

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Happy Birthday, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston!

Bells Ring across the State Celebrating 175 Years of the Church in West Virginia



Courtesy photo

Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Oak Hill joined in the kick off of the yearlong celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston by ringing the church bells at 7:19 p.m. on July 19 (the anniversary of the diocese's founding). Father Jojan Joseph, CST, pastor (center) rings one of the bells with parishioners. From left are seminarian Clifton Mastran; parishioners Curtis Richards, Anthony Gerard, and Jerry Hypes; Father Joseph; and parishioners Kathryn Whickline, Eric Hypes, Cynthia Everly (behind the bell), and Rebecca Stinnett. A special webpage provides various materials related to the anniversary celebration along with historical information and a list of anniversary events which will continue from July 2025 through July 2026. [Click here to visit the page.](#)

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Revisions to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment Policy Announced

WEST VIRGINIA—Upcoming revisions to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment policy are expected to better align with norms across the United States by focusing on volunteer roles that involve more direct or prolonged contact with minors and by shifting to a three-year requirement for continuing education, according to Bishop Mark Brennan.

The revisions are not drastic, but they are expected to be impactful, especially for volunteers in parishes throughout the Diocese. The revised policy will take effect on July 1, 2025. The background check requirement and the policy acknowledgements for Safe Environment will remain the same. It is the awareness training schedule and the roles to which the Safe Environment process applies that will be changing.

Starting in July, continuing Safe Environment education by the Diocese's service provider, VIRTUS, will be required for all employees every three years. Compliance with the Safe Environment protocol will remain a condition of employment for all employees. Volunteers who have direct or prolonged contact

with children will be required to complete the continuing Safe Environment education module every three years as well. Presently, continuing education is required on a monthly and yearly basis for employees and most volunteers.

Employees and volunteers will be able to complete awareness training every three years online through their VIRTUS accounts; at an in-person VIRTUS training; or by reading the training module in printed material format. Completion of the awareness training module every three years will be required to achieve compliance with the Safe Environment protocol. There will be no change in the monthly bulletin requirement. Monthly bulletins are available to all employees and volunteers and are accessed in electronic format through VIRTUS. Monthly bulletins also will be made available in printed format in common areas of parishes and schools for anyone to access, regardless of role, to read and raise awareness.

Moving forward for volunteers, the Safe Environment process will apply primarily to roles that involve direct or prolonged contact with minors, as opposed to all or

most volunteer roles.

"Over the past 12 months, we have received and analyzed feedback relative to Safe Environment from our employees and volunteers throughout the Diocese," Bishop Brennan said. "We also have done some research regarding what most other dioceses across the nation require as far as Safe Environment continuing education. We believe this policy revision strikes an appropriate balance and continues to safeguard our young people and vulnerable adults in a robust way, without overwhelming our local level Safe Environment coordinators or volunteers. We have considered all of these factors as we worked with our lay-led Review Board to put in place a more manageable process for our Diocese."

Historically, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston required completion of one awareness training module only and nothing more. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston was one of only a few dioceses in the United States that did not require reoccurring awareness training for its employees or volunteers. In 2023, Bishop Brennan instituted monthly and yearly

continuing education requirements for all employees and most volunteers.

As time passed, local level Safe Environment coordinators and a number of volunteers expressed that monthly and yearly requirements were cumbersome to complete, track, and document. Completing the monthly and yearly requirements was especially difficult for the Diocese's older volunteers who do not have access to computers or the internet.

"Our Diocese has a sizable contingent of dedicated, older volunteers who we respect and value. They are very loyal volunteers who contribute greatly to parish life. We want to make this process manageable for them, as well as for our local level Safe Environment coordinators who often are balancing multiple tasks at the parish level," Bishop Brennan said.

Continuing education on a three-year schedule is a workable, standard option for achieving Safe Environment compliance and is in line with protocols at many other dioceses across the U.S. The Diocese's background check schedule is 3 years as well. Having training

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Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops requires all Dioceses/Epararchies have a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. 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; sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Training may be completed online or via live workshop. For information, go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."

The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2025

There are 10 print editions in 2025. Below are the names of the issues and the publishing dates. Please note, the publishing dates may or may not be on feast days. Digital issues are published every Friday, delivered by e-mail to subscribers, and posted on thecatholicspiritwv.org.

2025 Print Issues and Dates: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15; Triumph of the Cross, September 12; Month of the Rosary, October 3; Advent, November 21; Christmas, December 19



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To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org. **To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement:** numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer. **To Report to Diocesan Authorities:** The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504 or the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under "Accountability." Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment," then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "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:** call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. The Diocese partners with Navex Global to offer EthicsPoint to report other 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 WV. EthicsPoint can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Revisions ...

Cont'd from Page 2

and background checks on the same three-year schedule is logical and practical, according to Bishop Brennan.

Safe Environment compliance requirements for Catholic schools will remain the same, with the only change being the shift to a three-year awareness training requirement. Every employee and every volunteer in every Catholic school, regardless of role, is required to comply with Safe Environment. If parishes utilize schools for any activities, the volunteers are expected to be compliant with the Safe Environment process. "Schools are really our front lines," Bishop Brennan said. "They have the most prolonged and direct contact with minors, and they are where our children should be able to learn, grow, and play in safety. Our parents and students should rest assured that our schools are safe places. We have always had strong Safe Environment requirements for our Catholic schools and we always will. Nothing will change there, except now awareness training will be required every three years as opposed to every month and every year." In parishes, volunteers whose roles involve more direct or prolonged contact with children will be required to comply with Safe Environment. Presently almost all volunteers are expected to comply.

A few years ago, parishes and schools expressed a need for a list of volunteer roles to which Safe Environment applies so they could have a point of reference to share with those looking to work or volunteer in the Diocese. The most current list is always housed in the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual

Abuse which can be found online at www.dwc.org under the Safe Environment tab, then Download Files and Forms.

The list cannot account for every circumstance that may arise or every role that a volunteer may fulfill in the Diocese, but it can be used to account for most common circumstances. Starting on July 1, 2025, the list will focus on the volunteer roles that involve more direct or prolonged contact with children. The Diocese and the Review Board identified some of the more public-facing volunteer roles that do not involve direct or prolonged contact with children that will become exempt from the Safe Environment process. This policy revision also recognizes those parishes that have activities that do not always involve children versus those that do.

Bishop Brennan said the Diocese's lay-led Review Board was integral to achieving the end result. "The Review Board asked questions and considered this issue over the course of several months," Bishop Brennan said. "As always, they were very thoughtful and very deliberate. I appreciate their feedback and expertise and am confident we have found the best, most balanced path for everyone involved in our Diocese."

Here is the updated list and updated language from the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse, effective July 1, 2025:

Compliance with the Safe Environment protocol involves completion of awareness training on a regular basis, completion of policy form and document acknowledgements, and completion of a background check on a regular basis.

All employees of any Diocesan

entity must be compliant with Safe Environment.

All employees and volunteers of every Catholic school (K-12) must be compliant with Safe Environment.

All employees and volunteers participating in any activities on school grounds for any reason must be compliant with Safe Environment. This includes parish volunteers if they are participating in activities on school grounds.

This list is designed to reflect all employees, as well as the most common volunteer roles with direct and/or substantial contact with minors.

This list is designed to assist Diocesan leaders in determining when to apply Safe Environment. It is not all inclusive and there may be other roles that require Safe Environment compliance that are not listed here.

Please contact the Office of Safe Environment at the Chancery with any questions regarding compliance.

Safe Environment compliance applies to those age 18 or older.

- All priests, deacons, and seminarians
- All employees at Catholic schools
- All volunteers at Catholic schools
- All volunteers affiliated with Catholic school sports, including coaches, concessions, score keepers, referees, and any other roles
- All employees and volunteers of daycare centers
- Professionals or special guests whose roles require regular or recurring presence in the Catholic school or at Catholic school activities (recurring may include: daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly)

- All parish employees
- All employees of any other Diocesan-related entity
- Parish volunteers including (age 18 and older):
 - Adult altar servers if they serve with minors
 - Sacristans if minors assist them in any regular or substantive way
 - Choir/Music Director/Choir Members/Musicians if there are minors in the choir or playing musical instruments
 - Children's Choir Director/Volunteers
 - Directors of Religious Education
 - Parish School of Religion teachers
 - All adult volunteers affiliated with youth and/or youth group activities in any capacity
 - All adult volunteers affiliated with youth/summer camps in any capacity
 - All adult volunteers affiliated with Vacation Bible School in any capacity
 - All adult volunteers involved in any activity that includes direct or substantial contact with children in any way
 - Fish fry volunteers if the fish fry is held on school grounds or if minors volunteer at the fish fry
 - Festival volunteers if the festival is held on school grounds or if minors volunteer at the festival
 - Picnic volunteers if the picnic is held on school grounds or if minors volunteer at the picnic
 - Homebound ministries or any activities relative to vulnerable adults
 - Any activities/ministries involving nursing homes and/or nursing home residents
 - Any activities relative to Boy Scout and Girl Scout councils
 - Any activities involving childcare, babysitting, or before and aftercare

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Silver Rose Arrives in West Virginia

The Knights of Columbus Council #594 welcomed the Silver Rose to West Virginia on Sunday, July 20, hosting a prayer service at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The Silver Rose program in Parkersburg was followed by Mass and then a parish potluck dinner. Decades of the rosary were led by members of host Council #594, Assembly #1187, Catholics for Life, and parishioners. Mass was celebrated by Very Rev. John Rice, V.G., pastor of the parish and chaplain to the State Council of the Knights of Columbus and to Council #594.

The Silver Rose moved on to St. Matthew Parish in Ravenswood, the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston, St. Francis of Assisi Parish in St. Albans, and Ascension Parish in Hurricane.

The Silver Rose will be at the following parishes in the next few days: Immaculate Conception Parish in Montgomery today, July 25 (call the parish for time); Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Oak

Hill Saturday, July 26, at 4:40p.m.; St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley Sunday, July 27, at the 11 a.m. Mass; and Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield Monday, July 28, at 6 p.m.

Additional dates are as follows (faithful should contact their parishes for more information): July 30, Holy Rosary, Buckhannon; July 31, St. Brendan, Elkins; Aug. 1, passing through Clarksburg; Aug. 2, Assumption, Keyser; Aug. 3, St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs; Aug. 4, St. Leo, Inwood; Aug. 5, St. James the Greater, Charles Town; Aug. 6, St. Joseph, Martinsburg; Aug. 7, St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown; Aug. 8, St. John's, Morgantown; and Aug. 9, St. Luke the Evangelist, Cheat Lake, where Knights of Columbus Council #16530 will then hand off the Silver Rose to a Pennsylvania Knights council.

Share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life by participating in this meaningful pilgrimage. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady.

Very Rev. John Rice, V.G., celebrates Mass with the Silver Rose present at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Rice is pastor of the parish and chaplain to the State Council of the Knights of Columbus and to Council #594.

Courtesy photo



Mary's Refuge Receives Donation through K of C's Aid and Support After Pregnancy Program

Mary's Refuge Maternity Home in Martinsburg receives a donation through the ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) Knights In Action Life program July 9. "Pass the Hat" funds were collected from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Convention totaling over \$28,000. Inwood Council #10756, Berkeley Springs Council #12191, Shepherdstown Council #13887, and Morgantown Council #8288 chose Mary's Refuge to receive the \$7,200 donation. Pictured left to right are Haleigh Ruppenthal (case worker), Past Grand Knight Inwood Council 10756 Glenn King, Allison Ferrell (executive director), Ayla Gressler (case manager), Past Grand Knight Shepherdstown Council 13887 Dominic Massimo, Jacqueline Robinson (house manager). Not pictured are Grand Knight Morgantown Council #8288 Fred Gabriele and Grand Knight Berkeley Springs Council #12191 Pat Narango.

Courtesy photo



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**-Past Supreme Knight
 Carl A. Anderson**





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Pope Condemns Israel's Attack against Church, Calls for End to 'Barbarity'

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The “barbarity of war” and forced displacement of people have to end, and civilians and places of worship have to be protected, Pope Leo XIV implored.

“Tragic news continues to arrive these days from the Middle East, especially from Gaza,” he said after reciting the Angelus with those gathered outside the papal palace in Castel Gandolfo July 20.

“I again call for an immediate end to the barbarity of the war and for a peaceful resolution of the conflict,” he said.

“I renew my appeal to the international community to observe humanitarian law and to respect the obligation to protect civilians, as well as the prohibition of collective punishment, the indiscriminate use of force and the forced displacement of the population,” he said.

He expressed his “profound sorrow for the Israeli army’s attack on the Holy Family Catholic Church in Gaza City” July 17, which killed three Christians and

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Pope, Palestinian President Discuss Humanitarian Tragedy in Gaza during Phone Call

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The humanitarian tragedy in the Gaza Strip and the need for urgent assistance were part of discussions between Pope Leo XVI and Mahmoud Abbas, president of Palestine and the Palestinian National Authority.

Abbas telephoned the pope July 21 “concerning recent developments in the conflict in the Gaza Strip and violence in the West Bank,” the Vatican press office said in a communique.

“During the telephone call, the Holy Father repeated his appeal for international humanitarian law to be fully respected, emphasizing in particular the obligation to protect civilians and sacred places, the prohibition of the indiscriminate use of force and

of the forced transfer of the population,” the press office wrote.

“Given the tragic humanitarian situation, emphasis was placed on the urgent need to provide assistance to those most vulnerable to the consequences of the conflict and to allow the adequate entry of humanitarian aid,” it said.

The United Nations’ World Food Program reported that a large number of civilians, who were “anxiously waiting to access desperately needed food supplies,” were suddenly fired upon by Israeli tanks, snipers and other gunfire July 20 just as the U.N. convoy of 25 trucks bringing food to northern Gaza had crossed the final Israeli checkpoint in Gaza.

The Gaza health ministry, which is run by the

See “Tragedy” on Page 7



CNS photo/Vatican Media

Pope Leo XIV recites the Angelus prayer in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, July 20.


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Attack ...

Cont'd from Page 6

seriously wounded others.

"I pray for the victims: Saad Issa Kostandi Salameh, Foumia Issa Latif Ayyad and Najwa Ibrahim Latif Abu Daoud, and I am particularly close to their families and to all the parishioners," the pope said.

"Sadly, this act adds to the continuous military attacks against the civilian population and places of worship in Gaza," the pope said.

Before praying the Angelus, the pope spoke to reporters waiting near the entrance to the papal villa after he celebrated Mass in nearby Albano Laziale.

They asked him about the Middle East conflicts, particularly in Gaza, and he said there is a need for parties to "go to the table to dialogue and to put down their weapons because the world can't take it anymore."

"There are so many conflicts, so many wars; there is a need to really work for peace, to pray with trust in God, but to also work" toward those efforts, he said.

When asked about his telephone call with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu July 18, the day after the raid, the pope said, "We insisted on the need to protect the holy places of all religions," and to work together in this regard.

But, he added, there is a need for "true respect for people, for sacred places and to try to leave behind so much violence, so much hatred, so many wars."

After praying the Angelus, the pope addressed all of "our beloved Middle Eastern Christians."

"I deeply sympathize with your feeling that you can do little in the face of this serious situation," he said. "You are in the heart of the pope and of the whole church. Thank you for your witness of faith."

He prayed Our Lady intercede to "protect you always and accompany the world towards the dawn of peace."

When greeting visitors from different parts of the world gathered in the small square, the pope thanked the International Forum of Catholic Action for promoting the "Prayer Marathon for Leaders."

"The invitation, addressed to each one of us, is to pause today between 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. to pray for just one minute, asking the Lord to enlighten our leaders and inspire in them projects for peace," he said.

Tragedy ...

Cont'd from Page 6

government of Hamas, said at least 67 people were killed. The Israel Defense Forces said it had fired "warning shots," and it denied the reported number of deaths.

The WFP reported that "countless lives" were lost and "many more suffered life-threatening injuries. These people were simply trying to access food to feed themselves and their families on the brink of starvation."

The "violent incident comes despite assurances from Israeli authorities that humanitarian operational conditions would improve, including that armed forces will not be present nor engage at any stage along humanitarian convoy routes," the WFP said July 20.

"Without these fundamental conditions in place, we cannot continue providing life-saving support across the Gaza Strip," it said, underlining its repeated warnings that the hunger crisis in Gaza was worsening.

"People are dying from a lack of humanitarian assistance. Malnutrition is surging with 90,000 women and children in urgent need of treatment. Nearly one person in three is not eating for days," it said, reporting that a two-pound bag of flour costs more than \$100 in local markets.

The Gaza health ministry said July 20 it estimated 18 deaths "due to famine" over the past 24 hours.

According to the Gaza ministry and the Israeli ministry of foreign affairs, respectively, more than 59,200 Palestinians and more than 1,980 Israelis have been reported killed in the Israel-Hamas war as of July 20. More than 200 jour-

nalists and media workers and more than 220 humanitarian aid workers have reportedly been killed.

The majority of casualties have been in the Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian Authority had controlled Gaza before Hamas took over the coastal territory in 2007. Abbas, who has been the president of Palestine since 2005, belongs to the Fatah party, which has been in an ongoing conflict with Hamas.

The authority continues to claim the strip despite Hamas exercising control. However, since Israel began its military incursion into Gaza in October 2023 after the Hamas-led attack on Israel, the Israeli military controls approximately 65% of the Gaza Strip.

In the phone call between Pope Leo and Abbas, the Vatican press office said the two leaders noted the Holy See and the State of Palestine were marking the 10th anniversary of their comprehensive agreement signed June 26, 2015, and entered into force in 2016.

The agreement recognizes Palestine as an independent state, establishing diplomatic relations, and it regulates the rights and obligations of the Catholic Church in areas under the Palestinian National Authority.

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Broglgio: Church Teaching Obligates the Faithful to Support Pastoral Care of Migrants

By **William Murray**
Catholic Standard, OSV News

ROCKVILLE, Md. (OSV News) — Because Catholics believe that all people are created in the image and likeness of God, the faithful need to extend care to people beyond our national borders and help migrants within our national borders, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in a July 20 homily.

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglgio, who also leads the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, was the principal celebrant and homilist at the opening Mass for the Knights of Peter Claver's 109th annual Senior National Convention held July 20-23 at a conference center in the Washington suburb of Rockville.

Speaking before a congregation of about 1,000 people, Archbishop Broglgio reflected on Jesus' visit with sisters Mary and Martha as recounted in Luke 8:15.

Archbishop Broglgio recounted visiting military installations all over the world, and the different ways that hospitality is practiced, since in many cultures, there are people like Martha who worry about the comfort of their guests and the details of hospitality. Her sister, Mary, however, knew that Jesus was no ordinary guest.

"Choosing the best part — letting him speak," Archbishop Broglgio said of Mary's decision to be closer to Jesus during his visit to their home.

"Like Abraham, we cannot ever know the mystery of God," he said. "Some elements of mystery will only be revealed in heaven."

Archbishop Broglgio later said in his homily that Catholics are not free to "pick and choose" which parts of Catholic teaching they favor, while discarding others. He referred to strong dissension that some American Catholics have expressed in recent months about the U.S. bishops' advocacy for migrants living in the U.S.

The Knights of Peter Claver was founded in 1909 by four Josephite priests and three laypeople in Mobile, Alabama, at a time when Black men were not per-

mitted to join other Catholic fraternal organizations. It was incorporated in 1911. The Junior Knights were authorized in 1917 and recognized as a division of the National Council in 1935. The Ladies Auxiliary was authorized in 1922 and recognized as a division of the National Council in 1926. The Junior Daughters were established in 1930.

Today, there are nearly 14,000 active Knights of Peter Claver, as well as Ladies Auxiliary members and Junior Division members, who can join when they are 7 years old. All of the organization's divisions, senior and junior, held their national conventions back to back

this year.

One of the unique aspects of the Knights of Peter Claver, in addition to being a predominantly Black Catholic organization, is that an entire family may join the organization.

"This is the future of who we are, the entire family," Supreme Knight Christopher Pichon said to the gathered assembly at the end of Mass. He expressed his hope that religious and priestly vocations could come from the Knights of Peter Claver.

"I love the community," said DeMia Pressley, a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Alexandria, Virginia. She attended the

Mass accompanied by her son and daughter, who are active in the Junior Division while attending Blessed Sacrament School in Alexandria.

She became a Catholic in 2007, and her husband, Shawn, is a Knight of Peter Claver. The family has attended Knights of Peter Claver conventions in Norfolk, Virginia, and New Orleans.

She told the Catholic Standard, Washington's archdiocesan news outlet, that she appreciates how her children can get to know other Catholic boys and girls through the fraternal organization, and noted that it's good to see "people of all

ages and people coming from all over" the country, since the Knights of Peter Claver have councils in 36 states.

Ella Hardy, a member of the Ladies Auxiliary for 28 years, also from Lafayette, said that the Knights of Peter Claver have helped in disaster recovery in Louisiana, and they also visit and pray with the elderly and help the needy.

(This story was originally published by the Catholic Standard, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Washington, and distributed through a partnership with OSV News. William Murray writes for the Catholic Standard.)

Last Chance!

Is there a Priest or Religious in your parish or school celebrating a Jubilee Anniversary this year? You can honor him or her with a congratulations ad in The Catholic Spirit's Special Edition.

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The 2025 Jubilarians are listed below:

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50 Years

Father Larry W. Dorsch

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Father Jojan Joseph, CST

Father Godwin G. Olugbami

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Sisters

75 Years

Sister Joan Hartlaub, CSJ

Sister Mary Alice McMaster, CSJ

Sister Eva Marie Schlag, CSJ

70 Years

Sister Karen Lester, SAC

65 Years

Sister Barbara Kupchak, CSJ

Sister Francesca Lowis, SAC

Sister Marguerite O'Brien, CSJ

60 Years

Sister Molly Bauer, CSJ

Sister Rose Ann Hefner, CSJ

Rhode Island Celebrates Pope Leo Declaration that Baby's Healing was a True Miracle

By Gina Christian, OSV News (OSV News) — Rhode Islanders are celebrating Pope Leo XIV's declaration that the healing of a baby born in their state back in 2007 was indeed miraculous, and advances the sainthood cause of a 19th-century Spanish priest.

Pope Leo XIV had promulgated the acceptance of the miracle for Venerable Salvador Valera Parra on June 20, with decrees for various other sainthood cause recognitions presented to the pope by Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Causes of Saints.

The dicastery's website specified that Father Valera's intercession had been attributed to the miraculous resuscitation of "little Tyquan," born critically ill Jan. 14, 2007, at the now-closed Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Catholic News Service in Rome had noted the U.S. connection in its June 20 story on the decrees. But local coverage of the miracle gained momentum July 18, following a GoLocalProv article published that day by religion writer Daniel J. Holmes.

Holmes cited a June 20 interview by Vida Nueva — a Madrid-based Catholic news outlet — with the attending physician at the infant's delivery, Dr. Juan Sánchez-Esteban, a native of Huércal-Overa, located in Spain's Diocese of Almería. Vida Nueva published the child's full name as Tyquan Hall.

Sánchez-Esteban told Vida Nueva the infant — who according to the dicastery's website had been prematurely through induced labor and then Caesarean section due to a low fetal heart rate — was barely breathing and after an hour of recovery efforts lacked a pulse.

In a July 18 statement posted on its Facebook page, the Diocese of Providence, Rhode Island, explained baby Tyquan had not drawn a breath or demonstrated a pulse "for 65 minutes despite life-saving measures."

Desperate, the Spanish doctor recalled a childhood prayer to Father Salvador Valera Parra, a diocesan priest born 1816 in Sánchez-Esteban's hometown. The dicastery noted on its website that Father Valera, who died in 1889, "distinguished himself for

many works of a spiritual and social nature," especially during cholera outbreaks and earthquakes in his area of service.

Sánchez-Esteban told Vida Nueva that he said, "Father Valera, I have done everything possible; now it's your turn."

As the doctor headed to inform the parents of their child's death, a nurse advised that the child began breathing normally, with a restored heartbeat, according to Vida Nueva — with the dicastery noting on its website the recovery took place "without any external intervention."

The dicastery webpage said Tyquan was then transferred to the neonatal intensive care unit at the Women and Infants Hospital, and remained there "for 15 days with a diagnosis of hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy."

"Doctors were certain he would suffer serious developmental damage, such as cerebral palsy or intellectual disability," said the dicastery on its website. "However, despite his clinical symptoms, the child showed spontaneous activity."

On March 1, 2007, Tyquan was

transferred to Hasbro Children's Hospital, having undergone a colectomy procedure, and then fully discharged on April 3, 2007.

"Subsequent checkups revealed psychomotor development that led him to speak at 18 months and walk at 2 years of age," said the dicastery. "Little Tyquan continued to grow like a normal child, leading a regular life and participating in sports."

The Providence Diocese's chancellor Father Timothy Reilly called the miracle "wonderful news" in a statement and said the diocese was "thrilled" the miracle would advance Father Valera's cause forward toward beatification and finally canonization, which would require a second verified miracle.

Father Reilly, who had assisted the Diocese of Almería in the 2014 investigation of Father Valera's sainthood cause according to the Providence Diocese, said the miracle "is a reminder of the power of prayer and the intercession of holy men and women. God is indeed close to us."

(Gina Christian is a multimedia reporter for OSV News.)

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Syrian Christian Leaders Say Islamist Government Can't Protect Them or Druze

By Dale Gavlak, OSV News

AMMAN, Jordan (OSV News) — Syrian Christian leaders say they cannot trust the Islamist-led Syrian government of Ahmed al-Sharaa to provide the safety they need after a week of deadly clashes that claimed the lives of 1,000 people in the southern region of Sweida and urged international protection.

Greek Catholic Father Toni Butros of Sweida posted a video circulated on X July 21 in which he wants to bring international attention to “massacres that have happened to us in Sweida.”

Bloody sectarian clashes drawing in Sunni Muslim Bedouins and armed tribes quickly erupted against the Druze and Christian communities on July 13. Syrian government forces sent to quell the violence, were among those caught perpetrating atrocities, harboring jihadist sentiments.

Widespread violations were directed mainly toward Druze civilians who were hunted down and killed in their homes and cars. Syrian troops, identified by their fatigues and insignia, shot others in the street.

Christians, too, were caught in the crosshairs with churches set on fire, including the Greek Melkite Church of St. Michael in Al-Sura. Meanwhile, 38 Christian homes were set ablaze leaving numerous families homeless.

L'Oeuvre d'Orient, a Catholic charity, reported July 21 that several hundred Christians, most probably those whose houses were burned, are currently sheltering in the Melkite parish in Shorba, the Capuchin Franciscan fathers' church and the Greek Orthodox archdiocese in Sweida without water, food or electricity.

An evangelical pastor, Khalid Mezher, who was of Druze origin and converted to Christianity, was killed along with 12 members of his family, including children, when Islamist militants stormed his home, SyriacPress media reported July 19.

An American citizen of Druze origin from Oklahoma was among eight men, all family members, rounded up and killed in an execu-

tion-style attack during the sectarian violence that flared up in Syria a week earlier, CNN reported.

Hosam Saraya, a 35-year-old Syrian American, was identified by a friend and a U.S. relative as one of the eight men, whose killing was captured on a video that circulated on social media over the July 19-20 weekend.

CNN said it cannot independently verify the identity of the gunmen in the video. A friend of the Saraya family said he believed they were militants aligned with the government.

Father Butros made an impassioned plea to the world community. “We demand international protection,” the priest said. “We are not minorities, we are part of Syria and have lived here for hundreds of years. We are the people of this land. We and our Druze brothers live here together.”

“We ask the U.S., Europe, the Vatican and the whole world for international protection for Sweida, the region, all of it, for us and for our Druze brothers,” the Catholic priest said.

“The Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East joins its voice with the voices of the wise of this world to call for an end to the bloodshed in Suwayda (Sweida) and commends regional and international mediation efforts to put an end to these massacres that target the coexistence of all communities,” wrote Patriarch John X, Greek Orthodox primate, one of Syria's most senior Christian clergymen, in a July 20 statement.

This latest crisis of sectarian violence shows al-Sharaa's Islamist government is either incapable or unwilling to control parts of Syria or even his own security and military forces, observers say.

“Al-Sharaa emerges weakened from his standoff with the Druze leadership and Israel, which intervened on behalf of the religious minority,” H  l  ne Sallon wrote in the French *Le Monde* newspaper.

“He not only failed to restore Damascus's sovereignty over the region, but also to establish himself as a unifying and protective figure among com-



OSV News photo/courtesy Aid to the Church in Need
The Greek Melkite Church of St. Michael in the Sweida village of Al-Sura, in Syria, is seen after it was attacked and set ablaze by unknown assailants, according to witness accounts provided to the pontifical charity Aid to the Church in Need July 15. Christian, Druze and Alawite communities in Syria's Sweida region experienced a new wave of persecution in the third week of July with attacks perpetrated mainly by Islamist jihadists.

munities torn apart by 14 years of civil war,” she said.

A regional intelligence source told Reuters agency that al-Sharaa “had not been in control of events on the ground because of the lack of a disciplined military and his reliance instead on a patchwork of militia groups, often with a background in Islamic militancy.”

Hundreds of Alawites were killed by forces aligned to al-Sharaa in the western Latakia coastal region in March. Meanwhile, 25 Christians were killed and dozens more injured in a suicide bombing inside St. Elias Greek Orthodox Church in the Dweil'a district of Damascus on June 22.

Nadine Maenza, president of the Washington-based International Religious Freedom Secretariat, told OSV

News that the Sweida bloodshed is a major test for al-Sharaa.

“Syria cannot move toward peace while state institutions are involved in committing atrocities and minority communities remain excluded from power. Real stability requires real reform,” Maenza said.

“Minorities must have a role in their own governance and security. That means adopting a system of decentralization and a revised constitution that guarantees equal citizenship. So long as Islamists operate with impunity and minorities are sidelined by law, violence will persist,” she said.

“Calling for an end to violence is not enough. The structure that enables it must change,” Maenza affirmed.

(Dale Gavlak writes for OSV News from Amman, Jordan.)

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Is NFP Finally Breaking into Medical Schools?

By Zoey Maraist, OSV News (OSV News) — Dr. Marguerite Duane didn't know about fertility awareness-based family planning until she had finished medical school.

When she learned by happenstance that there were natural and effective ways to track a woman's cycle, she was shocked.

"Why didn't I learn about this in medical school?" thought Duane, who at that point was 29 and in her medical residency. "Why didn't I learn about this in college? Why didn't I learn about this when I was going through puberty and starting my cycle?"

Today, Duane has devoted much of her career to educating medical professionals about natural family planning, or NFP, which also can be called fertility awareness-based methods, or FABMs.

Duane is the co-founder and executive director of FACTS about Fertility, a medical educational organization. As an adjunct associate professor at Jesuit-run Georgetown University in Washington, she teaches an elective about FABMs. Duane is also the director of the Center for Fertility Awareness Education and Research at Duquesne University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pittsburgh.

She hopes by the end of her career, she won't need to advocate for NFP any more.

"This is good women's health care, it's not just good for Catholics. It's simply good science," Duane told OSV News. "We need doctors who are trained, and the challenge is most doctors aren't. That's what's limiting the wide-

spread adoption of these methods."

Though many NFP organizations do a great job educating couples about their fertility, FABM users often run into difficulties when they share their knowledge in the exam room.

"These women and couples go to the doctor and the doctors (say), 'That doesn't work, let me give you this pill,'" said Duane. She's experienced it personally, and she's not alone. "FACTS did a study a few years ago where we surveyed women about their experiences talking with their clinicians about their use of FABMs, and fully a third of the women said they had a doctor laugh at them, mock them or ridicule them," she said.

Duane first began the "FABMs for Family Planning and Restorative Reproductive Women's Healthcare" elective at Georgetown in 2010.

The first half of the class focuses on the different available methods, such as the Billings Ovulation Method, the Creighton Model and the Marquette Model. It's taught largely by guest lecturers, including some of the creators of these methods.

The second half focuses on how cycle charting can help diagnose common women's health conditions, including premenstrual syndrome, or PMS; polycystic ovarian syndrome, PCOS; and endometriosis.

The elective has helped students really learn the science behind a woman's cycle and feel comfortable recommending FABMs to fu-

ture patients.

"It's always amazing to me sitting in these live case studies (lectures) — I can literally see the scales falling off the eyes of these students who for three years have been fed (the idea) that birth control is the best thing since sliced bread, that the pill is the panacea for all that ails women," she said.

Today, the elective is available to any medical student in addition to Georgetown students, and 1,000 students have taken the course. A continuing education course is available for current medical professionals, too.

One of Duane's newest roles is as director of the Center for Fertility Awareness Education and Research at Duquesne. In 2022, the school announced that an anonymous donor had given \$2.5 million to provide medical students with fertility-awareness training as part of their overall medical education.

"We are thrilled to have a gift that helps us educate medical professionals to use a wide array of tools at their disposal to treat the whole person," said Dr. John Kauffman, dean of the medical school, in a press release announcing the training. "Fertility awareness is a tool that goes beyond family planning and ensures that physicians have a comprehensive understanding of their patient's health."

To the best of Duane's knowledge, it is the only medical school in the United States that integrates education on FABMs at every level of the medical school curriculum. "This is huge — this has never happened before," said Duane. "I've been teaching this course at Georgetown but it's an elective, you have to want to take it."

She's also talking to other medical and nursing schools about how to include education about a woman's cycle into their curricula. "I've received calls from the founding dean of Benedictine College (in Atchison, Kansas), which will be opening up a medical school," she said. "I've met with the dean at Catholic University of America School of Nursing (in Washington), so I definitely think there's an openness to this."


The growing interest of medical educators as well as the growing awareness of the culture of FABMs makes Duane hopeful for the future.

"I think it is moving in the right direction," she said. "Restorative reproductive medicine as a topic is more and more in the headlines, and (recently) ACOG (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists) came out against it and attacking it, so clearly we're starting to make headway."


(Zoey Maraist writes for OSV News from Virginia.)

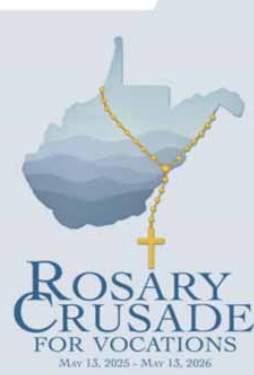
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Another Fun Summer at Camp Carlo Comes to an End

Marking the end to another fun summer at Camp Carlo, Bishop Mark Brennan visited campers and staff July 11-13. He celebrated Mass for them, “speaking of the importance of our faith and living it out day to day,” camp officials said. “Thank you to Bishop Mark Brennan for visiting the place that means so much to us all. We look forward to seeing you next year!” The bishop is pictured above with staff. Courtesy photo

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Alumna Lisa Simon Named Chief Financial Officer at Wheeling University

WHEELING — Fueled by a passion to help her alma mater grow, Lisa (Norman) Simon, CPA, returns to Wheeling University to serve as the chief financial officer.

Wheeling University President, Dr. Dianna Vargo is excited that Simon will now lead the Business and Finance Office.

“Lisa brings a wealth of experience in business operations, finance and accounting that will be valuable to the operations of Wheeling University,” said Vargo. “She is a proven leader who will be a great asset to our university.”

A graduate of the class of 1991, Simon started in the position July 1. She brings a vast array of experience in executive leadership, operations, finance and accounting. She has held leadership roles at health care organizations across the country including ORB Health, Inc., WVU Medicine, Ohio Valley Health Services and Education Corporation, Charleston Area Medical Center and Monongalia Health System. Additionally, Simon was the owner of her own business which focused on operational and financial improvement opportunities for healthcare systems.

Simon, who also has a background and work experience in public accounting and business operations, said, “Wheeling University is an integral part of the community. I loved my time at what was Wheeling Jesuit College, and I love the Wheeling area, my husband and I moved back 15 years ago to finish raising our family and to build roots in the community.”

Simon believes Vargo has assembled a senior leadership team that is “talented, nimble and locally grown.” She would like to utilize her experience and expertise to make the University stronger and more prosperous.

“I am excited to be a part of this team and together I am confident we will be able to reinvigorate our alumni and energize the greater community and local businesses to assist in the growth of Wheeling University.” Simon is also impressed with the dedicated faculty and staff whose top priority is educating the students and helping them prosper. Simon is team focused, as she was as a four-year member of the women’s basketball



Lisa Simon

team.

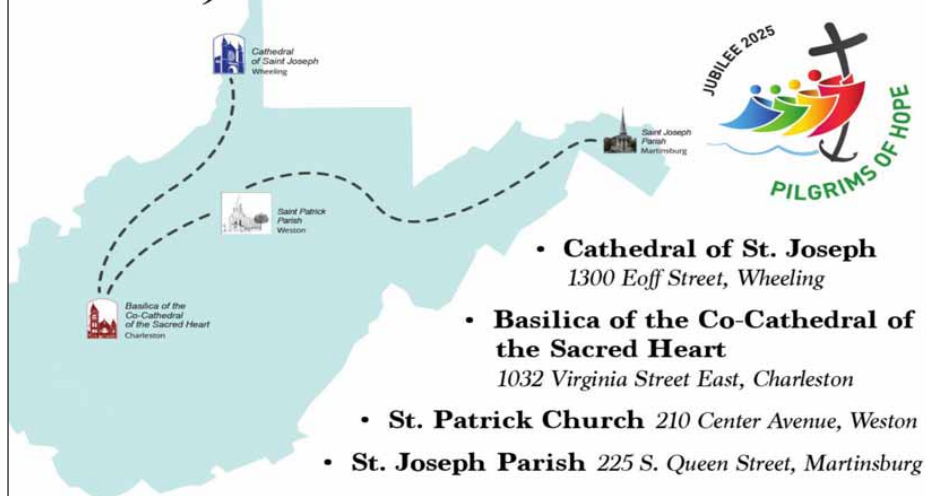
While a student in the Business program, Simon credits the many faculty, who instilled in her the importance to be a hardworking member of the team.

“My professors, Dr. Ed Younkings, Kathy Sullivan, John Mansuy and so many others, taught me to be proficient in business, as well as to work with integrity grounded in Christian ethics. They were fabulous instructors who were instrumental in shaping my professional career,” Simon added. Additionally, she noted that Jesuit Father Jim O’Brien and Jesuit Father Walter Buckius along with former Counseling Director Carolyn Dalzell left a lasting impression on her as well.

“One of my first priorities is to get a better understanding of all the inner workings and all aspects of the university. This will allow for identification of opportunities for improvement and to partner with leaders in their operational realm. Transformation of outcomes is the expectation, and with a hardworking, well-intentioned team – pulling the rope together – anything is possible. I look forward to being a part of this in order to ensure that decades of future graduates call Wheeling University theirs as well,” Simon said.

Born and raised in Elm Grove, Simon graduated from Wheeling Park High School. She has been a part of numerous boards and organizations, and currently serves on the boards of the Laughlin Memorial Chapel and Warwood Estates. She is married to her husband, Jamie and they have three children: Lydia, Rachel and Nate.

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Rhode Island celebra que el Papa León declaró que la sanación de un bebé fue un milagro

Por Gina Christian, OSV News (OSV News) — Los residentes de Rhode Island están celebrando que el Papa León XIV haya declarado la curación de un bebé nacido en ese estado en 2007 como un milagro, avanzando así la causa de santidad de un sacerdote español del siglo XIX.

El Papa había promulgado la aceptación del milagro para el Venerable Salvador Valera Parra el 20 de junio, con decretos para varios otros reconocimientos de causas de santidad presentados al Papa por el Cardenal Marcello Semeraro, prefecto del Dicasterio Vaticano para las Causas de los Santos.

En la página web del dicasterio se especificaba que la intercesión del padre Valera Parra se había atribuido a la reanimación milagrosa del "pequeño Tyquan", nacido gravemente enfermo el 14 de enero de 2007 en el ahora cerrado Memorial Hospital de Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Catholic News Service en Roma hizo referencia a este milagro en EE.UU. en su artículo del 20 de junio, pero la cobertura local del milagro se desencadenó el 18 de julio, a raíz de un artículo de GoLocalProv publicado ese día por el escritor religioso Daniel J. Holmes.

Holmes citó una entrevista realizada el 20 de junio por Vida Nueva, un medio de comunicación católico con sede en Madrid, al médico que atendió el parto, el doctor Juan Sánchez-Esteban, natural de Huércal-

Overa, en la diócesis española de Almería. Vida Nueva publicó el nombre completo del niño, Tyquan Hall.

Sánchez-Esteban declaró a Vida Nueva que el bebé --que según la página web del dicasterio había sido prematuro por parto inducido y posterior cesárea debido a una baja frecuencia cardíaca fetal-- apenas respiraba y tras una hora de esfuerzos de recuperación carecía de pulso.

En un comunicado publicado el 18 de julio en su página de Facebook, la Diócesis de Providence, Rhode Island, explicó que el bebé Tyquan no había respirado ni mostrado pulso "durante 65 minutos a pesar de las medidas para salvarle la vida".

Desesperado, el médico español recordó una oración de su infancia al padre Salvador Valera Parra, sacerdote diocesano nacido en 1816 en la ciudad natal de Sánchez-Esteban. El dicasterio señaló en su página web que el padre Valera Parra, fallecido en 1889, "se distinguió por muchas obras de carácter espiritual y social", especialmente durante los brotes de cólera y los terremotos en su zona de servicio.

Sánchez-Esteban contó a Vida Nueva que rezó: "Cura Valera, he hecho todo lo que ha sido posible, ahora te toca a ti".

Mientras el médico se dirigía a informar a los padres de la muerte de su hijo, una enfermera avisó de que el niño comenzaba a respirar con normalidad, con los latidos del corazón restablecidos, según Vida Nueva --con el dicasterio señalando en su pá-

gina web que la recuperación se produjo "sin ninguna intervención externa".

La página web del dicasterio dijo que Tyquan fue entonces trasladado a la unidad de cuidados intensivos neonatales en el Hospital de la Mujer y el Niño, y permaneció allí "durante 15 días con un diagnóstico de encefalopatía hipóxico-isquémica".

"Los médicos estaban seguros de que sufriría graves daños en su desarrollo, como parálisis cerebral o discapacidad intelectual", señala el dicasterio en su página web. "Sin embargo, a pesar de sus síntomas clínicos, el niño mostró actividad espontánea".

El 1 de marzo de 2007, Tyquan fue trasladado al Hasbro Children's Hospital, tras haber sido sometido a una colectomía, y recibió el alta completa el 3 de abril de 2007.

"Las revisiones posteriores revelaron un desarrollo psicomotor que le llevó a hablar a los 18 meses y a caminar a los 2 años", dijo el dicasterio. "El pequeño Tyquan siguió creciendo como un niño normal, llevando una vida normal y participando en deportes".

El canciller de la diócesis de Providence, el padre Timothy Reilly, calificó el milagro de "noticia maravillosa" en un comunicado y dijo que la diócesis estaba "encantada" de que el milagro hiciera avanzar la causa del padre Valera Parra hacia la beatificación y finalmente la canonización, que requeriría un segundo milagro verificado.



Foto OSV News/ Dominio público vía Wikipedia commons

La intercesión del Venerable Salvador Valera Parra, sacerdote diocesano español del siglo XIX, fue reconocida por el Papa León XIV por la milagrosa recuperación del recién nacido Tyquan Hall, en estado crítico, en 2007 en un hospital de Rhode Island, en un decreto emitido el 20 de junio de 2025.

El padre Reilly, que había ayudado a la Diócesis de Almería en la investigación de 2014 de la causa de santidad del padre Valera Parra, según la Diócesis de Providence, dijo que el milagro "es un recordatorio del poder de la oración y la intercesión de hombres y mujeres santos. Dios está realmente cerca de nosotros".

(Gina Christian es reportera multimedia de OSV News.)

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

La diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston te exhorta a denunciar cualquier delito ante las autoridades civiles. Para realizar una denuncia en contra de cualquier obispo en todos los Estados Unidos, favor de reportarlo en la página web www.repostbishopabuse.org. Y si, además, existen motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido alguna conducta sexual inapropiada favor de comunicarse con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y también puede realizar un reporte en la página web antes mencionada.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación.

Si considera que alguien está en peligro inmediato, favor de llamar al 911.

Para informar de forma confidencial sobre cualquier sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, favor de comunicarse con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia, llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 1-800.352.6513.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesásticas correspondientes. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. También puede llamar a la Oficina

de Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al 304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la diócesis al 833.230.5656.

Los formularios de quejas están disponibles en línea en la página web www.dwc.org, favor de hacer clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", en "Ambiente seguro" y en "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede enviar por correo en Estados Unidos a: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis: Favor de llamar a Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742. Además de las vías mencionadas anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la diócesis se ha asociado con la compañía Navex Global que ofrece la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar cualquier inquietud adicional, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de la página web www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381.

EthicsPoint es una herramienta de denuncia confidencial y anónima, ellos se encargarán de transmitir su denuncia directamente a las autoridades civiles y a las autoridades diocesanas correspondientes, y lo más importante al denunciar a través de ellos, la identidad de la persona que denuncia está 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 a menores: 304-293-6400.

Employment Opportunities

Theology Teacher, Charleston Catholic High School

Charleston Catholic High School is seeking a high school theology teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. The theology program forms students intellectually, morally and spiritually through Catholic teaching, striving to help students grow in faith by fostering gospel values. The candidate should be a practicing Catholic, have knowledge of Catholic teaching, hold at least a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field, and demonstrate a willingness to pursue certification as specified by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to colleen.hoyer@charlestoncatholic-crw.org.

Cook, St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston

The Cook at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ and offering hospitality to our guests.

The Cook is responsible for the preparation, service, clean-up and storage of all meals, snacks and food service for special functions.

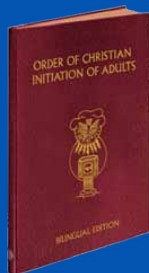
Assures the kitchen/dining room/dish room areas are clean and in good order at the end of a shift or function.

Oversees and assists kitchen aides in the preparation, service and storage of food and cleanliness of the kitchen/dining area.

Works early mornings, days, evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed.

Prefer a minimum of one year experience in food service.

Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or gwright@dwc.org to schedule an interview or for more information.



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Dates	Locations
August 16, 2025	St. Michael Parish Angelus Center, Wheeling
August 23, 2025	St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, Parkersburg
September 6, 2025	Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, S. Charleston
September 13, 2025	St. Francis de Sales Parish Hall, Beckley
September 20, 2025	St. Leo Parish Hall, Inwood
September 27, 2025	All Saints Parish Hall, Bridgeport



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The WVU Heart and Vascular Institute Structural Heart Program is the only program in West Virginia that offers eight specialized, structural heart procedures and is one of the few programs in the United States (and the only one in West Virginia) offering cerebral embolic protection during transcatheter aortic valve replacement (Protected TAVR) and transcatheter mitral valve replacement.

Our expert team uses the latest catheter-based techniques to treat all forms of structural heart disease, including aortic, mitral, and tricuspid valve diseases and conditions and congenital defects.

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