campus, becoming actively involved in the academic community building relationships and networks among faculty, staff, administration and students; form and support Catholic student groups or organizations on campus; work irregular hours including weekends and evenings; regularly communicates with and sends reports to Chancery supervisor; collaborates with the Department of Formation & Mission, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Office of Social Ministry, as well as other campus ministers in offering opportunities relevant to young adults; supervises and supports any campus ministry volunteers and committees; and recruits and supports volunteer campus peer ministers.

QUALIFICATIONS: Holds a master's degree in theology, or related field preferred; C.C.M.A. Certification preferred (or willing to pursue certification); is able to give evidence of personal commitment and witness to, and sound knowledge of, the teachings and life of the Catholic Church; has practical experience and theoretical knowledge of young adult Catholics and the special needs, concerns, and developmental tasks which are theirs; experience in and knowledge of campus life; interpersonal communication and effective presentation skills; and must possess a valid driver's license. Bi-lingual proficiency English/Spanish, a plus.

Interested candidates may forward a cover letter and resume to mwalsh@dwc.org.

Substitute Teachers Needed

Huntington

Our Lady of Fatima Parish School in Huntington is looking for energetic and motivated substitute teachers to work with students at all levels, from preschool to eighth grade. Official experience and/or a state teaching license are good, but we also welcome parents and those with informal experience. All applicants must complete the Protecting God's Children Training and background check. In this position, you will work in the absence of our regular teachers, aiding students in their daily tasks and ensuring the understanding of the subject matter being covered. If you are a friendly and competent professional interested in education, then we're interested in you.

Please apply to Our Lady of Fatima Principal, Micah O'Connor, at moconnor@olofatima.org.

Job Opening: Accounts Payable Clerk

Wheeling

The Accounts Payable Clerk, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services' Mission Statement. The Accounts Payable Clerk is responsible for preparing and processing all payments for the Finance Office and for accurately recording and maintaining all ledgers related to the accounts payable function.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Maintains all files for accounts payable and all related reports; Receives, reviews, prepares and processes vouchers for payment; enters into the computer, data for accounts payable as well as vouchers and invoices for payment; checks all vouchers for information and accuracy; compares all vouchers to the appropriate invoice; reviews pre-check register; prepares, prints and distributes checks for payment to vendors; verifies and proofs payable ledger to general ledger; schedules cash disbursements; distributes expense, charges to proper entry in the chart of accounts; interacts with persons by various means of communication and correspondence in matters related to accounts payable of the Diocese; becomes knowledgeable and familiar with the process of Automatic Clearing House (ACH) transactions; maintains master list of vendors.

QUALIFICATIONS: High School Graduate or GED; at least two years experience with bookkeeping, accounts payable/receivable functions; must be understanding of the accrual accounting method as used with accounts payable; have knowledge and prior work experience using spreadsheet applications such as Lotus, Microsoft, and Excel.

Interested party please send resume, cover letter and references to cprascik@dwc.org no later than Jan. 18, 2022.

Substitute Teacher & Certified School Counselor Needed

Morgantown

St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School in Morgantown is currently seeking qualified applicants for a LongTerm Substitute 4th Grade Teacher and Certified School Counselor (K8) positions. The longterm sub position is a temporary, fulltime position; the school counselor position will begin as part time with potential to become a fulltime position. If interested, please visit the school website: stfrancismorgantown.com, click on the "About" tab, then select "Employment" for details.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and three (3) letters of reference to Principal Moore at amoore@sfccs.org or mail/deliver to his attention at St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School, 41 Guthrie Lane, Morgantown, WV 26508



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WVU Medicine Patients Can Now be Assessed for COVID Testing Through E-Visits

MORGANTOWN—Unsure whether or not you need a COVID test? WVU Medicine patients with COVID symptoms can now schedule an e-visit through MyWVUChart to determine whether or not they need a COVID test. E-visits are a convenient way to reach a nurse navigator and eliminate the need to wait on hold to speak with someone for assessment.

Symptomatic patients who may need an order for COVID testing can now reach a nurse navigator through MyWVUChart. The nurse navigator team

will use the information provided in the e-visit to assess whether the patient meets the criteria for COVID testing.

If the patient meets the testing criteria, the team will communicate through MyWVUChart and place an order for testing at one of the WVU Medicine drive-through testing centers. Results of the test will be made available to the patient through MyWVUChart and their primary care provider as soon as they are available.

Patients can access or register for MyWVUChart

by visiting this website: MyWVUChart.com or by downloading the mobile MyChart app available for iOS and Android devices. To access, select E-visit from the main menu, and then choose the COVID-Nurse Navigator option. COVID-19 E-visits will be reviewed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The nurse navigators are not able to place testing orders related to travel or return to work.

The COVID-19 nurse navigator phone number is 304-598-6000, option 4.

Patients who need urgent or emergent medical



Courtesy Photo

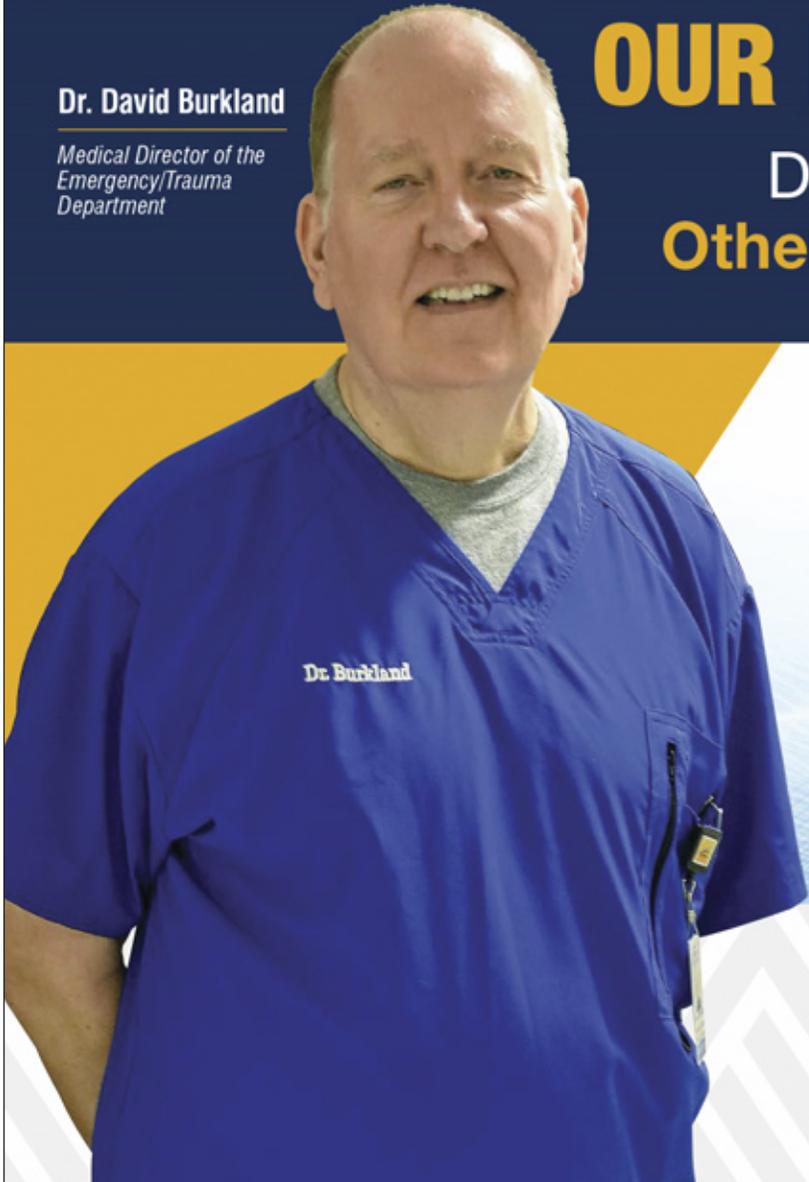
care should not use the E-visit option. For medical

emergencies, call 911 immediately.

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

OUR ER WILL PROTECT YOU.

Do Not Ignore Warning Signs of
Other Illnesses Because of COVID-19.



Our Emergency/Trauma Department is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians from WVU Medicine.

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

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





WVUMedicine

WHEELING HOSPITAL