

THE CATHOLIC  
*Spirit*

## National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Arrives in West Virginia



See Schedule of  
Pilgrimage Events in  
Weirton & Wheeling  
(June 21-24)  
on Page 5

Colleen Rowan Photo

During the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton June 20, Father Roger Landry stops to bless the Weirton Fire Department, Station 3. Father Landry, who is on the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, is a chaplain at Columbia University and the Thomas Merton Institute for Catholic Life in New York. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and is joined by six perpetual pilgrims from around the country.

By Colleen Rowan

The Catholic community in Weirton welcomed the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to West Virginia the morning of June 20. Parishioners of St. Joseph the Worker Parish and Sacred Heart of Mary Parish joined perpetual pilgrims for Mass at St. Joseph's followed by the National Eucharistic Procession through part of the city to Sacred Heart of Mary Church.

"Like everywhere else we've gone, the depth

of faith is so prominent and prevalent," said 22-year-old Dominic Carstens of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wis. He is one of six perpetual pilgrims accompanying the Most Blessed Sacrament on the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the national pilgrimage which left New Haven, Conn., May 17 and has traveled through 13 dioceses since then. "It's just wonderful to see people who want to come out and follow our Lord."

This was evident as the procession turned

onto busy Pennsylvania Avenue from St. Joseph's. Construction workers nearby stopped, took off their hard hats, and stood in respect as the Most Blessed Sacrament passed by them. Farther down the avenue, the procession stopped in front of the Weirton Fire Department, Station 3 as Father Roger Landry, who was carrying the Most Blessed Sacrament, blessed the station as firefighters were leaving

See "Pilgrimage" on Page 3

### National Eucharistic Procession on Sternwheeler

down Ohio River with Bishop Brennan & Bishop Lohse is This Sunday, June 23;  
Blessing Sites in Steubenville, Wellsburg, & Wheeling

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NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Pilgrimage



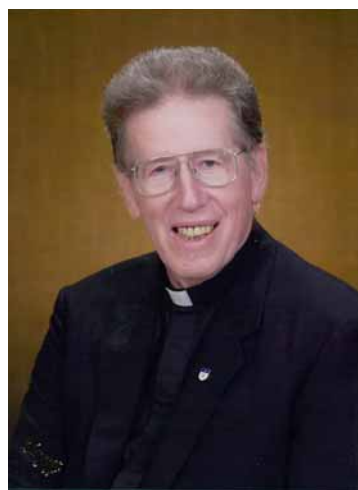
## Obituary—Father H. Joseph Wilhelm, SM

Father H. Joseph Wilhelm, SM, died June 12, 2024 at the Good Shepherd Nursing Home at the age of 92.

Affectionately known as Father Joe, he was a Marist priest for nearly 65 years, during which he served his order in many capacities, including the education of seminarians, the management of the Marist Society financials matters and service as a parish priest.

Father Joe was born December 30, 1931, to the late Anthony and Mabel Wilhelm in Wheeling. He attended St. Michael Parish School until his family moved to West Alexander in 1945. In September of 1946, at the age of 14, he left the family farm to attend St. Mary's Manor in Penndel, Pa., in preparation for the priesthood. Following many years of study, both in the US and abroad, he was ordained in Rome on July 5, 1959. Father Joe celebrated his First Solemn Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church in Washington, Pa.

Following his ordination,



Father Joe continued to advance his religious studies, again traveling abroad to study archeology, Hebrew and Old Testament history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He earned advanced licensure in Sacred Scripture. This course work required him to have a reading knowledge of 8 languages with requirement to speak 5 of them fluently.

Father Joe spent many years in the education of future priests. He taught Theology at Marist College in

Washington, DC and the Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, La. He also taught Sacred Scripture at the Washington Theological Coalition and at St. Paul College in Washington, DC.

Father Joe also served his Order as General Treasurer of the Marist Fathers. During this time, he was living in Rome, near the Vatican. In this capacity, he visited Marist houses world-wide. This position required him to have a working knowledge of 7 currencies. He continued in this capacity until 2009 when his health started to decline.

Father Joe returned to the US in 1984 to be near his family while his father was gravely ill. He served briefly as the Associate Pastor at St. Vincent de Paul Parish. He then moved to Atlanta, Ga., to assume the duties of business manager of the Marist School. He then returned to St. Vincent de Paul Parish where he served as its 20th Pastor. He retired in 1995 but remained at St. Vincent de Paul as Associate Pastor until

his final retirement in 2002.

Father Joe spent his retirement years serving as the Chaplain of the Welty Home, where he said daily and Sunday Masses for the residents and the community. He served the Welty community until his declining health required him to fully retire. He then moved into the Good Shepherd Nursing Home where he remained until his death.

In his nearly 65 years as a Marist Priest, Father Joe has many, many experiences. When he would speak of his time in the priesthood, he always commented that he has a fantastic life and would do it all over again, given the opportunity. When asked about his retirement, he always said that he was retired from the daily operations of a parish, but he will never retire from the priesthood.

In addition to his parents, Anthony and Mabel Wilhelm, he is preceded in death by his siblings; Charles Hupp at birth, Adrian Wilhelm in 1998, Patricia Johnston in

2016, Anthony Wilhelm in 2016, Mabel Curtis in 2017 and Arielle Balak in 2022. Also preceded in death are a nephew, John Wilhelm in 2023.

Father Joe is survived by his sister, Donna Strawn of Charleston, numerous nieces and nephews and his brothers in the Society of Mary.

Family and friends were received June 19 at Altmeyer Funeral Home in Wheeling led by Bishop Mark Brennan. Mass of Christian burial was celebrated by Father Joe Hindelang, SM, provincial of the the United States Province of the Society of Mary (Marists), at St. Michael Church in Wheeling June 20. Interment immediately followed at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in the Marist Plot in Wheeling.


In lieu of flowers, it is requested to make an offering to Marist Community Support, 4408 8th Street, Washington, DC 20017.

Condolences may be offered at [www.altmeyerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.altmeyerfuneralhomes.com).

**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 Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504.

### Sexual Abuse Awareness Training


The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops requires all Dioceses/Eparchies have 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, go to [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."



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Web site: [www.thecatholicspiritwv.org](http://www.thecatholicspiritwv.org)  
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You may also call the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), under "Accountability." 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 Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. 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.

### The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2024

(Digital issues will continue to be published by date every Friday, delivered by e-mail and posted on [thecatholicspiritwv.org](http://thecatholicspiritwv.org))

This is the new print publication schedule for The Catholic Spirit. Each print issue is named for a memorial, feast day, or celebration of the Church within the month of publication. The following provides the name of the issue; the date of the memorial, feast day, or celebration; and the publication date of the issue.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Feast Day, August 15  
The Catholic Spirit publication date for this issue is August 2

**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**  
Feast Day, September 14  
The Catholic Spirit publication date for this issue is September 6

**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
Memorial, October 7  
The Catholic Spirit publication date for this issue is October 4

**Advent**  
First Sunday of Advent, December 1  
The Catholic Spirit publication date for this issue is November 21

**Christmas**  
Feast Day, December 25  
The Catholic Spirit publication date for this issue is December 20





Colleen Rowan Photo

Area faithful participate in the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton June 20.



Colleen Rowan Photo

Two perpetual pilgrims on the Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage walk in the Eucharistic procession through Weirton with area faithful June 20.



Left: Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, happily sing and clap along during the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton June 20. Right: One of the perpetual pilgrims of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage walks in the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton sporting the T-shirt for the Seton Route.



Colleen Rowan Photos

## Pilgrimage...

Cont'd from Page 1

in Ladder 2. Father Landry is a Catholic chaplain at Columbia University and the Thomas Merton Institute for Catholic Life in New York. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and is joining the perpetual pilgrims on the Seton Route. He is also one of the official preachers for the National Eucharistic Revival.

"I have been overwhelmed by the faith of multitudes to come out to meet Jesus, including those who obviously believe," Father Landry

said. "The amount of priests with tears in their eyes have just thanked me over and over again for bringing the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to their church. We Catholics know they have Jesus in their churches, at Mass, and in the tabernacles and yet they themselves are just so grateful."

When he and his fellow pilgrims started the pilgrimage, they knew it was their chief duty to give witness to the Real Presence of Jesus in the

holy Eucharist. "But the task for the rest of our lives is to give testimony to the receptivity and the response of so many faith-filled, grateful Catholics that we've met every step along—what will eventually be—our 1,200-mile journey."

That journey will end for the pilgrims on the Seton Route and the three other routes moving through different areas of the U.S. at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indi-

anapolis July 17-21.

For Mary Snyder, sacristan at Sacred Heart of Mary, it is heartbreaking that many people do not believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. She continued by saying that the Eucharist is the center of her life, and she was so happy to be part of the National Eucharistic procession to her parish church.

**See "Pilgrimage" on Page 4**



# National Eucharistic Procession on Sternwheeler down Ohio River with Bishop Brennan & Bishop Lohse is This Sunday, June 23

## *Blessing Sites in Steubenville, Wellsburg, & Wheeling*

By Colleen Rowan

This Sunday, June 23, Bishop Mark Brennan and Bishop Edward Lohse, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, will board a sternwheeler and lead the National Eucharistic Procession down the Ohio River. This will be part of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. Joining them will be Bishop Paul Bradley, former apostolic administrator of Steubenville, and perpetual pilgrims.

Boater-cade with the bishops leaves the Steubenville Marina at noon and will stop at four sites on both sides of the river where faithful can receive a blessing. The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage website lists the following blessing sites:

- **Steubenville Marina (Ohio)**
- **Wellsburg Wharf**
- **Wellsburg-Brilliant Bridge**
- **Heritage Port in Wheeling**
- **Mazeroski Park (Ohio)**
- **Pike Island Lock and Dam (Ohio)**

There will be a pre-departure prayer service at the Steubenville Marina. Accompanying Bishop Brennan on the sternwheeler will be seminarians Michael Tupta and Dominic Re. Also joining him will be Tyler Greenwood, pastoral associate at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, and his wife and Christie Greenwood, a member of the parish choir. They will also be singing during the procession and are both honored to be participating.

"The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is a truly remarkable event, unprecedented in the 2,000-year history of the church!" said Tyler. "It is extraordinary to witness our nation celebrating Our Eucharistic Lord being carried in solemn procession

through cities, along highways, past rural towns, and even down the Ohio River on His way to the Eucharistic Congress. My wife and I are deeply honored to be part of this local leg of the pilgrimage, contributing our small part in bringing Jesus to a world deeply in need of His Real Presence."

Tyler encourages everyone in the area to join along the procession on the banks of the Ohio River to receive the Eucharistic blessings.

For Christie, participating is a blessing.

"How inspiring it is to witness the priests and pilgrims who have participated in this pilgrimage since its kick-off last month, now joining Bishop Brennan, Bishop Lohse, and people from all around our area," she said. "My husband, Tyler, and I are very excited to also participate in the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis next month. We look forward to joining tens of thousands of people in adoring and celebrating Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist, and praying that many more may come to understand this life-changing reality!"

Also on the sternwheeler will be Bernadette McMasters Kime, PhD., D.Min, director of the Office of Worship and Sacraments for Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, who said it is an exciting time that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is passing through West Virginia.

"It is an honor that our diocese is blessed to be a part of it," she said. "We really hope that a lot of our Catholic faithful will come out and support at least one or all of the events during the time the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is in our area."

Boater-cade's final destination is the Bellaire Marina in Bellaire, Ohio, but the Eucharistic procession continues from the marina to St. John Church in Bellaire where a prayer service and reception will be

held. Catholics on both sides of the river are invited to attend. Registration for the reception is required and can be accomplished at <https://events.blackthorn.io/en/DnDCa1K7/g/seton/seton-route-diocese-of-wheeling-charleston-4a2PDnqpsI/overview>.

Radio connection is on: Our Lady's Radio WWGL FM 97.9 Steubenville, station reaches Follansbee; FM 90.7, reaches Wellsburg and Wheeling, Bellaire, Ohio, (Sunday, June 23) 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. LoL Radio stream [www.rdo.to/WLOL](http://www.rdo.to/WLOL) reaches wherever there is internet service.

Bishop Brennan and the Catholic faithful of Wheeling will welcome the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at the Cathedral of St. Joseph at 7:30 p.m. June 23. The cathedral will host an All-Night Eucharistic Prayer Vigil beginning at 8:30 p.m.

The next morning, June 24, Bishop Brennan will celebrate Mass at the cathedral at 8:30 a.m. Father Roger Landry, one of the official preachers for the National Eucharistic Revival, will be the homilist. He is a Catholic chaplain at Columbia University and the Thomas Merton Institute for Catholic Life in New York. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and is joining the perpetual pilgrims on the Seton Route.

Following the Mass, Bishop Brennan will lead the National Eucharistic Procession at 9:30 a.m. from the cathedral through downtown Wheeling to St. Alphonsus Church. A breakfast will follow benediction.

"This is a rare and sacred opportunity to participate in an event of such spiritual magnitude," Tyler said. "We are truly blessed to welcome this National Pilgrimage to our area, and it's an event you don't want to miss!"

## Pilgrimage...

Cont'd from Page 3

"This is just beautiful, and I'm just so blessed to be a part of it," she said. "I'm so blessed to be at the church every day and able to be in our Lord's presence and receive him. It's everything..."

Bobbie and Bill Weber, members of St. Peter Parish in the Lowcountry of Beaufort, S.C., were passing through West Virginia on their way to a family graduation. But they made it a priority to stop in Weirton and participate in the procession.

"We just wanted to be part of it," Bobbie said. "I was walking ... and I was crying."

Being at Sacred Heart of Mary Church also touched her heart as she is of Polish heritage and the church has strong Polish heritage as well.

That evening, the perpetual pilgrims attended Eucharistic adoration with praise



Left: Perpetual pilgrims sport their Seton Route hats as they follow the Most Blessed Sacrament during the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton June 20. Right: Construction workers stand in respect as the Most Blessed Sacrament passes by them in the National Eucharistic Procession through Weirton.



Colleen Rowan Photos

and worship at St. Paul Church in Weirton. This morning, they were back at Sacred Heart of Mary for

Remaining events for the Eucharistic Pilgrimage, including the National Eucha-

ristic Procession on a sternwheeler down the Ohio River with Bishop Mark Brennan, Bishop Edward Lohse, and

Bishop Paul Bradley with perpetual pilgrims June 23, are detailed in the story above.





# NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

**Be Part of this Historic Event!**  
*The pilgrimage comes to the Northern  
Panhandle of West Virginia June 20-24*

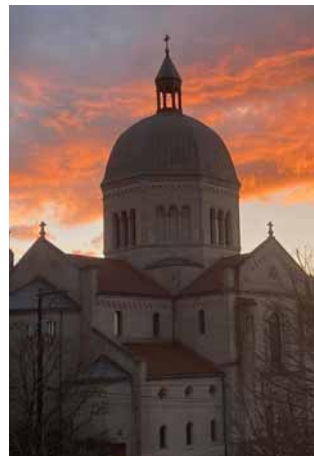
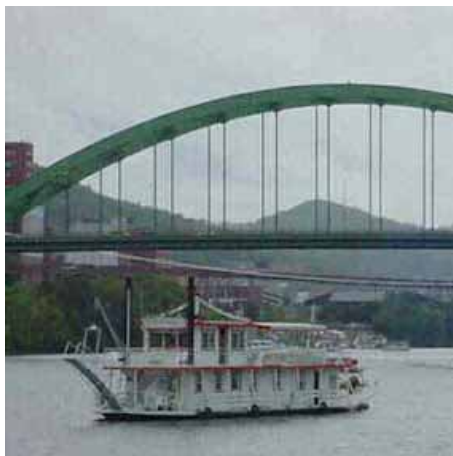
FROM THE EAST

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route



### Welcome perpetual pilgrims to the Mountain State!

Gather with them for Masses, Eucharistic Adoration, Eucharistic Processions, praise and worship, and special programs as they share their experiences. Watch the Eucharistic Procession on the Ohio River led by Bishop Mark Brennan and Bishop Paul J. Bradley and receive a blessing. Pilgrimage events are open to all! Full schedule is on the right.



### Participating Northern Panhandle Parishes

**Weirton:**

St. Joseph the Worker  
Sacred Heart of Mary  
St. Paul's

**Wheeling:**

Cathedral of St. Joseph  
St. Alphonsus



### Pilgrimage Events

**Thursday, June 20,  
National Eucharistic Pilgrimage  
Kickoff in Weirton**

**St. Joseph the Worker Church:** Meet the perpetual pilgrims and gather for Mass, Adoration, and praise and worship—8-9 a.m.

**Eucharistic Procession** from St. Joseph the Worker to Sacred Heart of Mary Church with Adoration and Benediction to follow—begins at 9:30 a.m.

**Sharing Session & Reflection by Perpetual Pilgrims** at Sacred Heart of Mary—11 a.m.-noon

**Eucharistic Adoration** with praise and worship at St. Paul Church—7-8 p.m.

**Friday, June 21**

**Morning Mass** with the perpetual pilgrims at Sacred Heart of Mary—8:30-9 a.m.

**Breakfast with Perpetual Pilgrims** at Sacred Heart of Mary—9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, June 23**

**“Put Out into the Deep” on the  
Ohio River!”**

Bishop Mark Brennan and Bishop Paul Bradley, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, will board a sternwheeler and lead a Eucharistic Procession down the Ohio River. Boatercade with the two bishops leaves the Steubenville Marina at noon and will stop at four sites on both sides of the river where faithful can receive a blessing. Blessing sites: Steubenville Marina, Wellsburg Wharf, Wellsburg-Brilliant Bridge, Mazeroski Park (Ohio), Pike Island Lock and Dam, and Heritage Port in Wheeling. Final destination is Bellaire Marina in Bellaire, Ohio.

**Arrival of National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Wheeling**—7:30-8:30 p.m. Cathedral of St. Joseph. Bishop Brennan and the faithful of Wheeling will welcome the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at the cathedral.

**All-Night Eucharistic Prayer Vigil**—8:30 p.m. (June 23) -8 a.m. (June 24) at the cathedral.

**Monday, June 24**

**Mass at the cathedral** celebrated by Bishop Brennan—8:30-9:30 a.m.

**Solemn Eucharistic Procession** through the streets of Wheeling from the cathedral to St. Alphonsus Church—9:30-10 a.m.

For more information, visit:

[www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-elizabeth-ann-seton-route](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-elizabeth-ann-seton-route)

# U.S. Bishops Discuss Anti-Poverty Arm, Pastoral Frameworks and More at Spring Meeting

By Peter Jesserer Smith, OSV News

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (OSV News)** — Gathered in Louisville for their spring plenary assembly, the U.S. bishops' June 12-14 meeting saw a mix of important matters discussed — with some unexpected twists and moments of robust discussion — starting with how the bishops would continue to address the scourge of poverty in the U.S. and ending with a view to the future for the National Eucharistic Revival.

The first day of the bishops' public session June 13 was split between the morning executive session and an afternoon public session. Behind closed doors, the bishops discussed the future of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, their domestic anti-poverty initiative, which has suffered in recent years from declining donations and questions about grant-making decisions that had depleted its funding reserves.

In a June 13 press conference, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of

the U.S. Archdiocese for Military Services USA, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, told reporters that no decisions had been made yet. But he emphasized the bishops remain committed "to the vital work of fighting poverty in this country" and that the subcommittee responsible for overseeing CCHD would review the bishops' input and act on that advice.

In a shift from previous assemblies, Cardinal Christophe Pierre, the papal ambassador to the U.S., did not focus his address to the bishops on the process of becoming a synodal church — the topic of the global Synod on Synodality in Rome — but instead focused on the National Eucharistic Revival, affirming the central importance of the bishops' endeavor. He urged them to experience this revival as bishops, and emphasized Pope Francis' insight that Eucharistic devotion is connected with the church's mission of "washing the feet of wounded humanity."

The U.S. bishops voted to send a

message to Pope Francis, joining him in praying for peace in the world, calling for diplomatic solutions that affirm human fraternity, and thanking him for sending Cardinal Luis A. Tagle as his delegate to the National Eucharistic Congress in July.

Archbishop Broglio gave a presidential address that began with a reflection upon the American sacrifices to liberate Europe from Nazi domination that were made 80 years ago at D-Day on the blood-soaked beaches of Normandy, France, and affirmed many of the points in the bishops' message. In particular, he focused on how various Catholic agencies and individuals were bringing the church's witness to peace amid ongoing conflicts — many of which the rest of the world has otherwise forgotten, such as Syria and Haiti.

Over the course of both days, the bishops also heard about the ongoing progress of the Synod on Synodality, and that its second session this October will zero in on what a synodal church should look

like. The bishops heard that becoming a synodal church was about creating a place of encounter in the church, where tensions could be fruitfully transformed for the sake of the church's health and holiness.

Bishop Daniel E. Flores, who served last year as a president delegate of the synod assembly and a member of the synod's preparatory commission, emphasized it would help bishops "to think together with our people about how to be about what we should be about, which is the concerns of Christ the Lord."

The bishops of the Latin Church also voted to approve all their agenda items related to English translation texts for the Liturgy of the Hours and the Roman Missal — a process which the bishops' chair of the Committee on Divine Worship, Bishop Steven J. Lopes of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, said finally completed the work on the new English translation of the Liturgy of the Hours

**See "Meeting" on Page 7**



RELIGIOUS  
FREEDOM  
WEEK

**Religious Freedom Week 2024: Called to the Fullness of Dignity** begins with the feast day of Ss. Thomas More and John Fisher on June 22 and concludes with the Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul on June 29. Learn how you can **pray, reflect, and act** to promote religious freedom at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!)





## Meeting...

**Cont'd from Page 6**  
that the bishops began in 2012.

The U.S. bishops overwhelmingly voted June 14 to approve a pastoral framework for Indigenous Catholic ministry, which also included an apology for the church's failures over the course of its history in North America "to nurture, strengthen, honor, recognize and appreciate those entrusted to our pastoral care."

However, the bishops' pastoral framework for youth and young adult ministry hit a snag that stunned the bishops and Bishop Robert E. Barron of Winona-Rochester, Minnesota — chair of the bishops' Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth — who had presented on it just the day before as a "watershed moment" in forming youth and young adults for "missionary discipleship" and "Christlike leadership in society."

Despite overwhelming support from the bishops present, too many individual bishops had already left for their home dioceses by the June 14 morning vote, and the framework failed to meet the two-thirds threshold for passage by two votes.

It was an unexpected hiccup, as ultimately the youth and young adult framework was expected to pass once the absent bishops were polled.

The aspect of the bishops' meeting that most resembled a real debate was a vigorous discussion June 14 over creating a national directory of instituted ministries. The bishops had a lively exchange regarding lay ministries and whether they should together consider the ministries of acolyte, lector and catechist — the former two which Pope Francis expanded to include women and the latter

which he formally instituted — or start work on guidelines for the catechist, an ancient office in the church and now an instituted lay ministry. They also expressed concern about proper formation, but also about a kind of "professionalization" that would exclude faithful people from living this ministry — particularly those who had valuable experience from Latin American contexts.

Bishop Lopes suggested the bishops should continue by considering all three together, and work on clarifying their complementary roles in carrying out the local church's mission, saying Pope Francis seemed to be inviting them to understand these ministries as not simply serving a liturgical function but encompassing a "larger reality" of lived discipleship.

Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes, archbishop emeritus of New Orleans, however, advocated an amendment to start some preliminary work on the ministry of catechist — making adjustments at a later date with respect to the ministry of acolyte and lector — that the bishops could examine at their meeting in November.

Speaking on behalf of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, he cited the urgency of catechesis given the high rates of Catholic adults disaffiliating from the church. The committee's amendment ultimately carried the day, and the bishops approved the national directory proposal.

The bishops had another robust discussion the day before, June 13, following the update on their mental health campaign, which included presentations on how Catholic Charities can help the bishops form a "trauma-aware church," and the vital importance of parish engagement and accompaniment in this effort

to save lives.

The bishops' exchange affirmed their view that ending the stigma surrounding mental health was not only good for the faithful, but also for clergy, allowing them to open up about their own mental health needs.

Bishop John P. Dolan of Phoenix applauded these efforts, saying they were "bringing people back into the framework of church through accompaniment."

The bishops also voiced their unanimous approval for the plans of Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, to open a cause for the canonization of Adele Brise, a Belgian-born immigrant from the 19th-century, whose visions of the Virgin Mary Bishop Ricken had declared worthy of belief in 2010. The bishop suggested Brise provided a model for their evangelization and catechesis efforts.

Although the bishops' public sessions had opened with matters that seemed routine, the June 14 session included presentations inviting the bishops to authorize groundbreaking efforts on combatting abuse and an urgent call to engage with lawmakers on immigration policy affecting religious workers from for-

eign countries.

Suzanne Healy, chair of the bishops' National Review Board, introduced proposals toward combating sexual abuse, including the issuance of guidelines that would address the sexual or spiritual abuse of adults, a new John Jay College to study abuse allegations since 2011, and a 2027 national day of prayer as an act of restorative justice.

"You again have the opportunity to break ground and establish the foundation for the next evolution of safeguarding," she said.

Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas, chair of the bishops' Committee on Migration, reported to the bishops that a foreign-born priest who applies for a green card has a 15-year wait — and current rules on the federal Temporary Religious Worker Visa Immigration program mean that priest would have to go back to another country every five years.

Bishops on the floor likewise expressed their concern about how confusing the rules were for religious workers to navigate. Bishop Seitz said a "partial fix" from the federal administration might shorten that time, but without Congress intervening, the situation is ultimately "simply

not sustainable for our ministries."

The bishops' final agenda item June 14 was the matter of the National Eucharistic Congress. Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, board chair of the National Eucharistic Congress Inc., told the bishops that they expect a sold-out stadium of 50,000 people for the weekend of July 17-21 at the National Eucharistic Congress. He noted the strong participation of at least 50,000 people with the four National Eucharistic Pilgrimage routes that were halfway toward their destination of Indianapolis.

But he emphasized that their eye was already toward the future, from initiatives to invite Catholics to "consider walking one person back to the faith," along with forming "Eucharistic missionaries," and planning future national Eucharistic congresses, similar to what takes place in other countries.

"The hope is this will not be a one and done," he said. With no questions from the body of bishops, he said, "See you all in Indianapolis!"

(Peter Jesserer Smith is national news and features editor for OSV News.)


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# World Needs Urgent Political Action to Guide AI, Pope Tells G7

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Political leaders have a responsibility to create the conditions necessary for artificial intelligence to be at the service of humanity and to help mitigate its risks, Pope Francis told world leaders.

"We cannot allow a tool as powerful and indispensable as artificial intelligence to reinforce such a (technocratic) paradigm, but rather, we must make artificial intelligence a bulwark" against the threat, he said in his address June 14 at the Group of Seven summit being held in southern Italy.

"This is precisely where political action is urgently needed," he said.

Many people believe politics is "a distasteful word, often due to the mistakes, corruption and inefficiency of some politicians — not all of them, some. There are also attempts to discredit politics, to replace it with economics or to twist it to one ideology or another," he said.

But the world cannot function without healthy politics, the pope said, and effective progress toward "universal fraternity and social peace" requires a sound political life.

The pope addressed leaders at the G7's special "outreach" session dedicated to artificial intelligence. In addition to the G7 members — the United States, Japan, Canada, Germany, France, Italy and Great Britain — the forum included specially invited heads of state, including the leaders of Argentina, India and Brazil.

The G7 summit was being held in Borgo Egnazia in Puglia June 13-15 to discuss a series of global issues, such as migration, climate change and development in Africa, and the situation in the Middle East and Ukraine. The pope was scheduled to meet privately with 10 heads of state and global leaders

in bilateral meetings before and after his talk, including U.S. President Joe Biden and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Because of time limits set for speakers during the outreach session, the pope read only a portion of his five-page speech, although the full text was made part of the official record. The Vatican provided a copy of the full text.

In his speech, the pope called artificial intelligence "an exciting and fearsome tool." It could be used to expand access to knowledge to everyone, to advance scientific research rapidly and to give "demanding and arduous work to machines."

"Yet at the same time, it could bring with it a greater injustice between advanced and developing nations or between dominant and oppressed social classes, raising the dangerous possibility that a 'throwaway culture' be preferred to a 'culture of encounter,'" he said.

Like every tool and technology, he said, "the benefits or harm it will bring will depend on its use."

While he called for the global community to find shared principles for a more ethical use of AI, Pope Francis also called for an outright ban of certain applications.

For example, he repeated his insistence that so-called "lethal autonomous weapons" be banned, saying "no machine should ever choose to take the life of a human being."

Decision-making "must always be left to the human person," he said. Human dignity itself depends on there being proper human control over the choices made by artificial intelligence programs.

Humanity would be condemned to a future without hope "if we took away people's ability to make decisions about themselves and their lives, by dooming them to depend on the choices of machines," he said. In his text, he specifically

criticized judges using AI with prisoner's personal data, such as their ethnicity, background, education, psychological assessments and credit rating, to determine whether the prisoner is likely to re-offend upon release and therefore require home-confinement.

The pope also cautioned, students especially, against "generative artificial intelligence," which are "magnificent tools" and easily make available online "applications for composing a text or producing an image on any theme or subject."

However, he said, these tools are not "generative," in that they do not develop new analyses or concepts; they are merely "reinforcing" as they can only repeat what they find, giving it "an appealing form" and "without checking whether it contains errors or preconceptions."

Generative AI "not only runs the risk of legitimizing fake news and strengthening a dominant culture's advantage, but, in short, it also undermines the educational process itself," his text said.

"It is precisely the ethos concerning the understanding of the value and dignity of the human

person that is most at risk in the implementation and development of these systems," he told the leaders. "Indeed, we must remember that no innovation is neutral."

Technology impacts social relations in some way and represents some kind of "arrangement of power, thus enabling certain people to perform specific actions while preventing others from performing different ones," he said. "In a more or less explicit way, this constitutive power dimension of technology always includes the worldview of those who invented and developed it."

In order for artificial intelligence programs to be tools that build up the good and create a better tomorrow, he said, "they must always be aimed at the good of every human being," and they must have an ethical inspiration, underlining his support of the "Rome Call for AI Ethics" launched in 2020.

It is up to everyone to "make good use" of artificial intelligence, he said, "but the onus is on politics to create the conditions for such good use to be possible and fruitful."

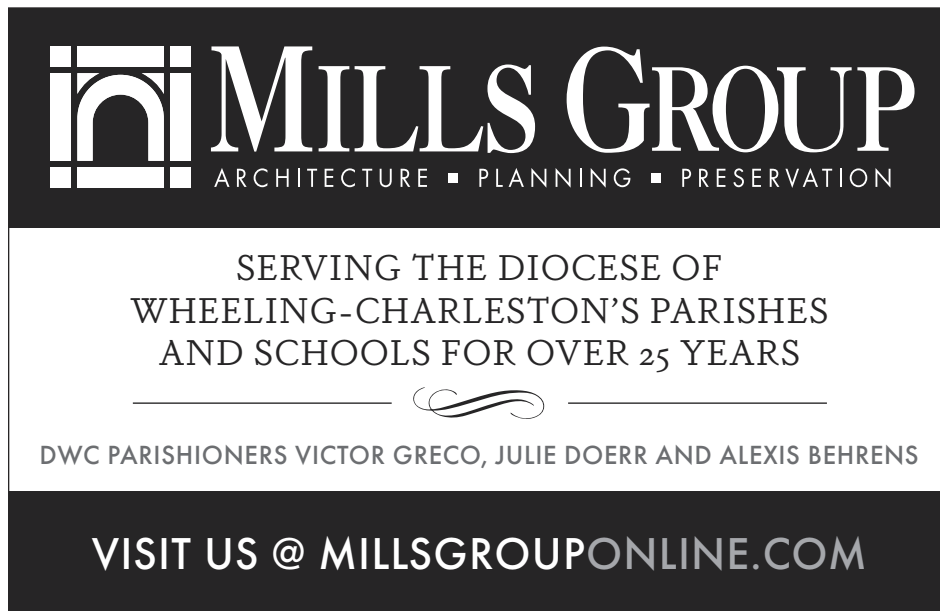


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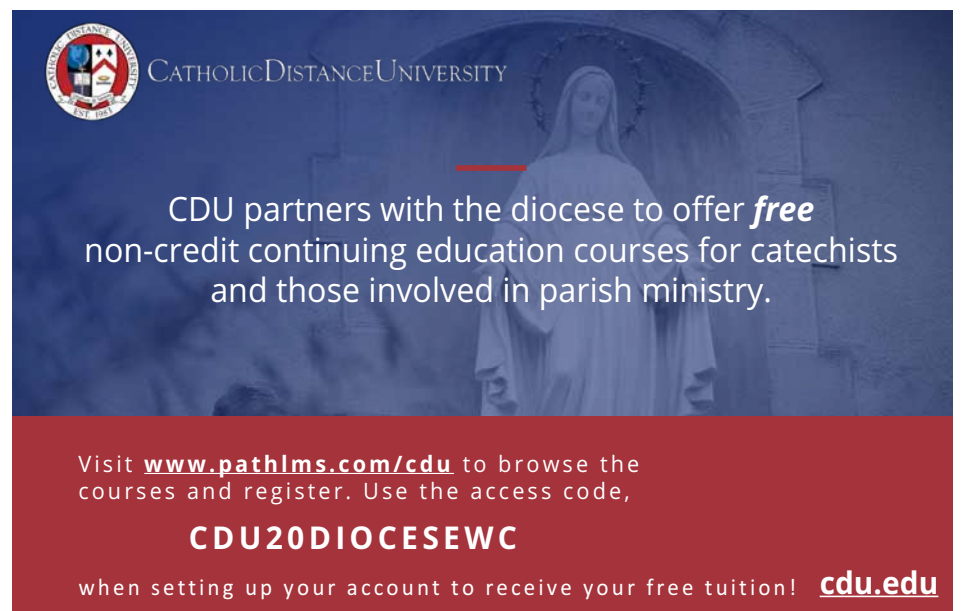


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# U.S. Bishops' Canonical Committee to Offer 'Clear Analysis' of Transgenderism and Consecrated Life

By **Gina Christian**, OSV News

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (OSV News)** — A number of the nation's Catholic bishops have asked for guidance from their episcopal conference following the public disclosure of transgenderism by a Lexington diocesan hermit.

"This issue is now on our agenda," Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield, Illinois, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, told OSV News. "Other bishops may be looking at this, and they've asked about this. And so we will try to give a clear analysis that will give the doctrinal and canonical guidelines that hopefully will be helpful to any bishop."

Bishop Paprocki spoke to OSV News June 14 after the final public session of the USCCB's 2024 Spring Plenary Assembly in Louisville.

Less than 100 miles from where the U.S. bishops convened, 39-year-old Brother Christian Matson, hermit for the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky, came out as transgender on Pentecost Sunday (May 19, 2024), having been received as such when professing vows of poverty, chastity and obedience to Bishop John E. Stowe a year prior.

Bishop Stowe, who declined OSV News' request for comment, told Religion News Service in a May 19 article that he regarded Matson as "a sincere person seeking a way to serve the church."

The bishop also told the outlet that "hermits are a rarely used form of religious life ... but they can be either male or female. Because there's no pursuit of priesthood or engagement in sacramental ministry, and because the hermit is a relatively quiet and secluded type of vocation, I didn't see any harm in letting him live this vocation."

But Bishop Paprocki indicated to OSV News that following a "preliminary discussion" by the canonical affairs and governance committee, "the initial consensus ... was that it's not really possible for a (transgender) person to be admitted to the role of a hermit or consecrated life if they are not repentant of what they've done."

Bishop Paprocki told OSV News that the issue "was not presented to us with a question of addressing any one particular bishop."

"Consecrated life is vowing yourself to God, and the church's teaching on transgender ideology is very clear," Bishop Paprocki told OSV News. "Pope Francis has been very clear about that. And the Bible is also very clear. God made us male and female. And so someone who is claiming to be a trans-

gender person is basically denying a biblical and a doctrinal teaching of the church, and so I would say it would be very difficult for a person like that to authentically enter consecrated life unless that person's repented."

However, he added, "at least as far as being a hermit is concerned, if that person has repented and somehow tries to take steps to reverse the decision they made, well, maybe there's a possibility for a person in that situation. But that's not the scenario that's been presented to us."

As a result, the case "also raises other questions in terms of Catholic teaching about mutilation of the body, which is also part of the church's moral objection to transgender surgeries, unless it's in those very rare cases of ambiguous sexuality that a baby may be born with. But that's very rare."

Bishop Paprocki also noted an apparent incongruence between Matson's public disclosure and the hermit vocation, which — although tracing its roots to the third century — was only formally recognized by the universal church's canon law in 1983.

"You also have a question of why is a hermit going public with making statements, when you can see the very

nature of eremitical life is to withdraw and to dedicate yourself to a life of private prayer with God," he said. "And so it seems that someone who is claiming to be a hermit and then is giving public interviews — it really raises some serious questions about the seriousness of that person's commitment to this way of life."

At a June 13 press briefing during the bishops' spring assembly, the USCCB president, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, in response to a question from a member of the media, also noted concerns about the impact of the disclosure on the integrity of the eremitic vocation under canon law.

Asked by OSV News if the USCCB committee will consult with the Vatican regarding the issue, Bishop Paprocki said, "I think we can handle it here."

"Pope Francis has made some very clear statements," he said, pointing as well to the declaration "Dignitas Infinita" released in April by the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith.

"'Dignitas Infinita' has some very clear sections on gender ideology. So I think we have guidance already from the Holy See," said Bishop Paprocki. "So ... I

would say this is within our competence. If in the course of our study we have any questions that seem not clear, I suppose we could bring those (to the dicastery). But for now, I think there's some very clear guidance from the Holy See on this."

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

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# Steubenville Diocese's Leader Changes amid Consideration of Merger with Columbus Diocese

By Maria Wiering, OSV News

**(OSV News)** — Pope Francis has replaced Bishop Paul J. Bradley as apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, with Bishop Edward M. Lohse of Kalamazoo, Michigan, the Steubenville Diocese announced June 14.

The change comes amid exploration of the Steubenville Diocese's merger with the neighboring Diocese of Columbus, an idea first proposed by Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, who led the Steubenville Diocese from 2012 until his appointment as an auxiliary bishop of his native Archdiocese of Detroit last year. In 2021, Ohio's bishops voted in favor of the merger, drawing widespread criticism from Catholics of the Steubenville Diocese.

"As the discernment process continues to move forward in regard to the future of the Diocese of Steubenville, the Holy Father has informed me that my service as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese has been completed, and thanked me for my leadership over these last nine months," Bishop Bradley wrote June 14 in a statement to the Steubenville Diocese's clergy and faithful.

"I am so very grateful to the Holy Father for giving me the privilege of serving as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville for these many months, and for getting to know the wonderful priests, deacons, Religious women and men, and Lay Faithful of this very special Diocese," he wrote. "I am confident that Bishop Lohse will provide excellent leadership to the Diocese throughout the remainder of this process. These nine months have been a great blessing to me, and I promise to always keep the Clergy and Faithful of the Diocese in my daily prayers. Please pray for me as well."

Bishop Lohse will serve as the diocese's apostolic administrator in addition to overseeing the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Bishop Bradley

described the apostolic administrator role as providing "direction and Episcopal leadership."

Bishop Bradley, who retired last year after 14 years as bishop of Kalamazoo, was appointed in September to serve as the Steubenville Diocese's temporary apostolic administrator. In an interview with Crux published in February, Bishop Bradley contradicted a narrative of decline, instead describing the Steubenville Diocese as "vibrant." He said that he "would have no basis that I can see for coming to that conclusion" that the diocese could not survive on its own.

"I think what we're finding is that while there are some who think that the Diocese of Steubenville is not able to survive, that is not what I've found so far," Bishop Bradley told Crux in January.

The interview followed a joint letter with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes of Columbus stating they "have begun very preliminary discussions regarding the potential merger of the dioceses" at the request of the apostolic nunciature, the diplomatic mission of the Holy See to the U.S. led by Cardinal Christophe Pierre.

"The Apostolic Nunciature has asked the dioceses to work together to consider how different dimensions of the dioceses, including the temporal aspects of life, might be affected by such a proposal," the letter stated. "While no decision has been made, due diligence is needed so an educated and responsible decision can be discerned in a timely manner. Ultimately the decision is up to the Holy Father."

In a December interview with OSV News, both bishops said the potential reshaping of the diocesan territories to meet current and projected pastoral needs requires both temporal efforts and spiritual discernment.

"It could very easily be that we get through this process of infor-

mation gathering and it's determined that no, we should leave things as they are, or find some other way to address the issues" prompting the possible merger — specifically, population and priestly vocational decline, Bishop Bradley told OSV News.

He and Bishop Fernandes said they were working to present their diocesan information by March 2024 to Ohio's other Catholic bishops.

The change in diocesan administrator was made while the bishops were meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, for the June 12-14 spring plenary assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Bishop Bradley and Bishop Fernandes told OSV News that the merger was expected to be assessed by U.S. bishops at this meeting prior to examination by the Vatican's Dicastery for Bishops and then Pope Francis. The matter did not, however, appear on the assembly's public schedule. The bishops met privately June 12 and the morning of June 13.

The Steubenville Diocese was created by Pope Pius XII in 1944 as a missionary diocese from the eastern part of the Columbus Diocese. Besides Columbus and Steuben-


ville, Ohio has three other Catholic dioceses — Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown — and one archdiocese, Cincinnati.

According to 2021 statistics, the Columbus Diocese has a Catholic population of nearly 290,000 out of a total population of just over 2.8 million. Statistics on the Steubenville Diocese from 2020, the latest available, show that there are just over 30,000 Catholics out of a total population of about 496,000.

In a June 14 media statement, Bishop Lohse said, "I thank Bishop Bradley for his wonderful pastoral outreach to the people of the Diocese of Steubenville, and I look forward to meeting the clergy, religious, and faithful of the diocese."

A native of Erie, Pennsylvania, Bishop Lohse was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Erie in 1989 and held several leadership roles. He also served as an official of the now-Dicastery for the Clergy in Rome from 2010 to 2015 while earning a doctoral degree in canon law at the Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained a bishop and installed to head the Diocese of Kalamazoo in July 2023.

(Maria Wiering is senior writer for OSV News. Gina Christian contributed to this report.)



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# Huntington Pastor Joyfully Announces New Principal for Our Lady of Fatima Parish School

**HUNTINGTON**—Tracy Komorowski has been named the new principal of Our Lady of Fatima Parish School in Huntington. Father Tijo George, MCBS, pastor of the school and Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Huntington, joyfully wrote to OLOF families making the announcement which was posted on the parish and school's Facebook pages. Tracy, along with her husband, Craig, and their son Miles (a rising second grader at OLOF) are longtime parishioners of the parish.



**Tracy Komorowski**

"Mrs. Komorowski brings a strong passion for Catholic education," said Father George, who is also pastor of St. Stephen Parish in Ona. "She has more than 20 years of educational and leadership experience. Throughout her career, she has been able to exemplify teaching and leadership success at both the state and local level. She holds a BA in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Development, an MA in Literacy Education, and is working

towards an Ed. D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a Leadership Focus."

Komorowski has taught in a variety of programmatic levels including early childhood, elementary, middle school, and as a reading specialist.

"She is coming to us from the

West Virginia Department of Education where she led the successful expansion and implementation of the 'Communities In Schools' program," Father George said in the post, adding that she has served as a state-wide literacy specialist, supporting school districts in their efforts to improve instruction, analyze student data, and make curriculum and instruction decisions.

"I could not be more excited to be the next principal at OLOF," Tracy said. "Our school community has great things to offer to our children as they learn and grow in faith, family and community. I look forward to a successful 2024-2025 school year."

It is indeed an exciting day for the OLOF community.

"As long-time parishioners, we have all witnessed the gifts Tracy Komorowski and her family have shared with us," Father George said. "It brings me great joy that she will now share those gifts with our

school community. I ask you to join me in praying for her success and the continued success of our school."

Father George extended the school and parish's deepest gratitude to Dennis Caldwell for his willingness to answer their call to serve in the interim role.

"Please join me in thanking him for his service to our school," he said.

Father George also thanked Superintendent of Catholic Schools Jennifer Hornyak as well as everyone on the Search Committee for their diligent work. The committee team reviewed resumes, conducted on-site interviews, and carefully evaluated each candidate.

"Thank you again for choosing Our Lady of Fatima Parish School for your children," Father George wrote to school families. "As always, we will continue to strive to help your children grow in Christ in both the classroom and the community."

## Shepherdstown Knights of Columbus Offering Essay Scholarships

**SHEPHERDSTOWN**—The St. Agnes Council of the Knights of Columbus is once again offering four scholarships. Two of these will be in the amount of \$500 and are for students attending a Catholic high school and the other two in the amount of \$1,000 are for St. Agnes students attending a college of their choice.

"While these scholarships may seem very modest, they will be useful when buying school supplies, or books," the council said. "Considering past participation in this endeavor, your chances of receiving a scholarship are pretty good!"

To participate, eligible applicants

will complete a brief form, available from the council via e-mail (see below), and will be provided with an essay subject. The essay should be no less than one page, 1.5 spacing, and no more than two pages. Upon receipt the essays will be assigned a number and separated from the application form to keep the identity of the applicant secret until after the scholarships are assigned. The council urges applicants to "resist the lure of AI and write this essay all by yourself." The deadline for submissions is Aug. 1.

For information on eligibility and to receive an application form and essay question, send e-mail to joe.bosco.nd@gmail.com.



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# Diocesan Official Appointments

Bishop Mark Brennan has made public the following appointments:

**Father Frederick J. D' Souza** is appointed parochial vicar of St. John University Parish in Morgantown and assistant director of Campus Ministry for West Virginia University (WVU) with residence at the parish rectory, effective July 1, 2024.

**Deacon Luis A. Pagano** is appointed permanent deacon at St. Leo Parish in Inwood and to liturgical ministry at the same parish, effective June 19, 2024.

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**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 eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. 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 Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de [www.dwc.org](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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