

# THE CATHOLIC Spirit

## USCCB Plans to Release More Resources on Abuse Prevention, Child Protection

By Catholic News Service

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — The bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri, invited Catholics June 13 “to pray for survivors of clergy sexual abuse, their families and all those who accompany survivors in the path toward healing, that they experience Christ’s profound love for them and God’s healing grace.”

As chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, Bishop James V. Johnston Jr. urged

the prayers in a statement on the 20th anniversary of the USCCB’s “Dallas Charter” addressing “the sin of clergy sexual abuse.”

“It was two decades ago that the U.S. bishops gathered in Dallas to draft a comprehensive set of child protection standards that became the ‘Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,’ which each diocese and eparchy is now committed to following,” Bishop Johnston said.

“Since the implementation of the charter, the

USCCB has been a resource for the creation and implementation of child protection policies and safe environment programs that are enforced at the local level,” he added.

The USCCB website has a “Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse,” which can be found at <https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-healing-victims-abuse>.

The charter, originally approved by the bishops  
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## Priests Gather for Annual Retreat



Rob Wickham Photo

Priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston gather with Bishop Mark Brennan for their annual retreat.

By Colleen Rowan

**M**ore than 90 priests serving in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston gathered for their annual retreat. This year’s theme was “Rebuilding the church: emerging from the smoke of COVID” with Father Denis Robinson, rector of St. Meinrad Seminary and president of the School of Philosophy and Theology, leading the retreat.

The priests and Bishop Mark Brennan “came together in the fraternity to

be refreshed and renewed in the spirit!” said Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., who also said the humor and deep and practical insights of Father Robinson lifted and encouraged them in their service to the people of God as priests of the diocese.

“There was a palpable feeling of fraternity, and much laughter could be heard at each gathering,” Father Schuelkens said. “Among the many thoughtful insights he imparted,

Father Robinson, spoke to us about the importance of facing the challenges in ministry, the supreme importance of adult faith formation, humility, and the imperative of ongoing education in the spiritual life of the priest.”

Priests, deacons, and bishops are required by Canon Law, no matter how busy they are in ministry, to take time for a yearly retreat, Father Schuelkens said.

“The church’s wisdom shines fourth clearly here, for we are all in

need of rest, refreshment, and spiritual renewal,” he said.

Priests also gathered for Evening and Morning Prayers and Masses and had time for personal prayer and reflection. They heard an address from Bishop Brennan and had the opportunity to attend the Penance and Reconciliation Service with individual confessions as well as an Evening Prayer and Holy Hour for Vocations.

They also concelebrated Mass with  
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# Resources...

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during their spring assembly in Dallas in June 2002, is a comprehensive set of procedures for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy.

Besides child protection and safe environment policies, the charter also addresses healing and reconciliation for abuse survivors; requirements for making a prompt and effective response to allegations and cooperating with civil authorities; disciplining offenders; and providing for accountability and the prevention of future acts.

The charter, which was revised in 2005, 2011 and 2018, also created the USCCB's Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection.

The bishops also established the National Review Board during their June 2002 meeting. The lay advisory group oversees the bishops' compliance with child protection policies; the board's functions were revised slightly and reconfirmed in June 2004.

"Dioceses and eparchies have faced evolutionary shifts and changes during these past 20 years since the passage of the charter, and we are grateful to the Holy See for the multiple measures they have taken to address the issue of sexual abuse and bishop accountability for the global Catholic Church," Bishop Johnston said.

Pope Francis "has tried to set an example by pushing for greater accountability, transparency and honesty on handling clergy sexual abuse," he added.

Bishop Johnston also emphasized the church's continued commitment to vigilance in protecting children and the vulnerable.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the charter, he said, the USCCB's Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection will release several new resources in coming weeks that will be available online at <https://www.usccb.org/committees/protection-children-young-people>.

The resources include videos, podcasts and a webinar series in the secretariat's ongoing commitment to assist the dioceses and eparchies of the United States "in safeguarding children and the vulnerable," the bishop said.

This year, he added, the secretariat will continue its High Reliability Organization initiative, which provides diocesan/eparchial staff with proactive abuse prevention strategies, and the Child Abuse Prevention Empowerment online learning platform available to all church personnel to learn more about matters of child and youth protection.

"The USCCB's Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People along with the National Review Board have provided vital guidance and insight for the dioceses and eparchies through educational opportunities, resource libraries and policy consultation," Bishop Johnston said.

"I am most grateful for the engagement of survivors who have shared their painful experiences with us and have allowed us to walk with them in their journey toward healing as we strive to create a culture of protection and healing, and continuous improvement," he added.

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

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

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

**To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator:** please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

## Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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

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# Catholic Faithful Anticipating Corpus Christi Processions this Weekend

By Colleen Rowan

To be in procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament on the feast of Corpus Christi has a two-fold meaning for Donna Richardson of Sacred Heart Parish in Princeton. "It is an outward and inward sign of our faith," she said.

"Outward, in that the procession visibly shows our belief in standing up and boldly professing our faith in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist to a world searching for answers," she said. "Inwardly, in that we carry the love of Jesus in our hearts as we seek him in our daily lives.

"This is the true heart of our faith—the Sacred Heart of Jesus!" she said.

Richardson and her family have belonged to Sacred Heart since 1962. They and fellow parishioners will be joining in one of the many Eucharistic processions to be held across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) on June 19. The procession in Princeton will be held following the 11 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church.

The Eucharistic processions will mark the opening of the U.S. bishops' three-year Eucharistic Revival to reinvigorate the belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Father John Rice, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg, will be leading a Eucharistic procession through the city on Corpus Christi Sunday after Mass at 9:30 a.m. He is excited about restoring Eucharistic procession because it is a way for Catholics to become comfortable with bringing Christ to the world, he said.

"So many of us have a deep love and appreciation for Jesus Christ, but more often than not relegate that to Sunday Mass," Father Rice shared. "Eucharistic procession offers as a way to publicly proclaim Christ to the world simply by carrying him through the streets."

## Retreat...

Cont'd from Page 1

Bishop Brennan as celebrant honoring priests marking anniversaries and retirement. Msgr. Jeremiah McSweeney is celebrating his 50th anniversary of priesthood; and Father William Kuchinsky, Father Charles Anemelu, and Father Shaji Thomas are celebrating their 25th anniversaries of priesthood. Father John Finnell has retired from active ministry.

The presbyterate also remembered priests who have died: Father Andrew G. Kranyc, Jr., who died May 21, 2021; Father John McGinnity, who died Dec. 14, 2021; and Father John Duhaime, who died April 7.

Father Rice went on to say that the faithful "have a very real opportunity and way to proclaim our faith that Christ becomes present among us physically, tangibly, and spiritually through the Blessed Sacrament. We who love him, desire to share him with the world. Bringing the Eucharist in procession through the streets is a beautiful expression of our faith that cannot be contained within the walls of a church."

It is Father Rice's hope that public Eucharistic procession might also serve as an invitation for many to return to the sacrament they once knew.

Upon learning that the diocese and his parish of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling and the neighboring Wheeling Parish of St. Alphonsus were planning processions, Jacob Manning and his family planned to attend.

"Of course, it's a public witness to the real presence of the Eucharist. And in our case, it's even more powerful that we can join together the cathedral and St. Alphonsus parishes," he said.

Manning is a deacon candidate for the diocese and said that many of his fellow candidates are participating in processions as well. Manning's 11-year-old daughter Sarah will be serving at the cathedral's 10:30 a.m. Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday. Following the Mass, Bishop Mark Brennan will lead the Eucharistic procession from the cathedral to St. Alphonsus, seven blocks away.

"Wheeling hasn't had many public processions like this in quite some time, and it's a good time to renew it," Manning said.

Bishop Brennan has invited the faithful to participate in Eucharistic processions in their communities.

The following is a listing of additional Eucharistic processions around the diocese on this Corpus Christi Sunday (June 19): There will be another procession for the Wheeling Vicariate at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Wellsburg (call the parish for time).

For the Martinsburg Vicariate: At St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town, Mass is at 11 a.m. on the feast of Corpus Christi. The parish will team up with the Canons of the New Jerusalem with a procession from St. James to the Priory of the Annunciation, where benediction will be held. Refreshments will follow.

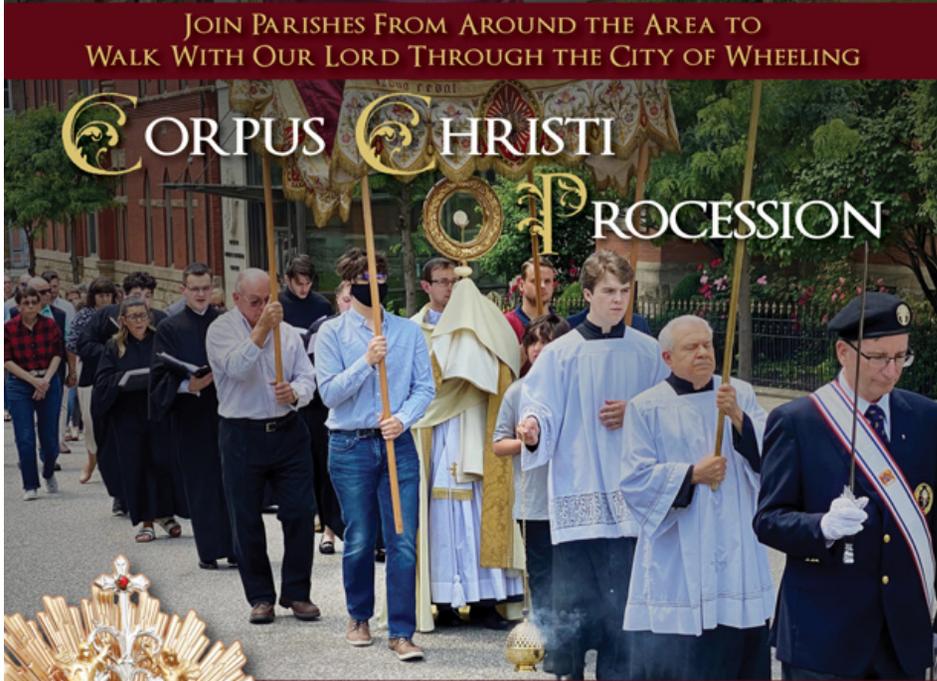
For the Clarksburg Vicariate: Eucharistic processions on Corpus Christi Sunday will be at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg after the 11 a.m. Mass with a procession from the church and returning to the church for benediction and refreshments; Our Lady of Mercy Mission in Parsons; St. Patrick Parish in Weston; Immaculate Conception Parish in Fairmont; and St. John University Parish in Morgantown. St. Brendan Parish in Elkins and Holy Rosary Parish in Buckhannon are working together in planning one procession as well (call parishes for times).

On the solemnity in the Charleston Vicariate, the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston will have a procession after the noon Mass to

the Slack Plaza where benediction will be held. A social will follow. St. Joseph Parish in Huntington will have a procession after the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

For the Beckley Vicariate: In addition to the procession in Princeton, there will be a procession following the 6 p.m. Saturday (June 18) Mass at Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield. The next day (June 19) a procession will be held following the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley.

For the Parkersburg Vicariate: In addition to the procession at St. Francis Xavier, St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg will have a prayer service and a small procession around the church for people who have mobility issues at 3 p.m. on the solemnity. St. John Parish in St. Marys will have a procession that day around the church grounds at 5 p.m. A covered-dish dinner will follow. St. Vincent de Paul Parish in New Martinsville will have Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Eucharistic procession for all four churches in the cluster followed by a cluster picnic at St. Vincent de Paul in Holy Name Park.



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**PROCESSION**

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MASS & PROCESSION LED BY BISHOP MARK BRENNAN

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# CELEBRATE FAITH AND FAMILY WITH US!



**Wednesday  
June 22nd**

**Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**  
Charleston, WV

**6:00pm - Mass**  
Bishop Brennan presiding  
Music by Mark Haas

**Speakers and Reception to Follow**

**Speakers:**  
Tim Bishop  
Nick Chancey  
Colleen Criste

**Thursday  
June 23rd**

**St. Leo Catholic Church**  
Inwood, WV

**6:00pm - Mass**  
Fr. Alfred Obiudu presiding  
Music by Ross Semler

**Speakers and Reception to Follow**

**Speakers:**  
Joyce Bibey  
Tim Bishop  
Nick Chancey  
Tyler and Sydney Kilbane

**Friday  
June 24th**

**St. John XXIII Pastoral Center**  
Charleston, WV

**6:00pm - Mass**  
Monsignor Samuel Sacus  
Music by Mark Haas

**Speakers and Reception to Follow**

**Speakers:**  
Tim Bishop  
Colleen Criste  
Daniel Maul

**Saturday  
June 25th**

**St. Francis De Sales School**  
Morgantown, WV

**All Day Festival**  
with Food, Kids Activities, Confession,  
and Adoration/Benediction

**5:15pm & 8:00pm - Mass**  
Msgr. Cincinnati presiding  
Music by Donna Kinsey

**Speakers:**  
Deacon Walter Calabrese  
Tim Bishop  
Colleen Criste  
Seth Johnson  
Micah Schlittenhardt

**Sunday  
June 26th**

**Cathedral of St. Joseph**  
Wheeling, WV

**3:00pm - Mass**  
Bishop Brennan presiding  
Music by Matthew Berher

**Speakers and Reception to Follow**

**Speakers:**  
Joyce Bibey  
Nick Chancey  
Daniel Maul



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# New Principal Named for St. Joseph School in Martinsburg

**MARTINSBURG**— Maria Mercedes Noguera Byrd was named the new principal of St. Joseph School in Martinsburg, effective July 1.

She succeeds Patrick Blanc, who is retiring after three years at the helm of the Martinsburg Catholic school, a position he took after working for Jefferson County Schools for 42 years.

While Byrd is new to the area—she moved to Charles Town in October 2021—she is not new to the realm of education. Her academic career began in 2008, when she was a teacher's aide and English Language Learner (ELL) aide for a summer migrant program in Ashville, Ala. She continued her journey as a long-term substitute teacher, then a first-grade teacher, in Gadsden, Ala. She moved east and started teaching in Loudoun County, Va., Public Schools

in 2013. There, she taught fourth grade for several years before becoming an English Learner (EL) teacher at Frederick Douglass Elementary School in Leesburg, Va., where she has been since 2018.

Byrd is pursuing a graduate certificate in school administration and supervision through Liberty University, which she is on track to complete in the spring of 2023.

She looks forward to being able to spread her faith in school and build upon the leadership skills she has developed while guiding fellow educators in various ways.

"I want to be the spiritual guide on our campus," said Byrd, 49. "It's been a natural development for me from teaching to guiding teachers. This transition is very important to me. This means everything."

Byrd was a conscientious student who graduated from high school at age 15 in Lima, Peru. She was in medical school and law school in her home country before coming to the United States in 1993. She holds an associate degree in science from Gadsden State Community College and a Bachelor of Science with a major in accounting from Jacksonville, Ala., State University. She earned a master of business administration from the University of Phoenix and a master of science in education from Jacksonville State University.

A cradle Catholic, she started teaching catechesis at the age of 15 in Peru and has continued to help shape the spiritual lives of children and adults ever since. She continues to put people in communion with Jesus Christ at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Purcellville, Va., where she has been a

catechist for the last seven years, and where she is currently teaching Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) classes online in Spanish.

Like education, her passion for evangelizing is an intricate part of who she is, as evidenced by her volunteerism. She was responsible for managing all communications, donations and stakeholder needs of a homeless ministry at one of her parishes, and has led events and collaborated with other ministries' leaders. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she joined the Guardian Angels program at St. Francis de Sales to help the homebound. Now a member of St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town, she is leading an effort to reinstall the Legion of Mary, members of which help care for the physical and spiritual needs of the sick and needy, among others.



**Maria Mercedes Noguera Byrd**

Byrd and her husband of 22 years, Richard Byrd, have two sons: Ricky, 20, a junior at George Mason University, and Anthony, 18, who is graduating from Woodgrove High School in Purcellville and is enrolled at West Virginia University for the fall semester.

She said education plays a pivotal role in shaping the future.

"Education is what's going to keep a kid out of trouble," Byrd said. "Education and truth will make or break the society we are living in. Jesus was an educator. My education comes from the Lord."

## St. Joseph School Student Gathers Donations for Maternity Home at Her Birthday Party

**MARTINSBURG**—St. Joseph School student Melani Haney's birthday party at Love Your Selfie in Winchester, Va., was all about loving others.

Instead of gifts for her birthday, Melani requested donations for Mary's Refuge, a maternity home expected to open in September. The former convent at 111 E. Stephen St. in Martinsburg is being transformed into a safe space for pregnant women in crisis to work toward self-sufficiency.

To her June 12 celebration, the rising third-grader asked her classmates and other friends to bring items such as small new toys for babies; small hairbrush and aspirator sets; play mats for tummy time; Boppy pillows and covers; and nursing aids such as soothing cream, bra pads and nursing camisoles.

Melani and her family heard about Mary's Refuge during a presentation at St. Leo Catholic Church in Inwood which they attend. Her mother, Tiffani, said they later had a conversation about how many toys Melani has and how many other children aren't as fortunate.

The Inwood family decided that giving things to moms who want to keep their babies was a perfect way to celebrate Melani's eight years of life.

For more information about Mary's Refuge, go to [www.marysrefuge.org](http://www.marysrefuge.org).



Courtesy Photo  
St. Joseph School student Melani Haney is surrounded by donations she collected instead of gifts for her eighth birthday party at Love Your Selfie in Winchester, Va.

# Camp Carlo - Adventure Awaits!

By Joyce Bibey

There is still time to register for Camp Carlo — Catholic Youth Adventure Camp for boys and girls in grades 3-12. Dates range from June 26-July 30.

Situated in the picturesque Huttonsville, Camp Carlo is dedicated to leading young people to Christ & His Church. Campers and Counselors grow in Christ's love while backpacking up a mountain, horseback riding through hidden trails, sliding down mystic waterfalls and humbling ourselves in front of the true Presence of our Lord during Mass and Adoration. Complimenting the Diocesan Year of the National Eucharistic Revival, Camp Carlo campers will have a special focus on Christ's true presence in the Eucharist.

## Camp Dates:

**June 26 – July 2- “catch all week” from 3rd-12th grade.**

**July 3 – July 9- Rising 6th-8th graders.**

**July 10 – July 16 – Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.**

**July 17 – July 23- “catch all week” from 3rd -12th grade.**

**July 24 – July 30 – “Camp Carlo Summer Vacation” free for 7-12 year olds who qualify.**

Why the name Camp Carlo? It was named in honor of a relatable modern day Catholic on the road to sainthood. Blessed Carlos Acutis is a relatable teen for youth today. The Italian teen was beatified on Oct. 10, 2020. He is described by family and friends as a seemingly average teen, who was most commonly dressed in jeans, tennis shoes, and sweatshirt. Blessed Carlo was from Milan, Italy, and died at the age of 15 in 2006, a week after he was diagnosed with leukemia.

Acutis loved the outdoors, video games, sports, and computers. He also enjoyed school mainly because it was a chance to hang out with friends. He was actually considered a computer expert for his age, having learned programming in elementary school at a collegiate level. While he was extremely savvy in and enthusiastic about technology, he was also devoted to something else on an extraordinary level — Christ and the Church. His faith has been described as “pure and certain.”

He went to Mass every day. When people would ask him what his plans were for the future he would say, “To always be close to Jesus. That’s my life plan.”

He was surprised, as he grew older, that his friends did not have the same devotion and need for Christ in their lives. He frequently told his friends that the “Eucharist is my highway to heaven.” He hoped the same for them. He knew the power of the internet and chose to use it as online evangelization. He created a website dedicated to the Eucharistic Miracles of the World — <http://www.miracolieucaistici.org>. There he presented his research as a virtual museum. His friends and family continue to carry on the website and Acutis’ hope that it will bring people to Church and the Eucharist. The

See “Camp” on Page 7



Courtesy Photos  
Pictured on this page, kids enjoy all the fun at Camp Carlo.

# Counselors Ready to Welcome Campers

## Q & A with Counselor Maggie Moran

**Q: Why should kiddos go?**

Maggie: At Camp Carlo your children will experience the love of Christ through the Sacraments, discussions with fellow campers and counselors, playing games, swimming, hiking, camping, rock wall, and horseback riding. Need I say more?

**Q: My camper is a bit anxious, what can we expect that first day?**

Maggie: It is totally normal to feel anxious about going to camp! But once you arrive, that anxiety starts to fall away. Anxiety is normal because you are in a new place with new people, but the counselors do everything we can to make the campers feel excited to try new things!

**Q: How many years have you been a counselor at CC?**

Maggie: This will be my 2nd year! Last year was truly amazing. It was the closest I have ever

felt to Christ, and I loved meeting some of my closest friends in the counselors I worked with. It was a blessing to find a home in West Virginia and to teach my campers about the love of Christ through the various activities we do. I had so much fun laughing with campers and counselors alike and doing things I had never done before, like creek stomping or backpacking.

**Q: How would you describe Assistant Camp Director Sadie Shields and the crew?**

Maggie: One of the best people I know. She truly loves God and shows this through her interactions with everyone she meets. The crew is phenomenal! It is fantastic to be in a work environment where we are all united in a common purpose, bringing those around us to Heaven and teaching others about the love of Christ.

You will never have a dull moment with our crew. We love to have fun and laugh and play games. Whether it is playing competitive games of Bosco ball or singing fun camp songs! You are sure to enjoy your time at Camp Carlo! Can't wait to see y'all there. We are praying for you :)

### Camp...

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site is presented in 17 languages and the Eucharistic Miracles exhibit can be downloaded as posters for free.

The story of Carlo not only provides inspiration and relatability for today's youth, but also provides all the faithful an example of how we can be modern day saints.

Register now at: <http://campcarlowv.org>

CAMP CARLO 2022

"CAN'T WAIT TO SEE Y'ALL AT CAMP CARLO!"

- CAMP COUNSELOR MAGGIE MORAN



# War, Vatican II, Decision Making: Pope Shares Insights with Jesuit Editors

By **Cindy Wooden,**  
**Catholic News Service**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Pope Francis gave the editors of 10 Jesuit magazines a glimpse into how he makes decisions, background on one of his more controversial comments about the war in Ukraine and insight into what he sees as the refusal of some bishops to accept the teaching of the Second Vatican Council.

Meeting in May with the editors of the European magazines, the pope responded to six questions about his concerns for the Catholic Church and the world. The magazines published a transcript of their conversation June 14.

Two weeks before meeting the editors, Pope Francis had created an uproar when an Italian newspaper quoted him as wondering if Russian President Vladimir Putin launched his war on Ukraine because he felt “NATO’s barking at Russia’s door.” Numerous news outlets concluded the pope thought NATO was at least partly to blame for the war.

Pope Francis told the editors that the quote came from a head of state who visited “a couple of months before the war.”

“He told me that he was very concerned about the way NATO was moving. I asked him why, and he said, ‘They are barking at the gates of Russia. They do not understand that the Russians are imperialists and will allow no foreign power

to approach them.’ He concluded, ‘The situation could lead to war.’ This was his opinion,” the pope said. “That head of state was able to read the signs of what was taking place.”

To understand what is happening and to stop the war, he said, “we have to move away from the normal pattern of ‘Little Red Riding Hood’ — Little Red Riding Hood was good and the wolf was the bad guy. Here there are no metaphysical good guys and bad guys, in an abstract sense. Something global is emerging, with elements that are very much intertwined.”

“Someone may say to me at this point: So, you are pro-Putin! No, I am not,” the pope said. “It would be simplistic and wrong to say such a thing. I am simply against reducing complexity to the distinction between good guys and bad guys without reasoning about roots and interests, which are very complex. While we see the ferocity, the cruelty of Russian troops, we must not forget the real problems if we want them to be solved.”

Against that cruelty, he said, the world has witnessed “the heroism of the Ukrainian people,” but everyone must remember that “what is before our eyes is a situation of world war, global interests, arms sales and geopolitical appropriation, which is martyring a heroic people.”

Pope Francis added that while he and Russian Or-

thodox Patriarch Kirill of Moscow, who supports Putin, canceled a meeting in Lebanon planned for mid-June, he hopes to meet the patriarch at the World Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Kazakhstan Sept. 14-15 and “speak a little with him as a pastor.”

A substantial portion of the pope’s discussion with the Jesuit editors focused on signs of new life in the Catholic Church and signs of some people being stuck in the distant past.

“The council that some pastors remember best is that of Trent” in the 1500s, the pope said, adding that he was not joking. “What I’m saying is not nonsense.”

“Restorationism has come to gag the (Second Vatican) Council,” he said. “The number of groups of ‘restorers’ — for example, in the United States there are many — is significant” and shows how the teaching and reform of Vatican II “has not yet been accepted.”

Struggles to accept the council and to live the faith concretely, in new and creative ways, have been evident for decades, the pope said, illustrating his point by talking about what he observed within the Society of Jesus in the 1970s when Jesuit Father Pedro Arrupe was superior general.

“A Jesuit from the province of Loyola (in Spain) was particularly aggressive

toward Father Arrupe. He was sent to various places and even to Argentina, and always made trouble,” the pope said. “He once said to me: ‘You are someone who understands nothing. But the real culprits are Father Arrupe and Father (Jean-Yves) Calvez. The happiest day of my life will be when I see them hanging from the gallows in St. Peter’s Square.’”

“Why am I telling you this story?” the pope continued. “To make you understand what the post-conciliar period was like. This is happening again, especially with the traditionalists. That is why it is important to save these figures who defended the council and fidelity to the pope.”

But, the pope said, not everything goes.

Jesuit Father Stefan Kiechle, editor of the German *Stimmen der Zeit*, asked about the pope’s view of Germany’s Synodal Path, which some critics have claimed would transform the church into a Protestant denomination.

Pope Francis said he told Bishop Georg Bätzing, president of the German bishops’ conference, “In Germany there is a very good Evangelical Church. We don’t need two.”

“The problem arises when the Synodal Path comes from the intellectual, theological elites, and is much influenced by external pressures,” the pope said. However, he also acknowledged “there are some dioceses where the synodal way is being developed with the faithful, with the people, slowly.”

Father Kiechle also

asked about ongoing tensions over the handling of abuse cases and over finances in the Archdiocese of Cologne and regarding its head, Cardinal Rainer Maria Woelki.

“When the situation was very turbulent, I asked the archbishop to go away for six months, so that things would calm down and I could see clearly. Because when the waters are rough you cannot see clearly,” the pope said. When the cardinal returned to the archdiocese in early March, “I asked him to write a letter of resignation,” but left him in office while seeing how the situation evolves.

“What is happening is that there are a lot of pressure groups, and under pressure it is not possible to discern,” Pope Francis said. “To be able to discern, I am waiting until there is no pressure. The fact that there are different points of view is fine. The problem is when there is pressure. That does not help.”

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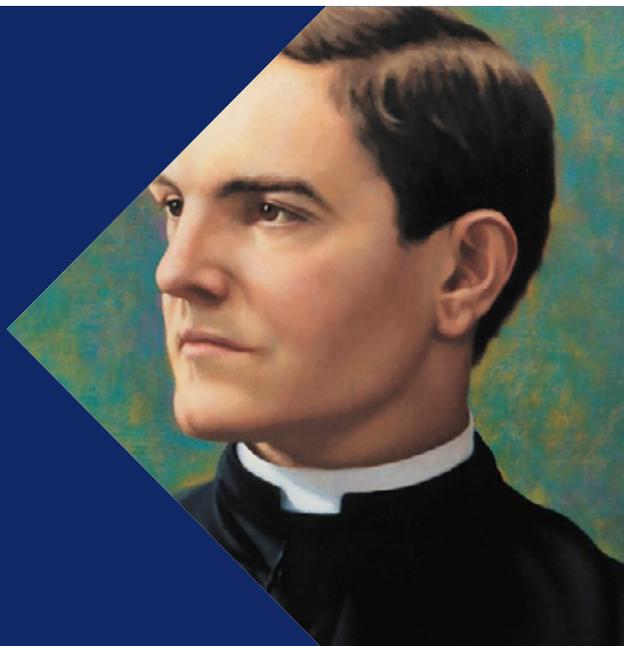


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# Archbishop Praises Senators' Efforts to Address 'Plague of Gun Violence'

**By Catholic News Service**

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' domestic policy committee June 14 praised a bipartisan Senate proposal "to help prevent senseless violence" that includes "reasonable gun safety measures."

"I am deeply grateful that members of Congress have undertaken bipartisan negotiations to address the plague of gun violence in our nation," said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

"I encourage Congress to continue these important efforts which will help build a culture of life. It is imperative this Congress passes into law new protections for the American people," he said.

Archbishop Coakley made the remarks in response to a June 12 announcement by 20 senators who said they had reached agreement on a package of safety and gun-related measures narrowly focused on preventing future shootings similar to the one in Uvalde, Texas, where an 18-year-old gunman fatally shot 19 students and two teachers May 24.

The senators' proposal, which was not yet written into bill form, calls for funding to encourage states to pass and implement so-called "red flag" laws to take guns away from potentially dangerous people; funding for school safety and mental health resources; expanded background checks for gun purchases for people between ages 18 and 21; and penalties for illegal straw purchases by convicted criminals.

The senators' "willingness to engage in dialogue and commitment to the common good" illustrates "the 'better kind of politics' that Pope Francis champions" in "Fratelli Tutti," Archbishop Coakley said, quoting from the pope's 2020 encyclical: "For when the good of others is at

stake, good intentions are not enough. Concrete efforts must be made to bring about whatever they and their nations need for the sake of their development."

The USCCB has consistently called for laws to ad-

dress gun violence.

In a Nov. 11, 2019, presentation titled "Responses to the Plague of Gun Violence" that he gave during the U.S. bishops' fall general assembly, Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Flor-

ida, then the bishops' domestic policy committee chairman, spelled out the bishops' support for a ban on assault weapons, universal background checks and a federal gun trafficking bill.

They also backed, he said, regulations on sales of handguns, improved mental health interventions, safety measures and "an honest assessment of violent images and experiences in our society."



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# Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop Lori Decry Attacks on Pro-life Centers

By Catholic News Service

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York and Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore pleaded for peace in light of recent attacks on pro-life pregnancy centers in the United States.

“Each of us must choose the path of peace and open our hearts to the love that God has for his children,” said a joint statement June 13 by the two prelates. “O Sacred Heart of Jesus, touch our hearts and make them like your own.”

They made the comments as committee chairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Cardinal Dolan chairs the Committee on Religious Liberty and Archbishop Lori is chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

The two prelates noted the pace of attacks had stepped up since a draft version of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito’s opinion in the case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Services* was leaked in May. The final ruling has yet to be released.

The leaked draft suggested the Supreme Court could overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the court’s 1973 decision which legalized abortion nationwide, in its highly anticipated ruling in an abortion case from Mississippi that bans most abortions after six weeks.

Since then, Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop

Lori said “charities that support pregnant mothers in need have been firebombed, and pro-life organizations have been attacked almost daily and terrorized.”

“And even the lives of Supreme Court justices have been directly threatened,” they said, referring to the June 8 arrest of a man outside Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s home in Chevy Chase, Maryland, a Washington suburb. The man, police said, had planned to kill Kavanaugh but ultimately decided against it.

He was identified as Nicholas John Roske, a 26-year-old from California, who was carrying a gun, a knife and zip ties. Roske was arrested after he called 911 to turn himself in. He told police he planned to break into Kavanaugh’s house and kill him and then planned to kill himself. He has been charged with attempted murder.

“For two years now, Catholic churches have been attacked and vandalized at an alarming rate. In July of 2020, we strained to understand

this violence,” Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Lori noted in their statement. The U.S. bishops, in May 2020, started tracking violence directed against Catholic churches. The number of such attacks hit the 100 mark last October.

In May of this year, a pro-life pregnancy center in Madison, Wisconsin, was set afire. A group calling itself Jane’s Revenge took credit for the act. In early June, a second such center in Buffalo, New York, was subject to an overnight attack. Scrawled with spray paint on the center’s outside wall was “Jane was here.” However, no group has claimed responsibility.

“We urge our elected officials to take a strong stand against this violence, and our law enforcement authorities to increase their vigilance in protecting those who are in increased danger,” Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Lori said. “We thank those who have already done so, and we encourage them to continue.”

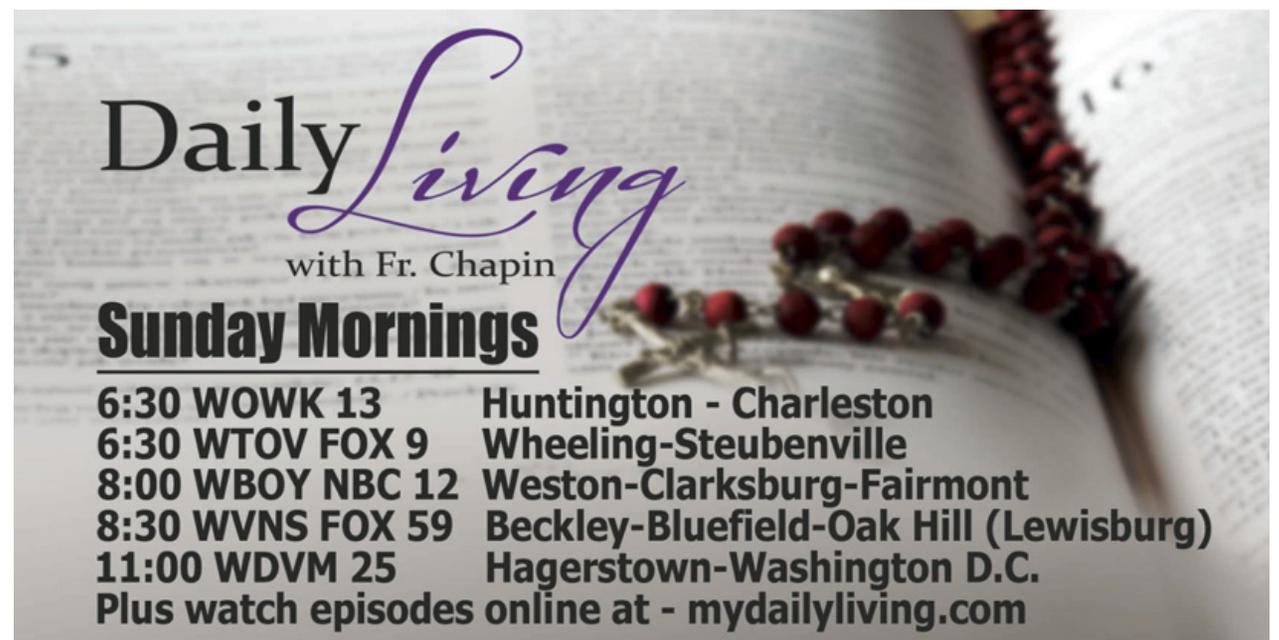
## Catholic Leaders Speak out Against Arizona Executions

By Catholic News Service

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** — Arizona’s Catholic bishops and other Catholic opponents of the death penalty spoke out against the June 8 execution of Frank Atwood, just as they did for the May 11 execution of Clarence Dixon, another Arizona death-row prisoner.

The two executions by lethal injection took place at the state prison in Florence, Arizona, following a nearly eight-year pause in executions in the state because of the difficulty of obtaining lethal injection drugs and criticism that a 2014 execution in the state was botched. Atwood, 65, faced the death penalty for his conviction in the 1984 murder of an 8-year-old girl. Dixon, 66, was sentenced to death for his conviction in the 1978 murder of a 21-year-old Arizona State University student. The U.S. Supreme Court denied final appeals by attorneys for both inmates, which allowed their executions to move forward. In late March, Arizona officials announced the state would resume executions.

“Unfortunately, once these executions begin, it is likely many more will come in relatively quick succession,” the Arizona Catholic Conference said in a May 2 statement.



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*Presenters Philip and Jaimie Althage are parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Summersville, WV—they will celebrate nine years of marriage this June, and they have three children. They moved to Clay County, WV from Texas a couple of years ago, where they take care of Jaimie’s grandfather and manage the family farm. They are both certified NFP promoters through the Couple to Couple League, and are passionate about sharing the message of NFP, and God’s plan for Christian marriage, with other couples.*

# Vatican Releases Suggestions for Lengthier, Revamped Marriage Preparation

By **Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Saying “superficial” marriage preparation programs leave many couples at risk of having invalid marriages or unprepared to cope with the struggles that arise in every marriage, Pope Francis endorsed suggestions for a yearlong “marriage catechumenate” drafted by the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life.

“With too superficial a preparation, couples run the real risk of having an invalid marriage or one with such a weak foundation that it falls apart in a short time and cannot withstand even the first inevitable crises. These failures bring with them great suffering and leave deep wounds in people,” the pope said.

The pope wrote the introduction to the dicastery’s “Catechumenal Itineraries for Married Life,” a document released in Italian and Spanish by the Vatican June 15.

Pope Francis said he hoped the document would be followed by another providing guidance and clear suggestions for accompanying couples “who have experienced the failure of their marriages and live in a new relationship or have been remarried civilly.”

While providing guidance, the pope said, the document also must be adapted for local situations and for the people involved. “It is an outfit that must be ‘made to measure’ for the people who will wear it.”

The document is not a marriage preparation course, the dicastery said, but provides indications for launching “a catechumenal itinerary for married life,” designed to help young people understand the

sacrament, prepare engaged couples to celebrate their marriage and support newlyweds in the first years of their married life.

In addition to general presentations to children and teens about marriage as a vocation, the actual “marriage catechumenate” for couples should last about a year and begin with a celebration or “rite of engagement,” the dicastery said. The second phase should include a few months of more immediate preparation and a pre-wedding retreat just before the wedding. The third phase of assisting newlyweds should last two or three years.

The parish pastoral team, it said, will have to be sensitive and discerning in situations where the engaged persons or just one of them refuses to participate in the catechumenate.

The dicastery suggested dioceses and eparchies first establish a “pilot project” or consider the design of their marriage preparation itinerary to be “experimental,” with a fixed time for reviewing and making necessary adjustments.

“The dwindling number of people, in general, getting married, but also and especially the short duration of marriages, even sacramental ones, as well as the problem of the validity of celebrated marriages, constitute an urgent challenge, which puts at stake the fulfillment and happiness of so many lay faithful in the world,” the dicastery said, explaining why the guidelines were necessary.

Citing calls in the church going back to the 1950s for a more serious preparation to celebrate the sacrament of matrimony, the dicastery said that, like with the preparation of adults for baptism, time and energy should be devoted to helping couples prepare to live the

Christian vocation of marriage.

By speaking of a marriage “catechumenate,” the dicastery said, it wanted to make clear that the goal is not simply to pass on church teaching about sexuality, marriage and married life — although those are essential — but to help couples recognize and thrive in “the mystery of sacramental grace, which belongs to them by virtue of the sacrament: to bring to life the presence of Christ with them and among them.”

After all, it said, for Catholics matrimony is not a one-day celebration, but “it is a vocation, a journey to holiness that embraces one’s entire life.”

Just as preparations for living the vocations to priesthood or religious life extend over time — years, not a few weeks — so should preparations for the vocation of marriage, the document said.

While not presenting a complete curriculum, the dicastery said preparation should: last long enough to allow couples time for real reflection and maturation; place faith and an encounter with Christ at the center; be “articulated in stages, marked — where possible and appropriate — by rites of passage to be celebrated within the community”; and include “formation, reflection, discussion, dialogue, liturgy, community, prayer and celebrations.”

“The marriage catechumenate is not preparation for passing an exam but for living a life,” it said, adding that the challenge can be greater in countries where many, or even most, couples live together before marriage.

The preparation should include encouraging couples to observe “premarital chastity” so that rather than “becoming fixed on the phys-

ical instrumentalization of the other,” they focus on dialogue and getting to know each other better, it said. “Even in the case of cohabiting couples, it is never useless to speak of the virtue of chastity. This virtue teaches every baptized person, in every condition of life, the right use of one’s sexuality.”

In most cases, the dicastery said, preparing for marriage will “require gradualness, welcome and support, but also the witness of other Christian spouses to welcome and be present along the way. Therefore, it is important that more space be given in communities to the active presence of spouses as spouses, as agents of marriage ministry, and not just as individual believers.”

The couples engaged in ministry need training and education, however, the document said. “Some complex issues pertaining to marital sexuality or openness to life — such as responsible parenting, artificial insemination, prenatal diagnosis and other bioethical issues — have strong ethical, relational and spiritual repercussions for spouses and require specific formation and clarity.”

Getting to know the couples and their beliefs is crucial, the document said.

“In the event that they explicitly and formally reject what the church intends to accomplish when celebrating marriage, the couple cannot be admitted to the sacramental celebration,” it said. However, if there is an “imperfect disposition,” they can be married, but the priest and couples charged with ministry to families must follow up and help them grow in faith and their understanding of what the church teaches.

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# Catholic Distance University Double Graduate Shares God's Love Through Missionary Work

Emily Rybak, who is an apostolate of the missionaries of the Servant Sisters, earned both her AA and BA degrees at Catholic Distance University (CDU) and has been accepted into the MA in Theology program. "Every course formed my intellect in a particular way in which my heart was then able to connect the paradoxical reality of coming to know Christ more fully while simultaneously growing in awe of the mystery He is," she says. "All of the courses and faculty members were excellent and truly work to engage the students in cultivating a rich and vibrant understanding of academics in light of the beauty of the Church."

Emily says that her education has prepared her in numerous ways for her work, "but the focal point is Christ. CDU truly emphasizes that in the midst of science, philosophy, literature, logic, idiomatics, history, morality, theology, soteriology, and so forth, Christ is the center of it all. If Christ is the center of everything I pursue, including academics, then I can rest assured that my work will bear good, holy fruit."

Emily was prompted to do missionary work with the Servant Sisters after an experience she had before the Blessed Sacrament nearly four years ago. She was in adoration one day and had a vivid and powerful desire to encounter Christ more fully and, in turn, love Him better. "When I expressed this to The Lord and placed this desire in His hands, He opened the eyes of my heart in a particular way, and in doing so, I began to see Him all the more in the individuals I would encounter everyday," she says. "I fell in love with His presence in others and recognized the immense ways in which He was inviting me to love Him in others."

Emily's work is wide ranging. She says, "I have the immense privilege of serving our brothers and sisters in Christ on various levels, such as in the pro-life field, substance abuse recovery centers, teaching religious education, retreats and formation meetings focused on the youth, and media platforms (such as the Promethean Perspective Podcast) that engage families to embrace the gift of the domestic church, as well as numerous other opportunities to console, strengthen, and tend to the Body



Courtesy Photo

Emily Rybak earned both her AA and BA degrees at Catholic Distance University (CDU) and has been accepted into the MA in Theology program.

of Christ."

As in all things, there are always challenges, but when challenges are met with love, they can become great joys. "The poverty of a missionary life produces the gift of interior freedom, the freedom to follow Christ when He calls," Emily explains. "The joy of laying one's life down out of love for God and neighbor produces a peace that is never based upon the daily circumstances but on how Christ is inviting us to trust Him in the midst of it all."

She sees the study of theology as a vibrant experience of appreciating truth, goodness, and beauty all bound together. "I learned all the more who I was, but moreover, who I am in light of who God is. There is nothing more good, true, or beautiful that I could do with my life than to share the power of God's love with the world or maybe even just one lost soul. We were made for greater things, not grander but greater, and often those things come by way of a humble joyful soul focused on Christ," Emily says.

Emily, one of six siblings, was born and raised on a farm in the valley of the Blue Ridge Mountain Range on the east coast. "The daily commitment of farm work and the

consistency of the wholesome lifestyle therein focuses and disciplines you in numerous ways, particularly because you recognize you are part of something larger, a team effort," she says. "This 'farmer strong' mentality applies to many areas of life and was a great gift that I received from my childhood. My parents did an excellent job in cultivating a flourishing domestic church, and having this consistency

as a youth was crucial to my formation. Consistency in that which is virtuous is key for holiness and is a golden thread that teaches you to embrace sanctity day by day, moment by moment, out of love for Christ."

She looks forward to earning her MA degree in Theology. "This privilege will only unlock more doors through which I can walk and serve Him all the more!" Emily says.

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# Celebrating World Refugee Day

On June 20, we celebrate World Refugee Day, an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe. It celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

World Refugee Day is an occasion to build empathy and understanding for refugees' plight and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives. The Farhans are a family whom we've had the privilege of serving recently.

### The Farhan Family's Story: A Journey to Safety Fleeing Danger

"Our life [in Syria] was very good for us; we [were] very comfortable – my husband and my two small children," said Adelmira Farhan.\*

"But the war started and we were forced to leave the country."

In 2014, Adelmira and her husband, Amar, fled Syria with their two children.

They applied to seek refuge in the United States and spent several years waiting to complete the vetting process.

"The United States is very, very beautiful," said Adelmira. "We came here [to find] a new life, a new good and safe life."

And they found that new life in the hills of West Virginia, where Adelmira's brother was already a state resident.

\*Names have been changed to protect clients' privacy.

### A New Home among the Hills

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is the only refugee resettlement agency in West Virginia. CCWVa resettles refugees where they can thrive and become contributing members of their communities.

Each refugee or refugee family coming to West Virginia must have what is called a "U.S. Tie" residing in West Virginia. A "tie" is a family member or friend who is a West Virginia resident. Adelmira's brother was the U.S. tie for their family.

When Adelmira, Amar and their two children arrived in West Virginia, a CCWVa Refugee Outreach Worker was waiting to welcome them at the airport.

CCWVa helped the family obtain important documents, apply for benefits, enroll in school, enroll in English as a Second Language classes, access health services, and more.

"And always she is positive," said Amar, when referring to the Outreach Worker. "Always she give[s] us positive energy to feel a life here is very good and nice and safe here in this country."

### Working toward a Brighter Future

"I'm here to find a good job and live comfortably here without any help from anybody," said Adelmira. "And I have so [many] very important [goals] for us."

"We have two children in elementary school. We want them to study at a good university [for a] good future," said Amar. "It is our hope, our great hope."

In Syria, Adelmira was a pharmacist, and Amar was an architectural engineer.

CCWVa was able to assist Adelmira with transferring her pharmacological qualifications. CCWVa also assisted Adelmira and Amar in creating a resume and searching for jobs online.

"Here [in the United States], we live safely. Because in my country, it's [a] difficult time," said Amar, holding back tears.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, please visit [www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org).

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# Papa comparte ideas con editores jesuitas sobre guerra, Vaticano II

Por **Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service**

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** —El papa Francisco les dio a editores de 10 revistas jesuitas un vistazo de cómo toma decisiones, los antecedentes de uno de sus comentarios más controversiales sobre la guerra en Ucrania, y una noción de lo que él ve como un rechazo de algunos obispos a aceptar las enseñanzas del Segundo Concilio Vaticano.

Reunido en mayo con editores de revistas europeas, el Santo Padre respondió a seis preguntas sobre sus preocupaciones por la Iglesia Católica y el mundo. Las revistas publicaron una transcripción de su conversación el 14 de junio.

Dos semanas antes de reunirse con los editores, el papa Francisco había creado gran conmoción cuando un periódico italiano lo citó preguntándose si el presidente ruso, Vladimir Putin, inició la guerra contra Ucrania porque sintió que "la OTAN ladraba en la puerta de Rusia". Numerosos medios de comunicación concluyeron que el papa pensaba que la OTAN era, al menos en parte, responsable de la guerra.

El Sumo Pontífice les dijo a los editores que la cita provino de un jefe de estado que lo visitó "un par de meses antes de la guerra".

"Me dijo que estaba muy preocupado por la forma en que se estaba manejando la OTAN. Le pregunté por qué y me dijo: 'Están ladrando a las puertas de Rusia. No entienden que los rusos son imperialistas y no permitirán que ninguna potencia extranjera se acerque a ellos'. Concluyó que 'la situación podría conducir a la guerra'.

"Esta era su opinión", expresó el papa. "Ese jefe de estado pudo interpretar los signos de lo que estaba ocur-

riendo".

Para entender lo que está pasando y detener la guerra, señaló, "tenemos que alejarnos del patrón normal de 'Caperucita Roja': Caperucita Roja era buena y el lobo era el malo. Aquí hay no hay buenos ni malos metafísicos, en un sentido abstracto. Está surgiendo algo global, con elementos que están muy entrelazados".

"Alguien puede decirme en este momento: ¡Así que eres pro-Putin! No, no lo soy", expuso el papa. "Sería simplista y erróneo decir tal cosa. Simplemente estoy en contra de reducir la complejidad a la distinción entre los buenos y los malos sin razonar sobre las raíces y los intereses, que son muy complejos. Mientras vemos la ferocidad, la crueldad de las tropas rusas, no debemos olvidar los problemas reales si queremos que se resuelvan".

Frente a esa crueldad, explicó, el mundo ha sido testigo del "heroísmo del pueblo ucraniano", pero todos deben recordar que "lo que tenemos ante nuestros ojos es una situación de guerra mundial, de intereses globales, de venta de armas y de apropiación geopolítica, que es martirizante para este pueblo heroico".

El papa Francisco agregó que si bien él y el patriarca ortodoxo ruso Kirill de Moscú, que apoya a Putin, cancelaron una reunión en el Líbano prevista para mediados de junio, espera reunirse con el patriarca en el Congreso Mundial de Líderes de Religiones Mundiales y Tradicionales en Kazajistán el 14 y 15 de septiembre y "hablar un poco con él como pastor".

Una parte sustancial de la conversación del Santo Padre con los editores jesuitas se centró en los signos de una nueva vida en la Iglesia Católica y los signos de que algunas personas están

atrapadas en el pasado lejano.

"El concilio que algunos pastores recuerdan mejor es el de Trento" en el siglo XVI, indicó el papa, y agregó que no estaba bromeando. "Lo que estoy diciendo no es una tontería".

"El restauracionismo ha venido a amordazar al (Segundo Vaticano) Concilio", dijo. "El número de grupos de 'restauradores' -- por ejemplo, en Estados Unidos hay muchos -- es significativo" y muestra cómo la enseñanza y la reforma del Vaticano II "todavía no han sido aceptadas".

Las luchas para aceptar el Concilio y vivir la fe de manera concreta, en formas nuevas y creativas, han sido evidentes durante décadas, manifestó el papa, ilustrando su punto hablando de lo que observó dentro de la Compañía de Jesús en la década de 1970, cuando el padre jesuita Pedro Arrupe era superior general.

"Un jesuita de la provincia de Loyola (en España) era particularmente agresivo con el padre Arrupe. Lo enviaron a varios lugares e incluso a Argentina, y siempre causaba problemas", sostuvo el papa. "Él me dijo una vez: 'Eres alguien que no entiende nada. Pero los verdaderos culpables son el padre Arrupe y el padre (Jean-Yves) Calvez. El día más feliz de mi vida será cuando los vea colgados de la horca en la Plaza de San Pedro'".

"¿Por qué les estoy contando esta historia?" preguntó el Santo Padre. "Para que se entienda cómo fue el período posconciliar. Esto está ocurriendo nuevamente, especialmente con los tradicionalistas. Por eso es importante salvar a estas figuras que defendieron el concilio y la fidelidad al papa".

Sin embargo, dijo el papa, no todo vale.

El padre jesuita Stefan Kiechle, edi-

tor de la revista alemana *Stimmen der Zeit*, preguntó sobre la visión del papa sobre el camino sinodal de Alemania, que algunos críticos han afirmado que transformaría a la iglesia en una denominación protestante.

El papa Francisco expuso que le había dicho al obispo Georg Bätzing, presidente de la Conferencia Episcopal Alemana: "En Alemania hay una iglesia evangélica muy buena. No necesitamos dos".

"El problema surge cuando el camino sinodal proviene de las élites intelectuales, teológicas, y está muy influenciado por presiones externas", dijo el papa. Sin embargo, también reconoció que "hay algunas diócesis donde el camino sinodal se está desarrollando con los fieles, con el pueblo, lentamente".

El padre Kiechle también preguntó sobre las continuas tensiones sobre el manejo de casos de abuso y sobre las finanzas en la Arquidiócesis de Colonia y sobre su presidente, el cardenal Rainer Maria Woelki.

"Cuando la situación estaba muy turbulenta, le pedí al arzobispo que se fuera por seis meses, para que las cosas se calmaran y pudiera ver con claridad. Porque cuando las aguas están turbulentas no puedes ver con claridad", dijo el papa. Cuando el cardenal regresó a la arquidiócesis a principios de marzo, "le pedí que escribiera una carta de renuncia", pero lo dejó en el cargo mientras veía cómo evolucionaba la situación.

"Lo que pasa es que hay muchos grupos de presión, y bajo presión no se puede discernir", dijo el papa Francisco. "Para poder discernir, estoy esperando hasta que no haya presión. El hecho de que haya diferentes puntos de vista está bien. El problema es cuando hay presión. Eso no ayuda".

## Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños:

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

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

**Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas:** La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesásticas apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de

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

## Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis:

llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988. Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida. Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crímenes contra Niños: 304-293-6400.

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## Staff Accountant, Parish and Schools

Wheeling, W.Va.

The Staff Accountant, Parish and Schools, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services' Mission Statement. The Staff Account is responsible for financial reporting and oversight of functions related to both parishes and schools.

### ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Processes and is cross trained in general ledger, accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, deposits and loans, utilizing QuickBooks and Temporalities.
- Prepares various reports throughout the fiscal year.
- Reconciles bank and trust statements as well as general ledger accounts.
- Communicates with Director of Parishes and schools on the status of multiple accounts.
- Provides information and assists the external auditors during the annual audit process.
- Participates in the planning and review process with regard to parishes and schools.
- Works with parishes and schools to monitor and budget process throughout the year.
- Participate in training on QuickBooks for all parish and school locations.
- Receives, reviews, prepares and processes vouchers for payment.
- Interacts with persons by various means of communication and correspondence in matters related to parish and school accounts for the Diocese.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's Degree in accounting or equivalent.
- Three (3) years' experience in general accounting, payroll preferred.
- Firm knowledge and understanding of accounting principles.
- Knowledge and experience working with accounting software (i.e.. QuickBooks) and ledger applications.

Please send resumes and cover letter to Michael Walsh, Director of Human Resources, [mwalsh@dwc.org](mailto:mwalsh@dwc.org).

Closing date June 24, 2022

## Principal, St. Patrick Catholic School

Weston, W.Va.

St. Patrick Church of Weston, West Virginia is seeking a Principal for St. Patrick Catholic School, pre-school through eighth grades.

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

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

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

A resume with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF form to Julie Link, [jlink@dwc.org](mailto:jlink@dwc.org). Resumes will be accepted until June 30, 2022.

## Teachers, St. Joseph School

Martinsburg, W.Va.

St. Joseph School in Martinsburg, W.Va., is seeking a middle school math/science teacher for the 2022-23 school year.

Candidates must hold or be eligible to hold West Virginia professional teaching certification. A long-term substitute with a bachelor's degree or first-class permit may be considered if there is a lack of fully qualified candidates.

Preferred applicants are practicing Catholics in good standing with Church precepts who will act as examples of and motivators toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school. Ideal candidates are expected to be familiar with the official teachings, doctrine and laws of the Catholic Church, and to integrate those concepts in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Email résumés and three letters of reference to [pblanc@sjsvw.org](mailto:pblanc@sjsvw.org).

## Teachers, St. Vincent de Paul Parish School

Wheeling, W.Va.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish School in Wheeling is seeking qualified and energetic candidates for the following positions for the 2022-23 school year:

- Full Time Kindergarten Teacher
- Full Time Kindergarten Aide
- Full Time 3rd Grade Teacher
- Full Time Middle School English-Language Arts Teacher
- Part-Time Development Director

St. Vincent de Paul Parish School is a Catholic school that exists to serve the community through exceptional education grounded in responsibility to Catholic values by embracing individual needs. For over 100 years, SVS has served students and families in a faith-filled and vibrant environment, framed by academic excellence, family spirit, and the formation of the whole person. We work to provide students the tools they need to lead positive, productive, and purposeful lives. We do this through spiritual development, relevant classroom experiences, real-world application, character development, and the use of well-rounded academic and technological resources. The school is part of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and currently enrolls approximately 130 students in preschool through eighth grade. We offer a vibrant work environment framed in a positive culture and climate.

To apply, please email a cover letter, resume, and list of 3 professional references to the 2022-23 Principal Jarett Kuhns at [jkuhns@stvincentschool.org](mailto:jkuhns@stvincentschool.org). A complete job description can be emailed upon request.

## Principal, Parkersburg Catholic High School

Parkersburg, W.Va.

Parkersburg Catholic High School is seeking a Principal. The Candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic identity of the school.

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

The candidate will have a minimum of three years of successful educational experience with a preference for administrative experience. A resume with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF form to Julie Link at [jlink@dwc.org](mailto:jlink@dwc.org).

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*Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant*

June 25: St. Brendan, Elkins, 5 p.m.



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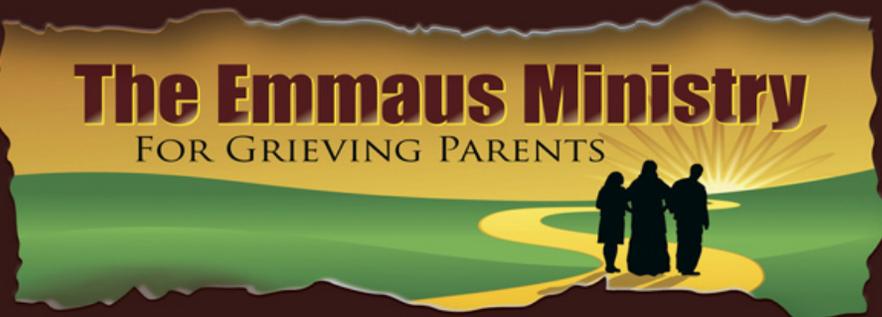
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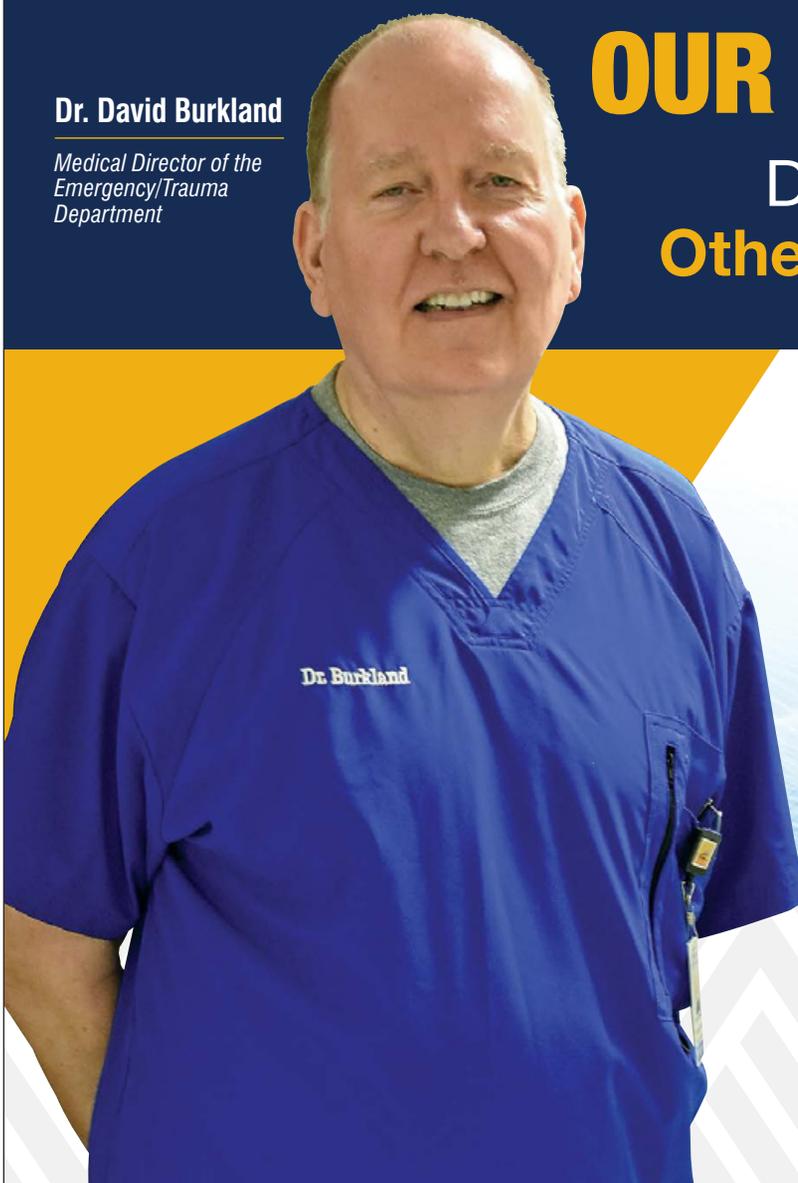
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