

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Statement of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston about the Massacre in Buffalo, NY, on May 14

The Catholics of West Virginia join other Americans in condemning the murder of ten men and women and the wounding of others in a predominantly African American community yesterday (May 14) in Buffalo, NY. In the short term we offer the families of the victims our profound sympathy and prayers. For the long term we offer them the promise that Jesus made: Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you [Matthew 11: 28]. We can hope that those unjustly burdened by a violent death will receive refreshment in eternity from the one who said: In my Father's house there are

many dwelling places and I am going to prepare a place for you [John 14: 2].

All violent taking of life violates God's commandment: You shall not kill [Exodus 20: 13] but it is especially galling to learn from news reports that the lives of these victims were taken precisely because they were African Americans. Of all inhabitants in this country, Black Americans have suffered the most from centuries of slavery, legal and de facto segregation and socio-economic patterns that have burdened their lives up to and including the present.

The tragedy in Buffalo is hardly

the first such violence against African Americans. From the crossing of the ocean in slave ships, in which many Africans died, to their violent treatment by slave masters to the thousands of lynchings of Blacks in the South to more recent killings of unarmed African Americans by police and civilians, even in their churches, this racism has claimed an inordinate number of Black lives simply because they were Black. When and how will it stop?

New laws might help but what is most needed is a true change of mind and heart that leads us to recognize and affirm the value of every human life, no matter how

different the person is from me. It is the kind of change that authentic religion promotes. God has made us all in His image and likeness. He has commanded us to love one another, to bear one another's burdens. Unless we embrace this understanding more fully in America, we can expect more such tragedies – and against Jews, Moslems and immigrants as well as against African Americans. Sadly, Americans are turning away from religion. Will our people turn back to the One who tells us to treat one another with justice and mercy?

See "Statement" on Page 2



CNS Photo/Seth Harrison, USA Today Network via Reuters
 Julie Harwell, who was in the Buffalo, N.Y., TOPS supermarket when a gunman opened fire May 14 is consoled by the Rev. Charles Walker during a prayer vigil May 15.

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Statement...

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We must also face the fact that the widespread availability of guns is a crucial factor in racial violence. It is much harder to escape from a bullet than it is from a knife. I recognize that most gun owners have them for the protection of their families and themselves or for hunting. I challenge you who own guns for such purposes to propose ways in which the availability of guns could be significantly restricted. I have lived in countries where guns are much less available than in the United States and where, correspondingly, gun deaths are much less common. We have to do better than we are doing. Gun owners: step up to the challenge!

Our addiction to public media and especially social media also contributes to the kind of violence we have seen in Buffalo and elsewhere in our country. I believe in free speech, especially because I value the right to speak about religion openly, which some powerful groups in our society want to restrict.

But some speech is false and unjust. St. Paul urges us to speak the truth in love [Ephesians 4: 15]. Parents need to monitor not only their children's use of speech but their own. Politicians and the media ought to be prudent in their speech. Social media is much har-

der to control by external means – unless you live in China, where the Communist Party tries to control all conversation – but we can encourage family members and friends to speak respectfully about others and challenge them when they do not. Inflaming passions against other groups, as we have seen in the abortion controversies in this country, in Rwanda in the 1990's and in anti-Ukraine Russian propaganda today, can lead to violence and death.

I urge all reading this message to join me in prayer for the victims of the tragic killings in Buffalo and for the consolation of their families and friends. Lest we become inured to the real pain such events cause their loved ones and settle for complacency in the face of evil, we must learn to love our neighbor, regardless of race or other distinguishing factors. We must turn to God, who sees us all as His beloved children. And we must not shrink from making hard decisions about how to stem gun violence and hateful speech in the means of social communication in our country. The land of the free should also be the home of life, liberty and happiness for all.



+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement: numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer.

To Report to Diocesan Authorities: The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. 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. Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment," then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: 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 is protected.

Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

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



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Don't Miss out on World Meeting of Families Celebrations in West Virginia

By Colleen Rowan

Catholic families will not want to miss out on World Meeting of Families celebrations in West Virginia next month. Five gatherings across the state from June 22-26 will offer time for families to celebrate their faith, the chance for camaraderie with fellow Catholics, attend talks on issues families face in the modern world, and a Catholic Family Festival with music, games and so much more. Bishop Mark Brennan will also be attending and celebrating Masses in Charleston and Wheeling.

What makes this event so special and why should Catholic families attend? The answer is two-fold, said Director of Evangelization and Catechesis Daniel Maul. First, to celebrate the gifts of family, parenting, and children. Second, to pray to God for the grace and strength to continue in the God-given – but often challenging – vocations of matrimony and parenting.

“We have a couple of good things going with our Catholic beliefs about marriage and family life,” Maul said. “We should gather together, with other like-minded people, to pray, break bread, and share encouraging testimonies and witnesses, in celebration of our Catholic way of life.”

By attending the gatherings Maul hopes all married couples and families will leave feeling uplifted, encouraged, and called to continue their faith journeys with God and each other in love.

“We believe that our time together in worship, in sharing a meal, and in listening to positive and powerful speakers will offer our married people and their families an opportunity to draw closer

to the Lord and to one another in a spirit of communion and joy,” Maul said.

The Catholic Family Festival on Saturday, June 25, at St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School in Morgantown, Maul said, will combine fun and recreation, especially for children, with faith and spirituality.

“There will be live music, confessions, games, Mass, food, Adoration, vendors and a lineup of speakers,” Maul noted. “Please come out and celebrate with us in a spirit of love and joy.”

St. Francis de Sales Parish is located right next to the school. Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, pastor of the parish and school, and the St. Francis de Sales community are happy to welcome any of the attendees to the regularly scheduled 5:15 p.m. Mass in addition to the 8 p.m. evening Mass that Saturday (June 25). Msgr. Cincinnati will celebrate these Masses in the church. Donna Kinsey, parish musician, will provide music for the 8 p.m. Mass.

The full schedule of gatherings is listed in the ad below.

The celebration will feature speakers who will present talks on different days discussing “the intersection of our Catholic faith and issues pertaining to marriage and family life: parenting, sexuality, divorce, and health,” said Maul in announcing plans for the event earlier this year. Different speakers will offer talks at different locations.

In addition to Maul, speakers will be: Joyce Bibey, manager of Social Media in the diocese’s Office of Communications and Marketing, and writer for the diocesan FaithInWV e-bulletin,

#FaithInWV feature stories, and the FaithInWV.org website; Tim Bishop, director of Marketing and Communications for the diocese; Deacon Walter Calabrese, renowned author from the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C.; Nick Chancey campus minister and director of the Marshall Catholic Newman Center at Marshall University in Huntington; Colleen Criste, director of Programs and Development for Campus Ministry at St. John University Parish in Morgantown on the campus of West Virginia University; Seth Johnson of Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio; Tyler and Sydney Kilbane—he is a licensed therapist who established Known By Name Counseling Services and she is a licensed mental health therapist who works with Pastoral Solutions Institute, Catholic Counselors; and Micah Schlittenhardt, a student of theology, philosophy, and Catholic studies at the University of Mary in Bismarck, N.D., where she is a member of the University Ministry Team.

See the ad below and Pages 8 and 9 of the May 6 issue of The Catholic Spirit for more about the speakers and their topics. The following is the link to the May 6 issue (http://thecatholicspiritwv.org/download/spirit_pdf/May-6-2022.pdf).

For more information about the diocese’s celebration of the World Meeting of Families and to register, contact Jeanne McKeets at the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, at (304) 233-0880, ext. 374, or by sending e-mail to jmckeets@dwc.org.

In the ad below, scan the QR Code or visit www.dwc.org/world-meeting-of-families to register.

CELEBRATE FAITH AND FAMILY WITH US!



Wednesday June 22nd

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
Charleston, WV

6:00pm – Mass

Bishop Brennan presiding
Music by Mark Haas

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:

Tim Bishop
Nick Chancey
Colleen Criste

Thursday June 23rd

St. Leo Catholic Church
Inwood, WV

6:00pm – Mass

Fr. Alfred Obiudu presiding
Music by Ross Semler

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:

Joyce Bibey
Tim Bishop
Nick Chancey
Tyler and Sydney Kilbane

Friday June 24th

St. John XXIII Pastoral Center
Charleston, WV

6:00pm – Mass

Monsignor Samuel Sacus
Music by Mark Haas

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:

Tim Bishop
Colleen Criste
Daniel Maul

Saturday June 25th

St. Francis De Sales School
Morgantown, WV

All Day Festival
with Food, Kids Activities, Confession,
and Adoration/Benediction

5:15pm & 8:00pm – Mass

Msgr. Cincinnati presiding
Music by Donna Kinsey

Speakers:

Deacon Walter Calabrese
Tim Bishop
Colleen Criste
Seth Johnson
Micah Schlittenhardt

Sunday June 26th

Cathedral of St. Joseph
Wheeling, WV

3:00pm – Mass

Bishop Brennan presiding
Music by Matthew Berber

Speakers and Reception to Follow

Speakers:

Joyce Bibey
Nick Chancey
Daniel Maul



Scan the QR Code or visit www.dwc.org/world-meeting-of-families to Register.



Courtesy Photos

Above and below: volunteers work on packaging meals at the Knights of Columbus food packing event at the Nathan Goff Armory in Clarksburg.

Knights of Columbus Pack Meals for the Hungry

By Colleen Rowan

CLARKSBURG—Once again, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic faithful of West Virginia came together to help feed people starving around the world and here in the Mountain State.

Through a food packing event for Cross Catholic Outreach last month in Clarksburg, 67 volunteers from the Knights of Columbus packed 40,152 meals for those in need.

Gerald Somazze, a member of the Knights of Columbus Clarksburg Council # 872, said “the meals, were packaged for needy families, with 105 staying in the local area, and the remainder going internationally.”

The event was held at the Nathan Goff Armory in Clarksburg and was sponsored by Clarksburg Council # 872.

This is the latest food packing event held in West Virginia by the Knights of Columbus for the organization.

Cross Catholic Outreach is a relief and development organization that since its founding in 2001 has given more than \$1 billion in aid to help “the poorest of the poor” in more than three dozen developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and other parts of the world.

For more information about food packing events, visit <https://crosscatholic.org/campaign-youth-vs-hunger/>.



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| 6:30 WTOV FOX 9 | Wheeling-Steubenville |
| 8:00 WBOY NBC 12 | Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont |
| 8:30 WVNS FOX 59 | Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg) |
| 11:00 WDVM 25 | Hagerstown-Washington D.C. |

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Territory Meeting

Saints' Lives Prove God's Love for All, Pope Says at Canonization Mass

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)

— The lives of the saints prove that holiness is not an unreachable goal accomplished by a select few but comes from acknowledging and sharing God's love, Pope Francis said.

"Our Christian lives begin not with doctrine and good works, but with the amazement born of realizing that we are loved, prior to any response on our part," the pope said in his homily during the canonization Mass in which he declared 10 men and women as saints of the Catholic Church.

"At times, by overemphasizing our efforts to do good works, we have created an ideal of holiness excessively based on ourselves, our personal heroics, our capacity for renunciation, our readiness for self-sacrifice in achieving a reward. In this way, we have turned holiness into an unattainable goal," he said.

An estimated 45,000 pilgrims from around the world gathered in St. Peter's Square at the beginning of the canonization Mass, and tens of thousands more arrived in time for the recitation of the "Regina Coeli" prayer afterward, the Vatican said.

Carmelite Father Michael Driscoll, who lives in Boca Raton, Florida, was among the pilgrims who arrived early for the canonization Mass, which he said he has "been waiting for for 18 years" since his miraculous healing from advanced, metastatic melanoma. He had prayed for St. Titus Brandsma's intercession, and his healing was accepted as the miracle needed for the Dutch Carmelite's canonization.

Father Driscoll told Catholic News Service May 13 he was "very anxious and thrilled" for the canonization of St. Brandsma, who died in 1942 at the Dachau concentration camp after he "used his talents as a teacher, as a publicist and as a writer" to fight Nazi ideology.

"He fought with his

mouth in the pulpit, he fought with his pen and typewriter way before the internet came along. He used all that was available at that time and rallied Holland," Father Driscoll told CNS.

In his homily, the pope reflected on the Sunday Gospel reading from St. John in which Jesus calls on his disciples to love one another "as I have loved you."

Christ's call, he said, should be "the core of our own faith," a faith that recognizes that "our abilities and our merits are not the central thing, but rather the unconditional, free and unmerited love of God."

"Being disciples of Jesus and advancing on the path of holiness means first and foremost letting ourselves be transfigured by the power of God's love. Let us never forget the primacy of God over self, of the Spirit over the flesh, of grace over works," the pope said.

Jesus' call to love one another, he continued, is not solely a call to imitate his love for humanity, but a reminder that Christians "are able to love only because he has loved us, because he pours into our hearts his own Spirit, the Spirit of holiness, love that heals and transforms."

To live one's life according to that love, the pope said Christians must be willing to serve others, which clears one's soul from "the poison of greed and competitiveness" and fights "the cancer of indifference and the woodworm of self-referentiality."

Giving one's life, he said, is "more than simply offering something of ours to others," but rather it is a way of "surmounting our selfishness in order to make our lives a gift."

Pope Francis said that the 10 new saints exemplified the Christian call "to serve the Gospel and our brothers and sisters, to offer our lives without expecting anything in return, or any worldly glory."

"They discovered an incomparable joy, and they became brilliant reflections



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

Pope Francis celebrates Mass for the canonization of 10 new saints in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican May 15. Five of the new saints are from Italy, three from France, one from India and one from the Netherlands.

of the Lord of history," the pope said. "May we strive to do the same, for each of us is called to holiness, to a form of holiness all our own."

The new saints are:

— Devasahayam Pillai, an Indian layman born in 1712 and martyred in 1752.

— César de Bus, the French founder of the Fathers of Christian Doctrine, who was born in 1544 and died in 1607.

— Luigi Maria Palazzolo, Italian founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Poor, who lived 1827-

1886.

— Giustino Maria Russo-lillo, Italian founder of the Society of Divine Vocations for men and the Vocationist Sisters, 1891-1955.

— Charles de Foucauld, French priest and hermit, born in 1858 and killed in 1916.

— Anna Maria Rubatto, Italian founder of the order now known as the Capuchin Sisters of Mother Rubatto, who lived 1844-1904.

— Maria Domenica Mantovani, co-founder and first superior general of the Little

Sisters of the Holy Family, born in 1862 and died in 1934.

— Titus Brandsma, Dutch priest and journalist, who was born in 1881 and martyred in 1942.

— Carolina Santocanale, Italian founder of the Congregation of the Capuchin Sisters of the Immaculate of Lourdes, who lived 1852-1923.

— Marie Rivier, French founder of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. She was born in 1768 and died in 1838.



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Bishop Blesses New Playground in Oak Hill

Courtesy Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan blesses the new playground at Ss. Peter and Paul School in Oak Hill May 6. With him are students and Deacon Peter Minogue. The bishop also celebrated Mass for the students that day.



Catholics and Babies

A Healthy Approach to Family Planning

June 25, 2022

10:00AM– 12:00 Noon | St. John Marist Hall
1610 Webster Rd, Summersville, WV 26651

Please register on or before June 20, 2022
by calling the Parish Office at 304.872.2554.

Lunch will be served.

Presenters Philip and Jaimie Althage are parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Summersville, WV—they will celebrate nine years of marriage this June, and they have three children. They moved to Clay County, WV from Texas a couple of years ago, where they take care of Jaimie's grandfather and manage the family farm. They are both certified NFP promoters through the Couple to Couple League, and are passionate about sharing the message of NFP, and God's plan for Christian marriage, with other couples.

Franciscan University of Steubenville Capital Campaign Surpasses Initial \$75 Million Goal

Rebuild My Church Campaign Funds Academics, Financial Aid, and Evangelization

STEUBENVILLE, OHIO—The Rebuild My Church Capital Campaign, the largest fundraising campaign in the 75-year history of Franciscan University of Steubenville, surpassed its initial \$75 million goal on May 13 just six short months after the kick-off of the campaign's public phase.

Franciscan University President Father Dave Pivonka, TOR, made the surprise announcement at the end of Franciscan's Commencement Exercises on May 14.

"I am very pleased to announce that yesterday, the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, we reached our goal of \$75 million," Father Pivonka said.

The news received sustained applause from the trustees, faculty, staff, graduates, parents, and friends gathered in Finnegan Fieldhouse for the Science Commencement and Arts Commencement ceremonies.

Noting that many members of the audience were "the reason we made that goal," Father Pivonka told graduates, "By the generosity of your friends, family, relatives, we've been able to reach the goal of \$75 million that allows us new academic programming, new scholarships, new institutes, and ultimately, a new academic building and conference center."

The Rebuild My Church Campaign's overarching goals include enhancing and expanding academics, increasing financial aid and scholarships, and expanding evangelistic outreach and revitalizing parishes.

Although Franciscan has met its initial \$75 million goal, the campaign will continue, Father Pivonka said.

"I think the Lord has more for us. He has more that he wants to do and more ways he wants to bless us. So, we want to thank you so much and thank the Lord for his faithfulness in our campaign and continue to ask the Lord that we as a university would be able to build well," he concluded.

Alumnus David DeWolf '99, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, said, "The fact that we have reached our goal so quickly demonstrates that the world sees a great need for well-formed leaders—the next generation of whom this campaign will support through scholarships, academic programs, and facilities."

DeWolf added, "I hope this early success inspires more friends to join us in educating, evangelizing, and send-



Architectural renderings of Christ the Teacher Academic Hall and Conference Center at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Courtesy Photo

ing forth joyful disciples. It's a mission worth supporting."

Bob Hickey, vice president of Advancement at Franciscan University, said, "By God's grace, we have raised over \$72 million in cash and pledges and an additional \$3 million in credentialed planned gift disclosures for a grand total of \$75,023,000. Gifts from more than 700 donors propelled us past our Phase One goal of \$75 million in honor of our 75th anniversary as a university."

Hickey attributed the milestone to Father Pivonka's leadership, the support of the Board of Trustees, the energetic assistance of campaign chairman Paul Michael "Mickey" Pohl, the faculty and staff whose good work has lifted up the university's reputation, and most of all, Franciscan's "wonderful" benefactors.

"It is so humbling and moving for me to hear our donors' Franciscan stories and why they support our students and our Franciscan University mission," Hickey said. "It's always a matter of the heart as well as the mind; it's very personal for them."

The campaign has raised \$47 million toward the original \$48 million goal for the construction of the 110,000-square-foot Christ the Teacher Academic Hall and Conference Center. Home to the Departments of Business, Engineering, and Nursing, Christ the Teacher will also provide gathering space for up to 500 and a Welcome Center for Admissions visitors.

"Site preparation for the new building is already underway with a formal groundbreaking scheduled for Oc-

tober," said Hickey. "So, with Phase One of our Rebuild My Church Capital Campaign completed, we will be pushing on to Phase Two, \$10 million, which will cover increased costs for Christ the Teacher Hall due to inflation, as well as other capital needs associated with campus infrastructure."

To date, gifts to fund scholarships and financial aid totaled \$21 million, \$3 million over the goal for that need. The new funds are already making a difference for incoming students.

Generous benefactors from Western Pennsylvania, for example, have provided significant financial aid for students in the Greensburg, Altoona-Johnstown, Erie, and Pittsburgh dioceses who choose Franciscan University, and 94 students have received St. Pope John Paul II Scholarship offers for fall 2022.

One recipient, Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh senior Patrick Veazey, wrote, "I really appreciated receiving the Pope JPII Scholarship, since it lifted a significant financial burden off my family's shoulders. Because of this aid, I will be able to more easily attend Franciscan and will, therefore, be able to thrive physically, mentally, and (most importantly) spiritually."

Other needs fully funded by the campaign include the Criminal Justice Program and the Leadership Institute and Entrepreneurship Program, both of which began in 2021 and have already attracted many interested students.

"It's exciting to have over 40 students in Franciscan's new Criminal Justice Program, which provides a firm foundation in the relationship of

moral, ethical, natural law and Catholic tradition essential for a just society and criminal justice system," said Dr. Charles Nemeth, director of the Center for Criminal Justice, Law, and Ethics. "In addition, campaign funds support our very active Center for Criminal Justice, Law, and Ethics, creation of a minor program in forensic accounting, and many special initiatives."

Hickey feels confident that with God's help, the \$10 million needed for Phase Two will come together soon.

"As Father Dave said, 'Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build' (Ps. 127:1), so we look to the Lord for his continued guidance for this campaign and his blessings on our benefactors," Hickey said. "Please pray that Franciscan University will follow his lead and build only according to his plans."

One of only 15 faithfully Catholic universities endorsed by the Cardinal Newman Society, Franciscan University of Steubenville continues to lead the renaissance of Catholic higher education called for in *Ex corde Ecclesiae*.

Franciscan University, founded in 1946 by friars of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Province of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis of Penance, integrates excellent academic programs with a dynamic faith environment to serve 2,500 students from all 50 states and 17 countries on campus and an additional 900 students online.

Franciscan's 87 percent first-year retention rate shows that when students come to Franciscan they stay, drawn to its Christ-centered campus culture and

See "Franciscan" on Page 8

Diocesan Catholic School Eighth Graders Win Golden Horseshoe Award

A highlight of the eighth-grade year is the opportunity for a student to become a Knight or Lady of the Golden Horseshoe. Named for the golden horseshoes given to the early explorers of what is now West Virginia by Alexander Spotswood, the governor of the Virginia colony, the program recognizes students for their knowledge of West Virginia history, geography, government, and current events. The county winners will gather at the West Virginia Center for Culture and History in Charleston on June 14.

The winners and their West Virginia Studies teachers are as follows:

Charleston Catholic Middle—Jacob Brown, Clare James, Cameron Lusk, Reagan Stapleton (Jennifer Cline)

Huntington, St. Joseph—Beau Farley (Anisa Dye-Hale)

Martinsburg, St. Joseph—Bracha Warui (Annette Breen)

Morgantown, St. Francis de Sales—Rachel Ogershok, Jacob Woodall (Bill Scudiere)

Weirton, St. Joseph the Worker—Ethan Baker (Gretchen Brooks)

Weston, St. Patrick—John Brady Jordan (Sydney Bush)

Wheeling, St. Michael—Michael Hutnick, Finn O'Connell (Thomas Olivier)

The Brown family in South Charleston can claim a sweep of the award. Aaron and Harmony (Burwell) Brown, physicians in the Kanawha Valley, won the award when they were eighth grade students at Meadow Bridge Middle School in Fayette County. Their older son Tyler was a Golden Horseshoe recipient two years ago at Charleston Catholic. Younger son Jacob was selected this year.

In her first year of teaching at Charleston Catholic, Jennifer Cline stated: "I knew the subject matter, but I had never taught West Virginia studies. I was unsure how to present it to eighth grade students. To prepare my students, I utilized questions from the Quick Quizzes on the wvculture.org website as daily bell ringers. Twice a month we concentrated on those quick quizzes. Each student also focused on study guides that had been used by CCMS students. We also had a 'Golden Horseshoe Club' in which students stayed after school to practice and study."

One of the diocese's longest tenured West Virginia studies teachers is Bill Scudiere from St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School in Morgantown. Bill has taught at St. Francis since 2001. During his time there, he has had 16 Golden Horseshoe winners. Rather than teach

Franciscan...

Cont' from Page 7

integration of faith and reason in the classroom.

Ranked in the top tier of Midwest universities by U.S. News & World Report since 1998, Franciscan offers over 100 programs of study including 45 undergraduate degrees, 12 graduate programs, and 17 online programs—all grounded in Franciscan's acclaimed Catholic core curriculum.

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graduate Theology Program in the U.S., Franciscan also has a well-regarded Priestly Discernment Program, which has seen over 250 members ordained to the priesthood since 1985.

The university's newest academic programs include mechanical engineering, software engineering, criminal justice, biochemistry, cybersecurity, a master's in Catholic studies, and an Entrepreneurship Program that combines business best practices, leadership formation, and Catholic social teaching.



Courtesy Photo

Ethan Baker, an eighth grader at St. Joseph the Worker School, Weirton, and one of the five Golden Horseshoe recipients from Hancock County, is pictured with his family.

for the test, Bill has devised a sound curriculum covering all facets of West Virginia studies. He noted that he has had more winners since the test went online. St. Francis also sends two teams to the West Virginia History Bowl yearly. Almost all his winners have participated in the bowl.

While all of the diocese's Catholic schools have had past winners, St. Patrick School in Weston celebrated its first-ever Golden Horseshoe winner, John Brady Jordan. Since St. Patrick's reopened the middle school a few years ago, John Brady is the first recipient. He is an honor roll student who is a faithful altar server and was selected as the school's Aquinas Medal recipient.

Thomas Olivier, in his second year at St. Michael Parish School, has produced five out of the eight winners in Ohio County. Olivier stated, "We began preparing in December by using a former parish priest's study guide as the foundation for our overall review. We divided the review into four sections: geography, pre-20th century history, 20th/21st century WV, and government/economics. We were elated that SMPS had two winners this year."

With 12 Golden Horseshoe winners, the diocesan Catholic schools continue to promote academic excellence within the framework of a loving and supporting Christ-centered environment.

A study abroad program in a beautifully restored 14th-century Carthusian monastery in Austria attracts up to 200 students each semester, broadening their horizons intellectually and spiritually through pilgrimages to historic and sacred sites.

For more about Franciscan University of Steubenville and its mission to educate, evangelize, and send forth Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ, visit Franciscan.edu or connect with Franciscan on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or LinkedIn.



Courtesy Photo

John Brady Jordan, an eighth grader at St. Patrick School, Weston, and one of the three Golden Horseshoe winners from Lewis County, receives the Aquinas Medal from Bishop Mark Brennan.

Principal Search

Madonna High School in Weirton, West Virginia is seeking a 7th-12th Grade High School Principal.

- 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 would 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 to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org. Resumes will be accepted until June 8, 2022.

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Wheeling Ancient Order of Hibernians Scholarships Awarded



Courtesy Photo

Pictured, from left, are Wheeling, West Virginia Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division #1 scholarship winners Brent Smith, Sara Gruber, and John Emmerth, and Vice-President and Scholarship Committee Chair of Division #1 Tom Murphy.

WHEELING—In May, the Wheeling, West Virginia Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division #1 presented its annual scholarships. Three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded.

Sara Gruber and John Emmerth will both graduate from Wheeling Central Catholic High School. They received the Cole Bertol Memorial Scholarship as they will be attending West Virginia University in the fall. Gruber will be studying nursing while Emmerth will study exercise physiology. Brent Smith will be graduating from St. Clairsville High School (Ohio) and will be attend-

ing Ohio University in the fall. His field of interest is education. The scholarships are made possible through the success of the annual road bowling event.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the nation's oldest and largest Irish-American organization.

Membership is open to practicing Catholic men over 18 years of age that can claim Irish heritage by birth or descent. Anyone interested in learning more about the organization is invited to visit AOH.com or the Wheeling Division Facebook page at facebook.com/roadbowling

St. John's Bereavement Group in Benwood Open to All Who Need Support

BENWOOD—"If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, you may benefit from gatherings for those grieving," officials of St. John Parish in Benwood said.

The parish invites anyone

who is suffering the loss of a loved one to join in the bereavement group at the church. The group meets at 6 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at St. John Church Fellowship Hall in Benwood for grief support that

is faith centered. Facilitators are Deacon Doug Breiding and Tom and Michele McFadden.

The next gathering is May 23.

For more information about the group, call the parish at (304) 232-6455.

West Virginia Institute for Spirituality Announces Summer Programs

The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality invites all to the following Almost Heaven Retreats. These retreats are given in-person or via Zoom. They can be a one-day retreat or a three, five, eight days retreat. These are directed one-to-one retreats from April 16- Aug.13 and can also be scheduled at any time during the year. For more information, visit www.wvis.org and click Retreats in the banner, scroll down to the Almost Heaven Retreat and click on it.

Contemplative Prayer is a Zoom offering of centering prayer where a person is receptive to resting in God. It is a method of prayer, which prepares one to receive the gift of God's presence, traditionally called contemplative prayer. This prayer time is offered Monday-Friday, 7-7:20 p.m. A free will offering is suggested. If interested in participating, please contact Sally Orcutt, O.P. at sally@sayyes2yourlife.org.

Merton Institute with presenter Father Bill Petro, M.A., is a Zoom offering of the Charleston Chapter of the Merton Institute which meets 7 -8:30 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month. Everyone is welcome as all things Merton are discussed. A free will offering is suggested.

If interested, please contact Father Petro at frbpetro42@gmail.com.

The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality offers opportunities for on-going spiritual direction, silent directed retreats and "The Retreat in Everyday Life". These are offered throughout the year. If interested, please contact Sister Carole Riley, CDP, PH.D. at (412) 901-4259 or by emailing wviscr@aol.com.



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Wheeling University's Programs Chosen among the Best in West Virginia by University Headquarters

WHEELING—University Headquarters has chosen Wheeling University one of the top 10 institutions in the state for bachelor's and master's programs. The ranking service also named the University's MBA program among the best in West Virginia.

A leading, independent education organization, University Headquarters provides students an unbiased source for independent and comprehensive information about universities and degree programs.

In its online listing of the best colleges and universities across West Virginia, the ranking service named Wheeling University's bachelor's and master's degree programs the fifth best.

Wheeling University President Ginny R. Favede said, "Once again, ranking services continue to recognize that Wheeling University provides students in our undergraduate and graduate programs a rigorous education, grounded in Ignatian principles. University Headquarters acknowledges that our faculty are offering students quality instruction at all levels. Attending Wheeling University, rated one of the best universities in West Vir-



Wheeling University

Courtesy Photo

ginia and the region, is an investment in a student's future."

The ranking service notes, an undergraduate degree from Wheeling can provide students with the high-quality education, knowledge and experience needed to build a successful career in almost any field. Graduates also can use

their degree to qualify for further education in related fields. In addition, University Headquarters noted that the master's programs ranking demonstrates a clear dedication to and understanding of major content, as well as involving the students in research.

The university's MBA program

was named the fifth best in West Virginia by University Headquarters. In addition, Wheeling's MBA is offered online making it attractive to adults who wish to earn an advanced degree while continuing to work.

"Our curriculum at the undergraduate and graduate levels provides intensive instruction in a student's major, while giving each a grounding in ethics and compassion. By educating the 'whole person,' a concept known as *cura personalis*, we develop the whole student – mind, body and spirit – which values academic excellence and service to others. As a result, Wheeling University graduates are empowered to become dynamic leaders in the workplace, while using their God-given talents to serve others in their communities," Favede explained.

To determine its rankings, University Headquarters uses the most reliable data and government sources, which are unbiased, consistent and reliable. Further, each college in the rankings is assessed using the same data sources, meaning that the comparisons are all even and consistent.

Summer School Teaching Position Opening

Oakview Juvenile Residential Center, a community corrections facility located in St. Clairsville, Ohio has a summer school teaching position that starts May 31 and runs through the second week of August. Student population is eight. Oakview is seeking a teacher that is qualified and proficient in math. The majority of students are in need of basic math and algebra. The hours of this teaching position at Oakview will be Mondays through Thursdays, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. There is some flexibility regarding scheduling if needed. The teacher will be hired through the East Central Ohio Educational Center. The teacher will be paid \$25 per hour. Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree; must be 21 or older.

Interested candidates may contact John M. Rowan, executive director of Oakview, at (740) 695-3500. For more information on our facility, please see our website www.oakviewrc.org.

Youth Leader Position Opening

Oakview Juvenile Residential Center, a community corrections facility located in St. Clairsville, Ohio has a full-time youth leader position available. The youth leader will oversee, monitor, and supervise daily programming. Qualifications include possession of high school diploma or GED; must be 21 or older. The projected salary is \$15.83 per hour with county health benefits, paid holidays, and PERS retirement.

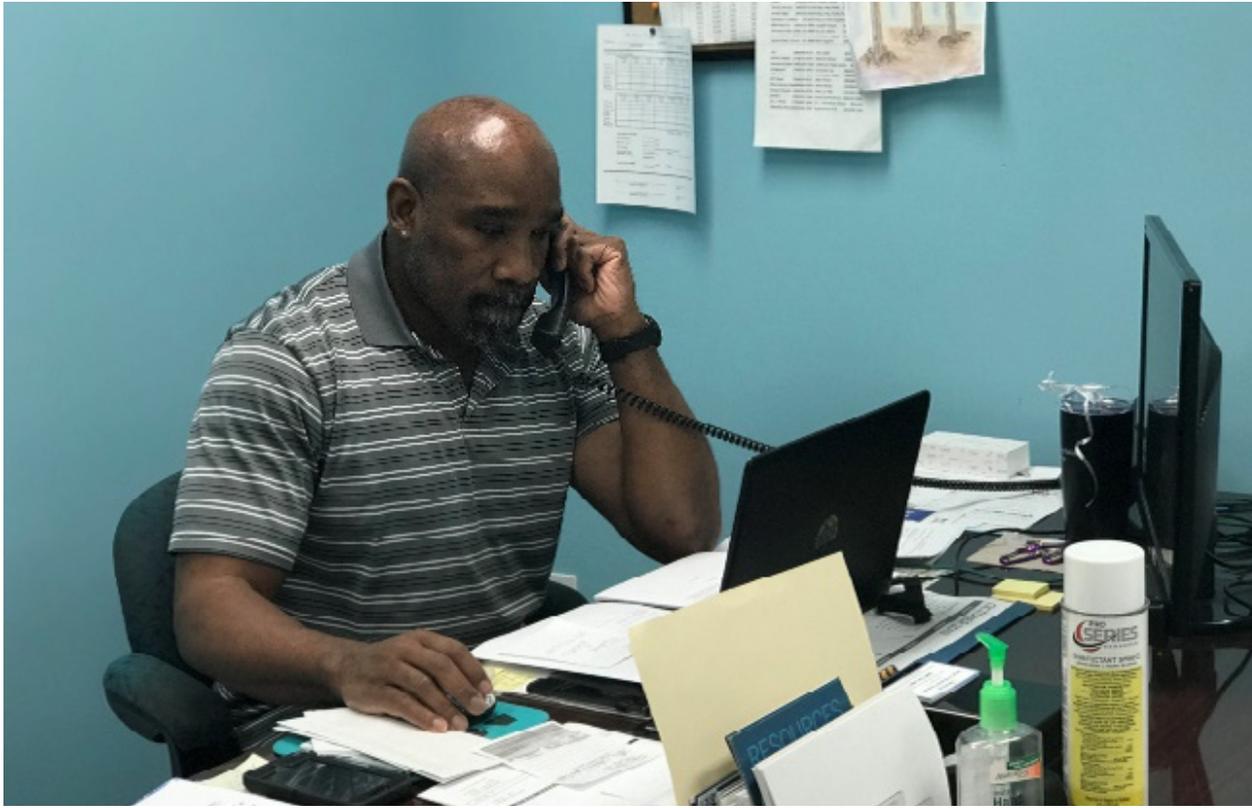
All interested candidates may contact John M. Rowan, executive director of Oakview, at (740) 695-3500. For more information on our facility, please see our website www.oakviewrc.org.





CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA
MISSION MOMENT

Empowering Those We Serve



Courtesy Photo

CCWVa Case Manager Joe Sparksman develops strong relationships with clients to help them work toward their goals.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is here for people when they need us.

Recently, a man came to our Neighborhood Center in Wheeling as a referral from National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). His schizophrenia made it difficult for him to trust or interact with others; in fact, when he first began coming to our center, he would always wear a hooded shirt and cover his face and body. He went by the alias "Batman."

Batman entered our case management program. Every Wednesday, Batman meets with Joe, our CCWVa case manager. Over time, Joe and Batman have built a strong relationship. Batman has begun to show his face and engage with others at our Neighborhood Center.

Joe helped Batman identify goals for himself and overcome barriers keeping him from reaching these goals. These days, their Wednesday

meetings include driving lessons, as Joe is helping Batman get his driver's license for the first time in his life. Batman and Joe have developed a deep and genuine connection.

"He's my hero," said Joe.

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.

Seeking Principal

St. Patrick Church of Weston, West Virginia is seeking a Principal for St. Patrick Catholic School, pre-school through eighth grades.

- 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 Julie Link, jlink@dwc.org. Resumes will be accepted until June 30, 2022.

Openings for Teaching Positions

Saint Joseph Catholic School in Martinsburg, W.Va., is seeking teachers in the following areas for the 2022-23 school year:

- **Physical education, prekindergarten to eighth grade**
- **Second grade classroom teacher**
- **Middle school math/science**

Candidates must hold or be eligible to hold West Virginia professional teaching certification. A long-term substitute with a bachelor's degree or first-class permit may be considered if there is a lack of fully qualified candidates.

Preferred applicants are practicing Catholics in good standing with Church precepts who will act as examples of and motivators toward the fulfillment of the Catholic philosophy of the school. Ideal candidates are expected to be familiar with the official teachings, doctrine and laws of the Catholic Church, and to integrate those concepts in curricular and extracurricular activities.

Catholic Relief Services Collection Will be Held This Weekend

On May 21-22, the Catholic Relief Services Collection will be held during Masses. The collection supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement for victims of persecution, war, and natural disasters; development projects to improve living conditions for the poor; legal and support services for poor immigrants; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and advocacy on behalf of the powerless.

In the developing world, it is often hard for families to support themselves and their children. Sophie, a widow working in a village in Burkina Faso, was struggling to feed her family and pay for schooling for her children. Thanks to the help of Catholic Relief Services, one of the CRSC-supported organizations, her village was able to set up a Savings and Internal Lending Community (SILC).

Through the SILC, members contribute what they can afford, allowing them to pool their resources and save collectively. Members can then borrow money to meet pressing needs or develop business opportunities. Through the SILC, Sophie was able to take out a \$200 loan to cover startup costs for her own canteen, a sum that would be nearly impossible for her to save. Her canteen has been very successful and began to pay off in only six months. Her community has benefited too, as she has been able to hire three assistants to work with her. Without the SILC and the work of CRS, it would have been nearly impossible for her, and others like her, to create a sustainable life for her and her family.

Persecution of Christians and other religious minorities by extremist groups such as ISIS in the Middle East has forced families to flee their homes with few possessions or resources. Through generous contributions to The Catholic Relief Services Collection, as well as the efforts of bishops to engage policy makers to protect these vulnerable families, we are providing badly-needed material and spiritual

support to refugees here and abroad. A father, mother, and two sons from Iraq fled this persecution, and after living in a refugee camp in Indonesia while undergoing extensive

security screening and interviews, they resettled in Massachusetts. Through support of the collection, volunteers welcomed the family, donated household items and furni-

ture, and arranged reduced-rent housing during their transition. With ongoing support, refugees like this family find employment, learn English, and build new homes, far

from the religious and political violence they faced overseas.

For more information about the collection, visit at www.usccb.org/catholicrelief



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DOORS OPEN @ 6 - EVENT STARTS @ 6:30

ST. MICHAEL PARISH

EVENING INCLUDES:

What's the meaning of sex, gender, and the human body? The truth of masculinity and femininity are being questioned like never before. Discover how your body as a man or woman reveals your identity and calling.

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If you have any questions or if you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Diane at the parish office: 304-242-1560

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Registration link: abbatekofc.com/events

Date: May 24, 2022



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June 26th – July 2nd, A “catch all week” from 3rd grade through 12th grade.

July 3rd – July 9th, Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.

July 10th – July 16th, Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.

July 17th – July 23rd, A “catch all week” from 3rd grade through 12th grade.

July 24th – July 30th, “A Camp Carlo Summer Vacation” free program for 7-12 year olds who receive support from the government or Catholic Charities.

Contact Assistant Director, Sadie Shields, for more information: sshields@dwc.org or 1 (304) 476-9015



Confirmation Schedule

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

- May 20: St. Leo, Inwood, 6:30 p.m.
- May 21: St. James, Charles Town, 10 a.m.
- May 22: St. Joseph, Martinsburg, 3 p.m.
- May 24: St. Anthony, Follansbee, 6 p.m.
- May 28: Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg, 4:30 p.m.
- May 29: St. Margaret Mary, Parkersburg, 2 p.m.
- June 4: St. Francis de Sales, Beckley, 5 p.m.
- June 25: St. Brendan, Elkins, 5 p.m.

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Obispos Expresan Dolor, Condenan Tiroteo por Motivos Raciales en Buffalo

Por Rhina Guidos, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Varios obispos católicos de EE. UU. expresaron su pesar y denunciaron el racismo y la violencia armada tras informes de un tiroteo masivo el 14 de mayo en Buffalo, Nueva York, que dejó al menos tres heridos y 10 muertos, un crimen que las autoridades clasificaron como probablemente motivado por el odio hacia personas negras.

"La fe nos obliga a decir no a las fuerzas putrefactas del racismo, no al terror y no al silenciamiento mortal de las voces negras y morenas", dijo el obispo Mark J. Seitz de El Paso, Texas, el 15 de mayo en una de las declaraciones más fuertes condenando la violencia tras un tiroteo el sábado por la tarde en un supermercado de Nueva York.

El obispo Mark E. Brennan de Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, también se pronunció en contra de lo que se ha categorizado, no solo como violencia, sino como algo teñido de un racismo escalofriante.

"La tragedia en Buffalo no es la primera violencia de este tipo contra los afroamericanos", escribió poco después del ataque. "Desde la travesía del océano en barcos de esclavos, en los cuales murieron muchos africanos, hasta el trato violento que recibieron por parte de los amos de los esclavos, los miles de linchamientos de personas negras en el sur y los asesinatos más recientes de afroamericanos desarmados por parte de la policía y personas civiles, incluso dentro de sus iglesias, este racismo ha cobrado una cantidad desmesurada de vidas negras simplemente porque las personas son negras. ¿Cuándo y cómo se detendrá?"

En Buffalo, el fiscal de distrito del condado de Erie, John J. Flynn, dijo en un comunicado del 14 de mayo que el sospechoso de 18 años Payton S. Gendron, de Conklin, Nueva York, "quien supuestamente tenía puesto equipo táctico y estaba armado con un arma de

asalto" cuando ingresó al supermercado alrededor de las 2:30 p.m., ha sido acusado de asesinato en primer grado y permanece bajo custodia sin derecho a fianza.

Algunos de los muertos incluyen un policía jubilado de Buffalo que trabajaba como guardia de seguridad en la tienda, una abuela de 85 años con 8 nietos que cuidaba a su esposo, y una defensora de los derechos civiles de 72 años.

"Mi oficina está colaborando con la Oficina del Fiscal de los Estados Unidos y nuestros socios en la aplicación de la ley sobre posibles delitos de terrorismo y odio", dijo Flynn. "Esta es una investigación activa y se pueden presentar cargos adicionales".

Gendron tiene una audiencia programada para el 19 de mayo.

Reportes dijeron que las autoridades señalaron un documento en línea de 180 páginas que supuestamente dejó el sospechoso, lleno de puntos de vista racistas y detalles de su plan de ataque. También hay informes de que ató equipo electrónico sobre un casco táctico que llevaba puesto para poder transmitir en vivo el tiroteo. Supuestamente también escribió sobre teorías de conspiración, diciendo que algunos grupos están sistemáticamente tratando de reemplazar a los blancos en los EE. UU. con personas de color.

The Buffalo News en un artículo del 14 de mayo dijo que el autor del manifiesto, además, escribió sobre la compra de municiones, excedentes militares y otros preparativos.

"El flagelo de la violencia armada sin sentido que ha cobrado la vida de tantas personas en nuestra nación y ha cambiado la vida de innumerables hombres, mujeres y niños inocentes debe parar", dijo el obispo Michael W. Fisher de Buffalo en un comunicado publicado en Twitter poco después del ataque.

La oficina del fiscal de distrito de

Erie dijo que el "acusado condujo" más de tres horas hasta un supermercado Tops ubicado en una sección predominantemente negra de Buffalo, "con la intención de cometer un delito".

Es un escenario inquietantemente similar a un tiroteo masivo de 2019 en El Paso, donde el presunto pistolero en ese incidente condujo cerca de 10 horas, también dejó un manifiesto racista que criticaba la "invasión hispana de Texas" y abrió fuego contra una clientela mayoritariamente latina en un Walmart en 2019. También se dice que hizo referencia a la misma teoría de conspiración relacionada con el sospechoso del tiroteo en Buffalo.

En El Paso, se permitió la entrada a sacerdotes de la diócesis poco después del tiroteo para consolar y administrar extremaunción. El obispo Seitz durante meses visitó a los heridos y escribió una carta pastoral contra el odio e incluyó el papel de la iglesia en el racismo en la frontera.

"¡Conocemos muy bien este dolor! Nuestras oraciones están con las personas que perdieron a sus seres queridos hoy, los fieles de la Diócesis de Buffalo y toda la ciudad de Buffalo", escribió la Diócesis de El Paso en una publicación tras el ataque de Buffalo.

En otro mensaje, Monseñor Seitz dijo que "el racismo y la supremacía blanca continúan golpeando profundamente a nuestra sociedad y reverberando ampliamente, victimizando a las comunidades de color y disminuyéndonos a todos".

"Quiero que (personas en) Buffalo sientan la solidaridad de la amada comunidad de El Paso", dijo. "Caminamos con ustedes, incluso cuando pasan por el valle de la sombra de la muerte. Sabemos que el camino a través del odio y el dolor hacia las aguas tranquilas y la Casa del Señor se construye en conjunto, con actos de justicia, reconciliación y amor".

Otros obispos también se acercaron con mensajes de solidaridad

El obispo Robert J. Brennan de Brooklyn, Nueva York, quien dijo estar "horrorizado" por el ataque, pidió oraciones por las víctimas, sus familias y por el "fin al odio, la violencia y el racismo en nuestro país y en el mundo".

El obispo de West Virginia, Brennan, dijo que si bien nuevas leyes pueden ayudar, lo que más se necesita es "un verdadero cambio de mente y de corazón que nos lleve a reconocer y afirmar el valor de cada vida humana, por diferente que sea de nosotros".

"Es el tipo de cambio que promueve la religión auténtica. Dios nos ha hecho a todos a su imagen y semejanza. Nos ha mandado que nos amemos unos a otros, que llevemos las cargas los unos de los otros", dijo. "A menos que adoptemos este entendimiento más plenamente en Estados Unidos, podemos esperar más tragedias de este tipo, y contra judíos, (musulmanes) e inmigrantes, así como contra afroamericanos".

También hizo un llamado a los propietarios de armas para que apoyen restricciones.

"También debemos enfrentar el hecho de que la disponibilidad generalizada de armas es un factor crucial en la violencia racial. Es mucho más difícil escapar de una bala que de un cuchillo", escribió el prelado de West Virginia. "Reconozco que la mayoría de los dueños de armas las tienen para la protección de sus familias y de ellos mismos o para cazar.

"El desafío para ustedes, que poseen armas para tales fines, es que propongan formas en las que la disponibilidad de armas podría restringirse significativamente".

Añadió: "He vivido en países donde las armas están mucho menos disponibles que en los Estados Unidos y donde, en consecuencia, las muertes por armas de fuego son mucho menos comunes. Tenemos que hacerlo mejor de lo que lo estamos haciendo. Dueños de armas: afronten el desafío!"

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 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.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números variarán 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; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. 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, 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 Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988.

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, 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.

Perinatal Transition Program at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital Aims to Help the Entire Family

WHEELING—The specialized Perinatal Transition Program at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital is working to promote healthy environments for moms, babies and their entire families.

It is part of the IMPACT WV research study, designed to develop strategies to expand services and create opportunities that encourage children's healthy development. The multi-generational approach to coordinating programs addresses barriers to care (such as poverty and geographic isolation) that can have a negative impact on a child's health and future development.

Focusing on the whole family highlights the importance of the family unit in shaping a child's health and future. In order to achieve the goals of health, financial security and independence, IMPACT WV utilizes patient navigators dedicated to coordinating specialized care, which includes food insecurity, housing, education, clothing, transportation, and child care.

The IMPACT WV site housed in the Perinatal Transition Program at WVU Medicine Wheeling

Hospital is one of three sites in the state. Patient Navigator Mikisha Lee works hand in hand with the Transition Program Coordinators, Holly Sroka, RN, Katie Khamsoucksaly, RN and Amy Bott, BSN, RN, to encourage a healthy environment for all participants. Overseeing the program is Poornima Murthy, MD, neonatologist at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital.

"The Perinatal Transition Program is a specialized service for women impacted by substance use during pregnancy," Murthy said. "Individualized support is provided by the Transition Coordinators to assess current needs and empower women throughout their pregnancy. With a warm handoff from the Transition Coordinators to the Patient Navigator, the established support and education is reinforced and expanded throughout the postpartum period."

Participation in this study is voluntary. Taking part in the study will have no adverse effect on the services that a patient receives from a partnering agency. The results of this research will help IMPACT WV continue to improve services to not only moms and babies, but entire families in West Virginia.

To be eligible for participation in IMPACT WV, the family must:

Have a child born within the last 3 months who was diagnosed with NAS or exposed to substances in utero.

Live in Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Preston, Harrison, Marion counties in West Virginia.

To make a self-referral, or for someone you know, contact: Mikisha Lee, Patient Navigator IMPACT WV, mikisha.lee@wvumedicine.org, (304) 243-8370; Amy Bott, BSN, RN, Perinatal Transition Program, amy.bott1@wvumedicine.org, (304) 243-3266; Katie Khamsoucksaly, RN, Perinatal Transition Program, katherine.khamsoucksaly1@wvumedicine.org, (304) 243-1446; Holly Sroka, RN, Program Coordinator, Perinatal Transition Program, holly.sroka1@wvumedicine.org, (304) 243-5121; Poornima S. Murthy, MD MRCP FAAP FRCPC, Attending Neonatologist, poornima.murthy@hsc.wvu.edu, (304) 243-3305.

Additional information on IMPACT WV services and referrals can be found at <http://wvimpact.org/>.

Dr. David Burkland
 Medical Director of the
 Emergency/Trauma
 Department

OUR ER WILL PROTECT YOU.

Do Not Ignore Warning Signs of **Other Illnesses** Because of COVID-19.

Our Emergency/Trauma Department is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians from WVU Medicine.

Don't ignore signs of strokes, heart attacks and other emergency conditions.

We'll protect you, and take good care of you.

WVU Medicine
 WHEELING HOSPITAL