

THE CATHOLIC

# Spirit

## Munich Abuse Report Incriminates Retired Pope; Vatican to Study Document

By Catholic News Service

**MUNICH (CNS)** — A law firm's report on how abuse cases were handled in the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising incriminated retired Pope Benedict XVI, with lawyers accusing him of misconduct in four cases during his tenure as Munich archbishop.

Lawyer Martin Pusch of the law firm Westpfahl Spilker Wastl said the retired pope had denied wrongdoing in all cases, reported the German Catholic news agency KNA.

Pusch expressed doubt about Pope Benedict's claim of ignorance in some cases, saying this was, at times, "hardly reconcilable" with the files.

At the Vatican, Matteo Bruni, director of the Vatican press office, said, "The Holy See believes it has an obligation to give serious attention to the document" on cases of abuse in the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising, but it has not yet had a chance to study it.

"In the coming days, following its publication, the Holy See will review it and will be able to properly examine its details. Reiterating its sense of shame and remorse for the abuse of minors committed by clerics, the Holy See assures its closeness to all victims and confirms the path taken to protect the youngest, ensuring safe environments for them," Bruni said.

See "Report" on Page 2

## At Red Mass, Bishop Encourages Members of Legal Community to Seek God's Wisdom



Martina Hart Photo

Bishop Mark E. Brennan offers his homily at the Red Mass he celebrated at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston Jan. 19. Looking on, from left, are Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Assoc. V.F., rector of the basilica; Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus, priest in residence at the basilica; and Father Jose Manuel Escalante, pastor of St. Agnes Parish in Charleston.

By Martina Hart

**CHARLESTON**—Bishop Mark E. Brennan celebrated the Red Mass for members of the legal profession at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston on Jan. 19.

"I celebrate this Mass imploring God's wisdom for you," he told those gathered. "Seek that wisdom every day to guide you and to give you the courage to make decisions

that advance the common good."

In the midst of conflicting world views and heightened individualism, the bishop encouraged them to stand for the truth and gave examples of how to work towards the goal of overcoming injustices in order to achieve social peace.

Gathered for the Mass were lawyers, judges, and elected officials.

The problem bedeviling efforts

to promote justice and the common good are conflicting worldviews, the bishop said in his homily. One of those worldviews is a heightened individualism that rebels against any restrictions on personal freedom, the bishop said. Another is an aggressive secularism that sees religion as the enemy and wants to curtail its influence as much as possible. Another sees

See "Mass" on Page 3

**Inside:** Bishop Brennan Joins in Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Prayer Service and March in Wheeling, Page 3

## Report ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Retired Pope Benedict headed the Munich Archdiocese from 1977 to 1982, before being called to the Vatican to head the doctrinal congregation.

From 2001, when St. John Paul II charged the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith — headed by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger — with the authority to take over cases from local bishops for investigation, Pope Benedict was aware of many examples of abuse. It was his office in 2003 that expedited the process for laicizing priests guilty of sexually abusing minors.

After his election in 2005, Pope Benedict worked to address lingering concerns.

Although he mostly stayed out of public view in retirement, in April 2019 the former pope published what he described as “notes” on the abuse crisis, tracing the roots of the scandal to a loss of a firm faith and moral certainty that began in the 1960s. The church’s response, he insisted, must focus on a recovery of a sense of faith and of right and wrong.

The Munich investigation followed two years of research and covers the period from 1945 to 2019, centering on who knew what about sexual abuse and when, and what action they took, if any, KNA reported. The report identified 497 victims and 235 abusers, but the lawyers who conducted the study say they’re convinced the real numbers are much higher.

Four volumes with almost 1,900 pages comprise the “litany of horror” that lawyers presented. They spoke of the “total failure” of a system, at least until 2010.

Pope Benedict’s statements on the case of the repeat offender Peter H., who came to Munich from Essen in 1980, were described by lawyer Ulrich Wastl as “not very credible.”

In a written statement, 94-year-old former pope had said he did not take part in a decisive meeting on the case when he was the archbishop of Munich. At the news conference where the legal report was presented, Wastl read out the minutes of that meeting. In it, then-Archbishop Ratzinger is mentioned in several places as a rapporteur on other topics.

The lawyers also identified misconduct by the former pope in three other cases, which he denies. These involve the transfer of clerics who had committed criminal offenses and were allowed to continue pastoral care elsewhere. The retired pope wrote that he had “no knowledge” of their deeds.

Wastl repeatedly urged people to read Pope Benedict’s 82-page statement for themselves. It provided “authentic insight” into how a top representative of the Catholic Church thinks about sexual abuse, the lawyer said.

Archbishop Georg Ganswein, personal secretary to retired Pope Benedict, told Vatican News Jan. 20 that the retired pope would read the Munich report “with the necessary attention. The pope emeritus, as

he already repeated several times during the years of his pontificate, expresses his shock and shame at the abuse of minors committed by clerics, and expresses his personal closeness to and prayer for all the victims, some of whom he has met on the occasion of his apostolic trips.”

It remains to be seen whether the report will have any legal consequences. The Munich state prosecutor’s office is investigating 42 cases in which the lawyers found misconduct on the part of senior church officials.

The lawyers refrained from making recommendations to their client, the archdiocese that commissioned the report. Cardinal Reinhard Marx, whom they mainly accuse of having delegated the handling of abuse cases, said he did not want to provide detailed comment for another week.

However, later in the day, he issued a statement, which began: “My first thought today is for those affected by sexual abuse, who have experienced harm and suffering at the hands of church representatives, priests and other employees in the space of the church, on an appalling scale. I am shocked and ashamed.”

In early summer 2021, Cardinal Marx — the current archbishop of Munich — tried to resign from office to take responsibility for abuses — explicitly also for possible mistakes of his predecessors. Pope Francis rejected his request.

In his Jan. 20 statement, Cardinal Marx reiterated that “as archbishop of Munich and Freising, I feel jointly responsible for the institution of the church in recent decades. As the acting archbishop, I therefore apologize on behalf of the archdiocese for the suffering inflicted on people in the space of the church over the past decades.”

He said he followed the news conference and hoped that by Jan. 27 the archdiocese “will be able to identify initial perspectives and outline the way forward. In doing so, the diocesan authorities will continue to work closely together.”

The day before the report was released, German bishops’ Advisory Board for Victims of Abuse issued a statement noting that a series of reports on abuse in the German church showed that protection of perpetrators took precedence over protection of victims.

“If different investigations, whether forensic or with a systemic approach, always come to the same results, then there is no need for further analysis. Then it is finally time to take responsibility, then it is finally time for decisions and courageous action,” the statement said.

It noted that future abuse must be prevented, but the suffering of thousands of victims must be acknowledged in a way that changes attitudes.

“Seeing and judging is over, it is time to act — finally to act,” the statement said. It added that all people, lay as well as priests and bishops, are responsible for factors favoring abuse.

Contributing to this report was Anli Serfontein in Berlin.

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.thecatholicspiritwv.org)  
Diocesan Web site: [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org)  
January 21, 2022, Vol. 53, No. 3

**Publisher:** Bishop Mark E. Brennan.....

**Executive Editor:** Colleen Rowan, Ext. 347 ..... [crowan@dwc.org](mailto: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.

## Advertise with The Catholic Spirit

Contact: Colleen Rowan at [crowan@dwc.org](mailto:crowan@dwc.org)

# Bishop Brennan Joins in Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Prayer Service and March

By Colleen Rowan

**WHEELING**—Bishop Mark Brennan joined Wheeling-area faith leaders and members of the community in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Prayer Service and March Jan. 16.

The march began that afternoon at the top of Martin Luther King Way. Marchers then proceeded a little more than half a mile down the hill to the Fourth Street Methodist Church in downtown Wheeling, where the interfaith service was held.

Participants, including Bishop Brennan and other faith leaders, braved the cold temperature and looming Winter Storm Izzy to march.

"It was freezing cold, but the bishop marched with the group," said Janet Boyle, a member of the MLK Celebration Committee who is also a member of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling. "This was the first time we ever had our bishop as a participant. It made me proud."

Once marchers reached the church, they gathered inside for the service.

"The bishop's presentation at the interfaith prayer service was powerful," Boyle said. "He told the congregation he had the privilege of hearing Dr. King speak in person in 1967 when he (the bishop) was a student."

In addition to Bishop Brennan, other faith leaders participating in the service were Rev. Chris Figaretti, pastor of The Vineyard Church; Rev. Kenny Hardway,



Kelly Klubert Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan, second from left, joins in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. March in Wheeling Jan. 16.

pastor of the First Christian Church; Rev. Erica Harley, pastor of Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church; Rev. Neil Leftwich, Northern District Area Superintendent, United Methodist Church; Rabbi Joshua Lief, Temple Shalom; Rev. Paul Schafer,

pastor of St. Mark Lutheran Church; and Rev. Jake Steele, pastor of Christ United Methodist Church.

West Virginia Sen. Owens Brown, D-Ohio, delivered the keynote address. Wheeling Mayor Glenn Elliott and a representative

from the office of U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin, R-W.Va., also gave remarks. A reception followed the service.

Because of the winter storm that came into the area that evening, events for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 17, were postponed.

## Mass ...

Cont'd from Page 1

government as the major player in all areas of life, to the detriment of intermediate bodies, private groups and personal initiative. Still another wants a return to an imagined idyllic past when things were easier and clearer, oblivious to the injustices of those times, the bishop said.

He spoke of people who paid a heavy price for remaining faithful to their convictions, including Archbishop Oscar Romero, who advocated for an end to violence by both sides in El Salvador's civil war, and Father Stanley Rother, the Oklahoma priest murdered by a right-wing death squad in Guatemala for allowing Mayan farmers to meet in

his parish church.

Bishop Brennan also spoke of a politician, a man who suffered for his moral convictions. He was a leader in his party at the state level. When he sought a higher elective office, he expected his party's support. He won his party's primary but his stand on a serious moral issue caused many party activists to desert him. He lost the general election but kept his conscience intact, the bishop said.

Bishop Brennan pointed to these examples because "in the battle of conflicting worldviews that lead to diametrically opposed stands on basic issues in our society, it is necessary to stand for the truth," the bishop said. "It is wrong for civil leaders to say with that failed, cynical politician,

Pontius Pilate, 'What is truth?' The truth must be sought. The root meaning of the word, martyr, is 'witness,' a person who sees the truth and is willing to testify to it."

"Ladies and gentlemen, the truth you must seek above all in your public service, as I must do in mine in the church, is the common good," the bishop said in his homily. "What laws

and programs will truly benefit our people? What injustices must be overcome to foster social peace? God says through Isaiah: 'Right will dwell in the desert and justice abide in the orchard. Justice will bring about peace.' Pope St. Paul VI echoed Isaiah saying, 'If you want peace, work for justice.'"

The Red Mass was sponsored by the Catholic Con-

ference of West Virginia.

Concelebrating the Mass were Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Assoc. V.F., rector of the basilica; Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus, priest in residence at the basilica; and Father Jose Manuel Escalante, pastor of St. Agnes Parish in Charleston.

See the full story of the Red Mass in the Feb. 4 print edition of The Catholic Spirit.

**Panhandle**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION  
Fire • Smoke • Wind • Mold • Sewage • Water  
24-Hour Emergency Line  
800.504.7054  
304.232.2321 PanhandleCR.com

Accepted by All Major  
Insurance Companies

Residential and Commercial  
Complete Restoration Services  
24-Hour Emergency Board-Up  
Personal Property Cleaning & Storage  
24-hour Emergency Water Extraction  
WV 014743 PA 100310

# Catholic Charities Joins Hazel's House of Hope in Morgantown

**MORGANTOWN**—Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) announced it will join Hazel's House of Hope in Morgantown. Hazel's House of Hope is located in the former Ramada Inn on Scott Avenue – a building that is being converted into a social service hub to house multiple non-profit organizations.

“Catholic Charities views this opportunity as much more than shared office space,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and Chief Executive Officer. “It is a rare chance to improve how nonprofits in Morgantown function, as well as an opportunity to influence a model of collaborative services that truly move people out of poverty.”

“We are incredibly grateful to the trustees of the Hazel Ruby McQuain Charitable Trust for their vision and commitment to serving struggling West Virginians,” said Zarate.

CCWVa programs that will operate out of Hazel's House of Hope include a food pantry, basic needs assistance, case management services, Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services, Child Care Resource Center, and West Virginia Birth to Three.

“Catholic Charities knows the stronger our collaborations, the

better our ability to serve clients in a way that is lasting and meaningful,” said Zarate. “We look forward to multi-disciplinary team meetings with Hazel House non-profits and improving the communication, coordination and decision making around the people we serve.”

Other non-profits currently providing services at Hazel's House of Hope include the United Way of Monongalia and Preston Counties; Salvation Army of Monongalia, Marion, and Preston Counties; Bartlett Housing Solutions; Hope Hill Sobering Center; and Lauren's Wish Crisis Triage Center.

“Catholic Charities West Virginia is well-established in Monongalia County and all of North Central West Virginia,” said Jonathan Board, Interim Executive Director of Morgantown Community Resources, Inc. “The incredible staff of CCWVa tirelessly provide vitally important services throughout all of Appalachia. Morgantown Community Resources considers it a true privilege to serve alongside so venerable an organization.”

Catholic Charities knows that service environment makes a difference.

“If a family in need can access



Courtesy Photo

Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and Chief Executive Officer (left), reviews floor plans for new offices in Hazel's House of Hope with Sarah Dean, CCWVa Grant Specialist.

multiple coordinated resources, that efficiency helps to ease a daily burden,” said Sara Lindsay, CCWVa Chief Program Officer. “Better yet – if a family can sense a genuine community-level effort to provide quality care from multiple angles – it can start to ease the

chronic stress of poverty over time.”

CCWVa serves all people regardless of faith, family or background throughout West Virginia.

To learn more about CCWVa, visit [www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org).



Courtesy Photo

The former Ramada Inn building on Scott Avenue in Morgantown is now Hazel's House of Hope, a social service hub for local non-profit organizations.

# Women's Retreat Focus Will be 'Embraced with Compassion ... Embracing the World'

**CHARLESTON**—A Women's Retreat, co-sponsored with the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, will be held Feb. 25-27 at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston. With the theme "Embraced with Compassion ... Embracing the World," the retreat will be presented by Sister Mary Dean Pfahler.

This weekend retreat is inspired by well-known author Joyce Rupp's "Boundless Compassion: Creating a Way of Life." Sister Mary Dean, a certified Boundless Compassion facilitator, will share Rupp's insights through presentations, quiet reflection, small group break-out sessions, media resources, and communal prayer.

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday and Sunday. Participants will also have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of penance which will be followed by time for reflection. Participants are invited to open their hearts to themselves, to one another, and to all beings, retreat organizers said.

Sister Mary Dean grew up in an Ohio village with six siblings, two parents, and three grand-

parents. "I thought that was the way everybody lived - except for the families we saw in the mission movies. When God drew me to the Sisters of Notre Dame, that too seemed natural because I had a sister, an aunt, and an uncle in religious life or priesthood."

Teaching middle school students in rural, small town, and urban settings each called for a unique approach, she said. During the summers she studied American culture at the University of Minnesota. That opened the door to three years in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea where she was enriched by yet more diverse cultures.

"After a year of study at Loyola University Chicago, I transitioned into parish ministry in Northwest Ohio," she said. "Loved working with the catechists, bereavement ministers, small Christian communities, catechumens and candidates, and teams of all kinds! An internship in



**Sister Mary Dean Pfahler**

Ignatian spirituality completed, I pivoted into retreat and spiritual direction ministry in Ohio, South Carolina, and California. That's when the Spirit led me to Joyce Rupp and her vision of the ever-widening circle of Boundless Compassion. Embracing self, others, and Earth with compassion is now the invitation I hear from the Compassionate One."

Registration for the retreat can be completed online at [www.dwc.org/2022-Womens-retreat](http://www.dwc.org/2022-Womens-retreat). Deadline for registration is Feb. 18. For information contact:

Gerri Wright at (304) 552-3662 or by e-mail to [gerwright1@aol.com](mailto:gerwright1@aol.com); Sandi Hudson at (304) 549-4009 or by e-mail to [shudson0155@gmail.com](mailto:shudson0155@gmail.com); or Cathy Varley at (440) 429-3233 or by e-mail to [cnvarley0428@gmail.com](mailto:cnvarley0428@gmail.com).

## Global Catholic Tours of Va

### 9 Days Holy Land. Sep 12-20, 2022

\$3199. 1 night Tel Aviv, 2 nights Galilee, 5 nights Jerusalem. With Fr Dan Pisano from Petersburg, WV.

### 10 Days Vienna, Salzburg, Budapest

Sep 19-28, 2022 \$3999. Includes 3 nights Vienna, 3 nights Salzburg, 4 nights Budapest. With Fr Bjorn Lundberg from Winchester, VA.

### 13 Days Istanbul and Greece

Nov 7-19, 2022 \$4999. Includes 2 nights-Istanbul, 1 night each in Kavala, Thessaloniki, Kalambaka & Delphi, & 3-nights in Athens. Plus a 3 day cruise to Islands of Mykonos, Patmos, Crete, & Santorini. With visit to Ephesus. With Fr Shafer from Colonial Beach, VA

### 11 Days Catholic Ireland.

Sep 12-22, 2022 \$3950 Includes 1 night Limerick, 2 nights Kilkenny, 3 nights each in Galway and Dublin. With Fr Art Bufogle from Marlinton, WV.

### 6 Day Mexico OL of Guadalupe Anniversary

Dec 8-13, 2022, Price TBD Includes Insurance. With Priest TBD.

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

WHEELING • SOUTH WHEELING • WARWOOD • WOODSDALE • ELM GROVE

[www.kepnerfuneral.com](http://www.kepnerfuneral.com)

(304) 232-5110

*Kepner*

FUNERAL HOMES  
*Serving the community since 1845*

John D. Kepner and James B. Kepner  
Co-Presidents

Larry Dean, COIC



Thanks to the Passion and Care of our Generous Donors

*\$2.3 million*

was raised in 2021 to enliven parishes, support Catholic education, shine light on shared ministries, and expand outreach efforts across West Virginia!



Visit [dwc.org/CSA](http://dwc.org/CSA) today to learn more!



**CATHOLIC**  
SHARING APPEAL



## Vatican Announces 'Pilgrims of Hope' as Motto for Holy Year 2025

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Pope Francis approved "Pilgrims of Hope" as the motto for the Holy Year 2025.

The motto aims to give a concise sense of the full meaning of the jubilee journey, Archbishop Rino Fisichella told Vatican News Jan. 13.

The words "pilgrims" and "hope" also represent key themes of Pope Francis' pontificate, said the archbishop, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, which is in charge of the Holy Year planning efforts.

The archbishop said the pope approved the motto Jan. 3 and that he is awaiting further instructions from the pope. In the meantime, the council already is working with Vatican and Italian authorities on the best way to welcome a large number of visitors during the year.

Traditionally for holy years, the celebrations begin with the pope opening the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve and ends with the sealing of the door one year later. The holy doors of St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls and St. Mary Major are opened for the year, too.

A holy year or jubilee is a time of pilgrimage, prayer, repentance and acts of mercy, based on the Old Testament tradition of a jubilee year of rest, forgiveness and renewal. Holy years also are a time when Catholics visit designated churches and shrines, recite special prayers, go to confession and receive Communion to receive a plenary indulgence, which is a remission of the temporal punishment due for one's sins.

Pope Boniface VIII proclaimed the first Holy Year in 1300 and decreed that they would be celebrated every 100 years. But just 50 years later, a more biblical cadence, Pope Clement VI proclaimed another holy year. Pope Urban VI thought holy years should be celebrated every 33 years as a reminder of the time Jesus lived.

Finally, in 1470, Pope Paul II established the celebrations every 25 years, which has been the practice ever since. However, special anniversaries have called for special holy years, for instance, in 1933 to mark the 1,900th anniversary of Jesus' death and resurrection and in 1983 to mark the 1,950th anniversary.

Pope Francis, seeing a need to emphasize God's mercy and to encourage Catholics to return to the sacrament of reconciliation, declared an extraordinary Year of Mercy, which ran in 2015-16.

## Christians Should Look for Signs of God's Love in Their Lives, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — God likes to intervene behind the scenes and without fanfare, always ready to help and lift people up, Pope Francis said.

"And then, if we are attentive to these 'signs,' we will be conquered by his love, and we will become his disciples," he said to visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square Jan. 16 for his Sunday Angelus address.

The pope reflected on the day's Gospel reading (Jn 2:1-11) of the wedding at Cana and how the first of Jesus' signs was transforming water into wine.

In the Gospel, a "sign" is "a clue that reveals God's love, that does not call attention to the power of the action, but to the love that caused it," the pope said. "It teaches us something about God's love that is always near, tender and compassionate."

Jesus' first sign was in the middle of a wedding feast, when a couple faced a huge problem on the most important day of their lives when they ran out of wine.

Aware of the problem, Mary discreetly brought it to Jesus' attention, and "he intervened without fanfare, almost without making it obvious. Everything took place reservedly, everything took place 'behind the scenes,'" when Jesus told the servants to fill the jars with water and then it became wine, the pope said. "This is how God acts, near to us and discreetly."

"How beautiful it is to think that the first sign Jesus accomplished was not an extraordinary healing or something prodigious in the temple of Jerusalem, but an action that responded to a simple and concrete need of common people, a domestic gesture," Pope Francis said.

Jesus' disciples also saw the way Jesus acted, and "this is how the seed of faith began to develop within them — that is, they believed that God, God's love, was present in Jesus," he said.

"If we are attentive to these 'signs,' we will be conquered by his love and we will become his disciples," as well, the pope said.

Jesus is always ready "to help us, to lift us up," he said. "God wants what is better for us, he wants us to be happy" without any ulterior motives and without placing demands on those he helps.

It would do people good, the pope said, to look back at all the ways God has intervened in discreet, silent ways in their lives.

Let everyone ask, "What are the signs the Lord has accomplished? What are the hints of his presence, the signs he has done to show that he loves us? Let us think about that difficult moment in which God allowed me to experience his love," tenderness, compassion and closeness, he said.

"Let us relive the moments in which we have experienced his presence and Mary's intercession," he said, praying that everyone would "treasure the signs of God's presence in our lives."

## CORPUS CHRISTI SCHOOL

Excellent Academics from Pre-School through Eighth Grade

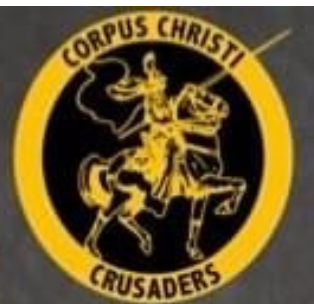


**Safe learning environment**

**NEW!  
Middle School Electives**



**Tuition Assistance**



*Believe & Succeed*

**OPEN HOUSE  
Sunday  
January 30th  
11:30am-12:30pm**

1512 Warwood Ave  
Wheeling, WV 26003

**For more Information:  
CALL (304)277-1220**

**[www.corpuschristiwheeling.com](http://www.corpuschristiwheeling.com)**



# Do you want a life of **Heroic Sacrifice?**

Is God Calling YOU to be a Priest of Jesus Christ?

**Come join US  
for a weekend of prayer  
and discernment**

**March 5-6**

**Priest Field Pastoral Center  
4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV 25430**

To complete an application visit [WVPriests.org](http://WVPriests.org)

# Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly Appoints Two New Leaders



Courtesy Photo

Shown above at left is Sir Knight Paul Niedbalski, the new District Master of West Virginia, and at right is Sir Knight Mike McDougle, Vice Supreme Master—Father Edward Sorin Province.

**WEST VIRGINIA**—Recently, two West Virginia State Council Past State Deputies, Mike McDougle and Paul Niedbalski, were appointed to leadership roles with the Order's Fourth Degree.

Members of the Knights who have chosen to embrace the Order's fourth principle of Patriotism in a unique way, become Fourth Degree Members of the Order thru an Exemplification ceremony and become part of a Fourth Degree Assembly in their area. This principle is based on the idea that Knights are loyal to both God and country and they embody the fact that one can

be a faithful Catholic and also be a faithful citizen. Holding the special title of "Sir Knight," these Brother Knights lead the efforts to reach out to veterans and active military members in their area, they participate in the color and honor guards at church services and funerals, organize programs that promote Catholic citizenship and help to foster the spirit of patriotism to other Knight members and the community at large.

Niedbalski is the new District Master of West Virginia, and McDougle is Vice Supreme Master—Father Edward Sorin Province.

## A March for Life to be Held in Wheeling on National Road

**WHEELING**—There will be a March for Life in Wheeling today, Jan. 21, outside of St. Michael Church on National Road, the Knights of Columbus Council 504 in Wheeling announced on Facebook.

The church will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for Eucharistic Adoration and prayer. The rosary will be prayed every hour for the protection of the unborn.

"During that time, members of the Knights of Columbus and others will be marching for Pro-Life values on National Road outside the Church!" the council posted on its Facebook page. "Please join us in your prayer, or in your presence!"

## Mass Praying for Legal Protection of Unborn Children to be Celebrated in Wheeling

**WHEELING**—Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling will have a Mass praying for legal protection of unborn children on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 10:30 a.m.

The parish invites all to attend the Mass, which is being celebrated on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States in 1973.



Established  
1914  
Centre Wheeling  
Market House

304-232-8510

107 Years



Knights of  
Columbus®

**Fr. McGivney**  
Beatification Celebration!

**Become an  
Online Member  
for FREE.\***

Now through December 31st,  
enter code **MCGIVNEY2020**  
for **FREE** first year membership.

\*regular dues are \$30/year

Visit [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus)  
use Promo Code  
**MCGIVNEY2020**





## SYNOD Listening Sessions

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

**Ascension, Hurricane:** Jan. 25, 7 p.m. – Parish Men; February 7, 6 p.m. – Parish Pastoral Council

**Immaculate Conception, Fairmont**

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, 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

# Synodality and Ecumenism Require Walking Together, Say Cardinals

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — All Christians are invited to pray for unity and continue to journey together, said Cardinals Mario Grech, general secretary of the Synod of the Bishops, and Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

Toward that end, the two offices came together to offer a prayer, which could be added to the other intentions during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan. 18-25.

Inspired by the theme of this year's Week of Prayer, "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him," the prayer "offers a propitious occasion to pray with all Christians that the synod will proceed in an ecumenical spirit," the two cardinals said in a joint news release Jan. 17.

"Conscious of our need for the accompaniment and the many gifts of our brothers and sisters in Christ, we call on them to journey with us during these two years and we sincerely pray that Christ will lead us closer to him and so to one another," they said.

The prayer is:

"Heavenly Father, as the Magi journeyed toward Bethlehem led by the star, so by your heavenly light, guide the Catholic Church to walk together with all Christians during this time of synod. As the Magi were united in their worship of Christ, lead us closer to your Son and so to one another, so that we become a sign of the unity that you desire for your church and the whole creation. We ask this

through Christ our Lord. Amen."

Cardinals Koch and Grech have been highlighting ways the local churches can implement an ecumenical dimension of the synodal process given that "synodality and ecumenism are processes of walking together," they wrote in a joint letter dated Oct. 28, 2021, sent to bishops responsible for ecumenism within their episcopal conferences.

The Catholic Church inaugurated a synodal process, titled "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission" in October 2021. It will lead to a general assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023.

Because a synodal church is a church which listens, "this listening should concern the totality of those who are honored by the name of Christian, since all the baptized participate to some degree in the *sensus fidei*," Cardinals Grech and Koch wrote.

Ecumenism is an "exchange of gifts" and "one of the gifts Catholics can receive from the other Christians is precisely their experience and understanding of synodality," they added.

Among the suggestions in the letter, the cardinals ask that dioceses reach out to the leaders of the main Christian communities in their area, inform them about the synodal process, invite them to appoint delegates to participate in the pre-synodal diocesan meetings and possibly to address the diocesan synodal assembly, organize listening sessions, and encourage them to send written reflections on the questionnaire included in the preparatory document.

**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](http://mydailyliving.com)

# The Emmaus Ministry

FOR GRIEVING PARENTS



A RETREAT FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILD HAS DIED

JULY 16, 2022

ST. MARY PARISH  
MORGANTOWN, WV

*Serving the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age  
have died by any cause, no matter how long ago.*



More details can be found at [www.emfgp.org/events](http://www.emfgp.org/events)

To register visit [www.emfgp.org/07-16-22-wv-registration-form-2/](http://www.emfgp.org/07-16-22-wv-registration-form-2/)

# Nearby Texas Catholic Church Reaches out during Hostage Crisis at Synagogue

**By Matthew Smith, Catholic News Service**

**COLLEYVILLE, Texas (CNS) —** As the tense hours of a Jan. 15 hostage standoff situation unfolded at Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville in the Dallas-Fort Worth metro area, so too did an unbelievable manifestation of faith and community at nearby Good Shepherd Church, according to Franciscan Father Zachary Burns.

“Just seeing not only the Good Shepherd community but people from other faiths and the community in general coming together to help one another was so unbelievable,” the parish’s parochial vicar told North Texas Catholic, the news outlet of the Fort Worth Diocese.

That morning a British citizen later identified as Malik Faisal Akram, 44, entered Congregation Beth Israel armed during the synagogue’s Sabbath morning service and took four hostages, including Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, and engaged in an 11-hour standoff with law enforcement officials.

All four were eventually released unharmed though Akram was killed in the incident.

Officials from numerous law enforcement agencies and media outlets made use of Good Shepherd’s parking lot and facilities during the standoff.

“We were able to open the parish hall for them and congregants from Congregation Beth Israel so they could get out of the cold, warm up and get coffee,” said Mike Short, the diocese’s director of security.

Short oversaw the diocesan Guardian ministers’ efforts to assist law enforcement officials.

“We had a great response from (Guardian ministers) from throughout the diocese who provided security and help throughout the day,” Short said. “It was amazing — the support from staff, parishioners, other faith leaders and members, and the community just pulling together to do everything they could to help.”

The diocese’s Guardian Ministry is

a community-led safety and security volunteer ministry that provides parishes with a peaceful and safe place to worship.

“I cannot even begin to tell you how thankful we are for our Guardian ministers,” Father Burns said. “So thankful we have these guys willing to be that line of defense and yesterday’s response was unbelievable. I couldn’t begin to tell you how many Guardians showed up.”

Members of Christian, Jewish and Islamic faith backgrounds and a representative from the city attended a prayer vigil in Good Shepherd’s chapel.

“It was a late development deal that lasted about 45 minutes,” Father Burns said. “Just a chance for anyone to get up and offer a prayer or reflection, just people trying to support each other.”

Food prepared for a marriage ministry event scheduled that night that was canceled was donated to feed those on hand. Parishioners and others arrived throughout the day with food and offers to help.

“We actually got more requests to help than we could take,” Short said.

Father Burns, who came to the parish about two years ago from “up north” joked that he was told beforehand that people in Texas, Catholic and otherwise, tend to live out their faith in everyday life.

“That was very evident today,” Father Burns said.

Fort Worth Bishop Michael F. Olson agreed.

“Thanks be to God for their safety,” Bishop Olson tweeted after the hostages’ safe release.

Bishop Olson also thanked the leaders of Good Shepherd, first responders and members of Congregation Beth Israel.

Father Burns noted that Rabbi Cytron-Walker, a proponent of interfaith dialogue, has long been a friend of Good Shepherd.

“My whole time here has been under the pandemic, so I haven’t had a chance to meet with many area

leaders of other faiths,” Father Burns said.

He noted that he and Good Shepherd’s pastor, Franciscan Father Michael Higgins, “had lunch with Rabbi Charlie recently and it’s ironic that yesterday I saw maybe the largest interfaith gathering I’ve ever seen out of what was a very hectic and tragic day.”

In an interview with Channel 8, the local ABC-TV affiliate, Father Higgins said: “When our brothers and sisters in the Jewish community were suffering, we suffered with them. It was terrible that they had to go through this. This was a frightening experience for the family.”

When the standoff ended, he added, there were “cheers and hugging and praying together” among family members and others in the parish hall. It was “really powerful,” the priest said.

Across the country, Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory, who has long been involved in interfaith dialogue and other efforts, expressed relief that the hostages were safe in a Jan. 16 tweet.

“We thank God for the safety of the members of Beth Israel in Texas. Thanks also for the successful work of those public safety officials,” he

tweeted. “We stand with our Jewish neighbors as they confront violence. May all who suffer hatred in their places of worship know of our prayers.”

The Washington Post and other news outlets said the hostage-taker reportedly expressed anger over the imprisonment of a Pakistani woman convicted on terrorism charges in a New York court in 2010 and being held in federal prison in Fort Worth.

The woman, Aafia Siddiqui, was found guilty of attempting to murder American soldiers in Afghanistan.

The FBI and other law enforcement officials were investigating Akram’s arrival in the United States at John F. Kennedy International Airport about five weeks ago, his subsequent travel to the Dallas area where he stayed in a homeless shelter for some nights in early January, and how and when he bought the gun he used in taking the hostages.

Two teenagers were arrested Jan. 15 in Manchester, England, as part of the investigation. The teens were later identified as being Akram’s sons.

Smith writes for the North Texas Catholic, the news outlet of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Contributing to this story was Mark Zimmermann in Washington.



**TerraCare**  
 Grounds Maintenance ♦ Design-Build ♦ Landscape Architecture

*The premier professional grounds maintenance and landscape design build firm of West Virginia*

**PW** PROVEN WINNERS  
 CERTIFIED LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL

(304) 925-4751  
 www.terra-careinc.com

**LEED AP**  
 BD+C

Charleston White Sulphur Springs Morgantown



**Five-star care for our community**



**WELTY**  
 Home for the Aged

**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
 NURSING HOME

304.242.1093 • www.weltyhome.org



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA MISSION MOMENT

# Living Our Values While Supporting Carrie's Recovery

This week, we celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. and his important work for social justice. King was a powerful speaker whose words continue to inspire us as we create opportunities for our neighbors across West Virginia to thrive. One quote stands out to us in particular: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

At Catholic Charities West Virginia, we answer King's question through our Mission of Love. Our work for justice — toward the Kingdom of God — is guided by our core values. Our commitment to these

values ensures that people, like "Carrie," feel the love of God through our service.

Carrie came out of a recovery program and immediately sought out our services. She knew we would care for her since we honor the gift of every human life. (We serve with Dignity.)

Upon her return home, Carrie was met with an eviction notice. This put her in a particularly vulnerable place. We advocate for a society that honors basic human rights, and so finding affordable housing for Carrie became our priority. (We promote Justice.)

We quickly realized that the best way to help Carrie

was to address two intertwined problems — her lack of transportation and employment. (We show Compassion.) Lo and behold, things started to look up for Carrie! We helped her obtain a car so she could get to and from her new job, which allowed her to begin supporting herself. (We offer the gift of Hope.)

Through our relationships with our clients, we give of ourselves generously, without expectations. We are here to support Carrie through her lows, and celebrate each of her accomplishments! (We serve with Charity.) All the while, we strive for excel-

lence, using our knowledge, skills, and talents to carry out our responsibilities with professionalism, integrity, and commitment. (We value Quality.)

We meet every person with dignity, justice, compassion, hope, charity, and quality. To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, or to join us in our Mission of Love, please visit [www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org).

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and com-

passionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change

Foodservice Equipment,  
Supplies, Disposables,  
Janitorial and more



1 Fourteenth Street,  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
304-233-2270

Stop in or call us today!

**Duplaga's  
TOP NOTCH**  
LANDSCAPING and SUPPLY LLC

Mowing • Landscaping • Patios • Retaining Walls

**Supply Yard**

Chris Duplaga, Owner  
140 Peninsula Street, Wheeling  
[www.topnotchlandscape.com](http://www.topnotchlandscape.com)

office@topnotchlandscape.com (304) 233-0332

**ALTMAYER**  
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

"THE PRE-ARRANGEMENT FUNERAL HOME"

304-232-0330

Wheeling Chapel: 1400 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 304-232-0330  
South Wheeling Chapel: 3828 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 304-232-3444  
Elm Grove Chapel: 154 Kruger Street, Elm Grove, WV 304-242-0330  
Benwood-McMechen: 214 Marshall Street, McMechen, WV 304-232-1710  
Moundsville: 118 Grant Avenue, Moundsville, WV 304-845-4360  
Beck-Altmeier: 204 West Main Street, St. Clairsville, OH 740-695-0475

James E. Altmeyer, Jr. (President), James E. Altmeyer, Sr. (Chairman), Eugene T. Fahney (Vice President)

[www.altmeyer.com](http://www.altmeyer.com)

**Jarvis-Williams Funeral Homes**

Weldon P. Williams, FD & LIC  
"Boots" Jarvis, Co-Owner & Sec

1224 S. Bridge Street, New Martinsville, WV (304) 455-3456  
309 N 4th Avenue, Paden City, WV (304) 337-2311

Catholic Charities West Virginia  
*Shining a Light on Hope*  
2022 GALA

*Celebrating Those We Serve*  
Returning in person on March 5, 2022

Proceeds from this Gala directly support our mission in 17 counties in northern West Virginia, including the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center on 18th Street in Wheeling, and other programs and services for children, seniors and families.

**For more information, visit**  
<https://catholiccharitieswv.org/gala2022/>

**JOHNSON BOILER WORKS, INC**

53 Marshall St. Benwood, WV 26031 (304) 232-3070  
Steam Boiler Repairs

**We Are Now A Full Service Hardware Store!**

We Also Specialize in Plumbing, Heating & Cooling

**Do it Best Lou W. Nau, Inc.**  
69 Edgington Lane, Wheeling Phone (304) 242-6311  
[lounau.doitbest.com](http://lounau.doitbest.com)



**TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™**  
CONFERENCE SERIES



“The first *Together in Holiness* marriage conference will take place in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on Saturday, February 12, 2022, and I encourage as many of our married and engaged couples as possible to attend. I will be with you on that day for Mass and conversation, as we learn how to make our homes and families a domestic church. Please join me as we gather to celebrate all that holy matrimony is and can be: a pillar of our faith and a strength for our people.”

**Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan**

**WHERE SPOUSES DISCOVER GOD’S PLAN FOR THEIR FAMILY**

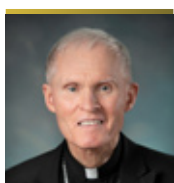
**FEBRUARY 12, 2022 | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM**  
**SAINT JOHN XXIII PASTORAL CENTER**  
**CHARLESTON, WV**

**HOSTED BY**

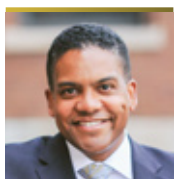


**DIOCESE OF**  
**WHEELING-CHARLESTON**

**CELEBRANT & SPEAKERS**



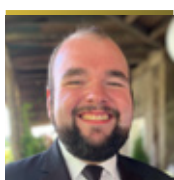
**Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan**



**Damon Owens**



**Charlotte Sacco**



**Nick Chancey**

**A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CONFERENCE THAT INSPIRES SPOUSES AND EMPOWERS PARENTS**

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

*Together in Holiness* provides an opportunity for quality time with your spouse and includes dynamic and inspiring presentations from national and local speakers, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, on-site childcare, and more!

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

Catholic married and engaged couples throughout the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and beyond who desire to grow together in holiness and learn to form their children in the Catholic Faith.

**VENUE**

**Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center**  
100 Hodges Rd | Charleston, WV 25314

**REGISTRATION**

**Early Bird Couple \$27 | Early Bird Individual \$18**

Early Bird discount available through January 10

**Couple \$32 | Individual \$20**

**At-Home Conference Experience \$15**

**On-site Childcare \$5/child**

Unlimited full and partial scholarships are available, please inquire

For more information, contact Conference Coordinator **Michelle McDonald** at [michelle@forlifeandfamily.org](mailto:michelle@forlifeandfamily.org) or **832-779-1070**.

**CLICK TO REGISTER**

Or visit [togetherinholiness.org](http://togetherinholiness.org) and select the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston location

## El Vaticano anuncia 'Peregrinos de la Esperanza' como lema para el Año Santo 2025

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** — El papa Francisco aprobó "Peregrinos de la Esperanza" como lema para el Año Santo 2025.

El objetivo del lema es dar un sentido conciso del significado completo del camino hacia el jubileo, expresó el arzobispo Rino Fisichella a Vatican News el 13 de enero.

Las palabras "peregrinos" y "esperanza" también representan temas clave del pontificado del papa Francisco, indicó el arzobispo, presidente del Consejo Pontificio para la Promoción de la Nueva Evangelización, que está a cargo de la planificación del Año Santo. El arzobispo señaló que el Santo Padre había aprobado el lema el 3 de enero y que está esperando más instrucciones de su parte. Mientras tanto, el consejo ya está trabajando con las autoridades del Vaticano y de Italia para encontrar la mejor manera de recibir a un gran número de visitantes durante dicho año.

Tradicionalmente, en los años santos, las celebraciones comienzan cuando el papa abre la Puerta Santa de la Basílica de San Pedro en la víspera de Navidad y terminan con el sellado de la puerta un año después. Las puertas santas de San Juan de Letrán, San Pablo Extramuros, y Santa María la Mayor también están abiertas durante ese año.

Un año santo o jubileo es un

tiempo de peregrinación, oración, arrepentimiento, y actos de misericordia, basado en la tradición del Antiguo Testamento de un año jubilar de descanso, perdón, y renovación. Los años santos también son un tiempo en el que los católicos visitan iglesias y santuarios designados, recitan oraciones especiales, se confiesan, y comulgan para recibir una indulgencia plenaria, que es una remisión del castigo temporal adeudado por los pecados de uno. El papa Bonifacio VIII proclamó el primer Año Santo en 1300 y decretó que se celebrarían cada 100 años. Sin embargo, tan solo 50 años después, el papa Clemente VI proclamó otro año santo. El papa Urbano VI pensó que los años santos deberían celebrarse cada 33 años como un recordatorio del tiempo que vivió Jesús.

Finalmente, en 1470, el papa Pablo II estableció las celebraciones cada 25 años, lo cual ha sido la práctica desde entonces. Sin embargo, aniversarios especiales han requerido años santos especiales; por ejemplo, en 1933, para conmemorar el 1900 aniversario de la muerte y resurrección de Jesús y en 1983 para conmemorar el 1950 aniversario.

El papa Francisco, al ver la necesidad de enfatizar la misericordia de Dios y alentar a los católicos a volver al sacramento de la reconciliación, declaró un Año Extraordinario de la Misericordia, que se llevó a cabo en 2015-16.

## RECUERDOS DE AMOR CELEBRANDO EL DÍA MUNDIAL DEL MATRIMONIO



### RENOVACIÓN

*De Las Fotos De La Boda*

**UNA NOCHE PARA DISFRUTAR Y AGRADECER**

*Todos Los Años de Amor y Felicidad*

IGLESIA DE SANTIAGO APÓSTOL EL MAYOR

CHARLES TOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

19 DE FEBRERO 2022 – A LAS 7 PM

**COSTO POR PAREJA: \$120**

**PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN LLAMAR A JORGE OLIVAREZ 304-579-3734**

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.



# ST. PAUL SCHOOL

**New Family Open House**

\*for new/prospective 2022-23 families

Weirton, West Virginia

**Sunday, January 30, 2022**

**12:30 - 2 PM**

**WV Hope Scholarship Information Available!**

Enrollment Opening Soon for Pre-3 through 8th Grade

\*Limited Space Available\*

#blessedatSPS

[www.weirtonstpauls.org](http://www.weirtonstpauls.org)

304-748-5225



**Catholic Distance University**  
EST. 1983  
Partner of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

**Degree and Certificate Programs in Theology**

**Continuing Education**

FAITHFUL • 100% ONLINE • AFFORDABLE • ACCREDITED

**[cdu.edu](http://cdu.edu)**

300 S. George St., Charles Town WV 25414  
[admissions@cdu.edu](mailto:admissions@cdu.edu) | 1-888-254-4CDU

**Mansuetto**  
*Roofing & Sheet Metal*

**N.F. Mansuetto & Sons, Inc.**  
Roofing and Sheet Metal Contractors  
Serving West Virginia, the Ohio Valley and the Catholic Community  
Since 1945  
Three Generations of Family Management  
116 Wood Street  
Martins Ferry OH 43935  
740-633-7320

# Need for Blood Donors at All-Time High, WVU Medicine Officials Say

**MORGANTOWN**—Blood supplies are at a critical low, and WVU Medicine is urging eligible donors to find a nearby blood drive.

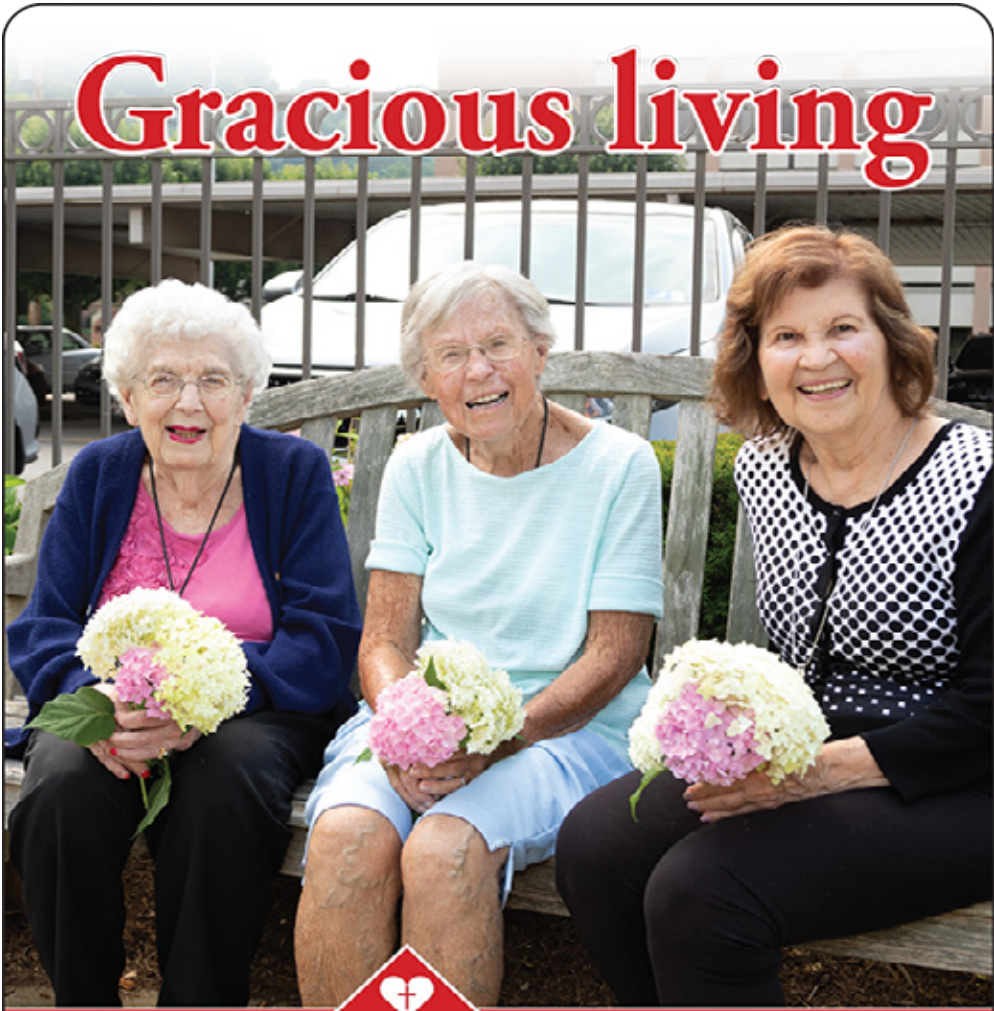
“Blood is a life-saving resource for surgical, trauma, cancer, and other patients,” Michael Edmond, M.D., WVU Medicine chief medical officer, said. “It is a resource that can only be obtained by the selfless act of blood donation. Critically low supply levels like we experience now make it challenging to provide care to those who depend on it.”

According to the American Red Cross, one donation can save up to three lives, and the typical blood transfusion recipient receives three units of blood.


You may be eligible to donate blood if you are in good health and feeling well, are at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have not donated blood in the last 56 days.

“Blood donation only takes a few minutes of your time, but it can make an enormous impact on someone’s life,” Edmond said. “I strongly encourage everyone to donate blood if they are able.”

Find a blood drive near you at [Vitalant.org](http://Vitalant.org) or [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org).



**Gracious living**



**Welty**  
Home for the Aged

304.242.5233 [www.weltyhome.org](http://www.weltyhome.org)



**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.

**O**ur 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.*



**WVU Medicine**  
WHEELING HOSPITAL