Upcoming Tour Offers Faithful Opportunity to Meet Diocese’s Seminarians

By Colleen Rowan

They may one day be priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. And in just a few weeks, they are going on tour to introduce themselves and join in fellowship with the faithful.

“The prayers and support of the people of God in West Virginia have been such an important support to my journey of discernment,” said seminarian Nathan Schmidt, who just completed his first year at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. “I am looking forward to meeting brothers and sisters in Christ who are helping me.”

Sponsored by the Serra clubs of Wheeling, Charleston, and Clarksburg, the 2023 Seminarians Tour begins in Wheeling on May 31 at St. Michael Parish.

“There will be a Mass, followed by a rosary in church, followed by breakfast in the school cafeteria,” said Frank Carenbauer, president of the Wheeling Serra Club, who encouraged members of area parishes to attend. The Mass begins at 7:30 a.m. with praying of the rosary to follow. Breakfast will then be served in the St. Michael Parish School cafeteria.

See “Tour” on Page 3

Cheat Lake’s Young Catholics Help Collect 2,400 Diapers for Babies in Need in the Community

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Cheat Lake recently had its annual Diaper Derby. The religious education students’ participation resulted in over 2,400 diapers and several bundles of wipes being collected. All items will be donated to St. Ursula Food Pantry & Outreach. The students are pictured at right with the items they collected. They are gathered around the statue of Our Lady outside of St. Luke’s on the parish grounds.

Courtesy Photo

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Colleen Rowan, Ext. 347 crowan@dwc.org

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To Report to the Diocese’s Vicar General: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

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The Catholic Spirit

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Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Eparchies have in place a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. In accordance with these requirements, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer—directly or indirectly—with children: background check; receipt of the Diocese’s Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children; and sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Sexual abuse awareness training may be completed online or via live workshop. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. To Report to the Diocese’s Vicar General: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, 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 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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Tour... Cont’d from Page 1

Joe Pangilinan, vice president of Wheeling Serra, added: “We ask that the people of the diocese continue to pray for our seminarians as well as an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood, religious priesthood, and consecrated life.” The next day, June 1, the Catholic faithful of the Clarksburg area will welcome seminarians.

“We will hold a catered picnic at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Stonewood,” said Deacon John Yaquinta, the parish’s pastoral associate. “We would like the seminarians to introduce themselves to us and say a few words about themselves.”

The picnic starts at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner at the pavilion behind the parish hall. The seminarians will also lead all in a rosary for vocations.

“Tempting for these men every day,” said Deacon Yaquinta, who also serves as chaplain of the Clarksburg Serra Club. “It will be nice to meet them and put a person with the name.”

The tour ends in Charleston on June 2 with a get-together at 5:30 p.m. in the gathering space at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. “This is a chance for people to meet the seminarians, shake their hands, and get to know them,” said Serra Club of Charleston President Mark Sadd, who encouraged all to stay at the basilica co-cathedral after the gathering to attend the Eucharistic Congress Taizé Prayer Service at 7 p.m. with a reception to follow. The seminarians will also participate in a breakout session the next day at the Eucharistic Congress (See story on Page 4 for more on the seminarians’ participation at the Eucharistic Congress).

The Serra Club of Charleston has invited all Catholic families in parishes throughout the Kanawha and Teays valleys to welcome the seminarians during their visit. This last stop on the tour is a homecoming for two of the seminarians, who shared that they are eager to meet faithful in all three cities.

“I am looking forward to meeting many of the people that have been supporting me in prayer throughout the diocese,” said seminarian Michael J. Tupta. “My father’s involvement in Charleston’s Serra Club has had a great effect on me as I continue in my seminary formation.”

Tupta attended Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School. He is the son of Dr. Michael and Maria Tupta. The family’s home parish is the basilica co-cathedral.

Also a member of the basilica co-cathedral is seminarian Timothy Kawash, who shared, “I am looking forward to meeting or seeing again many of the people that I may one day serve. I am excited to be in some of the different places in the diocese.”

Kawash is also a graduate of Sacred Heart Grade School and Charleston Catholic High School. He is the son of Michael and Janet Kawash, who are also members of the basilica co-cathedral.

The Seminarians Tour is returning after a three-year hiatus because of the COVID. Fond memories of past trips are held by seminarian John Soplinski, who said the tour gave him his first glimpse of the diocese as a whole.

“It was a whirlwind of beautiful churches, great people, fervent prayer, and wonderful priests,” he said. “It gave me a new perspective on the diocese—one that has only been enhanced in the subsequent years. I look forward to being a part of this tour and seeing our younger seminarians getting that first glimpse.”

This year’s tour will be another special one for Soplinski as he will be a newly ordained deacon. Less than a week before the tour begins, Bishop Mark Brennan will ordain him to the diaconate at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling at 11 a.m. May 27.

For seminarian DonVito Cortese, whose home parish is St. James the Greater in Charles Town, the tour will give him a much broader view of the diocese he hopes to serve one day as a priest.

See “Tour” on Page 4
Eucharistic Congress in Charleston is for YOU!

By Joyce Bibey

Jesus is waiting for you in the Eucharist! Planned just for you, Bishop Mark Brennan invites you to Charleston to celebrate Jesus’ Real Presence in the Eucharist. Reserve your spot today to attend this final WV Eucharistic Congress set for June 2-3 in Charleston to get closer to God.

What are you waiting for?

MAKE TIME to Come into His Presence! Spend time with Him at Adoration. Hold him in the Eucharist.

Hundreds of faithful in WV have already experienced the previous two Spring Congresses held in Charles Town and Wheeling as part of the Diocesan Year for the Eucharistic Revival by enjoying breathtaking Taizé prayer services, fellowship, dynamic speakers, inspirational break out presenters, Adoration, Mass, and more.

The whole family is encouraged to attend along with our seminarians, clergy, religious, Catholic organizations, students, and teachers from our PSR programs and schools – our break outs are for kindergarteners through adults.

Count on inspiring prayer as a community, celebratory music, an impressive display of Blessed Carlo Acutis’ Miracles of the Eucharist, Adoration, the sacrament of reconciliation, and the opportunity to grow in faith as the Body of Christ!

The Congress will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark Brennan at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

Admission is free. Registration is required in order to plan for refreshments, morning coffee/donuts, lunch, and materials.

Go to our homepage (https://dwc.org) and click on the Regional Eucharistic Congresses banner to access the schedule, promotions, and a video invitation from our keynote speaker Fr. Joe Freedy.

Faithful Invited to Seminarian Meet & Greet Then join them at the Eucharistic Congress

The Serra Club of Charleston invites all Catholic families to the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart to meet our seminarians in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on Friday, June 2, at 5:30 p.m., right before the final diocesan Eucharistic Congress of 2023 begins.

The evening will be casual and truly a fellowship gathering to get to know and support the men who are working hard on their journey towards becoming a diocesan priest for the faithful of West Virginia.

The Serrans and Office of Vocations for the Diocese hope you take part in this welcome reception as a great way for our seminarians to start off their summer assignments.

Further, our seminarians will have an important presence at the final Diocesan Eucharistic Congress which begins at 7pm the same evening with a Taizé Prayer service and concludes with Mass at 5:30 pm June 3 with Bishop Mark as celebrant and the seminarians present to serve. During the day on Saturday, the seminarians will participate in session one of the breakouts in a moderated FaithInWV-style presentation. Let them inspire you to more deeply celebrate Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist.

For information and to register for the free Eucharistic Congress go to: https://dwc.org/eucharistic-congresses/ Registration for the Congress is necessary in order to plan for refreshments, morning coffee/donuts, lunch, and materials.

Tour...

Cont’d from Page 3

“I only know the very Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia,” he shared, “so I’m excited to see and learn about the rest of our beautiful state and churches. I’m also looking forward to the fraternity among my brother seminarians. Most of all, though, I can’t wait to meet more of you, the Catholics I am attending seminary for. Being out of state these last two semesters, I love meeting West Virginians!”

Cortese is currently enrolled at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

Father Brian J. Crenwelge, director of Vocations for the diocese, is grateful to the Serra clubs for sponsoring the tour once again. It is important, he said, for people to have the chance to meet their potential future priests.

“When we pray at Mass for vocations, that can often just be something that seems vague or theoretical to us. But when you actually meet the seminarians, it puts faces to the prayers,” Father Crenwelge said. “I encourage anyone who can to come and meet them during this time.”

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A Message from Bishop Mark Brennan

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dwc.org/CSA
The Origins of the Hail Mary Prayer

The following is a special article on the “Hail Mary” for this Month of May, the Month of Our Lady.

By Michael Kawash, Candidate for Deacon, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

The “Hail Mary” has been one of the most well-known prayers in the Catholic Church’s history and culture. Second only to the Our Father, it might be the most recited prayer by Catholics throughout the entire world. Even our non-Catholic brothers and sisters have incorporated it in the culture-at-large in one form or another, despite not knowing how to recite it. Most commonly, we hear its secular employment as part of football parlance as a play designed to produce a miraculous result for a team whose outlook in a game is bleak and marked by desperation.

It might come as a surprise to many Catholics, however, to learn that what we recite today, asking for our Blessed Mother’s intercession, does not go back very far in terms of Church history. When we speak of the Church and her history of 2000 years, a few centuries may be considered but a few years in the lives of most individuals.

As a prayer, the Hail Mary was not composed by any one individual, saint or pope and given to the faithful to recite as part of his or her basic Catholic prayers. Rather, the prayer has evolved into what has come to be known as one of the most familiar and comforting invocations. Its history is fascinating and possesses catechetical value in learning Mary’s role in our salvation.

In its earliest stages, the Hail Mary was an angelic salutation, a term to which it is still referred today. It actually consisted of two salutations, one angelic and the other evanglic, and both were rooted in sacred scripture. Today we know the first part of this prayer as follows:

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

The first salutation is that of the Angel Gabriel, who appeared to Mary, saying “Hail, favored one, the Lord is with you.” (Lk. 1:28) An angel who is a representative of God, telling a human being she is full of grace. Of course the phrase “the Lord is with you” is a reference to what Gabriel was about to tell her, specifically, that she would be carrying the Christ child, the Savior of the world.

The second salutation is delivered by Mary’s kinswoman Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. Gabriel had told Mary that Elizabeth was expecting, and Mary went in haste to see her cousin, who, when she saw Mary, excitedly proclaimed “Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” (Lk. 1:42)

These two salutations came together as early as the sixth century and constituted the offertory prayer of the Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. It is believed that in the thirteenth century, Jesus’ name was added to cap the prayer and of course, to name with specificity the “fruit of [Mary’s] womb.” It is also believed that this addition was due to the preaching of St. Bernardine of Siena a century later, who constantly promoted devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus.

For several centuries, this dual greeting of homage, which is what we know today as only the prayer’s first half, constituted its entirety. The conflation of several events pushed the evolution of what we know today as the prayer’s second half.

By the early sixteenth century, the breviaries of some religious orders, including most notably, Camaldolese monks, began including forms of intercession highlighting Mary’s role (and the Church’s dogma) as Mother of God, our human nature as sinners and imploring her help when death is near. In fact, one of the more common pleas was seeking Mary’s help, not only in the present moment, but also at the hour of one’s death, since the world was in the wake of the Black Death plague which had taken the lives of anywhere from 75 to 200 million people less than two centuries before.

The Protestant revolt in the sixteenth century also played a role in pushing the Church to add an intercessory dimension to the prayer. Martin Luther and his like-minded companions criticized faithful Catholics who prayed the Hail Mary, maintaining that absent a petition, it was not really a prayer, but merely a greeting. In response, those who prayed this prayer would add a sentence or two seeking Mary’s intercession for various and
Serrans, Knights Co-Sponsor Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations on First Fridays in Charleston

CHARLESTON—Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations is held at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston on First Fridays each month. This is co-sponsored by the Serra Club of Charleston and the Knights of Columbus St. Michael the Archangel Council 12630 of Charleston.

A Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Booklet (print two-sided and fold) is available at https://www.serracharleston.org.

‘Mountain State TEC’ Coming to Star City Parish

STAR CITY—After a more than three-year hiatus, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will have its first “Mountain State TEC” Retreat at St. Mary Parish in Morgantown (Star City), on June 10-12.

This Teens Encounter Christ weekend is intended for rising high school juniors through rising college freshmen (roughly 15 to 19-year-olds). Its purpose is to help older teens grow closer to God and to a community of young people and adults, in and through Jesus Christ.

TEC will consist of prayer, talks, activities, community building, games, music, fun, food, and the sacraments. It begins on the Saturday morning and ends on the Monday afternoon.

For more information, please contact Daniel Maul at the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis at (304) 233-0880, ext. 376, or at dmaul@dwc.org. The cost is $40 (scholarships are available, however), and teens can register at https://dwc.org/tec/.

Hail Mary...

sundry needs, including prayers for the time of one’s death. The Council of Trent was called to reiterate Catholic doctrine against the Protestant reformers, and one of its most efficacious products was the publishing of the Church’s first universal catechism in 1566. The Catechism of the Council of Trent, or shortly known as The Roman Catechism, included the Hail Mary’s first part of praise two years later, the Roman Breviary of 1568 included the prayer in its entirety as we know it today. The second part, consisting of petition/intercession, is as follows:

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now
and at the hour of our
death.

Although by this time the Hail Mary prayer consisted of both greeting and invocation, it took a few more centuries for this second half to universally catch on. One example of this slow-paced movement is that in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it was common for some Catholics receiving the recitation of Hail Mary’s as a penance to ask the priest if they were also required to say the “Holy Mary’s” as well.

Most importantly, the Hail Mary prayer is focused on Jesus. When examining this prayer, it is indeed Jesus’ Holy Name that is the hinge, holding together the two parts that comprise it. This is appropriate since the prayer is about Him. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: “Beginning with Mary’s unique cooperation with the working of the Holy Spirit, the [East and West] Churches developed their prayer to the holy Mother of God, centering it on the person of Christ manifested in his mysteries.” (CCC 2675, in part)

May we all look to Mary in this great prayer of the Church in giving praise to Jesus.

John Soplinski to be Ordained Deacon

Saturday, May 27, 11 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling

Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration the night before the Ordination, May 26, 7 p.m., St. Alphonsus Church, Wheeling

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kofc.org/join
Join Us For An Evening With Bishop Brennan!

May 23, 2023

Mass - 5:30pm
St. James the Greater Parish
Dinner to Follow Mass

Get to know Bishop Brennan while you celebrate Mass and enjoy dinner.

All Young Adults Welcome!

Scan the QR Code or visit dwc.org to register.

49 Crosswinds Drive • Charles Town, WV 25414
This Mother’s Day was extra special for Elyse Dempsey as she and her husband, Will, had their beautiful newborn son, Ryan, baptized at their parish, the Church of the Ascension in Hurricane. With their family and friends gathered, baby Ryan was baptized by Father Vincent E. Joseph, pastor of the parish. Pictured, clockwise from left: baby Ryan sleeps in his father’s arms; Father Joseph carries baby Ryan down the aisle of the church; Auntie Kathy Campbell, grandmother, shows baby Ryan’s brothers Daniel and Conor Dempsey and cousin Evelyn Campbell (from right) the statue of Mary at the church; and Father Joseph stands with Will, baby Ryan, and Elyse.
Welty Corporation Offers $15,000 Sign-on Bonus for Nurses, Pays Nursing School Tuition for Students

WHEELING—The Welty Corporation, the Wheeling area’s premiere provider of senior living options, is offering a $15,000 sign-on bonus for nurses and a $10,000 sign-on bonus for certified nursing assistants. The organization is also offering to pay full tuition for students working to earn the registered nurse or licensed practical nurse credential, and offering certified nursing assistant classes on site, paying students while they’re in class.

Like most healthcare providers, Good Shepherd Nursing Home and the Welty Home need many nurses and certified nursing assistants. The hardships of the COVID pandemic led many nurses nationwide to retire. One researcher found that the total number of registered nurses (RNs) decreased by more than 100,000 from 2020 to 2021 – the largest drop than ever observed over the past four decades.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that the need for RNs will grow by 12% between 2023 and 2029 and that by 2025, there will be a shortage of nearly 200,000 RNs.

Donald R. Kirsch, Welty Corporation CEO, said the bonuses Welty Corporation is offering are designed to help people who want to become nurses, and offer incentive to those who wish to switch jobs or return to the workforce.

In addition to receiving tuition payments, Welty is offering student nurses a guaranteed job upon graduation, flexible scheduling, and a caring and supportive workforce. “We are blessed to have nurses who have worked here for decades,” Kirsch said. “Our staff is very loyal, but we do lose nurses to retirement.”

Sue Rexroad, Good Shepherd Nursing director, said working at Good Shepherd and the Welty Home has many advantages. “It’s a very rewarding job. Our residents and their families give us lots of positive feedback,” she said.

Working in a facility with local on-site management is another plus. Rather than having to call the “Home Office” in another part of the state or country for permission to accomplish anything for our residents, our decisions are made in real time within our facility. This is unique in healthcare today. “It’s never a problem to get anything we need to care for our residents,” Rexroad said. “Plus we’re a nonprofit. This too makes a difference.”

To learn more about the sign-on bonuses, tuition payment and other amenities, please call Heather Blake, Good Shepherd human resource director, at (304) 242-1093 or email hblake@weltyhome.org.

Good Shepherd Nursing Home is part of a continuum of senior living options offered by the nonprofit Welty Corporation to deliver the features that discerning seniors need and want. In addition to Good Shepherd, the Welty Corporation operates the assisted living program at Welty Home and independent living at the Clara & Bertha Welty Apartments, Braddock Apartments and Welty Townhomes. For information call (304) 242-1093 or visit www.weltyhome.org.
U.S. Bishops with Mexico-Bordering Dioceses Reaffirm Humanitarian Commitment

OSV (News) — Eight U.S. Catholic bishops whose dioceses share a border with Mexico reaffirmed their commitment to promoting human dignity and their cooperation with government officials as the church and its partner organizations provide humanitarian aid.

“Daily, we witness the human consequences of migration, both its blessings and its challenges,” the bishops said in a May 12 statement released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. “As pastors of border communities, we minister to migrants and native-born persons alike. Our congregations include asylum seekers, enforcement officers, landowners, and elected officials, who come together, not as strangers or adversaries but as sisters and brothers, equal in dignity and worth before the Lord.”

The statement came the day after the May 11 expiration of Title 42, a federal U.S. public health law granting the federal government some authority to implement emergency action to prevent the spread of contagious diseases by prohibiting some migrants from entry. It expired in tandem with the end of the federal public health emergency declared in 2020 for COVID-19.

With the end of Title 42, U.S. immigration policy defaults to a set of laws known as Title 8. While the status of some migrants not eligible for U.S. entry under Title 42 may change, recent Title 8 policy updates suggest those migrants may face new hurdles. Both Title 42 and Title 8 have been criticized by Catholic immigration advocates as insufficient, especially for migrants seeking asylum.

The bishops did not specifically refer to U.S. immigration policy in their statement, or connect their statement to recent events.

“Since our nation’s founding, Catholics across this country have been at the forefront of efforts to welcome newcomers of all faiths and nationalities,” the bishops said. “As Christians, we are called to see the face of Christ in those who suffer, those who lack the basic necessities of life, and we judge ourselves as a community of faith by the way we treat the most vulnerable among us. We are each bound by a universal call to serve one another and to protect the sanctity of human life in all its forms.

“Therefore, we remain committed to supporting the efforts ongoing within our dioceses and beyond to promote the God-given dignity of every person, including those who have recently arrived in our communities. Further, as a Church committed to the common good, we always cooperate in the administration of humanitarian aid with local, state, and federal officials, frequently in partnership with faith communities and like-minded secular organizations.

“Finally, we join together in prayer, entrusting these works of mercy to Our Lady of Guadalupe as a source of unity throughout the Americas,” they said. “May each of us be blessed with a humanitarian heart that beats with fraternal compassion for those in need.”

The statement noted the bishops were endorsing the statement “as the pastors of the U.S. communities along the southwest border.”

Signatories were Cardinal Robert W. McElroy of San Diego; Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller of San Antonio; Bishop Peter Baldacchino of Las Cruces, New Mexico; Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas; Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas; Bishop Michael J. Sis of San Angelo, Texas; Bishop James A. Tamayo of Laredo, Texas; and Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger of Tucson, Arizona.

Bishop Flores is chairman of the USCCB Committee on Doctrine, and Bishop Seitz is chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration.

U.S. Bishops with Mexico-Bordering Dioceses Reaffirm Humanitarian Commitment!
Eucharistic Revival Playbook Offers Direction, Ideas for Parish Year

By Maria Wiering
(OSV News) — Parish leaders seeking guidance for the National Eucharistic Revival's upcoming parish year now have a 24-page resource to assist their discernment. The "Leader's Playbook," released May 1, helps parishes answer the question "what are we being asked to do?" through four "invitations" for the Year of Parish Revival, which begins on the solemnity of Corpus Christi June 11.

"The parish year of the revival is the most important one" in the three-year National Eucharistic Revival, said Tim Glemkowski, executive director for the National Eucharistic Congress, a nonprofit organization tasked with organizing the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in 2024 and supporting the U.S. Catholic bishops' vision for the National Eucharistic Revival. The Year of Parish Revival aims "to create Eucharistic communities, communities that are full of life because they've received life from the source of life," he said.

The Year of Parish Revival "Leader's Playbook" was created primarily for pastors and parish leaders. Based on the revival's four "pillars," the playbook's "four invitations" for the parish year are reinvigorating worship, personal encounter, robust faith formation and missionary sending.

The playbook suggests and recommends certain practices for each of the invitations, but it "is not a prescriptive guide, nor is it all-embracing," the playbook states, emphasizing the importance of each parish's discernment.

It calls for "attentiveness to the 'ars celebrandi'" or "art of celebrating" the Mass, which includes "prayerful understanding of the liturgical texts, feasts, and seasons throughout the year," reverence and proper preparation for the Mass. It invites parishes to host monthly "enounter nights" where people can meet Jesus in Eucharistic adoration. It encourages pastors to preach a homily series on the Eucharist and to form small groups that focus on eucharetical formation with Eucharistic encounter. And it asks Catholics to "invite one back" by bringing a fallen-away Catholic back to Mass, or by reaching out to a friend interested in learning about the faith.

"These are for your discernment as you respond to revival already present in your community and foster it, create conditions and openness for new revival, and establish a Eucharistic culture in your parish that sustains the fruits of revival," the playbook states.

A similar playbook was developed in the fall for the Year of Parish Revival's two other years, Cozzens said. The playbook includes "prayerful understanding of the liturgy," reverence and proper preparation for the Mass, and encourages pastors to "deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ, Our Lord, through the celebration of the Eucharist, so that we can be set on fire for the mission our Church needs so desperately."

"Parishes can use this manual to strengthen their Eucharistic culture and share the gift of the Eucharist with all people, regardless of where they are on their faith journey," said Bishop Cozzens, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Evangelization, and the chairman of the bishops' advisory group for the revival.

The playbook is available at www.eucharisticrevival.org/lead.

The third year of the revival is the Year of Going Out on Mission. Next summer, between its second and third years, the revival is holding a National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21 in Indianapolis. The event will serve as a "hinge" connecting the revival's emphasis on personal encounter and mission, Glemkowski said. Leading up to the congress will be a two-month-long National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, with pilgrims traveling with the Eucharist along four U.S. routes to Indianapolis.

For some Catholics, the Year of Parish Revival is an opportunity to deepen their relationship with Jesus, and for others, it is an invitation to begin that personal relationship with their savior, Glemkowski said.

God the Father sent his son "to reconcile all things to himself," he said. "That's why there is church — so that every person in every time and in every place could receive life, and life to the full. That's mediated through the Eucharist. This isn't just one thing among many in our faith.... This is the source and summit."
A Testimony of Faith and Love
Conjoined Twins Born, Baptized and at Peace in God’s Arms

By Karla Fierro

DETOUR (OSV News) — The moving story of Nicole Duque and Austin LeBlanc, a local pro-life couple and active members of St. Joseph Shrine in Detroit and St. Mary Parish in Wayne, has captured the attention of the community. Both faced a challenging pregnancy, expecting the birth of conjoined twins with a shared heart and vital organs.

Since the 22nd week of pregnancy, the community has united in prayer through a series of rosaries organized by Detroit Catholic en Español and coordinator of the Hispanic ministry of St. Mary in Wayne, expressing her gratitude for the grace of God, which allowed the birth, baptism and confirmation of her beloved granddaughters, and warmly thanked Detroit Catholic en Español for the prayers and support of the community.

Nicole and Austin’s testimony as parents, marked by their steadfast faith, continues to be an inspiration for those facing difficult and challenging pregnancies.

The story of Nicole, Austin, and their precious daughters is a reminder of the importance of hope, faith and love in times of adversity. Although the lives of Maria Teresa and Rachel Clare, who are now in the presence of the Lord, will be honored through the remarkable pro-life work done by their parents and family.

The Detroit community responded with fervent prayers, and God’s miracle was not long in coming, allowing the babies to be born, baptized, confirmed, and receive the full love of their parents.

Afterward, Mia Duque, Nicole’s younger sister, tweeted: "Hello everyone, I’m Mia, Nicole’s younger sister. I am writing on behalf of her and Austin to inform you that the babies have been born and have been baptized and confirmed."

She added, "They breathed to their last breath and are now in the arms of Our Lord. To those who prayed for us, thank you."

Despite the immense pain that accompanies the loss of their beloved daughters, Nicole and Austin found comfort and strength in their unwavering faith. They persevered in the confidence that divine plans are perfect, and their fervent prayers were heard.

Yanira Duque, Nicole’s mother and coordinator of the Hispanic ministry of St. Mary in Wayne, expressed her gratitude for the grace of God, which allowed the birth, baptism and confirmation of her beloved granddaughters, and warmly thanked Detroit Catholic en Español for the prayers and support of the community.

One of Nicole’s deepest desires was that babies could be baptized and confirmed at birth.

After medical evaluations, doctors predicted the babies could live until the 35th week, which would be in early June, at which time a cesarean section would be performed.

However, due to inadequate blood flow for the babies and the importance of their live birth, the doctors scheduled delivery by cesarean section for May 16.

On the eve of the surgery, Nicole asked for prayer through Detroit Catholic en Español.

"Right now, I pray that the angels and saints are present during the surgery. I ask God to guide the hands of the surgeons and that everything goes smoothly, for my speedy recovery," she said. "I also hope that my girls will be born alive, so they can be baptized right at birth and can easily go to Jesus. They probably won’t survive more than a day or two, but only God knows in the end."

The family of Nicole Duque and Austin LeBlanc have expressed deep appreciation to the community for being in constant prayer for them. People are invited to continue interceding so that the family finds comfort and strength in their faith during this difficult time.

The Detroit community has united in prayer through a series of rosaries organized by Detroit Catholic en Español, the Spanish-language newspaper of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Nicole Duque tenderly holds the hand of her precious twins, Maria Theresa and Rachel Clare.

Foodservice Equipment, Supplies, Disposables, Janitorial and more

1 Fourteenth Street, Wheeling, WV 26003
304-233-2270
Stop in or call us today!
Confirmation Schedule
Bishop Mark E.
Brennan, Celebrant

Friday, May 19: St. Leo, Inwood, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 20: St. Bernadette, Hedgesville, 9:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 20: St. James, Charles Town, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 21: St. Vincent de Paul, Berkeley Springs, 9:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 21: St. Joseph, Martinsburg, 4:00 p.m.
Monday, May 22: Assumption, Keyser, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 28: St. Paul, Weirton, 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 1: St. Agnes, Charleston, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 10: Sacred Heart, Princeton, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, June 10: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 18: Immaculate Conception, Fairmont, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, June 24: Mater Dolorosa, Paden City, 5:00 p.m.

First Holy Communion
Children who made their first holy Communion at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Morgantown are pictured with their pastor, Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, S.T.D.

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Por María Wiering, OSV News (OSV News) — Los líderes parroquiales que buscan orientación para el próximo año parroquial del Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional tienen ahora un recurso de 24 páginas para ayudarles en su discernimiento. La “Guía del Líder” (o “Leader’s Playbook”), publicado el 1 de mayo y también disponible en español, ayuda a las parroquias a responder a la pregunta “¿qué se nos pide que hagamos?” a través de cuatro “invitaciones” para el Año del Avivamiento Parroquial, que comienza en la solemnidad del Corpus Christi el 11 de junio.

“El Avivamiento Espiritual del avivamiento es el más importante” en los tres años del Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional, dijo Tim Glemkowski, director ejecutivo del Congreso Eucarístico Nacional, una organización sin ánimo de lucro encargada de organizar el 10° Congreso Eucarístico Nacional en 2024 y de apoyar la visión de los obispos católicos de EE.UU. para el Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional. El Año del Avivamiento Parroquial presta “crear comunidades eucarísticas” y “invitaciones” para el Año del Avivamiento Parroquial, que comienza en la solemnidad del Corpus Christi el 11 de junio.

La “Guía del Líder” del Año del Avivamiento Parroquial fue creada principalmente para párrocos y líderes parroquiales. Basado en los cuatro “pilares” del avivamiento, las “cuatro invitaciones” del manual para el año parroquial son la revigoreización del culto, el encuentro personal, una formación sólida en la fé y el envío misionero.

El manual sugiere y recomienda ciertas prácticas para cada una de las invitaciones, pero “no se trata de una guía prescriptiva ni englobante”, afirma el manual, subrayando la importancia del discernimiento de cada parroquia.

Exhorta a “prestar atención al ‘ars celebrandi’” o “arte de celebrar” la Misa, que incluye “la comprensión oracional de textos litúrgicos, de las horas y los tiempos a lo largo del año”, la reverencia y la preparación adecuada de la Misa. Invita a las parroquias a organizar mensualmente “noches de encuentro” en las que la gente pueda encontrarse con Jesús en la adoración eucarística. Anima a los párrocos a predicar una serie de homilías sobre la Eucaristía y a formar pequeños grupos que se centren en la formación catequética con el encuentro eucarístico. Y pide a los católicos que participen en la iniciativa “invita a uno a volver”, trayendo de nuevo a Misa a un católico que se ha alejado, o tendiendo la mano a un amigo interesado en aprender sobre la fé.


Hospital Transition Program Expands to Huntington

HUNTINGTON—After being admitted to the hospital and receiving excellent care, Stanley was ready to go home. Unfortunately, he was returning to a home where he lived alone with very little social support.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) stepped in at this critical moment. Sister Jen, one of our Hospital Transition Program (HTP) case managers, met with Stanley while he was still in the hospital to identify and help to overcome any challenges Stanley would face when returning home.

For the next six weeks, Sister Jen visited Stanley at home. She worked with him to get a cell phone and a LifeAlert system, and together they practiced using these tools. She coordinated transportation assistance so Stanley could get around town. And she connected him with free home-delivered meals through an internal referral to the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center.

Stanley’s story is one of many where our HTP case managers created comfort, safety and peace as patients transitioned from hospital to home.

“Many West Virginians are facing complex challenges – layers of chronic disease, poverty, unemployment, lack of access to fresh produce, transportation issues, social isolation, etc.,” said Sara Lindsay, CCWVa chief program officer. “At Catholic Charities, we have a unique capacity to work toward alleviating some of that community-level suffering.”

The CCWVa Hospital Transition Program takes a “dual service” approach to its collaborative design, serving both the client and the partner hospital. Through this program, the hospital sees lower readmission rates for patients served.

“When hiring HTP case managers, we look to round out what is already provided through the healthcare system,” said Lindsay. “Our team’s collective areas of expertise include counseling, social work, mental health and substance use disorder – and working extensively with people living in poverty.”

The expertise and compassion of the CCWVa HTP staff have proven to be very effective in Wheeling at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, where the program launched.

CCWVa has now replicated the program in Huntington. The Hospital Transition Program has expanded to both Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary’s Medical Center.

“Whether recovering from acute injury or dealing with chronic illness, the Hospital Transition Program provides hope and support beyond the hospital doors,” said Lindsay.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.
Principal Opening
St. Michael Parish School, Wheeling

St. Michael Parish in Wheeling, West Virginia is seeking a Principal for St. Michael Parish School, pre-school through eighth grade.

- The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school.
- The ideal candidate must have an earned Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.
- The candidate will have a minimum of three years of successful educational experience with a preference for administrative experience.

A resume with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF form to Wendy F. Hinesman, whinesman@stmikesparish.org. Resumes will be accepted until June 1, 2023.

St. Joseph School, Martinsburg, Seeking Kindergarten Aide

St. Joseph School (SJS), Martinsburg, W.Va., seeks a Kindergarten aide for the 2023-24 school year. SJS educates in the spirit of the Gospel, inspiring Catholic values, academic excellence, global awareness and service to those in need. The ideal candidate would be one who embraces the SJS mission and who is looking for a place in which to be respected and supported.

The aide promotes academic and social well-being of children in a developmentally appropriate manner and supports the classroom teacher.

Essential Responsibilities: Establishes a safe and supportive environment that is conducive to learning; Provides one-on-one attention to students who need additional support with their studies; Follows the classroom teacher's directions in completing tasks; Provides academic support through small group or one-on-one instruction as needed; Works with the teacher to create an engaging learning environment that encourages student interest and involvement; Helps children with their daily needs, including taking them to the bathroom or monitoring lunch, recess and/or nap time; Helps children understand the rules and routines of the classroom and school through modeling appropriate behavior; Encourages social interaction and emotional development through activities such as arts and crafts, playtime and circle time; Participates in staff events, as needed; Observes students to identify any behavioral issues that might require intervention by the teacher or principal.

Qualifications: High school diploma; Experience caring for children desired; Ability to establish and maintain effective collaborative relationships with students, peers, administrators and parents; Demonstrated skill in oral and written communications; Proficiency with basic computer, copier and two-way radio or willingness to learn.

Please send a letter of introduction and résumé to Principal Maria Byrd at mbyrd@sjsww.org.

Four Positions Open at St. Francis de Sales School, Beckley

St. Francis de Sales School, Beckley, W.Va., will have four job openings for the 2023-24 school year. Brief descriptions of each are listed below. All positions involve working with the school’s mission and philosophy and respecting Catholic values. To find out more information about these or to apply, please call or stop by the school office between 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. The office phone number is (304) 252-4087.

Openings: School Secretary - 5 days/week, 7 AM - 3 PM, summer hours differ. Qualification Requirements: High School Diploma or Equivalent, Word processing, Excel spreadsheets, Quickbooks, Managing and maintaining school records, front desk, resources, and databases, Organization and communication skills, and correct English Grammar usage. Finance Coordinator - Hours and days individualized. Qualification Requirements: Quickbooks knowledge and Excel spreadsheets, 2 years of Bookkeeping experience. Primary role is to organize financial budgetary needs, maintain communication and assist in the general financial operation of the school. Managing and maintaining school databases in FACTSSIS and Quickbooks. Preschool Aide - 5 days/week, 7 AM - 3PM. Essential duties: Assists in the instructor in establishing a faith-filled environment, facilitating student learning under the guidance of the classroom teacher, and assisting in supervising the safety and well-being of each child. Completes with all work place policies. After School Care Program worker - 4 days/week, 2:45-5:30 PM Essential duties: Assist in the facilitation of a safe and fun afterschool program. Assure that students are supervised and cared for, ensure that proper sign-in and sign-out procedures are followed, follow school policies, and assist supervisor in maintaining a clean environment for the program.

Assistant Principal Opening
Madonna High School, Weirton

Madonna High School is accepting applications for an Assistant Principal. This is a regular full-time position located at Madonna High School in Weirton, WV. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy and mission of Madonna High School and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

The ideal candidate should hold a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or begin the process of completing degree requirements or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification. The ideal candidate will hold a valid teaching certification or be eligible and willing to obtain such certification. The ideal candidate will have excellent written and verbal communication skills, and excellent management and organizational skills.

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of three years of successful experience with a preference for administrative experience. The ideal candidate must demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitate the learning of all students and be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, technology rich environment. The ideal candidate will facilitate high student achievement, offer necessary support to students for high achievement goals, and promote the mission of Madonna High School and the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston.

Interested candidates should submit letter of interest, resume, and three references by email to Sharon Higgins at shiggins@weirtonmadonna.org; by mail to Madonna High School, 150 Michael Way, Weirton, WV 26062, attention: Sharon Higgins; or drop off in the main office at Madonna High School by the close of business on Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

English Teacher Opening
Madonna High School, Weirton

Madonna High School is accepting applications for an English teacher. This is a regular full-time position located at Madonna High School in Weirton, WV. Must be qualified to teach English to 7th through 12th grade students.

The ideal candidate should hold a Bachelor’s Degree in English or a relevant field, should hold a valid West Virginia teaching certification with an English endorsement or be eligible and willing to obtain such certification, have a working knowledge of teaching best practices, excellent written and verbal communication skills, and demonstrate effective classroom management skills.

The ideal candidate must demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitate the learning of all students and be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, technology rich environment with fellow teachers. The ideal candidate will facilitate high student achievement, offer necessary support to students for high achievement goals, and promote the mission of Madonna High School and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

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Health and Physical Education Teacher Opening at Madonna High School, Weirton

Madonna High School is accepting applications for a Health and Physical Education teacher. This is a regular full-time position located at Madonna High School in Weirton, WV. Must be qualified to teach Health and Physical Education to 7th through 12th grade students.

The ideal candidate should hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Health and Physical Education or a relevant field, should hold a valid West Virginia teaching certification with a Health and Physical Education endorsement or be eligible and willing to obtain such certification, have a working knowledge of teaching best practices, excellent written and verbal communication skills, and demonstrate effective classroom management skills.

The ideal candidate must demonstrate a deep commitment to facilitate the learning of all students and be able to work in a dynamic, collaborative, technology rich environment with fellow teachers. The ideal candidate will facilitate high student achievement, offer necessary support to students for high achievement goals, and promote the mission of Madonna High School and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

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The nation-leading cardiologists and surgeons of the WVU Heart and Vascular Institute Structural Heart Program at Wheeling specialize in problems with the heart's valves, walls, or chambers.

We have a multidisciplinary team of experts, including interventional cardiologists, cardiac and vascular surgeons, dedicated nursing staff, and other specialists, to ensure our patients receive the most comprehensive care available for common and complex structural heart conditions.

The WVU Heart and Vascular Institute Structural Heart Program is the only program in West Virginia that offers eight specialized, structural heart procedures and is one of the few programs in the United States (and the only one in West Virginia) offering cerebral embolic protection during transcatheter aortic valve replacement (Protected TAVR) and transcatheter mitral valve replacement.

Our expert team uses the latest catheter-based techniques to treat all forms of structural heart disease, including aortic, mitral, and tricuspid valve diseases and conditions and congenital defects.

The WVU Eye Institute at Wheeling Hospital is in Tower 5, Suite 701. Call (304) 243-3132.

For more information on WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, visit WVU Medicine.org/Wheeling.

WVU Eye Institute Opens Satellite at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital

WHEELING—A satellite office of the WVU Eye Institute has opened at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital. The medical and surgical ophthalmology practice focuses on cataracts, glaucoma, and other diseases of the eye.

“We are thrilled to bring the WVU Eye Institute to Wheeling,” Douglass Harrison, hospital president and CEO, said. “This service is desperately needed in this area, and I look forward to this partnership and growing this institute to meet the needs of our community.”

Thomas W. Uihlein, M.D., formerly with Associates in Ophthalmology, leads the office. Uihlein specializes in cataracts and glaucoma, including the pre- and post-operative care of these conditions, and also will be seeing patients with a wide variety of other ocular diseases. Uihlein earned his medical degree at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed his residency in ophthalmology at the Medical College of Ohio and the Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans. He completed his fellowship in glaucoma at the University of Louisville. He also completed a fellowship in glaucoma at the University of Louisville.

He is an assistant professor of Ophthalmology at WVU and certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology.

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For more information on the WVU Eye Institute, visit WVU-Medicine.org/Eye. For more information on WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, visit WVU Medicine.org/Wheeling.

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