A Special Father’s Day
in the Year of St. Joseph

Glorious St. Joseph, spouse of the immaculate Virgin, Foster-father of Jesus Christ, obtain for me a pure, humble, and charitable mind, and perfect resignation to the Divine Will. Be my guide, my father, and my model through life that I may merit to die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Patron of families, patron of fathers, patron of the Universal Church: St. Joseph, pray for us (adapted from the “Novena in Honor of St. Joseph”).

(Posted on catholicyearof.com. for the Year of St. Joseph.)

A statue of St. Joseph holding the Christ child stands inside the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s chancery in Wheeling. This Sunday, June 20, is Father’s Day, a special one in the Year of St. Joseph. See story on Page 2.

Colleen Rowan Photo
Catholic Dads Take a Closer Look at St. Joseph as ‘Pillar of the Family’

By Kristen Hannum, Catholic News Service

“O’ Herman, a longtime member of St. Joseph of the Holy Family Parish in Astoria, Oregon, was named after his grandfather, not St. Joseph. All the same, as a child he had a glow-in-the-dark statue of St. Joseph. “I used to go to bed with me,” he said with a smile. He still has that statue.

Herman — like many other Catholic fathers who blog about Pope Francis, this year, which Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of St. Joseph, is reading Marian Father Don Calloway’s book, “Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father,” published by Marian Press in early 2020, and praying on the insights he’s gleaned from it. Herman agrees with the scholars who believe that it would do the modern family good to look to St. Joseph for guidance on family life, adopting a more realistic view of St. Joseph and his role in the Holy Family.

“To many pictures show him an old man,” said Herman, who retired from his masonry business in January. “Too many pictures show a guy who never pounded a nail in his life. You think about it. God’s not stupid. He wants Jesus to have a strong foster father, a man Jesus can look up to.”

Art historians say St. Joseph has often been portrayed as not much more than a background figure in the Holy Family, a doddering old man, even for one of the holiest of the 12 Disciples of Mary and Jesus. That may have been to emphasize Joseph and Mary’s chastity.

Lawrence Cunningham, professor of theology emeritus at the University of Notre Dame, writes that St. Joseph’s name was only added to the church’s litany of saints in the mid-14th century.

So, Francis described St. Joseph as a tender and loving father who worked hard, was obedient to God and didn’t seek the world’s attention.

“St. Joseph was a self-employed carpenter,” Herman told the Catholic Sentinel, newspaper of the Portland Archdiocese. “He loved Mary and protected her and Jesus. He took his responsibilities seriously and taught by example. It’s like my dad — if someone gave him back too much change, he’d make it right.”

Herman’s six children are adults now, except for his youngest daughter, born with disabilities, who died at 15 months. He believes that he and his wife, Jean, got some things right raising them. He laughs at the memory of his youngest son complaining: “You and Mom always stick together.”

Herman’s voice softens when he said that his oldest son, at the end of telephone calls, says, “I love you, Dad.” Up the Columbia River to Portland, Trieu Nguyen, a father of two daughters and a member of The Madeleine Parish in Northeast Portland, is pleased the church is highlighting St. Joseph.

Nguyen, who works in child welfare, remembers St. Joseph from the Nativity plays of his childhood and heard St. Joseph stories — a few too many — “tds. “I’m happy we’re taking a closer look at him,” Nguyen said. “He had a lot of courage to stand by Mary, who was bearing a child who wasn’t his own child.”

Eric Score, a member of All Saints Parish, also in Northeast Portland, wants to look further into what a consecration to St. Joseph would mean.

An accountant and father of two, Score just bought Father Calloway’s book. “A consecration is like a pledge,” he explained. “To align yourself from a spiritual aspect to follow in his example as much as you possibly can.”

In the book, the priest outlines a 33-day preparation period, which includes several readings on the “Wonders of Our Spiritual Father” in Part 2 and several prayers to St. Joseph in Part 3. Score has been praying a Litany of St. Joseph, something he said brings the saint — who isn’t well described in Scripture — into clearer view: “Joseph, prudent and brave / Joseph, obedient and loyal / Pattern of patience / Model of workers / Pillar of family life / Protector of the church.”

“The beautiful thing about the litany is you contemplate on different aspects of Joseph,” said Score. “His humility really stands out for me. Everything is centered around Mary, and he has to deal with that, in that patriarchal culture. He knew he was caring for the Son of God, he took responsibility.”

Score thinks Pope Francis timed this Year of St. Joseph well, coinciding as it did with what we hope is the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and its lessons for families. “It was a curse but also a blessing,” said Score. “I’ve never been more involved with my children’s lives … it’s really hard to teach kids.”

He takes comfort in knowing that Joseph and Mary weren’t highly educated people. “It came down to prayer and their relationship with Jesus.”

Or, as Herman puts it, “If you have kids, you have to take care of them.” Score is prioritizing spending time with his children. “I took my son fishing,” he said. “Just being there and caring is super important.”

He’s thinking about the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt as a model for family life. “One step at a time,” he said. “You have to take action, but you can only do so much. It’s in God’s hands. That gives me hope.”

Hannum is on the staff of the Catholic Sentinel, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Portland.
By Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops invited Catholics “to pray, reflect and act to promote religious freedom” during Religious Freedom Week, which is set for June 22-29 and has as its theme “Solidarity in Freedom.”

The theme, he said, is “one of the most important that has taken shape in the Church more than engaging in sporadic acts of generosity,” the USCCB said in a June 2 news release about the annual observance.

“It means thinking and acting in terms of community,” it said, quoting Pope Francis’ encyclical “Fratelli Tutti.” “Religious freedom allows the church, and all religious communities, to live out their faith in public and to serve the good of all,” the release added.

The first day of the observance is the feast of two English martyrs who fought religious persecution, Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher. The week includes the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, June 24, and ends with the feast of Peter and Paul, June 29.

Each day of the week focuses on different religious liberty topics of concern for the U.S. Catholic Church. A group of bishops, the USCCB for Catholics to “Pray — Reflect — Act” on the day’s theme can be found at: www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek. The topics are:

— June 22: Adoption and foster care — “Pray that children waiting to be placed in a loving home and the caregivers who see those children will find strength and support from the church.”
— June 23: Catholic social services during the pandemic — “Pray that God would continue to grant Catholic institutions the wisdom and courage to serve a world suffering the effects of the COVID pandemic.”
— June 24: The Equality Act — “Pray that the dignity of all people will be respected in our country,” including “people of faith.”
— June 25: Church vandalism — “Pray that Christian witness in the face of threats or pressure on our churches can convert hearts to faith in Jesus Christ.”
— June 26: Catholics in Nicaragua — “Pray for our Catholic sisters and brothers who are suffering in Nicaragua.”
— June 27: Conscience rights for medical professionals — “Pray that governments would respect the consciences of all people who care for the sick and vulnerable.”
— June 28: Pope Francis’ solidarity with beleaguered Christians in Iraq — “Pray for Christians in Iraq and that people of all faiths in the land of Abraham may live in peace.”
— June 29: Free speech — “Pray that Christians will have the courage to speak the truth with kindness and clarity, even in the face of adversity.”

The USCCB resources aim “to help people understand religious liberty from a Catholic perspective, pray about particular issues and act on what they learn by advocating for policies that promote religious freedom,” the news release said.

“Through prayer, education and public action during Religious Freedom Week, the USCCB hopes to promote the essential right of religious freedom for Catholics and for those of all faiths,” it added.

Catholics can connect with the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty by texting FREEDOM to 84576 to sign up for First Freedom News, the committee’s monthly newsletter.

Bishops...
Cont’d from Page 1

He said the document was meant to provide guidance for bishops and that the committee’s caution on developing any national policy or norms came out of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith during the U.S. bishops’ recent “ad limina” visits to Rome.

“We have taught in years past about Catholics in political life, the importance of adherence to church teaching in the document on worthiness to receive holy Communion, back in 2006,” Bishop Rhoades said. “But with this new strategic plan that’s going to be focused on the Eucharist, this three-year plan, we have to teach this again, on different levels.”

He was referring to a multiyear National Eucharistic Revival in 2021, which has been in the planning stages for over a year; the bishops were scheduled to hear an update on these efforts June 18.

In response to questions asked during the June 17 news conference, Bishop Rhoades stressed that the draft document on the Eucharist will be a pastoral statement that will not be rushed for political reasons. He also said the way it will be worded will stress that the bishops should explain this better but that its clarity on the Eucharist among Catholics and felt the bishops need to issue a “confirmatio” before the document can be used.

A presentation on the proposed “Pastoral Framework for Marriage and Family Life Ministry in the United States: Called to the Joy of Love” was given by Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco on June 16. The chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, which drafted the document, said the document’s framework addresses many challenging areas by providing guidelines for pastoral care. A debate and vote on the document took place June 17.

The framework incorporates a comprehensive overview of marriage ministry and outlines activities that parishes and dioceses can initiate for Catholics living in a variety of family situations, Archbishop Cordileone said. On June 17 the bishops were asked to consider authorizing development of a new formal statement and comprehensive vision for Native American and Alaska Native ministry, since the last one approved was over 40 years ago.

“A pastoral plan will help reassure Catholic Natives that their ministry has a high priority in the church,” he said. “The last time the general assembly passed a major pastoral plan for Native Americans was 1977, said Bishop James S. Wall of Gallup, New Mexico, chairman of the USCCB’s Subcommittee on Native American Affairs.

In a June 16 report, Scott Voynich, chairman of the National Advisory Council said the group of lay, clergy and religious members were particularly in favor of the bishops’ multiyear National Eucharistic Revival initiative.

He said the council was concerned about a lack of clarity on the Eucharist among Catholics and felt the bishops should explain this better but that its work remains ahead for the U.S. Catholic Church.

“Contributing to this report was Rhina Guidos, Mark Pattison, Dennis Sadowski and Carol Zimmermann.

June 18, 2021
The Catholic Spirit 3

‘Solidarity in Freedom’ is Theme of USCCB Religious Freedom Week June 22-29

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As announced on June 2, 2021, Bishops of the Province of Baltimore and the Archdiocese of Washington lifted the dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Days Mass obligation beginning Saturday, June 26, 2021, and Sunday, June 27, 2021. Additionally, the mask mandate in the State of West Virginia is set to expire on June 20, 2021. As such, Bishop Brennan releases these updated directives regarding the celebration of Mass and other liturgical celebrations. With the release of these updated directives, in which some restrictions have been modified or lifted, all are asked to continue to be vigilant and take appropriate measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 especially as new variants have allowed the virus to spread more easily and with greater rapidity. Bishop Brennan and diocesan administration remain mindful to all the clergy, staff members, volunteers and parishioners who have been diligent about following these directives for the health and safety of all.

**GENERAL DIRECTIVES**

Regarding overall sanitization practices, the most recent CDC findings state that while it is possible for people to become infected if they touch a surface and then touch their nose, mouth or eyes, the risk of infection from touching a surface is now considered to be low. While disinfecting surfaces can help to reduce the risk of infection, the most reliable way to prevent infection from surfaces is to regularly wash hands or use hand sanitizer; thus the use of hand sanitizer is still to be encouraged upon entering and exiting the church. Churches should continue to provide sanitizer to all upon entering. All churches and parish facilities should be cleaned at least one time per day when open to the public; the level and method of cleaning and/or sanitizing at each location should be determined by the building’s design and usage as some locations may require more frequent cleaning of surfaces. Churches should have sanitizing wipes available for anyone who wishes to sanitize their space. More extensive disinfecting is necessary in locations where there has been a suspected or confirmed virus case within the last 24 hours.

*It is expected that all parish communities have now restored their full liturgical schedule of weekend Masses, daily Masses and other sacramental celebrations as existed prior to March 2020. Churches should continue to be open for private prayer throughout the day and are encouraged to resume their pre-pandemic schedule of hours. However, churches may not be open 24 hours a day. As well, parish office hours and many elements of parish life should resume provided the general guidelines are followed.*

*In accordance with state guidelines, the requirement to wear appropriate facial coverings by non-vaccinated parishioners is lifted effective Saturday, June 19, 2021, and Sunday, June 20, 2021. This means that no person entering the church for Mass or other liturgical service will be required to wear a facial covering. As an act of love and with greater rapidity, Bishop Brennan and diocesan administration remain mindful to all the clergy, staff members, volunteers and parishioners who have been diligent about following these directives for the health and safety of all.*

**PARTICULAR DIRECTIVES FOR MASS**

*All ministers participating in the Entrance Procession and/or Receiving are no longer required to be masked and maintain appropriate distancing.*

*Altar servers continue to be permitted to assist during Mass. Altar servers must wash and sanitize their hands before Mass but are not required to wear a face covering. There is no longer a limitation on the number of servers during the Mass or other liturgical service.*

*Multiple lectors are now permitted during the Mass or other liturgical service to proclaim the readings. Additionally, the ambo and microphones may be shared by lectors, cantors, and the celebrant. These areas should be cleaned often—in accord with the regular cleaning of the church.*

*Digital, downloadable worship resources, projection of music and texts and printable worship aids have proven very effective in some of our parishes and should be continued. However, hymnals, missalettes and other printed resources may again be used by congregants and kept in the pew racks as was done prior to the pandemic.*

*The use of choirs during the Mass or other liturgical service may resume. This includes children’s choirs. Choir members, cantors, and musicians are not required to use facial coverings or remain socially distanced. The use ofwoodwind and brass instruments is also permitted, provided those musicians be spaced at a reasonable distance from each other, other choir members, and the faithful as wind instruments carry more droplets than other instruments.*

*Regarding the offertory collection, all attempts should continue to be made to encourage online giving and/or placing contributions in a basket located near the front of the church or in the gathering area before/after Mass. However, if needed, ushers may utilize the traditional collection baskets with long handles, given appropriate care is taken and the handles/baskets are sanitized after each use. The passing of individual offertory baskets among parishioners is still prohibited.*

*The Offertory Procession may now resume during Mass.*

*The Exchange of the Sign of Peace during Mass may be resumed if the action is a non-tactile greeting. In keeping with the General Instruction of the Roman Missal which states, “it is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest.” The sign of peace should be a bow or nod of the head in order to reverently offer the peace of Christ given to us through His Death and Resurrection. Pastors are encouraged to use this opportunity to catechize parishioners about appropriate ways to offer the Sign of Peace (realizing that it is more than just a greeting).* Deacons should be performing the full range of liturgical functions during the Mass as prescribed in the Roman Missal (this would now include preparing the altar, elevating the chalice, etc.). In addition, when a deacon is present and serving at the altar, a separate

See “Directives” on Page 5
Directives ...  
Cont’d from Page 4

chalice should be used for the deacon to partake of the Sacred Cup; this additional chalice is not elevated during the Per ipsum.

*For the distribution of Holy Communion, it is still required that all priests, deacons, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion wash and sanitize their hands before distributing communion. If the size of the congregation warrants and the layout of the building permits, additional communion stations should be utilized where a deacon or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion may also distribute communion. Two lines in the center of the church (or to other Communion stations) may now be used by the faithful to come forward to receive the Eucharist. A small table with a corporal, purificator, and a hand disinfecting product, must be used at each Communion station. In addition, the priest or communion minister must practice appropriate sanitizing of their hands after EACH and EVERY communicant who receives on the tongue or if the priest/minister's hand has substantial contact with the communicant's hand. The distribution of the Sacred Cup to the laity remains suppressed until further notice. Self-communicating and/or intinction is not permitted in any form. However, when a large number of priests are con-celebrating at a Mass, it may be advisable to make use of intinction for the clergy's reception in that particular circumstance.

*The above guidelines and requirements for the public celebration of Mass should continue to be followed for funeral Masses, weddings, baptisms, and other sacraments.

*Confirmation – The Office of Worship and Sacraments will send specific guidelines to the respective parishes that are scheduled to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

*Our parishes and communities need to be vigilant in adhering to all of the protocols for the good and safety of everyone so that our churches may remain open for public worship and so that parishioners feel comfortable to attend, and continue attending. Mass and other liturgical services. When broadcasting services or posting pictures on the internet, social media or other means, we must demonstrate our adherence to all of the guidelines so that our actions match our directives.

Bishop Mark E. Brennan

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Annual Mass and Appreciation Dinner Brings Deacons Together with Bishop Brennan

By Colleen Rowan

MORGANTOWN—Held in honor of St. Ephrem, a fourth century deacon and a doctor of the church, the annual Mass an appreciation dinner for deacons was held in Morgantown June 10.

The event offered the deacons as well as their wives the chance for fellowship at St. Francis de Sales Church. Gathering with them for the annual event was Bishop Mark Brennan, who celebrated Mass for the group and shared a meal with them afterwards.

“This was my first opportunity to join my fellow deacons at the St. Ephrem Mass and dinner,” said Deacon Harry K. Evans, permanent deacon at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Beckley. “I was honored to serve with Bishop Mark as deacon of the word and I was most impressed with the list of deceased deacons that I read at the prayer of the faithful. It was good that we gave them this prayerful recognition and remember them in our gatherings. I certainly enjoyed the fellowship and the food... it was certainly worth the trip.”

Deacon Dennis Nesser, J.C.L., permanent deacon at Christ the King Parish in Dunbar who also serves in the tribunal, was happy to be able to gather with his fellow deacons and Bishop Brennan.

“It is always an honor and a pleasure to be with the bishop,” he said. “This was our first gathering as deacons with our bishop to celebrate St. Ephrem in several years. Seeing the many deacons there, older and younger than myself, gave me a real sense of continuity in this ministry. The wives who attended were also a wonderful support for us.”

Also gathering with the deacons and concelebrating the Mass was Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., and Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, pastor of St. Francis de Sales parish.

The dinner immediately followed the Mass at the parish hall. A total of 39 deacons faithfully serve in the diocese. In all corners of the state, they provide outreach to the poor, minister to individuals in prison, work with young people, visit the sick, and assist priests in parishes. The diocese also has 10 retired deacons who serve when needed. There are also 22 men in formation for the permanent diaconate for the diocese.
Camp Carlo Ready to Welcome Youth
Still Time to Register for This Summer’s Camps with Reduced Rate

By Colleen Rowan

HUTTONSVILLE—Camp Carlo is ready to open for the 2021 summer season. With its motto “Cum Ipso in monte” (With Him on the mountain), Camp Carlo is located in Huttonsville in Randolph County offering kids camping and summertime fun and the chance to grow in their Catholic faith amid the beauty of God’s creation.

“The staff here at Camp Carlo are incredibly excited to welcome the youth of our diocese to camp this summer,” said Camping Director Riley Keaton. “Counselors have been working diligently to plan the summer of a lifetime, getting the pool up and running, helping the horses settle in, and so much more. Personally, I can’t wait to see everyone in God’s good time.”

There is still time to register for camps: June 27th – July 3rd – rising 3rd graders to 5th graders; July 4th – July 10th – rising 6th graders to 8th graders; July 11th – July 17th – rising freshmen to seniors in high school; and July 18th – July 24th – a “catch all week” from 3rd grade thru 12th grade. Keaton said the rate has been reduced to $100.

Backpacking, horse riding, and the swimming pool are among the amenities of the camp. Catholic youth will also have the chance to attend Mass and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, among other spiritual opportunities.

Listed on Camp Carlo’s newly launched website are the goals of the camp: A faithful, family atmosphere which models love for (God’s) creation, and build lasting relationships with Catholic peers from across the state.”

Assistant Director of Evangelization and Catechesis Jessica Petter explained that Camp Carlo, formerly Camp Bosco, is named after Blessed Carlo Acutis, who died of leukemia in 2006 at the age of 15.

“He was a devout Catholic who went to Mass daily,” she said. “He was also a typical teenager, interested in the internet, YouTube, and video games. One of his projects was designing a website of Eucharistic miracles from around the world that is still up today! Carlo is a great example for today’s youth, he shows how holiness can be obtained in overcoming modern problems. It is our hope that young people will strengthen their Catholic identity at summer camp, rooted in what it means to be disciples of Christ, much like Carlo Acutis."

For questions or more information about Camp Carlo, contact Riley Keaton by e-mail to rkeaton@dwc.org or Sadie Shields, program director, by e-mail to Sadie4555@gmail.com. To register for camp, visit campcarlowv.org.

Camp Carlo Launches New Website

By Colleen Rowan

HUTTONSVILLE—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Catholic Youth Adventure Camp, better known as Camp Carlo, has a new website where parents and young people can discover all the camp has to offer.

Officially launched last month, the site may be accessed at campcarlowv.org.

Director of Evangelization and Catechesis Daniel Maul commended the diocese’s Website Developer Nick Gulisek on a job well done on the new site.

“It’s gorgeous and very helpful for people to find information about the camp and register for it,” Maul said. “Nick did a great job with it.”

The site provides everything one needs to know about camp programming, which is fastly approaching. Camp dates are: June 27th – July 3rd – rising 3rd graders to 5th graders; July 4th – July 10th – rising 6th graders to 8th graders; July 11th – July 17th – rising freshmen to seniors in high school; and July 18th – July 24th – a “catch all week” from 3rd grade thru 12th grade. The rate has been reduced to $100.

The new site also features the camp’s mission and FAQs (frequently asked questions) and answers. Also provided is information on financial scholarships, which the site states are awarded to campers who are in financial need and would not have the opportunity to experience a faith-based camp without financial support from generous donors. In addition to a scholarship request form, other resources on the site include a medical form for campers, letters to parents and young people can discover all the camp has to other resources on the site in need and would not have the opportunity to experience a faith-based camp without financial support from generous donors. In addition to a scholarship request form, other resources on the site include a medical form for campers, letters to parents and campers, letters to parents and campers, letters to parents and

For questions or more information about Camp Carlo, contact Riley Keaton by e-mail to rkeaton@dwc.org or Sadie Shields, program director, by e-mail to Sadie4555@gmail.com.
Pregnancy Outreach Center Gets Needed Help from St. Stephen’s in Ona

ONA—St. Stephen Parish in Ona is helping to raise needed funds for a pro-life outreach organization in the community.

Baby Bottle Blessings is a fundraiser to help A New Beginning Pregnancy Resource Center in Huntington “to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with men and women struggling with pregnancy and parenting needs,” fundraising organizers said. “Our Baby Bottle Blessings drive will run through June 27, 2021.”

Parishioners can participate by picking up a baby bottle at the sign-in table, fill the bottle with loose change, cash, or a check. For anyone wishing to donate to the organization, checks must be made payable to A New Beginning PRC.

A New Beginning Pregnancy Resource Center is an inter-denominational, nonprofit, pro-life, faith-based organization that seeks to reach out with the Gospel of Christ to men and women who are: Beginning to enter a new life season of pregnancy; pre-and postnatally up to 2 years old; suffering both physical, mental, and emotional harm from a past abortion; contemplating undergoing an elective abortion procedure.

For more information or to make a donation to help support the organization’s efforts, call (304) 697-0411 or send e-mail to newbeginningpc@gmail.com

St. Patrick School Golf Tournament Will be Held Aug. 7

WESTON—The 18th Annual St. Patrick School Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, Aug. 7 at Deerfield Country Club in Weston. This is a four-person scramble/best ball. The first-place winner will receive a $1,000 prize. The second-place winner will receive $500, and the third-place winner will receive $250. There will also be a hole-in-one contest with a $25,000 prize for the winner (hole #9).

The cost for participation is $60, which includes Skins game, closest to Penn, longest drive, and longer putt. There will also be a putting contest and a 50-50 raffle. Registration begins at 8 a.m., and shotgun begins at 9 a.m.

To register a team or to ask about sponsorship opportunities, call Kathy Boyle at (304) 844-7987 or Sharon Franklin at (304) 269-3759.

Huntington’s Sacred Heart Parish Encourages Adoration

HUNTINGTON—“All are encouraged to come to adore Jesus in the Eucharist,” parish officials stated in a recent bulletin for Sacred Heart Parish in Huntington.

It was announced that Father Shaji Thomas, administrator, will have adoration every Friday after 8:30 a.m. Mass until noon. In addition to encouraging adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart Parish also announced additional spiritual opportunities that will be open to the faithful during the hours of adoration.

“You are welcome to come for confession or spiritual counseling at this time,” parish officials stated.

Those who have a special prayer or intention that they would like Father Thomas to include in his prayer time, are asked please write, email or call him with their request.

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Spring Confirmations Come to a Close

Bishop Mark Brennan confirms a young member of St. Bernadette Parish in Hedgesville May 30. Spring confirmations brought Bishop Brennan to 23 parishes around the diocese beginning April and ending June 11 at Sacred Heart of Mary Parish in Weirton.

Photo Courtesy of The Missions Tribune
Wheeling University Welcomes New Vice President for Enrollment Management

WHEELING—Wheeling University has selected Justin Schwarz, an experienced admissions professional, as its new Vice President of Enrollment Management, WU President Ginny R. Favede announced.

Schwarz, a Pittsburgh native, joined the campus community in May. In his new role at Wheeling, he will direct the University’s undergraduate and graduate recruiting efforts, as well as oversee the Financial Aid operations.

“Justin's considerable experience in admissions and international recruiting will be an invaluable asset to our enrollment efforts at Wheeling University. He has a proven track record in creating and instituting effective admissions strategies, which will play a key role in increasing our student population. I look forward to working with Justin and helping him build upon Wheeling University's success,” Favede said.

Schwarz earned an undergraduate degree in Hospitality Management from Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. While at Johnson & Wales, he also completed an MBA in International Business and later a certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (All but dissertation) in Higher Education Administration from Northeastern University in Boston. It was at Johnson & Wales where Schwarz got his start in admissions.

“I've had the fortune of working in higher education for many years. I began my career in admissions as a volunteer tour guide for my alma mater, Johnson & Wales University. There, I developed an appreciation and passion for guiding students through the admissions process, and assisting them in achieving their goal of attending Johnson & Wales. Shortly thereafter, I accepted a full-time role as an admissions representative. Eventually, I joined the International Admissions Office at the University, where I had the opportunity to travel extensively and meet with prospective international students and their families,” Schwarz explained.

Following a 14-year career at Johnson & Wales University, Schwarz served as the regional director of enrollment at HULT International Business School, in Cambridge, Mass.

“I’ve long admired Wheeling University, having grown-up in the Pittsburgh region. Wheeling is highly respected for its academic rigor and dedication to student success. The University’s strong sense of community and personalized service to our students is what distinguishes it from other institutions in the region. I found the opportunity to join Wheeling University, and be a part of its transformation, to be incredibly exciting. Under President Favede’s leadership, we all have an opportunity to help chart Wheeling’s future success,” he said.

The enrollment team he said, is focused on improving the prospective student and admissions experience.

“We're seeking ways to better incorporate technology and conveniences into our operations in an effort to build stronger relationships with students, educators and families. Additionally, we will be streamlining communications and internal processes with our Financial Aid team to better serve both new and returning students. By combining Financial Aid with Admissions in Swint Hall, the team is better equipped to provide a more comprehensive, one-stop shop experience for our students,” Schwarz added.

He is eager to use his knowledge to grow Wheeling's international student population to be the region's leader for hosting and educating students from around the world.

“Rarely do people find their work rewarding or worthwhile. However, as educators, we share a unique opportunity to help shape and change the lives and futures of our students. I consider that priceless,” Schwarz said.

Wheeling’s MSN Program Ranked Best in W.Va. and among the Top Five Percent Nationally

WHEELING—Wheeling University’s Master of Science Nursing Program is in the top five percent of programs nationwide for value in the Nursing Degree Search 2021 rankings. The online ranking site also listed Wheeling's MSN degree as the best for value and quality in West Virginia.

Nursing Degree Search’s 2021 rankings analyzed 148 MSN programs at colleges and universities in the Southeast Region of the United States and found that Wheeling’s Master of Nursing degree ranked fifth for students seeking value. This ranking puts the University’s program in the top five percent for value and quality in the nation, Nursing Degree Search reported.

Additionally, the ranking service named Wheeling’s program the Best Value Nursing Master’s Degree School in West Virginia, also rating it number one in quality.

“The Nursing Degree Search rankings reaffirm that Wheeling University’s Master of Science in Nursing program provides our students a quality education at a great value. We know that working nurses, who wish to obtain an advanced degree, want a rigorous curriculum at an affordable price. Our MSN programs meet those needs,” said Ginny R. Favede, president of Wheeling University.

Wheeling’s MSN program offers three educational tracks: Family Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Administration and Nursing Education Specialist.

Favede added, “Wheeling’s MSN program prepares professional nurses for advanced practice by teaching them to think critically and make the best possible decisions. Our MSN graduates possess the skills to influence the change process and enhance the quality of healthcare for the betterment of mankind and the health care system.”

What also sets Wheeling’s nursing program apart from others is its partnership with WVU-Wheeling Hospital. Both institutions have common, faith-based missions and values to serve the health care needs of Appalachia. By offering scholarships to Wheeling nursing majors annually, the hospital is helping address the nursing shortage in the region and providing the students vital hands-on training.

Through its Healthcare Leadership Academy, the university is educating Wheeling Hospital managers to become transformative leaders in the workplace, which benefits the patients the hospital serves in the Ohio Valley.

Nursing Degree Search’s Best Value Rankings were designed to help students find the highest quality nursing education they can afford, whether they have their sights set on an Associate's Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or another degree type or certificate. To determine the rankings, the ranking service places high emphasis on the institution’s quality, as well as its sticker price. Even though a college may be affordable, it may not offer value, so Nursing Degree Search discounts its quality score by the published tuition and fees the institution charges. This methodology gives the cost per unit of quality for each college and the value is determined by how much quality a student’s dollar buys.

NursingDegreeSearch.com is a free resource for students seeking information about nursing schools and programs. It researches and compiles nursing study area information, career overviews, and more to compile ranking lists for nursing institutions across the United States to help students make a smart decision when considering higher education.

To learn more about Wheeling University’s MSN program, go to its website: https://wheeling.edu/graduate-program/master-of-science-in-nursing/
On the Cross and Still Today, Jesus Prays for Everyone, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis said Jan. 5 that Jesus prayed for everyone and that he will continue to pray for people even during their moments of pain.

Speaking to people at the Vatican who were celebrating the first Sunday of Lent, the pope said Jesus prayed throughout his life for all those he encountered as he traveled through the country.

“Even in the most painful of our lives, Jesus prayed and prayed a lot,” the pope said.

The pope quoted from the parable of the Good Samaritan, which is told in the Gospel of Luke. In the parable, Jesus asks his listeners to imagine three different scenarios: a traveler attacked by robbers who are killed. In the scenarios, the traveler is helped by a priest, a Levite and a Samaritan.

The pope said the priest and the Levite passed by the injured man, but the Samaritan helped him. He said that, in the parable, Jesus is the Good Samaritan.

Jesus, the pope said, “is always praying for each and every person, desiring that his word would help people in their lives and that they may feel alone, Pope Francis said.

“Jesus prays for me — each one of us can keep this in our heart. Do not forget it, even during those terrible moments,” the pope said during his weekly general audience.

With the grace of being able to pray to God and knowing we have been “condemned,” the pope said, “we have only to have courage and hope” to be able to journey on in life and give glory to God.

The audience was held in the San Damaso Courtyard of the Apostolic Palace, where the pope first walked along the barricades, greeting people, shaking hands, signing books and giving his blessing. While attendees were obliged to wear masks, many had them down or pulled them down during their moment with the pope.

In his main audience talk, the pope concluded his series on prayer, which he began May 6, 2020, offering a total of 38 reflections on the theme.

“Prayer is one of the most evident features of the life of Jesus,” the pope said. “He prayed and prayed a lot,” immersing himself in it “because dialogue with the Father was the incandescent core of all his existence.”

At the Last Supper, Jesus interceded for his disciples and for all those who will believe in him through their word and, even during the darkest hours of suffering on the cross, Jesus continues to pray, showing he is “the absolute intercessor: he prays for others, for everyone, even for those who have condemned him,” he said.

“Jesus prayed for everyone, he also prayed for me, for each one of you. Each one of us can say that Jesus, on the cross, prayed for me,” and still prays for everyone each day, he said.

“Even in the most painful of our sufferings, we are never alone. Jesus’ prayer is with us,” he said.

On the cross he offers his love, “that is, he brings about our salvation,” Pope Francis said.

Jesus, the pope said, “was not a philanthropist who took care of human suffering and illness — he was that, but was more than that,” he said. In him there is not only goodness, there is “total salvation, messianic salvation, that gives hope in the definitive victory of life over death.”

Bishops’ Migration Committee Chair Urges Pathway to Citizenship for ‘Dreamers’

By Julie Asher, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops’ migration committee marked the ninth anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program June 15 by urging Congress to act on creating a pathway to citizenship for its beneficiaries.

“Every day, DACA recipients make important contributions to their communities and the life of our nation,” said Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Migration.

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, over 200,000 DACA recipients have served as essential workers, and they continue to demonstrate their resolve during this period of recovery.”

“You,” he added, “these young people have far too often faced uncertainty and rejection at the hands of our broken immigration system.”

DACA was created by President Barack Obama by executive order Jan. 5, 2012.

It allows a work permit and relief from deportation, among other benefits, for young adult immigrants in the country without documents who entered the country illegally as children. The program does not provide a permanent solution so that they can legally remain in the United States and work.

Though popular among Republicans and Democrats, efforts to pass a bill in Congress that would help put this group on a path toward permanent residency and citizenship have eluded past administrations.

“The Biden administration has identified immigration reform as a priority, and we look forward to seeing it realize that commitment through congressional engagement,” Bishop Dorsonville said in his statement. “Meanwhile, the ideal time for Congress to act has long since passed, though the opportunity and imperative still remain.”

“Dreamers,” as the DACA beneficiaries and other young immigrants are called, “deserve relief,” he said, as do those immigrants who are covered, he added, by the Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure programs, migrant agricultural workers and other essential workers who also are in the country illegally.

There are over 600,000 active DACA recipients currently living in the United States and as many as 3.6 million “Dreamers” total. According to a USCCB news release on the DACA anniversary, about 1.8 million of these Dreamers are eligible to be covered by DACA.

“As a church, we recognize the inherent dignity of every human person, regardless of immigration status,” Bishop Dorsonville said. “Therefore, we will continue to call for comprehensive immigration reform that preserves family unity, honors due process, respects the rule of law, recognizes the contributions of foreign-born workers, defends the vulnerable, and addresses the root causes of migration, consistent with the common good.”

Bishop Dorsonville submitted written testimony for a morning hearing June 15 held by the Senate Judiciary Committee on the proposed bipartisan American Dream and Promise Act of 2021.

The House passed its version of the measure March 18, along with the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which provides a path to legal status for farmworkers.

The American Dream measure would create a “conditional permanent resident” status valid for up to 10 years that would protect DACA recipients and other Dreamers from deportation, allow them to work legally in the U.S. and permit them to travel outside the country — if they meet several requirements, including establishing they came to the U.S. before the age of 18 and have continuously lived in the U.S. on or before Jan. 1, 2021, and being able to pass government and background security checks. They also must pay a fee.

The bill also would allow TPS holders and individuals covered by the Deferred Enforced Departure program, known as DED, to get a “green card,” a permanent resident card.

“Dreamers and TPS/DOD holders are our neighbors, parishioners, and — most importantly — fellow children of God,” Bishop Dorsonville said in his testimony. “We as a church have long advocated for their legal protection and full inclusion in the life of our country.”

He noted the USCCB worked with members in the House and Senate on drafting the first versions of the Dream Act in 2000 and 2001, “and we have been calling for passage of such a measure ever since.”

Bishop Dorsonville said even as the USCCB welcomed Obama’s creation of DACA, “it was not a substitute for enactment of the Dream Act or similar legislative protections.”

The full name of the Dream Act was the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act.

Any measure Congress passes, the bishop said, should protect all Dreamers and offer them a path to citizenship; provide a pathway to citizenship for TPS and DED holders; and “maintain existing protections for unaccompanied children, asylum-seekers and family-based immigrants.”

On March 19, in a joint statement, Bishop Dorsonville and Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, USCCB president, praised the House for passing a bill on immigration bills a day earlier.

The measures, they said, “would help many hardworking immigrants reach their God-given potential, not only for their benefit but for that of the entire country.” The two prelates urged the Senate to take “swift action” and pass the legislation.

In an “action alert” June 15, the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, based in Washington, urged people to support a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients, TPS holders and immigrants in the country illegally by sending a message to the Senate to pass the American Dream and Promise Act of 2021.

The conference’s website has a link for sending messages: https://bit.ly/3cH88bk.

These immigrants “are members of our communities and an integral part of this nation,” said Jesuit Father Ted Penney, secretary of the conference’s Office of Justice and Ecology.

“They deserve the protection and opportunity of a clear path to citizenship.”

LEWIS GLASSER LAW OFFICES
Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery Must Seek Good of All, Pope Says

By Junno Arocho Esteves Catholic News Service VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Even in the rush to recoup losses due to the global pandemic, governments must work for the benefit of all and avoid implementing measures that further isolate the poor and the vulnerable, Pope Francis said.

In a June 17 video message to participants at the International Labor Organization’s “World of Work” summit, the pope warned that in hastily returning “to greater economic activity,” world leaders must “avoid excessive fixations on benefit, isolation and nationalism, blind consumerism and denial of the clear evidence of discrimination against our ‘disposable’ brothers and sisters.”

“The contrary, let us look for solutions that will help us build a new future of work based on decent and dignified working conditions, originating in collective bargaining, and preserving the ‘common good’ — a phrase that will make work an essential component of our care for society and creation,” he said.

In this sense, the pope added, “work is truly and essentially human. That is what it is about, that it is human.”

According to its website, the June 17-18 summit “will focus on the response to the devastating impact of COVID-19 on the world of work and the action required to build a better future of work.”

The pope was among several world leaders who addressed the event via video message, including U.S. President Joe Biden, President Moon Jae-in of South Korea, President Félix Tshisekedi Tshilombo of Congo and Prime Minister António Costa of Portugal.

In his address, the pope lamented the treatment of “workers on the margins of the labor market,” especially migrant workers and their families, who are often excluded from access to health services.

Such exclusion, he said, “complicates early detection, testing, diagnosis, contact tracing and seeking medical care for COVID-19 for refugees and migrants, and thus increases the risk of outbreaks in those populations.”

“This is one of the many cases of this philosophy of exclusion that we have become accustomed to imposing on our societies,” the pope said.

Furthermore, the lack of social protection measures for vulnerable people has led to “increased poverty, unemployment, underemployment, an increase in illegal work (and) the delay in the inclusion of young people in the labor market, which is very serious.”

He also said a lack of protections has led to increased child labor, human trafficking, food insecurity and increased exposure to infections among the sick and the elderly.

Pope Francis highlighted the role of the Catholic Church, as well as other religions and denominations, in fostering dialogue between governments and local communities, which is “essential for achieving a solidarity-based and sustainable future for our common home.”

He also appealed to political leaders to use their authority and influence to help the poor and re- minded business leaders “of their true vocation: to produce wealth in the service of all.”

“The current pandemic has re- minded us that there are no differences or boundaries between those who suffer,” he said. “We are all fragile and, at the same time, all of great value. We hope that what is happening around us will shake us to our core. The time has come to eliminate inequalities, to cure the injustice that is undermining the health of the entire human family.”

Supreme Court Upholds Health Care Law’s Individual Mandate in 7-2 Ruling

By Catholic News Service WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a 7-2 decision June 17, the Supreme Court dismissed a challenge to the Affordable Care Act, saying the states that sued over the law did not have the legal right to do so. In the case, California v. Texas, the plaintiffs — 18 Republican states and two individuals — argued that the law’s individual mandate requiring nearly all Americans to have health insurance was unconstitutional. In the House, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi argued that because a 2017 amendment to the 2010 law nullified the penalty for not having even minimal health insurance, the entire law must be struck down.

Writing for the majority, Justice Stephen Breyer said the plaintiffs did not have standing to bring a suit against the mandate because they could not show an injury stemming from its enforcement. He was joined in the ruling by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett.

Dissenting were Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch. The case was three-pronged. Besides examining whether the challengers had legal standing to sue over the mandate, the justices had to determine if changes made to the health care law by Congress in 2017 made the individual mandate unconstitutional, and if so, if that part of the law could be separated out or if the entire ACA would need to be struck down.

Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Catholic Agency in Foster Case

By Catholic News Service WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a unanimous decision June 17, the Supreme Court said that a Catholic social service agency should not have been excluded from Philadelphia’s foster care program because it did not accept same-sex couples as foster parents. Although the court said Philadelphia’s anti-discrimination laws put an unfair burden on Philadelphia’s Catholic Social Services, the justices did not issue a sweeping ruling on religious rights or overturn its previous decision involving religious liberty in Employment Division v. Smith. Chief Justice John Roberts who wrote the opinion in Fulton v. Philadelphia, said the service agency “seeks only an accommodation that will allow it to continue serving the children of Philadelphia in a manner consistent with its religious beliefs; it does not seek to impose those beliefs on anyone else.” He also said the city’s actions of excluding the agency burdened its “religious exercise by putting it to the choice of curtailing its mission or approving relationships inconsistent with its beliefs.”

When it heard oral arguments in this case last November, the Supreme Court hinted its willingness to find a compromise in the case so that religious nonprofits could participate in state discrimination laws. The case centered on Philadelphia’s 2018 exclusion of the foster program of Catholic Social Services of the Philadelphia Archdiocese because of the agency’s policy of not placing children with same-sex couples or unmarried couples because these unions go against church teachings.

In the future, including various types of laws specifically upheld as constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court, she said in a June 9 statement. The measure was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., and in the House by Reps. Judy Chu, D-Calif., Lois Frankel, D-Fla., and Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass. Blumenthal first introduced the measure in 2013 and has reintroduced it off and on over the years. The current measure has 48 Democrat co-sponsors in the Senate; Sens. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Bob Casey Jr., D-Pa., are not co-sponsoring it. In the House, there are 176 co-sponsors, all of whom are Democrats. Carol Tobias, president of Pro-Life, said the measure “would essentially remove all legal protections for unborn children on the federal and state level. The Women’s Health Protection Act is, in essence, a defense of the unborn until-birth bill. Tragically, the only ones to benefit from such a law would be abortionists and abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood,” she added.

National Right to Life Decrees New Bill Aimed at Codifying Roe v. Wade

By Catholic News Service WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Women’s Health Protection Act, introduced in the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House June 8 “would invalidate nearly all existing state limitations on abortion,” said Jennifer Popik, director of federal legislation for National Right to Life. This legislation would also prohibit states from adopting new protective laws in the future, including various types of laws specifically upheld as constitutionally permissible by the U.S. Supreme Court,” she said in a June 9 statement. The measure was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., and in the House by Reps. Judy Chu, D-Calif., Lois Frankel, D-Fla., and Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass. Blumenthal first introduced the measure in 2013 and has reintroduced it off and on over the years. The current measure has 48 Democrats as co-sponsors in the Senate; Sens. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Bob Casey Jr., D-Pa., are not co-sponsoring it. In the House, there are 176 co-sponsors, all of whom are Democrats. Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life, said the measure “would essentially remove all legal protections for unborn children on the federal and state level. The Women’s Health Protection Act is, in essence, a defense of the unborn until-birth bill. Tragically, the only ones to benefit from such a law would be abortionists and abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood,” she added.
Texas City’s Ordinance Creating ‘Sanctuary for the Unborn’ Takes Effect

By Catholic News Service  
LUBBOCK, Texas (CNS) — After a federal court dismissed Planned Parenthood’s challenge to a Lubbock ordinance that declares the city a “Sanctuary for the Unborn,” a lawyer with the Chicago-based Thomas More Society said he believes these sanctuary cities have solid footing in Texas law.

“Cities have the right to regulate businesses and practices within their bounds. A municipality may choose to allow gambling, or even prostitution, or may criminalize it,” said Erick Kaardal, special counsel at the pro-life law firm.

“Abortion is a business, driven by profit, and is required to abide by municipal regulations.”

On June 1, Judge James W. Hendrix of the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Texas, Lubbock Division, dismissed the case for lack of jurisdiction, saying Planned Parenthood failed to show, “as they must,” it has standing to sue the city.

In September 2020, a committee of Lubbock residents filed a petition proposing an “ordinance outlawing abortion within the city of Lubbock, declaring Lubbock a sanctuary city for the unborn.” The city’s charter allows for voter-proposed ordinances to be put up for a citywide vote.

Voters passed the ordinance May 1 of this year, with 62% supporting the measure. It took effect the same day the District Court dismissed the lawsuit against it.

In March 2020, the American Civil Liberties Union made a failed attempt to sue various Texas communities after municipalities across the state adopted ordinances banning abortion and similarly making their towns sanctuaries.

The now-active ordinance declaring Lubbock is a “Sanctuary for the Unborn” says that “abortion at all times and all stages of pregnancy is declared to be an act of murder” and that it is unlawful to procure or perform an abortion or to aid and abet an abortion within the city limits.

It also has a private enforcement provision, which allows any citizen of Texas to sue anyone that procures, performs, or aids and abets an abortion, other than the unborn child’s mother.

Planned Parenthood sued Lubbock to “enjoin the city from maintaining in force, enforcing or giving legal effect to the ordinance” and to declare it invalid. The organization claimed it was invalid because it violated federal constitutional rights and was preempted by state law.

Planned Parenthood also said the city “lacked authority” to create civil liability between private litigants.

But Kaardal noted that Texas “has never repealed its pre-Roe v. Wade statutes that outlaw and criminalize abortion unless the mother’s life is in danger. The Texas Legislature’s recently passed Texas Heartbeat Act is consistent with this, and the act will take effect on Sept. 1, 2021.”

Gov. Greg Abbott signed this measure into law May 19. It prohibits abortion from being performed as early as six weeks of pregnancy.

In his ruling, Hendrix dismissed the case “without prejudice so any remaining federal claim could be raised, if necessary, after resolution of the state-law issue.” He also said his ruling would not keep the state courts from addressing the civil liability issue the plaintiffs raised.

According to the organization Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn, the city of Waskom, Texas, was the first U.S. city to become such a sanctuary through an ordinance in June 2019.

The organization was founded that year and is based in Waskom. It advises pro-life groups that would like propose such an ordinance for their city, according to its website, https://sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com.

One city that recently passed such an ordinance is Lebanon, Ohio. The City Council enacted a measure outlawing abortion and declaring Lebanon a sanctuary May 25; it took effect the same day. The city has no abortion clinics.

Officials with the American Civil Liberties Union-Ohio have said they are prepared to sue Lebanon over the ordinance. According to legal director Freda Levenson, the organization is reviewing the information and determining its legal strategy.

CNS Photo/Tyler Orsburn
March for Life participants demonstrate near Union Station in Washington Jan. 29, 2021, amid the coronavirus pandemic. City Council members in Lebanon, Ohio, voted May 25 to declare the city a “Sanctuary for the Unborn.” On June 1, a federal court dismissed Planned Parenthood’s challenge to a declaration by Lubbock, Texas, to similarly make that city such a sanctuary.

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Welty Home for the Aged
Celebrating World Refugee Day

By Katie Hinerman Klug, CCWVa Marketing Communications Specialist

World Refugee Day honors the strength and courage of refugees who have had to flee their homelands because of conflict or natural disaster. World Refugee Day is celebrated on June 20, and the day serves to encourage public awareness and support of refugees.

Catholic Charities West Virginia’s (CCWVa) Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services program is the only refugee resettlement provider in West Virginia, and has been successfully resettling refugees for over 35 years.

On World Refugee Day, and throughout the year, we celebrate the spirit and perseverance of those who have been displaced from their homelands and denied the human right to a safe place to live,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and Chief Executive Officer. “Let our hearts be open to the plight of refugees and recognize the valuable contributions they make to the communities they join.”

A refugee is someone who finds his or her home and country owing to “a well-founded fear of persecution because of his/hers religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion,” according to the United Nations 1951 Refugee Convention.

Each refugee family coming to West Virginia must have what is called a U.S. Tie Sponsor living in West Virginia. This sponsor is a family member or close friend living in West Virginia.

“Our program’s focus is on reunification for refugees,” said Kellie Rogers, CCWVa Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services Director.

CCWVa works to ensure refugees have a network of support and resources in place in order to assimilate to their new culture. CCWVa refugee case managers assist families with job placement, housing, immigration assistance, translation services, English language training, cultural orientation and other assimilation services.

“Catholic Charities works closely with volunteers, parishes and sponsors of refugee families,” said Zarate. “Volunteers are crucial in welcoming refugees and helping them adjust to their new home.”

In the United States, the Catholic Church has been assisting refugees and immigrants since the nation’s founding. Catholics are called to help in the Gospel; in Matthew (25:35), Jesus tells his disciples, “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

“The Works of Mercy give us a model for how to treat one another,” said Zarate. “Through our refugee resettlement program, we are welcoming the stranger and practicing our faith.”

Peace among the Hills

Najib Ahmad Bakhtari found refuge in West Virginia in 2019. He came to Charleston from his hometown of Mazar-i-Sharif in Afghanistan.

Because of his work as a cook in a kitchen that served Americans helping Afghan people, Bakhtari’s life was in danger. His sister, Wafa Bakhtari Noorzai, had come to America and settled in Charleston in 2015; she was Bakhtari’s tie to West Virginia.

“We help refugees resettle where they can thrive and become contributing members of their communities,” said Rogers.

CCWVa helped Bakhtari find employment that aligned with his skills and experience. He began working at a pizza parlor in South Charleston.

Bakhtari reported that he was settling and grateful to CCWVa for help in assimilating to the Mountain State.

“I’m happiest because anywhere I go, people have been helpful,” said Bakhtari.

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

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.
En Español

**Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston**

**Fase dos: Reapertura de iglesias para el culto público**

**Directivas diocesanas actualizadas al 10 de junio de 2021**

Efectivo el sábado 19 de junio de 2021 y el domingo 20 de junio de 2021

Como se anunció el 2 de junio de 2021, los obispos de la provincia de Baltimore y la Arquidiócesis de Washington levantaron la dispensación de la obligación de la misa dominical y de los días santos a partir del sábado 26 de junio de 2021 y el domingo 27 de junio de 2021. Además, la máscara El mandato en el estado de West Virginia expira el 20 de junio de 2021. Como tal, el obispo Brennan publica estas directivas actualizadas con respecto a la celebración de la Misa y otras celebraciones litúrgicas. Con el lanzamiento de estas directivas actualizadas, en las que se han modificado o levantado algunas restricciones, se pide a todos que continúen vigilantes y tomen las medidas adecuadas para mitigar la propagación de COVID-19, especialmente porque las nuevas variantes han permitido que el virus se propague más fácilmente. y con mayor rapidez. El obispo Brennan y la administración diocesana siguen agradecidos a todo el clero, miembros del personal parroquial, voluntarios y feligreses que han sido diligentes en seguir estas directivas para la salud y seguridad de todos.

**DIRECTIVAS GENERALES**

* Con respecto a las prácticas generales de desinfección, los halagos más recientes de los CDC indican que, si bien es posible que las personas se infecten si tocan una superficie y luego se tocan la nariz, la boca o los ojos, ahora se considera que el riesgo de infección por tocar una superficie es bajo. Si bien desinfectar las superficies puede ayudar a reducir el riesgo de infección, la forma más confiable de prevenir la infección de las superficies es lavarse las manos con regularidad o usar un desinfectante para manos; por lo tanto, se debe alentar el uso de desinfectante de manos al entrar y salir de la iglesia. Las iglesias deben continuar proporcionando desinfectante a todos al ingresar. Todas las iglesias e instalaciones parroquiales deben limpiarse al menos una vez al día cuando estén abiertas al público; el nivel y el método de limpieza y/o desinfección en cada ubicación deben ser determinados por el diseño y el uso del edificio, ya que algunas ubicaciones pueden requerir una limpieza de superficies más frecuente. Las iglesias deben tener toallitas desinfectantes disponibles para cualquier persona que desee desinfectar su espacio. Es necesaria una desinfección más extensa en lugares donde se ha sospechado o confirmado un caso de virus en las últimas 24 horas.

* Se espera que todas las comunidades parroquiales hayan restaurado su horario litúrgico completo de misas de fin de semana, misas diarias y otras celebraciones sacramentales como existía antes de marzo de 2020. Las iglesias deben continuar abiertas para la oración privada durante todo el día y se les anima a reanudar su calendario de horas preparándolos. Sin embargo, es posible que las iglesias no estén abiertas las 24 horas del día. Además, el horario de oficina parroquial y muchos elementos de la vida parroquial deben reanudarse siempre que se sigan las pautas generales.

* De acuerdo con las pautas estatales, el requisito de que los feligreses no vacunados usen cubiertas faciales adecuadas se levantará a partir del sábado 19 de junio de 2021 y el domingo 20 de junio de 2021. Esto significa que ninguna persona que ingrese a la iglesia para la misa u otro servicio litúrgico deberá usar una cubierta facial. Como acto de amor al prójimo, se debe brindar comprensión y respeto a los fieles que aún deseen cubrirse el rostro por motivos personales.

* Además, las pilas bautismales de la parroquia (aquellas con agua corriente o agua quieta y sin movimiento) se pueden llenar y usar a discreción del párroco. También se pueden llenar las pilas de agua bendita; sin embargo, deben limpiarse y desinfectarse con regularidad, al menos una vez por semana para las fuentes y pilas de agua sin gas.

* Asientos: La directiva anterior que ordenaba un estrecho distanciamiento social (sentar a los fieles en cada banco alterno y a seis pies de distancia) y otras limitaciones en la capacidad de la iglesia se eliminan. Ahora se permiten asientos abiertos en la iglesia. Al igual que con el uso de máscaras, se debe prestar especial atención a aquellos miembros de los fieles que deseen permanecer socialmente distanciados en la Misa. Se anima a los pastores a restringir la entrada de sus comunidades hasta que estén vacunados, ya que se han mostrado ser muy efectivos en algunas de nuestras parroquias y deben continuarse. Sin embargo, los feligreses pueden volver a utilizar los bancos y los que prefieran mantener la distancia física —en esta sección, solo se utilizarán todos los demás bancos y los que se sentaran en esta sección necesitarían usar mascarillas y permanecer a seis pies de distancia de los demás.

* Ya no se requiere el seguimiento de la información de contacto de quienes asisten a los servicios y reuniones litúrgicas. En los casos en que se identifique un caso positivo de COVID-19 o una exposición dentro de la parroquia, se debe notificar a todos los feligreses, así como al departamento de salud local. Durante la pandemia, algunas parroquias han restringido el acceso externo a sus iglesias con el fin de “canalizar” a los fieles hacia ciertas entradas principales con el fin de rastrear contactos y desinfectar las manos. Esta práctica ya no es necesaria siempre que las parroquias puedan proporcionar estaciones de desinfección en todas las entradas.

* Los ministrantes que participan en la Procesión de Entrada y/o Recesión ya no están obligados a estar enmascarados y mantener una distancia adecuada.

* Se sigue permitiendo que los monaguillos ayuden durante la Misa. Los monaguillos deben lavarse y desinfectarse las manos antes de la Misa, pero no es necesario que se cubran la cara. Ya no hay una limitación en el número de servidores durante la Misa u otro servicio litúrgico.

* Ahora se permiten múltiples lectores durante la Misa u otro servicio litúrgico para proclamar las lecturas. Además, el amén y los micrófonos pueden ser compartidos por lectores, cantores y el celebrante. Estas áreas deben limpiarse con frecuencia, de acuerdo con la limpieza regular de la iglesia.

* Los recursos de adoración digitales descargables, la proyección de música y textos y las ayudas de adoración desechables han demostrado ser muy efectivos en algunas de nuestras parroquias y deben continuar. Sin embargo, los feligreses pueden volver a utilizar himnarios, misalitas y otros recursos impresos y guardarlos en la dispensa para la dispensación de la obligación de la misa dominical y de los días santos a partir del sábado 26 de junio de 2021 y el domingo 27 de junio de 2021. Como tal, el obispo Brennan anuncia estas directivas actualizadas con respecto a la dispensación de la obligación de la misa dominical y de los días santos a partir del sábado 26 de junio de 2021 y el domingo 27 de junio de 2021. Estas áreas deben limpiarse con frecuencia, de acuerdo con la limpieza regular de la iglesia.

* Se puede reanudar el uso de coros durante la Misa u otro servicio litúrgico. Esto incluye coros de niños. Los miembros del coro, los cantores y los músicos no están obligados a cubrirse el rostro ni a permanecer socialmente distanciados. También se permite el uso de instrumentos de viento de madera y metal, siempre que esos músicos estén espaciados a una distancia razonable entre sí, otros miembros del coro y los fieles, ya que los instrumentos de viento llevan más gotas que otros instrumentos.

Consulte "Directivas" en la página 16
Directivas ...

continúa de la página 15

* Con respecto a la colecta del ofertorio, se deben continuar hafiendo todos los intentos para alentar las donaciones en línea y / o colocar contribuciones en una canasta ubicada cerca del frente de la iglesia o en el área de reunión antes / después de la Misa. Sin embargo, si es necesario, los újeres pueden utilizar las cestas de recolección tradicionales con asas largas, se presta el debido cuidado y las asas / cestas se desinfectan después de cada uso. El paso de cestas de ofertorio individuales entre los feligreses todavía está prohibido.

* La Procesión del Ofertorio ahora puede reanudarse durante la Misa.

* El Intercambio del Signo de la Paz durante la Misa puede reanudarse si la acción es un saludo no táctil. De acuerdo con la Instrucción General del Misal Romano que dice, "es conveniente que cada persona, de manera sobria, ofrezca el signo de la paz sólo a los más cercanos". El signo de la paz debe ser una inclinación o inclinación de cabeza para ofrecer con reverencia la paz de Cristo que nos fue dada a través de Su muerte y resurrección. Se anima a los pastores a aprovechar esta oportunidad para catequizar a los feligreses sobre las formas apropiadas de ofrecer el Signo de la Paz (dándose cuenta de que es más que un simple saludo).

* Los diáconos deben realizar la gama completa de funciones litúrgicas durante la Misa según lo prescrito en el Misal Romano (esto ahora incluiría preparar el altar, elevar el cáliz, etc.). Además, cuando un diácono esté presente y sirve en el altar, se debe usar un cáliz separado para que el diácono participe de la Sagrada Copa; este cáliz adicional no se eleva durante el Per ipsum.

* Para la distribución de la Sagrada Comunión, todavía se requiere que todos los sacerdotes, diáconos y Ministros Extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión se laven y desinfecten las manos antes de distribuir la comunión. Si el tamaño de la congregación lo justifica y la disposición del edificio lo permite, se deben utilizar estaciones de comunión adicionales donde un diácono o un Ministro Extraordinario de la Sagrada Comunión también pueda distribuir la comunión. Los fieles ahora pueden usar dos líneas en el centro de la iglesia (o hacia otros lugares de comunión) para acercarse a recibir la Eucaristía. En cada estación de Comunión se debe utilizar una mesita con un corporal, un purificador y un producto desinfectante de manos. Además, el sacerdote o ministro de la comunión debe practicar la desinfección apropiada de sus manos después de CADA comulgante que reciba en la lengua o si la mano del sacerdote / ministro tiene un contacto sustancial con la mano del comulgante. La distribución de la Sagrada Copa a los laicos permanece suprimida hasta nuevo aviso. La autoconmunicación / o la intención no están permitidas de ninguna forma. Sin embargo, cuando un gran número de sacerdotes está celebrando una Misa, puede ser aconsejable utilizar la intención para la recepción del clero en esa circunstancia particular.

* Se deben seguir las pautas y requisitos anteriores para la celebración pública de la Misa para las Misas funerarias, bodas, bautizos y otros sacramentos.

* Confirmandos - La Oficina de Adoración y Sacramentos enviará pautas específicas a las respectivas parroquias que están programadas para celebrar el Sacramento de la Confirmación.

* Nuestras parroquias y comunidades deben estar atentas para advertir a todos los protocolos para el bien y la seguridad de todos para que nuestras iglesias puedan permanecer abiertas al culto público y para que los feligreses se sientan cómodos para asistir y continuar asistiendo a la Misa y otros actos litúrgicos. Servicios Al transmitir servicios o publicar imágenes en Internet, redes sociales u otros medios, debemos demostrar nuestro cumplimiento de todas las pautas para que nuestras acciones coincidan con nuestras directivas.

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 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 Ninos y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352. 6513. Puede informar anónimamente 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 eclesiásticas 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 Schueller, 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, Dioceses de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

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.

Campus Minister Opening — Fairmont State University and Pierpont College

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston seeks a highly energetic and faith filled individual devoted to bringing young adults to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ to apply for the position of Campus Minister at the Fairmont State University and Pierpont College. The Campus Minister will work to plan and implement a broad program of campus ministry for the Catholic community of students, faculty, and staff at the Universities. This person will manage the day-to-day operation of the campus ministry facility located on each Campus. This individual will plan and facilitate events at the Centers as well as develop and implement catechetical opportunities and pastoral services appropriate to the needs and concerns of the Catholic community at the university.

Persons applying for this position must be able to give evidence of personal commitment and witness to and a sound knowledge of the teachings, life and traditions of the Catholic church. Master's Degree in Theology or related field is preferred. C.C.M.A. certification or willing to pursue certification is also preferred. Person must have experience and knowledge of Campus life of young adult Catholics needs and concerns. Effective interpersonal, communication, organizational and planning skills are essential. Must be able to organize retreats, faith sharing groups, formational events and meetings.

Persons desiring to apply, please provide a Resume’ with references and cover letter to: Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Human Resources Office, 1311 Byron Street, Wheeling, WV 26003 (304) 233-0880

Intake/Interim Services Coordinator for WV Birth to Three RAU 1, Catholic Charities

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

WV Birth to Three RAU 1, Catholic Charities has a full time Intake/Interim Services Coordinator position open in the Morgantown office.

The full time ISC will work with families of children with developmental delays or who may be at risk for developmental delays. The ISC will follow-up on child referrals; conduct family interviews to gather child and family information; assist families with initial linkages they may need; assist with eligibility determination and/or IFSP development; coordinate transition procedures as needed for the child and their family.

Qualifications include a Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited university in Human Services Field such as social work, early education, special education, elementary education, nursing, psychology, counselling, sociology, speech and language pathology or equivalent field of study; valid driver’s license and dependable transportation; ability to work in a team environment. Strong case management, organizational skills and knowledge of child development preferred.

Please submit a resume, cover letter, and three references by Monday, June 21, 2021 to: Wendy Miller at wmiller@ccwva.org
Advertise with The Catholic Spirit
Contact Colleen Rowan at crowan@dwc.org

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

OUR ER WILL PROTECT YOU.
Do Not Ignore Warning Signs of Other Illnesses Because of COVID-19.

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.

WHEELING HOSPITAL