



Bishop Brennan Releases Updated Guidelines

May 14, 2021

Dear clergy, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston,

As I mentioned in my pastoral letter released yesterday (May 13, 2021), developments regarding COVID-19 protocols continue to happen in a fast and furious manner. We learned later on Thursday that the Center for Disease

Control (CDC) announced its updated guidelines which state that “fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.”

Moreover, Governor Jim Justice just announced early this afternoon that the State of West Virginia will lift the face covering requirements for people who have been fully vaccinated; the governor stated very clearly: “This is for those [individuals] that are fully vaccinated, which means you have had both of your shots, other than

if you’ve taken the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and if you are two weeks out from the last dose.” Moreover, the Governor noted that the state’s mask mandate would still apply to those who are not fully vaccinated until June 20.

Given the CDC’s updated information and the Governor’s lifting **See “Guidelines” on Page 2**

May Crownings

Parishes and Schools Honor Our Lady This Month

Fifth-grader Elaina Delgra of Sacred Heart Grade School in Charleston places a crown of flowers on the statue of Mary during the school’s May Crowning at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston May 14. Also participating in the May Crowning of Our Lady is Miles Bown, a fifth-grader at Sacred Heart. Parishes and Catholic schools across the diocese are holding May Crownings throughout May, the Month of Our Lady.

Courtesy Photo



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of the face covering mandate, the Diocese will immediately adjust its protocols accordingly. For those individuals who are fully vaccinated as described above, you will no longer need to wear masks to attend liturgical celebrations, meetings or other functions within diocesan facilities (Catholic Charities West Virginia [CCWVa], hospitals or other health care facilities may still require more stringent regulations). Moreover, the CDC's guidelines also state that vaccinated people do not need to allow for physical distancing any longer.

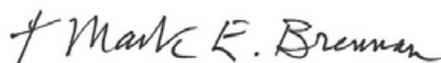
Our parishes and institutions need to be accommodating to these various scenarios and respect those who have been vaccinated and no longer wish to wear a mask, those who have been vaccinated but have other conditions that cause them to still want to wear a mask and observe some distancing, and those who have not been vaccinated and must adhere to "the honor system" and continue to wear a mask to protect themselves and others. I still urge all people who have not yet been vaccinated to cooperate for everyone's good and to get fully vaccinated as soon as possible.

As of this writing, we have not received information from the Governor's Office regarding his prior directive requiring churches to use only every other pew. The Diocese will continue to reach out to the Governor's Office for further clarity on this matter; however, until we receive updated information, I ask that our parishes continue to follow the current practice of only using every other pew – this will allow some distancing for parishioners who may feel uncomfortable being in large gatherings as well it will permit appropriate distancing options for those who are not fully vaccinated. We still want to do all that we can to ensure that all of our people can feel comfortable and gather safely for Masses and other events.

I know that many are excited that this day has finally arrived and that, for those fully vaccinated, life may begin to return to some resemblance of pre-pandemic times. However, I still ask for everyone's cooperation in caring for one's own health/safety and that of your neighbor's as well – washing/sanitizing one's hands on a regular basis is an easy way to help prevent the spread of germs. Moreover, we are excited to welcome back all of our parishioners. For those who haven't been attending Mass in person, we have indeed missed you and our parish communities are not the same without you; we look forward to seeing you now and in the weeks to come. Please pray for areas in our world where the pandemic rages on and is still inflicting so much pain and suffering. Let us also commend those in the medical community who tirelessly offer themselves to care for the needs of others.

Invoking the intercession of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, I ask that God continue to bless all of you, your families and parishes and our great Mountain State.

Sincerely in Christ,



+Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston



Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin
Sunday Mornings

6:30 WOWK 13	Huntington - Charleston
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.

Plus watch episodes online at - mydailyliving.com

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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Notre Dame High School's Ben Long to Represent West Virginia in Poetry Out Loud National Finals

CHARLESTON—Notre Dame High School (Clarksburg) student Ben Long will represent West Virginia at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, which will be webcast on Thursday, May 27 at 7 p.m. at arts.gov/poetry-out-loud. Actor and writer Shaun Taylor-Corbett will host an evening of recitations by the top nine finalists, with live interviews with the students and the announcement of the 2021 Poetry Out Loud National Champion.

Long won the West Virginia Poetry Out Loud championship in March, with his video recitations of "Istanbul 1983" by Sheila Black, "An Autumn Sunset" by Edith Wharton, and "A Blessing" by James Wright. As West Virginia's champion, Long represented the state at the National Poetry Out Loud Semifinals on May 2. Out of 55

state and jurisdictional champions who competed in the national semifinals, Long was named one of only nine high school students who will compete in the National Finals.

The 2021 Poetry Out Loud National Finals will take place virtually with each finalist submitting video recordings of their recitations – selected from an anthology of more than 1,100 classic and contemporary poems – which will be part of the May 27 webcast. Judges will review and score the recitations based on criteria, including physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance and accuracy.

A total of \$50,000 in awards and school or organizational stipends will be given at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, in-



Ben Long

cluding a \$20,000 award for the National Champion, \$10,000 for 2nd place, \$5,000 for 3rd place, and \$1,000 for 4th – 9th places. The representing schools of each of the nine finalists receive \$500 for the purchase of poetry materials.

The Poetry Out Loud program begins at the local

level with students participating in school-based and organization-based contests. The winners of those competitions are eligible to participate in the state finals. This year 20 West Virginia high school champions submitted recitation videos which were evaluated by a team of judges including writer and performer Colleen Anderson; Amy Alvarez, a poet and professor at West Virginia University; Marc Harshman, the state's poet laureate; novelist and educator Rajia Hassib; and Dr. Joel Peckham, a poet and professor at Marshall University.

Long, a senior from The Performing Arts Conservatory at Notre Dame, was named state champion during this year's first-ever West Virginia Poetry Out Loud Video Showcase. Jason Young coordinates the Poetry Out Loud pro-

gram at Notre Dame.

Both Long and NDHS will receive cash prizes as well as handmade trophies created by Matt Thomas of Gilmer County.

Poetry Out Loud is a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, and state arts agencies, including the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History. This national arts education program encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition for high school students across the country.

For more information about West Virginia's Poetry Out Loud program, contact Jim Wolfe, Poetry Out Loud state coordinator, by e-mailing James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov or by calling (304) 558-0240.

Six of the 10 Berkeley County Golden Horseshoe Award Winners are Students at St. Joseph in Martinsburg

MARTINSBURG—Six of the 10 Berkeley County Golden Horseshoe Award winners for 2021 are students at St. Joseph School in Martinsburg.

Eighth-graders Claire Freeman, Nathaniel Fusiarski, Lydia Hayes, Colleen Power, Ian Saylor and Abraham Warui were honored by the West Virginia Department of Education as knights and ladies of the Golden Horseshoe Society for demonstrating exceptional knowledge of West Virginia history on the state-administered exam.

St. Joseph School boasts 25 winners in the last decade, and this year's group joins the ranks of 222 Mountain State citizens who won the prestigious award for being the top-scoring students in their counties. Winners have an opportunity to be recognized at the Golden Horseshoe ceremony on June 25 at The Culture Center in Charleston.

The Golden Horseshoe test has been administered in West Virginia since 1931 and is the longest-

running program of its kind in any state.

The ceremony for the 2020 winners was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic, so they will be honored the day before the 2021 winners in Charleston. Jacob Boyd, Sidney Crockett and Liam McCarthy were the victors from St. Joseph School last year.

Jason Allen, who used to teach West Virginia studies at St. Joseph School, was an honorary Golden Horseshoe Award winner in 2020 for training more than 10 winners during his time at the school. Now the coordinator of social studies education at Shepherd University, he laid the foundation for SJS's History Bowl team, starting in 2017. The first team from the downtown Martinsburg school was the first from Berkeley or Jefferson counties to make the state West Virginia History Bowl Championships in Charleston.

Allen was invited to and plans to attend the June 25 recognition ceremony.



Courtesy Photo

Eighth-graders from St. Joseph School in Martinsburg who won the Golden Horseshoe Award are, from left, Ian Saylor, Claire Freeman, Lydia Hayes, Colleen Power, Nathaniel Fusiarski, and Abraham Warui.

St. Joseph School, at 110 E. Stephen St., is the only Catholic school in the Eastern Panhandle. For more infor-

mation, contact Meg Partington by e-mail to mpartington@sjswv.org, call (304) 267-6447, or go to sjswv.org.

Mercer County's Sacred Heart Parishes Say Goodbye to Beloved Deacon Don Hammond

By Colleen Rowan

Sacred Heart parishes in Bluefield and Princeton are saying goodbye to their beloved Deacon Don Hammond, who has faithfully served the community for 17 years. He and his wife Loretta are moving to Virginia to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

Pentecost Sunday will be his last day.

In a letter to parishioners, Father Sebastian Devasya, pastor of the parishes, expressed his gratitude to Deacon Hammond and Loretta for all they have done over the years.

"On behalf of myself and our Sacred Heart families, I would like to thank you, Deacon Don, for the love, care, and guidance you have shown to me, all my predecessor priests, and our people," Father Devasya wrote. "We are grateful for your leadership and support. Your ministry over the years has impacted so many through sacramental preparation, baptisms, marriages, annulments, funeral and burial services, preaching, and coordinating the Holy Spirit Conference. A multitude of Concord University students have been forever touched by your ministry at the Newman Center. We are also enormously grateful to your wife, Loretta, who has served faithfully by your side. We appreciate the numerous encounters where you have been there to encourage and console us throughout the different phases of our faith journey. We have been blessed by your gifts and contributions to our parishes."

Deacon Hammond was one of 17 men ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Bernard W. Schmitt on Oct. 2, 2004, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. The previous four years were spent completing studies at St. Meinrad School of Theology in Meinrad, Ind. Following his ordination, Deacon Hammond began serving

as permanent deacon and then as pastoral associate at Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield, where he has continued to serve to this day. During this time, he also served in campus ministry at Concord University in Athens and in the Beckley Vicariate.

Ann Robinson, a member of Sacred Heart in Bluefield and the parish's Finance Council and Music Ministry, has known the Hammonds and their family for more than 30 years. She first became friends with Deacon Hammond and Loretta while attending the parish Prayer Group, where they were prayer group leaders.

"Their faithfulness to God and dedicated leadership grew the prayer ministry as Don led the praise and worship music," said Robinson, who is also a Eucharistic minister and co-director of the Pipestem Catholic Holy Spirit seminars.

"Deacon Don is a gifted



Courtesy Photo
Deacon Don Hammond is pictured at Sacred Heart Parish in Princeton.

singer, songwriter, and worship leader. As he grew in his faith, so did the music ministry," she said.

Throughout the years, she said, Deacon Hammond has led parish praise and worship music ministry at Mass, as well as numerous conferences and retreats throughout the region and diocese.

"We went from singing songs, to worship and praising Jesus and God in the Holy Spirit," she said. "I've seen people's lives changed by the worship and praise, drawing them deeper and deeper into their faith. Deacon Don is always prepared to share God's love whatever the occasion, through worship



Courtesy Photo
Deacon Don Hammond is pictured with his wife Loretta.

music, thought provoking homilies or a kind word of wisdom or smile. We appreciate the love Deacon Don and Loretta have both shared in service to our parish family throughout the years. It has been a blessing to see the transformation that the Holy Spirit has
See "Hammond" on Page 5



Courtesy Photo
Deacon Don Hammond, back left, and Father Sebastian Devasya, back right, gather with children who made their first Holy Communion at Sacred Heart Parish in Bluefield.

Hammond ...

Cont'd from Page 4

done and continues to unfold in their lives. They are a blessing in my life and the lives of so many in our parish and community. Their love of the Lord and commitment to serving God is a witness of true Christian love and a model for us all. We will miss Deacon Don and Loretta immensely and pray health, happiness and all things good that God brings. May the Lord Jesus continue to bless their ministry and family as they journey forward in this new chapter of life."

Julia Harrison, who is also a pastoral associate at Sacred Heart in Bluefield, said that her parish was one of the first in the diocese to have an ordained permanent deacon.

"Our parish believes in empowering our permanent deacons to perform the ministries to which the deacon is called," she said. "Deacon Don refreshed and invigorated ministries such as the sacramental preparations over which he presided, the music ministry to which he lent his musical talents, men's Bible study, special liturgical celebrations, and many others."

Harrison also commended him for his service as campus minister at Concord University, saying he was a role model to college students in following their Catholic faith.

"On behalf of the entire parish," she said, "we wish Deacon Don well."

Gina Boggess, a member of Sacred Heart in Princeton who is also a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, said that the parish community and the Newman Center at Concord has been blessed by Deacon Hammond and his wife's ministry.

"He and Loretta have done a phenomenal job over the years with our Concord University students," Boggess said. "They have been a welcoming presence to many young adults that are away from their families and sometimes their country for the very first time."

The Hammonds, Boggess continued, have made the Newman Center a comforting and accessible environment giving the students a place to decompress from college life, but more importantly a place to commune with God.

"They have walked side by side, mentoring, encouraging, sharing and planting seeds of faith along the way," she said. "Deacon Don and Loretta worked with the members of both Princeton and Bluefield parishes to provide a meal each week to the college students. Allowing for yet another opportunity for our people to serve others in faith. We offer our thanks and gratitude to both Don and Loretta for your selfless and faithful service."



Courtesy Photo

Deacon Don Hammond and Father Sebastian Devasya are pictured during Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper at Sacred Heart Church in Bluefield April 1.



Courtesy Photo

Deacon Don Hammond plays guitar at the Newman Center at Concord University in Athens.



Courtesy Photo

Deacon Don Hammond and his wife Loretta are pictured.

Let us Pray,
 Use me God,
 Show me how to give generously,
 pray purposefully, and serve joyfully for a purpose greater than myself.
 Amen.

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First Saturday Holy Hour for Vocations to Resume at Basilica Co-Cathedral

CHARLESTON—Adoration of Our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will resume during Holy Hour on the first Saturday of each month at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in downtown Charleston. Holy Hour will take place at the basilica on June 5 beginning at 4 p.m.

Beginning on June 5, Sacred Heart's regular schedule for the Sacrament of Reconciliation also will resume each and every Saturday between 4 and 5 p.m., and also by appointment.

For many years on the first Saturday of each month, members of the Serra Club of Charleston and the St. Michael the

Archangel Council of the Knights of Columbus and others gathered to pray before the Blessed Sacrament with special intentions for vocations to the priesthood for our diocese and the religious life.

This most efficacious custom was paused in March 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pan-

demie and now resumes as the Church desires Her people to return to receive graces that only She fully offers.

St. Teresa of Kolkata said: "When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now."

Adorers are invited to participate safely.

Pentecost Vespers at the Cathedral

WHEELING—Sung Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Golf FORE Life Tournament to be Held in Kingwood

KINGWOOD—The Ninth Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament will be held at the Preston Country Club in Kingwood on Saturday, July 10.

This fundraiser is held annually to benefit the life-saving efforts of West Virginians for Life (WVFL). For a safe tournament, social distancing will be practiced as in one golf cart. Proper golf attire required. No sleeveless shirts or jeans permitted. Soft spikes are mandatory.

All proceeds benefit the West Virginians for Life Educational Trust Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization.

There are several ways to participate in the Golf FORE Life Tournament, including playing in the tournament, sponsoring a hole, donating tournament prizes or gifts, or doing all of the above. Participation is \$70 per golfer; \$280 per foursome; and \$200 for hole sponsorship.

Schedule of events is as follows: Noon, registration/box lunch; 1 p.m., Putting Contest; 1:30 p.m., Tee Time; and 6 p.m. Awards/Box BBQ.

More information and registration forms are downloadable at www.wvforlife.org/event/.

For more details, call (304) 594-9845.



Seminarian John Soplinski Installed as Lector

John Soplinski, a seminarian for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, (right) was installed as lector at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., April 23, by Auxiliary Bishop Adam Parker of Baltimore (center). Also pictured is Msgr. Andrew Baker, rector of Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

Courtesy Photo

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Diocese's Evangelization & Catechesis Director Calls Pope's Recent Announcements Extraordinary

By Joyce Bibey

Pope Francis has made two announcements in the last few months that on the surface may seem ordinary, but Daniel Maul, director of the office of evangelization and catechesis for the diocese, explains they are significantly extraordinary.

Maul is excited about Pope Francis's most recent Apostolic Letter from May 10 in which the Holy Father acknowledges, "in our time, when there are so few clerics to preach the Gospel to such great numbers and to exercise the pastoral ministry, the position of catechists is of great importance." (Ad gentes, 17) for "the development of the Christian community."

Earlier this year Pope Francis also highlighted the role of lector and acolyte to be open to women. This changes Canon Law to officially allow what is already in practice in our diocese – lay women proclaiming the Word of God during the liturgy as lectors and serving as altar servers and Eucharistic ministers. However, this proper mandate is historical for the Church, because such authorization was not instituted by all bishops throughout the world.

Maul called the announcements from the



Courtesy Photo
At St. Francis de Sales Church in Morgantown, a parishioner reads one of the readings during Mass.

Holy See particularly significant because the Pope is recognizing and lifting up lay people as official ministers in the Church.

"Lay people will not only do catechetical ministry; they will be catechetical ministers," he said. "For so long, lay people have seen themselves as simply 'helping out' the Church at the behest of their pastors. But now, they should see themselves as ministerial partners with the clergy, in the evangelizing ministry of catechesis. Their calling and vocation as lay cate-

chists are now going to be acknowledged, respected, and promoted by the Church."

For more than 2,000 years, the lay catechist is called to be "a great witness, teacher, and companion to all for Jesus Christ and the Church through prayer, concentrated study and participation in Church life," Maul said.

"Truly, the Pope is further officially recognizing, in particular, the great work of lay women in the Church, which includes our religious sisters, be-

cause, without doubt, women do the vast majority of the evangelizing and catechizing work of the Church," he said. "And it is singularly important for lay women who have not taken religious vows, because for most of them this will be the first time their ministry will be made official publicly, through the Rites of the Church."

A bit of background from a Vatican News editorial by Andrea Tonielli published on May 11:

Pope Francis' decision to institute the lay ministry of catechist, which follows his decision to open the ministries of acolyte and lector to women (announced January 11 by Vatican News) is in line with the path intuited by Pope Pius: Especially in our time, the task of bearing witness to the faith and passing it along to new generations is a task for "fathers and mothers of families."

In 1944, in the midst of the Second World War, Pius XII published the encyclical *Mystici Corporis Christi*, dedicated to the Church. In one passage, after recalling that the Fathers of the Church, he acknowledges that the laity, whether or single or married, "Indeed, let this be clearly understood, especially in our days, fathers and mothers of fam-

ilies, those who are godparents through Baptism, and in particular those members of the laity who collaborate with the ecclesiastical hierarchy in spreading the Kingdom of the Divine Redeemer occupy an honorable, if often a lowly, place in the Christian community, and even they under the impulse of God and with His help, can reach the heights of supreme holiness, which, Jesus Christ has promised, will never be wanting to the Church."

Throughout the centuries, and even today in various countries, in the absence of priests, the faith has been kept alive thanks to fathers and mothers, and to catechists who have spent and even sacrificed their lives in order to do so.

Today, however, the involvement, recognition and full appreciation of the laity is an urgent requirement and often a necessity in secularized societies.

Tonielli noted the Church clarifies and emphasizes this by no means is not to fill the place of clerics, "but rather, of the full and acknowledged activity, involvement, and co-responsibility of the laity: their presence is genuinely necessary in order for the Church to be both 'in communion' and 'missionary.'"

Diocese's Zoom Musicians Meeting a Success

WEST VIRGINIA—On Sunday, May 16 over 50 parish musicians from across the diocese gathered together via Zoom to network and talk about issues relating to music and liturgy.

Of course on everyone's mind was the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it has had on music in the liturgy. In addition to a discussion about COVID, participants were introduced to new music created by composers right here in the

state of West Virginia. Stephen Pishner, Mark Haas and Colleen Driscoll showcased original pieces of music that they had written.

Participants then were given the opportunity to join breakout rooms on various topics relating to their role as pastoral musicians. Topics included: Music Ministry Basics for New Music Directors, Licensing and Worship Aid Issues, Composing, and Engaging the Assembly in Congregational Singing/Teaching

New Music.

This meeting was sponsored by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Office of Worship and Sacraments and Diocesan Music Commission.

Because of the success of this meeting, "we hope to offer more of these opportunities in the future," said Bernadette Kime, director. "Since during the pandemic, Zoom has been the new medium, this has worked out for the musicians of the diocese to get together despite our differ-

ences in geography. We had people participating from Bluefield to Martins-

burg to Weirton all in one location, sharing ideas and networking."



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First Holy Communion in Vienna



Courtesy Photo

First Holy Communion was held at St. Michael Parish in Vienna earlier this month. Pictured in the back, from left, are Father John Neiman, Manohar Karnam, Cohen Tracewell, and Father John Gallagher, pastor. Pictured in the front, from left, are Layla Mancuso and Maggie McLean.

Catholics of Roane and Wirt Counties Invited to Share Ideas

SPENCER—Catholics of Roane and Wirt counties are invited to share their ideas and to make suggestions on growing in faith.

Members of Holy Redeemer Parish in Spencer and St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission in Elizabeth and Catholics of the two counties “are encouraged to make suggestions of any ideas you may have that our Parish Pastoral Council may consider of how we may grow in our Catholic faith and how to share our Catholic faith in our parish area...”

Those interested may call the parish office at (304) 927-2013 or the mission office at (681) 236-2700. The faithful may also share their suggestions by e-mail to HRO2141spen@dwc.org.

St. Ursula Food Pantry to Start Sharing Garden

MORGANTOWN—St. Ursula Food Pantry is starting a sharing garden year. The pantry will also offer a free seed library, some seedlings in May when it is time to plant outside, a small herb bed, and containers with tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, etc.

Pantry officials are talking to West Virginia University Extension about holding a container garden workshop, and to other farm’s gardeners to get local donations over the summer to help supplement a “harvest box” during distribution. Pantry official said that seeds, seedlings, soil, and volunteers are needed.

For any questions or for information on how to help, call (773) 550-2777. St. Ursula Food Pantry is a direct ministry of St. Mary Parish in Star City and serves all who struggle to make ends meet no matter who they are.

Charleston Knights of Columbus Sponsoring Collection for Local Pregnancy Center

CHARLESTON—The St. Michael the Archangel Council of the Knights of Columbus in Charleston is sponsoring a Baby Bottle Collection Campaign for Cross Roads

Pregnancy Care Center.

Pick up an empty baby bottle from the Gathering Space at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston will be

held over the next five weekends.

“Take it home, to your office, or wherever you find yourself with lots of loose change,” council officials said. “Fill the bottle with change and return it to a return bin in the Gathering Space between now and June 20.”

For more information, contact Michael Kawash, Cross Roads board member and Knight of Columbus, at (304) 549-6453.

Learn more about Cross Roads at www.crossroadspcc.com.

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Pope Appeals for Peace in Holy Land, Says Death of Children ‘Unacceptable’

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The injury and death of so many innocent people, especially children, caused by escalating violence between Israel and the Gaza Strip is “terrible and unacceptable,” putting the area at risk of sinking into “a spiral of death and destruction,” Pope Francis said.

The pope launched an appeal for calm and asked leaders of both sides “to put a stop to the roar of weapons and to follow the paths of peace, even with the help of the international community,” he said May 16 after reciting the “Regina Coeli” prayer with hundreds of people in St. Peter’s Square.

“Many people have been injured

and many innocent people have died. Among them are even children, and this is terrible and unacceptable. Their death is a sign that one does not want to build the future, but wants to destroy it,” he said.

The growing hatred and violence in different cities in Israel “is a serious wound to fraternity and to peaceful coexistence among citizens, which will be difficult to heal if we do not open immediately to dialogue,” the pope said, asking, “Where will hatred and vengeance lead? Do we really think we can build peace by destroying the other?”

The pope appealed for calm, a cease-fire and constant prayers so that “Israelis and Palestinians may find the path of dialogue and forgiveness, to be patient

builders of peace and justice, opening up, step by step, to a common hope, to a coexistence among brothers and sisters.” He then led those gathered in the square in praying the Hail Mary for the victims, the children and for peace.

Meanwhile, the head of the Vatican’s press office, Matteo Bruni, confirmed that Pope Francis spoke over the telephone May 17 with Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

While the Vatican did not comment on the content of the conversation, the Turkish communications department said the two leaders discussed the ongoing attacks. According to a written statement reported by Andalou Agency, Erdogan said Israel’s attacks were an atrocity and that the latest violations were

putting regional security in danger.

Pope Francis’ appeal May 16 came as Israel escalated its assault on Gaza and it also faced growing civil unrest in its mixed Jewish-Arab cities.

Jewish mobs had destroyed Arab property, and Arab mobs attacked Jewish businesses and burned synagogues, with attempted lynchings on both sides over the past week.

The violence between Israel and Hamas was at its worst since the 2014 Gaza War with Israeli airstrikes and hundreds of rockets launched from the Gaza Strip killing at least 145 Palestinians and 10 Israelis, according to Reuters May 16. Efforts by the international community were underway to broker a cease-fire.

World Youth Day Guidelines Emphasize Importance of Diocesan Celebrations

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The annual diocesan celebration of World Youth Day is an important event that emphasizes the role young people play in the Catholic Church, the Vatican said.

In a document published by the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life May 18, the Vatican issued a set of pastoral guidelines for local WYD celebrations “to ensure that younger generations feel that they are at the center of the church’s attention and pastoral concern.” “The celebration of these youth days at a local level is therefore extremely useful in keeping the church mindful of the importance of walking with young people and of welcoming them and listening to them with patience while proclaiming the word of God to them with affection and power,” it stated.

The document was signed by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, dicastery prefect, and Schonstatt Father Alexandre Awi Mello, dicastery secretary. Divided into six chapters, it said local celebrations offer young people “a personal experience of a ‘festival of faith,’” which is especially important for those who cannot attend the international event “because of studies, work or financial difficulties.”

World Youth Day is celebrated annually on a local level and every two or three years with an international gathering with the pope. In November, Pope Francis moved the local celebrations of World Youth Day from Palm Sunday to the feast of Christ the King.

Speaking with journalists at a Vatican press brief-

ing May 16, Father Awi said the annual diocesan celebration “can more easily generate a commitment in young people that will change the face of the society in which they live and increase their sense of belonging.”

Through these “pastoral guidelines, we would like to make all young people participants in this rich heritage. Their pastors and the various services of youth ministry of the particular churches will thus be able, with pastoral freedom and creativity, to enrich their local experience of the ‘youth festival,’” he said.

Maria Lisa Abu Nassar, welcoming coordinator at Rome’s San Lorenzo International Youth Center, said the guidelines showed the church’s efforts “to open itself, to improve itself, recognizing the people who most need to be loved and guided by the church, helping them to find their identity as children who belong to God.” A native of Nazareth, Nassar told journalists that given the conflict in her homeland, the local celebration of WYD would give young people the opportunity to forge new friendships and dialogue in the hope “that one day peace will reign in the land where Jesus was born and lived.”

“The Holy Land is a small territory with different religions, where Christians are a minority. How important it would be, especially in these days given the situation in Jerusalem and throughout the whole territory, to open the door to dialogue among young people of different religions,” Nassar said.

“I believe that all of us young people, despite our differences, start from a common point, we are on

the lookout for something, or rather someone who can give meaning to our existence,” she added.

Paul Jarzembowski, assistant director for youth and young adult ministries at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, told Catholic News Service that the guidelines are a great help for local churches to “use this annual liturgical moment to mobilize the youth and young adults in their area.”

“World Youth Day, by its very name and nature, is meant for every young person in the world,” Jarzembowski said. “No one is excluded or can excuse themselves. This means that church leaders should do everything they can to accompany every single youth and young adult in their area.”

The local WYD celebrations, he added, can help young people, especially those who are unable to attend the international celebration or who are not active in their faith community, to “know how much Christ and the church loves, supports and wants to journey with them.”

Jarzembowski told CNS the U.S. bishops’ conference is currently developing a guidebook to help dioceses apply the guidelines “for the upcoming and future celebrations” of World Youth Day.

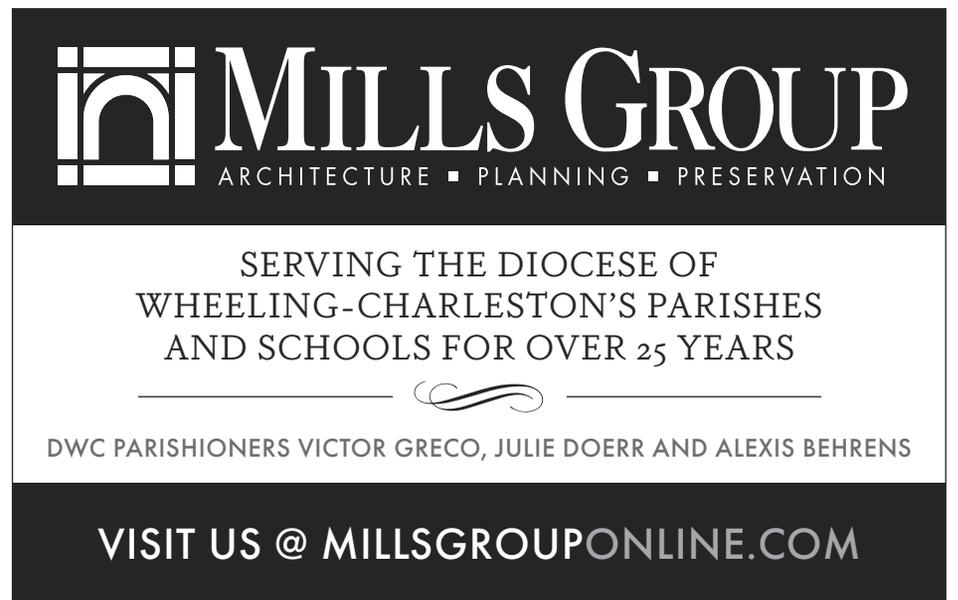
“We anticipate releasing this guidebook in late summer or early fall to give parish leaders adequate time to plan for this liturgical occasion in late November 2021,” he said. “The USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth will also be supporting diocesan leaders with resources for planning activities or initiatives around the celebration.”



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CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA MISSION MOMENT

Progress through the Pandemic: *The Fecat Family's Story*

By Jade Jeffers, CCWVa WV Birth to Three RAU-1 Parent Partner

Catholic Charities West Virginia's Birth to Three RAU-1 program works with families and specialists to decide which supports and services are needed for children ages birth to three who have a delay in their development or may be at risk for a delay.

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, we have continued providing services to families.

Elise Fecat shares her family's experience:

"We had just completed our annual review of what felt like a whirlwind of a year and I felt great about our future. My little had just received his brand new hearing aids and a Speech Language Pathologist and Hearing Specialist had been added to our team. At 18 months old, he had started walking independently and things seemed to be progressing quickly with physical and developmental therapies. Then the pandemic hit and I was panicked. My team, as usual, stepped up and we got through it.

"What could have been a detrimental setback for my son ended up being a great hands-on experience for me!"

—Elise Fecat

My son was born with a severe foot deformity and we joined the Birth to Three program when he was seven months old. In that first year, the team was with us as we overcame one hurdle after another – casting, braces, a hearing impaired diagnosis, a fight for hearing aids, and the list goes on. With each bump in the road, they were my support system. There were days when all I could see were delays and struggles, and they would come swooping in with positivity and reassurances. When I had self-doubt, they propped me up and reminded me of all that Jake and our family had already overcome. They pointed out not only his strengths, but our family's strengths as well.

I remember talking to my husband as more and more restrictions were put in place last spring about how all of it was going to affect our boy. I was so worried about losing services because we had come so far, and the thought of re-

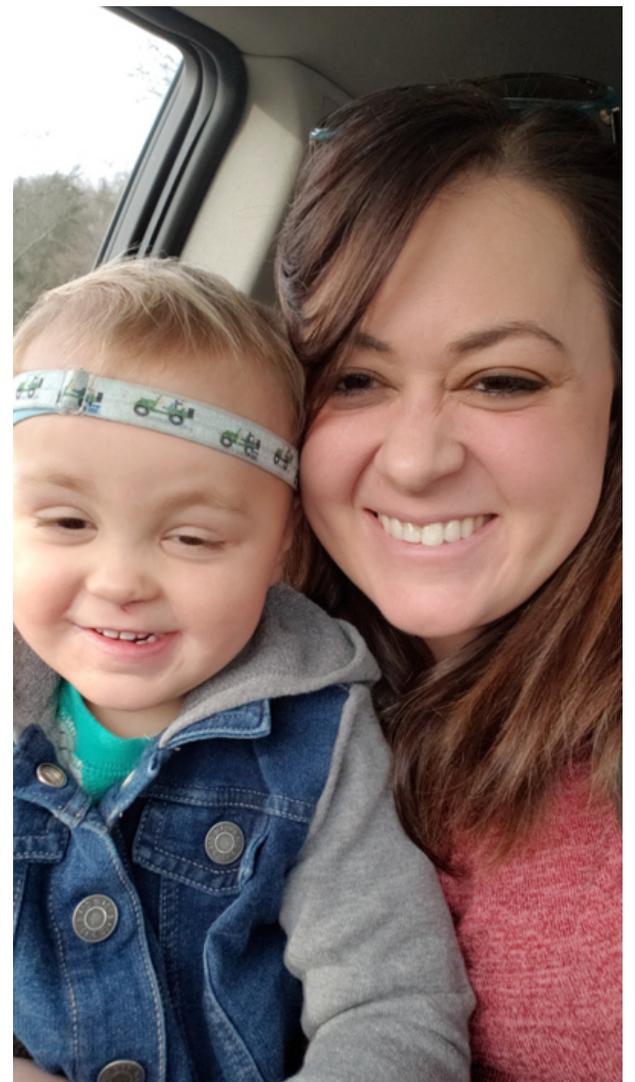
gression hung in my mind like an ominous rain cloud. For a while, the team continued in home visits and I really thought that we were going to get through the shutdown without any interruptions, but inevitably, home visits were stopped. When virtual visits were first introduced, all I could think was how on Earth are we going to do virtual therapy? I wasn't trained in anything and I also had kids ages 2 and 3 ½ years old. How was I going to find time to be solely focused on a computer screen for an hour, and how was I going to make Jake focus too?

With a lot of grace on both ends, the team and I quickly hit our stride. We found ways to make it work for our family – for example, we would adjust times, sometimes meeting twice a week for a half hour instead of once a week for an hour. The team was so patient as Jake darted in and out of the screen and I peppered them with what felt like a thousand questions. At each visit, they would have new ideas to engage Jake and keep him focused. Sometimes those ideas worked, and sometimes not so much. They talked me through different techniques to help Jake and assigned "homework." I was diligent with everything that they were telling me, and the line between mom and therapist became blurred for those few months, but it felt so worth it! I had already developed a great relationship with our team and over those months, a new level had been reached. I was gaining confidence as our weekly chats confirmed that my fear of regression would not come true.

While I can't say that I loved virtual therapy, it did have its benefits. My worry for Jake's future after Birth to Three has ebbed a little, thanks to the crash course lessons in therapy that I received. I am thankful for the inventiveness of my therapists and the quick action of the Birth to Three program as they adjusted. By the time we were allowed to resume in home visits again, the entire team was impressed with Jake's progress, and that made my momma heart soar. What could have been a detrimental setback for my son ended up being a great hands-on experience for me!"

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.



Courtesy Photo

Jake Fecat and his family received virtual therapy services during the coronavirus pandemic from the Catholic Charities West Virginia WV Birth to Three RAU-1 program.

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CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE Spring 2021

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St. Francis Xavier, Moundsville –
Saturday, May 22 at 4:00 p.m.

St. Paul, Weirton – Sunday, May 23
at 2:00 p.m.

St. Michael, Wheeling – Monday,
May 24 at 5:30 p.m.

Assumption, Keyser – Wednesday,
May 26 at 6:00 p.m.

St. James, Charles Town – Thurs-
day, May 27 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Leo, Inwood – Friday, May 28,
2021, at 6:30 p.m.

St. Bernadette, Hedgesville – Sun-
day, May 30 at 11:00 a.m.

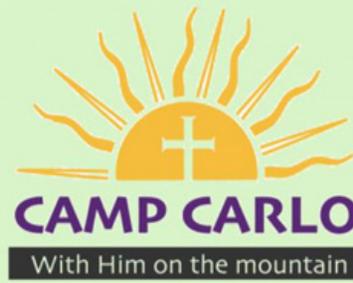
St. Joseph, Martinsburg – Sunday,
May 30 at 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

St. Patrick, Weston – Wednesday,
June 2 at 6:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi, Logan – Thurs-
day, June 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Mary, Weirton –
Wednesday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m.

St. Anthony, Fairmont – Friday,
June 11 at 6:00 p.m.



Catholic Youth Adventure Camp



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June 27th - July 3rd Rising 3rd graders to 5th graders.

July 4th - July 10th Rising 6th graders to 8th graders.

July 11th - July 17th Rising freshmen to seniors in high school.

July 18th - July 24th A "catch all week" from 3rd grade thru 12th grade.

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El obispo Brennan publica las directrices actualizadas el 14 de mayo de 2021

Estimados clérigos, religiosos y fieles laicos de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston,

Como mencioné en mi carta pastoral publicada ayer (13 de mayo de 2021), los desarrollos con respecto a los protocolos COVID-19 continúan sucediendo de manera rápida y furiosa. Más tarde, el jueves, supimos que el Centro para el Control de Enfermedades (CDC) anunció sus pautas actualizadas que establecen que "las personas completamente vacunadas pueden reanudar sus actividades sin usar una máscara o distanciarse físicamente, excepto cuando lo exijan las leyes federales, estatales, locales, tribales o territoriales", reglas y regulaciones, incluida la orientación comercial y laboral local".

Además, el gobernador Jim Justice acaba de anunciar esta tarde que el estado de Virginia Occidental eliminará los requisitos de cobertura facial para las personas que hayan sido completamente vacunadas; el gobernador declaró muy claramente: "Esto es para aquellos [individuos] que están completamente vacunados, lo que significa que ha recibido ambas inyecciones, salvo si ha recibido la vacuna Johnson & Johnson, y si está a dos semanas de la última dosis". Además, el gobernador señaló que el mandato de máscaras del estado aún se aplicaría a aquellos que no estén completamente vacunados hasta el 20 de junio.

Dada la información actualizada de los CDC y el levantamiento del mandato de cobertura facial por parte del Gobernador, la Diócesis ajustará inmediatamente sus protocolos en consecuencia. Para aquellas personas que estén completamente vacunadas como se describe anteriormente, ya no necesitarán usar máscaras para asistir a celebraciones litúrgicas, reuniones u otras funciones dentro de las instalaciones diocesanas (Catholic Charities West Virginia [CCWV], hospitales u otras instalaciones de atención médica aún pueden requerir más regulaciones estrictas). Además, las pautas de los CDC también establecen que las personas vacunadas ya no necesitan permitir el distanciamiento físico.

Nuestras parroquias e instituciones deben adaptarse a estos diversos escenarios y respetar a quienes han sido vacunados y ya no desean usar una máscara, a quienes se han vacunado pero tienen otras condiciones que les hacen querer usar una máscara y observar algunos distanciamiento, y aquellos que no han sido vacunados y deben adherirse al "sistema de honor" y continuar usando una máscara para protegerse a sí mismos y los demás. Todavía insto a todas

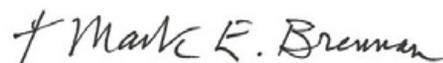
las personas que aún no se han vacunado a que cooperen por el bien de todos y se vacunen por completo lo antes posible.

Al momento de escribir este artículo, no hemos recibido información de la Oficina del Gobernador con respecto a su directiva anterior que requiere que las iglesias usen solo cada dos bancas. La Diócesis continuará comunicándose con la Oficina del Gobernador para obtener más claridad sobre este asunto; sin embargo, hasta que recibamos información actualizada, les pido que nuestras parroquias continúen siguiendo la práctica actual de usar solo cada otro banco; esto permitirá cierto distanciamiento para los feligreses que puedan sentirse incómodos al estar en grandes reuniones y también permitirá opciones de distancia adecuadas para los feligreses. aquellos que no están completamente vacunados. Todavía queremos hacer todo lo que podamos para asegurarnos de que toda nuestra gente se sienta cómoda y se reúna de forma segura para las misas y otros eventos.

Sé que muchos están emocionados de que este día finalmente haya llegado y que, para aquellos que estén completamente vacunados, la vida pueda comenzar a volver a algo parecido a los tiempos prepandémicos. Sin embargo, todavía pido la cooperación de todos para cuidar la propia salud / seguridad y la de su vecino también; lavarse / desinfectarse las manos con regularidad es una manera fácil de ayudar a prevenir la propagación de gérmenes. Además, estamos emocionados de dar la bienvenida a todos nuestros feligreses. Para aquellos que no han asistido a misa en persona, los hemos extrañado y nuestras comunidades parroquiales no son las mismas sin ustedes; esperamos verte ahora y en las próximas semanas. Ore por las áreas de nuestro mundo donde la pandemia continúa y sigue causando tanto dolor y sufrimiento. Felicitemos también a los miembros de la comunidad médica que se ofrecen incansablemente para atender las necesidades de los demás.

Invocando la intercesión de nuestra Santísima Madre y San José, le pido a Dios que continúe bendiciéndolos a todos ustedes, a sus familias y parroquias y a nuestro gran estado montañoso.

Sinceramente en Cristo,



+ Mark E. Brennan
Obispo de Wheeling-Charleston

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.reportbishop-abuse.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.reportbishop-abuse.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 eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; 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.

Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry (DRE/YM)

St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling, WV seeks a full-time Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry (DRE/YM) to build and administer a total parish catechetical and youth ministry program for a parish of 1,000+ parishioners. The DRE/YM will oversee the recruitment and training of parishioners to lead various aspects of faith formation including preparation for the sacraments of initiation, adult RCIA, our Sunday Parish School of Religion and an annual Summer Camp for middle school and high school youth. Experience in Catholic schools or parish ministry required. Bachelor's or Master's in theology or Catechetics. Salary based upon education and experience. Benefits offered. Submit resume to Rev. Msgr. Paul Hudock, pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Parish 2244 Marshall Ave., Wheeling, WV 26003, (304) 242-0406

Asst. Principal Needed

St. Mary's Central School, Clarksburg is seeking an (elementary) Asst. School Principal.

Candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with Church precepts and act as an example and motivator toward the fulfillment of the Christian philosophy of the school.

The ideal candidate must have an earned master's degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or be in 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 five years of successful educational experience with preference for administrative experience.

Applications may be emailed with all attachments to jkonikattil@dwc.org or smkonikattil@gmail.com

Faith Formation Director Opening

Progressive parish of 600 families (St. Mary Parish) is seeking a vibrant individual to coordinate formation programs, enable the gifts of the faithful, and to engage our youth to live a life of faith. We are located in Morgantown, WV, home of West Virginia University. Our parishioners are ethnically diverse. Our people have a deep love for celebrating Mass, gathering for fellowship, opportunities for adult formation and growth and for mission to the least of these. The position is full-time and reports to the Pastor. Responsibilities & Duties: Coordinates and manages all Faith Formation ministries and volunteers including, but not limited to: Religious Education (PK-5th), Youth Ministry (Middle and High School), Children's Liturgy of the Word and Vacation Bible School; sacramental preparation program for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation, Christian Initiation for adults and children (RCIA); and helps facilitate adult faith formation. The Faith Formation Director is also the Safe Environment Coordinator for the parish. Qualifications and Skills: BA in Theology/Religious Education or related educational field; Excellent organizational, supervisory and leadership skills; Excellent verbal and written communication and interpersonal skills; Works well in collaborative efforts with other parish ministers; Seeks ongoing educational opportunities to keep current on trends in catechetical ministry; Excellent computer skills including the use of Microsoft Office and communication via social media. Fluency in Spanish is beneficial but not required. Salary & Benefits Health, vision, dental, participation in 403B plan, paid vacation and personal days, and education stipend. If interested please submit a letter of interest and resume by May 15, 2021. Position will begin on August 1, 2021. Send letter and resume to Fr. John by email papajohnwv@msn.com or via mail to: Attn: Father John McDonough, St. Mary Parish, 3346 University Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26505.

REFUGEE OUTREACH WORKER (Part-time) Refugee Resettlement & Immigration Services, Morgantown

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is seeking a part-time Refugee Outreach Worker (28 hours per week), located in Morgantown, WV. The Refugee Outreach Worker is responsible for assisting in the development and provision of services to refugees throughout the state of West Virginia. Job duties include: Provide initial resettlement services to refugees in accordance with the Remote Placement Program and Cooperative Agreement guidelines. Provide continuous outreach services through the Refugee Support Services program to eligible populations in accordance with ORR guidelines. Develop a Resettlement Plan with each client, assist in job placement, and provide an action plan for self-reliance. Collaborate with the CCWVa Immigration Attorney for assistance with refugee permanent residency, work authorization documentation, family reunification petitions, and citizenship. Maintain client records and files; maintain electronic record keeping for reporting purposes. Qualifications include: Bilingual preferred (fluent in Spanish and English, or English and Arabic). Bachelor's Degree preferred. Previous experience working with immigrant and/or refugee population required. Prior experience preferred working across cultures, in particular with trauma survivors. Ability to work independently, strong organizational skills and attention to detail, and ability to link clients to existing resources. Please email cover letter, resume and three references by May 20, 2021, to Kellie Rogers at krogers@ccwva.org. Application materials can also be delivered to: Kellie Rogers, Managing Attorney/Director, Catholic Charities WV, 827 Fairmont Road, Suite 203, Morgantown, WV 26501.

Principal Needed

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 five years of successful educational experience with preference for administrative experience.

A resume with three references may be emailed with all attachments in PDF to Rev. Father Douglas A. Ondeck at dondeck@dwc.org or mailed to 210 Center Ave., Weston, WV June 18, 2021.

Part-time Program Assistant, Kingwood Catholic Charities Office

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices. The Program Assistant is responsible for assisting and supporting multiple programs in the Raymond Wolfe Center in Kingwood. The primary responsibilities of the Program Assistant is to assist with clerical duties and to provide administration support and capacity development at the Raymond Wolfe Center. The Program Assistant must be able to work with persons of varied social, economic and ethnic backgrounds. Essential Job Duties: Provide direct service to clients by completing applications for various programs, determining eligibility, identifying other resources in the community, and arranging payments to vendors. Assist the Romney Case Manager with establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with community agencies, faith-based organizations, churches, and coalitions to enhance service to clients. Assist with clerical duties and recordkeeping, utilizing spreadsheets and the agency's electronic database. Assist with fundraisers and special events as needed. Represent and interpret the mission and work of Catholic Charities West Virginia, the Kingwood office and its programs to the community. Job Type: Part-time (two days/14 hours per week); non-exempt. Location: Eastern Region, Kingwood, WV. Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree, Associate's Degree or at least 5 years of related work experience preferred. Excellent computer skills with the ability to track data and generate reports. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Experience in serving the public. Excellent organizational and time management skills. Knowledge of: federal, state and community resources; case management practices; populations served, and their culture and needs. Work in a faith-based setting and be knowledgeable of Catholic social teachings. Ability to: Make judgments about assistance required from Catholic Charities and eligibility for other resources. Collect data, establish facts and draw valid conclusions. Organize, prioritize and utilize effective time management techniques. Respond to common inquiries or complaints from clients. Respect confidentiality at all times. Please send resume, cover letter, and three professional references by Friday, May 28, 2021 to: Trina Bartlett, Eastern Regional Director; or 224 South Queen Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

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