

THE CATHOLIC  
*Spirit*

## Pope Calls for Cease-Fire in Gaza; Calls Disarmament ‘Moral Duty’

**By Justin McLellan, Catholic News Service**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** — Pope Francis repeated his call for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and said the international community has a “moral duty” to pursue disarmament worldwide.

After praying the Angelus in St.

Peter’s Square March 3, the pope encouraged “the continuation of negotiations for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and in the entire region so that hostages may be freed immediately and return to their anxiously waiting loved ones and the civilian population can have safe access to urgently needed

humanitarian aid.”

“I carry daily in my heart, with sorrow, the suffering of the populations in Palestine and in Israel, due to the ongoing hostilities,” he said, lamenting the “thousands of dead, wounded, displaced” and the immense destruction and suffering that “has terrible consequences on

the small and the defenseless, who see their future compromised.”

“I ask myself: Do we really think we can build a better world in this way?” he asked. “Do we really think we can achieve peace? Enough, please!”

The pope repeatedly has called  
**See “Pope” on Page 2**

## Catholics Call for Vigilance as more Legislatures Advance Medically Assisted Suicide Bills

**By Kimberley Heatherington, OSV News**

**(OSV News)** — During February, Pope Francis’ monthly intentions asked the faithful to pray for the terminally ill — as well as their families — with the petition that they “receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.”

Such a plea is — for both those professionally and personally concerned with end-of-life ethics — increasingly urgent in America, where 2024 has seen suicide-enabling legislation introduced or pending in 18 state legislatures.

While those who support euthanasia and medically assisted suicide emphasize empowerment and control, Catholic opponents argue an undeniably dangerous and dystopian dimension has begun to emerge in the sometimes profit-driven realms of health care insurance and medicine: the cost-benefit ratio of prescribing death for terminal patients versus palliative care.

“What we’re seeing with various bills across our country is that we’re getting to the point that — in certain situations and states — any medical professional who upholds the Hippocratic Oath and implores the patient not to commit suicide, could be considered a felon,” Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**See “Vigilance” on Page 3**



## Assumption Parish in Keyser Thanks ‘Our Holy Helpers’

Assumption Parish in Keyser thanked “Our Holy Helpers” Kennedy Stephen, Harper Newlin, and Morgan Gustafson (pictured from left) for serving at Stations of the Cross at the church. “All three girls are students in our grades 1-2 CCD class,” parish officials posted on Facebook. Assumption Parish invites all to Mass at 6 p.m. each Friday of Lent followed by the Stations of the Cross. *Courtesy Photo*

# Pope...

Cont'd from Page 1

for an end to violence in the Holy Land since Oct. 7 when Hamas attacked Israel and Israel retaliated by invading Gaza.

He also asked people March 3 to not forget about the conflict in Ukraine, "where so many die every day."

Pope Francis also drew attention to the celebration March 5 of the International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness. "How many resources are wasted on military spending that, as a result of the current situation, sadly continues to increase," he said. "I sin-

cerely hope that the international community understands that disarmament is first and foremost a duty: disarmament is a moral duty."

Disarmament, he said, "requires the courage of all members of the great family of nations to move from a balance of fear to a balance of trust."

Pope Francis has often taken aim against the arms industry. At his Nov. 23, 2023, general audience he said, "everyone loses" due to war except for arms manufacturers who "earn a lot from the death of others," and in his message on Christmas Day 2023 he criticized the vast amount of public spending on weapons.

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

**Sunday, March 17:** St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg; 2:00 p.m.

**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.

## 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."

**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.



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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)
9:30 WVVA NBC 6	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
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# Vigilance...

Cont'd from Page 1

Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, told OSV News.

"This is where it's going," Bishop Burbidge warned. "In a state like Oregon, insurance companies deny medical coverage for terminally ill patients — but offer medically assisted suicide as an alternative. This is the path that leads to a culture of death, instead of a culture of life."

Legislation to legalize physician-assisted suicide moved rapidly in Virginia's General Assembly session this year, triggering a Feb. 5 statement from Bishop Burbidge and fellow Virginia Bishop Barry C. Knestout of Richmond. The bill passed in the Senate, but ultimately stalled in the House of Delegates with a House committee voting March 4 to punt the bill to the 2025 session.

"Those who are approaching the end of life should have access to high quality medical and palliative care — not drugs to hasten their death," Bishop Burbidge said. "Vigilance is required for all advocates, family members, and caretakers — more than ever."

Other Catholic opponents of euthanasia and medically assisted suicide — sometimes labeled medical aid in dying — told OSV News their concerns and shared the efforts they are making to raise awareness around the country.

"Every year, it gets a little more precarious for us, as the proponents of the bill get themselves more organized, raise more money and pick up more sponsors," said Dennis Poust, executive director of the New York State Catholic Conference.

In January 2023, the New York state Legislature introduced the "Medical Aid in Dying Act." A Jan. 18-31, 2024, YouGov poll — commissioned by Death with Dignity — indicated 72% of New York state citizens, including 58% of Catholics, support legalizing medically assisted suicide.

Poust emphasized that "not everyone diagnosed with a terminal illness has a disability — but they will all become disabled as their illness progresses. There is grave concern that there will be coercion and pressure on people with disabilities to end their lives."

Such concern is no longer purely theoretical either, Poust noted.

"You don't have to look further than New York's neighbors to the north, in Canada," he explained. "They went from passing a bill five or six years ago, similar to New York's, for people with terminal illnesses. Within a year or two, they expanded it to chronic illnesses that don't have to be terminal. And now they're on the verge of expanding it again to people with mental illness."

The teaching of the Catholic Church is quite specific, with the Second Vatican Council condemning

"euthanasia or wilful self-destruction" among the moral "infamies" that "poison human society" and are a "supreme dishonor to the Creator."

Recent popes also have spoken strongly about the issues at stake. In his 1995 encyclical "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), St. John Paul II warned of such procedures, stating, "Here we are faced with one of the more alarming symptoms of the 'culture of death.'"

Pope Benedict XVI lamented the same in a 2007 address to health care workers: "Today's efficiency mentality often tends to marginalize our suffering brothers and sisters," the pontiff said, "as if they were only a 'burden' and 'a problem' for society."

In a 2014 address to Italian doctors, Pope Francis denounced the "false compassion" of euthanasia.

However, the Catholic Church also says it can be morally acceptable for people to forgo "extraordinary" medical treatment, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes: "Discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be legitimate; it is the refusal of 'over-zealous' treatment. Here one does not will to cause death; one's inability to impede it is merely accepted."

In Arizona, both medically assisted suicide bills expired in the 2024 legislative session before being referred to committee.

"We'll see what happens in the elections — things could change," cautioned Ron Johnson, executive director of the Arizona Catholic Conference.

"When care is expensive and killing is cheap, which do we think will ultimately prevail?" asked Jason Adkins, executive director and general counsel of the Minnesota Catholic Conference. "Protecting the choices of those who want assisted suicide will ultimately endanger the health care choices of others."

Minnesota's medically assisted suicide bill comes up for a vote before the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee March 7.

"The proposed legislation requires all doctors and APRNs (Advanced Practice Registered Nurses) who serve terminal patients to offer assisted suicide as an option as part of their standard of care," said Adkins, warning that such a prerequisite "will harm the doctor-patient relationship and undermine health care delivery and access, especially for the most vulnerable in our communities."

Oregon was the first state to legalize physician-assisted suicide when its Death with Dignity Act went into effect in 1997.

Nine other U.S. states in addition to Oregon allow medically assisted suicide by either statute or court decision — California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington

— as well as the District of Columbia.

A 2020 Gallup poll found 74% of U.S. adult respondents believe "doctors should be allowed to end the life of a patient with an incurable disease 'by some painless means' if the patient and the patient's family requests it."

Gallup noted that 61% of Americans favor "doctor-assisted suicide for patients living in severe pain with an incurable disease."

Even among those who attend church weekly, 55% support euthanasia, while 39% support doctor-assisted suicide.

The thin line between euthanasia and medically assisted suicide is defined by who administers a lethal dose of drugs. In euthanasia — currently illegal throughout the United States — medical personnel actively kill the patient under certain criteria; in medically assisted suicide, the physician prescribes the lethal drugs to the patient, but doesn't administer them directly — the patient does.

In New Jersey, a physician-assisted suicide law has been in effect since 2019 — and is poised to remain so.

"In the current political climate in the state, I think we are going to see this law in effect for the foreseeable future," said James King, executive director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference.

For King, facing the issue of physician-assisted death has been intensely personal. When his mother

was diagnosed with aggressive terminal cancer, one doctor was chillingly specific concerning how long King's mother had to live.

"She was advocating for me — or suggesting to me — that I withhold food and hydration from my mom's care," King shared. He refused, and the physician quickly asked if he was Catholic. Upon his affirmative response, the doctor informed him, "Well, you know the Holy Father, the pope, changed all the rules about this a couple of years ago — you can withhold nutrition and hydration." King then pulled out his business card and gave a quick catechesis session.

"That's the reason we need to raise awareness," King observed. "You're already seeing where medical professionals are willing to go."

With the extra time allowed by palliative care, King's mother was able to see his youngest son, her grandson, receive his first Communion.

"If a Catholic doesn't have that information, they could have heard that doctor — saying things with the best intentions, very compassionately, saying the Holy Father changed that — and they could have believed that, and followed that advice," King said. "That's the responsibility we have, as church, to help properly teach and catechize the faithful as they face these critical decisions in their lives — for themselves and their loved ones."

(Kimberley Heatherington writes for OSV News from Virginia.)

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**Viewing Times**  
 March 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 10 pm  
 March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 9 pm  
 March 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 5 pm

## Diocesan Official Appointments

Bishop Mark Brennan has made public the following appointments:

**Father Dominic Athishu** is appointed pastor of St. Sebastian Parish, Kingwood; St. Edward the Confessor Mission, Terra Alta; and St. Zita Mission, Masontown, effective immediately. His place of residence is not affected by this assignment.

**Father Justin M. Golna, J.C.L.**, is appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Wellsburg, effective immediately. His place of residence is not affected by this assignment.

**Father Chinh Quang Joseph Tran, S.V.D.**, is appointed pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Hinton, and Sacred Heart Mission, Rainelle, effective immediately. His place of residence is not affected by this assignment.

**Father Kishore Babu Varaparla, H.G.N.**, is appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Fairmont, effective immediately. His place of residence is not affected by this assignment.

**Father Sojan Xavier** is appointed pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, St. Albans, effective immediately. His place of residence is not affected by this assignment.



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops's teaching document on political engagement, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," provides guidance to Catholic voters during a presidential election year. (OSV News/Courtesy USCCB)

[Click here to read the document](#)

## LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

### Wheeling Vicariate

Immaculate Conception, New Cumberland, March 10, 1-3 p.m.  
St. Francis Xavier, Moundsville, March 10, 3 p.m.  
St. Paul's, Weirton, March 12, 6 p.m.  
St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton, March 13, 7 p.m.  
St. Vincent de Paul, Wheeling, March 13: Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by Penance Service at 6 p.m.  
Our Lady of Peace, Wheeling: March 14, 6 p.m.; includes Lenten Mission, Eucharistic Adoration, benediction, guest speaker Deacon Paul Lim, music, and prayer  
St. Michael's, Wheeling, March 14: confession from 4-6 p.m.; service at 6:30 p.m. with Father T. Mathew Rowgh as homilist  
Sacred Heart, Chester, March 17, 2-3 p.m.  
Corpus Christi, Wheeling: March 18, Adoration, 6:30 p.m.; Penance Service, 7 p.m.  
St. John the Evangelist, Wellsburg, March 18, 6 p.m.

### Charleston Vicariate

Immaculate Conception, Montgomery, March 13, 6 p.m.  
St. Agnes, Charleston, March 14, 6 p.m.  
Blessed Sacrament, South Charleston, March 17, 3 p.m.  
Our Lady of Fatima, Huntington, March 17, 3:30 p.m.  
Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, March 18, 7 p.m.  
Our Lady of the Hills, Elkview, March 19, 6 p.m.  
Sacred Heart, Williamson, March 20, 6 p.m.  
St. Anthony's, Charleston, March 20, 6 p.m.

### Beckley Vicariate

St. Charles Borromeo, White Sulphur Springs, March 10, 3 p.m.  
St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, March 17, 3 p.m.  
Ss. Peter & Paul's, Oak Hill, March 20, 6 p.m.

### Clarksburg Vicariate

Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg: March 9, 3-4 p.m., March 16, 3-4 p.m., March 17, 3-4 p.m. March 23, 3-4 p.m., and March 27, 6-6:45 p.m.  
St. Brendan's, Elkins, March 12, 6:30 p.m.  
St. Ann's, Shinnston, March 14, 6 p.m.  
St. Francis de Sales, Morgantown, March 17, 2-3 p.m.  
St. James the Apostle, Clarksburg, March 20, 7 p.m.  
Immaculate Conception, Fairmont, March 21, at 6 p.m.  
St. Augustine's Grafton, March 22, 6:30 p.m.

### Martinsburg Vicariate

St. Agnes, Shepherdstown, March 9, at 4 p.m.  
St. Joseph's, Martinsburg, March 11, 7 p.m.  
St. Leo's, Inwood, March 13, 7 p.m.  
Assumption, Keyser, March 20, 6 p.m.  
St. Bernadette's, Hedgesville, March 27, 4-5:45 p.m.; Mass at 6 p.m.

### Parkersburg Vicariate

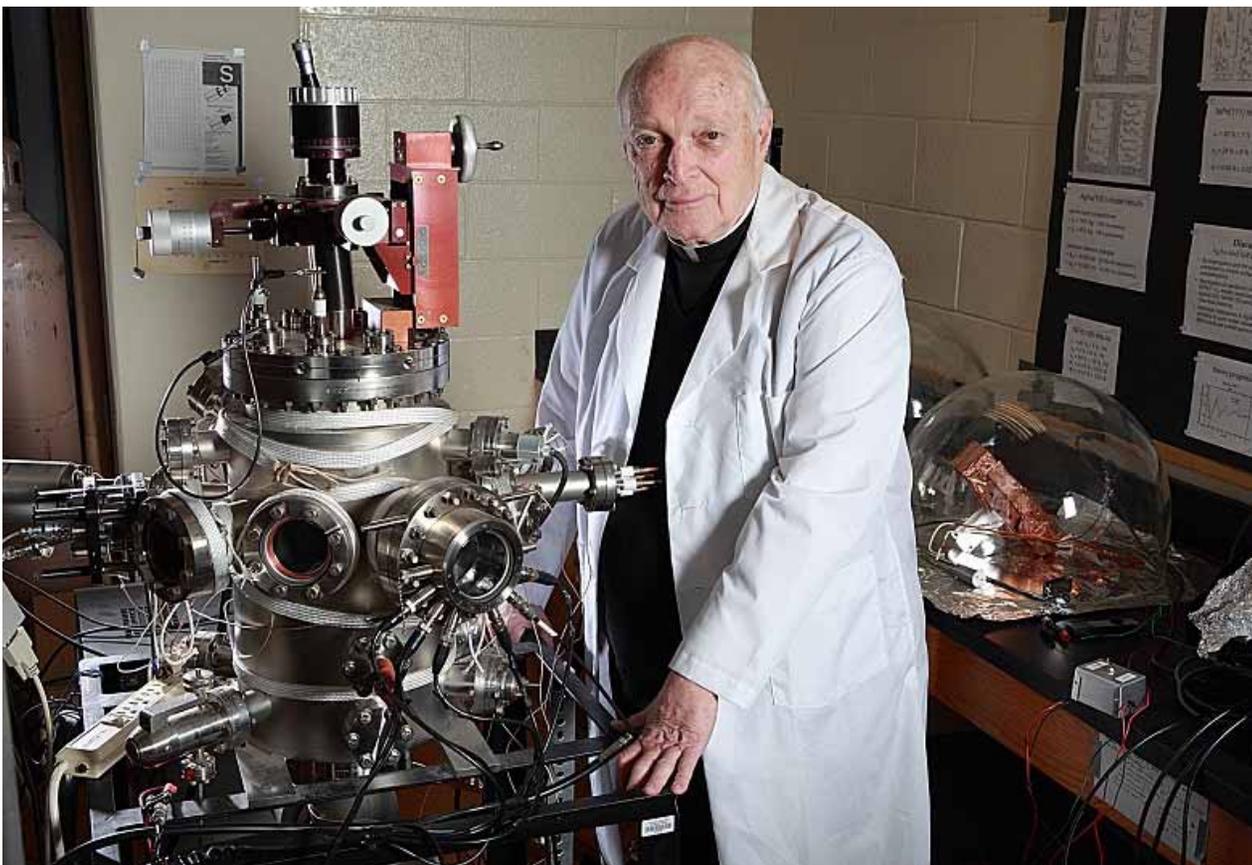
St. Matthew's, Ravenswood, March 19, 7 p.m.  
Sacred Heart, Point Pleasant, March 20, 6 p.m.  
St. John's, St. Marys, March 21, 6 p.m.



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# Wheeling University to Remember Former President, Father Frank Haig, SJ, at March 14 Mass



Courtesy Photo

Father Frank Haig, SJ

Father Frank Haig, SJ

Courtesy Photo

**WHEELING**—Wheeling University will celebrate the life of former president Father Frank Haig, SJ, during a memorial Mass at 12:10 p.m., Thursday, March 14 in the Chapel of Mary and Joseph. Father Haig, who passed away on Feb. 28 at the age of 95, was the third president of Wheeling University.

He served as leader of then Wheeling College from July 1966 to August 1972. Prior to serving as president at Wheeling, he was a member of the physics department at the university. He most recently was professor emeritus of physics at Loyola University Maryland.

The memorial Mass is open to all Wheeling students, faculty and alumni, said Dr. Dianna

Vargo, interim chief operations officer at Wheeling University.

Father Haig had a long and storied career in higher education.

During his tenure at Wheeling, Father Haig established the first Faculty Council, providing faculty a formal channel with which to interact with the administration, and he approved the “open university” concept that allowed students to explore topics not covered in the college’s curriculum. Father Haig also recognized the importance of forming connections with people, businesses and other institutions in the Wheeling area, and accepted the challenges of creating these bonds. His leadership built many

bridges that have served the college well during ensuing years.

Following his presidency at Wheeling, Father Haig moved to Baltimore to be a visiting fellow in the Johns Hopkins University Department of Physics. He joined the department of physics, engineering and computer science at Loyola College in Baltimore in 1972, and served as department chair during the 1980-81 academic year. In 1981, he became the president of Le Moyne College and served in that role until 1987, after which he rejoined the physics department at Loyola Baltimore.

Father Haig was born Sept. 11, 1928 in Philadelphia. Immediately after graduating from Lower Merion Senior High School, he entered the Jesuit order at Wernersville, Pa. He earned an A.B. from Woodstock College in Woodstock, Md., in 1952; a Ph.L. from Bellarmine College in Plattsburgh, N.Y., in 1953; and a Ph.D. in theoretical physics from Catholic University in 1959. He also earned an S.T.L. from Woodstock in 1961, the year he was ordained. Father Haig was the brother of Alexander M. Haig, who was a cabinet member in the Nixon, Ford and Reagan administrations.

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# YOU Are Invited!

## Sign up before March 15 to join the WV delegation

Don't procrastinate, this is your nudge to get registered now as part of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's delegation at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 17-21. There are 109 seats left on the bus – grab and reserve yours by March 15.

Booking the trip through Corporate Travel is the only way to claim your free five-day event pass to the Congress, saving you \$360 thanks to Bishop Mark Brennan and the Catholic Sharing Appeal! For details and to register go to: <https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/>

Securing your travel package with the diocese "is well worth eliminating the hassle of having to worry about transportation and accommodations," said Bernadette Kime, PhD., D. Min., director of the Office of Worship and Sacraments for the diocese. "Let Corporate Travel do the work for you!"

Corporate Travel, a Catholic pilgrimage company, will help make sure our WV delegation can travel together, enjoy convenient hotel accommodations as a group, no worries about parking (or downtown event parking fees) and stress-free access to the free shuttle service only available to pilgrims that are part of the Corporate Travel group (the USCCB and NEC will not be providing any shuttles or busing).

As Bishop Mark has said repeatedly, parishes need to find ways to help their representatives with the cost of this pilgrimage. Perhaps something as simple as having a second collection, splitting the proceeds of an event like one Lenten Fish Fry, and asking parish groups (K of C or Ladies Guild) to give a donation – investing in the life of the Church, as all those attending will return to share the Revival energy – Christ's True Presence and how we can heal our nation starting in our local churches.

### National Eucharistic Congress Customize Your Experience!

After signing up for the diocese's travel package you will be given a code to register at the NEC event page, where you will be able to customize your experience.

To enrich this event for attendees at different life stages and vocational paths, the National Eucharistic Congress team has organized morning experiences into impact sessions tailored to different audiences. This way, you can choose the experience that will have the greatest impact on you in your current state in life and be most relevant to your unique mission. Evening revival sessions will be a gathering of the entire Congress in Lucas Oil Stadium, but morning impact sessions will allow attendees to spread out and enjoy the session of their choice. Options include five tracks for the faithful:

**ENCOUNTER IMPACT SESSIONS** – for everyone who desires a deeper renewal of their faith, a richer understanding of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, and clarity on what the next step in their faith journey will be after the National Eucharistic Congress. Hear from Katie Prejean McGrady, Sr. Mary Grace Langrell, Dr. Mary Healy, Dr. Edward Sri, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, and more.

**EMPOWER IMPACT SESSIONS** – for anyone who wants practical tools to become a "Eucharistic Missionary," evangelizing their community and taking on a deeper role in spreading the Gospel to those around them. You'll hear from Deacon Larry and Andi Oney, Fr. John Burns, Chika Anyanwu, Bishop Joseph Espaillat, Meg Hunter-Kilmer, Paul Albert, and more. For those who are drawn toward smaller, more intimate sessions, participate in the EMPOWER morning impact sessions!

**RENEWAL IMPACT SESSIONS** – for anyone who serves in a parish, diocesan, or other ministry role, whether you are paid, volunteer, part-time, or full-time. We hope you will join us! Come, and be renewed. Emceed by Mari Pablo, these morning impact sessions include some of the most respected names in ministry,

such as Damon Owens, Sarah Kaczmarek, Julianne Stanz, and Curtis Martin. Attendees can expect plenty of time for discussion, Q&A, and moments of prayer with peers. If you would like to connect with others who share your mission and challenges, then this is a fantastic way for you to participate at the Congress.

**CULTIVATE IMPACT SESSIONS** – for parents or caregivers to attend together with children. You and your family are welcome! Each morning of the Congress, an impact session will be offered and tailored specifically for families. Hear from presenters such as Fr. Leo Patalinghug, Cana and Ennie Hickman, and Steve Angriano! In the afternoon, there will also be breakout sessions for families – come as you are! There will be a kid-friendly area in the exhibit hall,

See "Invited" on Page 7

Through the Catholic Sharing Appeal the  
Diocese purchased 250 tickets for the  
**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS**  
July 17-21 in Indianapolis, Indiana  
so that every parish & mission could be  
represented.

# Who is your parish sending?



Act now before it's too late!

[dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist](https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist)



# Catholic Sisters Week Continues through March 14

## *Pope Francis offers His Respect and Prayers*

**By Joyce Bibey**

Their selfless devotion to Christ and the mission of the church are immeasurable. For 52 weeks a year our religious sisters stand with the poor and immigrants, teach children, fight injustice, heal the sick, share spirituality, empower women, defend the planet, promote peace, create community, offer hope, and much more.

Since 2014, Catholic Sisters Week is celebrated every March 8-14. It is a time to reflect on how they have influenced our lives with their love, compassion, service, and example. Honor them through prayer and acts of gratitude.

In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston we have 19 religious communities of sisters,

servicing the faithful in our Catholic schools, parish communities, higher education, and health care/social services.

We share the words of our Holy Father, Pope Francis:

“We pray in a special way for religious sisters and consecrated women. What would the Church be without religious sisters and consecrated laywomen? The Church cannot be understood without them.

“And let us pray that they may show the beauty of God’s love and compassion as catechists, theologians, and spiritual guides. I invite them to fight when, in some cases, they are treated unfairly, even within the Church; when they serve so much that they are reduced to servitude—at times, by men of

the Church.

“Do not be discouraged. May you keep making God’s goodness known through the apostolic works you do. But above all through your witness of consecration.

“Let us pray for religious sisters and consecrated women, thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times. Thank you for what you are, for what you do, and for how you do it.”

For more information about religious sisters serving in your area, contact the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Office of Consecrated Life at 304-233-0880, ext. 264, or email Karen Muenze at kmuenze@dwc.org.



**CATHOLIC  
SISTERS WEEK**



Photo Illustration by Joyce Bibey

## Domestic Violence Discussion to be Held at Shepherdstown Parish

**SHEPHERDSTOWN** — St. Agnes Parish in Shepherdstown will host a discussion on domestic violence presented by the EPEC (Eastern Panhandle Empowerment Center) staff on Sunday, March 10, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass, at 11:45 a.m., at the church.

The discussion will center on “What can you do? What can our parish do about domestic violence?”

“It’s the couple’s problem.” “Violence inside the home is a private matter.” “If things were bad enough, she (or he) would just leave.” “I have to keep the relationship going; it is what is

expected of me.” These are just some of the common reasons domestic violence is a societal problem that goes underreported and takes the lives of innocent women and children, event organizers said.

Domestic violence impacts not just the intimate partner, but also children that may be a part of the family, the medical system through ER encounters, the school system, the judicial system, they added. Domestic violence impacts all levels of society from those living in poverty to the very wealthy, from those with little education to those who are college

educated; domestic violence has no boundaries, they said.

Chief Mike King of the Shepherdstown Police Department offered his take on domestic violence. Here is his response: “Domestic Violence is considered a call that requires a priority response from police, an all-out emergency! Domestic violence requires resources from the courts, police, medical, counseling, shelters, and the list goes on. It also requires citizens to recognize the signs and intervene by reporting what they see and hear so that domestic violence does not take another life.”

## Invited...

**Cont’d from Page 6**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will be running atriums at the Congress, and you’ll have the opportunity to explore the CatholicHOM experience!

**AWAKEN IMPACT SESSIONS** - for high school youth—incoming freshmen through just-graduated seniors. Please note that teens cannot attend alone and must participate with a youth group or be accompanied by a parent. Each morning of the Congress, will be an impact session hosted by the Steubenville Youth Conference team at Franciscan University, including presenters like Brian Greenfield, Jackie Francois Angel, and Oscar Rivera. Prayer will be central to each of these sessions, and powerful worship music by Andrew Laubacher and Ricky Vazquez. In the afternoon, breakout sessions will be hosted by apostolates specializing in youth ministry, including Life Teen, NET, and the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement.

Blessed Carlo Acutis' Exhibit

# Eucharistic Miracles of the World

Miracles from all over the world  
that prove Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist.  
**COME SEE FOR YOURSELF!**

*Our Lady of Peace - Battaglino Hall*

*Saturday, March 9, 4-5pm and 6-7pm*

*Sunday, March 10, 9:30am to 4pm*

*Monday, March 11, 7:30-8:30pm*

Blessed Carlo Acutis was a seemingly ordinary teen. He loved the outdoors, video games, sports, and computers. He also enjoyed school mainly, because it was a chance to hang out with friends. By the time he reached double digits, he was considered a computer expert, having learned programming in elementary school at a collegiate level. While he was extremely savvy in and enthusiastic about technology, he was also devoted to something else on an extraordinary level - Christ and the Church.

His faith has been described as "pure and certain."

He went to Mass every day.

Blessed Carlo knew the power of the internet and chose to use it as online evangelization. He created a website dedicated to the Eucharistic Miracles of the World - [miracolieucaristici.org](http://miracolieucaristici.org) - presenting his research as a virtual museum. Since his passing in 2006 at the age of 15, his friends and family maintain the website and Acutis' hope that it will bring people to Church and the Eucharist. The site is presented in 17 languages.

*Continued on Page 9*



DIocese OF  
WHEELING-CHARLESTON

[www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org)



# Two of the 30+ miracles in the exhibit



On August 14th, 1730, the eve of the feast of the Assumption, thieves entered the Church of St. Francis in Siena, Italy, stealing a golden ciborium containing 351 consecrated hosts.

Two days later, at another Siena Church a parishioner noticed something protruding from the offering box. Inside the box were the missing hosts from the St. Francis parish, entangled in the cobwebs and dirt in the rarely used box. After being reverently dusted off by the priest as much as possible, the hosts were placed in a new ciborium and taken back to St. Francis for prayers of reparation and veneration.

The priests decided not to consume them but let them simply deteriorate. Over the next few decades, everyone was amazed to see that the hosts - all 351 - did not deteriorate, but actually appeared fresh.

The hosts remain in this state today, 285 years later.

In all, 14 scientific tests were taken to verify the condition of the Consecrated Hosts. One of the tests was a comparison study commissioned by an Archbishop in Italy. Scientists placed unconsecrated hosts in a sealed tin box for ten years. When the box was reopened the scientists found only worms and rotted fragments. Scientist Enrico Medi said about the legitimacy of the 1730 miracle of the Consecrated Hosts, "This direct intervention from God is the miracle..., accomplished and maintained for centuries to testify to the permanent reality of Christ in the Eucharistic sacrament."



On Feb. 16, 1266, a woman from Santarém, Portugal was so worried that her husband was unfaithful to her that she consulted "a sorceress for help." The woman told her the price of her services was a Consecrated Host to use for a love potion.

Filled with jealousy the Santarém woman went to Mass at the Church of St. Stephen, received the Eucharist on her tongue, removed the Eucharist from her mouth, wrapped it in her veil, and headed to the door of the church. Before she got out, the host began to bleed. Startled, she ran home and hid it in her bedroom. That night, brilliant rays of light emanated the hiding spot. The woman told her husband everything. The two went to the priest first thing in the morning and the wife confessed what happened. Her priest came and retrieved the host and took it back to the church.

After investigations it was approved a miracle, the church was renamed Church of the Holy Miracle, and the bloodied host remains on display to this day.

# The Eucharist is a Foretaste of the Eternal Banquet that is Heaven, Deacon Lim Says

By Colleen Rowan

Deacon Paul Lim, a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Pittsburgh who currently serves as vice president of Mission Integration at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, traveled to Charleston recently to lead area faithful in an Evening of Eucharistic Encounter.

The Feb. 26 gathering brought many to the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart early in the day for Mass at noon followed by the praying of the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy. They also had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of penance later that afternoon.

In his homily for the Evening of Eucharistic Encounter, Deacon Lim spoke of a conversation he had with a mother who wanted her young daughter to be baptized. However, she did not move forward because she did not know another practicing Catholic who could be the godparent.

"Now this is actually more common than you think," Deacon Lim said to the congregation at the basilica that evening. "Fortunately for that young mother, she came to the right person because I happened to know a church full of people, many of whom would love to be the godparent."

Deacon Lim was not about to let this little girl be baptized by herself. And so, with a little help, about 30 or so parishioners came to her baptism on a Saturday morning and then hosted a brunch in the social hall for her and her mother.

"It was one of the most beautiful acts of generosity that I have ever seen," Deacon Lim recalled. "That little girl didn't know it, but she had a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, the one that awaits all of us."

Deacon Lim reflected on The Parable of the Wedding Feast (Matthew 22: 1-14), the gospel reading for the evening: "Jesus again in reply spoke to them in parables, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven may be



Martina Hart Photo

Deacon Paul Lim blesses the faithful at the Evening of Eucharistic Encounter at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston Feb. 26.

likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son."

The parable demonstrates how eager God, the Father, is to have this banquet and how much he wants all to be there, Deacon Lim said. At the beginning of the parable, the king sends out his servants to summon the guests, but they do not come. So, he sends out the servants again, Deacon Lim said, but just as the invitation was more intense so too was the rejection. While some declined the invitation for other interests some of the servants are mistreated, even killed while giving out the invitations. After the king punishes the ones who mistreat his servants, he sends the servants out a third time inviting even more people than before. He tells the servants to get everyone they can and fill the hall.

"That's how loving and generous God, the Father, is," Deacon Lim said. "Even after being ignored or rejected, he sends out the invitations again and again hoping that as many people as possible will accept his invitation for the eternal banquet in heaven.

The problem, though, is that we can be like that last guy in the parable. We approach the great banquet more like it's a casual picnic ... where you don't have to RSVP in advance. You can just show up whenever you want and however you please ... but that's not what heaven is."

Heaven is like a wedding banquet, Deacon Lim said, and the faithful must ready themselves. "Because this banquet is grander than anything you can imagine," he said, "the foretaste of which we experience through the Eucharist."

Preparing oneself for the heavenly banquet is a lifelong task, Deacon Lim said, and helping the faithful in that preparation is the purpose of the church.

Deacon Lim implored the people gathered at the

basilica that whatever the situation is and however it comes to them to not turn down the invitation of the Father.

"He wants you there so much," Deacon Lim said, "to the point where he even sent his only begotten son so that you might come to the feast. ... The Eucharist is a foretaste of the eternal wedding feast. That's because every time we receive the Eucharist, we become one with Jesus. Just like when a man and woman join together to become one flesh, we become one flesh with him at least for a few moments through Holy Communion. Until we can be at the eternal wedding banquet in heaven there is no better way to be one with God than by participating in the Eucharist."

Deacon Lim offered one

more point to consider when reading The Parable of the Wedding Feast. Jesus, he said, is telling this to the chief priest and the elders of the people.

"It's as if he is addressing the clergy and the churchgoers of today like you and me," Deacon Lim said. "As Christians, we aren't just the honored guests in the parable, we are also the servants, the ones who are sent out to invite the guests. Like the servants in the parable, maybe we'll get ignored. We might even be mistreated... As the servants, as the baptized, it is our duty to give the invitation to those who need to receive it; and you and I both know there are a lot of people who need it."

In the second reading for the evening, Deacon Lim said, St. Paul is thanking the church in Philippi for being so generous and he is telling them that God will supply whatever they need.

"The same is true for us. God is supplying everything for the wedding banquet," Deacon Lim said. "All we have to do is be generous—generous with the invitation and generous with the response. I promise you in the end it will all be worth it."

Deacon Lim will be the guest speaker at the Lenten Mission at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling March 14 at 6 p.m. The evening includes Eucharistic Adoration, benediction, music, and prayer.



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# Shepherdstown Knights Support Autism Program

The St. Agnes Council of the Knights of Columbus in Shepherdstown recently donated \$2,000 from their Tootsie Roll Drive to the Jefferson County Schools Autism Program. Pictured, from left, in the front row are Bill Gray, Pat Nickoles, Nicole Johnson (principal), Joe Bostic, Lisa Westlake (autism teacher), Greg Lattus, and Bob Rizzo. In the back row, from left, are Stan Nelson, Starsha Caraday (facilitator), and Christy Horning (director of Special Programs).

Courtesy Photo




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# St. Anthony All-School Reunion to be Held in Follansbee

**FOLLANSBEE**—St. Anthony All-School Reunion will be an event of Saturday, June 22 in Follansbee. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at 4 p.m. in St. Anthony Church followed by a banquet at 6 p.m. at St. Francis, Hooverson Heights.

While honoring the Class of 1964, the final graduating class of St. Anthony High School on their 60th anniversary, this reunion is intended for all students and their guests who attended or graduated from the former St. Anthony grade and high schools. Special memorial ceremonies and tributes are earmarked for the deceased members of the Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus of Holland who staffed both schools and also for deceased members of all classes.

For further information or reservations please contact Father Joe D'Aurora at josephdaurora1@gmail.com or (434) 906-1183 or Vickey Sciarretti Ross at aross174@comcast.net or (304) 527-3235.



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## 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 of 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, and 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 supplies last.



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

## JOB OPENINGS

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

**Cook**—The Cook 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 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, evenings, weekends and holidays/holydays as needed. Covers housekeeping department when needed.

Prefer at least one year experience in food service.

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.

**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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## Lead Summer Camp Pre-K Teachers Needed at St. Joseph School in 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@sjsww.org](mailto:kmackinnon@sjsww.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).

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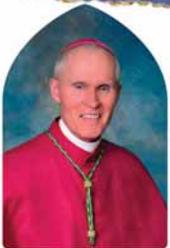
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Cancelar por cualquier motivo ("CFAR") la protección de viaje es muy recomendable. Ver enlace de Viaje Asegurado: [www.travelinsured.com/?agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21](http://www.travelinsured.com/?agency?agency=47907&p=CTS21)

### 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.

### 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.



866.468.1420 | [NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET](mailto:NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET)



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

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

**Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas:** La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesásticas apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; 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, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org), en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida. Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crímenes contra Niños: 304-293-6400.

Ask your doctor to refer you to Good Shepherd for:



- Physical therapy
- Speech therapy
- Occupational therapy



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