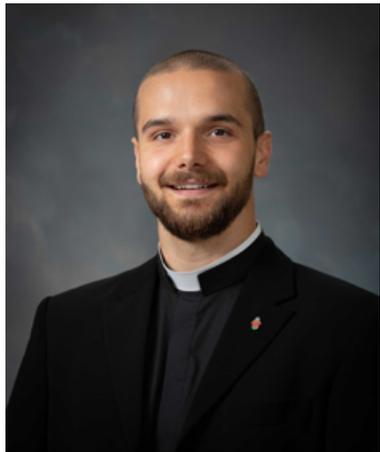


THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Deacon Szabo to be Ordained to Priesthood



Deacon Phillip Szabo

By Colleen Rowan

CHARLES TOWN—Deacon Phillip Szabo is ready to serve the people of God as a priest. This will be the promise he makes when he is ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Mark E. Brennan at 11 a.m. May 29 at St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town.

Joining Deacon Szabo's family and friends at the church where he was ordained a deacon last May will be the priests, religious, and faithful of the diocese.

"As my ordination date approaches, I am filled both with peace and with what can best be described as holy fear. I am at peace because I know that I have discovered God's will for my life," Deacon Szabo said. "God has certainly made it abundantly clear that he wants me to be ordained as a priest."

During the last six years of formation, he said he

See "Szabo" on Page 2

Month of Our Lady



Courtesy Photo

Children who made their First Holy Communion at St. Joseph Parish in Huntington May 2 are pictured in front of a statue of Mary outside of the church. May is the Month of Our Lady, during which May crownings will be held at parishes all over the diocese. First Holy Communions are taking place this month as well.

Catholic Sharing Appeal Invites Faithful to Be a Light for All

By Joyce Bibey

WEST VIRGINIA—Gifts made to the 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will provide vital support for parishes, Catholic schools, ministries, and outreach programs across West Virginia.

Like many appeals around the world the pandemic suspended the 2020 campaign. Despite the continued COVID-19 crisis, it is important we work to live out our mission and support our Catholic programs.

Bishop Mark E. Brennan sent out

a letter to the faithful in parishes across the state last month, encouraging Catholics to join him in supporting our shared ministries, Catholic schools, parishes, and missions.

"As your Bishop, I know my

See "Appeal" on Page 5

Inside: Updated Liturgical Guidelines and Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings, Pages 7-9

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Spring 2021

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

St. Ann, Shinnston – Sunday, May 9 at 1:00 p.m.
 Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling – Sunday, May 16 at 10:30 a.m.
 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 – Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m.
 St. Leo, Inwood – Friday, May 28, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.
 St. Bernadette, Hedgesville – Sunday, 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 – Thursday, 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.

Szabo ...

Cont'd from Page 1

gained a much greater respect for the priesthood, especially becoming more aware of the sacrifice the vocation demands.

"A priest has the singular honor to serve in the Person of Christ as he celebrates the sacraments," Deacon Szabo said, "and so he, above all, must conform his life to that of our Lord Jesus."

Deacon Szabo realizes that this is no small task and knows that it will require great sacrifice on his part.

"This is why I say that my feeling of peace is accompanied by a holy fear," he said. "I know that I am not worthy nor capable of fulfilling the Sacred Office of the Priesthood on my own, and this fact humbles me."

Deacon Szabo said he knows that he will find all of the strength that he needs and more to fulfill his duties as a priest through prayer, fraternity with brother priests, and from the people that he is called to serve.

"Therefore, with a heart at once filled with peace and holy fear," he said, "I look forward with hope to my ordination day knowing that it is time for me to begin my ministry as a priest."

At his ordination, Deacon Szabo will stand before Bishop Brennan and make the promise to serve the people of God as a priest. As he kneels before the altar, the bishop will lay his hands upon Deacon Szabo's head, calling upon the Holy Spirit to ordain him a priest. The bishop will then pray the prayer of ordination.

Deacon Szabo will be vested with the stole and chasuble by Father Giles LeVasseur and Father Timothy Grassi, two priests who have had a great impact on his life. Father LeVasseur has been a spiritual mentor to him since he was in college. "Without him, I would never have had the tools or encour-

agement that I needed to pursue my vocation to the priesthood," Deacon Szabo said. "He helped me recognize God's call in the very beginning and protected me from many of the pitfalls that can deter a man from entering seminary."

Deacon Szabo met Father Grassi when he was a seminarian. As Father Grassi is very active in promoting vocations, Deacon Szabo would see him at Quo Vadis Camp and on some of the discernment retreats.

"His example and words of wisdom have also been a very important part of my journey towards the priesthood," Deacon Szabo said. "After spending a summer with him in Thomas and Parsons, he too became an important spiritual mentor for me."

Although many other priests have played important roles in his discernment and formation, Deacon Szabo said Father LeVasseur and Father Grassi "have had the most profound effect of all in my life, and I am most grateful for it!"

Deacon Szabo is the son of Joseph Szabo and Theresa Michael, and hails from Augusta in the Eastern Panhandle's Hampshire County. His home parish is Our Lady of Grace in Romney. He attended St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. He is also a registered nurse and attended Fairmont State University.

"I have known Deacon Szabo since before he was a seminarian and am so excited for him to enter into the august order of the sacred priesthood!" said Father Brian Crenwelge, vocations director for the diocese. "I know that Phillip will give his complete self to his people, which is what the priesthood is all about. I look forward to spending many years together with him as brother priests! I pray that as each day passes in Phillip's life, he may become more conformed to Christ the Priest and His Eucharistic Sacrifice."

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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 May 7, 2021, Vol. 52, No. 19

Publisher: Bishop Mark E. Brennan.....

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Member

Catholic Press Association

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Published 24 times per year. All issues sent to each registered Catholic household free of charge. Donations to help offset the cost of producing The Catholic Spirit are welcomed. Out-of-diocese subscriptions are \$25 annually. The Catholic Spirit intends its news reports to be fair and accurate in every regard. The opinions of correspondents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Catholic Spirit. Submission of news releases, stories and color photos welcomed and encouraged. Not responsible for unsolicited material.

Mass Will Bring Healing to Parents of Babies Who Died before Birth

By Colleen Rowan

“We have been waiting for something like this for 45 years,” the elderly couple said to Father Penny. He had just finished celebrating Weirton’s first Memorial Mass for Babies Who Died Before Birth. The couple attended the Mass mourning the child they lost to a miscarriage all those years ago.

It is healing and consolation that is offered through this annual Mass, which is sponsored by the FertilityCare Center of the Upper Ohio Valley, Inc. and the Weirton Catholic Pro-Life Group. The memorial Mass is celebrated for all children who died before birth whether by miscarriage, abortion, or ectopic (tubal) pregnancy. No distinction will be made, and it does not matter if the loss was recent or years ago.

This year’s Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 18 at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Weirton, located at 200 Preston Avenue. Confession will be available at 5:30 p.m.

The memorial Masses began in the early 2000s at the urging of the Fertility-Care Center’s Program Director Kathy Hirkala with the intention of bringing healing to many of her clients who were not only suffering infertility but also the pain of miscarriage.

During the Mass there is a rose and a candle for each baby being remembered. “We encourage the parents to give their baby a name if they haven’t already,” Hirkala said. When the baby’s name is read aloud, the parent, parents, or family come forward and place the rose and the candle on the altar. They will also be invited to write their baby’s or babies’ names in the “Book of the Innocents.” A certificate of life will also be created for each baby being remembered and given to parents at the Mass.

For those who cannot be at the Mass, a representative from the FertilityCare Center or the Weirton Catholic Pro-Life Group will stand in for them. The certificates will be mailed to those unable to be present.

“There has been a lot of healing through this Mass,” Hirkala said, especially for her clients, the reason she wanted the Masses to be celebrated.

“I saw the pain that my clients had after having miscarriages,” Hirkala said, remembering one of her clients who had suffered three miscarriages. “And people would say to her ‘You have other children.’ And she would say, ‘But I don’t have that child.’”

The attitude from many doctors and medical professionals, Hirkala said, is that miscarriage is common, and women can have other children.

“But it is a loss,” she said, the loss of their child.

Hirkala, who is a registered nurse, said many women suffer severe depression after a miscarriage, and that many of her clients have suffered multiple losses in their struggles with infertility. She remembered a client who suffered three miscarriages. After attending one of the memorial Masses, she sent a note saying it was the first time since her first miscarriage that she was able to wake

up and be happy and realize that God had a purpose, and it was all going to be ok.

“It really made a big change in her life,” Hirkala said.

She also remembered a woman who regretted having an abortion coming to the Mass. The woman wrote her baby’s name in the “Book of the Innocents,” and beside it wrote how sorry she was. Over the years, Hirkala said, babies have been memori-

alized at the Mass by people from all over the country.

Those who would like to have their baby or babies remembered at the Mass are asked to RSVP by calling (304) 723-0478 or (304) 748-0688 so that candles, flowers, and certificates can be arranged. “So that we may best honor your child,” Hirkala said.

There is no cost to have babies remembered. All family members and friends are welcome to attend the Mass.

Hurricane Parishioners Pray Rosary for Local Police



Courtesy Photo

Members of Ascension Parish in Hurricane and Father Bill Matheny, pastor, pictured above, prayed the rosary for the safety of police and first responders in front of the Hurricane Police Department May 1.



Catholic Youth Adventure Camp



Grow with us in the infinite love of Christ in the beautiful hills of West Virginia. Are you hoping to grow in your faith? The Blessed Carlo Acutis Youth Camp, affectionately known as Camp Carlo, is dedicated to leading young people to Christ & His Church. Join us as we grow in Christ’s love while backpacking up a mountain, horse riding through hidden trails, sliding down mystic waterfalls and humbling ourselves in front of the true Presence of our Lord during Mass and Adoration. We want you to experience His immense love at Camp Carlo for Summer 2021!

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 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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Catholic Sharing Appeal Parish/Mission Goals

WHEELING VICARIATE

Cathedral of St. Joseph	Wheeling	\$16,880
Corpus Christi Parish	Wheeling	\$23,240
Immaculate Conception Parish	New Cumberland	\$7,055
Our Lady of Peace Parish	Wheeling	\$22,125
Our Lady of Seven Dolores Mission	Triadelphia	\$4,820
Sacred Heart Parish	Chester	\$12,780
Sacred Heart of Mary Parish	Weirton	\$13,680
St. Alphonsus Parish	Wheeling	\$8,460
St. Anthony Parish	Follansbee	\$19,520
St. Francis Xavier Parish	Moundsville	\$19,110
St. James Parish	McMechen	\$3,750
St. John Parish	Benwood	\$4,860
St. John the Evangelist Parish	Wellsburg	\$14,355
St. Joseph Mission	Proctor	\$4,270
St. Joseph the Worker Parish	Weirton	\$40,405
St. Jude Parish	Glen Dale	\$9,825
St. Michael Parish	Wheeling	\$58,140
St. Paul Parish	Weirton	\$27,985
St. Vincent de Paul Parish	Wheeling	\$31,760

CHARLESTON VICARIATE

Ascension Parish	Hurricane	\$19,425
Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart	Charleston	\$62,845
Blessed Sacrament Parish	South Charleston	\$34,345
Christ the King Parish	Dunbar	\$5,990
Holy Trinity Parish	Nitro	\$7,760
Immaculate Conception Parish	Montgomery	\$3,260
Our Lady of Fatima Parish	Huntington	\$37,115
Our Lady of the Hills Parish	Elkview	\$5,385
Risen Lord Mission	Maysel/Clay	\$1,780
Sacred Heart Parish	Huntington	\$10,310
Sacred Heart Parish	Williamson	\$8,145
St. Agnes Parish	Charleston	\$19,000
St. Anthony Parish	Charleston	\$9,590
St. Anthony's Shrine Mission	Boomer	\$4,960
St. Barbara Mission	Chapmanville	\$1,220
St. Francis of Assisi Parish	Logan	\$6,060
St. Francis of Assisi Parish	St. Albans	\$23,445
St. Joseph Parish	Huntington	\$54,660
St. Mary Queen of Heaven Parish	Madison	\$2,130
St. Patrick Mission	Bancroft	\$2,830
St. Peter Claver Parish	Huntington	\$5,355
St. Stephen Parish	Ona	\$6,655

BECKLEY VICARIATE

Holy Family Parish	Richwood	\$3,215
Sacred Heart Mission	Powhatan	\$1,985
Sacred Heart Mission	Rainelle	\$2,185
Sacred Heart Parish	Bluefield	\$22,180
Sacred Heart Parish	Princeton	\$17,760
Ss. Peter and Paul Parish	Oak Hill	\$16,965
St. Anne Parish	Webster Springs	\$1,770
St. Brendan Parish	Elkins	\$16,890
St. Catherine of Sienna Parish	Ronceverte	\$7,770
St. Charles Borromeo Parish	White Sulphur Springs	\$7,250
St. Francis de Sales Parish	Beckley	\$41,120
St. John the Evangelist Parish	Summersville	\$12,580
St. John Neumann Parish	Marlinton	\$3,670
St. Mark the Evangelist Mission	Bartow	\$1,400
St. Patrick Parish	Hinton	\$5,700
St. Peter Parish	Welch	\$1,960

CLARKSBURG VICARIATE

All Saints Parish	Bridgeport	\$46,380
Good Shepherd Mission	Glenville	\$2,155
Holy Rosary Parish	Buckhannon	\$11,330
Holy Spirit Parish	Monongah	\$10,315
Immaculate Conception Parish	Clarksburg	\$58,120
Immaculate Conception Parish	Fairmont	\$21,750
Our Lady of Mercy Mission	Parsons	\$4,780
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Stonewood	\$28,820
Sacred Heart Mission	Salem	\$3,070
St. Ann Parish	Shinnston	\$11,575
St. Anthony Parish	Fairmont	\$13,680
St. Augustine Parish	Grafton	\$7,525
St. Boniface Parish	Camden	\$5,140
St. Edward the Confessor Mission	Terra Alta	\$2,635
St. Elizabeth Parish	Philippi	\$5,120
St. Francis de Sales Parish	Morgantown	\$66,565
St. James the Apostle Parish	Clarksburg	\$9,565
St. John University Parish	Morgantown	\$35,780
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish	Cheat Lake	\$22,580
St. Mary Parish	Star City	\$41,675
St. Patrick Parish	Coalton	\$5,250
St. Patrick Parish	Mannington	\$6,620
St. Patrick Parish	Weston	\$19,465
St. Peter Parish	Farmington	\$5,830
St. Peter the Fisherman Parish	Fairmont	\$19,650
St. Sebastian Parish	Kingwood	\$11,720
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	Thomas	\$12,250
St. Thomas Parish	Gassaway	\$4,715
St. Zita Mission	Kingwood	\$5,555

MARTINSBURG VICARIATE

Annunciation of Our Lord Parish	Fort Ashby	\$9,110
Assumption Parish	Keyser	\$15,835
Epiphany of the Lord Parish	Moorefield	\$5,525
Our Lady of Grace Parish	Romney	\$7,750
St. Agnes Parish	Shepherdstown	\$44,205
St. Anthony Parish	Ridgeley	\$3,910
St. Bernadette Parish	Hedgesville	\$16,165
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish	Franklin	\$2,150
St. James Parish	Charles Town	\$60,880
St. Joseph Parish	Martinsburg	\$51,275
St. Leo Parish	Inwood	\$25,670
St. Mary Parish	Petersburg	\$4,455
St. Vincent de Paul Parish	Berkeley Springs	\$14,320

PARKERSBURG VICARIATE

Christ Our Hope Mission	Harrisville	\$1,935
Holy Redeemer Parish	Spencer	\$5,310
Holy Rosary Mission	Sistersville	\$3,685
Mater Dolorosa Parish	Paden City	\$5,470
Sacred Heart Mission	Point Pleasant	\$3,615
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission	Elizabeth	\$2,375
St. Francis Xavier Parish	Parkersburg	\$26,450
St. John Parish	St. Marys	\$6,610
St. Margaret Mary Parish	Parkersburg	\$43,250
St. Matthew Parish	Ravenswood	\$9,215
St. Michael Parish	Vienna	\$26,740
St. Monica Mission	Lubeck	\$3,250
St. Vincent de Paul Parish	New Martinsville	\$13,610



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My Dear Friends in Christ,

The beauty of Christ can be found in many places – in a morning sunrise, in the smiles of our neighbors, in the hands of the elderly. One way that some of us experience God’s beauty is simply by sitting in church and admiring the gentle light of His love shining through the stained-glass windows. Just as light coming through stained-glass windows fills the church with beauty, so does God’s love fill the Church, His people, with life.

We can shine the same light into the lives of others simply by the love we show, the hope we provide, the gifts we give, and the ministries we deliver. The Catholic Sharing Appeal provides invaluable support for West Virginia parishes as well as shared ministries such as youth and children’s ministries, Catholic education, catechist and teacher training, and support for the poor and most vulnerable. I ask you to consider how God’s light marvelously shines through stained-glass, filling the church with life and beauty and to reflect on how you can continue to bring light and God’s love to those around you.

I invite you to join me in sharing God’s love and in serving as a light for all to see by making a gift to the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

† Mark E. Brennan

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

Appeal ...

Cont’d from Page 1

duty is to lead by example, that’s why I invite you to put your faith into action and join me in supporting our parishes and ministries through a gift to this year’s appeal,” he wrote. “When I arrived at the Diocese, I was amazed to learn that the CSA has supported ministries and parishes since 2007. I also learned that our program is unique. Did you know that once your parish raises 50% of its goal, all the funds above and beyond are given back to your parish to support its needs? That’s incredible!”

Since the appeal was established the faithful of West Virginia have raised more than \$23 million for essential ministries, services and programs in the diocese. Those funds have provided tools needed to teach the faith, celebrate the Blessed Sacraments, expand our charitable outreach, and build a vibrant culture of faith centered around the Eucharist.

“Even in the shadows of the Coronavirus pandemic the faithful continued to be a light of hope,” said Krissie Benson, executive director of stewardship and develop-

ment. “We witnessed a tremendous outpouring of support through online parish offertory donations, the 2020 One Mission One Day Campaign for Catholic Schools, and the Giving Tuesday Campaign in December.”

Pastors will be reaching out to their parishioners in the next few weeks to invite them to prayerfully make a gift to the CSA to not only help the parish, but all those who need our support the most, said Heidi Sforza, director of annual giving.

“The CSA enables pastors, principals, and program directors to live out our mission to serve others as a Christ-centered community,” Sforza said. “Simply put donations to the CSA provide food, shelter, education, hope, and joy.”

Gifts to the appeal benefit our parishes and their missions; Catholic schools and catechesis programs (RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, PSR - parish school of religion, etc.); evangelization and special ministries, including campus ministries; Catholic Charities of WV; and vocations and seminarians.

See Page 4 of this issue for CSA parish and mission goals.

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



Zoom Gathering For All Pastoral Musicians to be Offered May 16

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—Pastoral musicians serving in the parishes and missions of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are invited to participate in a Zoom gathering May 16 at 3 p.m. The event will be led by Bernadette McMasters Kime, director of the diocesan Office of Worship and Sacraments, who will share information pastoral musicians must know as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

"This meeting is very important because in light of the changing COVID-19 restrictions and information being disseminated, parish musicians need to be updated on what they can and cannot do since we are still in the midst of the pandemic," Kime said.

On the agenda for the gathering will be a review of the diocese's Guidelines for Liturgical Music during COVID-19 which were updated May 1.

The Zoom gathering, Kime said, is also a great way for musicians across the diocese to network together, ask questions, and share ideas.

"We also plan on presenting some new music composed by some of our own local musicians, such as psalm settings and much more," Kime said.

Participants will also learn about new resources available to them and more.

If the music director or contact person cannot attend, parishes are asked to have someone in the parish who is involved in music ministry attend.

"Our goal is to have a representative from every parish in the diocese!" Kime said in promotional materials. "We need your help to make that a reality!"

To participate or for more information, contact Kime by e-mail to bkime@dwc.org or call (304) 233-0880, ext. 288. She will provide the Zoom link for the meeting.

Shepherdstown Parishioners Take Mission to Heart

By Joyce Bibey

SHEPHERDSTOWN—St. Agnes parishioners are taking the Shepherdstown church's mission to heart, as they focus on being "dedicated to the love of God and service to others."

This was obvious for the last four months, when it was St. Agnes parishioners who led the charge to help out at the Jefferson County community vaccination clinic.

Parishioner Michele Goldman, a retired registered nurse, helped coordinate the vaccination center for Jefferson County that was held from January through April at the Ranson Civic Center. "The Jefferson County Health Department is a very small operation, so we knew we needed to depend on the goodness of many volunteers in order to get our population vaccinated," she said. "We have a lot of older parishioners, who we know are the most vulnerable in our community, so helping at the clinic we were helping them. They were so happy to see so many fellow parishioners there to greet and assist them."

More than two dozen parishioners were regular volunteers at the clinic, working four days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"No matter where you turned at the clinic, you would run into someone from the parish," said Rodica Stoicoiu, of St. Agnes. "It wasn't like we had an announcement in our bulletin. We just showed up on our own. It was so happy to see so many familiar faces after being apart so long."

Stoicoiu described the response as a heartwarming testimony of faith.

"It says who we are and what we believe," she said. "We have to serve others. It is truly the parishioners being the Body of Christ – a Eucharistic people during difficult times."

One gentleman from the parish, Fred Dubay, was the logistical "problem solver" at the clinic, Goldman said. He made it his mission to be the forward thinker and constantly handle the "how to make the operation run even smoother than it already did" by making extra signage, rolling carts, and easier access points.

The volunteers would do a wide range of duties at the clinic like directing cars in the parking lot; helping residents out of their cars and into the building; walking them through the registration, waiting, and shot administration areas; and striking up good ole' face to face conversations that had been missing in our society for so long.

"For most of the older people of our region they hadn't gotten out of the house for nearly a year, and



Courtesy Photo

Members of St. Agnes Parish in Shepherdstown stand outside of the Ranson clinic. From left are Sue Kemnitzer, Eileen Elliott, Michele Goldman, Nancy Marmarella, and Michael Ambrose.

the shot clinic was their first public outing," Goldman said. "They were so touched and would tell us with tears in their eyes that they couldn't believe how kind and helpful everyone was and how hard the previous months were for them. That sincerity and appreciation made us cry."

Goldman and her crew at the clinic received a sincere thank you note that sums up how visitors to the clinic felt: "Thank you to all the volunteers, who have made this work. It is a tribute to our country that all of you have come together to help. It is wonderful to see everyone here helping for the common good. It is spiritual and emotional medicine we need, as well as physical medicine. And I just want you to know how much I appreciate it. It does my heart good to see all of you here. Thank you, each and everyone." Signed, "a happy camper."

"This clinic was a way to be together, while helping our neighbors," said Goldman, who recently served as the chair of the parish council. "In many ways we are like a big family here at St. Agnes. We are very connected with one another. When the pandemic hit not getting to be together with that personal connection was what hit us the hardest. We missed being together and celebrating our faith. We are a parish that is very involved in social ministries to help others who may be struggling in our area and around the world.

"We are small but mighty at St. Agnes," Goldman said. "We take our mission to live like Christ seriously."

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DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

Phase Two: Reopening of Churches for Public Worship

Diocesan Directives, *Updated as of May 1, 2021*

WHEELING—Bishop Brennan and diocesan administration remain grateful to all the clergy, parish staff members, volunteers and parishioners who have been diligent about following these directives for the health and safety of all. For almost one year, parishes around the diocese have learned and implemented practices that have allowed our parishioners to gather safely in order to celebrate Mass and other liturgical services. As of this writing, we are happy to report that no COVID-19 outbreaks have been linked to celebrations of the Mass at any of our parishes. With the release of these update directives, in which some restrictions have been modified or lifted, all are asked to continue to be vigilant and take appropriate measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 especially as new variants have allowed the virus to spread more easily and with greater rapidity. Bishop Brennan continues to invite those who are physically able and healthy to attend Mass in person – to hear God’s Word with their brothers and sisters in the faith and to receive the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist.

*Regarding overall sanitization practices, the CDC has recently issued updated findings which state that while it is possible for people to become infected if they touch a surface and then touch their nose, mouth or eyes, the risk of infection from touching a surface is now considered to be low. While disinfecting surfaces can help to reduce the risk of infection, the most reliable way to prevent infection from surfaces is to regularly wash hands or use hand sanitizer; thus the use of hand sanitizer is still to be encouraged upon entering and exiting the church. All churches and parish facilities should be cleaned at least one time per day when open to the public; the level and method of cleaning and/or sanitizing at each location should be determined by the building’s design and usage as some locations may require more frequent cleaning of surfaces. Churches should have sanitizing wipes available for anyone who wishes to sanitize their space. More extensive disinfecting is necessary in locations where there has been a suspected or confirmed virus case within the last 24 hours.

*It is expected that all parish communities have now restored their full liturgical schedule of weekend Masses, daily Masses and other sacramental celebrations as existed prior to March 2020. As well, parish office hours and many elements of parish life should resume provided the general guidelines are followed.

*Parishes should continue to track and maintain contact information for those attending liturgical services and gatherings. This information has been very helpful to parishes and to the local county health department when a COVID exposure has been reported and individuals (parishioners and/or guests who may have attended a service) need to be notified. During the pandemic, some parishes have restricted outside access to their churches in order to “funnel” the faithful into certain primary entrances for the purpose of contact tracing and hand sanitization. At this time, the Diocese recommends that churches leave all normal points of entry/exit unlocked on both sides but with signage outside pointing to the most appropriate entrance.

*Due to the existing indoor mask mandate in the State of West Virginia, appropriate mask wearing continues to be a requirement for all (except for children



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan distributes Communion at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling at the Mass celebrating the cathedral’s 95th anniversary April 21.

under the age of 2 or for anyone who has trouble breathing). The mask must be worn at all times, except at the moment of receiving Holy Communion, and is to fully cover the nose and the mouth. A full face shield may be worn in place of a face mask if particular circumstances do not permit a face mask, which is the preferred facial covering; the full face shield is NOT to be confused with a spit shield or a sani-shield. The full face shield fits around one’s forehead and extends the length of one’s face.

*Limitations on church capacity are still to be followed although actual capacities vary between churches depending on the church’s layout and the ratio of single persons versus multiple family members attending. However, guidance from the governor’s office remains in effect, which permits only the use of every other pew; non-used pews are to be marked accordingly to prevent anyone from using them for seating. In addition, the 6-foot physical distance between individuals from different households is still to be followed. Proper ventilation and airflow within the church is still to be monitored and maintained; some churches have elected to install GPS clean air systems which aid in improving indoor air quality.

*Outdoor celebrations of the Mass may occur, as weather permits, provided that all of the same guidelines are followed as would be required for indoor celebrations (physical distancing, wearing of masks, etc...)

*Digital, downloadable worship resources, projection of music and texts and disposable worship aids have proven very effective in some of our parishes and should be continued. However, for those unable to utilize these methods, and with the recent updates from the CDC regarding little transmission potential from surfaces, hymnals, missalettes and other printed resources may again be used by congregants and kept in the pew racks as was done prior to the pandemic; this directive is consistent with revised guidelines from other dioceses.

*Altar servers continue to be permitted, as needed,

to assist during Mass. In addition to hand sanitizing, servers must be masked at all times and remain appropriately distanced from others. It is still recommended to utilize only a minimal number of servers.

*Microphones should still not be shared among multiple users. It is recommended that the lector use the microphone at the ambo to proclaim the readings, the cantor use a separate microphone for singing and the Presider use a microphone from the presider’s chair or altar. The use of the Lectionary book and the Book of the Gospels may be resumed.

*Matters relating to music during Mass and singing were addressed in a separate document of music protocols entitled “Guidelines for Music During Liturgical Celebrations” which was released in September 2020. The directives contained in this document remain in effect at this time. (Document on Page 9.)

*All ministers participating in the Entrance Procession and/or Recessional must be masked and maintain appropriate distancing.

*Baptismal fonts, Holy Water basins and stoups are still to remain empty; however, the use of the Sprinkling Rite (especially in the Easter Season) is to be done in accordance with the Roman Missal. The Rite is done by the priest alone (no altar server to assist); the priest must be masked while sprinkling the people and the Holy Water used must only be for this purpose (not taken from a bowl or basin used for baptism).

*Regarding the offertory collection, all attempts should continue to be made to encourage online giving and/or placing contributions in a basket located in the front pew or in the gathering area before/after Mass. However if needed, ushers may utilize the traditional collection baskets with long handles, given appropriate care is taken and the handles/baskets are sanitized after each use. The passing of individual offertory baskets among parishioners is still prohibited.

*The Exchange of the Sign of Peace during Mass may be resumed if the action is a non-tactile greeting. In keeping with the General Instruction of the Roman Missal which states, “it is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest.” The sign of peace should be a bow or nod of the head in order to reverently offer the peace of Christ given to us through His Death and Resurrection.

*For the distribution of Holy Communion, it is still recommended that ushers or hospitality ministers dismiss one pew at a time and regulate the flow of people in the communion procession. Only one communion line in the middle of the aisle should be utilized to prevent people from standing side-by-side; appropriate six-foot distancing while waiting in the communion line is also to be maintained (markings on the floor remain beneficial in this regard). If the size of the congregation warrants and the layout of the building permits, additional communion stations should be utilized where a deacon or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion may also distribute communion. Like the priest, this individual must wear a mask and sanitize his/her hands before and after distributing Holy Communion. The same setup, involving a small table with a corporal, purificator, and a hand disinfecting

See “Directives” on Page 8

Directives...

Cont'd from Page 7

product, must be used at this additional station. In addition, the priest or communion minister must practice appropriate sanitizing of their hands after EACH and EVERY communicant who receives on the tongue. The distribution of the Sacred Cup to the laity remains suppressed until further notice. Self-communicating and/or intinction is not permitted in any form. However, when a large number of priests are con-celebrating at a Mass, it may be advisable to make use of intinction for the clergy's reception in that particular circumstance.

*Hospitality ministers/ushers should continue to take an active role to ensure physical distancing is maintained especially as people are dismissed following the conclusion of the Mass. Propping the doors open is still recommended as people enter/exit the building.

*Churches should continue to be open for private prayer throughout the day and are recommended to resume their pre-pandemic schedule of hours. However, churches may not be open 24 hours a day. Sanitizing wipes should be available for individuals who wish to sanitize their own space. The church should be cleaned at least one time every day when open to the public.

*For the celebration of Funeral Masses, all of the requirements for the public celebration of a Mass should continue to be followed. It is highly recommended to have a parish staff member or a trained volunteer present for Funeral Masses to provide hospitality and to help ensure the adherence to all of the proper protocols. Moreover, some type of sign-in sheet/contact tracing form should be utilized to record the names and contact information of non-family members who are attending the Funeral Mass.

*Just as for funeral Masses, the same standard requirements remain in effect for weddings. Those gathered for wedding rehearsals should wear masks at all times and an overview of the protocols should be explained by the local pastor during the rehearsal as there may be many guests who are not familiar with specific parish directives. For the actual wedding ceremony, the pastor may make a determination based on factors such as the size of the worship space and the placement of the bride/groom and the wedding party as to when, if at all, masks may be removed for certain moments during the celebration of the Wedding liturgy.

**Confirmation – The Office of Worship and Sacraments will send specific guidelines to the respective parishes that are scheduled to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

*Deacons may now resume the full range of liturgical functions during the Mass as prescribed in the Roman Missal (this would now include preparing the altar, elevating the chalice, etc...). In addition, when a deacon is present and serving at the altar, a separate chalice should be used for the deacon to partake of the Sacred Cup; this additional chalice is not elevated during the Per ipsum.

*Our parishes and communities need to be vigilant in adhering to all of the protocols for the good and safety of everyone so that our churches may remain open for public worship and so that parishioners feel comfortable to attend, and continue attending, Mass and other liturgical services. When broadcasting services or posting pictures on the internet, social media or other means, we must demonstrate our adherence to all of the guidelines so that our actions match our directives.

Bishop Mark E. Brennan

Guidelines for Music during Liturgical Celebrations

(The Following Guidelines Have Been Developed by the Members of the Diocesan Music Consulters) Updated as of September 24, 2020 (These Music Guidelines Remain in Effect as of May 1, 2021)

WHAT SHOULD WE BE SINGING?

The Diocese still asks that singing be done in moderation during the COVID pandemic. Therefore, the question becomes "what should we be singing?" According to the USCCB document, "Sing to the Lord" paragraph 110- 118 describes for us a hierarchy of liturgical music. "Singing by the gathered assembly and ministers is important to all celebrations. Not every part that can be sung should necessarily be sung at every celebration; rather, preference is given to those parts that are of greater importance."

1) Dialogues and Acclamations – Among the parts to be sung, preference should be given to the dialogues and acclamations of the Eucharistic liturgy. It is our assent to God's Word and actions. These are: Gospel Acclamation, Holy Holy, Mystery of Faith, and Great Amen.

2) Psalms - The Responsorial Psalm in the Liturgy of the Word of the Mass, "has great liturgical and pastoral importance since it fosters the meditation of the Word of God." Singing of Psalms is deeply rooted in the Jewish tradition and early Christianity. Jesus sang psalms, our Jewish brothers and sisters sing psalms. (In light of the COVID pandemic, you DO NOT have to proclaim the psalm from the ambo. It may be sung from a different location.)

3) Refrains and repeated responses – These include the Kyrie and Lamb of God, at the Mass

4) Hymns – At Mass, in addition to the Gloria, hymns that have been judged appropriate may be added to the Liturgy. There is no mention of a Preparation of the Gifts song or a Recessional Hymn in the Roman Missal; thus, their use is optional.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

At this time, other instrumentalists may now be reintroduced into our music ministry programs as long as the standard safety protocols are followed including wearing of masks, distancing and minimal rehearsal time together with other musicians. String instruments, guitars, handbells, and percussion appear to pose minimal risk (please consult <https://handbellmusicians.org> for guidelines for safely returning to ringing). Some concern still exists regarding the use of woodwind and brass instruments and the potential spread of aerosol droplets that could be produced by these instruments. We would caution against the use of these instruments at this time; larger musical organizations (such as symphonies, etc...) are looking into covers and other measures to mitigate the challenges posed by woodwind and brass instruments. As we learn more from these developments, we will revisit the usage of woodwinds and brass instruments.

VOCAL CHOIRS

At this time, concern still exists regarding vocal choirs/ensembles and their potential to spread aerosols and other droplets into the air. Moreover, many members of our choirs fall into the higher risk category because of age and other underlying health issues. Thus, full vocal choirs may still not be utilized at this time; however, consideration may be given to a small schola of no more than four members to allow SATB music. Like all musicians, these schola members are to wear masks at all times (even while singing regardless of where they are lo-

cated in the church) and are to be in an area that allows at least six feet of space between each of the singers. We also recommend that each schola member have his/her own microphone to prevent cross-contamination and to allow their voice to be clearly heard and understood while singing with the mask. Moreover, a reminder that the schola should always encourage and support the singing of the assembly; as well, it is suggested for moderation in the number of musical selections the schola will actually sing before and/or during the Mass or service. As more studies do further investigation into larger group singing and its impact on spreading the virus, additional updates may be made to this aspect of music ministry. Further information on singing and related protocols may be found at the American Choral Directors Association (www.acda.org).

"BROADCASTING" AND/OR REPRODUCING MUSIC/LYRICS IN PRINT OR VIA PROJECTION

Please know that separate and specific licenses must be obtained if your parish/community broadcasts any liturgical service involving copyrighted music that is played and/or sung during the broadcast. The term "broadcast" includes podcasts, Facebook live, YouTube, and any other method where the liturgical service is recorded and then shared. As well, a separate license must be obtained if your parish/community reprints the lyrics and/or the music of songs in a worship aid, bulletin or any other printed material; this same license would also allow for the projection of lyrics and music. Much of the music that most parishes utilize falls under the licensing of OneLicense.net. However, if you use music outside of the coverage of OneLicense.com, you would need to secure additional licensing (ex. Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) covers many contemporary songs which some parishes may choose as part of their repertoire). In addition to obtaining the license, each song, either projected or printed, must include the composer's name and the copyright notice with the publisher's name (this includes both the reproduction of lyrics with the melody line and/or simply the reproducing of the song's text); moreover, music used each week must be reported to the respective licensing company. The Office of Worship and Sacraments can provide assistance in answering questions related to appropriate licensing. Worship aids are only for single-time usage and must be disposed after each Mass.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Recordings of choirs or liturgical instrumental recordings are not to be used during the celebration of the Eucharist and are not to be used in place of music that would normally be sung or played live during Mass.

Please remember that all musicians (vocalists and instrumentalists) should wear masks at all times during the Mass(es) and during any rehearsals; as well, regular sanitizing, appropriate distancing and good air ventilation must also be practiced. Regarding rehearsals, it is recommended not to share any instruments or printed materials and to keep rehearsals to a minimum with the length of the rehearsal not to exceed 30-50 minutes. Music ministers, as leaders, must always practice and exhibit proper adherence to the protocols and safety guidelines; since there remain greater concerns with singing and the potential to spread the virus, music ministers must demonstrate greater awareness and take additional precautions for the safety of all.

Bishop Mark E. Brennan

Norms for Reopening Parish Facilities for Meetings and Gatherings

(Updated as of May 1, 2021)

The following norms are intended to assist pastors as they continue to reopen their churches and facilities to serve those entrusted to their pastoral care. Obviously, the diversity in size, location and facilities will require pastors to make some adaptations in the following norms. However, the substance and intent of these norms are to be observed. These norms are provided to promote a safe environment for our faith communities.

For any clarification you might need on these policies, please contact Chad Carter or Bryan Minor at the Chancery.

1. Parish Meetings and Formation

a. Parishes may convene and host in-person regular meetings of parish committees, most importantly Parish Council, Finance Council, parish administrative staff and VIRTUS trainings. Preparations must be made in advance for physical distancing, such as sitting on every other seat. Attendees must wear masks upon entry and exit from parish buildings and during meetings. No tactile greetings are permitted. Hand sanitizer must be made available to all those in attendance. Only prepackaged food or beverages in individual portions may be served. Any handouts must be taken home by those in attendance or discarded before leaving. Use projection devices when possible. Disinfect the meeting space upon conclusion. Please consider making provisions for participants who wish to participate virtually or by teleconference.

b. Group meetings may reconvene at this time in our parishes. This includes parish groups, youth groups, prayer groups, or outside groups such as ecumenical groups, AA, scouting, etc. Guidelines in Section 1 (a) above must also be followed. For youth groups, minors are not to be taken off-site by parish employees or volunteers. They are not to travel in groups for diocesan or parish-sponsored events. Field trips are also not to take place at this time. Youth should travel only with their parents or guardians and only with members of their own households.

c. Adult religious education, youth religious education and formation classes and related programming, etc., may meet in person at this time and are to follow the norms put into place by the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis. Contact Daniel Maul for more information in this regard. Vacation Bible School is permitted this summer and guidance for this will be distributed by the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis.

2. Indoor, Parish Hall or Gymnasium Events

Events held indoors or outdoors are once again permitted with strict guidance from the Diocese that might differ from what state and county officials allow at the time of the event. For example, Food may be served at events, but the food must be plated, prepackaged, or served. If there is a buffet line, a server must provide portions to attendees. Attendees must wear masks while being served in the buffet line or if they are not actively eating or drinking. Beverage service is permitted if it is not self-serve—a volunteer or employee must be handing out bottles/cups/cans. Attendees should be grouped at tables by family whenever possible. Clean bathrooms frequently. Sanitize facilities after use. Please reach out to your county health department to secure approval for large events or fund raisers. These policies are in effect beginning May 1 for the following:

a. Funeral Luncheons and other gatherings with meals: Funeral luncheons are now permitted with the stipulations listed above. Please seat attendees by household whenever possible.

b. Wedding Receptions, Baptismal/Confirmation gatherings, Bridal/Baby Showers, etc.: These events are now permitted with the stipulations listed above.

c. Charitable Outreach: Parishes have been and still are encouraged to continue charitable outreach to the community during the pandemic, with special emphasis on operating food pantries, “meals on wheels,” utility assistance, clothing distribution, and outreach with local partners such as the Gabriel Project, Red Cross, St. Vincent de Paul Society, etc. Be certain to follow social distancing guidelines, use location specific plans to avoid contact, always wear masks and encourage hand washing/use of hand sanitizer. Organizers must clearly mark separate doors for ingress/egress and mark floors for one-way traffic flow. Track names of those in attendance at the entrance of your facility for contact tracing purposes. Prohibit use of public drinking fountains. Clean bathrooms frequently. Sanitize after each facility use.

d. Indoor or Outdoor Fund-Raising Auctions, Rummage Sales, Craft Fairs or public events including food or beverage service: These events are permitted based on the stipulations above.

e. Athletics: Athletics may only resume within guidelines permissible by state and local authorities. Guidance for Catholic School facilities is available through the Superintendent of Catholic Schools. If you have any questions, please refer to your county health department.

f. Fellowship: Fellowship after Mass or events may resume, with emphasis on prepackaged food and drink (no self service).

g. Bingo: With the approval of the pastor/administrator, bingo may resume under the following conditions:

i. You must follow state guidelines for bingo found at this website -

<https://tax.wv.gov/Documents/Publications/Covid19Response/SafetyGuidanceF orBingoHalls.pdf>. Failure to abide by state policies will automatically result in termination of bingo operations.

ii. You must submit your plan to the county health department and secure written approval to begin bingo on your property.

iii. Submit your plan to begin bingo along with written permission from the county health department to Bryan Minor for diocesan consideration, and we will respond as soon as possible.

iv. Under conditions set forth above, food service may resume at bingo.

h. Rentals: Parish halls and gymnasiums may be rented at this time, noting the policies on no self-service of food and beverages and seating recommendations by family or household.

3. Outdoor Facilities and Venues: While outdoor events appear to provide more flexibility, it is important that care be taken to keep these events safe. Therefore, safe distancing is important as is the wearing of masks. Food and beverages may be provided but only by servers. There is not to be self service of food (buffet lines, etc.) or drinks.

4. Parish or School Fish Fry:

The Diocese will review parish plans for a local fish fry held during the COVID-19 pandemic, and such events may not take place without prior written ap-



Martina Hart Photo
Sister Ida Chikara, SJI, coordinator of Religious Education at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Charleston, is pictured during lessons.

proval. We encourage plans to be submitted as early as possible.

Plans may not include the option for eating indoors at your facilities. Your submitted proposals should include one or more of these considerations:

a. In car pickup – please outline drive thru/drive up options, and how you might use numbered parking spaces in designated areas and asking patrons to call upon arrival.

b. Indoor pickup – please demonstrate how you can properly distance folks in the food pick up area, how you will make sure patrons will not congregate, and how you will have one-way walking patterns and one-way entry and exit doors.

c. Deliveries – if you are considering deliveries to homes or businesses, please outline your plans to protect drivers and separate food from the driver (trunk, back seat, hatchback).

Your plan will also need to address these issues:

1. Your plan must address how you will prevent folks from congregating indoors and in parking lots. Provide details about the flow of movement among kitchen staff, volunteers and those awaiting pick up. Pre-ordering is encouraged.

2. How to transfer money/payment: Can you accept payments via check, ParishSoft online forms, your parish/school website, or by other electronic means? In other words, can you go “cashless?”

3. Please address how you will provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for your workers and discuss how you will be able to comply with the state’s guidelines for restaurants and make certain workers’ safety will remain paramount in operating the fish fry.

4. Bingo and a fish fry may not be held in the same facility on the same day.

5. Please describe your plans to disinfect your fish fry area before and after the event.

6. Your plan must have the approval of your local health department before you submit it to the Diocese.

7. Note that submitted plans must be approved first by the pastor and principal (if school facilities are proposed for use). Their signatures need to be seen on your submitted proposal.

A Special Six-Part Series on the Diocesan Pastoral Council

Bailes, Enders, Bossie-Maddox Represent Charleston Vicariate for Diocesan Pastoral Council

By Joyce Bibey

CHARLESTON—Charleston representatives on the reestablished Diocesan Pastoral Council are ready to represent their communities and assist Bishop Mark E. Brennan in outlining and developing priorities, initiatives, and plans to fulfill the mission of the Church.

Mac Bailes, of Sutton; Kim Enders, of Huntington; and Susan Bossie-Maddox, of Charleston also hope the council's efforts encourage the faithful to get more involved in their communities and parishes, which will bring them closer to Christ and the Church.

Bailes is a member of St. Thomas Parish in Gassaway and will serve on the Lay Life and Ministry Committee, while on the DPC for his three-year term.

He converted to Catholicism at the Easter Vigil in 2004. His conversion story unfolded over decades, including the 30 years he served as a Methodist minister, while also working as a physician in central West Virginia.

"When I was growing up in Summersville, I knew a man I had developed a great respect for," Bailes said. "He was the uncle of a friend. He would take a group of us boys camping every summer in Pocahontas County. It was a great time, but there was one catch, if you went you knew he'd be taking us to Mass at St. Brendan's in Elkins. We would sit respectful and quiet. It wasn't the church that made the impression on me it was his person – he was just a fine fella', not pushy, just lived very honorable. He lived his faith. I'll never forget him."

A second gentleman that stirred Bailes' decision to become Catholic was the late Father Jerome Rawa, a Marist priest from Holy Family Church in Richwood. Father Rawa was a daily visitor at Summersville Regional Medical Center, the hospital Bailes worked at as an emergency room doctor.

"Everyone loved him and looked upon him as a positive influence – it didn't matter if you were Catholic, Methodist, Baptist or claimed no religion,

Father Rawa, was a great witness for Jesus," he said. After seeing the priest come into the hospital time and time again without a coat in the dead of winter, the doctors pooled their money together and bought him an expensive warm, multi-layered black coat. "He was so appreciative and wore it well," he said, and then added, "but only for a few days. He came in a week or so later without it. We asked, "Father, where is your coat?" He told us that there was a man up on the street in Richwood who needed it way more than he did. That's who he was, always looking out for others."

"I'm in my 70s now," he said. "I went to medical school, seminary, I studied Scripture, Greek, Hebrew, Latin... but all of those things didn't totally direct me to my faith – it was also and most importantly the positive people who influenced me. Looking back, I can see that God had a great hand in all of this. In a nutshell the Holy Spirit led me."

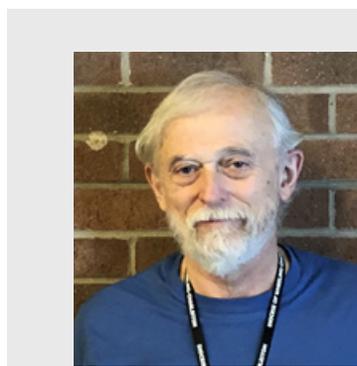
Among the many things Bailes does for his parish, he serves on his pastoral council, teaches RCIA at his church and at Risen Lord Mission in Clay, and helps with the food pantry at both sites too.

Bailes said his outlook on life is rooted in the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Romans, "We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28)."

In the ups and downs of life, family, church, and our world we need to know God is always with us, he said.

"Not everything that happens to us in life is good, but it can work to the good if we believe," Bailes said, and added that he is honored to be on the council to represent all the "little guys" in small or rural parishes and missions; and he takes his role seriously. "We realize there is a concerning shortage of priests, but folks like us in the smaller and rural areas want to be supported and not forgotten. We need to take care of all of our (faithful) and our communities spiritually, physically, and mentally."

Enders has been a parishio-



Mac Bailes



Kim Enders



Susan Bossie-Maddox

ner of St. Joseph in Huntington for more than 20 years. Parish life has been an important part of who she is. When she recites Psalm 39, "Here I am Lord, I've come to do your will," she is wholeheartedly speaking directly to Christ and takes that commitment seriously.

She has worn many hats at church, including lector, Eucharistic minister, children's liturgy leader, parish school of religion instructor, and PTO president of the parish school. She will serve on the Lay Life and Ministry Committee and will serve the DPC for a one-year term.

Enders grew up in Huntington's Sacred Heart Parish community, where she was proud to serve as an altar server and assist with a middle school retreat. For the last three decades she has been active in the Cursillo and Christ Renews His Parish programs. About seven years ago she completed the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Program offered by our diocese which led to one of her most rewarding roles – a ministry at St. Mary's Medical Center, where she served as a Eucharistic minister and spent one evening a week visiting the faithful that were hospitalized at St. Mary's. She said, "I felt as if the Holy Spirit touched the lives of the patients I visited."

She said the words of St. Teresa of Avila speak to her, encouraging her to live like Christ.

Christ has no body but yours.

No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands, through which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.

"With all of the problems that have come as the result of the Church's priest scandal, it is very important that the laity work with religious to rebuild the Church," she said. "The Diocesan Pastoral Council is just the beginning of this process and I am very honored to be part of the process."

She added she believes we are all called to serve and spread the joy of Christ in our actions.

"I feel called to be involved with spreading the Good News within our church and community," Enders said. "If I don't participate with church activities, I am not doing what God has called us to do. We just need to take the time to listen to God's whisper that guides us in life."

Bossie-Maddox, of Charleston, is on the Justice and Peace Committee and will sit on the DPC for two years.

For more than 50 years Bossie-Maddox has attended St. Anthony Parish in Charleston. Her giving heart and selfless compassion made volunteering a natural fit for her. She taught faith formation classes, while her kids were growing up; headed up the youth

group; worked bingo; served fish dinners; and organized the Christmas play and May crowning. To this day she sings in the choir, coordinates funerals and weddings at the church, and volunteers as the event organizer for the church Mardi Gras and Wine tastings. Before the pandemic she helped plan and host Faith, Food, and Fellowship after Mass on Sundays.

She stepped up to help the church by volunteering as a part time parish secretary and even took the priests from India assigned to St. Anthony's under her wing, teaching them how to drive, where to get their Social Security Cards, and how and where to buy a dependable car. This doesn't even complete the list of what she does and has done at her parish but looking at her long list of service it is evident her heart belongs to God and the Church. Her hope is others learn from her example, as well as the example of Bishop Brennan by reinstating this council.

"If the Diocese is active the parishes will be active," she said. "We can't live in the past but can change the future. Any change that is meaningful must include all the parts. I get tired of hearing why we can't do something, when we need more people to step up and just do it."

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Jesus and Grandparents Raise Her Spirit to be an Example for Others

St. Peter's young cantor is as inspirational as her voice

By Joyce Bibey

Our #FaithInWV feature stories, showcase Catholics who are rising above the odds, giving hope, and leading by example. After reading today's relatable story about Francesca Aloï of St. Peter's Parish in Farmington, we hope she inspires you to also choose to be a blessing.

If you ask the 20-year-old junior at Fairmont State University about herself she is likely to talk more about how amazing her grandparents are; how her parish is super small, but very close; and how fun and genuine her pastor Father Vincy Sebastian Illickal, T.O.R., is. However, there is a great lesson this young lady teaches through her example – how to be both humble and hungry.

"God has blessed me by placing me with a beautiful family," Aloï said. "Jesus really took care of me and continues to do so. My grandparents are my world and have set the perfect example of faith, family, and caring for others."

Since the age of seven she has been a cantor for the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, following in her grandfather's footsteps, after being encouraged by her grandmother. Aloï lives with her grandparents Diane and Donald Aloï in Farmington. She affectionately refers to them as "Nunna and Pops, the most caring people I know."

Once she reached middle school, she filled in at church leading the Rosary before Sunday Mass. By high school she was teaching catechism for the first holy communicants, and then parish school of religion for all ages between their Communion and confirmation years.

When it was possible for the priests to have an organist and cantor at the Masses, they were recording during the pandemic for parish websites and social media pages, Fr. Illickal, asked Aloï and grandmother to help him. The videos were livestreamed on the Facebook pages for the parishioners at St. Peter and

St. Patrick in Mannington, where he is also the pastor.

Her favorite songs to sing at Mass include Be Not Afraid, Taste and See; and Eagles Wings. The lyrics of these songs reflect her faith: Be Not Afraid gives us the confidence to follow God to find rest and peace; Taste and See reminds us that if we call out to God, he will set you free from trouble; and Eagles Wings echoes that we should not fear for God holds us in the palm of His hand.

Aloï said it is her grandmother who has the greatest influence on her life.

"She is a leader and a very good one – she leads us at church as our organist, she leads me as a person, she leads so many people that she cares about," she said. "She has a beautiful heart. When I catch myself doing something I know would mirror her I feel so proud. If it weren't for my nunna, I wouldn't be close to God," she said. "I get strength from her and the prayers she offers for me and I know that for sure. It is through her I know Jesus and the Church."

That doesn't mean the journey that led her to her faith was easy. In fact, she shared that 2020 was difficult for her.

When restrictive regulations from the pandemic first hit, she, like her peers, was excited for the escape from her college workload. It was almost like a spontaneous vacation, but then days turned into weeks, and weeks to months.

"No longer was I living the college life, being with friends constantly, and 'testing my independence' as they say," she said. "Socializing stopped. It got to be stressful and depressing. Then I struggled spiritually. It was rough. It wasn't until I literally found myself at a very low point and cried out Jesus' name that I was able to start building myself back up. I remember almost instantly feeling my head was cleared and a total sense that I could be confident in His love. It was like he was telling me, 'Follow

Me and everything will be okay.'"

Aloï said she realized she already had everything she needed – her family and her Catholic faith.

Recently, she discovered that there is a St. Francesca – St. Frances of Rome, who lived from 1384-1400. In an article by Word Press we learn that St. Francesca was "no dried-up prune of a saint." She was very active and dynamic. "She suffered struggles, endured sorrows, and bore with every manner of disappointment and hurt." However, her life "the plan of God for our holiness unfolds in ways that often contradict our own projects and desires. Our endless planning can be no more than an attempt to control life, to manipulate people and events. (Saint) Francesca challenges us to detachment from life as we would have it be, and to the acceptance of things as they are."

"Ironically I wasn't named after her, but my birthday – March 9 – is her feast day," she said, noting she considers that a blessing and feels a connection to her.

Like the saint with her name, Aloï knows she is to use her Catholic faith to learn from everything life throws at her. The compounded stress of the pandemic, the loss of what were "norms" can weigh heavy, Aloï said.

"It's easy to push God away and think we can pick and choose what we need spiritually," she said. "But our faith teaches us to trust Him to get us through our troubles and let Him in."

She believes that people and circumstances are put in our lives for a reason, whether good or bad it is up to us whether those encounters turn into ones that strengthen our faith and character or break our spirit.

"Choices have consequences," she said.

In prior years before the pandemic the parish held a community breakfast to raise



Courtesy Photo

Francesca Aloï, at right, poses for an Easter photo in St. Peter Parish with her grandmother Diane Aloï.

money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. When it was obvious that the gathering couldn't take place, Aloï knew it would be an easy choice to skip the fundraiser, but her heart told her it was necessary. She rallied a few helpers and Fr. Illickal to conduct an appeal by posting a video on his parish's social media page, requesting parishioners bring or mail donations to the church. It was a mini telethon of sorts. They set their goal at \$1,500. Much to their surprise, \$3,000 was collected.

"We were so happy," Aloï said. "It took little effort but will make a great impact for children and families who need us."

"I've already had many bumps in the road," she said. "My life isn't perfect, no one's is. We just have to keep choosing the right path. We have to find a spiritual guide and a great example to follow. I'm so blessed that I have that built in support system with my grandparents, but we can all still find ourselves feeling alone, and that's when we need to remember our spiritual guide is Jesus," she said. "We should talk to God like we would any father figure in our lives. He is our true Father, and His love and presence are right there for us always – it doesn't get any better."

She said on her bad days

she finds energy in Catholic podcasts, books on the Catholic faith, singing sacred songs, and making her surroundings quiet so she can wholeheartedly pray and further develop her relationship with Jesus.

"If you are longing for a godly presence in life, you have to pause and sit still," she said. "Just breathe and wait for the Holy Spirit. Call upon Him. He is there waiting on us. The sense of peace may not come instantly but it will come."

Father Illickal said Aloï is "a superb example to the young and old alike because of her giving nature, her kindness, her sincerity and her love. She is an inspiration."

"Francesca puts her heart and soul into everything she does for St. Peter's," he said. "She has a heart that is all on fire for the love of Jesus. She loves God with all of her being. She is a charming, kind, personable and energetic young lady. To know Francesca is to love her!"

#FaithInWV

Do you know an exceptional Catholic in West Virginia, someone or a group who are shining examples of #FaithInWV? Email Joyce Bibey your feature idea to jbibey@dwc.org. Visit FaithInWV.org and every issue of The Catholic Spirit to read more inspiring stories.

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From Homeless to Housed: Katherine's Story



Courtesy Photo

Katherine Elliott, CCWVa client/neighbor, and her daughter, Skyla Sea, celebrate with Joe Sparksman, CCWVa case manager, as she obtains the keys to her new home after transitioning out of the Catholic Charities Hospitality House.

By Katie Hinerman Klug, Marketing Communications Specialist

In January of 2020, Katherine Elliott found herself without a home for her family, including her 1-year old daughter and her boyfriend.

"Through some unfortunate circumstances that were no fault of our own, we found ourselves homeless," said Katherine. Because Katherine had a child, she did not qualify to stay at local winter freeze or homeless shelters. After receiving short-term help from Youth Services Systems, Katherine was referred to Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa).

"Katherine and her family were ideal candidates for our Hospitality House and case management program," said Diana Bell, CCWVa Neighborhood Center coordinator. The Catholic Charities Hospitality House provides transitional housing for

a family for three to six months. The family is able to stay intact and sleep under one roof while receiving intensive case management services to get back on their feet.

"The house was a life saver," said Katherine. "In the midst of COVID, with a child, it made everything so much better. I don't know where I would've been without it."

Katherine and her boyfriend, JR, met with CCWVa Case Manager Joe Sparksman weekly during their time living at the Hospitality House.

"Joe was our mentor. He helped walk us through everything, set us up with the programs we needed to get our life straight," said Katherine.

As part of the Hospitality House case management program, residents also meet with a representative from West Virginia Saves to learn about budgeting and saving money. "Joe and everyone helped us get where we need-

ed," said Katherine. "We were able to save and pay our first month's rent at a house they connected us with through the Homeless Coalition."

JR has earned his CDL license, and Katherine is pursuing her goal of becoming an Emergency Medical Technician. Katherine's daughter recently turned 2 years old and is thriving in their new home.

"I just want to offer the most heartfelt, gracious, meaningful gratitude that I can express to Catholic Charities," said Katherine.

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.

Catholic Charities to Host Sabika Bingo Fundraiser

BLUEFIELD—Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) will host a Sabika Bingo fundraising event on Sunday, May 16 at the Bluefield City Park in Bluefield. The doors will open at 2 p.m. and bingo will begin at 3 p.m.

"Sabika Bingo is a fun event that raises funds for the vital services CCWVa provides in the local and surrounding areas," said Matt Atwood, CCWVa Southern Regional director. "At the same time, attendees will learn about the work Catholic Charities does and the impact it makes in our community."

Proceeds will support CCWVa's programs and services in its Southern Region. 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.

"Sabika Bingo takes a fun twist on bingo," said Atwood. "Rather than winning cash for each game like traditional bingo, the winners receive beautiful Sabika jewelry."

Tickets are \$25 at the door. Due to safety guidelines, seating is limited to the first 125 guests.

The event will feature a number of door prizes, concessions, and a 50/50 raffle as well.

For more information about this event, call (304) 425-4306. To learn more about CCWVa, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org

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Weirton's St. Joseph the Worker Parish Celebrates Patron's Feast Day in Special Ways This Year

By Colleen Rowan

Weirton's St. Joseph the Worker Parish celebrated its patron's May 1 feast day in two very special ways. The parish had a St. Joseph's Table to help provide food for the hungry and a Consecration to St. Joseph.

With this being the Year of St. Joseph, the parish's celebratory events were made all the more significant. The St. Joseph's Table was sponsored by the parish council, which called it "a 'gratitude table' for the congregation to thank St. Joseph for all he has done for us."

The Italian tradition, parish officials said, uses a three-tier table (representing the Trinity and the ascent from earth to heaven), with statues, candles, flowers, prayer basket, donation basket, and boxed or

canned goods, which parishioners donate to fill the table to overflowing.

"All of the food collected will then be donated to those in need," parish officials said.

The food was donated to the Community Bread Basket in Weirton which provides food and resources to those in need. The parish regularly supports this outreach organization.

The St. Joseph's Table was located in the church vestibule and was held in place of the annual spaghetti dinner hosted by the pastoral council. Leading up to the feast day, parishioners were invited to bring in non-perishable canned, bagged, or boxed items.

"Help celebrate our patron saint and spiritual father, St. Joseph, by providing for those less fortunate in our community,"

parish officials said as provisions were being collected.

On the same day St. Joseph's Table culminated, the parish held the Consecration to St. Joseph Prayer Service at the church following the 4 p.m. Mass.

In preparation of the May 1 gathering, a group of 36 met for six weeks using the Father Donald Calloway, MIC, Consecration to St. Joseph book, said Sharon Steele, parishioner. A portion of the Act of Consecration to St. Joseph states: "...I consecrate myself entirely to you. I want you in my life; I need you in my life. Take me as your spiritual child, O great St. Joseph! I desire to hold nothing back from your protective fatherhood. ..."

At the prayer service, Steele said, a consecration card was signed by all as the



Courtesy Photo

Shirley Rychlicki, a member of St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton, signs a consecration card at the Consecration to St. Joseph Prayer Service at the church May 1.



Courtesy Photo

Those who participated in the Consecration to St. Joseph May 1 at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton wait in line to sign a consecration card.

song I Am a Carpenter St. Joseph's Song was played. The card was then affixed to a votive candle, placed under St. Joseph's statue, and lit. As lilies were placed under his statue, an explanation was read as to why St. Joseph is portrayed holding a staff of these flowers. This signifies that God chose him among all men to be the spouse of Mary.

As the group met in the weeks before the consecration, the titles and virtues of St. Joseph were taught and prayed at every meeting.

"I learned so much about St. Joseph," said Sally Frantz, a parishioner and secretary of the parish who also participated. "There are no words to describe it," she said of the consecration. "It was just tremendous. It was such a beautiful and spiritual experience."

At the consecration service, Steele said all were encouraged to meditate on the Litany of St. Joseph, which was sung by Colleen Nixon.

The Prayer of St. Louis de Montfort, the Memorare

to St. Joseph, the Consecration Prayer to St. Joseph, and in thanksgiving, St. Joseph's intercession for a soul in Purgatory, most in need, was prayed.

Blessed St. Joseph medals were given to all participants.

Steele said that parishes interested in sponsoring a Consecration to St. Joseph program, and would like St. Joseph the Worker's program information, can contact Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., pastor, at (304) 723-2054.

St. Joseph the Worker Parish is one of eight churches in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston named for St. Joseph. The parish was established by Archbishop John J. Swint April 7, 1957, and the first pastor of the parish was Father James P. Altmeyer. St. Joseph the Worker Grade School opened Sept. 2, 1958. Ground was broken and blessed at the site of the new parish church building Dec. 6, 1959, and the formal dedication of St. Joseph the Worker Church was held May 1, 1962.

El diácono Szabo será ordenado sacerdote

Por Colleen Rowan

CHARLES TOWN — El diácono Phillip Szabo está listo para servir al pueblo de Dios como sacerdote. Esta será la promesa que hará cuando sea ordenado sacerdote por el obispo Mark E. Brennan a las 11 a.m. 29 de mayo en la parroquia St. James the Greater en Charles Town.

Junto a la familia y amigos del diácono Szabo en la iglesia donde fue ordenado diácono en mayo pasado estarán los sacerdotes, religiosos y fieles de la diócesis.

"A medida que se acerca la fecha de mi ordenación, me siento lleno tanto de paz como de lo que se puede describir mejor como temor santo. Estoy en paz porque sé que he descubierto la voluntad de Dios para mi vida", dijo el diácono Szabo. "Dios ciertamente ha dejado muy claro que quiere que sea ordenado sacerdote".

Durante los últimos seis años de formación, dijo que ganó un respeto mucho mayor por el sacerdocio, sobre todo tomando más conciencia del sacrificio que exige la vocación.

"Un sacerdote tiene el honor singular de servir en la Persona de Cristo mientras celebra los sacramentos", dijo el Diácono Szabo, "y por eso, sobre todo, debe conformar su vida a la de nuestro Señor, Jesús".

El diácono Szabo se da cuenta de que esta no es una tarea pequeña y sabe que requerirá un gran sac-

rificio de su parte.

"Por eso digo que mi sentimiento de paz va acompañado de un miedo santo", dijo. "Sé que no soy digno ni capaz de cumplir el Sagrado Oficio del Sacerdicio por mi cuenta, y este hecho me humilla".

El diácono Szabo dijo que sabe que encontrará toda la fuerza que necesita y más para cumplir con sus deberes como sacerdote a través de la oración, la fraternidad con los hermanos sacerdotes y de la gente a la que está llamado a servir.

"Por lo tanto, con un corazón lleno a la vez de paz y santo temor", dijo, "espero con esperanza el día de mi ordenación sabiendo que es hora de comenzar mi ministerio como sacerdote".

En su ordenación, el diácono Szabo se presentará ante el obispo Brennan y hará la promesa de servir al pueblo de Dios como sacerdote. Mientras se arrodilla ante el altar, el obispo pondrá sus manos sobre la cabeza del diácono Szabo, invocando al Espíritu Santo para que lo ordene sacerdote. El obispo entonces rezará la oración de ordenación.

El diácono Szabo recibirá la estola y la casulla por el padre Giles LeVasseur y el padre Timothy Grassi, dos sacerdotes que han tenido un gran impacto en su vida. El padre LeVasseur ha sido un mentor espiritual para él desde que estaba en la universi-



Diácono Phillip Szabo

dad. "Sin él, nunca habría tenido las herramientas o el aliento que necesitaba para seguir mi vocación al sacerdocio", dijo el Diácono Szabo. "Él me ayudó a reconocer el llamado de Dios desde el principio y me protegió de muchas de las trampas que pueden disuadir a un hombre de ingresar al seminario".

El diácono Szabo conoció al padre Grassi cuando

era seminarista. Como el padre Grassi es muy activo en la promoción de las vocaciones, el diácono Szabo lo vería en el campamento Quo Vadis y en algunos de los retiros de discernimiento.

"Su ejemplo y palabras de sabiduría también han sido una parte muy importante de mi camino hacia el sacerdocio", dijo el Diácono Szabo. "Después de pasar un verano con él en Thomas and Parsons, él también se convirtió en un importante mentor espiritual para mí".

Aunque muchos otros sacerdotes han jugado un papel importante en su discernimiento y formación, el diácono Szabo dijo que el padre LeVasseur y el padre Grassi "han tenido el efecto más profundo de todos en mi vida, ¡y estoy muy agradecido por ello!".

El diácono Szabo es hijo de Joseph Szabo y There-

sa Michael, y es oriundo de Augusta, en el condado de Hampshire del Panhandle oriental. Su parroquia natal es Nuestra Señora de la Gracia en Romney. Asistió al Seminario St. Mary en Emmitsburg, Maryland. También es enfermero registrado y asistió a Fairmont State University.

"¡Conozco al diácono Szabo desde antes de que fuera seminarista y estoy muy emocionado de que entre en la orden augusta del sagrado sacerdocio!" dijo el padre Brian Crenwelge, director de vocaciones de la diócesis. "Sé que Phillip se entregará completamente a su pueblo, que es de lo que se trata el sacerdocio. ¡Espero pasar muchos años junto a él como hermanos sacerdotes! Oro para que a medida que pasa cada día en la vida de Phillip, él pueda llegar a ser más conforme con Cristo el Sacerdote y Su Sacrificio Eucarístico".

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Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352. 6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

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na 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.

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- 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 May 14, 2021.

Principal Needed

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

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.

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

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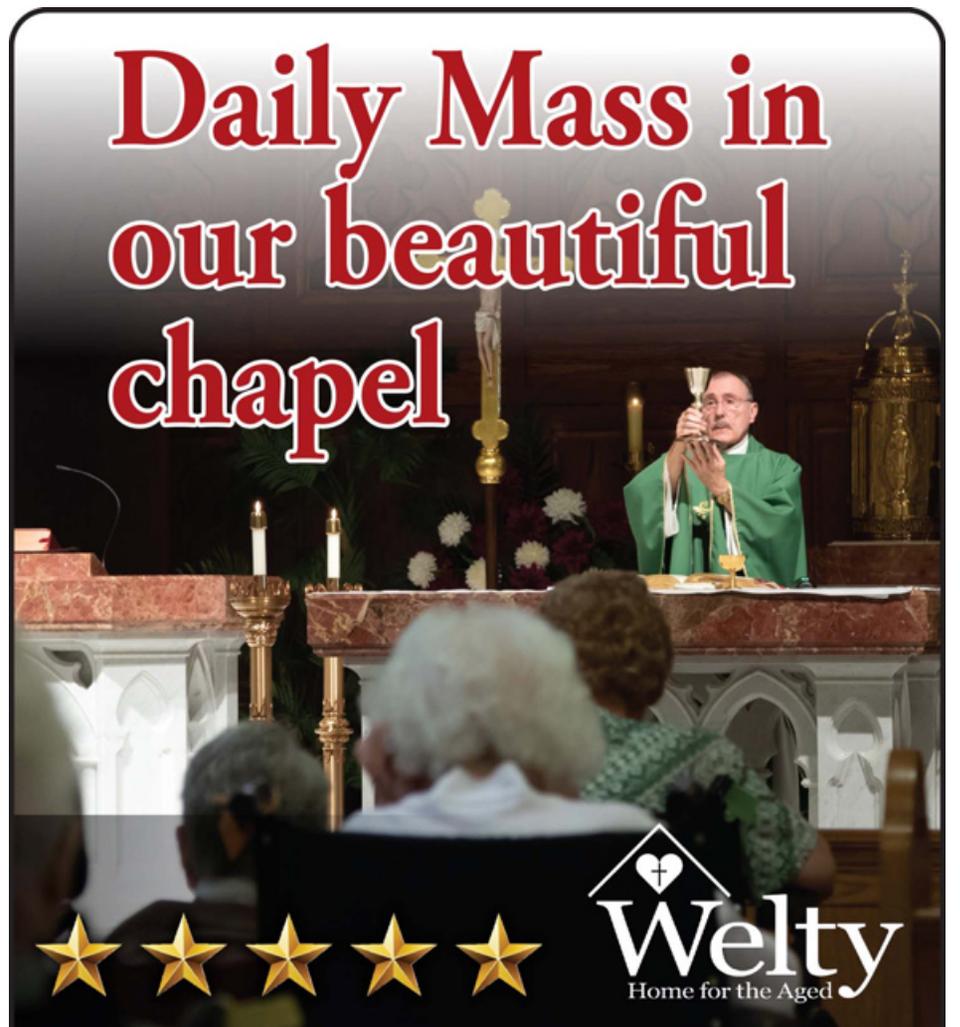
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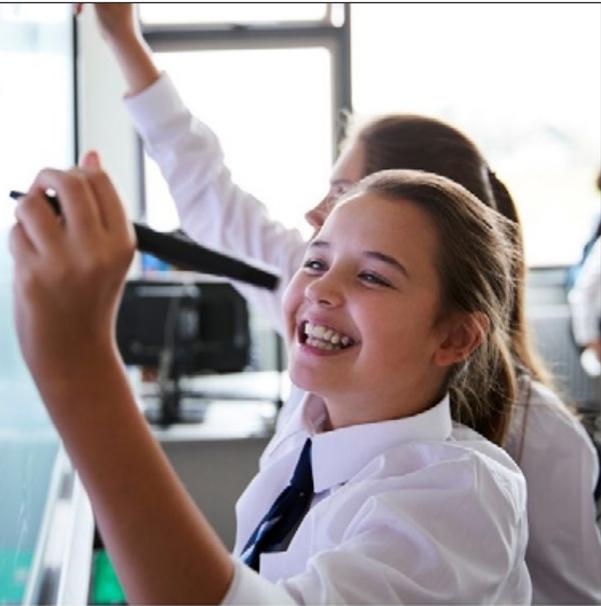



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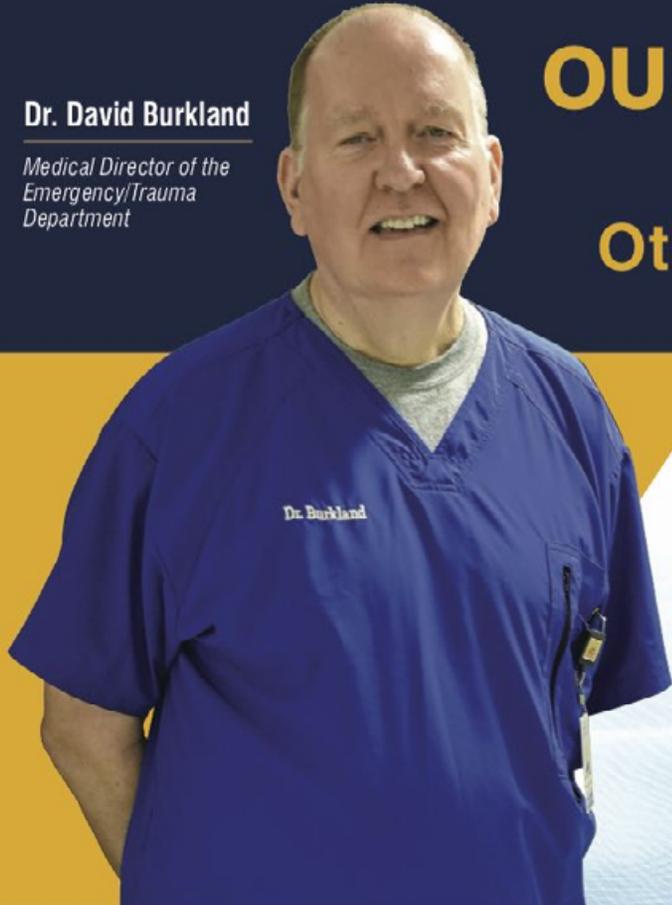
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