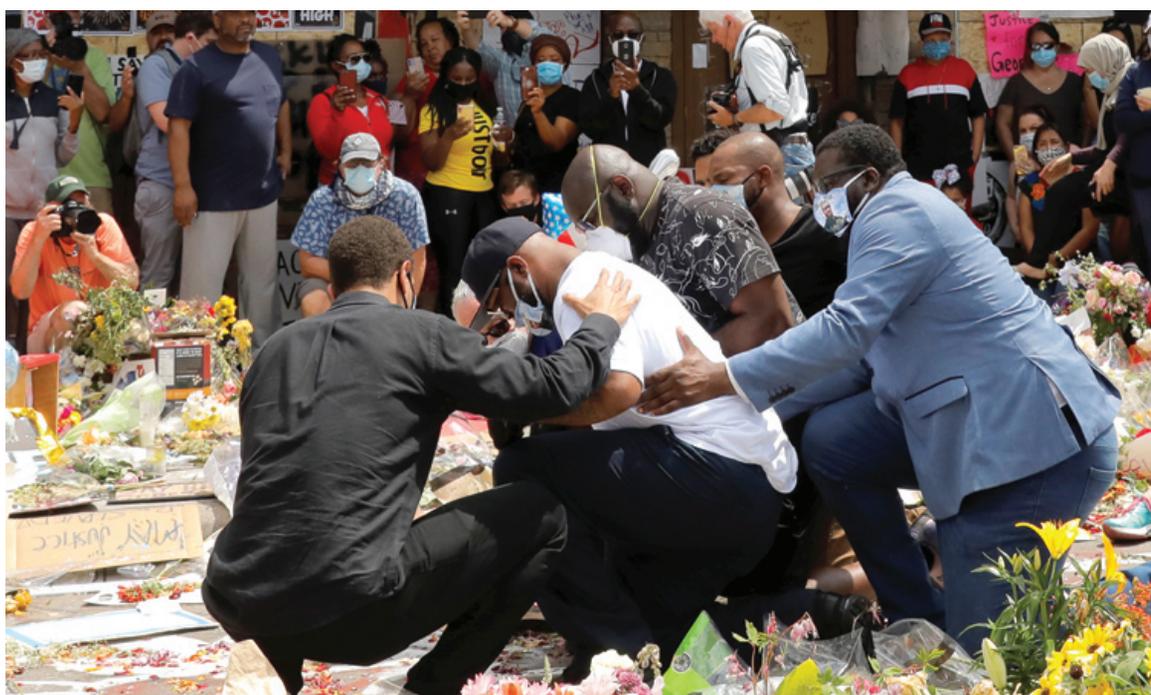


THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Pope Prays for U.S., Calls Racism a Pro-Life Issue



CNS Photo/Lucas Jackson, Reuters

Terrence Floyd, the brother of George Floyd, reacts at a makeshift memorial at the spot where he was taken into custody in Minneapolis June 1. Demonstrations continue after a white police officer was caught on a bystander's video May 25 pressing his knee into the neck of George Floyd, an African American, who later died at a hospital.

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Observing with great concern the social unrest unfolding in the United States, Pope Francis said no one can claim to defend the sanctity of every human life while turning a blind eye to racism and exclusion.

Addressing all “dear brothers and sisters in the United States,” during his livestreamed general audience June 3, the pope said, “Today I join the church in St. Paul and Minneapolis, and in the entire United States, in praying for the
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Let Us Unite in Prayer for Peace

A Statement from Bishop Brennan

The killing of George Floyd was an egregious act of violence with no justification whatsoever, all the worse for having been perpetrated by some police officers who are sworn to serve and protect their fellow citizens. Most law enforcement officials are decent men and women who train hard to restrain any violent impulses and to be respectful as they deal with the public. Mr. Floyd did not meet that kind of police officer the day he was killed.

I join other Americans in prayer for Mr.

Floyd, his family and friends and for the African American community of Minneapolis and throughout our country. Every human being is made in God's image and likeness and deserves respect and fair treatment. The protests taking place in many US cities reflect the anger and frustration of millions of Americans who, to this day, experience racism in their daily lives. If I find abhorrent the resurgence of the ugly language, violence and racial
See “Statement” on Page 4

Szabo Ordained Deacon



Mark Guiney Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan ordains Rev. Mr. Phillip Szabo a deacon at St. James the Greater Church in Charles Town May 30. See story on Page 5.

By Colleen Rowan

CHARLES TOWN—With family and friends gathered with him at St. James the Greater Church in Charles Town on May 30, Deacon Phillip Szabo was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Mark Brennan.

“Today you will make promises to be a man of prayer, a man of celebrate love, and a man of obedient faith,” Bishop Brennan said to Deacon Szabo in his homily. “These promises will sustain in you a vibrant diaconate and, God willing, next year a fruitful priesthood.”

One of the great achievements of the Second Vatican Council, the bishop said to Deacon Szabo, was the restoration of the permanent diaconate. There is no difference between a permanent deacon and a
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Sister Eileen Marie Sinnott, CSJ

Sister Eileen Marie Sinnott passed away peacefully, with her sisters at her bedside, at Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling, following a long illness on May 30, 2020. Eileen Elizabeth Sinnott was born in County Wexford, Ireland. In 1948 she entered the Congregation of St. Joseph in Wheeling and, upon beginning her novitiate experience, became known as Sister Eileen Marie. Sister made her first profession of vows on August 18, 1951. Later she received a Bachelor of Science in Education Degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and a Master of Science in Administration from St. John University in Cleveland, Ohio. Sister Eileen Marie celebrated her 70th Jubilee on October 11, 2018.



member of the Sisters of St. Joseph Leadership Team. Sister Eileen Marie moved to Mount St. Joseph in 2008, where she was active in a ministry of prayer.

Sister Eileen said, "Most of my ministry has been spent in Weston, in the parish that has produced more religious and priests than any other in the Diocese. I concentrated my ministry on praying for and inviting young men and women to consider the priesthood and/or the religious life as their future. Hopefully, the Call of Christ will once again be ignited in that parish. I was also deeply involved in three small faith community groups and the RCIA at St. Patrick. It gave me great joy and spiritual satisfaction to experience the growth of the love of Jesus in the hearts of all those involved in these groups."

In light of COVID-19, a memorial Mass will be scheduled by the Congregation for a future date, when everyone will be able to attend safely.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Congregation of St. Joseph, 137 Mt. St. Joseph Rd., Wheeling, WV 26003. Funeral arrangements by Altmeyer Funeral Homes, 1400 Eoff St., Wheeling, WV.

Sister Eileen Marie has dedicated her life energies to education in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Her ministries as teacher and/or principal include St. Agnes in Charleston, St. Mary in Clarksburg, St. Peter in Fairmont, St. Joseph in Huntington, Corpus Christi and St. Vincent de Paul in Wheeling, and St. Patrick in Weston, where she gave a total of 34 years. She served as Pastoral Associate at St. Patrick Church. From 1993-1997 she was a

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 report. 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.

To report to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston: The Diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost as well as 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 designees at 304-233-0880. The proper extensions are: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Tim Bishop, ext. 353. You may also fill out a confidential "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor" by picking one up at your local parish or requesting one in the mail from Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. The Complaint Form also is available for download on the diocese's web site www.dwc.org, click Diocese on the menu bar, then click Offices, click Safe Environment and click "Download Files and Forms" section. It is listed as "Complaint Form." To report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-6988

Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit, Internet Crimes Against Children

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, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."

Sister Anne Dorice DeFebbo, OSF

After a courageous battle with cancer and leukemia, Sister Anne Dorice DeFebbo, OSF (72), died in Aston PA on May 18, a few days before her 73rd birthday. She had been a professed member of the Sisters of



St. Francis of Philadelphia for 48 years. Sister Anne Dorice (christened Anna Mary DeFebbo) was born on May 21, 1947 in Steubenville, Ohio, but grew up in Weirton, West Virginia, where she was a member of Sacred Heart of Mary School and Parish. She was a proud 1965 graduate of Weirton Madonna High School. Sister Anne Dorice studied nursing at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA where she earned her R.N. in 1968. She entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia in 1969 and professed her first vows in 1972. She later earned a B.S. in Nursing from Neumann University in Philadelphia and an M.S. in Medical-Surgical Nursing from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She ministered primarily in healthcare as well as pastoral, parish, and social service ministries. Sister Anne Dorice ministered

for 13 years as a nurse at the former St. Mary Hospital in Philadelphia. For four years, Sr. Anne served at St. Francis Hospital in the Diocese of Wilmington, DE as a staff nurse and later as head nurse in the ICU Department. During her nine years in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, she ministered at St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Towson, MD as a nursing instructor. A strong missionary spirit and desire to serve the poor took her to St. John's, Antigua, where she served at Holy Family Cathedral Parish, and to the Dominican Republic where she ministered at Santa Teresa de Jesus in Provincia Elias Piña.

Preceded in death by her parents John and Theodora DeFebbo, formerly of Weirton, Sr. Anne Dorice is survived by her two sisters, Sister Lorraine Therese DeFebbo, OSF of St. Louis, MO and Paula (Robert) Leonard of Hudson, FL, by her brother, Kevin (Barbara) DeFebbo of Bowling Green, KY; and by her Franciscan Sisters.

Donations in her name can be made to the Sisters of St. Francis Foundation, 609 S. Convent Road, Aston, PA 19014.

Michael Louis Iafrate

On May 28, 2020, Michael Louis Iafrate, beloved husband of Hana Kaibni passed away. Loving son of Theresa and Albert Iafrate. Father of Michael John Iafrate and wife Jocelyn, Angie Therese Iafrate, Janet Marie Iafrate, and Andrew Albert Iafrate. Step father of Michael Anthony Orlando and wife Christine, Nina Maria Zunt and husband Petr, and Samantha Hana Orlando. Brother of Marie Iafrate, and the late David Iafrate. Grandfather of Luca Iafrate, Hazel Iafrate, Isadora Iafrate, Zoey Zunt, and Naomi Orlando. Interment will be private.



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Deacon Golna to be Ordained to Priesthood

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston joyfully anticipates Deacon Justin Golna's upcoming ordination to priesthood. He will be ordained by Bishop Mark Brennan at 11 a.m. June 27 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling.

Deacon Golna, 30, is originally from Washington, Pa., and is the son of John and Deborah Golna. He received a bachelor of arts from Wheeling Jesuit University and a master's in philosophy from Duquesne University. His home parish is Our Lady of Peace in Wheeling.

Following his ordination, he will be assigned to St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart of Mary parishes in Weirton for the summer before he returns to Rome to continue his advanced studies in canon law at the Gregorian University.

"Along with so many others in our diocese, I am thrilled to see Deacon Golna becoming "Father" Golna," said Father Brian

Crenwelge, director of Vocations. "The priesthood, of course, is all about fatherhood. By being ordained, Justin will be laying down his life for his family, the people of West Virginia. At his ordination, he will be conformed to Christ the Head in order that he may teach, govern, and sanctify the people who will be entrusted to him in his priestly office. He will be called to be a spiritual father to all those who he encounters. Justin recognizes this humbling responsibility, and his faithful commitment to our Lord is evident in all his actions. I have known Justin for years now and am looking forward to sharing many years together in priestly fraternity."

During the ordination, Deacon Golna will stand before Bishop Brennan and promise to serve the people of God as a priest. As he kneels before the altar, the bishop will lay his hands upon Deacon Golna's head, calling upon the Holy Spirit to ordain him a priest. The bishop

will then pray the prayer of ordination.

Deacon Golna will be vested with the stole and chasuble by Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, V.E., pastor of the Parishes of St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart of Mary in Weirton, and Msgr. Kevin M. Quirk, pastor of the Parishes of St. Vincent de Paul in New Martinsville and Mater Dolorosa in Paden City and the Missions of St. Joseph in Proctor and Holy Rosary in Sistersville.

As he approaches ordination, Deacon Golna said that he is overcome with an overwhelming sense of joy to begin the vocation that the Lord has called him to do in His Church. "It is no surprise to anyone that we find ourselves in strange times, however this time of pandemic has revealed the deep love and need that the people of God have for Christ's Church and the sacraments that He established," he said. "Seeing these manifestations of devotion and desire to return to the sacraments has inspired me and increased



Deacon Justin Golna

my desire to be able to offer the sacraments to the people of God who so need them.

"During this time of preparation for the priesthood, I have been overwhelmed with the love and support that people have offered me," Deacon Golna said. "More importantly, I have been humbled by prayers that people have offered on my behalf so that I may become a happy, holy priest. No vocation is born in a vacuum and no vocation can continue without the support of many people and as I approach the date of my ordination I want to

thank each and every person that has helped me to get to this point.

"At my ordination," Deacon Golna said, "I will be vested by Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, J.R., V.E., and Rev. Msgr. Kevin Quirk, J.C.D. Father Dennis was my pastor at Our Lady of Peace in Wheeling. He was instrumental in my growth in the spiritual life and the ways in which he involved me in the parish life, by inviting me to teach the confirmation classes, becoming the RCIA director, and serving at Mass when needed, directly led me to seek to serve the people of God as a priest of our beloved diocese. Rev. Msgr. Kevin Quirk was my spiritual director before joining seminary and his care for souls, his deep knowledge of the faith, and his priestly zeal has continued to inspire me to this day."

"Please continue to pray for me before and after my ordination!" Deacon Golna said. "I cannot wait to serve the people of God in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston as a priest!"

The Catholic Spirit Launches E-Mail Version

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—The Catholic Spirit has launched an e-mail version that is now available. Beginning with this June 5 issue, readers have the chance to receive the full edition of The Catholic Spirit delivered free to their e-mail.

By joining the e-mail list, readers will receive an e-mail on each issue date of The Catholic Spirit with a link to the full issue. Issue dates are the first and third Friday of each month. This is a day earlier than mail delivery of the print version.

The e-mail version is being made available to enhance communication, but at the same time cutting the cost of printing. Joining the e-list gives readers the option to receive The Catholic Spirit by e-mail only and to be removed from the list to receive the print version if they choose. However, they may receive both the print and e-mail versions if this is what they prefer.

To be added to the e-list, those interested must send an e-mail to crowan@dwc.org with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line. Preference should be noted in

their e-mail request by saying: "E-mail only, and remove me from print mailing list" or "I would like both print and e-mail versions."

Those who do not wish to receive the e-mail version and only want the print version do not need to take any action. The print version of The Catholic Spirit will continue to be delivered to them free of charge.

Beginning with the June 5 issue, the electronic version of every issue of The Catholic Spirit will now be available under "Downloadable Spirit" at thecatholicspiritwv.org.

Would you like The Catholic Spirit by e-mail only?

The e-mail version is being made available to enhance communication, but at the same time cutting the cost of printing. Join our e-mail list by sending an e-mail to crowan@dwc.org with "The Catholic Spirit e-list" in the subject line, and we'll get you on our new e-mail list. We're happy to provide both print and e-mail versions. Just let us know in your e-mail to us which you prefer by saying:

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or

"I would like both print and e-mail versions"

By joining our e-mail list, you will receive an e-mail on each issue date of The Catholic Spirit with a link to the full issue. Our issue dates are the first and third Friday of each month. This is a day earlier than mail delivery of the print version to your home! The electronic version of every issue of The Catholic Spirit will now be available under "Downloadable Spirit" at thecatholicspiritwv.org

Thank you, dear readers, for your continued support!

Gomez: Killing of Floyd is a 'Sin That Cries out to Heaven for Justice'

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis “was senseless and brutal, a sin that cries out to heaven for justice,” and protests taking place nationwide “reflect the justified frustration and anger” of millions of Americans who today suffer because of racism, said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“But the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating,” said Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles. “Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost. Let us keep our eyes on the prize of true and lasting change.”

What the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said is “true ... that riots are the language of the unheard,” the archbishop continued. “We should be doing a lot of listening right now. This time, we should not fail to hear what people are saying through their pain. We need to finally root out the racial injustice that still infects too many areas of American society.”

Archbishop Gomez asked, “How is it possible that in America, a black man’s life can be taken from him while calls for help are not answered, and his killing is recorded as it happens?”

Floyd, 46, was arrested May 25 by police on suspicion of forgery. Once he was handcuffed, a white officer pinned him down on the street, putting his knee on Floyd’s neck for eight minutes. A now widely circulated video shows Floyd repeatedly saying, “I can’t breathe.” He appears to lose consciousness or die and was later declared dead at the hospital.

The four officers involved in the arrest were fired; the former officer who put his knee on Floyd, Derek Chauvin, was arrested May 29 and charged with third-degree murder and manslaughter, but the investigation into Floyd’s death is ongoing by state prosecutors and by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Archbishop Gomez’s May 31 statement followed a joint statement from the chairmen of seven USCCB committees issued late May 29. The committees include the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, the Subcommittee on African American Affairs and the pro-life, domestic policy, cultural diversity, ecumenical and interreligious affairs, and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development committees.

The committee chairmen said they “are broken-hearted, sickened and outraged to watch another video of an African American man being killed before our very eyes. ... This is the latest wake-up call that needs to be answered by each of us in a spirit of determined conversion,” the chairmen said.

In his statement, Archbishop Gomez said he is praying for Floyd and his loved ones, “and on behalf of my brother bishops, I share the outrage of the black community and those who stand with them in Minneapolis, Los Angeles and across the country.”

“The cruelty and violence he suffered does not reflect on the majority of good men and women in law enforcement, who carry out their duties with honor,” the archbishop said. “We know that. And we trust that civil authorities will investigate his killing carefully and make sure those responsible are held accountable.”

The protests that are ongoing in many U.S. cities “reflect the justified frustration and anger of millions of our brothers and sisters who even today experience humiliation, indignity, and unequal opportunity only because of their race or the color of their skin,” Archbishop Gomez stated. “It should not be this way in America. Racism has been tolerated for far too long in our way of life.”

But he called the violence of recent nights “self-destructive and self-defeating.”

“Legitimate protests should not be exploited by persons who have different values and agendas. Burning and looting communities, ruining the livelihoods of our neighbors, does not advance the cause of racial equality and human dignity,” he said.

“We should not let it be said that George Floyd died for no reason,” Archbishop Gomez said. “We should honor the sacrifice of his life by removing racism and hate from our hearts and renewing our commitment to fulfill our nation’s sacred promise — to be a beloved community of life, liberty and equality for all.”

Statement...

Cont’d from Page 1

discrimination I witnessed as a child, with how much more right do African Americans react against it! We American bishops addressed the issue of enduring racism in our society in our Pastoral Letter, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, in November, 2018 (usccb.org website). I urge you to read it.

The justified protests currently underway must not be tainted by those who wish to spread violence or ruin the livelihoods of their neighbors. Such acts do not advance the cause of racial equality and respect for the human dignity of all. Pope St. Paul VI said, “If you want peace, work for justice.” Injuries to persons and destruction of property are not the work of justice and will not bring peace.

Let us honor George Floyd and others who have died in similar incidents by working for true justice and an America in which, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said, a person is “judged not by the color of his skin but by the content of his character.”

Mark E. Brennan

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

Racism...

Cont’d from Page 1

repose of the soul of George Floyd and of all those others who have lost their lives as a result of the sin of racism.”

“Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn,” he said in Italian.

The pope said he has “witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd,” a 46-year-old man, whose last moments of life were recorded on a widely disseminated video showing a white police officer in Minneapolis pushing down on his neck with his knee May 25. Floyd was later pronounced dead.

“My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognize that ‘the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost,’” he said, quoting Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The pope prayed for the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of America, to assist “all those who work for peace and justice in your land and throughout the world. May God bless all of you and your families.”

Hundreds of thousands of people turned out nationwide to protest Floyd’s death. And many of the country’s Catholic bishops joined the calls for justice.

Four officers from the Minneapolis Police Department were fired May 26, including Derek Chauvin, with whom Floyd pleaded “Please, I can’t breathe” as he held him down. Chauvin is facing third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter charges.

Diocesan Official Appointments:

Bishop Mark E. Brennan has made public the following appointments:

Father Joseph M. Konikattil is appointed as designated pastor of St. Mary Central School and Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg, for a term of three years, effective June 1, 2020. This is in addition to his current assignments as administrator of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish in Fairmont and designated pastor at Fairmont Catholic School.

Father Brian J. Crenwelge is appointed chaplain to Council #8288 of the Knights of Columbus for the Fraternal Year 2020-2021, effective immediately. This is in addition to his current assignments as director of Vocations and director of Campus Ministry at St. John University Parish in Morgantown.

In consultation with Rev. Father Jaya Raj Battula, H.G.N., provincial superior of the St. John Paul II Province of the Heralds of Good News, **Father Yesu Golla, H.G.N.**, is appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Williamson, effective immediately. This is in addition to his current assignment as pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Logan.

Rev. Mr. Robert A. Holliday is appointed permanent deacon at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Ronceverte, and St. Charles Borromeo Parish in White Sulphur Springs, and to liturgical ministry at these same parishes, effective immediately.

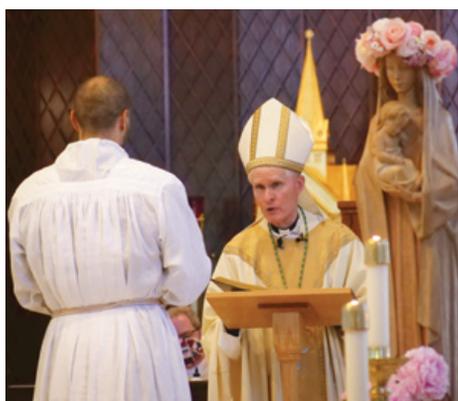
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Charleston White Sulphur Springs Morgantown



Mark Guiney Photos
Pictured are moments from Deacon Phillip Szabo's ordination to the diaconate. Clockwise from top left: Deacon Szabo stands before Bishop Brennan; Deacon Szabo prostrates himself before the altar; Deacon Szabo is vested by Deacon Larry Hammel; Bishop Brennan and Deacon Szabo administer Communion; Deacon Szabo stands with Father Brian Crenwelge.

Szabo...

Cont'd from Page 1

transitional deacon, he said. The diaconate is one and the same for both, he said.

Every Christian, the bishop continued, is joined to Christ through baptism, and called to serve others. The Lord inspires his disciples to serve through his words and his example and he strengthens them by the grace of the sacraments to imitate his service, Bishop Brennan said.

"As you, a deacon, engage in the ministry of charity you will often do the same things that lay disciples do," the bishop said to Deacon Szabo. "The difference is not in the material act but in its spiritual significance and broader ecclesial or church context."

In helping the poor or visiting the sick, his service will take place in this wider context, the bishop said to him.

"You are an icon or image of the unity of the love of God and the love of neighbor. Your voice comforting the sick also proclaims the good news in the assembly of the faithful gathered to show their love for God," he said. "Your hand giving food to a hungry family or helping a frail person up a flight of stairs also gives the sacramental Christ to his people, who love him and want to receive him. The love we offer God at Mass must bear fruit in the love we offer those in need and you, as a deacon, represent before the faithful the unity of those loves which are truly one."

Bishop Brennan said that because the credibility of Jesus' teaching that we must love both God and neighbor is at stake in his diaconal role, the Lord will endow him with a grace beyond his baptism.

Building upon it, the bishop said, but beyond that. Others may exercise some of his liturgical roles such as Eucharistic ministers, lectors, or visiting the sick, which is all on the basis of their

baptism.

"You will exercise these ministries as one even more intimately joined to the source of all service, the Lord Jesus, who offered his life to rescue ours," the bishop said to Deacon Szabo. "Your service of word and sacrament in the liturgy is also a form of charity. For the word of God and sacraments give life to God's people, and you are Christ's minister on their behalf."

The diaconate is not lost in priesthood, the bishop said. Rather, it will be a continuation of it. Much of his own priesthood, the bishop said, has been a continuation of his diaconate in visiting the sick, sharing the faith with others, helping a homeless person find shelter. Bishops, he said, wear a deacon's dalmatic under their chasubles as a sign that their diaconate endures. "The call to serve as Christ served, the minister of charity, doesn't go silent once you're ordained a priest," he said.

In the promise of celibacy, Bishop Brennan told Deacon Szabo that he will commit himself to follow the Lord Jesus, literally.

"For as highly as he regarded marriage, raising it for his disciples to the level of a sacrament which gives grace to the couple for a lifelong union of fruitful love, the Lord himself did not marry," the bishop said. "He remained celibate ... to serve the kingdom of God without distractions and, even more, because we, all of us together, are his spouse and he could have no other."

The bishop spoke of Deacon Szabo's promise of obedience to the bishop and his successors. Bishop Brennan said to Deacon Szabo that it really is a promise to the Lord to do what he asks and acknowledge his choice to exercise his authority in his church through his apostles and their successors, the bishops.

"The Lord has sent you and all of us an example of obedience by his steadfast adherence to his father's plan for our salvation," he said, em-

phasizing that it cost him much suffering. "I cannot promise you that in being an obedient servant of God you will never suffer. You may be asked to do things you dislike or feel unqualified for, but I can promise you that God will always stand by you and he will not let the suffering crush you."

"As you pray with and for the church, as you strive to be a faithful and obedient and celibate man, as you give up yourself in service to others on the altar and in a poor family's home, you become the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies," that dies to a life turned outward and produces much fruit.

In ending his homily, Bishop Brennan said to Deacon Szabo, "In your diaconate and later in your priesthood you will discover the loss is gain and pain is growth. Trust the Lord, turn to him often, and be confident that the one who has called you to this good work will bring it to completion."

Deacon Szabo then prostrated himself on the altar. This was followed by Bishop Brennan laying his hands upon Deacon Szabo's head, ordaining him a deacon. He was vested with the stole and dalmatic by Deacon David Galvin, permanent deacon at St. James, and Deacon Larry Hammel, permanent deacon at Assumption of Our Lady Parish in Keyser and Szabo's home Parish of Our Lady of Grace in Romney.

Bishop Brennan then presented the Book of the Gospels to Deacon Szabo, so that he may proclaim the good news and model his life after Christ.

Deacon Szabo will spend a year preaching the Gospel and preparing for his ordination to priesthood. He began that ministry June 3 in his summer assignment at St. Thomas Parish in Thomas, and Our Lady of Mercy Mission in Parsons, with Father Timothy Grassi, pastor.

More Catholic High Schools Announce Graduation Plans

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—Central Catholic High School in Wheeling and Parkersburg Catholic High School have announced plans for graduation ceremonies amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Graduation for Central Catholic's 72 seniors has been scheduled for 10 a.m. Aug. 1 at Oglebay Amphitheater at Oglebay Park. Principal Becky Sancomb said the rain date is Aug. 2. Central also held a Baccalaureate Mass for graduates at St. Vincent de Paul Parish Wheeling May 29. The Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Paul Hudock, designated pastor of the school and pastor of the parish.

Parkersburg Catholic will hold a graduation ceremony on June 18 at 6 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier

Church in Parkersburg.

The announcement was made in a letter to PCHS seniors from Father John Rice, pastor and chaplain of the school and pastor of St. Francis Xavier.

In his letter, he says that arrangements will be made for as much of the traditional graduation trappings as possible, including the inclusion of valedictorian and salutatorian speeches, the senior slideshow, a variation of the candle-lighting ceremony, a graduation speaker, a graduates procession into the church (with everyone else already seated), and the cap toss.

In keeping with current diocesan guidelines, seating in the church will be limited. A photographer will be provided.

"While I know that there is no

way for us to make this event the same as others have enjoyed in years past, we have attempted to make it special in its own way, and unique to Parkersburg Catholic High School," Father Rice says in his letter. "As you embark on the next stage of your life, know that we will always be here for you, and you will always be in our hearts and prayers. You are a very special group of young people and will open many new paths for generations to come! Please know of my great respect and affection for you, and that you are in my prayers during this time of transition."

Father Rice thanked the senior class officers for their input and feedback they provided for the planning of the ceremony. He noted that their input as well

as expert recommendations for safety in the coronavirus pandemic were all taken into account. He said that safety recommendations of the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control, Gov. Jim Justice's Office, the superintendent of schools, and Bishop Mark Brennan were all followed.

Plans are also in the works for Senior Goodbyes the week of graduation with details forthcoming.

A Senior Color Day Parade, coordinated by a group of parents, was held May 22, the date of the original graduation day. An award day ceremony was streamed May 21.

Charleston Catholic High School has not finalized its graduation plans.

Wheeling University Summer of Purpose Program Providing High School, Incoming and Current Students Online Courses

WHEELING—Wheeling University's "Summer of Purpose" program offers rising high school seniors, as well as incoming and current students, a dynamic collection of courses to take online throughout the summer.

Courses offered during the summer sessions are being discounted to give students a 'purpose' this summer, said Wheeling University President Ginny R. Favade.

"This is more than just something to do for the summer," President Favade said. "What are you doing to invest in yourself and your future? Do you want to accomplish something that helps put you ahead? We wanted to give our incoming and current students an opportunity to get ahead in their coursework and the "Summer of Purpose" program will help them accomplish this."

The program isn't just for Wheeling University

students. For the first time, the institution is offering rising high school seniors the opportunity to take collegiate level courses.

"We know how hard it is to graduate with a four-year degree in four years. In these times of uncertainty, this is allowing rising high school seniors an opportunity to take a class or two during the summer that will earn them credits toward a college degree down the road and get some core requirements out of the way," Favade added.

The "Summer of Purpose" program also allows current and incoming students the opportunity to take courses at a discounted rate. All classes for this track are discounted, with the first three hours discounted 10 percent, and students taking six hours receiving a 25 percent.

Favade said the program offers incoming students the chance to get a jump

start on their courses in an online delivery format and will introduce them to the pace of college coursework.

Current students have the opportunity to learn alongside fellow undergraduates in a safe, online learning environment. The summer course tracks are offering 200 and 300-level classes that could speed up a student's undergraduate education by a semester or more.

"This is an opportunity for students to get ahead and to take a couple of

extra credits that will help them down the road, and possibly enable a student to graduate early from college," she said. "What a wonderful investment and purposeful way to spend your time this summer."

All classes will be taught by Wheeling University faculty in the Catholic, educational tradition.

The next "Summer of Purpose" session for incoming and current students begins June 29 and continues through Aug. 11.

To learn more, contact the Wheeling University Office of Admissions by calling (304) 243-2389 or (800) 624-6992, or by sending e-mail to admiss@wju.edu.

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Martina Hart Photo
Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Assoc. V.F., rector of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston, administers the Sacrament of Confirmation May 31. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston reopened parishes for public Masses May 23-24.



Martina Hart Photo
Wearing face masks and observing social distancing, Parishioners of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston attend Mass May 23. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston reopened parishes for public Masses that weekend.

Faithful Happy to be Back in Church

By Martina Hart

CHARLESTON—Catholics of West Virginia were welcomed back to their churches for Masses May 23-24, the first weekend since the suspension of public liturgies in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following weekend at many parishes, catechumens and candidates were received into the church.

"I'm so grateful to be back with my church family and to receive the Eucharist," said Mary Williams, a member of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston. She attended the 8 a.m. Mass on May 24. "All the precautions and everyone following guidelines carefully is very much appreciated."

Between 30 and 50 people attended each of the four Masses offered that first weekend, the vigil Mass on Saturday evening as well as 8 and 10 a.m. and noon on Sunday. The regular Sunday evening Mass was omitted for now. In addition, one Mass was offered at noon Monday through Friday, drawing up to 15 participants.

Under current physical distancing guidelines there is room for 75 people in the basilica which normally holds around 350. Parishioners had to preregister for a particular Mass. Upon arrival they were greeted by an usher, who made sure they were wearing a mask (or otherwise provided one to keep), and after sanitizing their hands escorted them to their assigned seats.

Julie and Reed Robinson who attended the 10 a.m. Mass were very impressed with the preparations and logistics put in place to provide a safe environment.

"Father Higgs did an excellent job trying to just explain what was going on and at the same time trying to make it as normal as possible which is very difficult to do," Reed said. "You feel very confined and isolated in some sense because you're so far away, but at the same time it's nice to get back and to see people and to have a community celebration again. I think even though you have access to watching the Mass (via livestream) it's not

even close to participating in person in the Eucharistic celebration and receiving the Blessed Sacrament."

The Robinsons said it had been hard to stay away from Sacred Heart where they had spent every Sunday for the past 23 years and to not see fellow parishioners that had become like family.

"It was good to see some familiar faces, although just the top half of their faces," Julie said. "It's going to be very strange for me as a longtime choir member to not have the choir," she added. "That's a big part of Mass for me, so it still didn't feel normal."

Organist Greg Gray and cantor/choir director Jeremy Severn led the congregation who were provided disposable worship aids instead of hymnals. Music overall was minimized, e.g. only singing one verse of hymns, in order to shorten the liturgy and ensure enough time between Masses to clean and sanitize the building.

Jack Walsh served as usher for his "regular" Sunday noon Mass. His wife Annabelle remained home with her parents who are considered part of the most vulnerable group and continued to attend livestreamed Mass with them.

"What really hit me emotionally was the usher training on Wednesday (preceding that weekend)," Walsh said. "It was the first time to see many church and Knights (of Columbus) buddies, along with Father Don and Father Binu."

Confronted also with worries about his parents who live in Rhode Island, he "really appreciated being part of the church and the strength of our parish coming together." He was also struck by how many had responded to the call for more and younger ushers to help facilitate the logistics.

Very Rev. Donald X. Higgs, Assoc. V.F., rector of the basilica, celebrated each of the weekend Masses with Father Binu Emmanuel, vice rector, as concelebrant. For the distribution of Communion, they were joined by one Eucharistic minister, each of them placed at one of three stations. A lector used a separate microphone to read from.

"It was a comfort to me to see people, particularly as I presided," Father Higgs said. "It's challenging not to gather, not to greet people coming in, going out because we haven't seen them for a while. So, it's just kind of like a wave from a distance."

He pointed out the significance of welcoming the congregation home on the Feast of the Ascension, "when we celebrate Jesus' leaving our earthly home, his return to God the Father."

Father Higgs commended the work of parish and maintenance staff, ushers and other volunteers, and the cooperation of parishioners in following guidelines. "Everybody had to pull this together," he said. "There was an effort; it took a lot of people to do it."

"I was so excited and happy to welcome people back to the basilica," Father Emmanuel agreed. "I am so grateful to our people for their perseverance in practicing their faith..."

Although they had been united in love and prayer and supported each other by acts of charity, he said, there was a great joy in worshipping God together as a community. While parishioners and priests acknowledged and appreciated the hesitance and caution of those who prefer to wait a little longer before returning to public church services, they felt it was a good start of a gradually evolving process.

"Even in the midst of this awkward time we are reminded again of what remains true, what is important in our lives," Father Higgs said in his homily that weekend. "The comfort of the Word of God, the nourishment of the body of Christ that you have fasted from for over two months."

He reminded the congregation of Jesus' Great Commission to go out to all the world: "We gather now with the whole world, who experience the same crisis, but we don't alter our course given to us by Jesus, our light. By our caring for each other we teach all nations. May we bring them to Christ who is our lasting hope and will remain with us 'till the end of time.'"

Catholic Charities West Virginia Announced as Finalist for Innovation Challenge

WHEELING—Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has been selected as a finalist for the Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) Innovation Challenge. The CCUSA Innovation Challenge, introduced in September 2019, seeks to inspire Catholic Charities agencies to propose a fresh solution toward alleviating, reducing or eliminating poverty.

CCWVa is one of nine finalists from across the country. “One of the many strengths of the Catholic Charities network is our ability to share innovative approaches to reducing poverty,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa chief executive officer. “We learn from one another to advance our delivery of social services.”

Three Catholic Charities agencies will receive an award of \$333,333 to be used to capitalize their initiatives. “I want to provide our ministry a platform to think creatively and innovatively about how they address the needs they encounter in their community every day,” said Sister Donna Markham OP, PhD, president and CEO of CCUSA. “This challenge serves as a catalyst to encourage ideas that lead to systemic change in the way they address poverty.”

CCWVa proposed an innovative Hospital Transition Program in partnership with Wheeling Hospital. The two organizations would work together to develop a supportive transition for high-risk patients as

they are discharged from the hospital.

A CCWVa case manager would provide individualized supportive services, following up with the patient to ensure they have their medications filled, understand instructions and are connected to community resources.

“Collaboration with valued community partners, like Wheeling Hospital, is so key in our non-profit social service work,” said Sara Lindsay, CCWVa chief program officer. “Through resource leveraging, we are able to provide higher quality services to the most people in need.”

“For high-risk hospital patients with complex needs, this collaboration would provide a more fluid transition from the inpatient setting to home, reducing readmission rates and helping individuals better achieve health stability,” said Lindsay.

Additionally, space would be made available within the hospital for a “food pharmacy” – a food pantry or those with fixed or low incomes to visit before they are discharged. Local parishes would collaborate to help stock the pantry with donations of nutritious foods specific to certain chronic illnesses.

“Strategic community partnerships like this benefit the entire community, not only those receiving direct services,” said Lindsay.



Courtesy Photo
From left are Tami Magruder, Wheeling Hospital manager of quality management; Beth Zarate, CCWVa chief executive officer; and Sara Lindsay, CCWVa chief program officer.

The award recipients of the CCUSA Innovation Challenge will be announced in October.

To learn more about CCWVa, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

Wheeling Hospital Stringent Safety Precautions in Place As Services Resume

WHEELING—Wheeling Hospital, like many institutions across the country, has begun ramping up its services and opening its doors to the “new normal” as some pandemic restrictions are eased. Having worked incredibly hard with the rest of the region to flatten the curve of the pandemic, the hospital is tackling new challenges that arise with the resumption of many services such as elective surgeries, cardiology, radiology and ambulatory clinics.

“We’re also stepping forward to provide the quality service this area has come to expect at Wheeling Hospital,” said Dr. Michael Campsey, Chief Medical Officer. “In doing so we want to assure you that we are taking precautions to protect you from the coronavirus.” Changes that patients will see include all staff, visitors and patients wearing masks; and a triage process in the Emergency Department that separates patients according to the type of illness they are experiencing. In addition, the pre-operative screening now includes questions directed toward symptoms, contacts and travel prior to surgery. In some cases, patients may be required to have COVID-19 testing performed before surgery.

Specialized units have been created to separate any COVID-19 patients or suspected patients from the general population of patients.

Additional precautions visitors may not see include:

- Enhanced facility and room clean-

ing procedures targeted to eliminate any virus from surfaces.

- Up-to-date monitoring of infection control policies that are consistent with current CDC guidelines.

- Enhanced personal protective equipment guidelines to protect the health care providers and patients.

- On-going collaboration with local health departments and neighboring states to track potential outbreaks and determine appropriate facility action.

In addition, patient visitation restrictions remain in place.

- Visitation permitted only in labor and delivery (one visitor per patient per day); and pediatrics (two visitors per patient per day to allow mother and father to visit).

- Visitation is suspended in ICU/critical care except in end-of-life situations.

- No visitors under the age of 18 are permitted inside the hospital.

- Visitors who do not feel well should reconsider their visit.

- No visitors at the Continuous Care Center.

- No visitation at Acuity at either Wheeling or Belmont sites.

- All visitors to the hospital are required to wear face masks. Masks are available upon request.

- Visitors are asked to maintain social distancing and try to remain 6 feet apart.

All requests for visitation exceptions must be made by health care providers or nursing leadership. Those requests

must be limited to the following: end-of-life decisions, pediatrics, obstetrics, deaf patients, low mental capacity, or other extraordinary circumstances approved by incident command or hospital leadership.

To enhance public safety and make disbursement of patient items during the COVID-19 pandemic more efficient, Wheeling Hospital has adopted a Clear Bag Policy. Any patient wishing to receive items from an external source must have the items labeled with the patient name and placed in a clear bag. The items can be dropped off at the main entrance volunteer desk for distribution. All bags may be inspected and tagged by security.

Wheeling Hospital’s Physician Practice Division members have turned to telehealth to ensure their patients receive quality time with their health care providers. Telehealth allows patients to

have visits and consults with their physicians and nurse practitioners via computer. This is especially beneficial when stay-at-home restrictions are in place or patients reside in very rural areas. For practices using telehealth, a link is sent to the patient, allowing them to download the Webex app after the appointment is scheduled. The real time visit can be done via SmartPhone, Tablet or computer with voice and video capability.

“We want our patients and visitors to know that we are doing our very best to keep them safe,” Campsey said. “They can rely on the employees of Wheeling Hospital to provide them with the best care during this crisis. Most importantly, if you or someone you know requires urgent or emergent care we encourage you to come to the hospital so that you can get the care you need and deserve.”

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Daily Living Returns to the Eastern Panhandle

By Colleen Rowan

After a long hiatus, Father Chapin Engler's Daily Living has returned to the Eastern Panhandle. The show is being televised Sundays at 11 a.m. on Nexstar WDVM out of Hagerstown, Md.

Father Chapin is happy to return the show to the people of the area. For those who have never seen the show, he suggests visiting mydailyliving.com to view episodes.

"The tagline is how can we take the good news and apply it into our daily living so that we can become reflections of God," Father Chapin said. "That's the mission."

The show, he explained, is geared toward people that do not go to church.

"They know about Jesus, they believe in Jesus, but they don't really read the Bible. They don't really practice their faith, but they're interested," Father Chapin said, noting that the show is about teaching, not preaching.

For example, right now he's talking about fear and not being afraid. He uses the analogy of a parent at a swimming pool encouraging his or her child to jump into the water for the first time. The parent assures the child that he or she will catch him or her. Father Chapin said, "This is Jesus saying 'Jump, go ahead jump. Don't be afraid.'"

Father Chapin is currently pastor of the Parishes of Christ the King in Dunbar and Holy Trinity in Nitro and St. Patrick Mission in Bancroft. He started Daily Living 12 years ago, two months after his ordination to priesthood. It all began in Beckley on the radio, and then a move to television. After two years and a few moves, he became pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in White Sulphur Springs, making a connection with Gov. Jim Justice before he was governor. Justice donated funds to help Father Chapin take the show statewide. A dona-

tion from an anonymous donor then funded the show for another seven years.

"Once we were on the air statewide, that's when Catholic TV approached me," Father Chapin said. At that time, Daily Living was in almost 2 million homes in West Virginia. Catholic TV, out of Watertown, Mass., brought the show to an additional 15 million homes. It was then picked up by The Christian Faith Network (formerly Telecare) in Newark, N.J., adding another six million homes, and the Diocese of Pittsburgh for its cable channel adding another 1 million homes. World Harvest Television on DirectTV also picked up the show.

"Right now Daily Living is receiving partnerships, monthly checks from supporters that completely fund the show," Father Chapin said, "and we are represented in 43 of the 50 states—every state east of the Mississippi and every state west, minus seven.

"We've come along way. We started with one station and 200,000 households and with zero financial support and it's now 51 million homes, nationally, 12 years later."

Father Chapin is so grateful that people have been moved enough to support the show. They write letters to him, sharing the impact the show has had on their lives.

"It's very moving that what we do in the basement of our rectory is affecting Madeline in Carson, Calif., and I read her letter on air and then Margaret of Boston responds to Madeline," he said. "It's like a bicoastal connection."

Father Chapin is also grateful for all of the prayers he has received following his accident and continuing recovery over the past five months. Just a few days after this past Christmas, he was hit by a car, going through the windshield and



The Catholic Spirit Photo
Father Chapin Engler is pictured in the May 31 episode of Daily Living.

then landing 30 feet from the car. The accident left him with lacerations on his face a head, and a broken leg, clavicle, scapula, and all of the ribs on his left side. He was in the hospital for a month, and has been in rehab ever since. In the accident, his axillary nerve in his left arm was severed, and he cannot raise his arm. He recently underwent nerve transplant surgery, which could restore up to 70 to 80 percent of functional mobility in

the arm. The next surgery will be on his leg.

Father Chapin has received so many letters of support and prayers. "I'm convinced," he said, "that the daily rosary to the Blessed Mother, and all those prayers have seen me through."

To make a donation to support the show, make checks payable to Daily Living, PO Box 339, Nitro, WV 25143 or donate online at mydailyliving.com.

Sunday Mornings: with Fr. Chapin

11 Nexstar WDVM Hagerstown, Md.
 6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Charleston, Huntington
 8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley, Bluefield, Lewisburg
 10:00 WTOV METV Wheeling, Steubenville
 9:30 WVFX FOX 10 Clarksburg, Fairmont, Morgantown
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Pope Clears Way to Sainthood for Three, Advances Causes of Others

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis advanced the sainthood causes of two women and 11 men, including a miracle attributed to Blessed Charles de Foucauld. In a meeting May 27 with Cardinal Giovanni Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, the pope also authorized decrees recognizing miracles attributed to Blessed Cesar de Bus, founder of the Fathers of Christian Doctrine, and Blessed Maria Domenica Mantovani, co-founder and superior general of the Little Sisters of the Holy Family.

The pope's recognition of the miracles ascribed to Blesseds de Foucauld, de Bus and Mantovani clear the way for their canonization.

Born in Strasbourg, France, in 1858, Blessed de Foucauld lost his faith during his adolescence. However, during a trip to Morocco, he saw how Muslims expressed their faith, so he returned to the church.

His rediscovery of his Christian faith prompted him to join Trappist monasteries for seven years in France and Syria, before choosing to live a life of prayer and adoration alone. After his ordination to the priesthood in 1901, he chose to live among the poor and finally settled in Tamarrasset, Algeria, until 1916, when he was killed by a band of marauders.

Although he lived several centuries before Blessed de Foucauld, Blessed de Bus was born in France and, like his compatriot, also lived his early adulthood away from his faith. After returning to the church, he entered the priesthood and was ordained in 1582. Ten years later, he founded the Fathers of Christian Doctrine, a religious congregation dedicated to education, pastoral ministry and catechesis. He died in Avignon, France, in 1607. From the age of 15, Blessed Mantovani, born in 1862 in Castelletto di Brenzone, Italy, played an active role in her parish. Her spiritual director, Father Giuseppe Nascimbeni, encouraged her to teach catechism and visit the sick.

In 1892, Blessed Mantovani co-founded the Little Sisters of the Holy Family with Father Nascimbeni and became the congregation's first superior general. During her time leading the congregation, she dedicated her life to serving the poor and needy as well as assisting the sick and the elderly. After her death in 1934, the Little Sisters of the Holy Family spread throughout Europe, Africa and South America.

The other decrees approved by Pope Francis May 27 recognized:

— The miracle needed for the beatification of Father Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. He was born in 1852 and died in 1890.

— The miracle needed for the beatification of Venerable Pauline-Marie Jaricot, foundress of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith and of the Association of the Living Rosary. She was born in 1799 and died in 1862.

— The martyrdom of Cistercian Friar Simon Cardon and five companions, who were killed in 1799 by French soldiers during the Napoleonic Wars.

— The martyrdom of Franciscan Father Cosma Spesotto, who was killed by assassins in San Juan Nonualco, El Salvador, in 1980, several months after St. Oscar Romero was killed.

— The heroic virtues of French Bishop Melchior-Marie-Joseph de Marion-Bresillac, founder of the Society of African Missions. He was born in 1813 in Castelnau-de-France, France, and died in 1859 in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Pope Clears Way for Beatification of Knights of Columbus Founder

By Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Father Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, clearing the way for his beatification.

While the Vatican announced May 27 that Pope Francis had signed the decree, it did not announce a date for the beatification ceremony.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, previously scheduled beatification Masses have been postponed.

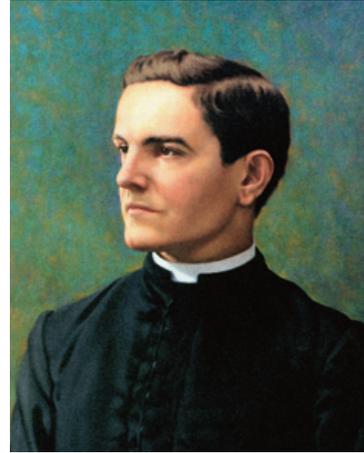
For beatification, the Vatican requires proof of a miracle attributed to the candidate's intercession, unless the candidate was martyred for his or her faith.

A statement from the Knights of Columbus said, "The miracle recognized as coming through Father McGivney's intercession involved an unborn child in the United States who in 2015 was healed in utero of a life-threatening condition after prayers by his family to Father McGivney."

"A date will soon be set for the beatification Mass, which will take place in Connecticut," the statement said.

Meeting with the board of directors of the Knights of Columbus in early February, the statement noted, Pope Francis said the organization has been faithful "to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need."

"Father McGivney has inspired generations of Catholic men to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action," said Su-



CNS File Photo
Pope Francis has approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Father Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, clearing the way for his beatification. Father McGivney is pictured in an undated portrait.

preme Knight Carl A. Anderson. "He was decades ahead of his time in giving the laity an important role within the church. Today, his spirit continues to shape the extraordinary charitable work of Knights as they continue to serve those on the margins of society as he served widows and orphans in the 1880s."

For canonization — the declaration that the candidate is a saint — a miracle must take place after the beatification ceremony; it is seen as God's final seal of approval on the church's proclamation that the candidate is in heaven with God.

Father McGivney was born Aug. 12, 1852, the eldest of 13 children born to Patrick and Mary Lynch McGivney in Waterbury, Connecticut. Emigrating from separate towns in Ireland's County Cavan, the couple met and married in the United States. Only seven of their children lived past childhood.

Young Michael attended school in Waterbury's working-class neighborhood, but he left school at 13 to work in the spoon-making department of a brass factory.

At 16, he left the factory to begin seminary studies at the French-run College of St. Hyacinthe in Quebec. He also studied at Our Lady of Angels Seminary, attached to Niagara University in Niagara Falls, New York, and at the Jesuit-run St. Mary's College in Montreal.

He went home to Waterbury when his father died in 1873 and stayed there for a time out of concern for his family and because he lacked funds. At the request of Hartford's bishop, he enrolled in St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, where he completed his priestly studies.

In 1877, he was ordained in Baltimore by Archbishop James Gibbons for the then-Diocese of Hartford. A few days after his ordination, he said his first Mass in the presence of his widowed mother at Immaculate Conception Church in Waterbury.

Father McGivney served as an assistant pastor at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, 1877-1884. He founded the Knights of Columbus with a small group of Catholic laymen, in order to strengthen religious faith and to help families overwhelmed by the illness or death of their breadwinner.

In 1884, he was named pastor of St. Thomas Church in Thomaston, a factory town about 10 miles from Waterbury. He fell ill during an influenza epidemic and died Aug. 14, 1890, probably from complications of pneumonia and tuberculosis.

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Monica's Mercy in Motion

By Joyce Bibey

He was a bit disheveled, wearing stained clothing, but surprisingly tidy. He spoke in a gentle voice – one that gave her great calm and enough encouragement to put mercy in motion.

"He opened my eyes," Monica Cressin of St. Leo Catholic Church in Inwood said of Scott Fox, the first person she'd met in "tent city" – a secluded area occupied by homeless families and individuals in the Martinsburg area. She had gone to the South Berkeley spot with an acquaintance, who was filming a documentary on homelessness in America.

"When I went out to the site it was dark," she said. "I had no idea where on earth I was going. We walked deep into the woods – seemingly another world. There I was a naïve woman, alone with strangers in a room of sorts with a metal garbage type can in its center and from it a pipe that stretched through a makeshift roof. This was their source of heat; in fact, it was the only source of heat out there.

"As odd and unbelievable as it may sound, I felt at peace talking to this man I would later learn was legally blind. Something had come over me that reassured me I was safe and needed to listen."

If we all stop and listen, we will hear God talking to us, she said.

Sometimes it is our own thoughts and voices. Sometimes it's the voice of another like Fox.

Since she was a child, she was taught Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did to the least of my people that you did unto me."

"Who's to say someone like a Scott Fox isn't Jesus in disguise," she questioned. "He is respected among his community as the protector and as their minister. He is preaching God's word, giving hope to people through the words Jesus taught us. He is fulfilling his call. Seeing his love and his care for the people on the street stirred my heart. I knew I had to do something. What, I didn't know, but something."

So, with the encouragement of her pastor Father Alfred Obiudu, she spoke to her fellow parishioners at the weekend Masses.

"I got up there with a mission to get a few people involved," she said. "I told them about what I saw. The more I spoke the more tears came – it was so hard not to cry."

Fast forward two years and St. Leo's Homeless Ministry is 40 strong and growing.

Her volunteers of all ages, including the parish's Boy Scouts, collaborate with other agencies, charities, and organizations that provide services to the homeless or services to prevent homelessness; help at Immanuel House in Martinsburg; make mats out of recycled plastic bags; and collect donations to purchase tents and sleeping bags and other essential items needed. While at Immanuel House, a non-denomination facility, volunteers serve meals, help people work on resumes, search job openings, do laundry, get haircuts, etc.

Cressin credits her mother for her compassion and work ethic.

"She is such a hard worker, always has been," she said of her mother who is now 82 and living in the St. Leo Parish community.

Cressin was one of seven children of Walt and Marge Ruth. She grew up in Parkville, Mary-



Courtesy Photo
A recycled grocery bag mat made at St. Leo's is being displayed by a volunteer.



Courtesy Photo
Monica Cressin, pictured at left, credits her mother Marge Ruth (on the right) for fostering her charitable spirit.



Courtesy Photo
Part of the St. Leo Homeless Ministry crew.

land. They were a strong Catholic family often having their grandparents and other family members living with them.

"It was only a four-bedroom home, but we always made room," she said. "For me being compassionate was our way of life. You learn through that closeness of family what love is really about."

Each day Cressin recites a variety of prayers, but one dear to her is the Serenity Prayer she **See "Mercy" on Page 12**

#FaithInWV

Do you know an exceptional Catholic in West Virginia, someone or a group who are shining examples of #FaithInWV? Email Joyce Bibey your feature idea to jbibey@dwc.org. Visit FaithInWV.org and every issue of The Catholic Spirit to read more inspiring stories.

Mercy...

Cont'd from Page 11

learned from St. Leo's former pastor Father Paul Wharton now at St. Francis de Sales, in Beckley.

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardship as the pathway to peace. Taking as Jesus did this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever and ever in the next.

"With this prayer God reminds me through our sufferings we become stronger if we give our struggles to Him," she said.

"God is the reason I get up thankful every day. He gave me the strength to do what I am doing, and the guidance to know what to do and what to say to help that person in need."

For more information on how to help the St. Leo Catholic Church Homeless Ministry or how to begin one of your own at your parish contact Monica Cressin at homeless ministry@stleo.com

Catholic Crossword Puzzle

Puzzle solution on Page 14

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| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | | | 64 | | | |

www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 1 ___ to Emmaus
- 5 Tied
- 10 Catholic Surrealist painter
- 14 Commander of the army who was made king over Israel (1 Kings 16:16)
- 15 One of the wedding party
- 16 Father of Jesse
- 17 Lake or pond
- 18 At that place
- 19 Ponder
- 20 Self-esteem
- 21 Ark passenger
- 22 Dyes
- 23 Rouses
- 25 Saint for managers of the Hilton and the like
- 27 OT wisdom book
- 28 Outcast
- 30 Biblical measure from the elbow to the end of the middle finger
- 33 Page in account book
- 35 OT historical book
- 37 Riding the Indian
- 38 "___ in terris"
- 39 Swindle
- 40 Sack
- 41 Blood line
- 42 "___ in Deum Patrem omnipotentem..."
- 43 Jesus multiplied these
- 45 Day dedicated to Marian devotions (abbr.)
- 46 Mother-in-law of Ruth
- 47 ___ of Prague
- 50 Virile
- 52 ___ will
- 53 Expression of triumph
- 55 Samoan capital
- 56 Anorak
- 58 NT epistle
- 59 Grant temporary use of
- 60 Streamlined
- 61 Certain something
- 62 Energy units
- 63 Woman's one-piece undergarment
- 64 Nav. officer

DOWN

- 1 Priscilla and Aquila left here because the Jews were ordered out (Acts 18:2)
- 2 Alpha and ___
- 3 Straight as an ___
- 4 Decease
- 5 Reformation character
- 6 What Catholics receive on the first day of Lent
- 7 H.S. science course
- 8 Permanently, in poems
- 9 A parish position (abbr.)
- 10 Anno ___
- 11 Affluence
- 12 For fear that
- 13 Time to beware
- 21 Parody
- 22 Poi source
- 24 Paul preached in ___ Minor
- 25 Cop ___
- 26 Disfigure
- 29 Influential Catholic Hollywood costume designer
- 30 Hack
- 31 Amer. military branch
- 32 "In the ___..." (Gen 1:1)
- 33 Tehran tongue
- 34 The feast of the Guardian Angels is the second of this month
- 36 Med. Plan
- 38 Composition in verse
- 39 Mlle. across the Pyrenees
- 41 Nautical call
- 42 Faith-sharing program used in the UK, Australia, and South Africa
- 44 They come before the entrees
- 45 Like Pete
- 47 Annoyed
- 48 Book of the Bible
- 49 Commandment that directs us to keep holy the Lord's Day
- 50 "...___ and female he created them." (Gen 1:27)
- 51 Copier
- 52 Catholic actor Frawley's famous TV role
- 54 Having wings
- 56 Winter clock setting in the Diocese of Reno
- 57 Ginger ___
- 58 D.C. lobbying group

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Frogmeyer

I don't mind the face mask when I shop, but, I do miss the free samples.

By Msgr. Dean Borgmeyer

Papa reza por Estados Unidos, califica el racismo como un asunto provida

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)— Observando con gran preocupación los disturbios sociales en los Estados Unidos, el papa Francisco dijo que nadie puede afirmar que defiende la santidad de cada vida humana mientras ignora el racismo y la exclusión.

Dirigiéndose a todos los “queridos hermanos y hermanas en los Estados Unidos” durante su audiencia general transmitida en vivo el 3 de junio, el papa dijo: “Hoy me uno a la iglesia en St. Paul y Minneapolis, y en todo Estados Unidos para rezar por el reposo del alma de George Floyd y de todos los que han perdido la vida a causa del pecado del racismo”.

“Rezamos por el consuelo de las familias y de los amigos agobiados por el dolor y oramos por la reconciliación nacional y la paz que an-

helamos”, dijo. El papa dijo: “he sido testigo con gran preocupación de los inquietantes disturbios sociales en su país en días recientes, después de la trágica muerte del señor George Floyd”, un hombre de 46 años, cuyos últimos momentos de vida fueron grabados en un video ampliamente difundido que muestra a un oficial de policía blanco en Minneapolis presionando su cuello con la rodilla el 25 de mayo. Después del incidente, Floyd fue declarado muerto.

“Mis amigos, no podemos tolerar o ignorar el racismo y la exclusión en cualquier forma y al mismo tiempo pretender defender la sacralidad de cada vida humana. Al mismo tiempo, tenemos que reconocer que ‘la violencia de noches recientes es autodestructiva. No se gana nada y se pierde mucho con la violencia”, dijo, en parte citando al arzobispo José H. Gómez de Los Án-

geles, presidente de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos.

El papa pidió por la intercesión de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Madre de América, para que “interceda por todos aquellos que trabajan por la paz y la justicia, en vuestra tierra y en el mundo. Que Dios los bendiga a todos ustedes y sus familias”.

Cientos de miles de personas en Estados Unidos protestaron por la muerte de Floyd. Y muchos de los obispos católicos del EE.UU. se unieron a los llamados de justicia.

Cuatro agentes del Departamento de Policía de Minneapolis fueron despedidos el 26 de mayo, incluido Derek Chauvin, con quien Floyd suplicó “Por favor, no puedo respirar” mientras lo retenía. Chauvin enfrenta cargos de homicidio en tercer grado y homicidio involuntario en segundo grado.

Unámonos en oración por la paz

Una declaración del obispo Brennan

El asesinato de George Floyd fue un acto de violencia atroz sin justificación alguna, peor aún por haber sido perpetrado por algunos policías que han jurado servir y proteger a sus conciudadanos. La mayoría de los funcionarios encargados de hacer cumplir la ley son hombres y mujeres decentes que entrenan duro para contener los impulsos violentos y ser respetuosos al tratar con el público. El Sr. Floyd no conoció a ese tipo de oficial de policía el día que fue asesinado.

Me uno a otros estadounidenses en oración por el Sr. Floyd, su familia y amigos y por la comunidad afroamericana de Minneapolis y en todo nuestro país. Todo ser humano está hecho a imagen y semejanza de Dios y merece respeto y trato justo. Las protestas que tienen lugar en muchas ciudades de Estados Unidos reflejan la ira y la frustración de millones de estadounidenses que, hasta el día de hoy, experimentan racismo en su vida cotidiana. Si encuentro repugnante el resurgimiento del lenguaje feo, la violencia y la discriminación racial que presencié cuando era niño, ¡con cuánto más derecho reaccionan los afroamericanos contra él! Los obispos estadounidenses abordamos el tema del racismo duradero en nuestra sociedad en nuestra Carta Pastoral, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, en noviembre de 2018 (sitio web usccb.org). Los insto a leerlo.

Las protestas justificadas actualmente en curso no deben ser contaminadas por aquellos que desean difundir la violencia o arruinar los medios de vida de sus vecinos. Tales actos no promueven la causa de la igualdad racial y el respeto por la dignidad humana de todos. El Papa San Pablo VI dijo: “Si quieres la paz, trabaja por la justicia”. Las lesiones a personas y la destrucción de bienes no son obra de la justicia y no traerán paz.

Honremos a George Floyd y otros que han muerto en incidentes similares trabajando por la verdadera justicia y una América en la que, como dijo el Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., una persona “no es juzgada por el color de su piel sino el contenido de su personaje”.



foto de cortesía

El diácono Phillip Szabo es investido con la estola y la dalmática por el diácono David Galvin, diácono permanente en St. James.

Mark E. Brennan

Reverendísimo Mark E. Brennan
Obispo de Wheeling-Charleston

Diácono ordenado Szabo

Por Colleen Rowan

CHARLES TOWN — Con su familia y amigos con él en la iglesia St. James the Greater en Charles Town el 30 de mayo, el obispo Mark Brennan ordenó al diácono Phillip Szabo al diaconado.

“Hoy harás promesas de ser un hombre de oración, un hombre de amor celebre y un hombre de fe obediente”, dijo el Obispo Brennan al Diácono Szabo en su homilía. “Estas promesas sostendrán en ustedes un diaconado vibrante y, si Dios quiere, el año próximo un sacerdocio fructífero”.

Después de la homilía del obispo, el diácono Szabo se postró sobre el altar. A continuación, el obispo Brennan puso sus manos sobre la cabeza del diácono Szabo y le ordenó diácono. El diácono David Galvin, diácono permanente en St. James, y el diácono Larry Hammel, diácono permanente en la parroquia Asunción de Nuestra Señora en Keyser y la parroquia de la casa de Szabo en Romney le dieron la estola y la dalmática.

El obispo Brennan luego presentó el Libro de los Evangelios al Diácono Szabo, para que pueda proclamar las Buenas Nuevas y modelar su vida después de Cristo.

El diácono Szabo pasará un año predicando el Evangelio y preparándose para su ordenación al sacerdocio. Comenzó ese ministerio el 3 de junio en su asignación de verano en la Parroquia St. Thomas en Thomas, y en la Misión de Nuestra Señora de la Misericordia en Parsons, con el Padre Timothy Grassi, pastor.

Reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños

Para informar a las autoridades civiles:

Póngase en contacto con la policía local; Los números variarán según su ubicación. Si crees que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llama al 911. Para reportar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios para la Protección Infantil de la Oficina de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800-352-6513.

Para informar a la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston:

La Diócesis alienta a que se informe ante las autoridades civiles apropiadas, en primer lugar, así como a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los designados al 304-233-0880. Las extensiones adecuadas se enumeran a continuación: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; Señor. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Rdo. Tim Bishop, ext.

353. También puede completar un “Formulario de Queja por Alegaciones de Abuso Sexual de un Menor” confidencial recogiendo uno en su parroquia local o solicitando uno por correo a la Coordinadora de Ambiente Seguro, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. El formulario de queja también está disponible para descargar en el sitio web de la diócesis www.dwc.org, haga clic en Diócesis en la barra de menú, luego haga clic en Oficinas, haga clic en Entorno seguro y haga clic en la sección “Descargar archivos y formularios”. . . Está listado como “Formulario de Queja”. Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas de la Diócesis: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-6988

Enlaces e información:

Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV:
<https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>
Policía del Estado de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Delitos contra los Niños, Crímenes de Internet contra los Niños

PCHS Students Helping to Equip Those on Pandemic's Frontlines with Face Masks and Shields

**By Colleen Rowan
PARKERSBURG—**

Siblings Paul and Helena Teltscher have turned their dining room into a 3D printing lab and mask assembly line. But that's ok with their parents, because Paula and Helena are helping to equip those on the frontlines of the coronavirus with face masks and shields.

The kids are students at Parkersburg Catholic High School, which established a new technology lab last year. The school purchased a number of new computers, AV equipment, and a 3D printer, Paul said. The plan was to offer computer classes, 3D printing workshops, and E-sports for students of all ages (K-12). But the onset of the pandemic changed that plan.

"Aidan Roberts (fellow PCHS student) and I have been working with the 3D printer and preparing it for use in classes next year," said Paul, a sophomore at the school. "In the days following the closure of the school campus due to COVID-19, Aidan sent me a text suggesting that, since we can't use the 3D printer in school, we should instead use it to help our community."

And so, Paul and Helena's work began. To date they have made 155 masks and 60 face shields. They gave the first batch to Pat Givens, a representative from the West Virginia Department of Education at the Caperton Center on the campus of WVU-Parkersburg April 27.

"We will print approximately 8 per day as long as they are needed, and will buy more supplies accordingly," Paul said. "We have also begun with the printing of face shields—another type of PPE very much in demand."

The look of the masks is hard to explain, said Helena,



Courtesy Photo

Siblings and Parkersburg Catholic High School students Helena and Paul Teltscher show the face masks and shields they have been making at their home for those working on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic.

who is in seventh grade at PCHS.

"It looks a little like Darth Vader's lower mask, or Plo Koon's mask," she said, noting that she is a big Star Wars fan. She then went on to explain the details.

"We started making masks using Polylactic Acid (PLA) and then experimented with a material called Polyethylene Terephthalate Glycol (PETG), which is the same plastic water bottles are made of," she said. "We hoped that masks made of PETG would be stronger and lighter. They however only proved to be heavier and took longer to print, so we reverted back to PLA. For the fully assembled masks, we are adding a filter (cut up vacuum bags), gaskets (made from rubber window seal), and elastic headbands (made from various materials). After completion, the face masks can be adjusted to fit different faces by softening them in hot water."

Helena has also made a YouTube video to demon-

strate how this is done.

Helena said they use two different printers for the project. The one they use to print the larger, more complex part of the face masks, she said, belongs to Parkersburg Catholic High School. She further explained that is an Ultimaker 3 by Ultimaker.

"It takes approximately four hours to print two masks at once," Helena said.

The printer for the mask inserts that hold the filters in place, which are smaller and less complex, is Helena's—an Ender 3 by Creality. They can print 12 inserts at once in approximately nine hours, she said.

Material costs for each mask are between \$1 and \$2 per mask, Helena shared, depending on whether or not they are just making the plastic parts, or assembling a complete mask. "Fortunately, we have received a couple of generous donations to help cover the cost of mask materials," she said.

Helena and Paul are contributing to a statewide initiative organized by the West Virginia National Guard and the West Virginia Department of Education to make masks for hospitals and healthcare workers.

"We print the two plastic parts of the masks and pass them along to representatives from the Department of Education and/or National Guard," Paul said.

Much of what Paula and Helena know about 3D printing stems from their participation in the local FIRST robotics team at the Caperton Center at WVU-P in Parkersburg. The team consists of high school students from Parkersburg Catholic Schools, Parkersburg High School, and Parkersburg South High School. With the robotics season cut short due to COVID-19, Paul said, several team members have turned to making masks and face shields as a way to further develop some of the skills learned preparing for robotics competitions.

"When he heard about what we are doing, a colleague of our father was inspired to use his 3D printer to start printing face masks as well," Paul said. "We handed over his masks to the Department of Education as well today (April 27)."

With all that Paul and Helena have accomplished with this project and what they are continuing to do, makes their parents Markus and Dr. Uta Hempel-Teltscher very proud.

"My wife and I are very pleased that our children have found a way to use the time outside the (virtual) classroom to have a positive impact on our community's COVID response," Markus said. "The cancellation of the 2020 FIRST robotics season was a pretty tough blow (especially for Paul), and this project gives our kids a new and useful outlet for their creative energy."

"On the flip-side, making masks means that our dining room has been

See "Students" on Page 15

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Crossword Puzzle Solution

Puzzle on Page 12

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Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents Will Hold One-Day Retreat

MORGANTOWN—This retreat is designed for grieving parents whose precious children of any age (from conception to old age) have died by any cause (miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, illness, accident, suicide, murder, overdose, etc.), no matter how long ago.

The retreat agenda includes prayer services, spiritual reflections, breakout sessions, Emmaus Walk, Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and time for reflection. Find compassion, rest, and peace...at least for a time.

Saturday, Oct. 17, at St. Mary Church, 3334B University Avenue, Morgantown.

Suggested donation: \$25/individual; \$40/couple. Donation includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available.

For more information, contact Ed and June Cesa at ejcesa@windstream.net or call (724) 886-0366, or Jeanne McKeets in the Department of Faith Formation & Mission at jmckeets@dwc.org or call (304) 233-0880, ext. 374.

West Virginians for Life Announces New Date for Annual Rose Dinner

MORGANTOWN—The West Virginian's For Life (WVFL) 22nd Annual Rose Dinner, originally scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2020, has been rescheduled for Thursday, Nov. 12. All else remains the same. Location is the Holiday Inn in Morgantown, with featured speaker Melissa Coles, birth mother of David Scotton, both heavily featured in the 2018 documentary "I Lived on Parker Avenue." The 30-minute movie will be shown as well.

"What is it like for a young pregnant mother to enter an abortion facility? To be escorted past pro-life protesters, and make it all the way to the procedure room where she meets the abortionist? To have a change of heart, get off the procedure table, and walk out? What would it be like to meet her son 19 years after that fateful day? And how could her story change how we tell the pro-life narrative?" WVFL officials said.

"I Lived on Parker Avenue" is about a mother choosing life, the joy of a couple starting a family, and a young man in search for where his life began.

"We all know that statistics can never touch hearts the way a single person can," WVFL officials said. "Come and hear Melissa's story and watch the 30-minute documentary."

There will also be a silent auction, which starts at 6 p.m. All the monies will go to the Educational Trust Fund of the WVFL. Reception followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

For reservations and cost info, email info@wvforlife.org or call 304-594-9845. More information is also available at <https://www.wvforlife.org/event/22nd-annual-rose-dinner/>



First Holy Communion

Courtesy Photo

Father Paul Yuenger, pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Huntington, administers first Holy Communion to students from the parish school. With the reopening of churches near the end of May, parishes and Catholic schools around the diocese are having first Holy Communions, which were postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Golf FORE Life Tournament Set for July

KINGWOOD—The Eighth Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament is a fundraiser held annually to benefit the life-saving efforts of West Virginians for Life. This year's tournament swings into action Saturday, July 11 at Preston Country Club in Kingwood.

For a safe tournament, social distancing will be practiced as in one golf cart per golfer, unless family. Use of masks, hand

sanitizers/disinfecting wipes are highly encouraged.

The schedule is: registration and box lunch at noon, Putting Contest at 1 p.m., Tee Time at 1:30 p.m., and MT State Box BBQ/Informal Awards Ceremony at 6 p.m.

For more details, call at (304) 594-9845. Register and pay online at <http://www.wvforlife.org/event/>

Students...

Cont'd from Page 14

temporarily converted into a 3D printing lab and mask assembly line — but that is, of course, a minor inconvenience. Also, sitting around the dining table working with the printers, sanding parts, and assembling face masks is a new type of family activity that we could not have imagined just three months ago."

Paul and Helena's mother is a biology professor at WVU-P in Parkersburg, and their father is supply chain manager at Constellium in Ravenswood. The family attends St. Margaret Mary Parish in Parkersburg, where Paul and Helena are altar servers. The family is now looking forward to Paul's confirmation.

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St. Joseph Central Catholic High School Ends Relationship with Huntington Prep

HUNTINGTON—St. Joseph Central Catholic High School in Huntington moved today to end both its academic and athletic relationship with the Huntington Prep Academy, beginning with the academic year 2020-2021.

As the academic year draws to a close and graduation celebrations have taken place, the Huntington Prep Academy has, unfortunately, failed to uphold their financial obligations with St. Joseph Central Catholic High School leaving a large amount of unpaid tuition in arrears. Attempts to collect the agreed-upon tuition by the school, and prior to the COVID-19 era, have been futile. St. Joseph's principal, Dr. Carol Templeton, stated that "it is a disappointing and sad end to the school year, as the school remained committed to providing each Huntington Prep student with a high-quality academic program, embedded within our Catholic values. Many of the Huntington Prep students have now graduated St. Joseph this year to play basketball at the collegiate level and we wish them all the very best."

Dr. Templeton also stated that the teachers continued to provide instruction, conducted lessons, administered assessments, and worked with the students throughout the academic year despite an unresolved tuition balance. Templeton stated that "this is not a student issue, we remained steadfast in our commitment to our students, this, unfortunately, is an organizational issue."

The decision to terminate the rela-

tionship was made after consultation with the school's Advisory Council and the Department of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

"St. Joseph's has enjoyed a good relationship with the Huntington Prep Academy over the years," Dr. Templeton said, "and we have appreciated the excitement and attention they have provided the school. However, we are a Catholic School first and foremost, and we have to fulfill our mission of educating our students."

"During this difficult time," she said, "St. Joseph must operate prudently in order to maintain a quality educational program for its students and to cover its costs, including the salaries of our dedicated and loyal faculty and staff."

"Saying goodbye to the Huntington Prep Academy students is a tough decision for us, and if circumstances allow, all of the young men in the program are invited to apply for enrollment at St. Joseph through the school's enrollment process," Dr. Templeton said. "Our diverse and successful educational program is open to all the Huntington Prep students as well as other young men and women who seek academic rigor, service-learning opportunities, a Christ-centered environment, and a commitment to living Catholic values."

St. Joseph Central Catholic's mission is to educate the body, mind, and soul in the Catholic tradition, and to provide a safe environment in which students can become responsible members of society.

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