

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Urgent Call for Volunteers for Flood Recovery in West Virginia

WEST VIRGINIA—Hundreds of families across West Virginia are still grappling with the aftermath of the devastating floods that struck in February. With more than 700 homes still needing cleanup, the time to act is now. Volunteers can make a signifi-

cant impact by helping to restore homes and bring hope to those affected.

A group of just 10 volunteers can clear 1-2 homes per day, showing the power of collective action. This is an incredible opportunity for church groups, college teams,

and community organizations to turn faith into action and directly help families in need.

Areas most in need of assistance include McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Wyoming, Kanawha, Logan, Raleigh, and Wayne counties. While tools and resources may be pro-

vided, volunteers are welcome to bring their own.

If you are ready to lend a hand, contact Sandy Keener at West Virginia VOAD by email at sandra-keener@wvvoad.org or by phone at (304) 553-0927.

See "Volunteers" on Page 3

West Virginia Knights of Columbus Gift Cathedral with Icon of St. Joseph on Feast Day

By Colleen Rowan

The Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling received a special gift from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus on its patron's feast day. An icon of St. Joseph was presented by the knights during Mass on the Solemnity of St. Joseph March 19.

Accompanying the icon were Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly 1185 members Matt Koval, Brian Gordon, Mark Kemp, Art Bertol, and Rick Wilson.

"We gather to bless this sacred icon of St. Joseph, the faithful guardian of the Redeemer and protector of the church," said Father Penumaka Manikyalarao, rector of the cathedral, before the blessing of the icon at the end of Mass. "Through the intercession of St. Joseph, may all who venerate this image be drawn into a deeper love for Christ and a firmer trust in God's providence."

Father Manikyalarao was joined in front of the altar, where the icon was displayed, by Deacon Doug Breiding and Deacon Jacob Manning.

See "Icon" on Page 5



Colleen Rowan photo
Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly 1185 members Matt Koval, Brian Gordon, Mark Kemp, Art Bertol, and Rick Wilson (pictured from left) stand beside the icon of St. Joseph enshrined in the narthex of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling March 19. The icon was a gift from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus.

Obituary—Sister Anna M. Cole, CSJ

Sr. Anna Marie Cole (93), passed away peacefully at Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling, WV on March 18, 2025. She was born May 15, 1931 to William Cole and Helen Grimes Cole, who both preceded her in death. Sr. Anna Marie (formerly Sister St. Anne) entered the Congregation of St. Joseph in 1950.



She received a bachelor's degree in education from Duquesne University and a master's degree in reading from West Virginia University.

She served as teacher and administrator in parochial schools located in Beckley, Benwood, Bridgeport, Charleston, Clarksburg, Follansbee, Huntington, Moundsville, Wheeling, Williamson and in Bristol, Virginia.

Sr. Anna Marie also ministered in pastoral care at Wheeling Hospital and on the staff at Paul VI Pastoral Center in Wheeling. She coordinated the religious education program at St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling until her retirement.

Sr. Anna Marie was known for her ability to make things happen as well as her deep love of people and her dedication to her students and their families as she served in the parochial school system. She had a quick wit and was able to make people laugh on a regular basis. Sr. Anna Marie was a gift to her religious community and those she served in her ministries. This year she was celebrating 75 years of loving service in the Congregation of St. Joseph.

Family and friends will be received Thursday, March 20, from 4-7 pm with a 7 pm vigil service and again, Friday, March 21 from 9 am until time of Funeral Liturgy at 11 am at the Congregation of St. Joseph, with Father Michael Nwokocha officiating. Interment will be held at Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

Services may be watched via MemoryShare at www.altmeyerfuneralhomes.com.

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

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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

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The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2025

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

2025 Print Issues and Dates:
 Easter, April 18; Month of Mary, Mother of God, May 23; Month of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 13; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15; Triumph of the Cross, September 12; Month of the Rosary, October 3; Advent, November 21; Christmas, December 19

Rebuilding Hope: Our Commitment to Disaster Recovery

February 15, 2025, began as an average Saturday for Jimmy and Melanie Dover.

“It had been raining, but I was just watching TV and didn’t think nothing of it,” said Jimmy. “Then water started coming in. By supper, Melanie was yelling ‘we got to go!’”

The Dovers and thousands of other people fled their homes. The Tug Fork River crested at a record high in one of the worst floods ever seen in Southern West Virginia. A State of Emergency was declared in 13 counties.

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), responding to the needs of vulnerable individuals is at the heart of our mission.

Our CCWVa Disaster Services team sprang into action alongside a network of community partners, first responders, volunteers, and WV VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster).

“West Virginians are resilient people who come together in times of crisis,” said Lora Pierce, CCWVa Disaster Services specialist.

In the days following the disaster, communities got to work, serving on muck-out teams and collecting supplies and donations.

Bishop Mark Brennan held a special collection throughout the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, with funds from the flood recovery appeal to be administered by Catholic Charities. This generous support will help families like the Dovers through the long journey ahead.

“Our house and all our stuff is completely ruined. You can hardly walk –



Courtesy photos
Clockwise from above: Members of St. Thomas Parish in Gassaway and Risen Lord Mission in Clay and Catholic Charities staff unload supplies and donations of furniture in McDowell County.

you’re just sliding in mud,” said Jimmy. He added, “We’re gonna come back from this. It’s gonna take a while, but we’ll come back.”

While the Dovers and their neighbors won’t be returning home in the near future, they do not have to face this hardship alone. Catholic Charities is one of the few agencies that provide support throughout the long-term recovery process, which can take months or even years.

“We’re in it for the long haul,” said Pierce. “Our goal is to return families to safe, sanitary, and secure homes. We’ll walk alongside them for as long as it takes.”

Together, we can rebuild

homes and restore hope. Please donate today to help families like the Dovers find their way back to stability. Your generosity ensures that no one faces disaster recovery alone.

Donate now to make a lasting difference in the lives of our neighbors at <https://www.ccwva.org/get-involved/donate/donate-online> or scan the QR code.



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Volunteers ...

Cont'd from Page 1

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**West Virginia
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster**

Hundreds of West Virginia families are still struggling after February's devastating floods. They need YOUR help. More than 500 homes still require cleanup, and with enough volunteers, we can make a real difference.

CONTACT:



304-553-0927



sandrakeener@wvvoad.org



Colleen Rowan photo

Father Penumaka Manikyalarao, rector of the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, blesses the icon of St. Joseph at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling March 19. The icon was a gift from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus.

Icon ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Outstretching his hands, Father Manikyalarao then began the prayer of blessing.

“God of infinite goodness, You chose St. Joseph as the just and faithful servant to guard and provide for Jesus and Mary,” he said. “As we bless this icon, may it be a sign of his watchful care and an inspiration to all who seek to live in righteousness and trust in your will. Grant that those who gaze upon this image may be strengthened in faith, encouraged in their labors, and comforted in times of trial. May families who entrust themselves to St. Joseph’s intercession be filled with peace and holiness, and may this icon be a constant reminder to follow his example of humility, obedience, and love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.”

Father Manikyalarao sprinkled

the icon with holy water and incensed it. After the final blessing, he said, “I want to thank especially the Knights of Columbus for donating this wonderful icon of St. Joseph,” and assured them of his prayers.

The members of 4th Degree Assembly 1185 then carried the icon in procession to the narthex of the cathedral where it was enshrined.

Cathedral officials said the icon was part of the Knights of Columbus’ pilgrim icon prayer program, where a specially selected image is sent on a journey from council to council, inspiring devotion and strengthening communities in prayer. The newly enshrined icon of St. Joseph, crafted by Elizabeth Bergeron, is based on a drawing by Alexandre Sobolev, depicting St. Joseph tenderly holding the child Jesus. The original icon is found in St. Joseph’s Oratory in Montréal, Canada, a significant site of pilgrimage and devotion to St. Joseph.



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Pro-Life Rally Held at State Capitol



Courtesy photos
At the annual Pro-Life Rally at the State Capitol in Charleston held by West Virginians for Life March 14 (from left), Bishop Mark Brennan offers the invocation; rallygoers participate in a prayer walk for the unborn through the Capitol; Dr. Wanda Franz, president of WVFL, gives opening remarks; rallygoers hold pro-life signs; and Father Phillip Szabo, administrator of St. Agnes Parish in Charleston, attends the rally.

By Colleen Rowan
CHARLESTON — West Virginians for Life (WVFL) held the annual Pro-Life Rally at the State Capitol in Charleston March 14, gathering people of many different religious denominations, ages, and walks of life in support of the pro-life cause.
Bishop Mark Brennan joined them and offered the invocation.
Rallygoers had the chance to meet their legislators and were introduced as a group in the House/Senate galleries when the session began. They then gathered in the lower rotunda to hear from keynote speakers.
Dr. Wanda Franz, pres-

ident of WVFL, gave opening remarks while WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care Legislative Coordinator Mary H. Tillman, J.D., spoke on "Protection from Medically-Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia: Constitutional Amendment."
Those gathered then participated in a prayer walk through the Capitol praying for the unborn. Each participant carried a small white cross.
"The crosses we carry will represent aborted babies," WVFL officials said. "According to the latest figures from National Right to Life, roughly 2,400 unborn babies in the U.S. are lost to abortion each day."

At the rally for the first time was Father Phillip Szabo, administrator of St. Agnes Parish in Charleston.
"I am so glad that I attended this event and I hope to bring a large group with me next year," he said. "We are actually starting a pro-life group at St. Agnes Parish to help us get more organized and involved in pro-life efforts here in Charleston."
Father Szabo was glad to hear a number of talks on the state of affairs concerning pro-life work in West Virginia as well as encouraging words by the men and women committed to this effort, including Bishop Brennan.

Father Szabo added that he hopes to see more people attend the rally in the future and stressed the importance of participating.
"Although the laws in our country have greatly improved concerning the protection of unborn children and the mothers who carry them, there is still much work to do and the victory we won recently is not guaranteed to last without continued, tangible,

and visible support," he said. "Just showing up to smile, shake hands, and introduce yourself to these senators, delegates, and others who work in the Capitol makes a huge difference."
WVFL shared that 12 counties were represented at the Chapter Leaders Roundtable.
To learn more about WVFL, visit the organization's website at: www.wvforlife.org.

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Rite of Election



AJ Emery photo

A catechumen signs her name in the Book of the Elect at the Rite of Election at St. Agnes Church in Shepherdstown March 15 as Bishop Mark Brennan and clergy look on. The Rite of Election continued the next day at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. Bishop Brennan presided over the celebration.

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David Anderson also serves as Organist and Director of Pastoral Music and Liturgy at Ascension and St. Edmund Parish in Oak Park, Illinois where he conducts three parish choirs of various sizes and age groups. David completed a Master of Church Music at Concordia University, and a Master of Liturgy and Ministry at Catholic Theological Union, both in Chicago. In 2024, he received the Doctor of Pastoral Music degree at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Eighth Graders Receive Knights of Columbus Award at St. Francis de Sales School in Beckley



Courtesy photo
Eighth-grader John Fernald received a Knights of Columbus Award at St. Francis de Sales School in Beckley. With him are members of Beckley Knights of Columbus Council #5657.

BECKLEY—The Knights of Columbus is an organization founded on the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. It was established in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney at Saint Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. The core values of this organization include:

Integrity: Firm adherence to ethics, honesty, and a moral code.

Professionalism: Promoting the highest standards in all they do.

Excellence: Leading by example and constantly striving to be the best.

Respect: Treating each other with the highest regard.

Every year for the past fifteen years, the Knights of Columbus in Beckley, Council #5657, recognizes two St. Francis de Sales eighth-grade students that exhibit these same core values. Just like the Aquinas Award, this award is based on longitudinal performance and interactions.

"We consider how involved the students were in assisting with service projects; the leadership roles they have in school sports, clubs, and activities; and, whether or not they unify their peer group and maintain positive interactions with everyone," council officials said. "We consider how they represent our school in the community and beyond and if they are role models for the other students in our school and community. There is a great deal of consideration that happens before any student is chosen."

For the 2024-25 school year, the recipients for the Knights of Columbus Awards at St. Francis de Sales School are Lauren Fernald and John Fernald.

Lauren has been an exemplary

student academically throughout her years at St. Francis. She makes the Principal's List each semester. She has been involved in the cheer program at the school since the third grade. She has been the squad leader as well. She is a member of the Middle School Art Club and Girl Scouts. She is treasurer of the Student Council. Lauren loves to dance and has taken classes for many years. She is learning to play the guitar too.

John has been an exemplary student academically throughout his years at St. Francis. He routinely makes the Principle's List. He has been involved in the basketball program at the school since the third grade. He has been a team captain and has led the team at home games as they break through the Saints' banner to enter the court. John is a member of the Middle School Art Club. He is president of the Student Council. For many years John has been involved in the scouting program and has earned many badges. John has represented the school a few times at the Raleigh County Math Field Day.

Throughout their time at St. Francis Lauren and John have represented the school at county, regional, and state competitions. Again this year, they travelled to Charleston on March 10 with their Science Fair project on Backyard Pollinators to represent the school.

Lauren and John live with their parents, Cindy and John Fernald. They have two dogs: Olaf and Teddy.

"We are very proud of their accomplishments and commend their good efforts!" school officials said.



Courtesy photo
Eighth-grader Lauren Fernald received a Knights of Columbus Award at St. Francis de Sales School in Beckley. With her are members of Beckley Knights of Columbus Council #5657.

A message from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council

Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend.

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JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE



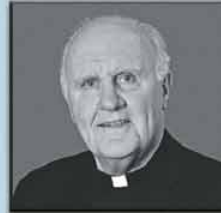
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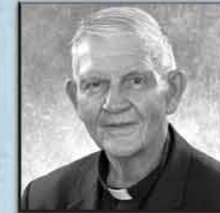
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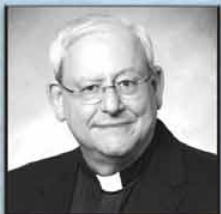
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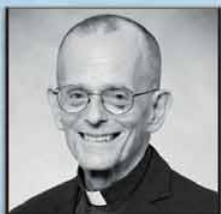
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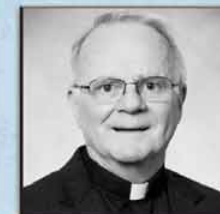
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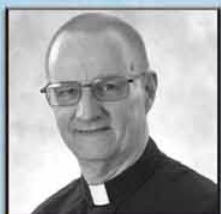
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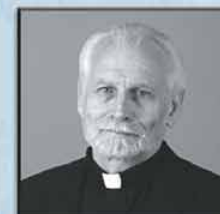
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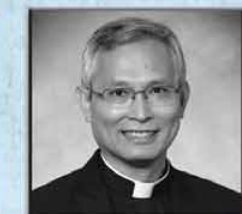
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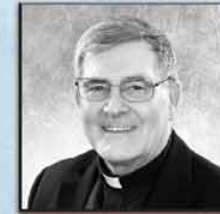
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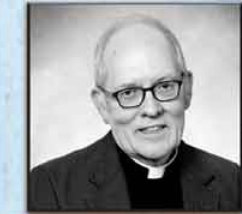
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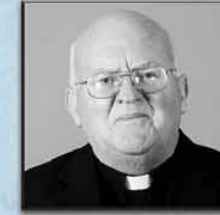
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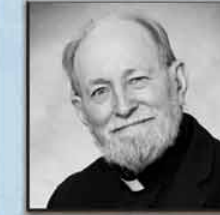
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Fairmont Catholic Wins WVSSAC Mason Dixon Basketball Tournament for Second Consecutive Year



Fairmont Catholic Grade School's boys basketball team won the WVSSAC Mason Dixon Basketball Tournament for the second year in a row. The team is pictured above.

Courtesy photo

Fairmont Catholic Student is Girls State Wrestling Champion



Courtesy photo
Fairmont Catholic Grade School student Ella Naternicola won first place in the 2025 West Virginia Girls State Wrestling Tournament. She is shown above holding her state champion trophy.

Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin
Sunday Mornings

6:30 WTOV FOX 9	Wheeling-Steubenville
7:30 WOWK CBS 13	Huntington-Charleston
8:00 WBOY NBC 12	Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
6:30 WOAY ABC 4	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
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Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Confirmation Schedule, Spring 2025 Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

- Friday, April 4:** St. Augustine, Grafton; 6:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 28:** St. John University, Morgantown; 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 30:** Sacred Heart, Chester; 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, May 4:** Our Lady of Fatima, Huntington, and St. Stephen, Ona, at Our Lady of Fatima; 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 6:** St. Joseph, Huntington; 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 7:** St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown; 5:15 p.m.
- Sunday, May 11:** Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling; 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, May 11:** St. Mary, Star City; 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 12:** St. Michael, Wheeling; 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 14:** St. Michael, Vienna; 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, May 16:** St. Joseph, Martinsburg; 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 17:** St. James, Charles Town; 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, May 17:** St. Leo, Inwood; 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, May 18:** St. Bernadette, Hedgesville; 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday, May 18:** St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs; 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 21:** St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton; 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 22:** St. Thomas Aquinas, Thomas; 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, May 25:** St. Paul, Weirton; 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 28:** St. Patrick, Weston; 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 31:** Annunciation of Our Lord, Fort Ashby; 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, June 1:** St. Luke the Evangelist, Cheat Lake; 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 7:** St. Francis of Assisi, St. Albans; 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, June 8:** St. Francis de Sales, Beckley; 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday, June 8:** Sacred Heart, Bluefield, 4:30 p.m.



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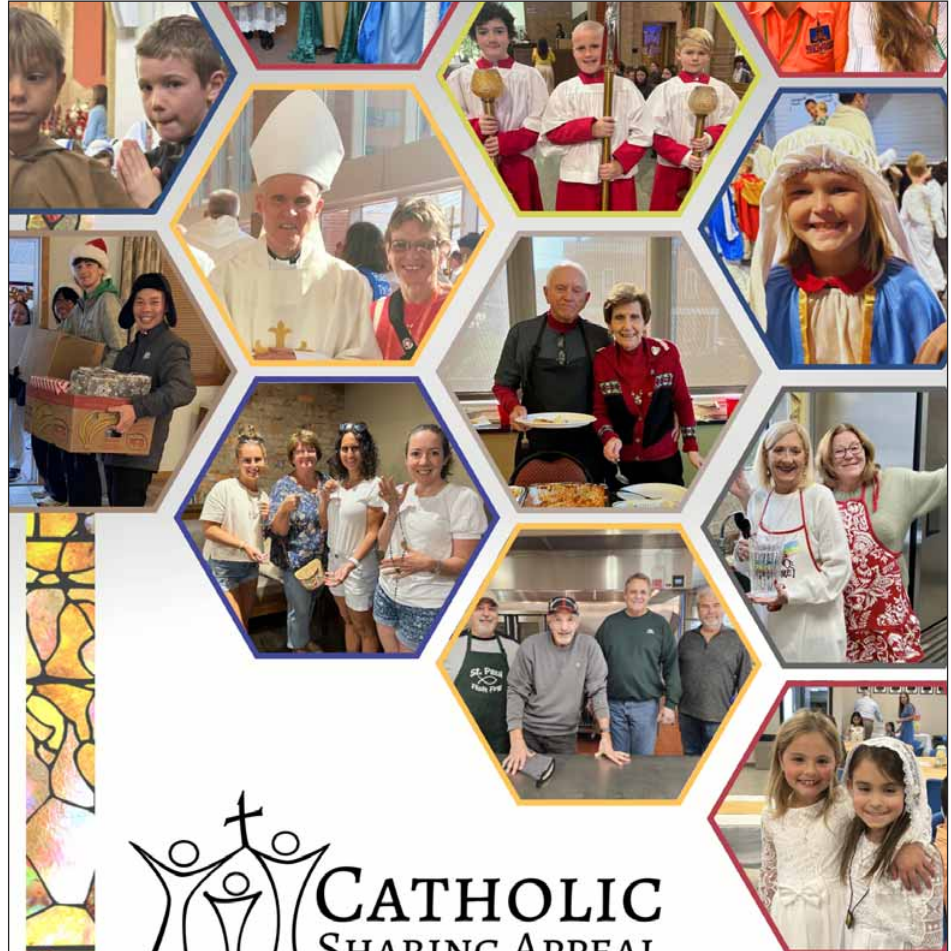
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El Papa Francisco felicita a CRS por el 50 aniversario del Plato de Arroz

By OSV News

(OSV News) — El Papa Francisco felicitó a Catholic Relief Services por el 50 aniversario de CRS Rice Bowl, el programa anual de Cuaresma de la agencia de ayuda católica dedicado a los esfuerzos mundiales para aliviar el hambre y la pobreza.

CRS -- la agencia oficial de ayuda internacional y desarrollo de la Iglesia Católica en los EE.UU. -- está celebrando el quincuagésimo aniversario de su programa Plato de Arroz esta Cuaresma, programa que ha recaudado más de 350 millones de dólares para apoyar los esfuerzos nacionales y extranjeros de alivio de la pobreza. La organización ha descrito este esfuerzo -- con su icónica cajita de donaciones de cartón -- como más importante que nunca a la luz de la congelación de gran parte de la ayuda exterior estadounidense.

“Me complace saber que el programa Plato de Arroz de Catholic Relief Services celebra su quincuagésimo aniversario”, escribió el Papa Francisco en una carta que el grupo compartió con los medios de comunicación el 14 de marzo. “En esta ocasión tan especial, expreso mis buenos deseos a los que participan en esta noble iniciativa, así como mi gratitud a los fieles en los Estados Unidos, quienes, a través de este servicio, ayudan a los más pobres y vulnerables, tanto en el país como en el extranjero”.

El Papa Francisco dijo que, durante cinco décadas, durante “el tiempo sagrado de la Cuaresma, cuando la Iglesia nos invita a orar, ayunar y dar limosna en preparación para las celebraciones de Pascua”, el programa Plato de Arroz “ha ofrecido a los católicos una forma concreta para dar limosna mientras buscan poner su fe en práctica”.

“Al cuidar del prójimo, debemos recordar siempre que la caridad debe darse sin condiciones ni límites, como nos enseña Jesús en la parábola del Buen Samaritano”, dijo, refiriéndose a la historia del Evangelio de Lucas. “Al hacerlo, reflejamos la cercanía, la compasión y el amor tierno de Dios, quien cuida de todos sus hijos en la única familia humana”.

La iniciativa Plato de Arroz de CRS combina las prácticas cuaresmales tradicionales de oración, ayuno y limosna para proporcionar ayuda humanitaria, renovación espiritual y mayor solidaridad con los necesitados.

Los fondos -- el 25% de los cuales se destinan a las diócesis locales y el 75% a los programas de CRS en el extranjero -- apoyan una misión que es “crítica para millones de personas”, dijo el arzobispo Nelson J. Pérez de Filadelfia, presidente de la junta directiva de CRS, en un comunicado de la organización del 5 de marzo.

La campaña, lanzada en 1975 por Mons. Robert Coll como un esfuerzo local en la diócesis de Allentown, Pennsylvania, se convirtió en una iniciativa nacional a través de su introducción en el 41º Congreso Eucarístico Internacional con sede en Filadelfia en 1976, y su posterior adopción por los obispos de EE.UU. a través de CRS.

La pandemia de Covid-19, dijo el Papa Francisco en su mensaje, “nos recordó que somos miembros de una comunidad global, todos en la misma barca, donde los problemas de los demás son los problemas de todos”.

“Con esto en mente, debemos esforzarnos continuamente para ayudar a los demás a comprender que los graves desafíos que actualmente afectan a tantos hermanos y hermanas nuestros, como la guerra, la migración forzada y el ham-

bre, nos conciernen a todos”, dijo. “Quizá incluso podríamos invitar a otros a comparar su vida cotidiana con la de los migrantes y extranjeros, para que comprendan mejor sus experiencias y, de esta manera, descubran o que Dios nos pide en nuestros días”.

El programa es un recordatorio de “la importancia de trabajar juntos”, añadió.

En 2023, unos 733 millones de personas en todo el mundo pasaban hambre, según el informe de las Naciones Unidas El estado de la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición en el mundo 2024. El hambre, la inseguridad alimentaria y la malnutrición tienen consecuencias físicas y psicosociales devastadoras, entre ellas la talla y el peso insuficientes en los niños.

En junio de 2024, UNICEF señaló que la creciente desigualdad, los conflictos y los problemas climáticos -- junto con el impacto persistente de la pandemia COVID-19 -- han dejado a 181 millones de niños, o 1 de cada 4, en situación de pobreza alimentaria severa, la mayoría de ellos en 20 países. De ellos, 64 millones se encuentran en el sur de Asia y 59 millones en el África subsahariana.

“Por lo tanto espero que el programa Plato de Arroz y las demás iniciativas que ofrece Catholic Relief Services sigan siendo ejemplos de cómo cumplir el mandamiento del Evangelio de amar y servir al prójimo de manera comunitaria”, dijo el Papa Francisco. “Con estos sentimientos, les renuevo mis mejores deseos al celebrar este aniversario, y sobre todos los que apoyan el programa Plato de Arroz, invoco las bendiciones de sabiduría, esperanza y fortaleza de Dios Todopoderoso”.

Puede encontrar más información sobre el Plato de Arroz de CRS en crsricebowl.org/give.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

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

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

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

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

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales correspondientes.

Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264.

También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al 304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la diócesis al

833.230.5656.

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

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

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

Enlaces e información:

Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>.

Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de crímenes contra a menores: 304-293-6400.

Employment Opportunities

Executive Assistant Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa)

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

The Executive Assistant schedules appointments, meetings and handles conference arrangements, agendas, notifications, etc., gives information to callers and otherwise relieves the Chief Executive Officer of clerical work and minor administrative duties and details.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Types correspondence, records, and reports; Answers telephone, gives information to callers, or routes calls to appropriate person; Maintains files, records, and correspondence; Coordinates and schedules Catholic Charities Board meetings, committee meetings and other meetings as directed by the Chief Executive Officer; Records, transcribes and disseminates minutes of Board meetings, Executive Committee meetings, and other Committee meetings; and Coordinates and schedules Maintenance Worker and duties for the Main building.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES: Orders and purchases materials and supplies for office; Add/delete/make changes to Diocesan Directory; Contacts Diocesan Building & Properties for building issues; and Performs other job-related duties as assigned.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES: Supervises Maintenance worker at Main office.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily, demonstrating initiative and responsibility. The requirements are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required: Ability to type 60 WPM; Good interpersonal skills; Ability to follow directions and work well with others; Ability to maintain a high degree of confidentiality; Proficient in Microsoft Office and basic office procedures preferred; and Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit. The employee frequently is required to talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 20 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

Click here to apply.

St. Joseph High School Biology Teacher, Martinsburg

St. Joseph High School is a newly established Catholic high school opening in August 2025, dedicated to providing a rigorous academic education and character formation in a faith-based environment. Our mission is to foster intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and moral integrity, preparing students for success in higher education and beyond. We seek educators who are passionate about their subject areas and committed to creating an engaging and supportive learning experience.

We are seeking a qualified and enthusiastic high school biology teacher to join our founding faculty. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in science education, be skilled in creating engaging and challenging lesson plans, and be willing to be part of a collaborative and mission-driven school community. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a new school and contribute to building a dynamic and inspiring learning environment.

Responsibilities:

- Teach biology courses to high school students, incorporating hands-on labs, experiments and interactive learning experiences.
- Develop and implement a rigorous, comprehensive curriculum aligned with national and collegiate-level science standards.
- Foster a positive, inclusive and engaging classroom environment that encourages inquiry, collaboration and academic excellence to support student growth.
- Integrate ethical discussions and a values-based approach into scientific topics, where appropriate.
- Collaborate with fellow faculty and administration to build a strong academic foundation for the school.
- Participate in school-wide activities, faculty meetings and professional development.
- Communicate effectively with students, parents and colleagues to support student success.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in biology, science education or a related field
- Hold valid teaching certification or be actively pursuing certification/licensure
- Strong classroom management, communication and curriculum development skills
- Willingness to support the mission and values of a Catholic educational institution
- Experience teaching high school science is preferred.

SJHS educates in the spirit of the Gospel, inspiring Catholic values, academic excellence, global awareness and service to those in need. We are an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

The position will begin in August 2025 (contractually) and continue through July 2026 with a salary of \$40,000 to \$50,000, depending on level of education and experience.

Please email a résumé, cover letter and three professional references to Deacon Patrick Michel, Ed.D, head of school, at deaconpat@stjosephwv.org.

Principial, St. Joseph School, Martinsburg

We are searching for a dynamic, mission-driven, forward-thinking principal who will work with our team to create a new Catholic high school for students in grades nine to 12 that will open for the 2025-26 academic year.

We are an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity.

The position will offer a salary of \$60,000 to \$68,000.

Candidates must be practicing Catholics in good standing with church precepts and act as examples and motivators toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school. The ideal candidate will have a master's degree in educational leadership or administration; begin the process of completing that degree requirement; or hold a valid educational leadership certificate from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.

Candidates also must have a minimum of three years of successful educational experience; administrative experience is preferred.

A résumé, cover letter and three letters of reference may be emailed to Deacon Patrick Michel, Ed.D., at deaconpat@stjosephwv.org.

Cook

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

The Cook is responsible for the preparation, service, clean-up and storage of all meals, snacks and food service for special functions.

Assures the kitchen/dining room/dish room areas are clean and in good order at the end of a shift or function.

Oversees and assists kitchen aides in the preparation, service and storage of food and cleanliness of the kitchen/dining area.

Works early mornings, days, evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed.

Prefer a minimum of one year experience in food service.

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

Housekeeper

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

The Housekeeper is responsible for cleaning and preparing the facility, laundry and guest relations.

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

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

Employment Opportunities

Director of the Diocesan Summer Youth Camps for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Are you passionate about fostering the faith and spiritual growth of young people? Do you have experience in youth ministry, outdoor adventure education, and the desire to make a lasting impact in the lives of youth and young adults? If so, we have an exciting opportunity for you to lead, inspire, and serve as the Director of the Diocesan Summer Youth Camps for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston!

Essential Duties:

- Assist in all aspects of Camp Carlo's intentionally Catholic, fun, prayerful, and catechetical adventure summer camp programming, providing ongoing conversion experiences that connect young people to the heart of Christ and His church.

- Hire, train, schedule, minister to and lead adult and young-adult staff as effective, professional, faithful youth ministers, including preparing them and guiding them through leading a successful and distinct ministry program

- Take special responsibility in supporting the direct as it pertains to oversight, administration, and safe implementation of specialized activities as designed by the American Camp Association

- Oversee the off-season development of Camp Carlo, including the design of new adventure catechesis experiences for next summer.

- Market summer-camp program through a wide variety of advertising approaches

- Communicate with pastors, youth ministers, schools, parish leaders, and parents to register young people in summer youth camps, supporting the needs of each individual, and helping them to maximize the impact of the young person's experience.

- Minister to the residential young-adult camp staff including supporting them, coaching them in healthy community life that includes strong relationships, and guiding them in personal and spiritual growth.

Additional Duties:

- Works early mornings, weekends, long hours, holidays/holydays as needed.

- Attends and participates in regular meetings with the Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Discipleship

- Travel throughout the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in the promotion of the Summer Camp program, the recruitment of young adults to work in said program, and the on-site visiting of camp properties as potential places to host future summer camps.

- Performs other job related duties as assigned by the Office Director

Please send resume and cover letter to Debbie Turziano; dturziano@dwc.org

Camp Carlo Summer Camp Counselor

The office of Catechesis and Evangelization is seeking summer camp counselors. The camp counselor will: Teach and model our Catholic faith; facilitate adventure learning activities; provide & care for campers; become certified in/lead or facilitate specialized activities (i.e. aquatics, mountain biking, ropes course, etc.) as assigned by the camping director; demonstrate consistent maturity and solid judgment in leading young people in activities; understanding and carrying out the emergency procedures of the Catholic Youth Camps; be present with campers, constantly managing behavior & building camp culture.

Qualification Requirements: Must be 18 years of age; practicing Catholic with an active faith life; love ministering with and to young people; ability to follow direction and maintain confidentiality; work collaboratively in a team environment.

Interested applicants please send resume to Greg Gust at ggust@dwc.org

Full job description upon request.

Finance Director

Central Catholic High School, a Catholic co-educational college preparatory Catholic high school in Wheeling, W.Va., is accepting applications for the administrative position of Finance Director. Job Type: Full-time, 12 month employee.

Qualifications: Central Catholic High School is seeking an experienced and dynamic Finance Director who is responsible for the daily management of financial and administrative functions. This position involves overseeing all financial aspects of the school including accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, reconciliations, and financial reporting. The Finance Director will also be the liaison to the Diocesan Human Resource Office, ensuring the school follows best practices in hiring, onboarding, compensation, benefits, policy implementation, conflict resolution, corrective action, and compliance with all employment laws and diocesan policies. Additionally, the role involves collaborating with the Principal, Finance Council, and other stakeholders to determine the annual budget, manage benefit programs, and supervise school employees.

The Finance Director is a key con-

tributor to the continuing culture of excellence of Central Catholic High School.

A qualified candidate should have:

- Minimum of Bachelor's degree with 3-5 years of comparable experience

- Understanding and ability to uphold the CCHS Catholic school mission.

- General understanding of accounting principles and preparation of financial statements

- Human resources experience preferred

- Exceptional leadership and communication abilities

- Skilled in collaboration
- Comfort with systems in general (QuickBooks, Excel, Word, etc.)

- Excellent analytical, and problem-solving skills

- Ability to meet deadlines and interact collaboratively with both internal and external constituents

- Process confidential and sensitive information with discretion and professionalism

To apply, please forward a cover letter along with a resume to Sarah Petry at spetry@cchsknights.org.

Head Volleyball Coach

Central Catholic High School, a co-educational college preparatory Catholic high school in Wheeling, W.Va., is accepting applications for the Head Varsity Volleyball Coach. CCHS is a member school of the WVSSAC and competes in Class AA and a member school of the OVAC in Class 3A. Job Type: Seasonal. Job Overview: CCHS is looking for a dynamic, knowledgeable coach who will embrace the CCHS mission and values. The Head Volleyball Coach is responsible for the overall vision, strategy and direction of the high school volleyball program. A successful candidate should be able to:

- Lead and manage the girls' volleyball team during the season.

- Develop training programs and strategies to enhance team performance.

- Communicate effectively with students, staff, and parents.

- Foster a positive team culture that promotes commitment and hard work.

- Integrate the school's mission and values into coaching and team management.

Qualifications:

- Previous head high school

coaching experience is preferred.

- Must be 21 or older.

- Candidates must complete a background check, Virtus training and currently possess or be able to meet all WVSSAC coaching requirements.

To apply, please forward a resume to Seth Staskey, Athletic Director, at staskey@cchsknights.org. For more information you can contact him at 304-233-6237.

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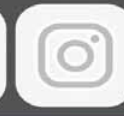


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 Interventional Cardiology



Deepak Hooda MD
 Interventional Cardiology



Sushant Sharma MD
 Cardiology

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Appointments: 304-243-8362

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