

# THE CATHOLIC Spirit

## Vatican Releases Guide on How Leaders Must Handle Abuse Allegations

**By Carol Glatz Catholic, News Service**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — The Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith released a 17-page document offering a step-by-step guide for how bishops, religious superiors and canon lawyers are supposed to handle accusations of alleged abuse by clerics against minors.

While nothing in the text is new, nor does it reflect any change to current church law, the handbook is meant to present clear and precise directions, procedures as well as attitudes church leaders should have toward victims, the accused, civil authorities and the media.

Cardinal Luis Ladaria, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the

Faith, said the handbook, called the "Vademecum," was the result of numerous requests by bishops and superiors of men's and women's religious orders "to have at their disposal a tool that could help them in the delicate task of correctly conducting cases regarding deacons, priests and bishops when they are accused of the sexual abuse of minors."

"The course of justice cannot alone exhaust the church's response, but it is necessary in order to come to the truth of the facts," Cardinal Ladaria said in a statement published by the Vatican July 16. "This is a complex path that leads into a dense forest of norms and procedures before which ordinaries and superiors sometimes find

**See "Guide" on Page 3**

## Catholic Schools Join State Public Schools in Sept. 8 Start Date

**By Colleen Rowan**

**WEST VIRGINIA**—Though the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Catholic schools are prepared to open in the traditional teachers and students in the classroom mode, diocesan Catholic Schools Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine said they are required to obey Gov. Jim Justice's emergency order closing schools up to Sept. 8.

Deschaine made the announcement in a message to Catholic school families July 11 following the governor's order a few days before.

"The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Catholic schools remain committed to providing quality Catholic school education while working with local and state health officials to provide the safest possible learning environment for our students, staff, and administrators," Deschaine said in the message. "We know this raises a multitude of questions, which we will spend the upcoming days working through to develop answers for you."

Many of the diocese's Catholic schools shared the superintendent's message on their social media and websites. More information concerning Catholic schools' upcoming academic year will be forthcoming.

Justice's order pushing back the start of

**See "Schools" on Page 4**

## Sister Jennifer Berridge Will Profess First Vows in Wheeling



Joyce Bibey Photo

**Sister Jennifer Berridge, CSJ, stands outside Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling, earlier this year.**

**By Colleen Rowan**

**C**ongregation of St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Berridge is preparing for her profession of first vows. This joyful moment in her life will be with the Catholic faithful of Wheeling at St. Vincent de Paul Parish July 25 during the 5 p.m. Mass.

"I'm really just humbled, honored, excited, and very grateful for this blessed time in my life that led me to this vocation," she said.

During the Mass, an individual from the congregation's leadership team will formally ask Sister Jennifer a series of questions, to

**See "Berridge" on Page 5**

## INSIDE:

Clarksburg Notre Dame's Principal Leaving, Page 4

Pope, U.S. Bishops 'Saddened' by Turkish Court Ruling on Hagia Sophia, Page 6

# Governor Reduces Social Gathering Limit; Closes Fairs, Festivals, and Concerts Statewide

**CHARLESTON**—Gov. Jim Justice joined West Virginia health leaders and other officials July 13 for his latest daily press briefing regarding the State's COVID-19 response.

With the daily number of new COVID-19 cases continuing to climb across West Virginia, Gov. Justice announced that day that he has issued an executive order reducing the statewide social gathering limit from 100 to 25 individuals.

"We want everyone to know this is not playtime stuff," Gov. Justice said. "We now, in West Virginia, have 1,338 active cases. We have grown 206 active cases since I saw you the last time on Friday."

"We are in great shape with our hospitals. But there's no guarantee that it's going to stay that way," Gov. Justice continued. "So we have got to significantly restrict the crowd size again."

The 25-person limitation applies only to purely social gatherings.

It does not apply to any activity, business, or entity that has been deemed essential, such as religious services, weddings, or group meetings, conferences, or other special events held for essential businesses and operations, as defined by Executive Order 9-20, as amended. Such meetings, conferences, or other special events will need to plan for social distancing between attendees based on CDC recommendations.

This order went into effect July 14.

Additionally on July 13, Gov. Justice announced that the same executive order also closes all fairs, festivals, and similar events, and prohibits both indoor and outdoor concerts statewide.

"It's no fun to close things," Gov. Justice said. "But we've got to do the things that are going to be the prudent things for all West Virginians, so we can still do many of the things that we love to do."

## 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 report. 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.report](http://www.report)

**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.

**To report to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:** The Diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost as well as 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 designees at 304-233-0880. The proper extensions are: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Tim Bishop, ext. 353. You may also fill out a confidential "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor" by picking one up at your local parish or requesting one in the mail from Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. The Complaint Form also is available for download on the diocese's web site [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), click Diocese on the menu bar, then click Offices, click Safe Environment and click "Download Files and Forms" section. It is listed as "Complaint Form." To report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-698

**Links and information:** WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit, Internet Crimes Against Children

## 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."

## Notice of Passing — Deacon Louis Belldina

Deacon Louis Belldina passed away July 16. Arrangements are pending.



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)  
July 17, 2020  
Vol. 51, No. 15

**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, Babette Pascasio



**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.



# 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



## Guide...

### Cont'd from Page 1

themselves lacking the certainty how to proceed," he said.

Cardinal Ladaria said the handbook was "designated as version 1.0" and will be subject to future updates.

It will be adapted to any eventual developments of canon law as well as to "respond to new challenges that experience will offer to the juridical treatment of the cases in question," he said.

He also said it will be updated in the future with considerations from dioceses and church institutions whose "qualified contribution will help to correct, integrate, specify and clarify those points that, as is only natural, require deeper reflection."

Some of the more notable clarifications of current norms and procedures include:

— Information about alleged abuse does not have to come as a formal complaint to an ordinary. The church leader can learn about it from a third party, anonymous sources and even through social media. "It is not advisable to dismiss the matter" outright, it said, no matter how dubious or uncertain the claim.

— In the case of an accusation being made during confession, the priest must respect the sacramental seal, however he "should seek to convince the penitent to make that information known by other means, in order to enable the appropriate authorities to take action."

— Upon learning of an allegation,

the ordinary "ought" to begin a preliminary investigation and gather and safeguard evidence. Even if the report is determined to be unfounded, the accusation, all documentation and an explanation for the ordinary's decision should be kept and a note about the decision should be sent to the doctrinal congregation.

— "Even in cases where there is no explicit legal obligation to do so, the ecclesiastical authorities should make a report to the competent civil authorities if this is considered necessary to protect the person involved or other minors from the danger of further criminal acts."

— In situations not involving a minor, but that are "cases of improper and imprudent conduct," it said, "should it prove necessary to protect the common good and to avoid scandal, the ordinary or hierarch is competent to take other administrative provisions with regard to the person accused, for example, restrictions on his ministry, or to impose the penal remedies" in order to prevent further delicts.

— The ordinary or his delegate is responsible for the preliminary investigation, which is not a trial, but a phase to collect information, and any "eventual omission of this duty could constitute a delict subject to a canonical procedure" in conformity with canon law and Pope Francis' document on accountability, "As a Loving Mother."

— Church authorities were urged to seek help from the doctrinal office or experts at any point in the proceedings.

— During the investigative phase, "a

decision to be avoided is that of simply transferring the accused cleric from his office, region or religious house, with the idea that distancing him from the place of the alleged crime or alleged victims constitutes a sufficient solution of the case." Other precautionary measures, which the document refers to, should be considered.

— If the church receives "a legitimate executive order requiring the surrender of documents regarding cases, or order (for) the judicial seizure of such documents, the ordinary or hierarch must cooperate with the civil authorities."

— When it comes to whether the bishop or superior must inform civil authorities upon receiving an allegation and opening its own investigation, it said leaders should consider the "respect for the laws of the state" and "respect for the desire of the alleged victim, provided that this is not contrary to civil legislation." Alleged victims should be encouraged to exercise their duties and rights as civilians in regard to state authorities.

— While the "secret of office" was to be respected by church personnel, "it must be remembered, however, that an obligation of silence about the allegations cannot be imposed on the one reporting the matter, on a person who claims to have been harmed, and on witnesses."

— Accusers were also to be kept informed of the proceedings if they so desired.

In an effort to help those responsible for handling abuse allegations and to collect testimonials of credibility with regard to the complainants and the alleged victims, the congregation included a form to be filled out, listing what it considers "useful data that those carrying out the preliminary investigation will want to compile and have at hand." In an interview with Vatican News July 16, Archbishop Giacomo Morandi, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said it is "the first time the procedure is described in an organized way — from the first report of a possible crime to the definitive conclusion of the cause — uniting the existing norms and the praxis of the congregation." He also affirmed that the guidelines ensure that anonymous complaints of abuse, which were often disregarded, are taken more seriously

now and that ignoring a complaint "because it is not signed would be wrong."

"It has become clear that a peremptory attitude in one sense or another is not conducive to the search for truth and justice," he said. "How can a complaint which, even if anonymous, contains certain evidence (i.e. photos, films, messages, audio), or at least concrete and plausible clues of the commission of a crime, be thrown out?"

Archbishop Morandi said that while some crimes are recent, the congregation is "still witnessing reports emerge of old cases, sometimes many years later." Nevertheless, he said, "when this phase of past cases emerging comes to an end, I am convinced (and we all hope so) that the phenomenon we are witnessing today can recede."

Plans to publish the handbook were first announced at a press briefing at the end of the Vatican summit on the protection of minors in 2019.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, who served as moderator of the four-day summit, said at the time that the handbook would be available in "a few weeks or month or two."

Archbishop Morandi told Vatican News that the delay in publishing the handbook was "due to extensive analysis work, not only within the congregation but also outside of it, with experts in the field, other dicasteries, and in particular with the Secretariat of State."

The summit brought together Pope Francis and 190 church leaders — presidents of bishops' conferences, the heads of the Eastern Catholic churches, superiors of men's and women's religious orders and Roman Curia officials — for four days of listening to speeches, survivors' testimonies, discussions in small groups, a penitential liturgy and Mass. In addition to the handful of survivors who spoke at the summit itself, dozens of survivors from around the world gathered in Rome in solidarity with one another and to speak to reporters and to individual bishops. Twelve representatives of the survivors were invited to meet with the summit's organizing committee. Father Lombardi told journalists that the handbook would list a set of guidelines and "will help bishops around the world clearly understand their duties and tasks" when handling cases of abuse.

(Contributing to this story was Junno Arocho Esteves)

# This is living!



(304) 242-5233  
[www.WeltyHome.org](http://www.WeltyHome.org)

# Daily Living

Sunday Mornings: with Fr. Chapin  
 11 Nexstar WDVM Hagerstown, Md.

6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Charleston, Huntington

8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley, Bluefield, Lewisburg

10:00 WTOV METV Wheeling, Steubenville

9:30 WVFX FOX 10 Clarksburg, Fairmont, Morgantown

10:00 DirecTV 367 World Harvest Television

Episodes  
 Available at  
[mydailyliving.com](http://mydailyliving.com)



# Clarksburg Notre Dame's Principal Leaving

By Colleen Rowan

**CLARKSBURG**—Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg has announced that Principal Julie Frosch has resigned from her position. Her departure is effective July 31.

Frosch is leaving due to her family's decision to relocate with her husband's job out of the country, said Notre Dame's designated pastor Father Joe Konikattil.

Father Konikattil made

the announcement in a message to the Notre Dame Family on the school's Facebook page July 12.

"I thank her for the courage and dedication in leading the school family for the last couple of years. It was certainly a challenging task, especially during this unprecedented time," Father Konikattil said in the message. "I wish God's blessings upon her and the family. During this transi-

tion, I will lead the way and everything will be taken care of until a new principal is appointed."

Frosch became principal of the school in the summer of 2018.

Well wishes and farewells for her were posted on the school's Facebook page after the announcement was made.

"Mrs. Frosch and the love she showed to students will be greatly missed at

NDHS," Jennifer Piscitelli Talkington posted. This was just one of the many posts.

The search for a new principal of Notre Dame has begun. The complete job description is at the bottom of this page.

Parents and others in the school community with questions may contact Father Konikattil by sending him an e-mail to [smkonikattil@gmail.com](mailto:smkonikattil@gmail.com).



**Julie Frosch**

## Schools...

Cont'd from Page 1

the school year was in response to the increase in COVID-19 cases in West Virginia. As of July 13, there were 1,338 active COVID-19 cases in the state. Justice made the announcement July 8 at a press briefing that he and state education leaders are targeting Sept. 8 as the tentative date to resume student instruction in school buildings in all 55 counties across West Virginia.

"No one wants us to go back to school more than I do," Justice said.

"But, at the end of the day, I'm going to do what I think is the best thing and safest thing for our kids. And I am not going to move forward with going back to school until I am absolutely as sure as I can be that our kids, teachers, service personnel, and parents are going to be safe."

West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC) Executive Director Bernie Dolan announced July 10 that with the new start date for schools, the fall sports and activities calendar would also be adjusted.

"We are pushing back our practice

dates," Dolan said in a press briefing. "Instead of starting on August 3rd – the date most fall sports practices would've started except volleyball – we're moving the start of all of our practice activities to Aug. 17."

Dolan announced that, under the current plan, golf would be the first sport to resume competition because its participants are adequately able to socially distance from one another during matches. Golf is currently scheduled to begin Aug. 24.

Competitions for volleyball, cheerleading, cross-country, and soccer are scheduled to begin Sept.

2. Football games can start as early as Sept. 3.

Dolan said that competition attendees will have to follow additional safety guidelines, which will vary based on the type of sport and the facility in which it is being played but will likely include social distancing and the wearing of masks, to keep all participants and visitors as safe as possible.

Any additional WVSSAC guidelines will be provided online as soon as they become available. For more information visit [www.wvssac.org](http://www.wvssac.org).

## Norte Dame High School, Clarksburg, Seeks Principal

• Candidates must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Christian philosophy of the school.

• The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or be in the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.

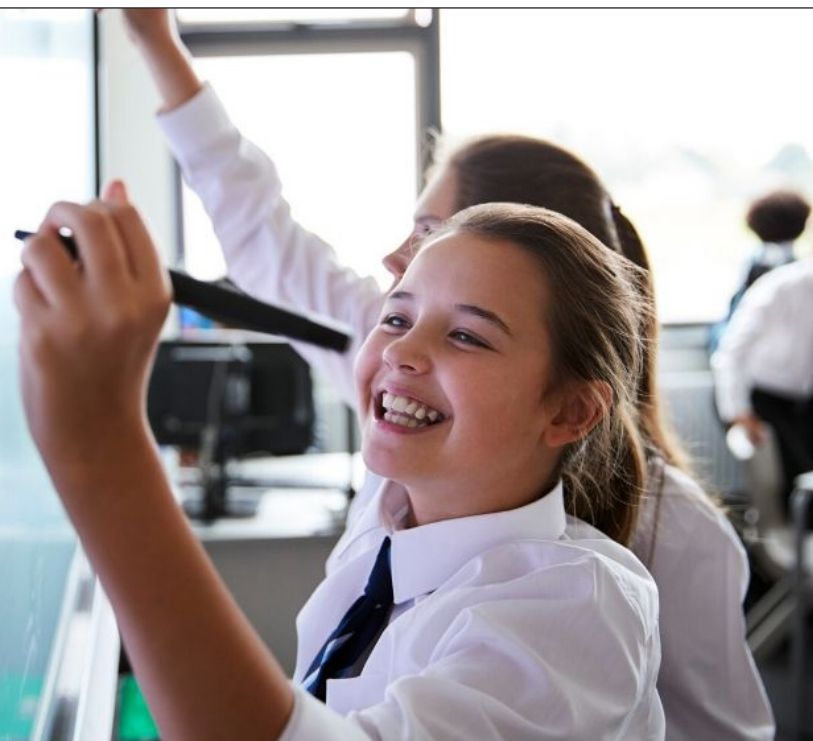
• The candidate will have a minimum of five years of successful educational experience with preference for administrative experience.

Applications may be emailed with all the attachments in PDF to [jkonikattil@dwc.org](mailto:jkonikattil@dwc.org) or [smkonikattil@gmail.com](mailto:smkonikattil@gmail.com)

## ENROLL TODAY

WV Catholic Schools

Empowered  
by knowledge.  
Transformed  
by faith.



Register today for 2020-2021

[wvcatholicschools.org](http://wvcatholicschools.org)

### JOHNSON BOILER WORKS, INC

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

*Arabia's Art Gallery*  
Fine Art & Crafts  
**Art Auctions  
as Fundraisers  
since 1969!**  
Spencer, WV (304) 927-3011

**H.E. NEUMANN CO.**  
MECHANICAL SERVICE CONTRACTORS  
Commercial • Industrial • Residential  
Since 1924  
**(304) 232-3040**  
[www.heneumann.com](http://www.heneumann.com)

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

We Also Specialize in Plumbing, Heating & Cooling



**Lou W. Nau, Inc.**

69 Edgington Lane, Wheeling Phone (304) 242-6311

[louwnau.doitbest.com](http://louwnau.doitbest.com)



# Berridge...

**Cont'd from Page 1**  
which she will respond: "I do." A candle will be lit from the flame of the paschal candle, she will profess vows, and she will then be presented with a new mentor to continue the journey of her vocation with her. Her mentor's name has not yet been announced.

Sister Jennifer chose St. Vincent's as the church at which she would make her profession of first vows after attending Mass there many times and really having enjoyed being with the people of the parish. Many of them, she said, came to hear her speak at a Serra Club gathering. She has gotten to know them as well as Msgr. Paul Hudock, pastor, and Father Joseph Wylie, associate pastor, she said.

"It just seemed like the perfect fit," she said.  
Msgr. Hudock said St. Vincent's is honored to host this special Mass.  
"Sister Jennifer has a heart of compassion for those in need of healing by God's grace," he said. "She

also has found a spiritual home among the Congregation of St. Joseph. I pray Sister Jennifer may be blessed in her life in community, and also have the grace to offer fruitful service to God's people."  
Originally from Solon, Ohio, near Cleveland, Sister Jennifer first made a connection with the Sisters of St. Joseph at her parish. And it was their warm, welcoming spirit and genuine care, love, and support for her family, she said, that drew her to them.

For Sister Jennifer, the last two years have been her novitiate period. The first part of this period is a canonical year. The second part is an apostolic year, which officially ended for Sister Jennifer on July 1.

"It's a time that's really meant for study and reflection and taking a deeper dive into community life and really asking yourself the questions of discernment," she shared. This also took her to Rochester, N.Y., for 10 months.

Prior to her novitiate, Sister Jennifer spent two and a half years in candidacy.

"As a candidate, I moved into Mount St. Joseph," she explained. "You begin life in community with the sisters, and you also maintain a ministry, a full-time position, so I worked at different jobs here, throughout Wheeling." She spent time working at St. John's Children's Home and Crittenton Services, both in Wheeling.

After she professes her first vows this month at St. Vincent's, her vocation journey continues.

"After first vows," Sister Jennifer said, "I'll go back into a ministry and



**Sister Jennifer Berridge, CSJ, left, is pictured with her candidate director, Sister Kathleen Durkin, CSJ, earlier this year.**

then in three years, good Lord willing, will be final vows."

In anticipation of Sister Jennifer's profession of first vows, Congregation of St. Joseph Sisters expressed their joy for her at this moment.

Sister Kathleen Durkin, CSJ, of Wheeling was Sister Jennifer's candidate director, and said that she had the privilege of coming to know her during her two-year candidacy.

"Knowing something of the challenge of the journey toward first vows it gives me great joy to celebrate with her, with the congregation, her family and all those with whom she ministers," Sister

Kathleen said. "We are gifted to have her among us. Jennifer's great love of God spills over easily into her love and compassion for others."

Sister Christin Riley, CSJ, said that after arriving in Wheeling more than four years ago, Sister Jennifer fell more deeply in love with God, the congregation, and the people of West Virginia.


"During the past two years, I had the privilege of living in local community with Jennifer; journeying with her as companion and mentor as she continued her prayerful discernment of God's call in her life," Sister Christine said. "Jennifer is a

woman of deep faith, prayer and compassion. She freely shares her experience of God's love with others. Jennifer embodies our mission of unity — helping to bring about unity of all people with God, with one another, and with all creation — That All May Be One...

"In our world, where there is so much division today, we are all called to listen more deeply to one another, to respect diverse views and to come to common ground for the good of all persons," Sister Christine said. "We don't have large groups of young women entering religious community today. However, I have great hope that religious life will continue to flourish, possibly in new ways, as we continue to work with and among our CSJ Associates and so many other dedicated women and men who are committed to our common mission. I am filled with joy, delight, and gratitude to God as Jennifer takes this next step on her journey as a vowed member of our congregation of the great love of God."

Back in 1853, Sister Christine said, before West Virginia became a state, there were only four Sisters of St. Joseph who came up the Ohio River by flatbed boat from St. Louis to work in the newly founded Wheeling Hospital on 15th Street.

"Our congregation is celebrating its 167th year in the state of (Virginia) and West Virginia," she said. "The Sisters of St. Joseph have had a presence in Wheeling Hospital since 1853."



**MJT**

**MICHAEL J. TUPTA, D.D.S.**

Dentistry That Makes You Smile

1701 Oakhurst Drive  
Charleston, WV 25314  
304-744-4150

MyDentistInCharleston.com

Accepting New Patients



**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

office@topnotchlandscape.com (304) 233-0332



Place  
your  
ad  
here



**MILLS GROUP**  
ARCHITECTURE ■ PLANNING ■ PRESERVATION

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF  
WHEELING-CHARLESTON'S PARISHES  
AND SCHOOLS FOR OVER 20 YEARS

DWC PARISHIONERS VICTOR GRECO AND JULIE DOERR

VISIT US @ [MILLSGROUPONLINE.COM](http://MILLSGROUPONLINE.COM)



# Pope, U.S. Bishops 'Saddened' by Turkish Court Ruling on Hagia Sophia

**By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)**—Pope Francis said he was saddened after a Turkish court ruled to revert the iconic Hagia Sophia museum into a mosque.

U.S. bishops echoes his statement and urged Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan "to reverse this unnecessary and painful decision and restore Hagia Sophia as a place of prayer and reflection for all peoples."

While commemorating the International Day of the Sea during his Sunday Angelus address July 12, Pope Francis told pilgrims in St. Peter's Square that "the sea carries me a little farther away in my thoughts: to Istanbul."

"I think of Hagia Sophia, and I am very saddened," he said.

Erdogan issued a decree to hand over control of Hagia Sophia to the country's Directorate of Religious Affairs after Turkey's highest court revoked its status as a museum July 10.

In a video message after the court ruling, Erdogan said Hagia Sophia will remain "open to all locals, foreigners, Muslims and non-Muslims."

On July 14, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Bishop Joseph C. Bambera of Scranton, Pennsylvania, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, said in a statement: "Since its foundation as a Christian cathedral in 537, Hagia Sophia has been one of the world's great artistic and spiritual treasures. For many years now, this beautiful and cherished site has served as a museum where people of all faiths can come to experience the sublime presence of God. It has also stood as a sign of good will and peaceful coexistence between Christians and Muslims and an expression of humanity's longings for unity and love."

Other world and religious leaders, including Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, criticized the ruling. His Orthodox patriarchate is based in Istanbul.

In a homily during a June 30 divine liturgy, the patriarch warned that the decision "will push millions of Christians around the world against Islam."

It is "absurd and harmful that Hagia Sophia, from a place that now allows the two peoples to meet us and admire its greatness, can again

become a reason for contrast and confrontation," he said, according to Fides news agency.

Echoing the patriarch's words, Ioan Saucă, interim general secretary of the World Council of Churches, expressed his concern that the decision will "inevitably create uncertainties, suspicions and mistrust, undermining all our efforts to bring people of different faiths together at the table of dialogue and cooperation."

In a July 11 letter to Erdogan, Saucă urged the Turkish president to reverse his decision "in the interest of promoting mutual understanding, respect, dialogue and cooperation and avoiding cultivating old animosities and divisions."

The decision was strongly condemned by Archbishop Elpidophoros of the New York-based Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, who called the decision "the worst example of religious chauvinism."

"By shuttering Hagia Sophia as a monument, Turkey has shut the window that (Mustafa Kemal) Atatürk opened to the world," he tweeted July 10.

The cathedral, founded by Emperor Justinian I on the site of two earlier churches, was the world's largest at its dedication in 537.

Hagia Sophia remained a cathedral for the Byzantine Empire until 1453, when it served as a mosque following the Ottoman capture of Constantinople, today's Istanbul, for nearly five centuries.

Under Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey, it then became a museum in 1935. It was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1985.

Audrey Azoulay, director general of UNESCO, issued a statement July 10 saying the decision was "regrettable" and "made without any form of dialogue or prior notice."

"UNESCO calls upon the Turkish authorities to initiate dialogue without delay, in order to prevent any detrimental effect on the universal value of this exceptional heritage, the state of conservation of which will be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its next session," Azoulay said.

Critics of the move have also accused Erdogan's government of using the decision to boost support for his governing Justice and Development party amid economic hardships exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.



CNS Photo/Murad Sezer, Reuters

Turkish police officers walk in front of Hagia Sophia in Istanbul July 11.

## Our chefs make the best meals



**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
NURSING HOME

304.242.1093

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





## Confirmations Continue across the Diocese

**The Catholic Spirit Photo**  
**Bishop Mark Brennan administers the Sacrament of Confirmation to a young member of Sacred Heart Parish in Chester. Looking on is Father Jeelson V. Stephan, MCBS, pastor of the parish. Confirmations are continuing around the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston this summer. A schedule may be viewed on this page.**

## CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Immaculate Conception, Fairmont  
 Friday, July 17: 6:00 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling  
 Saturday, July 18: 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg  
 Sunday, July 19: 11:00 a.m.

St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton  
 Wednesday, Aug. 5: 7:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi, St. Albans  
 Saturday, Aug. 8: 11:00 a.m.

St. Agnes, Charleston and St. Anthony,  
 Charleston, at St. Agnes  
 Saturday, Aug. 8: 5:00 p.m.

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred  
 Heart, Charleston  
 Sunday, Aug. 9: 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.  
 (4:00 Mass if necessary)

St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown  
 Wednesday, Aug. 12: 7:00 p.m.

St. Leo, Inwood  
 Saturday, Aug. 15: 10:00 a.m.

St. Agnes, Shepherdstown  
 Sunday, Aug. 16: 9:00 a.m.

St. Joseph, Martinsburg (to be held at St. James  
 Parish, Charles Town)  
 Sunday, Aug. 16: 3:30 p.m.

St. Sebastian, Kingwood; St. Zita Mission,  
 Masontown; St. Edward the Confessor, Mission,  
 at St. Sebastian  
 Friday, Aug. 21: 6:00 p.m.

St. Peter Welch and Sacred Heart Mission, Po-  
 whatan, at Sacred Heart Mission  
 Saturday, Aug. 22: 5:30 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales, Beckley  
 Sunday, Aug. 23: 11:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi, Warwood  
 Saturday, Aug. 29: 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

## Adult Education Instructor Needed

### Catholic Charities West Virginia, McDowell County

Catholic Charities West Virginia is seeking a full-time Adult Education Instructor for the McDowell County Adult Learning Center, Welch, WV. The Adult Education Instructor is responsible for setting educational goals with adult learners and helping them achieve those goals. The position requires travel between several learning sites in McDowell and Wyoming Counties.

Job duties include: overseeing all learning activities in basic skills, High School Equivalency, job readiness, and life coping skills; maintaining accurate student records and adhering to all procedures set by the WV Department of Education and Catholic Charities WV; recruiting new students, monitoring student progress, and designing student retention practices; focusing on individual goal-oriented instruction based upon individual education plans; reviewing and selecting texts, software, online courses, and other educational resources related to instruction; and building partnerships in the community and attending community meetings.

Qualifications include: a Bachelor's degree in Education, Social Services/Social Sciences, or related field required. A professional teaching certificate is preferred. If an individual doesn't have a teaching certificate, then he or she must be eligible for an adult license for Adult Education. This requires a four year college degree with a minimum 2.5 GPA in original coursework and a minimum of 3.0 GPA in coursework used to maintain the adult license. Must have a valid driver's license, reliable transportation, and the ability to work in multiple locations. Prior experience in teaching adults preferred. Must be detail-oriented, self-starting, and computer literate. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are also required.

Please submit a resume, cover letter and three professional references by July 17, 2020, to [matwood@ccwva.org](mailto:matwood@ccwva.org). Application materials can also be delivered to: Matt Atwood, Southern Regional Director, Catholic Charities WV, 23 S. 7th Street, Princeton, WV 2474

Place your ad here



- Secure, Climate-Controlled Storage
- Outside Storage Units with 24-hour access
- Loading & Unloading Dock Facility

**Chris Duplaga, Owner**  
 420 Fulton St.,  
 Wheeling, WV 26003  
 (304) 232-8820

### Store it or Pitch it!

- We drop storage pods on site
- We drop roll-off containers on site

Grounds Maintenance ♦ Design-Build ♦ Landscape Architecture

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

www.terraccareinc.com  
 (304) 925-4751

Charleston White Sulphur Springs Morgantown

# El Vaticano publica una guía sobre cómo los líderes deben manejar las denuncias de abuso

**Por Carol Glatz Catholic, Servicio de noticias**

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** — La Congregación del Vaticano para la Doctrina de la Fe publicó un documento de 17 páginas que ofrece una guía paso a paso sobre cómo se supone que los obispos, los superiores religiosos y los abogados canónicos manejen las acusaciones de presuntos abusos por parte de clérigos contra menores.

Si bien nada en el texto es nuevo, ni refleja ningún cambio en la ley actual de la iglesia, el manual tiene la intención de presentar instrucciones

claras y precisas, procedimientos y actitudes que los líderes de la iglesia deben tener hacia las víctimas, los acusados, las autoridades civiles y los medios.

El cardenal Luis Ladaria, prefecto de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, dijo que el manual, llamado “Vademécum”, fue el resultado de numerosas solicitudes de obispos y superiores de órdenes religiosas de hombres y mujeres “de tener a su disposición una herramienta que podría ayudarlos en la delicada tarea de conducir correctamente los casos relacionados con diáconos, sacerdotes y obispos

cuando son acusados de abuso sexual de menores”.

“El curso de la justicia no puede agotar solo la respuesta de la iglesia, pero es necesario para llegar a la verdad de los hechos”, dijo el cardenal Ladaria en un comunicado publicado por el Vaticano el 16 de julio. “Este es un camino complejo que conduce a un denso bosque de normas y procedimientos ante los cuales los ordinarios y superiores a veces se encuentran sin la certeza de cómo proceder”, dijo.

El cardenal Ladaria dijo que el manual fue “designado como versión

1.0” y estará sujeto a futuras actualizaciones.

Se adaptará a cualquier eventual desarrollo del derecho canónico, así como para “responder a los nuevos desafíos que la experiencia ofrecerá al tratamiento jurídico de los casos en cuestión”, dijo.

También dijo que se actualizará en el futuro con consideraciones de diócesis e instituciones de la iglesia cuya “contribución calificada ayudará a corregir, integrar, especificar y aclarar aquellos puntos que, como es natural, requieren una reflexión más profunda”.

## Papa: ‘muy dolido’ por fallo que convierte a Santa Sofía en mezquita

**Por Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service**

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** — El papa Francisco dijo estar dolido después de que un tribunal turco dictaminó revertir el icónico museo Hagia Sophia en mezquita.

Mientras conmemoraba el Día Internacional del Mar durante su discurso dominical del Ángelus el 12 de julio, el papa dijo a los peregrinos en la Plaza de San Pedro que “el mar me lleva un poco más lejos con el pensamiento: a Estambul”.

“Pienso en Santa Sofía, y estoy muy dolido”, dijo.

El presidente turco, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, emitió un decreto para entregar el control de Hagia Sophia a la Dirección de Asuntos Religiosos del país después de que el tribunal supremo de Turquía revocó su condición de museo el 10 de julio.

En un mensaje de video después del fallo de la corte, Erdogan dijo que Hagia Sophia permanecerá “abierta a todos los locales, extranjeros, musulmanes y no musulmanes”.

Los comentarios del papa sobre la decisión fueron los más recientes por parte de líderes mundiales y religiosos que criticaron el fallo, incluido el patriarca ecuménico ortodoxo Bartolomé de Constantinopla.

En una homilía durante una liturgia divina del 30 de junio, el patriarca advirtió que la decisión “empu-

jará a millones de cristianos en todo el mundo en contra del islam”.

Es “absurdo y dañino que Hagia Sophia, desde un lugar que ahora permite que los dos pueblos nos conozcamos y admiren su grandeza, puede volver a ser motivo de contraste y confrontación”, dijo, según la agencia de noticias Fides.

Repitiendo las palabras del patriarca, Ioan Saucă, secretario general interino del Consejo Mundial de Iglesias, expresó su preocupación de que la decisión “inevitablemente creará incertidumbres, sospechas y desconfianza, socavando todos nuestros esfuerzos para reunir a personas de diferentes religiones en la mesa de diálogo y cooperación”.

En una carta del 11 de julio a Erdogan, Saucă instó al presidente turco a revertir su decisión “en aras de promover el entendimiento mutuo, el respeto, el diálogo y la cooperación y evitar cultivar viejas animosidades y divisiones”.

La decisión fue condenada enérgicamente por el Arzobispo Elpidophoros de la Arquidiócesis Ortodoxa Griega de América, con sede en Nueva York, quien calificó la decisión como “el peor ejemplo de chovinismo religioso”.

“Al cerrar Hagia Sophia como monumento, Turquía ha cerrado la ventana que (Mustafa Kemal) Atatürk abrió al mundo”, tuiteó el 10 de julio.

La catedral, fundada por el emperador Justiniano I en el sitio de dos iglesias anteriores, fue la más grande del mundo en su dedicación en 537.

Hagia Sophia siguió siendo una catedral para el Imperio Bizantino hasta 1453, cuando sirvió como mezquita tras la captura otomana de Constantinopla, hoy Estambul, durante casi cinco siglos.

Bajo Atatürk, el fundador de la Turquía moderna, se convirtió en museo en 1935. Fue declarado Patrimonio de la Humanidad por la UNESCO en 1985.

Audrey Azoulay, directora general de la UNESCO, emitió un comunicado el 10 de julio diciendo que la decisión era “lamentable” y “tomada sin ningún tipo de diálogo o aviso previo”.

“La UNESCO hace un llamamiento a las autoridades turcas para que inicien el diálogo sin demora, a fin de evitar cualquier efecto perjudicial sobre el valor universal de este patrimonio excepcional, cuyo estado de conservación será examinado por el Comité del Patrimonio Mundial en su próxima sesión”, Azoulay dijo.

Los críticos de la medida también han acusado al gobierno de Erdogan de utilizar la decisión de aumentar el apoyo a su partido gobernante de Justicia y Desarrollo en medio de las dificultades económicas exacerbadas por la pandemia COVID-19.

### Reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños

La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También alentamos a utilizar [www.reportbishopabuse.org](http://www.reportbishopabuse.org) para informar. Si tiene razones para creer que un obispo se ha involucrado en una conducta sexual inapropiada o ha interferido con una investigación de 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:** Póngase en contacto con la policía local; Los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llama al 911. Para reportar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios para la Protección Infantil de la Oficina de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800-352-6513.

**Para informar a la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston:** La Diócesis alienta a que se informe ante las autoridades civiles apropiadas, en primer lugar, así como a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos

de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los designados al 304-233-0880. Las extensiones adecuadas se enumeran a continuación: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext.264; Señor. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Rdo. Tim Bishop, ext. 353. También puede completar un “Formulario de Queja por Alegaciones de Abuso Sexual de un Menor” confidencial recogiendo uno en su parroquia local o solicitando uno por correo a la Coordinadora de Ambiente Seguro, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. El formulario de queja también está disponible para descargar en el sitio web de la diócesis [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), haga clic en Diócesis en la barra de menú, luego haga clic en Oficinas, haga clic en Entorno seguro y haga clic en la sección “Descargar archivos y formularios”. Está listado como “Formulario de Queja”. Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas de la Diócesis: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-6988

**Enlaces e información:** Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp> Policía del Estado de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Delitos contra los Niños, Crímenes de Internet contra los Niños





**Catholic Charities**  
**West Virginia**  
*Mission Moment*

## Learning Unlocks New Possibilities for a Better Life

The story of Debra Bunch is not very different from many of our adult learners. Debra dropped out of high school during her sophomore year. In the following years, Debra said feelings of “not being smart enough or good enough” to obtain higher education plagued her mind.

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we recognize that serving adults seeking to further their education is not as simple as it may seem. We must meet the unique needs of adult learners, who often face significant barriers to furthering their education.

Therefore, our Catholic Charities adult learning centers follow a holistic approach, blending traditional adult education and career planning with comprehensive case management to help learners reach their education and employment goals.

After being in and out of General Education Development (GED) programs for years, Debra made one final push, and in 2016 she enrolled at our Catholic Charities Center for Community Learning and Advancement (CCLA) in Huntington.

Debra studied hard under the tutelage of our adult education instructors, and she made many sacrifices to prioritize learning while juggling other responsibilities.

In 2018, Debra finally passed the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) exam and earned her High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma! She also earned several professional certifications during her time studying at our CCLA.

Debra's HSE diploma and certifications enabled her to become employed with St. Mary's Medical Center. Furthermore, her newfound confidence inspired her to pursue a career in nursing and enroll in the Licensed Practical Nurse program at the Cabell Career Technology Center.

“We know one of the greatest gifts a person can have is a good education and job skills training,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa Chief Executive Officer. “A good education provides the foundation for a promising and



**Debra Bunch, dressed in her ‘graduation whites’ attire, visits the Catholic Charities Center for Community Learning and Advancement in Huntington to celebrate her newly earned Licensed Practical Nurse diploma.**

*Courtesy Photo*

secure future and a stable life.”

In May of 2020, Debra visited our CCLA to share that she had just received her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification. Debra expressed her gratitude to our CCLA team for setting her on her career path and helping her reach her goals. She plans to apply for admission into St. Mary's Registered Nurse (RN) program in the near future.

Debra cites encouragement from family, adult education instructors, and her faith in God as motivating forces to help her achieve

her education goals. She encourages others with self-doubt to “push forward and never settle for less.”

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, 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 compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

**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

**304-232-0330**

**ALTMAYER**  
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

“THE PRE-ARRANGEMENT FUNERAL HOME”

James E. Altmeyer, Jr. President  
James E. Altmeyer, Sr. Chairman  
Eugene T. Fahy Vice President

Wheeling Chapel  
1400 Eoff Street  
Wheeling, WV  
304-232-0330

South Wheeling Chapel  
3828 Jacob Street  
Wheeling, WV  
304-232-5444

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  
304-845-4560

Beck-Altmeier  
204 West Main Street  
St. Clairsville, OH  
740-695-0475

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



# Diocese’s Vocations Office Will Introduce New Seminarians in The Calling Aug. 7

**By Colleen Rowan**  
**WEST VIRGINIA—** The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Vocations Office will introduce new seminarians to the Catholic faithful of West Virginia in its upcoming newsletter *The Calling*, which will be featured in *The Catholic Spirit* print and electronic editions Aug. 7.

The newsletter will also feature a piece on a man becoming a priest is today’s age by Father Brian Crenwelge, director of Voca-

tions. We’ll also be catching up with our newly ordained Deacon Phillip Szabo in his summer assignment with Father Tim Grassi at St. Thomas Parish in Thomas and Our Lady of Mercy Mission in Parsons. We’ll also be checking in with our newly ordained Father Justin Golna at his summer assignments with Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., at St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart of Mary parishes in Weirton, and then




with by Father Crenwelge at St. John University Parish and Mountaineer Catholic in Morgantown, before he returns to Rome to continue his studies in canon law.

The *Calling*’s goal is to share all of the news, programs, and events of the diocese’s Vocations Office and to provide men who may be feeling the call to priesthood the chance to

learn a little more about the priests and seminarians of the diocese and their experiences.

So be sure to check out *The Catholic Spirit* Aug. 7. It’s going to be a great issue!



**WLWL**  
Light of Life  
Radio Ministry

**Catholic Radio**  
304-598-0026 [www.LoLradio.org](http://www.LoLradio.org)  
throughout West Virginia 24/7 on the internet  
[www.rdo.to/WLWL](http://www.rdo.to/WLWL)

Grafton Weston Clarksburg Fairmont Kingwood AM 1190  
Wheeling Moundsville St Clairsville FM 90.7  
Clarksburg Bridgeport FM 97.5 Morgantown FM 89.7

Everything in Restaurant & Bar Equipment



**national equipment co.**

One 14th Street, Wheeling  
(304) 233-2270  
We Specialize in Kitchen Equipment for Churches and Schools.

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



**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.**



**WHEELING HOSPITAL**  
*A Tradition of Excellence. A Legacy of Caring.®*

**WVU Medicine**