

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Special Collections for Flood Recovery in Ohio & Marion Counties to be Held at Masses Next Two Weekends

WEST VIRGINIA—Special collections to support flood recovery efforts in Ohio and Marion counties will be held at Masses this weekend (June 28-29) and next weekend (July 5-6).

A June 18 press release from the diocese stated that all of the money collected will remain in West Virginia and will be managed by Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa).

Monies will support immediate and long term needs met by CCWVa and affiliated Catholic agencies and will be allocated along a four-tier priority list as follows:

1. Parishes in and around the affected area who directly assist families will receive funds to give aid to those in need.
2. CCWVa Regional staff will receive fund-

ing for direct, short-term recovery assistance to victims.

3. Partner agencies who work with CCWVa to administer relief to West Virginia residents affected by the flooding.

4. Funds will be given to CCWVa for long-term humanitarian and recovery efforts. This **See "Collection" on Page 3**

In Eucharistic Procession, Elm Grove's St. Vincent de Paul Parish Prays for Flood Victims, Many of Whom are Parishioners



Colleen Rowan photo

Clergy and parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in the Elm Grove neighborhood of Wheeling walk in their Eucharistic Procession on Corpus Christi Sunday (June 22), praying for the victims of the June 14 flood which devastated Triadelphia and Valley Grove and a portion of Elm Grove in Ohio County.

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—As members of St. Vincent de Paul Parish took Christ out into the Elm Grove neighborhood of Wheeling in their Eucharistic Procession on

Corpus Christi Sunday (June 22), they prayed for the victims of the June 14 flood which devastated Triadelphia and Valley Grove and a portion of Elm Grove in Ohio County.

At the 9 a.m. Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday, Father Jeason Stephan, MCBS, pastor of St. Vincent's and Our Lady of Seven Dolours Mission in Triadelphia, announced that one of the nine

people who died in the flood, Michael Bokanovich, 73, was a St. Vincent's parishioner. He was remembered in his obituary as "a devoted member" of the

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Obituary

Father Harold F. Dunn, MSA

Rev. Harold Francis Dunn, MSA, passed away peacefully on June 24, 2025, at Liza's Place - Valley Hospice Care Center South in Wheeling, W.Va. Born on April 24, 1942, in Rome, N.Y., he lived a life dedicated to faith, service, and education, leaving an indelible mark on all who knew him. Father Dunn was 83 years old.



in Wheeling, and Our Lady of Seven Dolors Mission in Triadelphia. He also served as chaplain at the prison in Welch.

His compassionate spirit and commitment to his faith inspired all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Father Dunn was preceded in death by his parents, Wilford and Celest (Benner) Dunn, and his brother, John Dunn. He is survived by his beloved sister, Denise Dunn of Rome, N.Y., and his very dear friends, Kathleen and Isaac Dieffenbaugher and Dr. Terry Williams, who were like family to him. His legacy of love, faith, and service will continue to inspire and guide those he touched throughout his remarkable life.

His journey of service began with his time as a U.S. Air Force Chaplain, where he provided spiritual guidance and support to those serving our nation. On May 28, 1978, he was ordained as a Catholic priest in the Diocese of Norwich, Conn., for the Society of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles, MSA.

For nearly 50 years, Father Dunn served with unwavering dedication in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston as both a pastor and teacher. His passion for studying, reading, teaching, and fundraising enriched the lives of countless individuals and communities. He was a proud member of the Knights of Columbus and pursued his education at esteemed institutions including Free Academy in Rome, N.Y., Holy Apostles College in Cromwell, Conn., Oblates of Mary in Washington, D.C., and St. Mark's in South Union, Ky.

Throughout his ministry, Father Dunn served many congregations in West Virginia including St. Francis Xavier Parish in Moundsville, St. Martin of Tours Mission in Cameron, St. Joseph Parish in Proctor, Sacred Heart Parish in Rainelle, St. Patrick Parish in Hinton, Our Lady of the Greenbrier Mission in Alderson, Sacred Heart Parish in Williamson, Christ the King Parish in Dunbar, Holy Trinity Parish in Nitro, St. Patrick Mission in Bancroft, St. Peter Parish in Welch, Sacred Heart Parish in Powhatan, Our Lady at Victory Parish in Gary, Christ the King Parish in War, St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling, St. John Parish in Benwood, St. James Parish in McMechen, St. Vincent de Paul Parish

Reception of the body will be at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 27, with visitation until 7 p.m. A vigil service will immediately follow with Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E., presiding.

On Saturday, June 28, visitation will be at the cathedral from 9 to 9:45 a.m. The Funeral Mass will follow at 10 a.m. with Most Rev. Mark Brennan, bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, presiding. Concelebrating the Mass will be Very Rev. Martin D. Rooney, MSA, provincial animator of the Society of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles, USA/Vietnam; Very Rev. John Rice, V.G., V.F.; Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E.; and various diocesan priests.

The Funeral Mass will be livestreamed on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's webpage, www.dwc.org, and on the diocesan Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Catholic Charities West Virginia, 2000 Main Street, Wheeling WV 26003.

The date and time for a committal service at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling, will be announced in the future.

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org. **To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement:** numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer. **To Report to Diocesan Authorities:** The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504 or the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under "Accountability." Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment", then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. **To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator:** call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. The Diocese partners with Navex Global to offer EthicsPoint to report other concerns such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in WV. EthicsPoint can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

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. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer, directly or indirectly, with children: background check; receipt of the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children; sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Training may be completed online or via live workshop. For information, go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."

The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2025

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

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

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‘Relief Convoy’ Set to Deliver Food and Relief Items for Flood Victims in Ohio and Marion Counties

WHEELING — Community Markets Inc., located in Shepherdstown is partnering with St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town and other local organizations to provide 3 trucks/trailers full of fresh & local food, cleaning supplies, and other necessities to flood victims in Ohio and Marion counties. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is providing funding and people power to help make the donation possible.

The trucks will arrive at approximately 12:30 p.m. on Monday, June 30. Food items will be brought to the Catholic Neighborhood Center on 18th street in Wheeling, where other local organizations will be on hand to receive it and help distribute it to those affected by the flooding. Since the flooding oc-

curred, the Catholic Neighborhood Center, part of Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has served as a hub for food distribution and other resources. In addition to immediate relief, CCWVa specializes in long-term humanitarian and recovery efforts, assisting families long after other organizations have moved out, helping families and individuals in the rebuilding process to restore safe, secure, and sanitary living conditions. Special collections in all Catholic churches in the diocese fund these efforts.

A third truck loaded with flood relief supplies such as; tarps, shovels, crow bars, utility knives, work and disposable gloves, new socks, disinfectant wipes, contractor bags, storage bins, buckets, trash cans, scrub brushes, brooms, duct

tape, muck boots, mops, bleach, dish soap, all-purpose cleaner, spray bottles, sponges and rags, hoses and squeegees will be delivered to affected areas to continue working to clean-up from the tragic flooding.

Members of the chancery staff for the diocese and other volunteers will be onsite to help offload and deliver items to flood victims. “Our community has suffered horrific loss,” said Tim Bishop, Director of Communication for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, “but even in these tragic times, God’s never ending love and mercy will help us all overcome. It is great to witness not only our priests and Catholic churches, but also our Catholic school students and lay faithful join with members of other faith

communities in the area in the effort to help victim’s rebuild their lives. All of us are living Christ’s command to love your neighbor.”

Community Markets Inc. is a nonprofit organization based in Shepherdstown whose mission is to connect locally grown food to families in need. “Community Markets, Inc. is honored to partner with Shepherdstown Shares, Jefferson Security Bank, Shepherdstown Community Club and other local organizations to come to the aid of our affected West Virginians in Ohio and Marion counties during this critical time of rebuilding,” CMI Operations Manager Mark Peiffer said.

For more information on their organization, please visit www.communitymarketsinc.org.



Courtesy photos
Above: A “West Virginia Strong” sign sits among debris from the June 14 flood in Triadelphia. Right: Flooding in Marion County is shown on June 15.

Collection ...

Cont’d from Page 1

fund assists families long after other organizations have moved out, helping families and individuals in the rebuilding process to restore safe, secure, and sanitary living conditions.

Donations can also be made on the diocese website: <https://dwc.org/disaster-relief/>. Click here to visit page.



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In the photos on this page, clergy and parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in the Elm Grove neighborhood of Wheeling walk in their Eucharistic procession on Corpus Christi Sunday (June 22), praying for the victims of the June 14 flood which devastated parts of Ohio County. Colleen Rowan photos

"We have people who have lost everything... Keep our families in your daily prayers."

— Father Jeeson Stephan, MCBS, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling and Our Lady of Seven Dolores Mission in Triadelphia



Procession ...

Cont'd from Page 1

parish. Father Jeeson told those gathered that he would be celebrating Michael's funeral Mass the next day and asked the congregation to pray for him, his brother Frank, and his many cousins.

More than 20 families from the parish community of St. Vincent's and Our Lady of Seven Dolores have been affected by the flood, Father Jeeson said.

"We have people who have lost everything," he said. "Keep our families in your daily prayers."

He thanked everyone who has been out volunteering in relief efforts and said the parish would be accepting donations for relief efforts for the next two weeks. For information on what to donate, call the parish at (304) 242-0406.

In the intentions during the



Mass, Deacon Thomas McFadden, permanent deacon at St. Vincent's and Our Lady of Seven Dolores,

prayed for all the victims of the flood, "that they find the support they need to recover and see God

in all of the faces of those who are there to help them in their time of need." He prayed for "all our parishioners who have been affected by the flood," and then read each of their names.

Near the end of the Mass, Father Jeeson invited all present to join in the Eucharistic procession for Corpus Christi Sunday, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

"This year we are praying for the special intentions of all those who have been affected by the flood," he said.

As parishioners took our Lord in procession into the neighborhood, a few of them carried signs that said, "St. Vincent de Paul Parish is praying for the flood victims." As they walked, the congregation prayed the rosary and the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. The procession ended inside the church with benediction.

Wheeling Central's Flood Relief Benefit Basketball Games Raise Almost \$10,000 for Valley Grove & Triadelphia Volunteer Fire Departments



Colleen Rowan photo

The Wheeling Central Catholic High School Maroon Knights and Wheeling Park High School Patriots boys teams take the Coach Skip Prosser Court in the Wheeling Central Athletic Center just before the start of the June 25 benefit game.

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING — Wheeling Central Catholic High School's girls and boys basketball teams played flood relief benefit games June 25 raising nearly \$10,000 for the Volunteer Fire Departments of Triadelphia and Valley Grove, the flood devastated communities of Ohio County.

The Central Catholic Maroon Knights boys team took on the Wheeling Park High School Patriots defeating them 76-47. Earlier in the evening the Lady Purple Riders from Martins Ferry High School in Martins Ferry, Ohio, de-

feated the Lady Maroon Knights 48-44.

Before the boys game began at the Wheeling Central Athletic Center, CCHS Principal Becky Sancomb addressed community members who attended saying how good it was to see the gym packed for such a good cause. She also welcomed Valley Grove Mayor Chad Kleeh who received a standing ovation from the crowd.

"I just want to say a big thank you to all of you," Kleeh said. The village, he said, is taking it day by day and making progress. Kleeh participated in the game's tip-off.

Before the game began, Sancomb led those gathered in prayer for the victims of the June 14 flood which claimed the lives of nine people and left Ohio County's Town of Triadelphia and Village of Valley Grove in ruins. Also attending the game that evening and receiving a big welcome from the crowd was Bishop Mark Brennan.

Both games were donation only, bringing in a total of \$9,510. The OVAC (Ohio Valley Athletic Conference) officials donated their time and waived all fees.

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Wheeling Pastor Pledges 10% of Festival Proceeds to Catholic Charities in Solidarity with Those Affected by Flood

WHEELING—In light of the ongoing challenges facing our community following recent flooding, St. Michael Parish and School in Wheeling acknowledges that hosting a fundraising event during this time is not without difficulty. However, in the spirit of resilience and compassion, the parish is moving forward with its Community Festival on July 10, 11, and 12, while also taking meaningful steps to give back.

Recognizing the devastation the community is under, Father Carlos Melocoton, pastor of St. Michael Parish, has pledged to donate an amount equal to 10% of all festival proceeds to Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa). This contribution expresses solidarity with those affected by the crisis and ensures that while vital funds are raised for the parish school, the broader community remains a priority.

“On the morning of Sunday, June 15, our staff coordinated a collection of cleaning supplies, non-perishable food, and financial support. Our parishioners immediately began bringing donations to the parish office. We also partici-

pated in the flood relief collection announced by Bishop Mark Brennan on behalf of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. The response has been uplifting and a genuine gesture of stewardship,” said Father Melocoton. “However, we know the ongoing hardship our community is facing, and while we continue our work, we also want to be part of the broader effort to bring hope and help where it’s needed most. Our contribution to CCWVa is our way of giving back while moving forward.”

As part of the festival, St. Michael Parish will also host a “Stuff the Truck” drive during all festival hours. Attendees are encouraged to bring essential items to help those affected by the floods. Requested donations include bottled water, non-perishable food, cleaning supplies and toiletries. To show appreciation, festival guests who bring a donation for the “Stuff the Truck” drive will receive five complimentary tickets to use at the festival’s children’s games.


The annual Community Festival will be held July 10 (6 – 10 p.m.), July 11 (5-11 p.m.) and July 12 (5 – 11 p.m.).




Courtesy photo Pictured are Very Rev. Carlos L. Melocoton, V.F., pastor of St. Michael Parish and School in Wheeling, and Adrienne Manning, principal of the school and Community Festival co-chair.

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St. Agnes, Shepherdstown, Parishioners Honored at Juneteenth Celebration



Courtesy photo

At left are Leonard and Helen Harris, who were honored at a Juneteenth celebration for their work at the Sumner-Ramer African American School Museum in Martinsburg. With them is Kenneth Sutton, a local business owner who presented the award to them. Helen is holding the award.

By Colleen Rowan
MARTINSBURG — Helen and Leonard Harris, parishioners of St. Agnes Parish in Shepherdstown, were among community leaders honored at the Juneteenth celebration in Martinsburg. Commemorating the emancipation of the enslaved in the U.S. on June 19, 1865, Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021.

Helen and Leonard were honored for their work at the Sumner-Ramer African American School Museum located at 515 W. Martin Street in Martinsburg. Leonard serves as president and Helen is the treasurer. Kenneth Sutton, a local business owner, presented the award to them during the festivities. The award

honors them for their “business achievement as African Americans in the community. You have made a difference!” The Sumner - Ramer School operated until 1964 and is now a museum for African American history housing artifacts that tell the story of the school as well as its students and faculty.

Helen and Leonard both attended the school, which enrolled African American children in Berkeley County.

The museum showcases pictures of graduates and graduation classes as well as those who served in the military and the American Legion. There is history on the teachers, the basketball and football

teams, and the band. Museum goers can learn about J.R. Clifford, the first African American attorney in West Virginia, who was a teacher and a principal at the school, and so much more.

For a tour of the museum, contact Leonard at (304) 261-0197 or by sending e-mail to lharrismusic@gmail.com.

Join Mary in Praying for our Priests :

Worldpriest Annual Global Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests

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St. Joseph's Catholic Church is a designated Pilgrimage Site for the Jubilee Year 2025. A Jubilee Indulgence can be obtained this day

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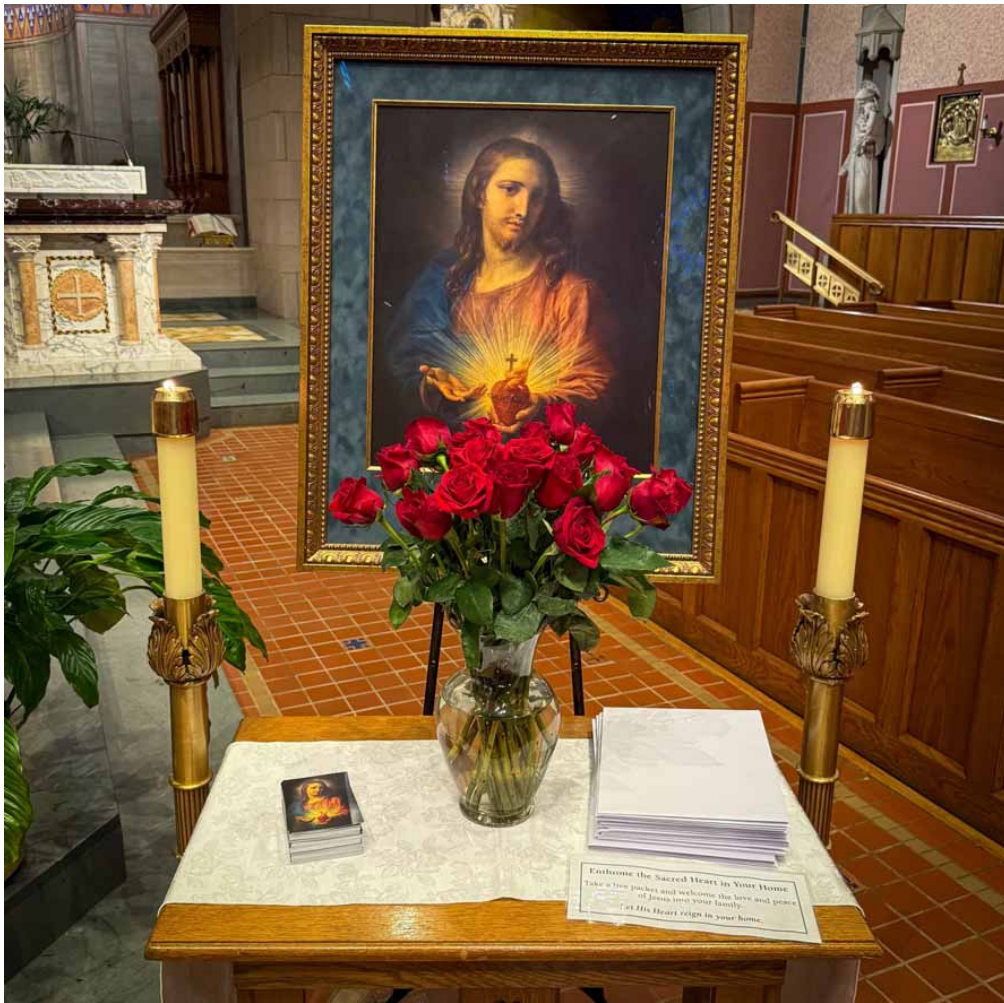


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In Month of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors Were Invited to ‘Fill Your Home with His Peace, Mercy, and Love’



Courtesy photos
Last weekend, the Cathedral of St. Joseph invited parishioners and visitors to pick up a packet with everything needed to enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their homes. “This beautiful devotion invites Christ to reign as King of your family and to fill your home with His peace, mercy, and love,” parish officials said. As the Pilgrim Icon of the Sacred Heart (shown above) was visiting the cathedral June 18-27, parish officials said it was the perfect time to “welcome His Heart into yours.” Enthronement materials (pictured at right) were available and all were encouraged to “take one home and make this powerful act of faith with your loved ones!”



Join in a Day Retreat Honoring Our Blessed Mother at Jubilee Year Pilgrimage Site June 28

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A Day Retreat to Honor Our Blessed Mother led by six Carmelite Friars at an Official 2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrimage Site with opportunity to enroll in the Brown Scapular Confraternity will be held on Saturday, June 28, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Md.

“Please come, bring your family, bring your friends!” retreat organizers said.

Participants must bring their own lunch; drinks will be provided.

Beginning at 9:15 a.m., there will be Mass, devotions, adoration, time for personal reflection and the Carmelite Six-Decade Rosary. There will also be opportunities for confession with Carmelite and CM

priests.

“Bring your Brown Scapular and be Enrolled by a Carmelite priest,” retreat organizers said.

Friars Father Salvatore Scieurba and Brother John-Mary Winter and (in Spanish) Father Andrew Ayala, IVE, will offer talks about Mary, Queen of Carmel.

“This is a wonderful spiritual opportunity to honor Our Blessed Mother and to make a pilgrimage in this Jubilee Year,” retreat organizers said. “This is for everyone, for those who wear the Brown Scapular, and all drawn to prayer.”

The day will close at 3:30 p.m. and has been organized by Carmelite Seculars. Retreat organizers ask for a goodwill offering of \$20. Please contact Ken Vaughan, kvaughan@doc.org

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- **Cathedral of St. Joseph**
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- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**
1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg

Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (at site): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
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For information and updates go to: dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025

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Welty Corporation Dedicates Therapy Facility to Honor Former CEO

WHEELING — The board of directors of the Welty Corporation has honored its former CEO, Donald R. Kirsch, for his 45 years of service to the nonprofit. The board named the new therapy gym at Good Shepherd Nursing Home, a Welty Corporation property, in his honor.

In 2017, Kirsch spearheaded the addition of full-time physical, occupational and speech therapy programs, replacing the former part-time programs. The change in the frequency and intensity of therapy services improved outcomes for residents of Good Shepherd and Welty Home, the corporation's assisted living property, and resulted in increased discharges to home.

Two years later Kirsch established an outpatient therapy program to treat residents who had been discharged but needed periodic therapy. This program allowed residents to receive treatment from the same therapists who had provided services during their stay at Good Shepherd. "Providing as-needed therapy services after discharge has further improved the functional ability of former residents," Kirsch said.

In 2023, Good Shepherd's Outpatient Program was expanded to assist all residents of Wheeling and surrounding areas.

During a brief ceremony Thursday, Kirsch acknowledged the outstanding work of the Good Shepherd and Welty Home therapists. "This program is unique in the fact that Good Shepherd is one of only a few nursing facilities in the nation to offer outpatient therapy," he said.

He praised the work of the staff who helped to create the program, including Sue Rexroad, director of nursing; Morgan Murphy, manager/administrator and former regulatory compliance officer; and Jessica Campbell, chief financial of-



On hand to dedicate the Good Shepherd Nursing Home Therapy Gym are, front row from left, board members Louise Coulling, Beth Dimpfl, Ann Koepler, and Liz Gates; Donald Kirsch and his wife Barbara Kirsch, and Father Dennis Schuelkens, representing the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; in the back row from left: Board members Larry Bandi, Penn Kurtz, Dave Wodesky, Randy Forzano; and Manager/Administrator Morgan Murphy.

Courtesy photo

ficer, for completing the arduous task of obtaining outpatient therapy certification from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

To learn more about Good Shepherd's outpatient therapy program, or to schedule an appointment, contact 304-242-1093. Good Shepherd Nursing Home is part of a continuum of senior living options offered by the non-profit Welty Corporation to deliver the features that discerning seniors need and want. For information, call (304) 242-1093 or visit www.weltyhome.org.

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**A message from the West Virginia
Knights of Columbus State Council**

Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend.
Men today need a band of brothers – other Catholic men to share in that call, who walk together on the journey towards something better.

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The **Knights of Columbus** is a trusted name, tried by time, present where men are, providing inspiring resources and support for strengthening your faith and living a life of virtue.
Knights lead with faith. Knights protect our families. Knights serve those in need.
When the world says men should step aside, Knights of Columbus step up.
We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be.

Become a Knight.

Click here

Supreme Court Rules States Can Deny Medicaid Funds to Planned Parenthood

By **Kate Scanlon, OSV News**

WASHINGTON (OSV News) — The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 on June 26 that there is not a private right to bring a lawsuit challenging South Carolina's decision to end Planned Parenthood's participation in the state's Medicaid program. The ruling will likely allow other states to remove Planned Parenthood from their Medicaid programs.

The case concerned a 2018 executive order signed by Gov. Henry McMaster, R-S.C., stripping two Planned Parenthood clinics in the state of Medicaid funds, a federal program for health care for people with low incomes that is administered by the states.

In response, a Planned Parenthood affiliate in South Carolina and its Medicaid patient, Julie Edwards, argued that any patients eligible for Medicaid should be able to obtain health care from any qualified provider.

That challenge prompted a key question: whether or not Medicaid recipients have the ability to sue to maintain their chosen provider. Writing for the majority, Justice Neil Gorsuch

said that they do not.

"Medicaid offers States 'a bargain,'" Gorsuch argued, adding, "In return for federal funds, States agree 'to spend them in accordance with congressionally imposed conditions.'"

Bishop Daniel E. Thomas of Toledo, Ohio, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, welcomed the decision in a statement, saying, "South Carolina was right to deny Planned Parenthood taxpayer dollars. A group dedicated to ending children's lives deserves no public support."

The Catholic Church teaches that all human life is sacred from conception to natural death, and as such, opposes direct abortion.

"Abortion is not health care," Bishop Thomas added, "and lives will be saved because South Carolina has chosen to not fund clinics that pretend it is. Publicly funded programs like Medicaid should only support authentic, life-affirming options for mothers and children in need."

Katie Daniel, director of legal affairs and pol-

icy counsel for Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, celebrated the ruling in a statement, arguing, "By rejecting Planned Parenthood's lawfare, the Court not only saves countless unborn babies from a violent death and their mothers from dangerously shoddy 'care,' it also protects Medicaid from exposure to thousands of lawsuits from unqualified providers that would jeopardize the entire program."

"Pro-life Republican leaders are eliminating government waste and prioritizing Medicaid for those who need it most — women, children, the poor, people with disabilities," Daniel said. "Planned Parenthood was rightly disqualified. Multi-billion-dollar abortion businesses are not entitled to an unending money grab that forces taxpayers to fund America's #1 cause of death: abortion."

The ruling came just after the third anniversary of the high court's ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, which was issued June 24, 2022.

(Kate Scanlon is a national reporter for OSV News covering Washington.)

Ceasefire between Israel and Iran Holding

By **Kate Scanlon, OSV News**

WASHINGTON (OSV News) — A ceasefire between Israel and Iran seemed to be holding after President Donald Trump expressed frustration June 24 with both countries, telling reporters at the White House that initially Iran violated the deal but "Israel violated it too."

"Israel, as soon as we made the deal, they came out and they dropped a load of bombs, the likes of which I've never seen before," Trump said. "The biggest load that we've seen. I'm not happy with Israel. You know, when I say, 'OK, now you have 12 hours. You don't go out in the first hour and just drop everything you have on them. So I'm not happy with them. I'm not happy with Iran either.'"

Trump said both Iran and Israel "have been fighting so long and so hard" that they do not know what they are doing, using a common obscenity to emphasize the point.

Previously, Trump announced on social media June 23 a ceasefire deal had been reached — a day after Pope Leo XIV warned world leaders they were headed for an "irreparable abyss."

Trump said on his social

media website Truth Social that the ceasefire, which would be phased in over the following 24 hours as each nation completed "their in progress, final missions," and would bring an "Official END" to the war.

"During each CEASEFIRE, the other side will remain PEACEFUL and RESPECTFUL," Trump wrote. "On the assumption that everything works as it should, which it will, I would like to congratulate both Countries, Israel and Iran, on having the Stamina, Courage, and Intelligence to end, what should be called, 'THE 12 DAY WAR.' This is a War that could have gone on for years, and destroyed the entire Middle East, but it didn't, and never will! God bless Israel, God bless Iran, God bless the Middle East, God bless the United States of America, and GOD BLESS THE WORLD!"

Both Israel and Iran eventually confirmed the ceasefire.

Israel launched strikes against Iran June 13 in what it called a "preemptive" strike to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapon capabilities. At Trump's order, the United States joined that conflict June 21, attacking three nuclear facilities in Iran.

Trump's post came several hours after Iran launched a retaliatory strike against a U.S. military base in Qatar. Trump called that strike "very weak" in a post suggesting he would not retaliate.

"I am pleased to report that NO Americans were harmed, and hardly any damage was done," he said. "Most importantly, they've gotten it all out of their 'system,' and there will, hopefully, be no further HATE."

He also suggested Iran gave the U.S. "early notice" of the missile attack, leading to no loss of life or injury.

"Perhaps Iran can now proceed to Peace and Harmony in the Region, and I will enthusiastically encourage Israel to do the same," he said.

Pope Leo XIV had earnestly warned leaders to back off from war, saying they had a "moral responsibility" to "stop the tragedy of war before it becomes an irreparable abyss."

In his remarks following his June 22 Angelus address, he said, "Today more than ever, humanity cries out and calls for peace."

(Kate Scanlon is a national reporter for OSV News covering Washington.)

Catholic Immigration Advocate Decries High Court Ruling Allowing Third-Country Deportations

By **Kurt Jensen, OSV News**

WASHINGTON (OSV News) — A leading Catholic immigration expert expressed outrage over the Supreme Court's June 23 ruling allowing the Trump administration to remove immigrants who lack legal authorization to live and work in the U.S., to countries not specifically identified in their removal orders — known as "third-country removals" — without advance notice.

"It is rather shocking that the court would approve of the removal of a person to a country they do not know and is nowhere near their home country, especially without due process," J. Kevin Appleby, senior fellow for policy and communications at the Center for Migration Studies of New York, said in a statement to OSV News.

"The countries they are being sent to, such as South Sudan and El Salvador, are dangerous and unstable," he said. "These are still human beings who will be exposed to harm and left stranded in precarious situations."

The brief unsigned order pauses an April ruling by Brian Murphy, a U.S. District Court judge in Boston, which temporarily prohibited the government from sending immigrants to "third-party countries" unless it had ensured that the immigrants would not face torture there. It did not address the merits of the case. The plaintiffs, eight men, are all unauthorized immigrants with deportation orders. These deportations could begin immediately, said Tricia McLaughlin, assistant secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

"If these activist judges had their way, aliens who are so uniquely barbaric that their own countries won't take them back, including convicted murderers, child rapists and drug traffickers, would walk free on American streets. DHS can now execute its lawful authority and remove illegal aliens to a country willing to accept them. Fire up the deportation planes."

On June 24, Solicitor General D. John Sauer asked the

See "Ruling" on Page 12

Pope Calls for End to Bloodshed in Syria, Middle East, Via Solidarity, Dialogue

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Leo XIV condemned the suicide bombing at a Damascus church, calling it “a cowardly terrorist attack” as he appealed to the international community not to give up on Syria.

He also called for dialogue, diplomacy and peace for the whole Middle East, quoting from the prophet Isaiah, “One nation will no longer raise its sword against another nation. They will no longer learn the art of war.”

“Let this voice from the Most High be heard!” he said at the end of his weekly general audience in St. Peter’s Square June 25.

“Let the lacerations caused by the bloody actions of these last days be healed. Let all logic of bullying and revenge be rejected and may the path of dialogue, diplomacy and peace be resolutely chosen” he said.

At least 25 people were killed and 63 others wounded after a suicide bomber opened fire and then detonated an explosive vest at St. Elias Greek Orthodox Church in Damascus, Syria, June 22, during a Sunday Divine Liturgy.

The jihadist group, Saraya Ansar Al-Sunna, claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the AFP June 24. It was the first such attack in Damascus since former President Bashar al-Assad was overthrown by Islamist-led rebels in December, ending 13 years of civil war.

Pope Leo sent a telegram expressing his sadness over the “loss of life and destruction caused by the attack.”

He also expressed his solidarity with and prayers for all those affected by the tragedy in the telegram, sent on the pope’s behalf by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, June 24.

After offering his greetings in

multiple languages at the end of his weekly general audience in the square, the pope said the bombing Sunday was “a cowardly terrorist attack.”

Offering his prayers for the victims and their families, the pope said, “This tragic event recalls the profound fragility that still marks Syria after years of conflict and instability.”

“It is therefore crucial that the international community does not look away from this country, but continues to offer it support through gestures of solidarity and with a renewed commitment to peace and reconciliation,” he said.

Pope Leo then addressed all Christians in the Middle East, saying, “I am close to you, the whole church is close to you.”

“We continue to follow developments in Iran, Israel and Palestine closely and with hope,” he said.

“The words of the prophet Isaiah resonate more urgently than ever,” he said, quoting from the vision of Zion where nations will beat their swords into plowshares and end the art of war.

“Let this voice from the Most High be heard!” he said to applause, calling for a rejection of revenge and a return to dialogue.

Ruling ...

Cont’d from Page 11

Supreme Court to “make clear beyond any doubt that the government can immediately proceed with the third-country removals of the criminal aliens from Djibouti.”

In a June 23 dissent, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, joined by Justices Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson, wrote that the majority was granting the government “emergency relief from an order it has repeatedly defied.”

“Apparently,” Sotomayor wrote, “the Court finds the idea that thousands will suffer violence in far-flung locales more palatable than the remote possibility that a District Court exceeded its remedial powers when it ordered the Government to provide notice and process to which the plaintiffs are constitutionally and statutorily entitled. That use of discretion is as incomprehensible as it is inexcusable.”

“In matters of life and death, it is best to proceed with caution,” she wrote. The government “wrongfully deported one plaintiff to Guatemala, even though an immigration judge found he was likely to face torture there. Then, in clear violation of a court order, it deported six more to South Sudan, a nation the State Department considers too unsafe for all but its most critical personnel.”

The Massachusetts court’s “timely intervention only narrowly prevented a third set of unlawful removals to Libya.”

The Massachusetts ruling was made after immigration officials put migrants from Myanmar, Vietnam and Cuba on a plane to South Sudan, though they later were taken to a U.S. naval base in Djibouti, where they remain. All had been convicted of serious crimes in the United States.

“These individuals are pretty bad actors,” Andrew “Art” Arthur, the resident fellow in law and policy at the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington, told OSV News.

The Massachusetts judge “just made those standards up,” he said of the District Court ruling. “There’s nothing in the law that requires that.”

DHS is bound by law not to remove someone to a country where there’s a legitimate fear of torture, but

“that’s a determination for DHS to make. It’s not a determination for anyone else to make.”

“These individuals voluntarily came to the United States, and by doing so, ran the risk of being removed, not back home, but to a third country.”

And although the law prohibits the removal to a country where torture is a risk, “we’re not under a moral obligation to remove you to a country you’re most comfortable in,” said Arthur.

Sotomayor’s dissent claimed flaws, saying that the government “obfuscates the issue by asserting that some (perhaps “many”) members of the class should be treated as if they never entered the United States. Yet even if that were true as to some class members, it could show at most that the class might be too broadly defined, not that the Government is likely to succeed on the constitutional merits.”

“Similarly,” she added, “the Government relies on precedent about the wartime transfer of detainees to assert that the Executive’s determination that ‘a country will not torture a person on his removal’ is ‘conclusive.’”

“There is no evidence in this case that the Government ever did determine that the countries it designated (Libya, El Salvador, and South Sudan) ‘w[ould] not torture’ the plaintiffs.”

“Plaintiffs merely seek access to notice and process, so that, in the event the Executive makes a determination in their case, they learn about it in time to seek an immigration judge’s review.”

Jeff Joseph, president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, said in a statement that the Supreme Court has given “essentially a green light to secret deportations, including to countries considered dangerous.”

“This decision is not only deeply troubling in itself, it is part of a broader pattern of the administration denying basic legal protections to vulnerable individuals,” he said. “As judicial checks continue to erode, it is imperative that Congress act and assert its constitutional role. Protecting due process is not optional, it is the backbone of our democracy.”

Kurt Jensen writes for OSV News from Washington.)

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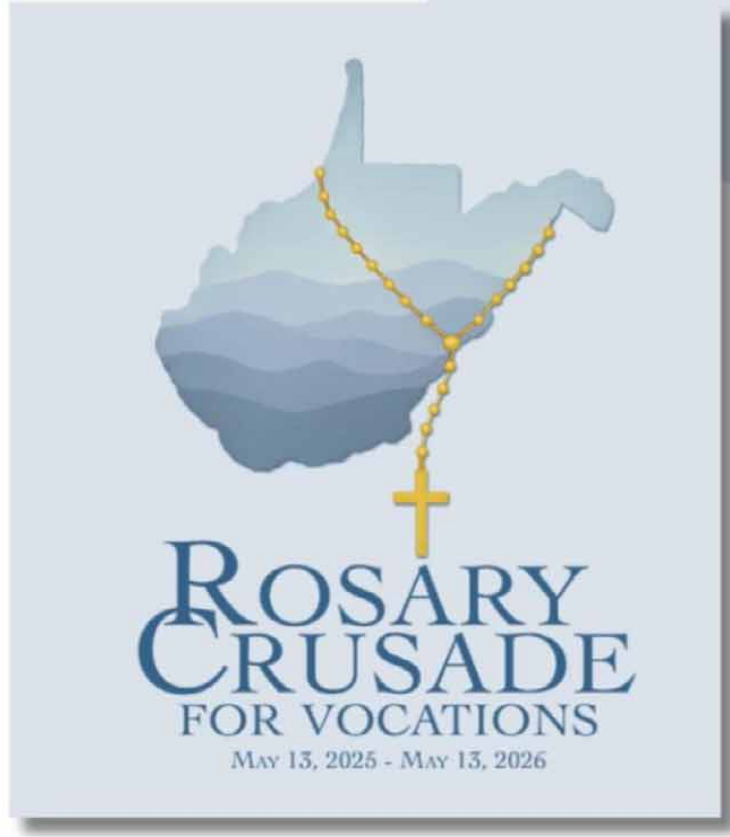
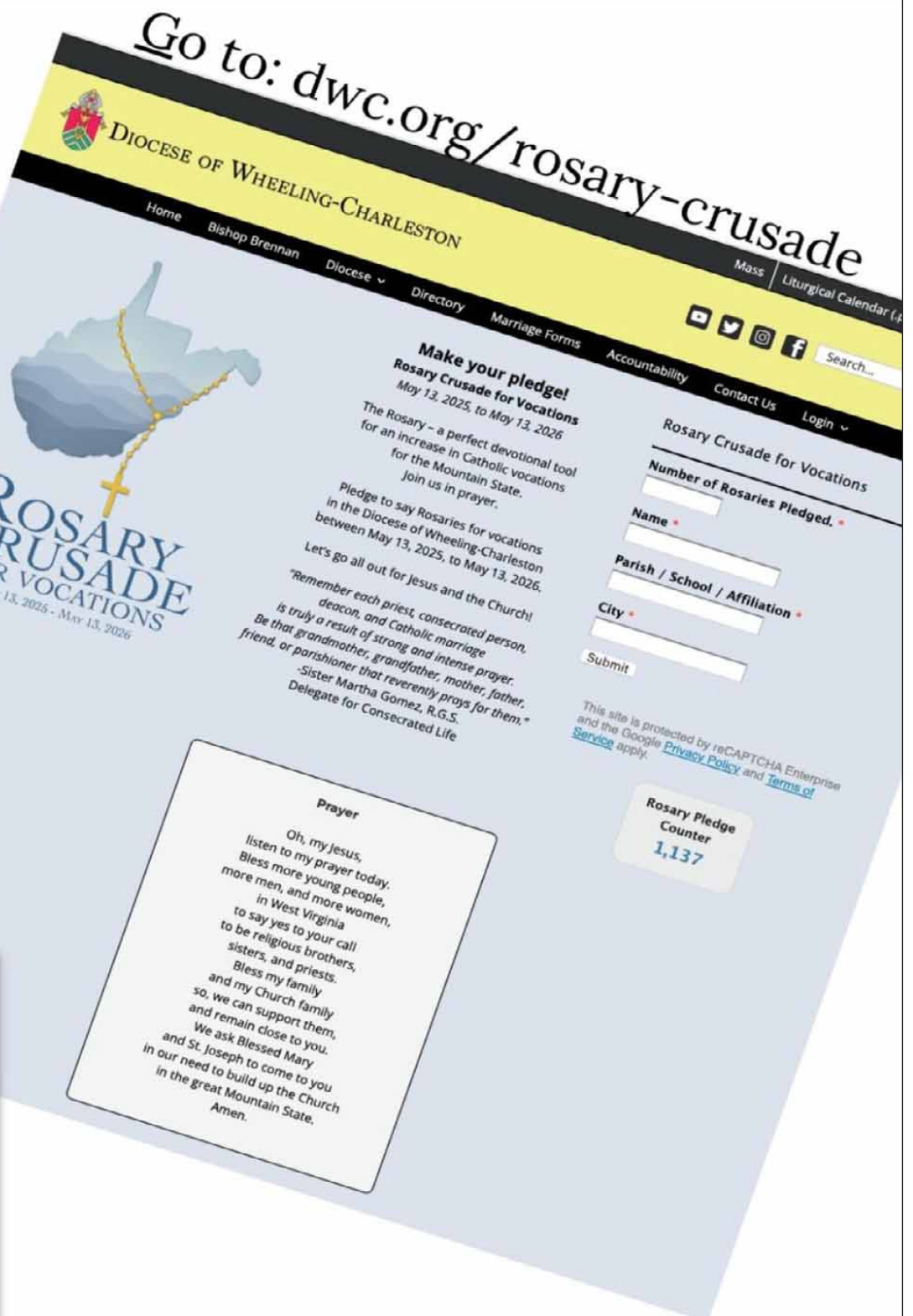
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Employment Opportunities

School Counselor—Central Catholic High School, Wheeling

Central Catholic High School is seeking a full time School Counselor. A desirable candidate will possess a master's degree in School Counseling or related field.

Requirements include the ability to work with students to maximize their high school experience through academic advising, college readiness, and social/emotional counseling and programming. In addition, he/she will be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, faith-filled environment with teachers, staff members, students and parents; and demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitating learning of all students while being willing to fully participate in the CCHS community and embrace our mission as a Catholic high school.

How to Apply: Applications are being accepted through July 1, 2025. A cover letter, resume, and letters of professional reference can be sent to the administrative assistant to the principal, Sarah Petry, at spetry@cchsknights.org

Part-Time Teaching Positions at St. Vincent de Paul Parish School, Wheeling

We are currently hiring for the following part-time positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Middle School Math Teacher (Grades 6-8)
- Middle School Science Teacher (Grades 6-8)
- Music Teacher for PK through 8th Grade
- Art Teacher for PK through 8th Grade
- Technology Teacher for Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- 8th Grade Spanish Teacher

These part-time positions may be combined to create a full-time role, depending on qualifications and availability. Bachelor's Degree/ Certification in Education required.

Please contact the school or email jperoni@stvincentschool.org for more information.

Office Manager -DWC Catholic Schools Office

The Office Manager for the Department of Catholic Schools serves as a vital administrative professional, providing comprehensive support to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools and the Department of Catholic Schools in its mission to oversee and support the 24 Catholic schools within the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

This position requires a highly organized, detail-oriented, and

proactive individual with excellent communication and interpersonal skills, the ability to maintain confidentiality, and a commitment to the mission of Catholic education. The office manager will manage daily operations.

Job Qualifications:

High school diploma, GED or equivalent

2-3 years experience in an office manager setting

Preferred school and/or office experience

Proficient with office software; Microsoft Suite, Google Suite

Ability to follow direction and work well with others

Ability to work independently and be self-starting as the supervisors/directors travel regularly.

Interested parties should email: jhornyak@dwc.org with resume and cover letter

Teaching Positions – St. Michael Parish School, Wheeling

Middle School English Language Arts and Literature Teacher

St. Michael Parish School is accepting applications for a full time Middle School English Language Arts and Literature teacher.

We seek a passionate and committed individual who will value the mission of a Catholic education and who can help nurture both the intellectual and spiritual development of our students. Applicants should be committed to creating engaging and supportive learning experiences for our students across our middle school grade levels (5th-8th; this position will focus on 2 of the 4 grade levels).

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in education or related field; Valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure; Experience working with children in a classroom setting; strong classroom management, communication skills and curriculum development skills; willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution.

Interested individuals can apply via email to: Adrienne Manning at mrsmanning@smpswv.org and/or Sara Herron at mrsherron@smpswv.org

Part-time Elementary and Middle School Music Teacher

We seek a passionate and committed individual who will value the mission of a Catholic education and who can help nurture both the intellectual and spiritual development of our students. Applicants should be committed to creating engaging and supportive learning experiences for our students across the school.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in music education or related field; valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure; experience working with children in a classroom setting; strong classroom management, communication skills and curriculum development skills; willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution; fluency in piano preferred but not required; should be willing to discuss extra curricular activities such as middle school choir and participation in a spring musical

Interested individuals can apply via email to: Adrienne Manning at mrsmanning@smpswv.org and/or Sara Herron at mrsherron@smpswv.org

Campus Minister – Marshall University

The Campus Minister's responsibilities are to plan and implement a broad campus ministry for the Hilltop Catholic Community, based on the principles of Empowered by the Spirit.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Develop and implement, in a collaborative manner, a strategic plan for campus ministry for the Marshall Catholic Community

- Coordinate and facilitate the schedule of Masses and Sacramental ministries.

- Develop and implement, in consultation with students and faculty, catechetical opportunities and pastoral services appropriate to the needs, concerns, and schedules of the community; to include retreats, faith-sharing groups, formational gatherings, etc.

- Manage the day-to-day operation of the center.

- Represent the Catholic Church on campus, becoming actively involved in the academic community while ministering not only to students but faculty, staff, and administration as well.

- Form and support Catholic student groups or organizations on campus.

- Work irregular hours including weekends and evenings.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES:

- Collaborates with the Office of Faith Formation and the Charleston Vicariate in offering joint young adult ministry opportunities.

- Participate in and attend Vicariate, Diocesan, and other professional enrichment gatherings.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise support staff of the center.

- Support ministry volunteers and committees.

SUPPORT VOLUNTEER PEER MINISTERS.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required.

- M.A. in Theology, Religious Education or related field preferred.

- C.C.M.A. Certification preferred.

- Working knowledge of USCCB CM document "Empowered by the Spirit."

- Sound knowledge of the Theological tradition of the Catholic Church.

- Practical experience and theoretical knowledge of young adult Catholics and the special needs, concerns, and developmental tasks which are theirs.

- Experience in and knowledge of campus life.

- Interpersonal communication skills.

- Word processing and related computer skills.

- Effective presentation skills.

- Ability to organize and facilitate meetings.

- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

Click here for full job description and to apply.

Housekeeper—St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston

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

The Housekeeper is responsible for cleaning and preparing the facility, laundry and guest rela-

tions.

Works evenings, weekends and holidays/holidays as needed. Helps in kitchen as needed.

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

Employment Opportunities

Service Specialist Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa)

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices. The Service Specialist is responsible for the coordination of case management and program services at the Regional Offices. This includes all services provided in the region employee is assigned, Northern, Southern, Eastern or Western Regions.

Primary responsibilities of the Service Specialist include working directly with individuals or families to assess their needs and develop and implement a comprehensive service plan based on those needs, developing partnerships to address client and community needs, and developing and supporting workshops and similar programs. The Service Specialist is responsible for documenting all activities in this process and maintaining a case file according to guidelines/models provided. Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. However, the Service Specialist must be flexible to work potential evenings and weekends, as scheduled, to ensure maximum access for clients. This position will report to the Regional Director or Coordinator. As an employee of Catholic Charities WV, the Service Specialist will also carry out various program functions at the request of the Regional Director as needed.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Conduct face-to-face interviews with clients to assess needs and eligibility for services; assist clients by exploring all available options, identifying the client's own resources and available community and governmental resources, making appropriate referrals, and assisting in linking client with available resources; serving as facilitator and advocate when necessary; develop comprehensive service plan with client that states goals, identifies needs, and outlines corresponding interventions, responsible agents, and time frames, and document all work done on each case, including all contacts in the case file, according to CCWVa Case Management protocol; provide training and ongoing support to other staff and interns regarding social service provision and values; develop and maintain ongoing working relationships with agency partners, community social service agencies, faith-based organizations, schools, and coalitions to meet the larger needs of the community; create learning opportunities, such as life skills, financial literacy, budgeting, parenting, housing management, asset development and more; participate in community social service/interagency meetings and trainings; participate in resource development; provide reports as required and/or requested; perform other duties as needed, including providing office coverage and/or carrying out functions of regional programs, as directed by the Regional Director represent the mission and work of Catholic Charities West Virginia programs to the community; assist the Neighborhood Center Coordinator in working with parishes to develop and maintain ongoing working relationships and network these parishes with other community-based groups, churches, and coalitions to meet the larger needs of the com-

munity.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: Supervise Social Work Interns as appropriate; the Service Specialist may serve as a task supervisor for other staff.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required; Bachelor's in social work degree preferred. A valid social work license or the ability to be licensed in West Virginia is preferred; casework experience working with at-risk populations; excellent computer skills with the ability to track and analyze data; excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Ability to speak in public and represent the organization with a variety of audiences and community sectors; willingness to adapt to change in schedule, including evenings and weekends, if necessary; knowledge of: federal, state and community resources; case management practices; populations served and their culture and needs; ability to work collaboratively in a team environment; must have transportation to travel as needed.

Ability to: Assess client and community needs and develop effective responses; organize, prioritize and utilize effective time management techniques; work independently; respect confidentiality at all times; respect clients' beliefs and choices; provide coaching and positive reinforcement for individuals from a broad range of socio-economic, cultural and ethnic backgrounds; navigate federal, state, and community resources; ability to communicate in Spanish is desirable; work in a faith-based setting and be sensitive to Catholic social teachings; make home visits, conduct off-site interviews, and attend meetings as needed.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit. The employee frequently is required to talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, use hands to write, type, etc. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. The employee must possess vision ability to read, write, and operate a motor vehicle.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job; the noise in the work environment is usually moderate; may be exposed to varying weather conditions due to job-related travel.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES: Oversee Hospitality House and provide case management services to clients enrolled in Hospitality House; prepare, organize, and lead RAPP (Relatives As Parents Program) providing assistance to all enrolled clients; assist with Rapid Rehousing as needed.

[Click here to apply.](#)

Cemetery Worker—Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Wheeling

The Mt. Calvary Cemetery Worker, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services' Mission statement.

The Mt. Calvary Cemetery Worker performs maintenance tasks, grounds maintenance and other duties to open and close gravesites.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Opens and closes graves, crypts or niches; assists in disinterment and disinterments; performs all general maintenance on grounds such as snow removal, grass cutting, digging, sodding, mulching, leaf collection, marker setting, etc.; operates equipment as needed and assigned.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES: Other job related as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: To perform the job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed are representative of the knowledge, skills, and ability required: High School Graduate of GED; valid driver's license; ability to follow directions; must work well with others; knowledge, understanding and use of basic buildings and grounds maintenance tools and

equipment.

Preferred experience in use of dump truck, excavators (backhoe and mini), folk lift and riding mowers.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform this job: The employee is regularly required to stand, walk, use hands to finger, handle or feel. The employee is required to reach with hands and arms; climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl, talk and hear. The employee must be able to move or lift up to 50 pounds and in excess occasionally. The employee must use close and distance vision, peripheral and depth perception and ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described are those an employee encounters while performing this job: employee regularly works outdoors in varying weather conditions. The employee regularly works with and near moving equipment and mechanical parts noise level can be loud. Employee may work irregular schedule and hours.

[Click here to apply.](#)

English Teacher— Central Catholic High School, Wheeling

Central Catholic High School is seeking a part-time English teacher that can be matched with other duties to become full-time. Requirements include the ability to teach grades 9-12 English. The successful candidate will be able to masterfully teach English using 21st century instructional methods and educational technology; be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, faith-filled environment with fellow teachers; and demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitating learning of all students while being willing to fully participate in the CCHS community and embrace our mission as a Catholic high school.

How to Apply: Applications are being accepted through July 1, 2025. A cover letter, resume, and letters of professional reference can be sent to the administrative assistant to the principal, Sarah Petry, at spetry@cchsknights.org

Stem Coordinator/ Teacher—Central Catholic High School, Wheeling

Central Catholic High School is seeking a full-time Stem Coordinator/Science Teacher. The position of STEM Program Coordinator will collaborate with the principal, instructional team, and teachers to plan, organize, and promote STEM curriculum and expanded learning opportunities through the integration of successful strategies and multiple technologies to best prepare CCHS students for college and beyond. The STEM coordinator will facilitate the completion of the STEM certification, identify areas of growth for STEM education, develop our current curricular offerings, and expand community engagement. The candidate must also be able to teach Physics and preferably lead our Robotics program.

A teacher at CCHS must possess the ability to teach using 21st century instructional methods and educational technology; be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, technology rich environment with fellow teachers; and demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitating learning of all students while being willing to fully participate in the CCHS community and embrace our mission as a Catholic high school.

How to Apply: Applications are being accepted through July 1, 2025. A cover letter, resume, and letters of professional reference can be sent to the administrative assistant to the principal, Sarah Petry, at spetry@cchsknights.org

El Papa pide el fin del derramamiento de sangre en Siria y Oriente Medio mediante la solidaridad y el diálogo

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — El Papa León XIV condenó el atentado suicida en una iglesia de Damasco, calificándolo de "cobarde ataque terrorista", al tiempo que hizo un llamado a la comunidad internacional para que no se rinda en Siria.

También hizo un llamado al diálogo, la diplomacia y la paz para todo el Medio Oriente, citando al profeta Isaías: "Ninguna nación alzará más la espada contra ninguna nación, ni aprenderán más el arte de la guerra".

"¡Que se escuche esta voz, que viene del Altísimo!", dijo al final de su audiencia general semanal en la Plaza de San Pedro el 25 de junio. "Se curaran las heridas causadas por las acciones sangrientas de los últimos días. Se rechace toda lógica de arrogancia y de venganza y se elija con determinación el camino del diálogo, de la diplomacia y de la paz", dijo.

Al menos 25 personas murieron y otras 63 resultaron heridas des-

pues de que un terrorista suicida abriera fuego y detonara un chaleco explosivo en la iglesia ortodoxa griega de San Elías, en Damasco, Siria, el 22 de junio, durante una liturgia dominical.

El grupo yihadista Saraya Ansar Al-Sunna reivindicó la autoría del atentado, según informó AFP el 24 de junio. Se trata del primer atentado de este tipo perpetrado en Damasco desde que el ex presidente Bashar al-Assad fue derrocado por rebeldes islamistas en diciembre, poniendo fin a 13 años de guerra civil.

El Papa León envió un telegrama expresando su tristeza por la "pérdida de vidas y la destrucción causada por este atentado".

También expresó su solidaridad y sus oraciones por todos los afectados por la tragedia en el telegrama, enviado en nombre del Papa por el cardenal Pietro Parolin, secretario de Estado vaticano, el 24 de junio. "Encomendamos a las víctimas a la misericordia de Dios y elevamos nuestras oraciones por los heridos y sus familias", dijo en su mensaje.



Foto CNS/Lola Gomez

El Papa León XIV saluda a los visitantes en la Plaza de San Pedro antes de su audiencia general en el Vaticano el 25 de junio de 2025.

Después de ofrecer sus saludos en varios idiomas al final de su audiencia general semanal en la plaza, el Papa dijo que el atentado del domingo fue "un vil ataque terrorista".

Ofreciendo sus oraciones por las víctimas y sus familias, el Papa dijo: "Este trágico acontecimiento re-

cuerda la profunda fragilidad que aún afecta a Siria, después de años de conflicto e inestabilidad".

A continuación, el Papa León se dirigió a todos los cristianos del Medio Oriente: "Estoy cerca de ustedes, toda la Iglesia está cerca de ustedes".

"Por tanto, es esencial que la comunidad internacional no aparte la mirada de este país, sino que siga ofreciéndole su apoyo con gestos de solidaridad y con un renovado compromiso por la paz y la reconciliación", dijo.

"Continuamos siguiendo con atención y esperanza la evolución de la situación en Irán, Israel y Palestina", dijo.

"Las palabras del profeta Isaías resuenan más urgentes que nunca", dijo, citando la visión de Sión en la que las naciones convertirán sus espadas en rejas de arado y pondrán fin al arte de la guerra.

"Que se escuche esta voz, que viene del Altísimo", dijo entre aplausos, pidiendo que se rechace la venganza y se vuelva al camino del diálogo.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

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

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

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

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

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesásticas correspondientes. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al 304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual

de la diócesis al 833.230.5656.

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

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

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

Enlaces e información:

Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de crímenes contra a menores: 304-293-6400.

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