



## An Easter Message from Bishop Brennan

Easter, 2024

My brothers and sisters in Christ, After the storm the sun comes out. After his crucifixion and burial, the Son of God came out of his tomb. He, the Sun of Justice, will never go dark. He is the Light of the World which gives light to every human being. When we walk in his light, we avoid pitfalls, and we see our way clear to our destination: the fullness of eternal life with our God and all His saints.

As our Easter season begins, I hope that you find joy in the firm conviction that we follow the Lord who has overcome the worst that his enemies could do to him and who holds out to us the promise of help now and glory later. Whatever our struggles and difficulties, the Lord Jesus walks with us, like the Good Shepherd who accompanies his sheep and leads them to good pasture.

We live in anxious times. It can seem as if the world is coming apart. We see division and conflict on all sides. We experience the tug-of-war inside ourselves between faith and doubt. Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead assures us that all will end well for us if we keep faith with the Lord. In this life, we have no greater enemy than death, but our Savior has overcome it and, true to his boundless generosity, he chooses to share his new life with us, now by grace and later in eternity.

Rejoice, then, Christians, in your Lord's triumph over sin and death! He has done it for you. Stay close to him and have confidence in your own final victory over sin and death. Let the sunlight of Easter illuminate your spirit and give a sprightly lilt to your step!

Christ is risen, he is truly risen!  
Sincerely in Christ,

+Mark E. Brennan  
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

## Herald with the Whole Church the Celebration of Our Lord's Paschal Mystery



Courtesy Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan begins the celebration of Palm Sunday Vigil Mass at St. Agnes Parish in Charleston March 23 with Father Jose Manuel Escalante, pastor, left. Also pictured from left, beside the bishop, are Kara and Kay Fox (sisters) and seminarian Brian Tedeschi.

### By Colleen Rowan

To begin Holy Week, Bishop Mark Brennan gathered with the people of Charleston parishes celebrating the Palm Sunday vigil and morning Masses.

"Since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Together, today, we herald with the whole church the beginning of the celebration

of our Lord's Paschal Mystery—that is his passion, death and resurrection," the bishop said at the beginning of Palm Sunday morning Mass March 24 at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. "... with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that being made by his grace, partakers of the cross, we may have

a share also in his resurrection and in his life."

The bishop continued by blessing the palms, "God, sanctify these branches with your blessing, and we will follow Christ the King, in exaltation and reach the eternal Jerusalem through him, who lives and reigns forever, and ever."

Bishop Brennan celebrated the Palm Sunday Vigil Mass the  
**See "Herald" on Page 3**

# U.S. Bishops Ask Faithful to Pray during Holy Week for End to Israel-Hamas War

By OSV News

**(OSV News)** — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on International Justice and Peace called upon the faithful to renew prayers during Holy Week for an end to the Israel-Hamas war.

“As the Church enters Holy Week and Christ’s suffering on the cross and his resurrection are made present to us so vividly, we are connected to the very source of hope. It is that hope that spurs us to call on Catholics here in the United States and all those of good will to renew their prayers for an end to the raging Israel-Hamas war,” wrote Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese of the Military Services USA, USCCB president, and Bishop A. Elias Zaidan of the Maronite Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, International Justice and Peace committee chairman, in a March 23 statement.

Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip have killed more than 32,000 people, including more than 13,000 children, with an additional estimated 75,000 injured, in Israel’s retaliation on the Palestinian territory following Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack on communities along Israel’s southern border.

Hamas and other Palestinian militant groups have killed more than 1,100 people and injured more than 8,700, taking more than 240 hostages. A reported 130 hostages remain in Gaza, including at least 33 dead. With Israel restricting Gaza from access to resources, including food, many Gaza residents are facing catastrophic levels of hunger and imminent “famine.”

“Thousands of innocent people have died in this conflict, and thousands more have been displaced and face tremendous suffering,” the bishops said in their statement. “This must stop. As the Holy Father recently said, ‘One cannot move forward in war. We must make every effort to negotiate, to negotiate, to end the war.’ To move forward, a cease fire and a permanent cessation of war and violence is absolutely necessary. To move forward, those held hostage must be released and civilians must be protected. To move forward, humanitarian aid must reach those who are in such dire need.”

Israel and Hamas have been engaged in mediated talks about a ceasefire and the release of prisoners and captives, with Hamas recently presenting a proposal for a

truce. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the proposal was based on “unrealistic demands” and he plans for Israeli forces to invade another area of the Gaza Strip to defeat Hamas, accord-

ing to media reports.

“As Christians, we are rooted in the hope of the resurrection, and so we pray for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land,” the Catholic bishops wrote.

**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.reportbishop-abuse.org](http://www.reportbishop-abuse.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.reportbishop-abuse.org](http://www.reportbishop-abuse.org). **To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement:** numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families’ Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer. **To Report to Diocesan Authorities:** The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270; or Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. You may also call the Diocese’s Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also call the Diocese’s sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), under “Accountability.” Complaint forms are available online at [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), click “Diocese” on the menu bar, then “Offices,” then “Safe Environment,” then “Download Files and Forms.” The form is titled “Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor.” The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. **To Report to the Diocese’s Victim Assistance Coordinator:** please call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), under “Accountability”, then “Report Misconduct” or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

## Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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

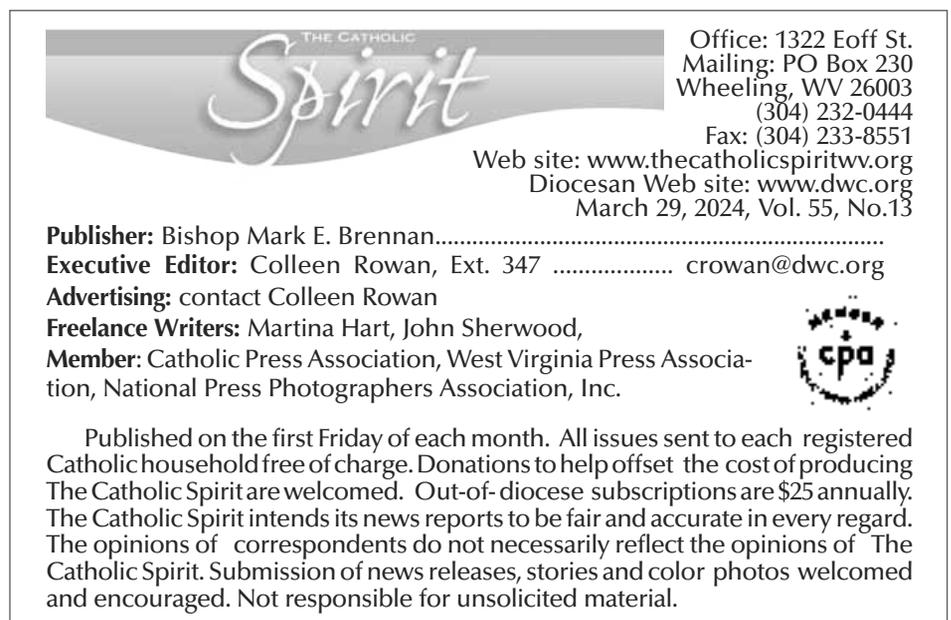


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# Herald...

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night before at St. Agnes Parish in Charleston.

Pointing to the Gospel for the Mass (Mk 14:1—15:47) in his homily at the basilica co-cathedral, the bishop said the centurion got it right when he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God." Yet, Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey rather than in a chariot, the bishop said.

"He was the Messiah longed for by his people, but he was rejected, betrayed, mocked, and killed by them. His well-trained tongue had spoken the truth of God, yet it only brought him condemnation by the religious leaders entrusted with teaching that truth," Bishop Brennan said. "He had served his father well but felt abandoned by him on the cross.

"The one whom we follow and worship as Lord and savior was humble, destined for suffering, and courageous in fulfilling his father's will," the bishop continued, noting the second reading for the Mass (Phil 2:6-11): St. Paul says in his Letter to the Philippians that our Savior took the form of a slave and became obedient even to the point of death—death on the cross. Jesus trusted his father and obeyed him believing that his shed blood would establish a new covenant, a new relationship between God and his people; and he was confident that he would be raised up and would see his apostles again in Galilee, the bishop said.

"We belong to Jesus' new covenant through our baptism," Bishop Brennan said. "Through him our sins have been forgiven and we have the promise of a bodily resurrection when the Lord Jesus returns in glory, and we are supposed to see one another again not in Galilee but in heaven."

But will we get there?



During Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, priests renew their priestly promises.

Colleen Rowan Photo



Colleen Rowan Photo

Deacon Thomas Trunzo brings the Oil of the Catechumen to the altar during Chrism Mass at the cathedral.



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan blesses the Oil of the Sick during Chrism Mass at the cathedral.

Bishop Brennan asked the congregation: "Will we stay with Jesus as the women did or run away like the apostles? Will we cry out 'Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,' but later shout 'crucify him, crucify him?' Do we have enough faith and honesty to repent of our sins, ask his forgiveness, and strive once more to follow him on the road

to Calvary and from there to the gates of heaven?" On Monday of Holy Week, the bishop returned to the basilica co-cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass with priests of the southern and central regions of the diocese concelebrating. The next day, he celebrated the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling with priests of the northern re-

gion and Eastern Panhandle of the state concelebrating. During Chrism Masses, the bishop consecrated the sacred Chrism and blessed the oils which were brought to the altar by deacons. Concelebrating priests, together with Bishop Brennan, renewed their priestly promises. Bishop Brennan began the Easter Triduum in

Spencer celebrating Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, at Holy Redeemer Church. Today, Good Friday, March 29, the bishop will lead Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m. at St. Michael Church in Vienna and then preside at the Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at St. Michael's at 7 p.m. Bishop Brennan will **See "Herald" on Page 4**



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**Herald...****Cont'd from Page 3**

celebrate the Easter Vigil, March 30, at 8 p.m. at St. Matthew Church in Ravenswood, where he will bring nine people into full communion with the Catholic Church. Elect of the parish are Natasha Lemley, Paul Lemley, Dakota Mahood, and Leslie Pauley. They will receive the sacraments of baptism, first Communion, and confirmation. The parish's candidates will receive the sacraments of first Communion and confir-

mation. The candidates are Sarah Rogers and the Bridges family—Aaron and Heidi and their older children, Jace and Easton. Their younger children, Kade and Willow, will be making first Communion with the parish's first Communion class in May.

Bishop Brennan will return to Wheeling for his celebration of Easter Sunday Mass, March 31, at 10:30 a.m. at the cathedral. This celebration will be livestreamed at [www.dwc.org/Mass](http://www.dwc.org/Mass) (closed captioning provided) and televised live on WVNS/FOX - Beckley/Bluefield; WOWK/CBS -

Charleston/Huntington; WBOY/ABC - Clarksburg/Fairmont/Morgantown; WTRF/ABC - Wheeling/Northern Panhandle.

The Easter Mass broadcast is sponsored by the Welty Corporation.

Also livestreamed from the cathedral (at [www.dwc.org/Mass](http://www.dwc.org/Mass)) with Father Sateesh Nariseti, HGN, J.C.L., vice rector, as celebrant was Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, March 28, at 6 p.m. and, today, Good Friday, Passion of the Lord, March 29, at 3 p.m. See the ad below for more information.

## DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON



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**PASSION OF THE LORD - Good Friday**

March 29 at 3:00 p.m. - *Live Stream*

**EASTER MASS - Sunday, March 31**

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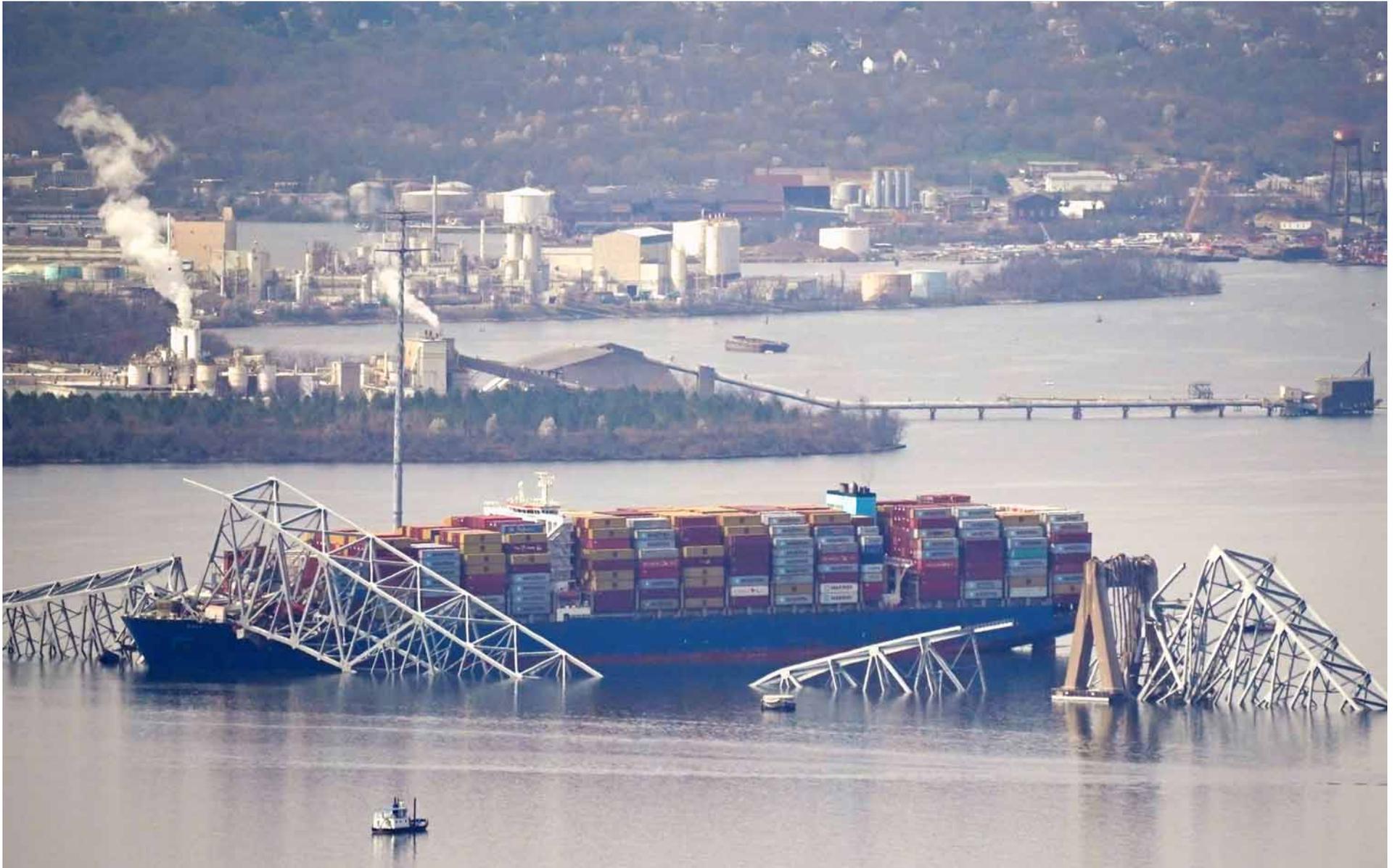
*Live Stream at [www.dwc.org/Mass](http://www.dwc.org/Mass)*

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**Easter Mass broadcast is sponsored by the Welty Corporation.**

# Catholic Community Gathers in Prayer, Offers Support to Those Affected by Bridge Collapse



The Dali cargo vessel is pictured March 26 after it crashed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore causing it to collapse. Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore celebrated a Mass of healing later that day at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen for those impacted by the collapse.

**By George P. Matysek Jr., OSV News**

**BALTIMORE (OSV News)** — Several hours after the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapsed into the Patapsco River March 26, more than 200 people, many of them still in a state of shock, gathered in prayer at a 5:30 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore.

The bridge collapsed about 1:30 a.m. after a 900-foot container ship seemed to have problems with its power and collided into one of the bridge's support pilings.

Six construction workers who had been working on the bridge at the time of its collapse are missing and presumed dead. Two other construction workers were rescued, one of them hospitalized. There were also several cars that plunged into the river.

In his homily at the somber liturgy, Archbishop William E. Lori encouraged prayers for those whose lives were lost, their survivors and all whose lives and livelihoods will be impacted by the collapse. He also encouraged the congregation to resolve to love those God has placed in their lives and to let them know how much they are loved.

"Our minds turn first and foremost to those whose lives were lost and the loved ones who are facing this unthinkable and unexpected news," Archbishop Lori said. "While we know that our lives are fragile, a moment such as this reminds us what can change in but an instant. In the charity of our prayers tonight, we lift up these souls, those who have gone and those who remain, to the Lord of life and love."

The archbishop noted that in the days and weeks ahead, many others will be affected by the tragedy.

"Seafarers from across the globe, people who already labor under very difficult conditions, are now stranded in the Port of Baltimore," he said. "Many men and women throughout our region whose livelihoods depend on our port are filled with fear and uncertainty as they look at the road that lies ahead."

The archbishop said communities across the region will be "impacted by the severing of this vital transportation link." He emphasized that the days ahead will demand "ongoing concern, love and generosity" in support of those affected by the collapse.

"It is often the case that when

tragedy strikes, we are shaken from our normal way of seeing things; our hearts are moved to think of those who are impacted and suffering," he said. "But as time goes by and the normal demands of daily life impose themselves upon us, it is easy for us to forget this experience and to forget those whose lives will not go back to normal."

Auxiliary Bishop Bruce A. Lewandowski, who concelebrated the Mass along with Auxiliary Bishop Adam J. Parker, told the Catholic Review, Baltimore's archdiocesan news outlet, that Redemptorist Father Ako Walker was with the families of the six construction workers as they awaited news about their loved ones. The U.S. Coast Guard announced late in the day it had ended its search-and-rescue operation. Father Walker is the bilingual pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus-Sagrado Corazón de Jesús in Baltimore's Highlandtown neighborhood. The construction workers are all believed to be Hispanic.

"He's there and offering prayer and presence," Bishop Lewandowski said. "It's a very sad situation. It's good that he can be there and, through him, the church can offer comfort and reassurance to the families. I just can't imagine

what they must be going through."

The bishop said the church has offered whatever support it can through the Esperanza Center, a Catholic Charities operation in East Baltimore that supports immigrant communities. In the event that families will need churches for funerals, Bishop Lewandowski said, that also will be made available.

The Catholic Church has been working with Giuliana Valencia-Banks, Baltimore County's immigrant affairs outreach coordinator and a former employee of the Esperanza Center, to help coordinate support to families.

Bishop Lewandowski noted that Catholic leaders also have been in touch with people they know in the Hispanic community who do high-level bridge construction work to check on their safety since many of them are parishioners of Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"Some called back and some did not," he said.

Andy Middleton, director of the Archdiocese of Baltimore's Apostleship of the Sea ministry to seafarers at the Port of Baltimore, offered one of the readings at the cathedral Mass.

**See "Bridge" on Page 6**

# Russian, Ukrainian Church Leaders React to Moscow Terror Attack

By **Jonathan Luxmoore, OSV News**

**(OSV News)** — Russia's Catholic archbishop has echoed condemnations of a March 22 terror assault which left dozens dead and injured at a Moscow concert venue, although a bishop from war-torn Ukraine warned the atrocity should also remind Russians of what his country was suffering at their hands.

"Our hearts are filled with horror and pain — but we ... (should) not forget our lives are in God's hands," said Archbishop Paolo Pezzi, who heads the Moscow-based Mother of God Archdiocese.

"Trusting in him, I ask you to pray for the salvation of all whose lives are still in danger, peace for the dead, help and healing for the injured, and courage and patience for all called to help them."

The archbishop issued the statement March 23 following the overnight attack by gunmen on the Crocus concert hall in the capital's Krasnogorsk suburb, which claimed more than 130 lives and left over 100 injured.

He said he wished to support everyone affected by the "brutal terrorist attack," while also urging Russians to "exercise due care and discretion" for their "personal and public safety," and continue "witnessing to hope in these dark times."

However, a Ukrainian bishop said he feared the attack would also serve as a "great provocation," enabling Vladimir Putin's government to "inflare international opinion" and "justify the terrible acts" committed against his country.

"Our soldiers and civilians are being shot at and shelled every day by Russian forces, who are also destroying our energy and water supplies in a great tragedy of death and suffering," said Auxiliary Bishop Jan Sobilo of Kharkiv-Zaporizhzhia, which witnessed increased Russian attacks in recent weeks.

"Russians should be reflecting right now on where Putin's policies are leading them, and thinking seriously and realistically about their own future," he said. "If things continue as they are, it's Russia which will be destabilized, and it will bear the guilt itself."

Ukraine's government denied any involvement in the Krasnogorsk atrocity, which was claimed March 22 by the Islamist ISIS terror group, while U.S. officials said they had warned Moscow of an imminent terrorist attack.

However, in a March 23 TV address, Putin said four assailants had been apprehended heading "towards Ukraine," adding that a "window" had been "prepared for them from the Ukrainian side to cross the state border."

He added that Russia's Federal Security Service, the FSB, had arrested a total of 11 and was working to identify "who provided them with transport, planned escape routes from the crime scene, and prepared caches of weapons and ammunition."

Meanwhile, Russia's Orthodox patriarch expressed "deep shock" at the attack, and urged Russians "not to lose faith, but maintain courage and fortitude." "The crime committed is striking in its cynicism and cruelty," Patriarch Kirill said in an overnight message.

"I am confident law enforcement agencies and special services will do everything possible to solve this brazen crime successfully as soon as possible, and bring to justice those responsible."

However, an exiled Russian historian and politician, Andrei Zubov, told Italy's Servizio Informazione Religiosa March 23 the attack had also exposed the vulnerability of ordinary citizens, and raised questions about how Moscow's special services had "deprived us of civil rights and fundamental freedoms, while missing such a large-scale, well-prepared terrorist attack."

Meanwhile, Bishop Sobilo said the atrocity should remind "wise Russians" of the enormities perpetrated in Uk-

raine, especially among families whose sons had been "sent off to a cruel war and killed."

However, he also warned that those "unthinkingly subject to official propaganda" would be "captivated even more by hatred for other countries."

"In St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus says those who died in Jerusalem's collapsing Siloam tower were no guiltier than other citizens, but warns everyone will similarly perish unless they repent," the auxiliary bishop told OSV News.

"Since we don't know what individual Russians think, we can't evaluate personal guilt and innocence," he said. "All we can say for certain is that Russia is making a terrible mistake in untruthfully presenting current events and fuelling public support for war by suggesting Russia is in danger."

The Orthodox Moscow Patriarchate said March 23 funeral services for victims, who died from gunshots and poisoning, were already taking place at local churches, adding that its Odintsovo diocese had set up a hotline for counseling by priests and psychologists.

Meanwhile, a day of national mourning was declared for March 24 by Putin, who chaired a meeting of Russia's Security Council March 22 on "measures to combat the spread of neo-Nazi ideas."

In his OSV News interview, Bishop Sobilo said his Zaporizhzhia home region had come under fresh Russian shellfire March 23, adding that Ukrainian Catholics hoped upcoming Holy Week and Easter events could take place, despite a widely expected spring escalation in fighting.

He added that Ukrainian forces should be expected to step up strikes against military targets inside Russia "in their own defense efforts," and were aware this would "incite ever greater anger and aggression among Russians."

"The world must look prudently at what's happening, and see how these war actions are becoming ever more dangerous not just for Ukraine," the Kharkiv-Zaporizhzhia auxiliary bishop told OSV News.

"Two years ago, Putin himself pressed the button for Russia's self-destruction, and everything happening today — the aggression, hatred and lying — is flowing back into Russian society," he said. "Although sensible Russians can do nothing now because the control is so total, they should ask themselves if it's really worth sitting quietly and waiting for something to change, or whether they shouldn't now wake up and seek changes themselves. As Christ told us, he who lives by the sword will die by the sword."

A Russian lay Catholic told OSV News prayers had been said for victims of the Crocus attack at March 23 Masses in Moscow, but said she had not recognized any Catholic names on the official list of victims.

She added that most Russians would not believe official accounts of the outrage and the latest reported arrests.

"There haven't been so many dead in any terrorist attack in Russia — and I'm seeing reactions of horror, sadness and hopelessness," said the lay Catholic, a university lecturer who also works with Caritas.

"There's also fear that the response to this attack will be tightened domestic legislation, increased repression and a new mobilization. Despite the huge numbers of police, guards and security personnel, they could do nothing to ensure the protection and safety of people."

The woman said that most of her Catholic friends had gone to donate blood on March 23 for the victims of the attack to offer "comfort and support."

(Jonathan Luxmoore writes for OSV News from Oxford, England.)

## Bridge...

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Middleton told the Catholic Review that Apostleship of the Sea had ministered to members of the crew of the cargo ship Dali March 24 and 25, delivering Easter boxes to the ship's crew. He had been in touch with one of the crew members on the disabled cargo ship "four or five times" after the bridge collapse, he said.

"It's a matter of staying in contact with them," he said, noting that everyone on the ship was safe and uninjured. "They know that we are praying with them."

Lora Hargrove, a parishioner of St. Bernardine in West Baltimore and the interfaith outreach director for Maryland Gov. Wes Moore, represented

the governor at the cathedral liturgy.

Following the Mass, she told the Catholic Review it was important for her to be present "to represent all faiths together so that we can watch each other, watch over each other — pray with each other."

Father Kevin Ewing, pastor of the Catholic Community of South Baltimore, told the Catholic Review earlier in the day that many of his parishioners, their family members and others are associated with the Port of Baltimore as ship workers or stevedores. The parish offered a 7 p.m. Mass March 26 at Our Lady of Good Counsel to pray for all those affected by the tragedy.

"We've heard from family members in that regard who just want to come together to

pray," he said. "It's a chance for us to try and see how we can help them navigate however their lives or their livelihood is impacted."

The Catholic Community of South Baltimore, made up of Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Mary Star of the Sea and Holy Cross, has been in touch with Apostleship of the Sea to provide whatever material support or accompaniment that may be needed in the months to come, Father Ewing said.

According to a March 26 statement from the Port of Baltimore, vessel traffic into and out of the port has been suspended until further notice.

In an afternoon briefing at the White House, President Joe Biden pledged to use federal resources to rebuild the bridge. He noted that the Port of Balti-

more is one of the nation's largest shipping hubs, handling a record amount of cargo last year.

He said that 15,000 jobs "depend on that port. And we're going to do everything we can to protect those jobs and help those workers." The bridge is important to the entire Northeast Corridor, with more than 30,000 vehicles

crossing it every day, he added.

The Francis Scott Key Bridge was constructed between 1972 and 1977 at a cost of \$60.3 million. The four-lane bridge had covered 1.6 miles and had a traffic volume of 11.3 million vehicles annually.

(George Matysek Jr. is the managing editor of the Catholic Review, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.)



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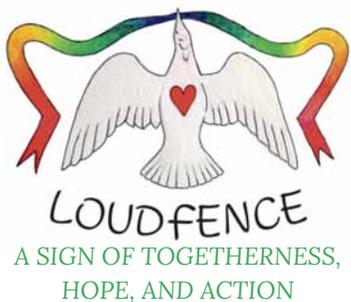
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# Plan to attend



### What is LOUDfence?

An international organization that started out of compassion to support faithful Christians who had been abused, as well as the faithful who care and pray for healing, hope, and change. LOUDfence is a way to bring a hushed and taboo topic into a healthy conversation and act of solidarity as a step forward.



### Ceremony after Mass?

Faithful will tie ribbons to represent prayers, hope, and healing for victims of abuse in Christian churches. Inspired by the gospel, LOUDfence works with churches around the world to actively foster a culture for safeguarding and truth telling. Being a safeguarder is being one to stand at the foot of the cross, helping others to literally live out the values of the gospel.

### Mass & LOUDfence

**Ceremony**  
**10:30 am, April 7**  
**Cathedral**  
**of St. Joseph,**  
**Wheeling**  
**Celebrants**  
**Bishop Mark Brennan**  
**of the Diocese**  
**of Wheeling-Charleston**  
**& Bishop Paul Mason of England**

SOLIDARITY COMPASSION SUPPORT



## SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOR THE FAITHFUL: SPIRITUAL WARFARE FOR TODAY'S TIMES

Presenter: Fr. Joe Freedy  
 Date: Wednesday, April 3  
 Time: 6:15 pm  
 Location: St. Michael Parish,  
 1225 National Rd, Wheeling

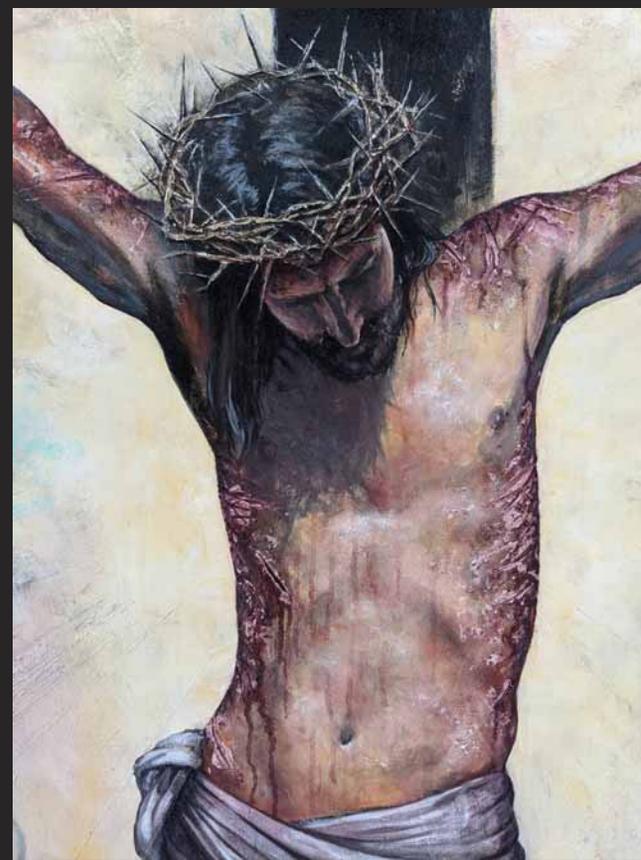
*The evening is hosted by the St. Michael Parish's Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Christian Women*

*Social immediately following. All are welcome!*

Father Joe Freedy is from the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He is nationally known as the Quarterback priest and shared the viral story of "The Power of One Hail Mary." He was also a keynote presenter and break out leader at our Diocesan Eucharistic Congresses last year in both Charles Town and Charleston.

## Check out the April 5 issue of The Catholic Spirit for a Feature Story on West Virginia Artist Christopher Santer

The Crucifixion, by West Virginia born and raised artist Christopher Santer, is shown below. Be sure to check out next week's The Catholic Spirit online and in print for his story. #FaithInWV



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# 10 Ways to Prepare for First Communion Day

By Joseph D. White, OSV News

**(OSV News)** — A child's first Communion is an important and exciting milestone in the life of a Catholic family. As the first and most important teachers of their children, parents present their children for baptism and guide them toward Christ as they are initiated into the church community. Handing on our faith to the next generation can feel like an awesome responsibility. We may sometimes wonder if we "know enough" or are "good enough," but God gives parents all the grace they need to raise their children to know and love him.

Here are 10 ideas for spiritual and practical preparation to help you and your child as you anticipate this important day.

## Spiritual preparations

**1.** Talk to your child about his or her baptism. All sacraments are necessarily related to baptism, the first sacrament we celebrate. Most children, having been baptized as infants, won't remember their baptism. Take out your child's baptismal candle and pictures and talk about the important day he or she was welcomed into the family of God. Discuss how first Communion is an extension of that day, as now they are welcomed to the family meal.

**2.** Talk with your child about your own first Communion experience. Try to remember as much as possible about your own first Communion day and share this with your child. Encourage other family members (such

as brothers and sisters) to talk about their experiences as well. Take out first Communion photos if you have them.

**3.** Celebrate meals together as a family. Unfortunately, our society's hectic pace has made sitting down to meals as a family less common; yet, the family meal is an important opportunity for sharing and becoming closer to one another. It's difficult for children to understand the Eucharist as the family meal of the church if they have no experience with eating together with their families at home — the "domestic church." If you don't already, make it a point to eat together at the table with no television on several occasions before your child's first Communion. It's a practice you may decide to continue.

**4.** Spend time in family prayer. In Pope St. John Paul II's "Letter to Families," the pope called prayer the source of all renewal of family life. Spend some time praying together, asking God to prepare your child to receive Jesus in the Eucharist and thanking him for this wonderful gift. You may even want to pray a first Communion novena during the days leading up to your child's first Communion celebration.

**5.** Help your child understand and participate in the Mass. Encourage your child to pay attention to the Mass, singing and praying the responses along with you. Special children's missals and books about the Mass often include both the prayers of the Mass and pictures. You may also wish to practice the

prayers of the Mass with your child at other times. For example, say, "The Lord be with you," and encourage your child to respond appropriately.

**6.** Attend Holy Thursday Mass and Eucharistic adoration as a family. The Holy Thursday liturgy, which typically precedes first Communion on the parish calendar, can be a wonderful learning experience for children preparing for Eucharist. It recalls the story of the first Eucharist, Jesus' Last Supper with his apostles, and closes with the transfer of the Eucharist and Eucharistic adoration. Some parishes also have other times for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Stopping by for a short time of prayer can help children better appreciate Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

## Practical preparations

**7.** Plan the wardrobe. Several weeks in advance, involve your child in deciding what he or she will wear on first Communion day. Spring fashions are generally in the stores by late winter, so if your child is celebrating in the spring, February or March is a good time to shop. More traditional first Communion attire may include white dresses with veils for girls and black or white suits for boys. However, at some parishes, nice Sunday clothes are the norm. The most important part of choosing what your child is to wear is to make sure his or her attire reflects the dignity and joy of the occasion.

**8.** Invite friends and extended family members. Be



Courtesy Photo

Jillian and Brayden recently had their First Penance and Reconciliation at Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield. They will soon make their First Holy Communion. With them is Very Rev. Sebastian Devasya, assoc. V.E., V.F., pastor.

sure to let friends and family members, and especially his or her godparents, know as soon as possible about your child's first Communion celebration. You may want to enlist your child's help in writing invitations to attend.

**9.** Involve cultural and family traditions in your first Communion preparations. Find out if there are first Communion traditions that are specific to your family or cultural group, and involve these traditions as much as possible in your preparations for your child. This will highlight the fact that he or she is

joining the family at the Eucharistic table.

**10.** Find a meaningful gift to mark the occasion. While first Communion isn't about getting gifts and money, it's helpful for your child to receive something concrete to help remember this important milestone. Spiritual articles make especially good first Communion gifts.

(Dr. Joseph White is a clinical psychologist who writes on catechesis, ministry and other topics, and whose books include "Listening for God in Everyday Life" Our Sunday Visitor, 2020).



## St. George Camporee

*hosted by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston  
Catholic Committee on Scouting*

The St. George Camporee will be held at Camp Mountaineer located outside Morgantown, WV. **All Troops and Crews in Scouts BSA are welcome and encouraged to attend.** The camporee will feature the following activities: climbing, shooting sports, service Mass.

**When:** Friday, April 26 - Sunday, April 28, 2024  
**Where:** Camp Mountaineer, Morgantown, WV  
**Cost:** \$12 | \$25 after April 5  
**Includes:** Saturday dinner, patch, and materials. All early-bird registrants will also receive a t-shirt, while last.

**Register at <https://scoutingevent.com/615-71430>**

# Now is the time to Talk!

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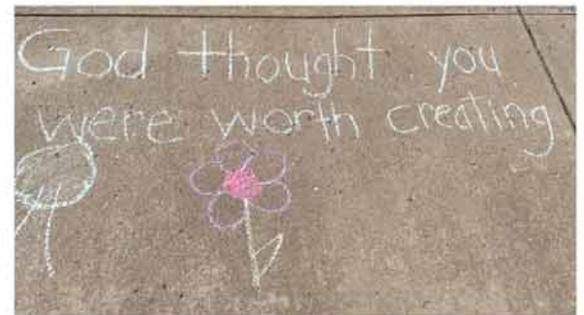
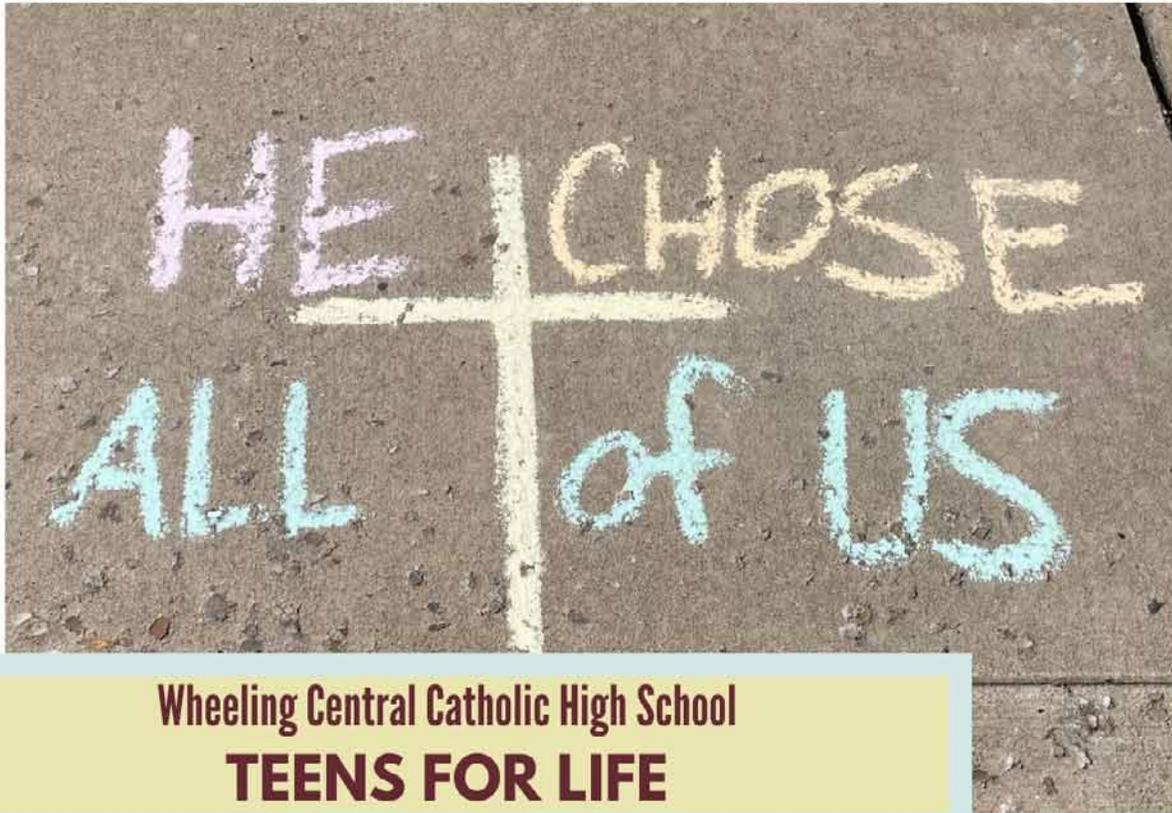
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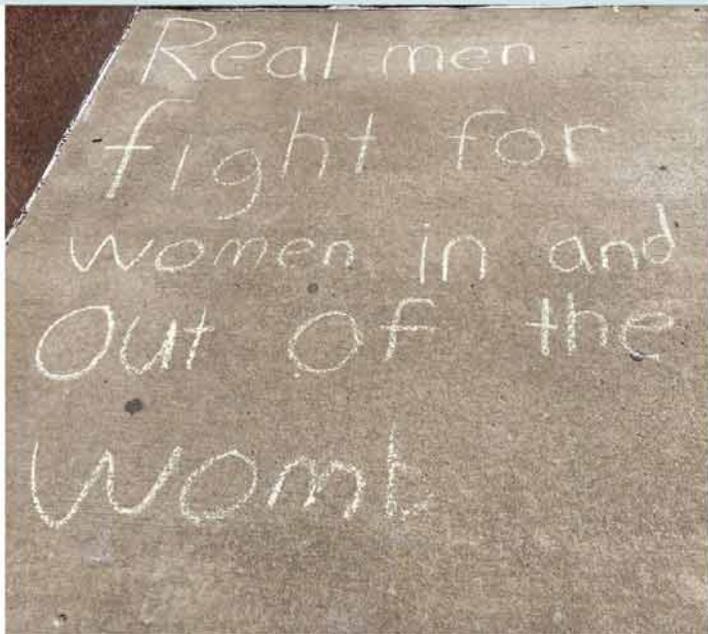
**Wheeling Locations:**

2221 National Road  
(304)242-4770  
116 Edgington Lane  
(304) 242-6697

# CCHS Students Create Visual Reminder of God's Gift of Life



**Wheeling Central Catholic High School  
TEENS FOR LIFE**



Joyce Bibey Photos and Illustration

This chalk art was created by Central Catholic High School, Wheeling, WV Teens for Life. On the sidewalks around the school, students in the club provided a visual reminder of God's gift of life.

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for the Mid-Ohio Valley

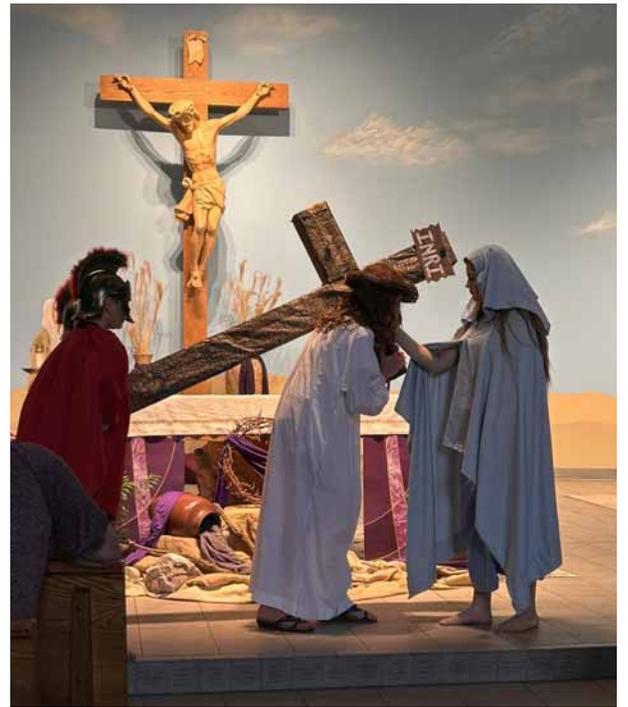
Weekly, general recovery meetings for all addictions, compulsions and unhealthy attachments starting Monday, April 15 at 7 pm  
St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in the parish hall  
2500 Dudley Ave., Parkersburg  
CatholicInRecoveryMOV12@gmail.com \* (681) 229-7220  
<https://CatholicInRecovery.com/>

**Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston  
CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE – Spring 2024  
Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant**

**Saturday, April 6:** St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown; 5:15 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 10:** Our Lady of Peace, Wheeling; 6:00 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 11:** St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton; 7:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 14:** SS Peter and Paul, Oak Hill; 10:30 a.m.  
**Monday, April 15:** Corpus Christi, Wheeling; 6:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, April 20:** St. Sebastian, Kingwood; 6:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, April 21:** Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Stonewood; 10:00 a.m.  
**Sunday, April 28:** St. Jude, Glen Dale; 9:00 a.m.  
**Sunday, May 5:** St. Brendan, Elkins; 11:00 a.m.  
**Saturday, May 11:** St. John the Evangelist, Wellsburg; 11:00 a.m.  
**Saturday, May 11:** St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling; 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, May 12:** Immaculate Conception,

New Cumberland; 8:30 a.m.  
**Monday, May 13:** St. Michael, Wheeling; 5:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, May 19:** St. Agnes, Charleston; 10:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday, May 22:** Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg; 6:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 25:** St. James, Charles Town; 10:00 a.m.  
**Saturday, May 25:** St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs; 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, May 26:** St. Joseph, Martinsburg; 4:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, June 1:** St. Francis Xavier, Moundsville; 4:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, June 8:** Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston; 5:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, June 9:** Sacred Heart, Princeton; 11:00 a.m.  
**Saturday, June 15:** St. Francis de Sales, Beckley; 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, June 16:** St. John the Evangelist, Summersville; 9:00 a.m.

*The Living Stations*



Courtesy Photo  
 Students at St. Paul School in Weirton present the Living Stations at St. Paul Church in Weirton. Many parishes and Catholic schools around the diocese presented Living Stations to their communities throughout Lent as well.

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# Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center Hosts Annual St. Joseph Day Dinner



Courtesy Photo

Catholic Charities West Virginia gave a special thanks to Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling, and the Knights of Columbus for hosting their annual St. Joseph Day Dinner at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling. Volunteers and patrons are pictured above at the dinner.

## St. John the Evangelist Parish 100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

You are officially invited to St. John the Evangelist Parish's annual Parish Picnic and All School Reunion to commemorate 100 years at our current location and 170 years serving Wellsburg and the surrounding residents. This event will be held on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 12 p.m.

- Catered Meal
- Historical Exhibit
- Live Music
- Raffle Items

Please RSVP to 304-737-0429 or by email at [office@stjohnwellsburgwv.com](mailto:office@stjohnwellsburgwv.com)



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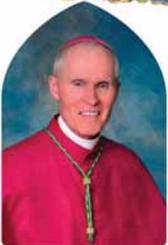
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# Peregrinación Al Congreso Nacional Eucarístico

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17-21 DE JULIO, 2024**

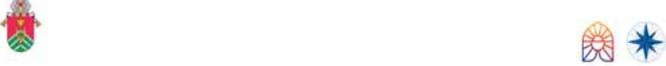
Con nuestro Obispo Monseñor Mark Brennan  
de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston



Participa en este momento crucial en la Iglesia y entra en una intimidad más profunda con nuestro Señor. ¡Únate a nuestra diócesis regístrate hoy! Escanea el código QR o selecciona el enlace de Reserva Hoy, para asistir a este evento histórico



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UN MENSAJE DEL OBISPO MARK BRENNAN  
SOBRE EL CONGRESO NACIONAL EUCARÍSTICO

"Será estimulante ver a los fieles de Virginia Occidental en el Congreso Eucarístico Nacional representando a sus parroquias locales. Estoy feliz de asociarnos con Corporate Travel, una empresa católica que se especializa en peregrinaciones católicas, para aliviarnos la carga logística de viajes".  
-Obispo Brennan

Lo Que Incluye el Recorrido

- Pase al Congreso NEC (5 Días)
- Cuatro (4) noches de alojamiento en o cerca de Indianápolis
- Desayuno continental diario (asignación de hotel pendiente)
- Transporte de ida y vuelta desde West Virginia a Indianápolis en autobús de primera calidad
- Traslados diarios entre el hotel y Indianapolis Convention Center y Lucas Oil Stadium
- Propinas para los conductores de autobuses

Lo Que No Incluye en el Recorrido

- Comidas y bebidas no identificadas previamente
- Artículos no mencionados anteriormente

3 Pasos Para Registrarse

1. Escanee el código QR en la portada del folleto o selección [AQUÍ](#) para acceder a nuestro sitio de registro en línea.
2. Siga las indicaciones para ingresar su información personal, seleccione la configuración de su habitación, ingrese la información de pago y acepté nuestros términos y condiciones
3. Al finalizar, recibirá un correo electrónico de confirmación con el código diocesano y un video tutorial con instrucciones para finalizar su inscripción en el sitio web oficial del Congreso Nacional Eucarístico.



Plan de Pago:

Depósito de \$750 por persona al registrarse  
El saldo restante se vence el 17 de abril del 2024

Los pagos no son reembolsables. Al registrarse para el recorrido, usted entiende y acepta los términos y condiciones de CTS y acepta nuestra liberación de responsabilidad de CTS. Todas las cancelaciones deben ser recibidas por escrito.



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

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

**Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas:** La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270; o Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al

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

**Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis:** llame a la Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida. Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crímenes contra Niños: 304-293-6400.

## Lead Summer Camp Pre-K Teachers Needed at St. Joseph School, Martinsburg

St. Joseph School (SJS) in Martinsburg 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.

We are seeking two enthusiastic and responsible individuals to join our team as lead summer camp pre-K teachers. As a lead teacher, you will play a vital role in creating a safe and engaging environment in which children can learn and have fun. This is a rewarding opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of young campers.

### Responsibilities:

Supervise and ensure the safety of campers at all times; Plan and lead age-appropriate activities, games and crafts; Assist with the implementation of daily schedules and routines; Provide guidance and support to campers in their social interactions; Foster a positive and inclusive environment for all campers; Collaborate with other staff members to create a cohesive team; Communicate effectively with campers, parents and fellow staff members.

### Requirements:

At least two years of experience working with children in a regulated child care setting, classroom or similar environment; Knowledge of childhood development and early intervention techniques; Strong verbal and written communication skills; Ability to adapt to different learning styles and individual needs; Patience, empathy and the ability to connect with children; Basic math skills for activity planning and supervision; Knowledge of child welfare and special education is a plus; CPR and first aid certification preferred (or willingness to obtain); Willingness to support the school mission statement; Willingness to meet state qualifications for early child care educators.

The salary is \$13 to \$15 per hour. The shift is Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a 45-minute break.

Please email a letter of introduction and résumé to PK Director Katie MacKinnon at [kmackinnon@sjswv.org](mailto:kmackinnon@sjswv.org).

## SCHOOL NURSE NEEDED

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is looking to fill the position of School Nurse for its School Based Health Program. This is a Full Time position requiring 40 Hours per week for 40 Weeks. The position is located at St. Paul School and St. Joseph the Worker School (with reach out to Madonna High School as needed) in Weirton, WV.

The school nurse is responsible for planning, implementing, coordinating, and evaluating school health services within the context of the School Based Health Program. The nurse serves in the roles of program manager, case manager, direct care provider, collaborator, advocate, educator and counselor to students, parents, faculty, and the community as appropriate.

The successful candidate will possess a current valid WV Nursing License with a BSN. Pediatric, adolescent or public health experience is desired. The individual must be able to function independently within scope of practice. Interested persons should submit a resume to Erin McFarland, School Based Health Coordinator, at [emcfarland@weirtonstpauls.org](mailto:emcfarland@weirtonstpauls.org).

### 20/20 VISION SERIES

## A YEAR WITH THE SAINTS

Join us as we journey throughout the year focusing on various Saints and their legacies, presented by those among us who live out these legacies in their lives and in their communities.

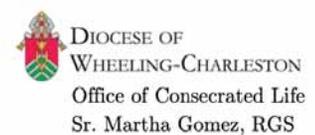
Note: Each session will begin at 7 pm and will be presented via Zoom.

DATE CHANGE!

January 29	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Sr. Mary Clark, SC
February 26	St. Brigid of Kildare – Sr. Karen Kirby, CSJ
<b>March 25</b>	<b>St. Joseph – Sr. Kathleen Durkin, CSJ</b>
April 29	St. Mary Euphrasia – Sr. Martha Gomez, R.G.S.
May 20	Blessed Virgin Mary – TBD
June 24	Marcellin Champagnat – Brother John Byrd, FMS
July 29 August 26	St. Ignatius of Loyola – Lou Volpe
September 30	St. Dominic – Sr. Ellen Dunn, OP
October 28	St. Lorenzo Ruiz – Fr. Carlos Melocoton
November 18	Jesuit Martyrs – TBD
December 16	Servant of God Dorothy Day – Kate Marshall St. Stephan – Deacon John Yaquinta

(Series originated by Ms. Shirley Carter, B.A., M.A.A.T.)

Cost for complete series: \$120.00 Or \$15.00 per session.  
RSVP – Anna Marie Troiani: [atroiani@csjoseph.org](mailto:atroiani@csjoseph.org)



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## St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, Seeking PK Director

St. Joseph School (SJS) in Martinsburg is seeking a pre-K director. The ideal candidate will be a team player, confident to work independently and manage preschool daily operations, while complying with state and local requirements, and willing to receive direction from the administration.

SJS 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 ideal candidate would be one who embraces the SJS mission and who is looking for a place in which to be appreciated, respected and supported.

The full-time position offers a salary of \$42,000 to \$52,000.

Essential responsibilities:

Oversees the daily operations of the preschool program; Collaborates with the administration and peers in upholding the school mission, policies and school procedures; Ensures successful implementation of approved preschool curriculum by providing and maintaining quality educational programs according to school mission; Recruits, hires and trains preschool staff; Assists with the after-school program; Promotes and retains enrollment and markets the preschool program; Continually seeks ways to manage and reduce expenses without sacrificing quality or service; balances profitability with priorities related to staff, children and families; Applies state and local guidelines and ensures compliance according to licensing requirements; Maintains accurate files and records for staff, children and activities required by state licensing board

Requirements:

Outstanding communication skills; a bachelor's degree in science of early childhood education, or proven leadership in early childcare facility with an associate degree in early childhood education, or a bachelor's degree in related field and a total of two years of relevant work experience; or a bachelor's degree in business, management or administration field with credit hours in early childhood development or experience with young children

Benefits:

Full-time employees qualify for medical, vision and dental insurance. Free cafeteria lunch provided.

Please send a letter of introduction and résumé to Principal Maria Byrd at [mbyrd@sjsvw.org](mailto:mbyrd@sjsvw.org).

## JOB OPENINGS

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has the following job openings at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston:

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

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

Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or [gwright@dwc.org](mailto:gwright@dwc.org) to schedule an interview or for more information.

**Maintenance Worker**—The Maintenance Worker position 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 Maintenance position is responsible for assisting in tasks related to the general maintenance of the Center buildings (interior and exterior), grounds, equipment and vehicles.

Usually works Monday-Friday day shift. Occasional evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed. Helps in kitchen when needed.

Contact the Director, Gerri Wright at 304.342.0507 or [gwright@dwc.org](mailto:gwright@dwc.org) to schedule an interview or for more information.

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES NEEDED

The Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart located in Charleston, West Virginia is looking for a pastoral musician. Responsibilities include overseeing the selection of music for liturgies, substituting for our organist, directing the choir, cantoring when necessary, preparing worship aids and expanding our current music program. Candidates should have a BA degree or higher in a music field, or other field, if musically trained, excellent organ/keyboards/choral conducting skills and vocal technique and be familiar with music notation software. A practicing Catholic is preferred but not required; candidates must be of the Christian faith with willingness to learn about and genuinely support others in their Catholic faith. Conversant with a variety of liturgical styles including contemporary, classical, and traditional. Must demonstrate a commitment to use a blended approach to liturgical music that encourages the assembly to sing. Working hours are flexible and include weekends and some evenings. Complete job description available upon request. Please send résumés to: Bernadette McMasters Kime, Office of Worship and Sacraments, PO. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003 or email [bkime@dwc.org](mailto:bkime@dwc.org)

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