

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Wheeling-Area Grandparents and Elderly Receive Blessing from the Bishop



Colleen Rowan Photo

At the end of the Mass during the Undo's Upper Ohio Valley Italian Heritage Festival in Wheeling, grandparents and the elderly stand for a blessing from Bishop Mark E. Brennan on the first celebration of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. See story on the Mass on Page 3 of this issue.

By Colleen Rowan

At the end of his celebration of Mass at the Undo's Upper Ohio Valley Italian Heritage Festival July 25, Bishop Mark E. Brennan announced that Pope Francis declared the Sunday closest to the feast of Saints Ann and Joachim, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the grandparents of Jesus Christ, should be a special day to recognize grandparents and the elderly.

"Recognize their role in our lives and all that they do, especially in this state where many grandparents are raising their grandchildren," the bishop said. "This is the very first Sunday that we are going to honor grandparents and the elderly."

The bishop asked them to stand for a blessing, and then prayed: "Lord God, we thank you for the gift of our elders and grandparents who love their

grandchildren and pass on the faith to them. We ask that as they look on their lives, they find many reasons to praise you for their blessings. And as they look forward, they may find reasons also to hope in the fulfillment of all your promises. And all of this we ask in Christ our Lord. And may God bless you all."

This was the first celebration of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

Inside: N.J. Archdiocese Says it has Requested but Not Yet Received Data, Analysis, Page 5

Week Raises Awareness of Natural Family Planning and How it Enriches Sacrament of Marriage, Page 11

Vatican Reports \$78 Million Deficit, also Releases APSA Report

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican reported the Roman Curia had a \$78 million deficit in 2020, and on the same day, the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, which administers Vatican properties and investments, made a summary of its annual budget public for the first time.

Releasing both reports July 24, the Vatican said the coronavirus pandemic had a serious negative impact on the Vatican's financial situation, including the 66.3 million euros (\$78 million) deficit in the consolidated budget report for 2020.

In an interview with Vatican News, Bishop Nunzio Galantino, president of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, known by its Italian initials APSA, said making the budget synthesis public was "a step forward in the direction of transparency and sharing."

"The release of the balance sheet is a sign of great respect for all those who, with trust and generosity, have placed and continue to place part of their resources in the hands of the Catholic Church," Bishop Galantino said.

"I harbor a secret hope: I hope that the publication and reading of the numbers and the important notes that accompany them will foster more correct and complete information," he added.

In 2019, Italian journalist and author Gianluigi Nuzzi claimed in his book "Giudizio Universale" ("Universal Judgment") that decades of mismanagement of the Vatican's investment portfolio and real estate holdings by APSA would leave the Vatican no choice but to default by 2023.

APSA directly administers 4,051 properties in Italy and entrusts to outside companies the administration of some 1,200 properties in London, Paris, Geneva and Lausanne, Switzerland, the Vatican report said.

During the 2020 fiscal year, APSA reported a profit of almost 22 million euros (\$25.8 million), compared to 73.21 million euros in 2019.

Aside from the economic challenges posed by the pandemic — including a

need to reduce the rents of businesses that could not function during lockdown — Bishop Galantino told Vatican News the drop in its income was largely due to the "changing behavior of the securities market."

Jesuit Father Juan Antonio Guerrero Alves, prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy, told Vatican News his office was committed to providing as much detailed information as possible.

"We come from a culture of secrecy, but we have learned that in economic matters transparency protects us more than secrecy," he said.

While 2020 was not a good year, he said, the Roman Curia's budget deficit was "better than what we expected."

Before the pandemic, he explained, the Vatican projected a budget deficit of 53 million euros. However, in the midst of the pandemic, the office figured the best-case scenario would be a deficit of 68 million euros while the worst case would be a deficit of 146 million euros.

"Instead, with a deficit of 66.3 million euros, the end result was slightly better than the projected best-case scenario, and decisively better than what we had projected in the revised budget in March," Father Guerrero said.

While most Vatican offices reduced costs during the year, Father Guerrero also noted that in 2019 the Peter's Pence collection was used to subsidize 32% of Vatican dicasteries' expenses, while in 2020 it was used to cover only 24%.

Furthermore, despite the economic difficulties and orders to Vatican offices to reduce spending, the congregations for Eastern Churches and for the Evangelization of Peoples increased the aid sent to local churches experiencing even greater difficulty.

The coronavirus pandemic "has given us the possibility of being able to provide additional help at a difficult moment for all humanity, thus making the church present in areas with fewer resources to deal with the pandemic," Father Guerrero said.

"The economic situation was worse, but the mission expanded. This is further proof that the criteria driving the church are not economic," he said.

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement: numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer.

To Report to Diocesan Authorities: The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also call the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment," then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability," then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected.

Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Eparchies have in place a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. In accordance with these requirements, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer—directly or indirectly—with children: background check; receipt of the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children; and sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Sexual abuse awareness training may be completed online or via live workshop. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese," then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."



Office: 1322 Eoff St.
Mailing: PO Box 230
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0444
Fax: (304) 233-8551

Web site: www.thecatholicspiritwv.org
Diocesan Web site: www.dwc.org
July 30, 2021, Vol. 52, No. 31

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

Executive Editor: Colleen Rowan, Ext. 347 crowan@dwc.org

Advertising: contact Colleen Rowan

Freelance Writers:

Martina Hart, John Sherwood,



Member

Catholic Press Association
West Virginia Press Association
National Press Photographers Association, Inc.



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



Catholic Radio

304-598-0026 www.LoRadio.org

throughout West Virginia 24/7 on the internet

www.rdo.to/WLOL

Grafton Fairmont Clarksburg Bridgeport Kingwood AM 1190
Wheeling Moundsville St Clairsville FM 96.7
Clarksburg Bridgeport FM 97.5 Morgantown FM 89.7

Bishop Brennan Celebrates Mass at Wheeling's Italian Heritage Festival

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—Before beginning his celebration of Mass for the Undo's Upper Ohio Valley Italian Heritage Festival July 25, Bishop Mark E. Brennan wished all good morning in Italian.

This was the first time he celebrated the annual Mass, which is held on the Sunday morning of the festival at Wheeling Heritage Port on the Ohio River. The music was provided by the choir from the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. The Knights of Columbus Carroll Council of Wheeling participated in the celebration as well.

Bishop Brennan shared with the congregation that he lived in Italy for four years while studying for the priesthood and found the people to be hospitable and friendly.

As he began his homily, Bishop Brennan said that the first reading and the gospel talk about miracles that involve food: Elisha, the prophet feeds 100 people with 20 small barley loaves (2 Kgs 4:42-44); Jesus feeds 5,000 men along with their wives and children with five barley loaves and two fish (Jn 6:1-15).

"In both of these cases, these miracles, God shows his loving care for his children by providing food for them; and as Elisha said, 'They shall eat and there shall be some left over' (2 Kgs 4:42-44).

"I would wager that the food left over from this Italian festival would feed a small army," the bishop said.

Then noting the gospel (Jn 6:1-15) in which Jesus feeds the crowds that followed him, the bishop said St. John calls this miracle a sign.

"A sign points to something," Bishop Brennan emphasized. "In this case it was supposed to move those who ate the bread and the fish to wonder about who Jesus really was. The crowds did grasp that Jesus was the prophet, 'the one who is to come into the world.' But they left his mission on a purely worldly level. They wanted to make him king to free them from the Romans and taxes. And as Jesus would tell them the next day ... You are looking for me not because you saw signs that point to the miracle, but because you ate the loaves and you were filled."



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark E. Brennan celebrates Mass at Wheeling Heritage Port during the Undo's Upper Ohio Valley Italian Heritage Festival July 25.

The crowds, the bishop said, missed Jesus's spiritual mission entirely: the good news that he was preaching to arouse their faith in him as their savior from sin and death. They looked only on the fulfillment of their earthly needs.

"My fellow believers in Jesus Christ, we must avoid the same error," Bishop Brennan said.

Over the next several Sundays, the bishop said, the faithful will hear of the Bread of Life Discourse from Chapter 6 of St. John's Gospel, which explores different aspects of Jesus's presence in our lives, especially in the sacrament of the altar.

"He is our bread of life," Bishop Brennan said, "but in several ways his teachings feed our minds and hearts. His way of life, his example nourishes our spirits. And in his most personal, intense presence in the Eucharist, he enters into us to build us up to continue our journey of faith. He wants us to put our faith in him so that we may be forgiven our sins, overcome them in practice, learn how to love one another as he loves us, and be fit

for the everlasting life his father prepared for us."

That's what the crowd following Jesus missed, the bishop said. "We must not miss it," he said, "but see in his blessings in this life an anticipation of the joy of the new life that awaits us."

The bishop then spoke of showing gratitude to God and that this is seen in our imitation of God's goodness and in our treatment of others.

Jesus joined the two commandments of loving God and loving neighbor, Bishop Brennan said. Because to love God one must love his or her neighbor, and one cannot truly love his or her neighbor if he or she disparages God.

"Our brothers and sisters in faith who run food pantries and clothing centers around this diocese, who bring holy Communion to the homebound, or who instruct young people in the faith," Bishop Brennan said, "they understand the unity of faith and love. By his teachings and example in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharist, the Lord Jesus feeds us. We in turn are to feed others in

daily helpings of our love."

Bishop Brennan closed his homily by sharing a memory from a parish he served before becoming bishop of Wheeling-Charleston. The memory, he said, has spoken to him over the years of the unity of love of God and love of neighbor.

The bishop recalled that as Mass was being celebrated in the church, just below in the parish hall a soup kitchen was wrapping up with volunteers cleaning and some clients lingering and having coffee.

"What struck me ... was as some disciples in the church were praising and thanking God other disciples in the hall below were being a blessing to homeless persons and poor families who came to that soup kitchen to eat," Bishop Brennan said.

"My brothers and sisters in Christ, God has blessed us in many ways and more blessings await us," he said. "May his example move us to be a blessing to others in need."

At the end of the Mass, Bishop Brennan expressed well wishes to all in Italian.

Called to Holiness

**HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS
TO THE PRIESTHOOD**



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.

THE MEMORIAL OF
Saint John Vianney



**CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA**

N.J. Archdiocese Says it has Requested but Not Yet Received Data, Analysis

By **Catholic News Service**

NEWARK, N.J. (CNS) — The Archdiocese of Newark said July 28 it had “formally requested,” but not yet received, the data and analysis used by a publisher for its report on “possible inappropriate software app use by certain clergy within the archdiocese.”

“Therefore, we are unable to review the reported information until data is provided,” the archdiocese said in a statement.

The publisher is The Pillar, an online outlet that covers the Catholic Church and provides news and analysis.

The Newark Archdiocese said it was informed by the publisher that its report “is based on the collection of app use data on mobile devices in certain locations.”

“Many consider this data collection to be controversial and morally suspect due to its potential to harm the reputations of innocent individuals who may not have engaged in misconduct of any kind,” the archdiocese said July 28 and in an earlier statement.

“Although the purported information conveyed to the archdiocese does not provide any evidence of misconduct by archdiocesan clergy or employees, we recognize that any app or technology has the potential for misuse or abuse, which would be of concern.”

“This matter is to be evaluated and further reviewed,” it said, “pending the receipt of the publisher’s data and analysis.”

“We are committed to protecting the faithful,” the archdiocese added, “and when we learn of any immoral behavior or misconduct, we immediately take appropriate measures to address concerns and reinforce this commitment.”

On July 23, The Pillar said it contacted the Newark Archdiocese “after a review of commercially available app signal data showed patterns of location-based hookup app use at more than 10 archdiocesan rectories and clerical residences during 2018, 2019 and 2020. There are 212 parishes in the Newark Archdiocese.”

The online outlet said it had “legally obtained” the analysis of commercially available signal data and had confirmed its “authenticity.”

The data, it said, “shows evidence that both homosexual and heterosexual hookup apps were

used in parish rectories or other clerical residences with a frequency suggesting, in several cases, residence in those locations.”

The Pillar said the names, addresses or telephone numbers “of particular users” are not identified, but the data collected and sold with “the consent of users can include the usage location of particular devices at particular times.”

“Without compelling public interest regarding individual priests serving in archdiocesan ministries, The Pillar did not undertake to de-anonymize data about parish rectory app usage,” the outlet said in its report.

Newark Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, in response to a question July 28, said that anyone using such apps does so in violation of the promises they made when ordained or entered religious life.

The question was asked during a Georgetown University panel discussion on Catholics and the reception of the Eucharist.

“I think ... if someone who made a promise of celibacy has a dating app on his or her phone, that is asking for trouble,” the cardinal said.

He also questioned the ethics “around the collection of this data of people who allegedly may have broken their promises.”

“Certainly, the information that has been shared with the archdiocese is very general and I can’t comment on that,” the cardinal said.

The Pillar report on the Newark Archdiocese came three days after a similar Pillar report had triggered the resignation of a high-ranking U.S. Catholic official July 20.

Msgr. Jeffrey D. Burrill resigned his post as general secretary at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington after the conference was contacted by The Pillar regarding evidence the news

outlet claimed to have found showing the priest had “engaged in serial sexual misconduct” while overseeing, it asserted, church response to the sex abuse scandal.

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, USCCB president, said in a July 20 memo to bishops that he had accepted Msgr. Burrill’s resignation, effective immediately.

“What was shared with us did not include allegations of misconduct with minors. However, in order to avoid becoming a distraction to the operations and ongoing work of the conference, Monsignor has resigned,” the archbishop said.

“The conference takes all allegations of misconduct seriously and will pursue all appropriate steps to address them,” he said.

“An analysis of app data signals correlated to Burrill’s mobile device shows the priest also visited gay bars and private residences while using a location-based hookup app in numerous cities from 2018 to 2020, even while traveling on assignment for the U.S. bishops’ conference,” The Pillar reported.

As it noted later with regard to information it said it had on clergy in the Newark Archdiocese, The Pillar said in its story on Msgr. Burrill that commercially available app signal data “does not identify the names of app users, but instead correlates a unique numerical identifier to each mobile device using particular apps.”

The Pillar also has similarly reported on an analysis of data on “the use of location-based hookup apps” within Vatican City, saying it shows “that during a period of 26 weeks in 2018, at least 32 mo-

bile devices emitted serially occurring hookup or dating app data signals from secured areas and buildings of the Vatican ordinarily inaccessible to tourists and pilgrims.”

The Pillar reports have sparked a fresh discussion about journalism ethics and also sparked a backlash from a variety of religious media outlets and individual writers concerned over national security-level surveillance tools being used to track church staff.

Steven P. Millies, associate professor of public theology and director of the Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, wrote a scathing essay critical of The Pillar’s report on Msgr. Burrill, writing that whatever else can be said of their practice of Catholicism, The Pillar’s investigators also paid little heed to the canons of ethics for journalists.

“How did they get their story? The Society for Professional Journalists’ Code of Ethics encourages journalists to ‘avoid using undercover or other surreptitious methods of gathering information’ and admonishes that ‘pursuit of the news is not a license for ... undue intrusiveness,’” Millies wrote.

“I am not sure what the investigators at The Pillar believe,” he added. “I feel comfortably sure that before they embarked on their ‘investigation,’ they must not have thought about the Code of Canon Law, which states, ‘No one is permitted to harm illegitimately the good reputation which a person possesses nor to injure the right of any person to protect his or her own privacy.’”

 **MILLS GROUP**
ARCHITECTURE ■ PLANNING ■ PRESERVATION

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON’S PARISHES
AND SCHOOLS FOR OVER 25 YEARS

DWC PARISHIONERS VICTOR GRECO, JULIE DOERR AND ALEXIS BEHRENS

VISIT US @ [MILLSGROUPONLINE.COM](https://millsgrouponline.com)

Place your
ad here

Eucharist Document Should Unite, Not Divide, the Church, Panelists Advise

By **Dennis Sadowski,**
Catholic News Service

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, in the middle of drafting a teaching document on the Eucharist, received words of advice from a panel convened July 28 to discuss the challenges facing the American church as it emerges from the coronavirus pandemic and seeks to overcome divisions that threaten church unity.

They heard about the importance of bishops being pastors rather than “chaplains to factions,” the need to communicate church teaching clearly and without fear, and hearing from as many voices as possible in the weeks remaining before they consider the document during their fall general assembly in November.

The 75-minute discussion left Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, with ideas to share with the document’s drafters working to strengthen the foundation of the Eucharist being the source and summit of Catholic life.

Bishop Rhoades is chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Doctrine, which is charged with drafting the document.

He acknowledged the path ahead poses challenges, but it is one the doctrine committee is prepared to address.

“The goal of the document is to contribute to the eucharistic revival,” he said, recapping the USCCB strategic plan for 2021-2024 that is focused on the Eucharist being the foundation of Christian life.

“We’re striving to write a document that will contribute to a real eucharistic revival in the church in our nation by highlighting the truth about the amazing gift that Jesus gave on the night before he died, the importance of beauty and reverence in our celebration of this great mystery, and the wonderful graces that we receive in the Eucharist to grow in our Christian lives,” he explained.

While the document will include a section focused on eucharistic coherence, the church’s teaching on the reception of Communion, there is no plan to adopt a national policy to prohibit

anyone from receiving the Eucharist, the bishop said.

It’s a statement Bishop Rhoades has repeated several times since the bishops’ virtual spring general assembly in June during which the bishops approved drafting the document. In the vote, 75% of the bishops said “yes,” while 25% said “no.”

During long discussions on the document before the vote, several bishops specifically pointed to President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who are Catholic, for not actively seeking to end legal abortion and called for them to be denied Communion.

Work has begun on sections of the document that pertain to church teaching while the section on eucharistic coherence will not be drafted until after a series of regional meetings among the bishops concludes by the end of August, Bishop Rhoades said.

As the drafting process continues, the USCCB’s actions related to the Eucharist are being watched around the world, said panelist Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, New Jersey. “The Eucharist is on everyone’s mind,” he said.

Cardinal Tobin was one of the minority of prelates who voted against drafting the document at the current time. “Having the bishops on a Zoom call is not an opportunity for discernment,” he said.

He called on the bishops to take up Pope Francis’ call to synodality to discuss and hear from many voices before reaching consensus on the issues and concerns facing the church.

The pandemic has left people separated from the Eucharist and Cardinal Tobin suggested that the bishops reach out and welcome people back to the church rather than restrict participation in church life.

The debate that showcased the wide disagreements among the bishops on drafting the document should not be one that causes the bishops to fear developing a document that stresses church teaching, explained panelist Gretchen Crowe, editorial director for periodicals at Our

Sunday Visitor in Indiana.

The OSV Newsweekly published an editorial supporting the vote to draft the document. Explaining the reasoning behind the editorial, Crowe said it is vital for Catholics to better know church teaching on the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

“In my mind, a fear of division or a fear of anything else really, never should prevent the church from teaching what it professes about anything, much less what it teaches about the real presence (of) Jesus Christ in the Eucharist,” Crowe said.

However, Mollie Wilson O’Reilly, editor-at-large at Commonweal magazine, expressed concern that a document on the Eucharist would bolster an apparent connection the Catholic bishops have with the Republican Party.

She questioned why some bishops have been so outspoken against Biden, the nation’s second Catholic president, when they failed to be as vocal about the transgressions of former President Donald Trump’s policies that also endangered lives.

Saying she agreed that Democratic politicians should be “pushed” for their support of abortion, Wilson O’Reilly said she believed that Catholics would flee in greater numbers because the document on the Eucharist will be perceived as political rather than genuine teaching.

Panelist John Carr, co-director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University, which sponsored the panel, credited Bishop Rhoades for taking on a most difficult task in a time of divisiveness among the bishops and within the church.

“It’s important to be candid about the differences here,” said Carr, who formerly was executive director of the bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development. “How did the Eucharist, which is the sign of unity at our parish and our lives and in our church, somehow become the thing we fight about in terms of politics? It seems to me like we’ve gotten ourselves in a terrible place.”

Carr said he disagrees with the bishops’ decision to move forward on the document.

“The pastoral dimensions are really serious,” he said. “This is terrible timing and, as people have said, in the midst of a pandemic, racial reckoning, let’s have a fight about whether the president ought to be able to receive Communion. Publicly, this showcases our divisions and is a diversion.”

The program opened with a discussion between Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio to the United States, and Kim Daniels, co-director of the Georgetown initiative. The archbishop recapped what he told the U.S. bishops during their spring

general assembly in June.

The diplomat said in the discussion recorded July 27 that he had stressed that any work the conference undertakes must be rooted in synodality, as Pope Francis has invited the church to do. Synodality allows for discerning a path forward through thoughtful and respectful conversation that allows diverse voices to be heard and overcome misunderstanding, he said.

He also called on the bishops to remember that they are teachers and that the pope has invited them to teach about the sacraments “so we can receive the grace of God.” He also cautioned about the “instrumentalization” of the sacrament of the Eucharist lest it become a tool for ideologies to overtake.

“The sacraments of salvation are to be administered often to the people,” he said. “As such the church should remain united.”

Cardinal Tobin also called for synodality to be part of the bishops’ process as the document is drafted.

“What we need is a broader consultation with the American church on the mystery of the Eucharist, and not one, like or not, that is perceived as a political action,” Cardinal Tobin said. “We have a perfect invitation from the Holy Father to adopt a more synodal church, people who are talking together as we walk the same road.”



SAVE THE DATE



A Date for the

13th Annual St. George Camporee

(Formerly Known as the Catholic Camporee)

October 1st to 3rd, 2021

Who: Scouts BSA

Location: Camp Mountaineer (Morgantown WV)

Hosted by: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Catholic Committee on Scouting

Contact: Chris Gorski at catholiccamporee@aol.com for further information



All Are Welcome!



St. Vincent de Paul School in Wheeling Announces Renovations and New Teachers

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—It has been a busy summer at St. Vincent de Paul Parish School in Wheeling. Renovations have been conducted and new teachers and staff have joined the SVS family.

"This is our third year of continued updates and renovations," school officials posted on St. Vincent's Facebook page. "We want to thank everyone that is involved!"

The school announced that a new fire alarm system and LED exit signs are currently being installed with the help of Yahn Electric. The classrooms will also start to have the lighting fixtures replaced.

Panhandle Cleaning and Restoration, school officials said, have been waxing the floors and cleaning the school.

"We will also have new carpet for

the hallway!" officials said. "The gym roof is being repaired and looks better than ever! Even the parking lots have been resurfaced! We give a big thank you to our head of Maintenance, Jim Timberlake, for keeping all our new updates scheduled and on track!"

The school also announced its new teachers. Gino Dimitri is the new technology instructor, who has a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from West Liberty University.

He chose to teach at St. Vincent because he is a proud alumnus of SVS and "I want to give our students a chance to have the same positive experience that I had," he said.

"My biggest goal for the 2021-22 school year is to create a technology program that is fun and exciting learning experience for all our SVS students," he said.

Also joining the SVS family this year is McKenzie Aileen Smith as the preschool age 4 teacher. She has education and human services specialties in early intervention, family and youth, infant and toddler from West Virginia University. She is an alumna of St. Vincent's who attended the school from 3-year-old preschool through graduation from eighth grade.

"So, I have a connection and love for the school," she said. "Working there will just add to the joy and memories!"

"My biggest goal for the 2021-22 school year is to create a positive learning environment for the students and myself," she said.

Whitney Kibler is the school's new cafeteria manager. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Liberty University. In her new role, Kibler wants to give SVS students

healthy, nutritious, homemade lunches with a few desserts here and there.

"My biggest goal for the 2021-22 school year is to have the kids want to order and eat the school lunch! And have them talking about how good it was," she said. "I have lots of plans for the lunch program such as theme days and asking each grade level to choose the menu of the day."

Kibler's son Emerson is a student at the school. She feels St. Vincent's is the perfect fit for him.

"We chose to send Emerson to St. Vincent because we're Catholic and the school meets his educational needs," she said. "The small class sizes are perfect. I also miss the feeling of community and being part of something bigger than myself to help future generations thrive."

Madonna High School's AP Students Score Academic Achievement

WEIRTON—Madonna High School in Weirton congratulated its 18 AP (Advanced Placement) Microeconomics students and their teacher, Mary Kohelis, on their recent academic achievement.

"We have to give a huge shout out to Mrs. Kohelis and her AP Microeconomics class," MHS officials posted on the school's Facebook page. "Eighteen students took the AP test, and all 18 received a passing grade of 3 or higher!"

Many U.S. colleges grant credit and/or advanced placement for scores of 3 and above on the test.

"That means they let you skip the equivalent course once you get to college," school officials said in the post.

"Congratulations to Mrs. Kohelis and students!" MHS officials said.

Ss. Peter and Paul School in Oak Hill will Have an Open House Aug. 12

OAK HILL—School begins in three weeks on Monday, Aug. 16, at Ss. Peter and Paul School in Oak Hill. To prepare, the school will have an open house/orientation Thursday, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m.

"We have just a few openings left for PK and kindergarten," school officials said.

For any questions, contact the school via Facebook messenger or call the school Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Weirton's St. Paul School Welcomes New Second-Grade Teacher

WEIRTON—St. Paul School in Weirton welcomed Emily Ruiz as the new second-grade teacher.

She is a longtime Weirton resident and an alumna of Weir High School (2016). In 2020, Ruiz graduated with a Bachelor's Degree and the following year graduated Magna Cum Laude with her Master's Degree in elementary education, both from West Virginia University. She is a member of the Autism Speaks Organization through WVU and the international honor society Kappa Delta Pi.

The rigorous "five-year teacher education program" that Ruiz went through was designed to provide her with an extensive amount of hands on experience. Because of this, she has over 1,000 student teaching hours based in first-, third-, and fourth-grade classrooms at Bruceton School in Bruceton Mills near Morgantown. She has also spent time in kindergarten, second-, and sixth- through eighth-grade classrooms. During the pandemic she completed her Master's Degree while also teaching fourth grade at Bruceton School.



Emily Ruiz

In the announcement on St. Paul's Facebook page, school officials said: "Miss Ruiz is excited to begin her journey in second grade at St. Paul School! Welcome, Miss Ruiz!"

Central Catholic High School's Boosters Steak Fry Set for Aug. 28

WHEELING—Central Catholic High School in Wheeling will have its annual Boosters Steak Fry Saturday, Aug. 28, at the Wheeling Park ice rink from 5-11 p.m.

The event includes a DJ, raffles and baskets. Drinks will be provided, but those who

attend are asked to bring place settings.

Tickets are \$30. To purchase tickets call any of the following: CCHS at (304) 233-1660; Coach Mike Young at (304) 312-9125; Jenny Imer at (304) 280-0853; or Jen Costanzo at (304) 639-4714.

First Holy Communion in Chester



Courtesy Photo

Father Jeesson Stephan, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Chester, distributes first Holy Communion June 27. Five children of the parish received first Holy Communion at the church that day.

Morgantown Magnificat Announces August Prayer Breakfast and New Location

MORGANTOWN—Join Morgantown Magnificat for the Magnificat Visitation and Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, Aug. 21, at St. John University Parish Hall in Morgantown. This is the new Magnificat location.

“Our speaker is Dr. Wanda Franz Ph. D., former National Right to Life Committee president and current president of West Virginians for Life. Dr. Franz will share her story of how the Holy Spirit touched her heart as a little

girl living in post war Germany and called her to a lifetime of service to the Lord.”

Those interested must register by Aug. 13 at Magnificat-ministry.net (click on Chapters, States, Morgantown Chapter of WV,) registration is \$10. A coffee and muffin breakfast will be served.

No tickets sold at the door. For questions or more information, e-mail Pat Higginbotham at phiggi87@comcast.net.

West Virginia Knights of Columbus are Now on Twitter

WEST VIRGINIA—The West Virginia Knights of Columbus has created a new Twitter account.

Follow the account at [Twitter.com/WVSTATECOUNCIL](https://twitter.com/WVSTATECOUNCIL) for updates on activities, events, and Knights of Columbus news around the state of West Virginia.

Men over 18 can join the Knights of Columbus online for free using the promo code: MCGIVNEY2020 for 12 months of free online membership.

“How much do you love me?”

JOIN THE STATE-WIDE
TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST
FAMILY FOR

RE-TEC

A Re-Boot and Renewal of TEC in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021

10:00am - 5:00pm

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston, WV

Schedule includes:

- Keynote speaker Todd Faller
- Mass with Bishop Mark E. Brennan
- Breakout sessions
- Reconnecting with old friends and acquaintances
- Opportunity to get more involved with TEC WV
- Making new friends
- Lunch

Please visit dwc.org/tec-reunion to register.

The “Fourth Day” of TEC Never Ends!

Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin

Sunday Mornings

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

The Knights of Columbus

presents

Long-Term Care Planning Seminar



Preparing for a long and healthy future begins with understanding risks that you and your family may face later in life.

While we all hope to remain healthy in our later years, the reality is that most of us will need long-term care at some point in our lives.

In this seminar, we will discuss some of the challenges that you may face and the solutions that you and your family should consider. We'll go through what long-term care is and how the Knights of Columbus can help you prepare.

Register today to save your spot.

Date: August 31, 2021 Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom webinar

RSVP: aug31.abbatekofc.com



LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

© Knights of Columbus, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510



**Knights of
Columbus®**
The Abbate Agency

Visit our website for more information:
www.abbatekofc.com or call: 1-866-868-1492
abbateagency@mail.kofc.com
 Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Abbatekofc

Week Raises Awareness of Natural Family Planning and How it Enriches Sacrament of Marriage

By Jodi Marlin Catholic News Service

"To have ... To hold ... To honor: Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage" is the theme of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week July 25-31.

The educational campaign of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops celebrates God's vision for marriage and promotes the methods of natural family planning through a social media presence at #NFPWeek and through NFP events scheduled in dioceses across the country.

The start of NFP week coincides with two other July 25 observances that underscore and celebrate the value and dignity of all human life: the anniversary of St. Paul VI's 1968 encyclical "Humanae Vitae," articulating the church's beliefs about human sexuality, marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood, and World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, instituted by Pope Francis earlier this year.

The development of NFP provider organizations is up sharply in recent years. NFP research continues to make relevant strides as well, according to Theresa Notare, assistant director of natural family planning in the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth at the USCCB.

"But if you look at it from the perspective of user rates in the U.S., it looks like a failure," she told Catholic News Service.

The Centers for Disease Control's National Survey of Family Growth says less than 1% of Americans of reproductive age are currently using some type of natural method.

Although the rate is a little higher within the Catholic Church — usually among those who not only fulfill their Sunday Mass obligation but often attend weekday Masses as well, Notare noted — "there are layers of knowledge and acceptance."

"I would think that among progressive people who are interested in protecting the environment, doing something healthy for their body and employing a holistic approach to living, that natural family planning would be well known, understood and beloved," she said.

"But it's not," she added. "Actually,

there are probably higher user rates of any natural method in countries that are not as well developed, where they're focused on family, less in love with technology and not as immersed in the 'me' culture and 'what I want.'"

Many Catholic couples aren't necessarily rejecting the idea of natural family planning, Notare suggested, they simply haven't given it much thought because what's put in front of them at every turn are the culturally accepted alternatives.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, natural family planning is a general title for the ethical, natural, safe and effective methods for achieving or avoiding pregnancy in marriage.

Couples are taught how to observe and interpret their signs of fertility and infertility in a way that respects the bodies of the spouses, encourages tenderness between them and favors "the education of an authentic freedom."

The sacred responsibility of being open to the possibility of children is intrinsic to the purpose of marriage and the complementarity of the man and woman who come together in the sacrament. This discernment, achieved through prayer and communication between the husband and wife about when and how many children the couple can nurture and support, is crucial to that call.

The Catholic Church supports the postponement or avoidance of pregnancy if the methods used to achieve it do not interfere with God's gift of fertility.

By honoring God's plan for marriage and preserving the dignity of both spouses, as well as the life that would be created, NFP bestows the grace of a deeper bond between the spouses and enriches family life. Couples learn how to create a "happy tension," as Notare put it, between what they discern God wants for their lives, what they want and how many children they feel they can support.

In the U.S., the main methods of natural family planning fall into one of three categories: cervical mucus methods, sympto-hormonal methods and symptom-thermal methods. All three rely on daily observation, testing and recording (charting) to deter-

mine the couple's most fertile time each month and therefore the period during which conception is most likely.

Cervical mucus methods hinge on a primary sign of the woman's fertility, the characteristics of her cervical mucus, which is observed and charted daily.

Sympto-hormonal methods — sometimes referred to as the Marquette method — tracks several daily indicators of a woman's fertility, including her levels of reproductive hormones. Symptom-thermal methods use at least two indicators of fertility, including the characteristics of cervical mucus and basal body temperature.

Lisa Everett, director of Marriage and Family Ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, perceives that the number of Catholics couples using NFP is growing. Partly responsible, she believes, is the recent awareness and embrace among the general population of the gamut of fertility awareness-based methods of family planning, referred to as FABMs.

"While FABMS don't have the same moral rules surround them, the fact is that this has become a much more popular option," said Everett. "It means that there's more acceptance and awareness of all things natural in our society."

FABMs include barrier methods of pregnancy prevention, though, so care must be taken regarding blanket support of them, warned Notare. A cornerstone of NFP, on the other hand, is abstinence from sexual relations during fertile days in a woman's cycle for couples trying to avoid pregnancy.

The initial reaction Deanna Johnston sometimes gets from engaged couples who are presented with information about natural family planning is a sentiment she understands all too well. The director of NFP and of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, readily acknowledges that NFP can sometimes be a cross.

"Abstinence is hard," she affirmed. Still, she considers NFP to be a "gift of the Holy Spirit."

A mother of four and NFP user herself, Johnston and her husband believe that first and foremost, a mar-

riage should remain open to new life. But when it makes sense to postpone pregnancy, "there is a tool that Catholics can use in good conscience to do that."

"What I see with couples is that sometimes they say, 'We're hesitant to begin, we're nervous, we're not actually sure this is going to work, but we just feel strongly that we need to try something different.'"

The modern, app-based lifestyle dovetails with NFP programs' requirements, facilitating couples' tracking and recording of data. That ease of access encourages Everett. "I think those two factors have made NFP more attractive to couples than it otherwise might have been."

The FEMM app and Catholic digital fertility tracking programs are also helping to combat what Notare calls "fertility illiteracy."

Indeed, the growth in the number, size and tenacity of NFP ministries, providers and other organizations has been "fabulous" in the last 20 years, Notare told CNS.

She hopes it will eventually combat one of the biggest challenges she sees to wider utilization of natural family planning methods: the general lack of awareness that they exist and that they constitute the church's teaching regarding family planning as it enriches the sacrament of marriage.

NFP providers are doing their part, said Notare, teaching in parishes about the human person as God created him or her, the nature of human sexuality, the complementarity of men and women, the gift of human fertility, the sacredness of marriage, the morality and immorality of certain technological means of contraception and reproductive fertility, chastity and the theology of the body.

"They're involved in all of these things," she said. "They're a small but mighty force" that are usually limited by a single factor: funding.

"The bishops understand NFP teachings and support them. The difficulty comes in regard to finances. When a bishop is able to put money behind an NFP ministry, it flourishes. With a dedicated staff person, the progress is visible."

WHEELING • SOUTH WHEELING • WARWOOD • WOODSDALE • ELM GROVE
www.kepnerfuneral.com
(304) 232-5110



FUNERAL HOMES
Serving the community since 1845

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

Larry Dean, COIC



Panhandle
CLEANING & RESTORATION

Fire • Smoke • Wind • Mold • Sewage • Water

24-Hour Emergency Line
800.504.7054
304.232.2321 PanhandleCR.com

Accepted by All Major Insurance Companies

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



CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA MISSION MOMENT

Successful Renters Program

By Katie Hinerman Klug, CCWVa Marketing Communications Specialist

Helping our clients find safe and stable housing is an important part of our work at Catholic Charities West Virginia. This includes assisting our neighbors in understanding their rights as tenants and advocating for themselves.

The Eastern Panhandle Successful Renters Program was created to educate and equip tenants with the information and tools they need to rent successfully and achieve living experiences that are stable and satisfying for themselves and their families.

"There is no standard lease in West Virginia," said Kat Hagedorn, CCWVa Case Manager. "But there are rights and responsibilities that renters have by law, and it's important for people to understand this."

The Successful Renters Program was created by representatives from a collaboration of private businesses and community organizations, including Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), and is provided by the Eastern Panhandle Health and Human Services Housing Work Group. Catholic Charities staff helps deliver the program.

In the Successful Renters Program, participants learn

the basics of landlord/tenant right and responsibilities. They review a sample lease, learn how to lodge a complaint, and discuss the importance of record keeping.

"It's so important for people to read the entire lease before signing," said Hagedorn. "That's one of the biggest takeaways from this course."

One section of the program is devoted entirely to budgeting, reaching financial goals and understanding credit.

"The exercise of creating a monthly budget has been especially beneficial for our families who are struggling to make ends meet," said Hagedorn.

Other issues such as

renter's insurance, fair housing and security deposits are also discussed.

"The Successful Renters Program empowers tenants with the knowledge and skills they need to secure and maintain safe housing for their families," said Hagedorn.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

lic CharitiesWV.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.

EASTERN PANHANDLE SUCCESSFUL RENTERS PROGRAM

How to Lodge a Written Complaint

- 1. Cite specific items in the lease agreement.** Before writing your complaint letter, it is a good idea to read over your lease agreement and see how your contract applies to the issue in question. A legitimate complaint is anything that regards violation of lease terms, local ordinances, etc.
- 2. Craft a letter that makes sense.** Landlords often get letters from tenants that include errors, not only in spelling and grammar, but in sentence structure and logic. Read through your draft to make sure what you are saying makes sense, as it would if you said it out loud.
- 3. Choose a good, professional tone.** A tenant is a position with legal rights and obligations, and a legal relationship with other parties. It is critically important to present yourself as a competent individual who is to be taken seriously.
- 4. Make specific requests.** Make it clear how you want the situation to be handled in accordance with your rights as a tenant. Ask for the repairs to be made within a specified amount of time.
- 5. Cite applicable laws.** Local, state and federal laws may apply to your particular grievance. Make sure these are referenced in your letter. Do not threaten litigation unless you have an attorney in mind and understand the costs for which you may be ultimately responsible. Include for a timely response from your landlord according to local law. Mandatory response time may vary by jurisdiction.

Courtesy Photo

Course participants conduct an exercise writing a sample letter notifying a landlord of an issue within the property.

Foodservice Equipment, Supplies, Disposables, Janitorial and more



1 Fourteenth Street,
Wheeling, WV 26003
304-233-2270
Stop in or call us today!

304-232-0330

ALTMAYER
FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

"THE PRE-ARRANGEMENT FUNERAL HOME"

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

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

www.altmeier.com

We Are Now A Full Service Hardware Store!

We Also Specialize n Plumbing, Heating & Cooling

Do it Best **Lou W. Nau, Inc.**
 69 Edgington Lane, Wheeling Phone (304) 242-6311
louwnau.doitbest.com

JOHNSON BOILER WORKS, INC

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

**Advertise with
The Catholic Spirit**

Contact
Colleen Rowan at
crowan@dwc.org

TerraCare

Grounds Maintenance ♦ Design-Build ♦ Landscape Architecture

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

PW PROVEN WINNERS CERTIFIED LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL

(304) 925-4751
www.terrareinc.com

LEED AP BD+C

Charleston White Sulphur Springs Morgantown

Obituary

Sister Mona Farthing, CSJ

Sister Mona Farthing, a Sister of St. Joseph for nearly 66 years, died peacefully at Mount St. Joseph on July 23, 2021. She was preceded in death by her father Charles, her mother, Mildred, and her sister Barbara Hauber. She is survived by her beloved niece, Jessica Barret Grogg and her husband Shawn, her great-nephews, Devon and Adam, and her brother-in-law, Steve Hauber who live in Parkersburg.



While in the nursing program at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, Sister Mona received the gift of faith and was baptized into the Catholic Church. Responding to the support and example of the Sisters of St. Joseph serving at the hospital, she requested admission to the Congregation and entered on September 8, 1955.

After receiving her nursing degrees from The Catholic University of America, Sister Mona served throughout West Virginia in all levels of nursing practice at St. Francis Hospital in Charleston, Wheeling Hospital, United Hospital Center in Clarksburg and The Louis A. Johnson Veterans Medical Center in Clarksburg. In addition, her teaching career in nursing spanned 23 years at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon and at Wheeling University. Her students remember her for the unique way in which she included practical suggestions along with nursing theory.

After retiring from Wheeling University Department of Nursing in 1999, Sister Mona continued to provide service to the sick as a part-time chaplain in the Pastoral Care Department of Wheeling Hospital. She also served her Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph as a member of the formation team and in congregational leadership.

Due to the current pandemic, Sister Mona's funeral liturgy will be celebrated at a later date when all can more safely gather.

Confirmation Schedule Fall 2021

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Sunday, August 29, 2021: Sacred Heart Parish, Bluefield, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 7, 2021: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Stonewood, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 19, 2021: Ascension Parish, Hurricane, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 24, 2021: St. Thomas Parish, Gassaway, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, October 30, 2021: St. Patrick Parish, Mannington, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 7, 2021: Immaculate Conception Parish, Fairmont, 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 10, 2021: Combined Confirmation: Holy Redeemer Parish, Spencer, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission, Elizabeth; at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission, 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 20, 2021: St. Francis Xavier Parish, Parkersburg, 5:00 p.m.

Place your ad here



Your gift to the

**CATHOLIC
SHARING APPEAL**

assists Catholic Charities West Virginia



DONATE TODAY AT DWC.ORG/CSA.

Your gift will support work with vulnerable seniors, immigrant and refugee families, emergency services such as food, rent and utilities, and guidance to help people improve their family circumstances.



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

Hay que valorar a los ancianos, no descartarlos, dice el papa

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) -- Personas mayores no son "sobras de la vida" para desear; más bien, continúan siendo un alimento precioso para las familias, los jóvenes y las comunidades, dijo el papa Francisco en la homilía que escribió para la Misa con motivo de la primera Jornada Mundial de los Abuelos y Ancianos.

"Pregúntemonos: ¿He visitado a los abuelos? ¿a los mayores de la familia o de mi barrio? ¿Los he escuchado? ¿Les he dedicado un poco de tiempo?" dijo el papa en su homilía que se leyó en voz alta durante una Misa oficiada por el arzobispo Rino Fisichella.

"Custodiémoslos, para que no se pierda nada. Nada de su vida ni de sus sueños. Depende de nosotros, hoy, que no nos arrepintamos mañana de no haberles dedicado suficiente atención a quienes nos amaron y nos dieron la vida", dijo la homilía.

La Misa del 25 de julio se celebró en la Basílica de San Pedro con la asistencia de unas 2,000 personas, incluidas familias multigeneracionales, personas mayores y sus cuidadores. También estaban disponibles folletos de la Misa en letra grande.

El papa Francisco, que se sometió a una cirugía de colon el 4 de julio, no presidió la Misa porque todavía estaba en "convalecencia normal", según la oficina de prensa del Vaticano.

Sin embargo, el papa pronunció su discurso del Ángelus y dirigió la oración al mediodía del mismo día.

El arzobispo Fisichella, presidente

del Pontificio Consejo para la Promoción de la Nueva Evangelización, presidió la Misa, comenzó saludando a las personas mayores presentes quienes, según dijo, esperaban celebrar con el papa Francisco.

Pero "no queremos que se canse para que pueda pasar estos días descansando para reponer sus fuerzas y retomar plenamente su ministerio pastoral", dijo el arzobispo antes de leer la homilía que preparó el papa para la Misa.

"Los abuelos y los mayores no son sobras de la vida, desechos que se deben tirar", escribió el papa. Son una preciosa fuente de alimento", escribió el papa.

"Ellos nos han custodiado a lo largo de las etapas de nuestro crecimiento, ahora nos toca a nosotros custodiar su vida, aligerar sus dificultades, estar atentos a sus necesidades, crear las condiciones para que se les faciliten sus tareas diarias y no se sientan solos", escribió.

El papa pidió a las personas que se reconectaran con las personas mayores, que las visitaran o llamaran y "aprendamos a compartir el tiempo con ellos. Saldremos mejores", tanto jóvenes como mayores, escribió.

"Sufro cuando veo una sociedad que corre, atareada, indiferente, afanada en tantas cosas e incapaz de detenerse para dirigir una mirada, un saludo, una caricia", escribió.

La idea de que "cada uno se ocupe de sí mismo mata", escribió, y el Evangelio pide a las personas que compartan "lo que somos y lo que tenemos" para encontrar una realización

verdadera y duradera.

"Los abuelos, que han alimentado nuestra vida, hoy tienen hambre de nosotros, de nuestra atención, de nuestra ternura, de sentirnos cerca. Alcemos la mirada hacia ellos, como Jesús hace con nosotros", escribió el papa.

Durante las intercesiones, se ofrecieron oraciones por los que murieron durante la pandemia, especialmente los ancianos, y para que los fieles aprendieran a cuidar y servir a los ancianos.

Al final de la Misa, el arzobispo Fisichella y el cardenal Kevin J. Farrell, prefecto del Dicasterio para los Laicos, la Familia y la Vida, que promovía la jornada mundial, bendijeron canastas con flores de color amarillo vivo, rojo y naranja, y con el mensaje del papa, que luego fueron distribuidas por los jóvenes a las personas mayores en la Misa.

El papa apareció en la ventana de su estudio en el palacio apostólico para saludar y bendecir a las personas reunidas en la Plaza de San Pedro y pronunciar su discurso antes de rezar el Ángelus.

Invitó a todos a visitar a los ancianos y entregarles una copia de la jornada mundial de este año. Jóvenes y mayores deben pasar tiempo juntos, hablando y compartiendo sus recuerdos, esperanzas y sueños, dijo.

Al comentar sobre la lectura evangélica del día de la multiplicación de los panes, el papa recordó el generoso regalo del muchacho que dio lo poco que tenía, que fue suficiente para Jesús, que utilizó ese pequeño regalo para alimentar a miles.

Pero el papa le dijo a la multitud que pensarán en el evento desde el punto de vista del muchacho: tomar sus cinco panes de cebada y dos pescados para alimentar a otros parece una "propuesta sin sentido, es más, injusta. ¿Por qué privar a una persona, sobre todo a un muchacho, de lo que ha traído de casa y tiene derecho a quedárselo para sí? ¿Por qué quitarle a uno lo que en cualquier caso no es suficiente para saciar a todos?"

Muestra que las personas deben preguntar qué pueden llevar a Jesús cada día y les recuerda que hace milagros de lo pequeño, "a Dios le encanta actuar así: hace grandes cosas a partir de las pequeñas, de las gratuitas", dijo el papa.

La mentalidad de hoy está marcada por la búsqueda de "acumular y aumentar lo que tenemos; Jesús, en cambio, pide dar, disminuir. Nos encanta añadir, nos gustan las adiciones; a Jesús le gustan las sustracciones, quitar algo para dárselo a los demás", dijo.

El papa recordó que muchos problemas en el mundo, en particular el hambre, no se pueden resolver sin una "justa distribución". Se estima que alrededor de 7,000 niños menores de cinco años mueren cada día debido a desnutrición, añadió.

Ante tales escándalos, dijo, la gente debería, como el muchacho, aceptar la invitación de Jesús y "da lo poco que tienes, tus talentos y tus bienes, ponlos a disposición de Jesús y de los hermanos. No temas, nada se perderá, porque, si compartes, Dios multiplica".

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños:

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

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352. 6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades 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 siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de

Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al 304.230.1504. También puede llamar a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la Diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja están disponibles en línea en www.dwc.org, haga clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", luego en "Ambiente seguro", luego "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede devolver por correo de EE. UU. A: Office of Safe Environment, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis: llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa 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 Niños: 304.293.6400.

Executive Director of Department of Social Ministry Opening

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is seeking to hire an Executive Director of Department of Social Ministry.

The Executive Director is responsible for serving as a catalyst and ongoing resource to the Bishop, diocesan staff, pastors and parishes in developing and maintaining effort which link direct service, advocacy, action and empowerment toward concerns of local and global justice, respect for all human life and environmental concerns.

This person also provides leadership, vision and advocacy for the development and implementation of a strategic plan for Prison, Hispanic ministries and other immigrant groups.

Qualification requirements include a Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred), 2-5 years experience in parish Social Ministry, extensive knowledge of Catholic Social Teachings, working knowledge of the operation of the Catholic Church, self-motivated, ability to work in a team environment.

Please submit resume, references and cover letter to: Human Resources Office, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, 1311 Byron Street, PO Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003

Position will stay open until filled.

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement VISTA Needed

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling, WV, is hiring a Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement VISTA. The VISTA will be responsible for working with the Volunteer Manager to increase volunteerism at the Center.

Essential duties include providing information to potential volunteers via social media and at in-person events; coordinating one special event per quarter to promote volunteer engagement; promoting volunteer opportunities throughout the community; and assisting Volunteer Manager with volunteer recognition events.

To review full position description and to apply, please visit <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do>. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Keith Miller, Volunteer Manager, at 304-232-7157, ext. 7.

Please apply by July 31, 2021.

Elementary School Teacher and aide Sought St. Joseph School, Martinsburg

St. Joseph School in Martinsburg is seeking a certified elementary school teacher. We are blessed to have a high volume of students, so hiring another teacher will allow us to keep our class sizes small.

If you are interested in working in a rewarding, faith-filled environment, please email a résumé and cover letter to Principal Pat Blanc at pblanc@sjswv.org.

St. Joseph School is also seeking a kindergarten teacher's aide. Aides support teachers in planning and implementing daily programs.

Job responsibilities include ensuring the daily care of every child by following all licensing guidelines and the school's standards of care. Aides also help maintain a fun and interactive environment that is clean and organized.

Applicants must have at least a high school diploma. Experience working in a child care setting is preferred.

For more information, contact Principal Pat Blanc at pblanc@sjswv.org or call 304-267-6447.

Northern - CCNC Case Manager – Homeless Outreach

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices.

Case Manager – Homeless Outreach: This employee will direct case management duties, serve at-risk individuals and families especially to those experiencing homelessness. Case Manager also addresses financial assistance needs for clients outside of case management services.

Essential Job Duties: Conduct interviews; Assist clients in long-range plans; Maintain the operation of region's Emergency Assistance Program; Assist the Regional Director in working with regional Catholic parishes to develop and maintain working relationships

Job Type : This is a regular fulltime, non-exempt position located at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center, Wheeling, WV 26003

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social work, education, human services, or a related field; Experience working with at-risk populations; Excellent computer skills w/ability to track and analyse data; Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.; Knowledge of: Federal, State and community resources; case management practices; Must have transportation to travel and a valid Driver's License; Working knowledge of and ability to articulate Catholic Social Teaching.

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by 08/02/2021 to: (maphillips@ccwva.org)

Application materials can also be delivered to:

Mark Phillips
2000 Main St
Wheeling, WV 26003

Dr. Robert Herron, Thoracic Surgeon, Joins WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital

WHEELING—Thoracic surgeon and Wheeling native Robert Herron III, DO, has joined the staff of WVU Heart and Vascular Institute at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital.

A graduate of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Herron completed a cardiothoracic surgery fellowship at West Virginia University. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at WVU Medicine. In addition to Wheeling Hospital, he also is affiliated with WVU Medicine at Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Camden Clark Medical Center and Berkeley Medical Center.



Robert Herron III, DO

“We are happy to see a very skilled thoracic surgeon returning home to lead the efforts on lung cancer screening and start the robotic thoracic surgery program at WVU Wheeling,” Ghulam Abbas, MD, chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery in the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute, said. “Dr. Herron is an expert in robotic lung and esophageal surgery and will be a great addition to the physician community of the Northern Panhandle.”

Herron’s office at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital is located in Medical Tower 1, Suite 104. For an appointment, call (204) 243-8669.

Catholic Charities WV - Outreach Worker Needed

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices.

The Outreach Worker’s responsibilities include representing the agency in assisting the economically disadvantaged and others seeking needed services including food pantry and emergency assistance. This is a part-time temporary position located in New Martinsville, WV.

Essential Job Duties: Manage pantry distribution, screening, completes emergency assistance applications.

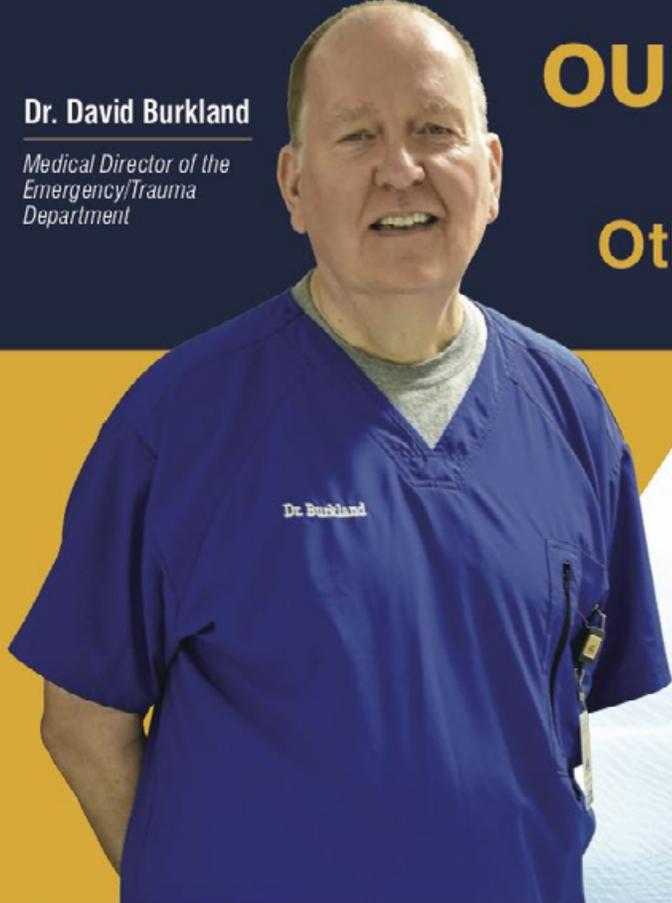
Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree preferred, experience with at-risk populations, ability to work collaboratively

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by 08/12//2021 to: bhagy@ccwva.org

Application materials can also be delivered to:

William Hagy
1024 Quarrier Street
Charleston, WV 25301

Place your ad here



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

OUR ER WILL PROTECT YOU.

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

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

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

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



A Tradition of Excellence. A Legacy of Caring.®

