

# THE CATHOLIC Spirit

## Eucharistic Revival Begins on Corpus Christi Sunday

*Bishop Brennan Invites Faithful to Join in Eucharistic Processions across the State*

By Colleen Rowan

West Virginia Catholics will be taking their faith to the streets on Corpus Christi Sunday. Joining in the opening of the U.S. bishops' three-year Eucharistic Revival, they will be participating in Eucharistic processions in their communities across the state on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) on June 19. Bishop Mark Brennan is hoping that many Catholic faithful will respond to the invitation to join in the processions to show their faith and belief of Christ's true presence in the Eucharist.

"Do this for your faith, to benefit your faith," Bishop Brennan said as he encouraged the faithful to participate. "It's a way to kick off the year and to reaffirm our faith in Christ's presence in the Eucharist and manifest that publicly."

And there is great value in going public with that belief, the bishop said. "Going out among the people, the neighborhood and being willing to proclaim openly that we believe that Jesus Christ makes himself truly present in this sacrament and we're not ashamed to proclaim that."

The bishop shared these sentiments and more as he sat down with *The Catholic Spirit* in anticipation of the revival. He spoke of the

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“  
THE EUCHARIST  
IS NOTHING  
LESS THAN  
JESUS CHRIST  
IN PERSON.  
”

- BISHOP MARK BRENNAN

Photo Illustration by Joyce Bibey

## Bishop Brennan Encourages 'Concrete Action' after Texas School Shooting

By Colleen Rowan

**WHEELING**—"We must do more," Bishop Mark Brennan said in the wake of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, May 24 in which 19 children and two teachers were killed.

Bishop Brennan wrote to the Catholic people of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, asking them to join with the world in prayer for the victims.

"As Catholics, we are called to pray for those who have died and assist in healing the deep wounds of those who mourn," the bishop said in his letter of May 25. "But we must now do more than offer prayers and support. We must encourage concrete action in the hopes that never again are school children the target of these heinous acts of violence."

The next day on MetroNews' "Talkline," Bishop

Brennan urged West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice to call a special session of the legislature to ban high-capacity, semi-automatic rifles. "Because what happened in Texas two days ago could happen in West Virginia, just as easily," the bishop said on "Talkline."

In an interview with WTRF 7 News in Wheeling June 1, the bishop said he is speaking out on

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West Virginia Knights of Columbus Hold 120th State Convention in Inwood, Page 10

## Obituary—Robyn Elizabeth Gail (Smith) Hammond

Robyn Elizabeth Gail (Smith) Hammond, 68, of Wheeling, died Saturday, April 16 after a five year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was pre-deceased by her parents, Beverly Kay Smith and Dr. David H. Smith of Canada, and her sister Beverly Jill Anita Smith of Wheeling.



degree with honors in religious studies in 1976. While attending, Robyn was baptized as a Catholic in the University's Basilica of the Sacred Heart. She continued her education by completing a Master's Degree in Education from Spalding University. Her passion for teaching continued

ist, an enthusiastic gardener, a learned student of history and politics, a lover of music, a passionate educator, and had a keen appreciation for beauty in all its forms. Robyn also loved to travel, especially to South Bend, IN, where she frequently went with her sons to Notre Dame football games, or just to visit the campus when she had the opportunity.

She is survived by her three sons, Michael Hammond, of New Mexico and his wife Kimberly Corante; Andrew Hammond, of Wheeling and his wife Brittney; and David S. Hammond, of Columbus, and five siblings, Scott Smith, of Wheeling and his wife, Holli; Lisa Smith, of Wheeling; Pamela Smith, of Durango, Colorado; Duane Smith, of Arcata, CA; and Sean Smith, of Arlington, VA.

Robyn was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada in 1954. Robyn's parents, Kay and David, emigrated to the United States in 1955. After residing in Utica, New York and later Clark's Summit, Pennsylvania, they came to live in Wheeling in 1961 when David joined the Wheeling Clinic. In Wheeling, Robyn attended Wheeling Country Day School and Mount de Chantal Academy, where she graduated in 1972. She then became a member of the first class to include women at the University of Notre Dame, receiving a

throughout her entire life. She taught in many schools after receiving her degrees and ultimately returned to her beloved Mount de Chantal as a teacher upon returning to Wheeling. She taught there for several years and eventually served as the school's principal. In the early 2000s, Robyn joined the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Department of Catholic Schools as Director of Religion, and by her retirement in 2017 was serving as Associate Superintendent. Robyn consistently made deep and lasting impressions on those she met in the schools she attended, the places she worked, the classrooms she taught in, and the places she went. She had heartfelt connections and lifelong friendships with many people, including classmates from the Mount and Notre Dame, colleagues from the Diocese, and friends and neighbors from the many places she lived.

Her interests and gifts were numerous and varied. She was an avid and voracious reader, a talented art-

Robyn cherished her family, speaking frequently of how much she adored her parents and how much love she had for her sisters and brothers. She also often said that her favorite job was being a mother to her three children. She loved as a parent wholeheartedly and imparted to them a love of learning, a commitment to kindness and keeping an open heart, an appreciation of nature and elegance, and dedication to family and friends. Well known and admired for her incredibly sharp mind, her steadfastness, her commitment to her spiritual and civic morality, her endless warmth, her quiet dignity, her love to laugh, her gentleness, her ever-present smile, and her determination, she will be missed by all who knew her, and especially by her family that she loved beyond measure.

Interment was in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Wheeling, where she was laid to rest with her parents. Donations may be made in Robyn's memory to the Blanchette Rockefel-

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

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

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

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

### Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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

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## Eucharistic...

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importance of having the processions and why this three-year initiative of bishops is vital at this time. Quite simply, it is to reinvigorate the belief in the real presence. Sadly, many Catholics today do not believe in it, even some regular Mass goers, Bishop Brennan pointed out. The bishops discovered this through surveys and other evidence which show that a high percentage of Catholics do not recognize that it is Jesus himself whom they receive in the Eucharist.

"That's really a problem," Bishop Brennan said. "Even those who go to Mass regularly. They seem to see it as, at best, as a symbol of Jesus, a reminder to us of him; or it's just we're sharing a meal together. It just stays in the horizontal level." But they need to see it in the vertical level, Bishop Brennan said, "that Jesus Christ actually, through the agency of the priest at the Mass, does change at its deepest reality the bread and wine into his body and blood."

The bishop pointed to poor catechesis, parents not practicing the faith or living the faith, or simply one forgetting what he or she has been taught among the reasons for this disbelief. He then recalled his discussions with young first communicants over the years about Christ's true presence in the Eucharist. "It's really him," Bishop Brennan said he would tell the little ones. "Just like when you go trick-or-treating you wear a costume, but it's really you underneath. So that really is Jesus. Don't be fooled by appearances."

The Catholic people need to rediscover that understanding, Bishop Brennan stressed. How the church reaches them is through a re-evangelization, and that's where the Eucharistic Revival comes in.

### The Impact of a Eucharistic Procession

Bishop Brennan remembered a large Eucharistic procession he led in one of his former parishes. The Catholic faithful processed from one church to another in the community.

"Along the way we would see people sometimes kneel down as we were passing, make the sign of the cross," he recalled.

People were respectful, he said. Cars would stop so they could cross streets. Others who weren't religious stopped and looked on intrigued.

"I think it has a double impact," the bishop said of the procession. "One is on those taking part in the procession. It reaffirms their faith in Christ's true presence in the Eucharist. And for other people who witness it, they reaffirm their faith. It may also just raise questions, 'What is this all about?' And then you have a chance to explain."

**"We need to revive the faith of the people of Christ's true presence in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is central to our Catholic faith."**

—Bishop Mark Brennan

### When and Where in West Virginia?

On this Corpus Christi Sunday (June 19), Bishop Brennan will lead a Eucharistic procession for the Wheeling Vicariate from the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling to neighboring St. Alphonsus Church, seven blocks away. The procession begins after the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the cathedral. At St. Alphonsus, benediction will be held and a dinner will follow. There will also be a procession for the vicariate at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Wellsburg (call the parish for time).

For other communities in the diocese, going from one church to another may not be possible, the bishop noted, as logistics vary tremendously. Parishes, he suggested, could process from the church to a city park or some other appropriate venue for benediction.

The hope is to have at least two Eucharistic processions in each of the six vicariates of Beckley, Charleston, Clarksburg, Martinsburg, Parkersburg, and Wheeling. One of the processions being in a large city and another in one

of the rural areas.

Parishes that are holding the processions can then invite small delegations from parishes within the vicariate to participate. Bishop Brennan said he realizes that many parishes hold Eucharistic processions each year and no one is suggesting they cancel them. They should hold them as scheduled, he said, but suggested they send a small delegation of parishioners to participate in one of the larger processions for the vicariate.

Plans are set for the Martinsburg Vicariate. Very Rev. Timothy J. Grassi, V.F., pastor of St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town, said Mass at St. James is at 11 a.m. on the feast of Corpus Christi. The parish, he said, will team up with the Canons of the New Jerusalem with a procession from St. James to the Priory of the Annunciation, where benediction will be held. Refreshments will follow.

Very Rev. Casey Mahone, V.F., pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg, said that because the Clarksburg Vicariate is so geographically vast, the Catholic faithful are in-

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

On the solemnity in the Charleston Vicariate, the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston will have a procession after the noon Mass to the Slack Plaza where benediction will be held. A social will follow. St. Joseph Parish in Huntington will have a procession after the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

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

In the Parkersburg Vicariate, St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg will have one Mass for the parish that weekend at 9:30 a.m. on Corpus Christi Sunday followed by a Eucharistic procession around downtown. The community will gather for a celebratory meal after the procession. St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg will have a prayer service and a small procession around the church for people who have mobility issues at 3 p.m. on the solemnity. St. John Parish in St. Marys will have a procession that day around the church grounds at 5 p.m. A covered-dish dinner will follow. St. Vincent de Paul Parish in New Martinsville will have Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Eucharistic procession for all four churches in the cluster followed by a cluster picnic at St. Vincent de Paul in Holy Name Park.

### 'My Flesh for the Life of the World'

There are people who have walked away from Catholicism, but though the Eucharistic Revival the U.S. bishops aim to "bring people back to the church which openly acknowledges the Lord's presence in the sacrament of the altar," Bishop Brennan said. That is the hope of the bishops. "We need to revive the faith of the people of Christ's true presence in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is central to our Catholic faith. It's not a peripheral thing. It's at the heart and center of our worship."

The theme for the diocesan year of the Eucharistic Revival in Wheeling-Charleston is "My Flesh for the Life of the World" from John 6:51. This first year of the revival begins on Corpus

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JOIN PARISHES FROM AROUND THE AREA TO  
WALK WITH OUR LORD THROUGH THE CITY OF WHEELING

**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
**PROCESSION**

"MY FLESH FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD." - JOHN 6:51

**SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2022**  
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THE CELEBRATION BEGINS WITH 10:30 A.M. MASS  
AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

PROCESSION FOLLOWS TO ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH

CATERED MEAL WILL FOLLOW

MASS & PROCESSION LED BY BISHOP MARK BRENNAN

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WHO ARE UNABLE TO WALK THE PROCESSION ROUTE

# Faith and the Climate Gathering Will Foster Discussion in Morgantown

**MORGANTOWN** — “Faith and the Climate: What can we do?” will be held June 26 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Church, Morgantown.

“Join us for a gathering of discussion, action on faith, the climate crisis, and our calling and opportunity to protect our planet, and a little music,” organizers said. “In his climate encyclical, the Holy Father focused the Catholic community and other people of good faith on our collective responsibility to be stewards of creation and combat the climate crisis. Standing on the shoulders and ac-

tions of his predecessors, Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, Pope Francis declared boldly in his encyclical, ‘Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.’”

As the seventh year since the introduction of the encyclical *Laudato Si’* has passed, organizers of the event said this stewardship responsibility has become more urgent than ever. The gathering will include music by noted Catholic artist and member of Moms Clean

Air Force Lucia Valentine, who will also join a discussion with Father Rich McCouch, director of the Appalachian Institute at Wheeling University, and parishioner Charles DiSalvo, who will serve as the moderator.

“Beyond discussion and music, the event will include tangible actions of what people of faith have done and can do to be part of a new day in our relationship with creation,” organizers said. “Bring an open mind, bring questions, and bring your kids (childcare provided) as we engage in this essential discussion.”

## Action...

**Cont’d from Page 1**

the issue because, “As a religious leader I have to be concerned about the welfare of our people.”

The bishop told WTRF News that he commends the governor for the excellent work in West Virginia during the pandemic of keeping the public safe, adding that the current issue is a matter of public safety as well.

In his May 25 letter to the faithful, Bishop Brennan said it is obvious that mental health issues, unchecked anger, and rage are part of the problem and can lead to people committing “unspeakable acts of evil and violence, and we must address these issues, but it is equally apparent that those perpetrating these terrible atrocities are able to do so because they wield powerful weapons that are able to kill and maim dozens of people in just seconds.”

CNN reported that the shooter in Uvalde, 18-year-old Salvador Ramos who was killed by Border Patrol agents at the school, legally purchased two AR platform rifles at a local federal firearms licensee May 17 and May 20 and 375 rounds of ammunition.

“We must do more as a society to limit the availability of these types of weapons,” Bishop Brennan wrote, “especially to those whose sole purpose is to use such weapons to commit atrocities against our brothers and sisters.”

Bishop Brennan ended his letter by calling on everyone to pray “for an end to this evil and implore both gun owners and our elected officials

to work together and take action to ensure the safety of our children, our schools, our churches, and our communities.”

The tragedy in Uvalde was just 10 days after a mass shooting in Buffalo, N.Y., where 10 people, all of whom were black, were killed in a supermarket. Authorities said the shooter, who was white, was motivated by hatred for black people. NBC News reported that Payton Gendron, 18, was indicted June 1 on charges of domestic terrorism motivated by hate and 10 counts of first-degree murder.

“All violent taking of life violates God’s commandment: ‘You shall not kill’ [Exodus 20: 13] but it is especially galling to learn from news reports that the lives of these victims were taken precisely because they were African Americans,” Bishop Brennan said in a May 15 letter to the Catholic people of West Virginia following that shooting.

The bishop wrote that he recognizes that most gun owners have them for the protection of their families and themselves or for hunting but challenged them to propose ways in which the availability of guns could be significantly restricted. Gun owners in West Virginia can help shape public policy that allows for both responsible gun ownership use balanced with common sense rules to limit the use of military style weapons, he said.

The same day of Bishop Brennan’s interview with WTRF 7, news broke of another mass shooting at the Natalie Building at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma, June 1. According to ABC News, four people were killed and many more injured.

# St. Paul’s Students among Regional Winners of Kids Kick Opioids Contest



Courtesy Photo

Pictured, from left, are eighth-grader Megan Brinkley, sixth-grader Alexis Miller, and seventh-grader Adalynne Welsh of St. Paul School in Weirton.

**WEIRTON**—West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey announced 12 students from the Northern Panhandle as regional winners of the office’s sixth Kids Kick Opioids contest, a competition designed to spur creativity and raise awareness of prescription painkiller abuse.

Regional winners are eighth-grader Megan Brinkley, sixth-grader Alexis Miller, and seventh-grader Adalynne Welsh of St. Paul School in Weirton.

Judges recognized winning entries from 79 students overall. Those designs will be displayed in the State Capitol in the fall.

## Eucharistic...

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Christi Sunday and ends on the solemnity next June. The goal is to animate people from around each diocese in the U.S. by doing things that are diocesan or carried out on the vicariate level, Bishop Brennan said. Throughout the diocesan year there will be events and gatherings at vicariate level such as talks. Bishop Brennan would like teaching Masses held like those for adults in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Teaching Masses help explain the Mass and walk people through the celebration to make sense of what is happening and why. It does not have to be a real Mass, the bishop said, just an explanation to help people understand. It gives people an understanding of what they are taking part in.

The bishop suggested reading St. Justin the Martyr’s apology (an explanation) written in AD 155-157.

“He outlines the Catholic Mass,” Bishop Brennan said. “If you read that you can see that’s what we do today. There is a liturgy of the word and there’s preaching.” The bishop said the phrasing does not say gospels, it says “the memoirs of the apostles.” There are the prayers of the faithful, there is an offertory procession with the gifts that are brought up, holy Communion is distributed, and the deacons bring Communion to the sick and imprisoned.

“We do all those things at Mass today,” Bishop Brennan said. “Even the way we celebrate the Eucharist has not changed substantially,” since St. Justin, who was the first to write a complete description of the Mass which had been celebrated through more than 100 years prior to his writing.

The closing of the diocesan year will be on the feast of Corpus Christi 2023. There will be regional celebrations on maybe the Friday evening and Saturday on the weekend of the solemnity gathering people together for teachings, music and Mass, before but not interfering with the Sunday schedule.

# After Tragedy in Texas, outpouring of Help Shows 'God is Good,' Priest Says

By Jan Kilby, Catholic News Service

**SAN ANTONIO (CNS)** — Those finding themselves between hurt and hope in difficult times need help.

This has been the case in Uvalde, Texas, since a mass shooting May 24 at Robb Elementary School took the lives of 19 children and two teachers.

Another 17 were injured, and according to news reports, six remained hospitalized as of May 30, including one in serious condition.

Catholic priests, deacons, church staff, parishioners, and staff of schools and organizations continue to provide counseling, financial aid and additional services to the families who lost loved ones and to others in the devastated community.

"God is good in the midst of the darkness," said Father Matthew De Leon, who has been helping the Uvalde community. His own parishioners have been preparing food for the volunteers in Uvalde.

He is pastor of two parishes not far from Uvalde, St. Patrick's in Sabinal, Texas, and St. Joseph's in Knippa, Texas. He also serves as pastor of St. Mary's in Vanderpool, Texas, about an hour away.

He said that he had gone to the Uvalde hospital May 24 after learning about the shooting. He had met with the injured being treated there and their families.

"Every hour during this situation, ministry changes," he said. "Every day, there is more clarity and direction about what is needed."

He said that he and others were now planning funeral services for those who had lost their lives in the shooting.

Father De Leon has been inspired by the people of Uvalde. "They have the gift of faith," he told Catholic News Service.

Counseling and other services for those in Uvalde have been available at Sacred Heart Catholic Church there, as well as SSGT Willie de Leon Civic Center and the Fairplex, a meeting facility, the priest said.

Uvalde and surrounding towns are part of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, which has been assisting family members directly affected by the violent act.

San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller has been celebrating Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Uvalde daily. He also has been meeting with people to console them.

When he was asked in a May 27 phone interview how church members were managing to help those in Uvalde, he said, "We are doing well."

"There is so much generosity in people's hearts," he said.

When complimented on the church's ability to do so much for others, he humbly said, "It's the Holy Spirit."

Ministry to those experi-

encing loss involves "a lot of learning," he said. "We go at a slow pace in accompanying the grieving. We walk at the pace of the people."

Archbishop García-Siller said those who had survived the shooting situation also had been affected by it.

"All of us are invited to learn and grow" from such experiences, he said. "People can discover a new relationship with God."

He described having talked earlier that day with some children at Sacred Heart Catholic Parish in Del Rio, Texas, and said he had been moved by their compassion. They had told him that they were praying for the souls of those who had died in Uvalde and their parents and for the school shooter's family.

Father Arackathara Babychan, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Hondo, Texas, also has been in Uvalde.

He said in a phone interview May 26 that he had been saddened by the news of the shooting. "I was shaken," he said.

"As a human being, you feel the pain," he said. "Everyone is affected."

He was at Uvalde's Civic Center the afternoon of May 25, he said. There he and a deacon talked with about 12 families. They prayed with them and listened while they shared their feelings.

"We comforted and affirmed them to show that we cared," Father Babychan



CNS Photo/Jonathan Ernst, Reuters

A child in Uvalde, Texas, cries during Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church May 29. A gunman killed 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary School May 24.

said.

His said that his role was providing stability for those experiencing fear, anxiety, shock and confusion.

Father James Fischler, pastor of St. Louis Catholic Church in Castroville, Texas, has been in Uvalde, as well.

Those there had thanked the priests who had come to their town, he said in a phone interview May 27. The people also wanted to talk to them.

"One reason for the Catholic Church's recent call for participation in the synod was to listen to people," he said.

He was referring to the Catholic Church's two-

year synodal process titled "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission" in October 2021. It involves listening sessions at every level of the church and will lead to a general assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023.

The tragedy in Uvalde has made people more aware of their "common humanity, connectedness," he said. Father Fischler also said that Bishop Alonso Garza Treviño of Piedras Negras, Mexico, a city across from Eagle Pass, Texas, had been in Uvalde.

The bishop had told him, "We are all in this together."

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# Pope Announces New Cardinals, Including U.S. Bishop McElroy

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Pope Francis announced he will create 21 new cardinals Aug. 27, including 68-year-old Bishop Robert W. McElroy of San Diego.

The pope made the announcement at the end of his “Regina Coeli” address May 29, telling the crowd in St. Peter’s Square the names of the 16 cardinals under the age of 80, who will be eligible to vote in a conclave, and the names of five elderly churchmen whose red hats are a sign of esteem and honor. “Let us

pray for the new cardinals so that, in confirming their adherence to Christ, they may help me in my ministry as bishop of Rome for the good of the entire holy people of God,” the pope said.

After the Aug. 27 consistory, there will be 132 cardinals eligible to enter a conclave, and the number of those over 80 will be 97, bringing the total number of cardinals to 229.

Here is the full list of the new cardinals, in the order named by the pope:

— Archbishop Arthur Roche, 72, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacra-

ments.

— Archbishop Lazarus You Heung-sik, 70, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy.

— Archbishop Fernando Vérgez Alzaga, 77, president of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State and president of the Governorate of Vatican City State.

— Archbishop Jean-Marc Aveline of Marseille, France, 63.

— Bishop Peter Eberk Okpaleke of Ekwulobia, Nigeria, 59.

See “Cardinals” on Page 8

## Vatican Offers Indulgence for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Any Catholic who participates in the celebration July 24 of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly can receive a plenary indulgence, the Vatican announced.

“Grandparents, the elderly and all the faithful who, motivated by a true spirit of penance and charity,” attend Mass or other prayer services for the occasion can receive the indulgence, which “can also be applied as a suffrage for the souls in purgatory,” said the announcement published May 30.

Pope Francis celebrated the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in 2021 and decreed that it be observed each year on the Sunday closest to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus’ grandparents.

In his message for this year’s celebration, Pope Francis asked older people like himself to be “artisans of the revolution of tenderness.”

“We grandparents and elderly people have a great responsibility: to teach the women and men of our time to regard others with the same understanding and loving gaze with which we regard our own grandchil-

dren,” he had written.

Addressing younger people as well, the 85-year-old pope encouraged them to seek out and visit those who feel most alone. “Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge,” he said. “Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!”

Announcing the indulgence May 30, the Vatican said it also can apply to those who “devote adequate time to actually or virtually visiting their elderly brothers and sisters in need

or in difficulty.”

To receive a plenary indulgence, which is a remission of the temporal punishment due for one’s sins, a person must show detachment from sin, go to confession, receive the Eucharist and pray for the intentions of the pope. The indulgence also is available to “the elderly sick and all those who, unable to leave their homes for a serious reason, spiritually join” the celebrations, particularly by watching on television or the internet or listening on the radio, and “offer to the merciful God their prayers, sorrows and sufferings,” the Vatican said.

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

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

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:  
Tim Bishop  
Nick Chancey  
Colleen Criste

### Thursday June 23rd

St. Leo Catholic Church  
Inwood, WV

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

Speakers and Reception to Follow

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

### Friday June 24th

St. John XXIII Pastoral Center  
Charleston, WV

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

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:  
Tim Bishop  
Colleen Criste  
Daniel Maul

### Saturday June 25th

St. Francis De Sales School  
Morgantown, WV

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

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

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

### Sunday June 26th

Cathedral of St. Joseph  
Wheeling, WV

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

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:  
Joyce Bibey  
Nick Chancey  
Daniel Maul



Scan the QR Code or visit [www.dwc.org/world-meeting-of-families](http://www.dwc.org/world-meeting-of-families) to Register.

# Catholic Charities West Virginia to Hold Hymns for Hope Event

**ATHENS**—Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) will hold its Hymns for Hope event on Sunday, June 5. The event will take place at Concord University's Student Center Ballroom in Athens from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The concert-style event brings together a variety of performers from all over the local region.

"We look forward to bringing the community together for singing, celebration and fellowship," said Matt Atwood, CCWVa Southern Regional director.

Performers include Arnold Palmer, Carla Bragg, Erin Fultineer, Hannah Puckett, Jeff Maddow, Lily Comer, Mike Farris and T.J. Goins.

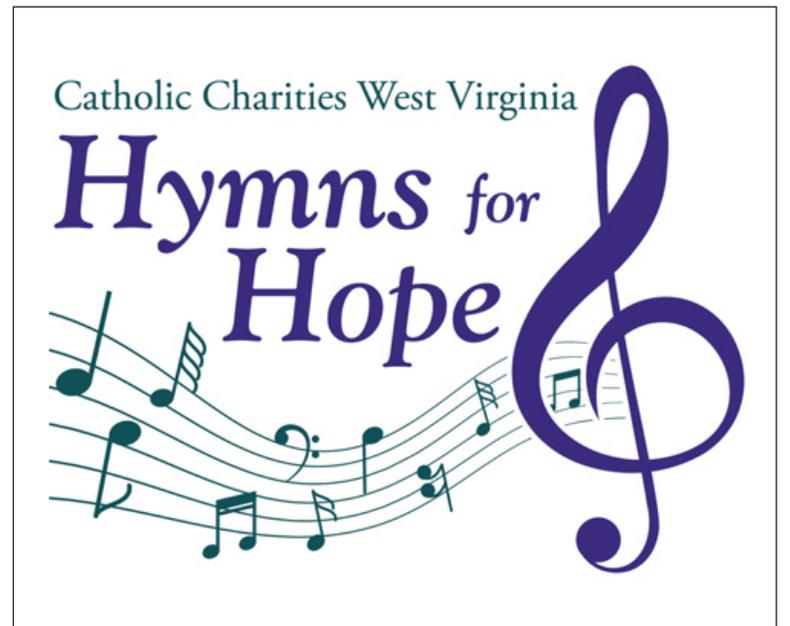
Admission to the event is free; a free-will offering will be taken during the program. All funds raised will benefit CCWVa's programs and services provided

in southern West Virginia. CCWVa's Southern Region has offices in Princeton, Hinton, Beckley, Welch, and Webster Springs.

"Catholic Charities relies on the generous contributions of individuals, groups and businesses to support our programs," said Atwood. "We provide a number of programs and services, including food pantries, thrift stores and adult education."

CCWVa is the largest independent provider of social and human services in West Virginia. Assistance is available to anyone in need, regardless of their religion, race, national origin, age, or any other identifying factor.

For more information about Hymns for Hope, visit <https://catholiccharitieswv.org/hymns-for-hope/> or call (304) 425-4306, ext. 3.



## Catechist Trainings begin This Month

**WEST VIRGINIA**—Over the course of 11 Saturdays this summer, the diocese's Director of Evangelization and Catechesis Daniel Maul will be traveling to different parishes across the diocese to offer catechist trainings.

Though these classes are primarily intended for the volunteer catechist in a parish religious education program, anyone is welcome to attend.

"I think the method and content would be particularly helpful also to Catholic school religion teachers, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of

Adults) team leaders, youth ministers, bible-study coordinators and anyone who works in the areas of evangelization and catechesis," Maul said. He will be offering six different courses: 1) Introduction to Catechesis, 2) Introduction to Prayer and Praying with Children, 3) Catholic Beliefs and a Survey of Catholic Doctrine, 4) Introduction to Scripture, 5) Jesus Christ, and 6) The Seven Sacraments and Sacramental Living.

Each training day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m., consisting of five class sessions.

Anyone who attends all six courses and completes all of the assignments for each course will be certified as a catechist in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

"The purpose of these courses is to enable people to feel ready and equipped to educate others — especially children and young people — in the faith," Maul said. "They are meant to give adults a solid foundation upon which to establish or continue their own personal study of the faith."

The following are dates, locations, and courses to be offered: June 4, Sacred Heart Parish in Princeton, Jesus Christ; June 11, St. Joseph Parish in Huntington, Introduction to Prayer and Praying with Children; June 18, Immaculate Con-

ception Parish in Clarksburg, Introduction to Prayer and Praying with Children; July 9, St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg, Introduction to Catechesis; July 16, St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town, Introduction to Catechesis; July 23, St. John Parish in Benwood, Jesus Christ; July 30, Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston, Catholic Beliefs and a Survey of Catholic Doctrine; Aug. 6, St. Peter the Fisherman Parish in Fairmont, Catholic Beliefs and a Survey of Catholic Doctrine; Aug. 13, St. Francis Xavier Parish in Parkersburg, Introduction to Scripture; Aug. 20, Assumption Parish in Keyser, Introduction to Scripture; and Aug. 27, St. Anthony Parish in Follansbee, The Seven Sac-

raments and Sacramental Living.

To become a certified catechist through these training days, one needs to attend six required courses. These can be taken at a pace that is comfortable for each individual catechist. However, catechists will be able to achieve certification within three years, without ever having to leave their own vicariates.

There is no fee for the training; these days are entirely free for all participants. They will be sponsored by the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis in conjunction with the hosting parishes.

To register for courses, contact Maul by e-mail to [dmaul@dwc.org](mailto:dmaul@dwc.org) or by calling (304)233-0880, ext. 376.

## WV4Life Greenbrier Pro-Life Chapter Invites All to March with Members in Fourth of July Parade

**ALDERSON**—WV4Life Greenbrier Pro-Life Chapter invites anyone who would like to participate to march with members in the First Annual Fourth of July Parade in Alderson on July 4 at 10 a.m.

"We need your support," chapter members said. "Life is worth defending regardless of whether in the womb or in the nursing home."

WV4Life Greenbrier Chapter meets on the third Thursday of the month at Emmanuel Community Church on Harts Run Road, in Caldwell.

Call the chapter to become a member at (304) 661-9866.

## Morgantown Magnificat to Celebrate 10th Anniversary with Prayer Breakfast

**MORGANTOWN**—Come celebrate Morgantown Magnificat's 10th anniversary at a free inspirational prayer breakfast June 11 at St. John University Parish Hall in Morgantown.

The speaker will be Eileen Benthall, an advocate for families and people with disabilities, and author of "Breathing Underwater: A Journey of Hope."

In her talk, Benthall will share her family's miraculous journey of faith in the midst of severe trials.

A free continental breakfast will be served at the event.

Those interested in attending, must register by June 4.

To register send e-mail to Claire at [CLRPL09@gmail.com](mailto:CLRPL09@gmail.com) or call Mary Paul at (304) 319-2747.

## Parishioners to Share Value of Natural Family Planning in Summersville

**SUMMERSVILLE**—St. John the Evangelist Parish in Summersville will host “Catholics and Babies: A Healthy Approach to Family Planning on June 25 from 10 a.m. to noon.

The presenters for the gathering will be Philip and Jaimie Althage, who are parishioners of St. John’s. They will celebrate nine years of marriage this month and have three children. Philip and Jaimie moved to Clay County from Texas a couple of years ago, where they take care of Jaimie’s grandfather and manage the family farm. They are both certified NFP (Natural Family Planning) promoters through the Couple to Couple League and are passionate about sharing the message of NFP and God’s plan for Christian marriage with other couples.

The meeting will be held in Marist Hall, located at 1610 Webster Road in Summersville.

Those who wish to attend are asked to register before June 20 by calling the parish office at (304) 872-2554. Lunch will be served.

## Memorial Mass for Children Who Died before Birth to be Celebrated in Weirton

**WEIRTON**—“You are not forgotten. You are not overlooked,” organizers of the Memorial Mass for Children who died before birth want parents and families to know.

They are invited to participate in the memorial Mass which will be celebrated for unborn children who have died, whether by miscarriage, abortion, ectopic (tubal) pregnancy, no distinction will be made. Whether the loss occurred recently or years ago, it does not matter, organizers

said.

The memorial Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 10, at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Weirton. Confessions will be heard beginning at 5:30 p.m.

“So that we may best honor your child,” organizers asked parents or families to call (304) 723-0478 or (304) 748-0688 to RSVP.

All family members and friends are welcome.

## Cardinals...

**Cont’d from Page 6**

— Archbishop Leonardo Ulrich Steiner of Manaus, Brazil, 71.

— Archbishop Filipe Neri António Sebastião do Rosário Ferrão of Goa, India, 69.

— Bishop Robert Walter McElroy of San Diego, 68.

— Archbishop Virgílio do Carmo da Silva of Dili, Timor-Leste, 54.

— Bishop Oscar Cantoni of Como, Italy, 71.

— Archbishop Anthony Poola of Hyderabad, India, 60.

— Archbishop Paulo Cezar Costa of Brasília, Brazil, 54.

— Bishop Richard Kuuia Baawobr of Wa, Ghana, 62.

— Archbishop William Goh Seng Chye of Singapore, 64.

— Archbishop Adalberto Martínez Flores of Asunción, Paraguay, 70.

— Bishop Giorgio Marengo, apostolic prefect of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, who will be 48 June 7.

— Retired Archbishop Jorge Jiménez Carvajal of Cartagena, Colombia, 80.

— Retired Archbishop Lucas Van Looy of Ghent, Belgium, 80.

— Retired Archbishop Arrigo Miglio of Cagliari, Italy, who turns 80 July 18.

— Jesuit Father Gianfranco Ghirlanda, professor of canon law, who turns 80 July 5.

— Msgr. Fortunato Frezza, canon of St. Peter’s Basilica, 80.

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# West Virginia Knights of Columbus Hold 120th State Convention in Inwood



Courtesy Photo

West Virginia Knights of Columbus state officers, supreme representative, and knights' wives are pictured with Bishop Mark Brennan following the Mass he celebrated for the knights' 120th state convention at St. Leo Parish in Inwood May 14.

**By Colleen Rowan**

**INWOOD**—“In Unity with the Eucharist.” This was the theme of the 120th West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Convention which gathered knights and their wives from across the diocese at St. Leo Parish in Inwood May 14-15. Joining them was Bishop Mark Brennan along with Carmine Musumeci, PSD of New York, and supreme director, representing the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council; Father John Rice, chaplain of the state council; and others.

At the banquet held on the first day of the convention, Musumeci congratulated the West Virginia Knights on their many accomplishments from this past year. These accomplishments included food packing events for Cross Catholic Outreach, coats for kids, food for families, boxes of joy, the new Spanish roundtable, the importance of membership and degrees, and the great charitable works of the councils, officials of the state council said. Earlier that evening, Bishop Brennan celebrated Mass at St. Leo's and spoke at the banquet later that evening. He also offered the opening prayer for the convention.

“It was great to have the bishop present for the meetings, banquet and as the celebrant at the Mass,” said West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Deputy Frank Koeing. “He spoke to all brother knights at the meeting and was a keynote speaker at the dinner. His comments on pro-life, Ukraine, Catholic Charities and membership were very sincere and timely.”

Past State Deputy Jerry Somazze said Bishop Brennan is an ardent supporter of the Knights of Columbus.

“He is genuinely concerned about the issues we face as an organization, our charitable works and service to the church and our communities,” Somazze said. “With his support, I am heartened that the diocese as the people of God, and our State Council of the Knights of Columbus will flourish and grow to perform even more acts of charity and service in God's name.”

Members of the state council also presented to Bishop Brennan a check for \$7,000 in support of the diocese's seminarians.

The state council bestowed four key awards at the banquet. The FAITH Award was presented to Martinsburg Msgr. Lackey Council #1169 for the St. Joseph Icon/Patron Saint 7-wk Program. Council #1169 also received the FAMILY Award for the KCIC Nativity Scene silhouette program. The COMMUNITY Award was presented to Charleston St. Michael the Archangel Council #12630 Food Packing for Cross Catholic Outreach with 100,490 meals packed in record time. Wheeling Carroll Council #504 received the LIFE Award for Baby Bottle donations for the Gabriel Project.

Other awards presented by the state council include the following: Priest of Year, Father Thomas Gallagher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg, and chaplain of Council #1169; District Deputy of the Year, Dennis Allen, D-6; Family of the Year, Michael Lafferty Family of St.

James the Apostle Clarksburg Council #872; Catholic Layman of the Year, James Rossi of St. Patrick Parish Coalton Council #603; Top Recruiter of Year, John Dunmore, grand knight of Charlestown Council #12036; Knight of the Year, William Dempsey III, grand knight of Hurricane Council #9483; Newsletter of the Year, “Martinsburg Knights” by Council #1169. Program Awards (for top accomplishments) were also announced. The Ultrasound Initiative by the Bridgeport Father Charles Carroll Council #16494 and Council #1169. Coats for Kids: Inwood Council #10756, Council #1169, and Shepherdstown St. Agnes Council #13887. Cross Catholic Food Packing: Council #12630, and Council #872. Box of Joy: Council #1169, and Morgantown St. Francis de Sales Council. Leave No Neighbor Behind-

Helping Hands: Council #504.

On the second day of the convention, knights gathered for a Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration in the adoration chapel at St. Leo's.

Officers were elected for the Fraternal year 2022-2023: State Deputy, Frank Koenig; State Secretary, Mike Stanger; State Treasurer, Brian Gordon; State Advocate, Tom Burke; State Warden, Carmen Romano. Also elected were delegates/alternates to the Supreme Convention in August in Nashville: Greg Hilleary, grand knight of host council #10756; Koenig; and Paul Niedbalski, past state deputy.

Knights' wives enjoyed a ladies program/luncheon. They also visited the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley & Gardens. They also gathered to pray the rosary on Sunday morning.

In honor of Father McGivney's Beatification.....

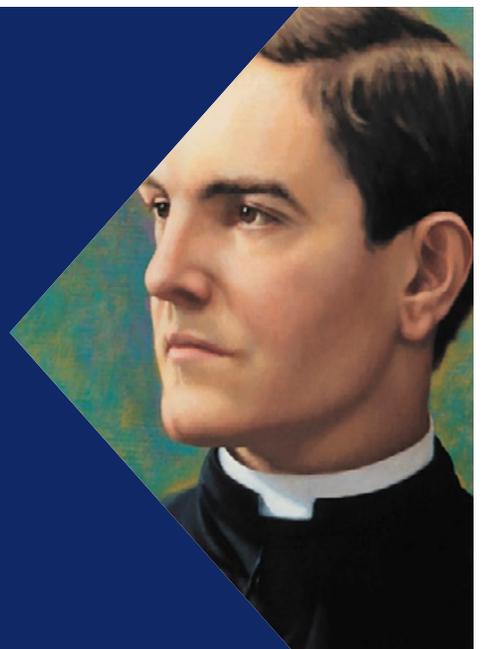
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# Purpose Driven Life Leads Hurricane Man to Honor

By Joyce Bibey

Hurricane's Will Dempsey chooses to live his life with an "actions are greater than words" mindset.

We all know of the poverty and suffering in the world and our own communities, whether they have resulted from horrific tragedy, natural disasters, or our own doing. As Christians we talk about how we are God's hands and feet, but are we really doing enough? Dempsey does not sit back and take that question lightly. His purpose driven path in life is a call to action, proving he is a man that honors his faith, country, and family.

"I look at my kids and think of the world I want them raised in versus the one they are in now," he said. "We must be better for the next generation."

It is that thinking that made him an obvious choice for the West Virginia Knights of Columbus's Knight of the Year. He is the Grand Knight of the Hurricane Bishop Hodges Council #9483.

Will and his wife Elyse have been married for five years and have two children – 2-year-old Conor Kasmir, and 1-year-old Daniel Allen. He didn't grow up Catholic, but Christianity and a Christian way of life has always been important to him.

Dempsey went through the RCIA program at Ascension Parish in Hurricane and entered the Catholic Church in 2014. Becoming

Catholic for Dempsey was like coming into a family of "like-minded individuals with a great foundation of faith along with growth potential worldwide," he said.

Within a year after converting to Catholicism, Dempsey joined the parish's Knights of Columbus (K of C). He said becoming part of a group that is centered around faith, family, charity, and unity was a natural fit for him.

Dempsey has been active in the Army National Guard since 2006, first as a combat medic and now serving as an industrial hygiene tech and radiation safety officer since 2012.

Last year Dempsey attended training in Maryland for Cross Catholic Outreach's food packing events to battle hunger on an international level. He then was able to help K of C organizations in Charleston and Clarksburg pack more than 140,000 meals. Additionally, he recruited several guard-personnel to assist packing 4,000 meals that were donated to the Mustard Seed Food Pantry.

Those who know him can describe him with the same characteristics as the Knights' founder Blessed Father Michael McGivney – a gentleman who is a roll up your sleeves, get your hands dirty, determined to make a difference for a stronger community and better world.

"Being a Knight is the conduit

between my military service and my civilian career path that allows me to give back and build up both our local community and abroad," he said. "It is a straightforward brotherhood that closely relates to the support you get in the military. It allows you to surround yourself in similar spiritually minded individuals that you can bounce opinions or decisions off of for a clear faith based conclusion.

As an added bonus, the K of C looks out for its members and their  
**See "Honor" on Page 13**



Courtesy Photo

Will Dempsey has served the Army National Guard since 2006, when he was a combat medic. Here he poses with his wife Elyse. They are members of Ascension Parish in Hurricane.



Courtesy Photo

Conor Kasmir and Daniel Allen Dempsey, the sons of West Virginia Knight of the Year Will Dempsey, who says his purpose driven life of faith, country, and family is energized by and for them and his wife Elyse.

## West Virginia Knight of the Year, William K. Dempsey

West Virginia Knight of the Year, William K. Dempsey, III, is grand knight of Hurricane Bishop Hodges Council #9483 and a member of Ascension Parish in Hurricane.

Dempsey has served as Grand Knight of the Hurricane council this past year. The council is one of the top councils in West Virginia. Last fall, the council was one of the first in the state after covid to hold an in-person degree of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Working with Father Bill Matheny, the degree was held directly following a Saturday evening Mass with six candidates coming into the Order. Dempsey

organized a reception in the parish hall, to welcome the new Brother Knights and to meet the families and other brothers. The Hurricane Council under his leadership has assisted the parish and community in several events, including supplying Thanksgiving turkeys, a covid-friendly silent auction, a chili cook-off, and a joint parish Ukraine luncheon fundraiser with the parish's women's group. He has also assisted with the parish's maintenance needs.

The Knights of Columbus in partnership with Cross Catholic Charities held two successful food-packing events, and many

saw Grand Knight Dempsey assisting other councils and Brother Knights. Before these events began, Dempsey attended an event in Maryland where he gained experience in the setup and logistics of these food packing events. In October, he helped the Charleston St. Michael the Archangel Council #12630 pack over 100,000 meals, serving on the planning committee and event logistics. In April, he again helped with another food packing event in Clarksburg by securing the Clarksburg Armory to assist in packing another 40,000 meals. He recruited

**See "Dempsey" on Page 13**



Courtesy Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan and West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Deputy Frank Koeing, right, stand with West Virginia Knight of the Year William K. Dempsey, III, grand knight of Hurricane Bishop Hodges Council #9483.

# Showing Compassion and Transforming Fear into Hope

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The Pentecost story does not end there! Jesus then gives the disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit and sends them forth. “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” Catholics and Christians everywhere continue this legacy every single day. We spread the peace of Christ at every opportunity.

Staff and volunteers at Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa)

often meet people during their darkest times. Much like the disciples, they feel afraid or desperate — unable to trust the people around them.

Because of their past hurts, they may not immediately be able to accept the help and hope we offer. After all, it’s not easy to receive peace during times of turmoil. We work hard to build relationships with clients and community partners. We must establish trust before we can offer Jesus’ promise of peace to our brothers and sisters.

Supporters like you across the state band together to make this vital work possible. You are spreading the peace of Christ every day by joining us on our Mission of Love! Thank you for loving your neighbors as yourself.

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

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by



Courtesy Photo

**Beth Zarate (left), CCWVa president and chief executive officer, talks with Joshua Elias (right), a neighbor/client at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling.**

God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes, and families to provide caring and compassionate

services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

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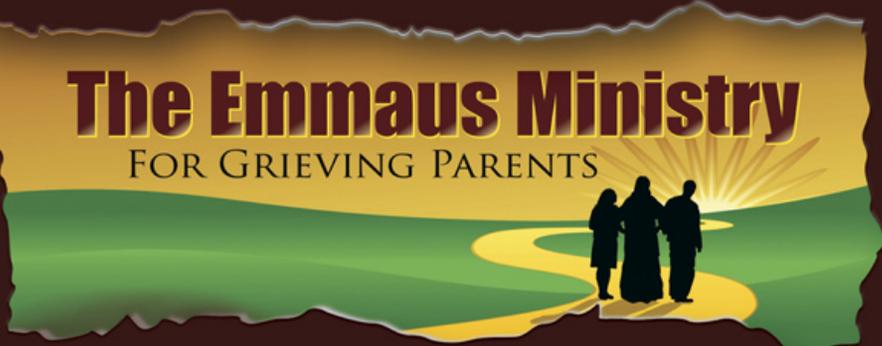
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## Honor...

Cont'd from Page 11

families with their insurance benefits. He said it's "the closest thing I have found to compare to my military SGLI (servicemembers' group life insurance) to better provide security for my family long term."

We all have so many challenges in life, whether they be about faith or family, but being able to consult with others that have the same morals and values is key to a happy life. That someone for Dempsey is the entire Knights' fraternity, and specifically, Chris Rock of Ascension Parish. "He is the first Catholic that comes to my mind when I think 'a Catholic', 'a knight', and 'a father'."

He hopes all Catholic men who are not already members to take that leap and become involved with the K of C.

"They are not just a men's group at the parish," he said. "It's a group of people that helps all those around them regardless of differences through Catholic charity, as (we) grow in faith."

Choosing to grow in Christ, and be the best version of ourselves in order to help others is how Dempsey is made. Now that he has the eyes of his children on him, he knows his example is everything.

"I want my wife and kids to know that everything I do is both for them and because of them," he said. "I truly am a better person every day, because of them and the life we strive to build."

At home, in his parish, and in his community, Will Dempsey is a great example of #FaithInWV!

## Dempsey...

Cont'd from Page 11

several guard-personnel to assist in the packing, as they helped with the 4,000 meals that were donated to the Mustard Seed Food Pantry. Dempsey is looking ahead to assist with the state's next event in Kingwood hosted by the Preston County Knights with the West Virginia Challenge Academy.

Dempsey is family man, married to his wife Elyse Marie, and they have two young sons, Conor Kasmir, age 2, and Daniel Allen, age 1. He joined the Knights in 2018 and became active in the Hurricane Council and Ascension Parish.

He has said that he feels that any man who is Catholic should pride themselves in the fraternal organization, the Knights.

Dempsey has been active in the West Virginia-Army National Guard since 2006, joining as a combat medic and working as an industrial hygiene tech/radiation safety officer since 2012. He is currently pursuing a degree in Occupational Health at Columbia Southern University.

Dempsey is a Catholic Family Man, active in his parish and council, and is well deserving to be the 2022 West Virginia Knight of the Year, officials of the Knights State Council said.



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# Se ofrecerá indulgencia plenaria por Jornada Mundial de los Abuelos y Mayores

Por **Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service**

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** — Cualquier católico que participe en la celebración del 24 de julio del Día Mundial de los Abuelos y los Ancianos puede recibir una indulgencia plenaria, anunció el Vaticano.

"Pueden recibir la indulgencia los abuelos, los ancianos y todos los fieles que, movidos por un verdadero espíritu de penitencia y caridad", asisten a Misa u otros servicios de oración para la ocasión, que "puede aplicarse también como sufragio por las almas del purgatorio", dice el anuncio publicado el 30 de mayo.

El papa Francisco celebró la primera Jornada Mundial de los Abuelos y los Ancianos en 2021 y decretó que se observe cada año el domingo más cercano a la fiesta de los Santos Joaquín y Ana, abuelos de Jesús.

En su mensaje para la celebración de este año, el papa Francisco pidió a las personas mayores como él que sean "artesanos de la revolución de la ternura".

"Los abuelos y los ancianos tenemos una gran responsabilidad: enseñar a las mujeres y los hombres de nuestro tiempo a mirar a los demás con la misma mirada comprensiva y amorosa con la que miramos a nuestros propios nietos", había escrito.

Dirigiéndose también a los más jóvenes, el papa, de 85 años, los animó a buscar y visitar a aquellos que se sienten más solos.

"Esperar una visita puede transformar esos días en los que pensamos que no tenemos nada que esperar; de un encuentro inicial puede surgir una nueva amistad", dijo. "¡Visitar a los ancianos que viven solos es una obra de misericordia en nuestro tiempo!"

Al anunciar la indulgencia el 30 de mayo, el Vaticano dijo que también se puede aplicar a aquellos que "dedican el tiempo adecuado a visitar de manera real o virtual a sus hermanos y hermanas mayores en necesidad o dificultad".

Para recibir una indulgencia plenaria, que es una remisión del castigo temporal debido por los pecados de uno, una persona debe mostrar desapego del pecado, confesarse, recibir la Eucaristía y orar por las intenciones del papa.

La indulgencia también está a disposición de "los ancianos enfermos y de todos aquellos que, por no poder salir de casa por causa grave, se unan espiritualmente" a las celebraciones, en particular viendo por televisión, por Internet o escuchando la radio, y "ofrecen al Dios misericordioso sus oraciones, penas y sufrimientos", dijo el Vaticano.

## Papa: Líderes religiosos deben inspirar a renunciar violencia

Por **Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service**

**CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)** -- El mundo necesita con urgencia un diálogo que promueva una cultura de paz y no violencia, y esfuerzos concretos dirigidos a ese fin, dijo el papa Francisco.

"Este diálogo debe invitar a todas las personas a rechazar la violencia en todas sus formas, incluso la violencia contra el medio ambiente. Lamentablemente, también hay quienes continúan abusando de la religión usándola para justificar actos de violencia y odio", el papa dijo a una delegación de líderes budistas de Mongolia el 28 de mayo.

eres budistas de Mongolia el 28 de mayo.

El cardenal designado Giorgio Marengo, prefecto apostólico de Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, acompañó a la delegación, y al día siguiente el papa anunció que el misionero italiano, que cumplirá 48 años el 7 de junio, será nombrado cardenal en agosto.

El papa Francisco dijo al grupo: "En un mundo devastado por conflictos y guerras, nosotros, como líderes religiosos profundamente arraigados en nuestras respectivas enseñanzas religiosas, tenemos el deber de despertar en la humanidad

la firme resolución de renunciar a la violencia y construir una cultura de paz".

"La paz es el anhelo ardiente de la humanidad hoy", dijo. Y "hay una necesidad urgente, a través del diálogo a todos los niveles, de promover una cultura de paz y no violencia, y trabajar en ese sentido".

La delegación fue la primera en visitar el Vaticano como representantes oficiales del budismo mongol que buscan fortalecer "las relaciones amistosas con la Iglesia Católica en aras de promover el entendimiento mutuo y la cooperación en la construcción de una sociedad

pacífica", dijo el papa.

Aunque representa a una minoría en Mongolia, la Iglesia Católica "está totalmente comprometida con fomentar una cultura de encuentro", dijo el papa, y señaló que este año es el 30 aniversario del establecimiento de relaciones diplomáticas entre la Santa Sede y Mongolia.

Dijo que esperaba que la larga historia de armonía en la diversidad en Mongolia pueda continuar "a través de la implementación efectiva de la libertad religiosa y la promoción de iniciativas conjuntas para el bien común".

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

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

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

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

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

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

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, 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.

# Confirmation Schedule

*Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant*

June 4: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, 5 p.m.  
June 25: St. Brendan, Elkins, 5 p.m.

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8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
11:00 WDVM 25	Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

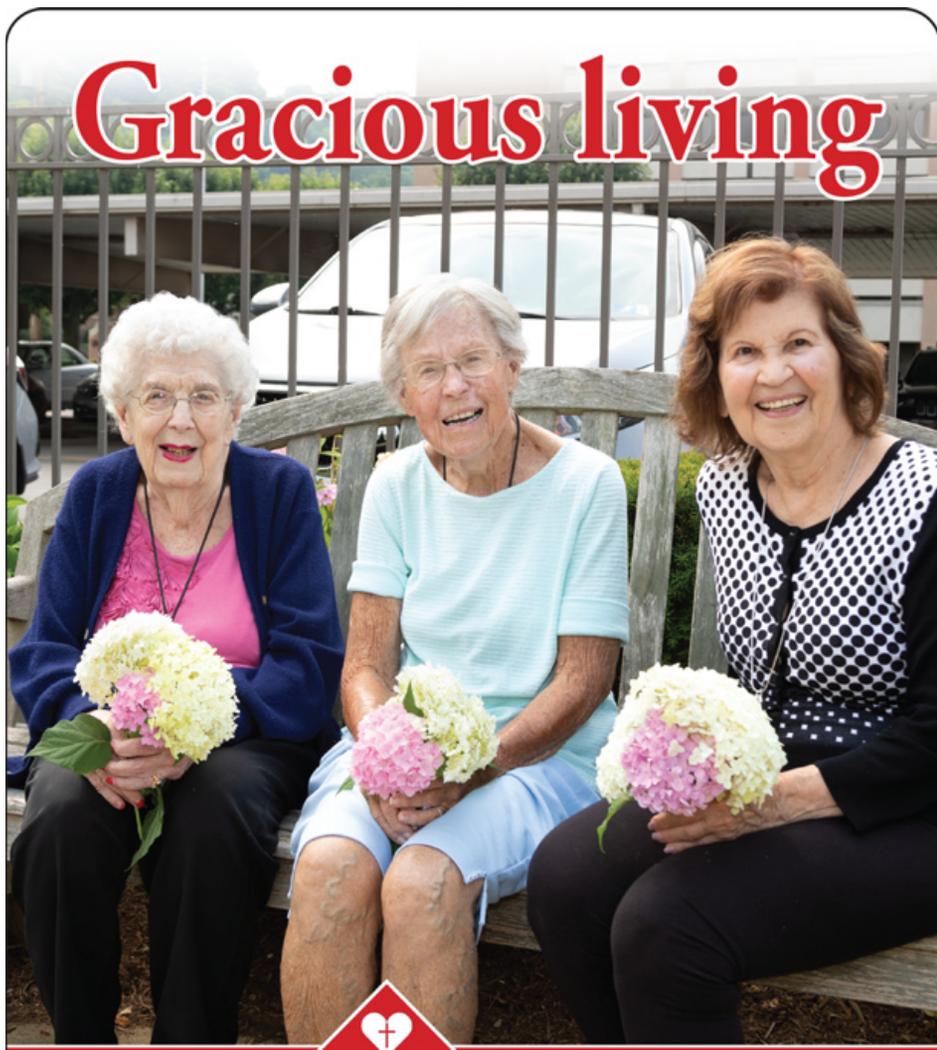
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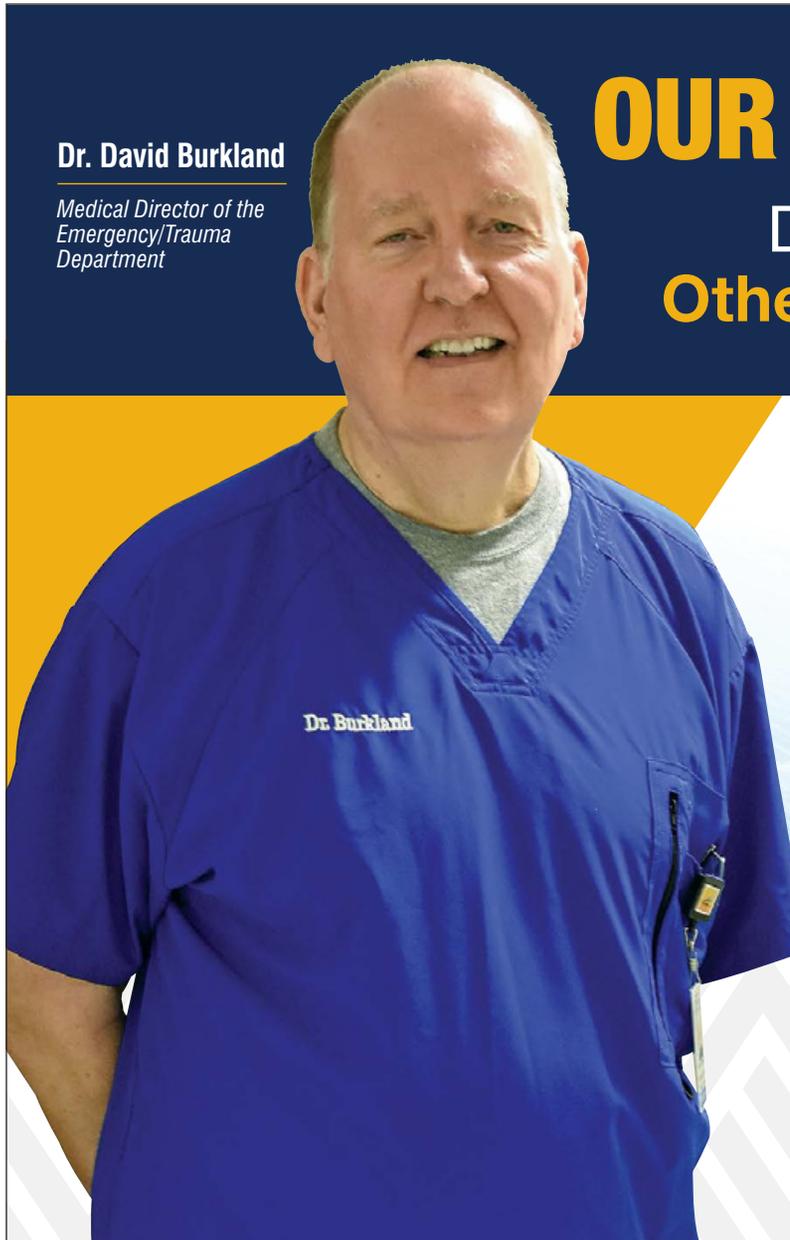
**July 3rd – July 9th**, Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.

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

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

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