

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

U.S. Bishops Will Consecrate United States to Sacred Heart of Jesus for 250th Anniversary of Its Founding

By **Gina Christian, OSV News**

BALTIMORE (OSV News) — As the U.S. marks its 250th anniversary next year, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The decision was taken during a Nov. 11 session of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' fall plenary assembly in Baltimore.

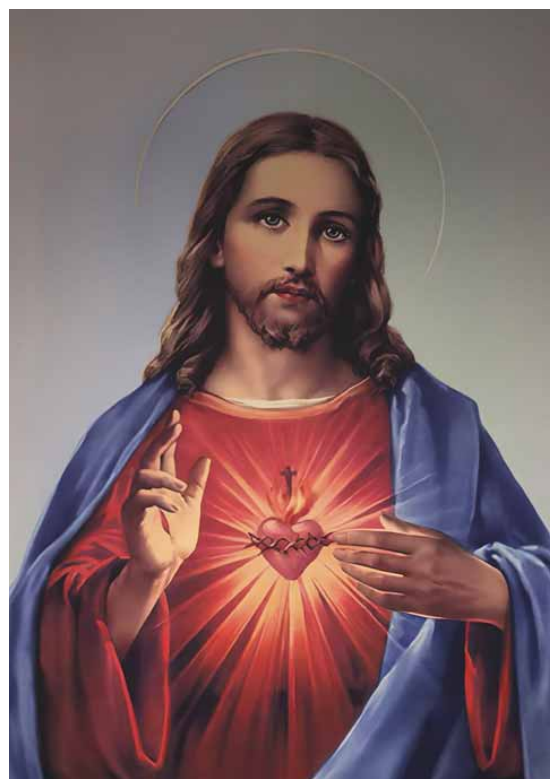
Ahead of the vote, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, chair of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, said the consecration would take place at the USCCB's spring assembly in June 2026, which concludes on the solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"To help Catholics prepare for the consecration, we would develop prayer resources, including a novena that will lead up to the solemnity of the Sacred Heart," said Bishop Rhoades.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which traces its roots to at least the second century, grew during the Middle Ages and was later extended to the universal church following Christ's revelations of his Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a 17th-century French woman religious.

Bishop Rhoades said USCCB staff are assembling resources for "dioceses, parishes and other groups to engage Catholics"

See "Jesus" on Page 2



OSV News photo/Bob Roller

A painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is pictured. The U.S. bishops voted during their fall plenary assembly to consecrate the United States to the Sacred Heart for the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026. The consecration will be on the solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Symphony Concert Will Celebrate Diocese's 175th Anniversary

By **Colleen Rowan**

MORGANTOWN — The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will celebrate its 175th anniversary with what promises to be the largest musical event in its history.

The Jubilee & Hope Symphony Concert with the Monongalia Symphony Orchestra will be held at St. Francis de Sales Church in Morgantown on Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. The concert will also be held in celebration of the Catholic Church's 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope and is free and open to the public.

Joining the orchestra of 60-plus members in this momentous production,

will be more than 130 choir members and musicians representing Catholic churches across West Virginia from Wheeling to Martinsburg and as far south as Huntington. Several members of Protestant communities in the state will be joining the choir as well. The concert will also showcase St. Francis de Sales Parish's two handbell choirs and a song performed by students from Notre Dame High School in Clarksburg.

"We will have over 200 people making music at one time," said Chad Carter, chancellor of the diocese.

See "Concert" on Page 4

U.S. Bishops Issue 'Special Message' on Immigration

BALTIMORE — As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) gathered for their Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore, the bishops issued a Special Message addressing their concern for the evolving situation impacting immigrants in the United States.

The full text of the bishops' Special Pastoral Message follows:

As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.

Despite obstacles and prejudices, generations of immigrants have made enormous contributions to the well-being of our nation. We as Catholic bishops love

See "Message" on Page 3

U.S. Bishops Elect New Leadership, Back Ban on 'Gender Interventions' by Catholic Health Care

By **OSV News**

BALTIMORE (OSV News) — Immigration took center stage at the U.S. bishops' fall plenary assembly in Baltimore.

On Nov. 12, during the half day that was the second public session of the gathering, the prelates approved a "special pastoral message on immigration," voicing "our concern here for immigrants" at their annual fall plenary assembly in Baltimore.

The statement came as a growing number of

See "Bishops" on Page 3



OSV news photo/Bob Roller
Above are Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, president-elect of the U.S. Conference of Catholic bishops (left), and Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas, vice president-elect.

Inside:

St. Joseph the Worker Students Honor Veterans in Weirton, Page 5

Attention Catholic Parishes: A Call to Embrace and Promote the Legion of Mary, Page 7

Obituary—Sister Ruth Kettman

Sister Ruth Kettman, (84) died peacefully at Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling in the presence of her sisters in religion. Sister Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, Eugene Joseph Kettman and Virginia Emma Kettman as well as her brother and sister-in law, Robert and Susan Kettman. She was the oldest of six children. Sister Ruth is survived by four sisters, Carol Blom, Ginnie Wirmel, Judy Jackson and Jane Schwallie, as well as many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Sister Ruth entered religious life from St. Louis Church in Owensville, Ohio in 1959. She spent her early years with the Congregation at the Provincial Novitiate in New Orleans 1959, professing her final vows in 1967. She earned her bachelor's degree in sociology from Thomas More College, and holds a Master's degree in theology from the University of Notre Dame. Sister Ruth taught business and religion at McNicholas High School in Cincinnati before serving as assistant principal. In 1976 she became campus minister at the University of Cincinnati; she also taught college-level courses in theology at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Thomas More College and Mt. St. Joseph University. Sister Ruth served as director of Cincinnati's Mt. Notre Dame Spirituality Center from 2005 to 2014.



For nearly forty years, Sister Ruth has been deeply involved in social justice issues. She served as the Director of Justice and Peace for the Diocese of Covington, Ky., for ten years, where she worked to implement social justice initiatives for the dignity of all people. This ministry has allowed Sister Ruth to work on justice issues locally, regionally, and nationally. She has given personal witness at rallies to end war, bring awareness to the need for immigration reform, and advocate for those experiencing housing crises and homelessness, as well as a host of other issues. She was most passionate about her work to abolish the death penalty in Ohio, "and we're getting close!" she promised.

Sister Ruth resided at Mount St. Joseph in Wheeling. In addition to having volunteered at the soup kitchen downtown, she read at liturgy, assisted with planning events, worked in the garden, and was actively part of the prayer ministry at Mount St. Joseph.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 14, in the Mount St. Joseph Chapel at Mount St. Joseph, 137 Mount St. Joseph Road, Wheeling. Both the vigil service the night before & funeral liturgy will be live streamed via a link on Sister Ruth's obituary page at www.altmeyerfuneralhomes.com.

Condolences to the family can also be offered on this page. Following the funeral liturgy, Sister Ruth will be transported to Cincinnati, where services will be held, followed by interment in Guardian Angels Cemetery. These arrangements are currently pending. Local arrangements by Altmeyer Funeral Home, 1400 Eoff Street, Wheeling.

Jesus ...

Cont'd from Page 1

during the 250th anniversary of the July 4, 1776, signing of the Declaration of Independence, through which the 13 American colonies formally separated themselves from Britain.

In preparation, a diocese might for example "invite the faithful to participate in 250 hours of adoration, or 250 works of mercy," said Bishop Rhoades.

He pointed to the tradition behind, and aim of, such a consecration.

"One hundred years ago, in 1925, in his encyclical instituting the feast of Christ the King, Pope Pius XI — drawing on the teaching of Pope Leo XIII — referred to the pious custom of consecrating oneself, families and even nations to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a way to recognize the kingship of Christ," said Bishop Rhoades.

Through his final encyclical, "Dilexit Nos" ("He Loved Us"), Pope Francis "brought devotion to the Sacred Heart to the forefront of

Catholic life as the ultimate symbol of both human and divine love, calling it a wellspring of peace and unity," said Bishop Rhoades.

Pope Francis "wrote of how the Sacred Heart teaches us to build up in this world God's kingdom of love and justice," Bishop Rhoades said.

Pope Leo XIV, writing in his first apostolic exhortation, "Dilexi Te" ("I Have Loved You"), carried forward his predecessor's teaching, inviting the faithful "to contemplate Christ's love, the love that moves us to mission in our suffering world today."

"To entrust our nation to the love and care of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as we celebrate its 250th anniversary is an opportunity to promote the beautiful devotion to the Sacred Heart among our people — and also to remind everyone of our task to serve our nation by perfecting the temporal order with the spirit of the Gospel, as taught by the Second Vatican Council," said Bishop Rhoades.

(Gina Christian is a multimedia reporter for OSV News.)

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 Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264.

You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504 or the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Additional methods of reporting are available at www.dwc.org, under "Accountability." 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:** call Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. The Diocese partners with Navex Global to offer EthicsPoint to report other 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 WV. EthicsPoint 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://dhhr.wv.gov/bss/services/Pages/Centralized-Intake-for-Abuse-and-Neglect.aspx> West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops requires all Dioceses/Eparchies have a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. 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; sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Training may be completed online or via live workshop. For information, go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."



November 14,
2025
Vol. 55, No. 45

Office: 1322 Eoff St.
Mailing: PO Box 230
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232-0444

thecatholic
spiritwv.org
dwc.org

Publisher: Bishop Mark E. Brennan
Executive Editor: Colleen Rowan, Ext. 347.....crowan@dwc.org
Advertising: contact Colleen Rowan
Freelance Writers: Martina Hart, John Sherwood
Member: Catholic Press Association, West Virginia Press Association, National Press Photographers Association, Inc.



Published every Friday by e-mail and printed 10 times a 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.

The Catholic Spirit's Print Schedule for 2025

There are 10 print editions in 2025. Below are the names of the issues and the publishing dates. Please note, the publishing dates may or may not be on feast days. Digital issues are published every Friday, delivered by e-mail to subscribers, and posted on thecatholicspiritwv.org.

2025 Print Issues and Dates: Advent, November 21; Christmas, December 19

Message ...

Cont'd from Page 1

our country and pray for its peace and prosperity. For this very reason, we feel compelled now in this environment to raise our voices in defense of God-given human dignity.

Catholic teaching exhorts nations to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. We bishops advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation's immigration laws and procedures. Human dignity and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together.

We recognize that nations have a responsibility to regulate their borders and establish a just and orderly immigration system for the sake of the common good. Without such processes, immigrants face the risk of trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Safe and legal pathways serve as an antidote to such risks.

Bishops ...

Cont'd from Page 1

bishops have acknowledged that some of the Trump administration's immigration policies risk presenting the church with both practical challenges in administering pastoral support and charitable endeavors, as well as religious liberty challenges. (Read the statement on Page 1 of this issue.)

On Nov. 11, the bishops elected Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City as USCCB president and Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas, as the conference's vice president. On Nov. 12, the bishops elected a new secretary for their conference: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana. They also elected a successor for Bishop Rhoades as chair of the Committee for Religious Liberty—Archbishop Alexander K. Sample of Portland, Oregon.

They also selected chairmen-elect for five standing committees: Archbishop Jeffrey S. Grob of Milwaukee, for Canonical Affairs and Church Governance; Auxiliary Bishop Peter L. Smith of Portland, Oregon, for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs; Bishop William A. Wack of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Florida, for Evangelization and Catechesis; Metropolitan Archbishop Borys A. Gudziak of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, for International Justice and Peace; and Bishop Mark W. O'Connell, newly named bishop of Albany, New York, for Protection of Children and Young People.

The bishops overwhelmingly approved an updated version of their guiding document on Catholic health care, with substantial revisions that include explicit prohibitions against so-called "gender-affirming" care. They also gave the green light to hold the 11th National Eucharistic Congress in the summer

The Church's teaching rests on the foundational concern for the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). As pastors, we look to Sacred Scripture and the example of the Lord Himself, where we find the wisdom of God's compassion. The priority of the Lord, as the Prophets remind us, is for those who are most vulnerable: the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the stranger (Zechariah 7:10). In the Lord Jesus, we see the One who became poor for our sake (2 Corinthians 8:9), we see the Good Samaritan who lifts us from the dust (Luke 10:30-37), and we see the One who is found in the least of these (Matthew 25). The Church's concern for neighbor and our concern here for immigrants is a response to the Lord's command to love as He has loved us (John 13:34).

To our immigrant brothers and sisters, we stand with you in your suffering, since, when one member suffers, all suffer (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:26). You are not alone!

of 2029. The bishops also heard a report from the conference's budget chair, Archbishop James F. Checchio, outgoing chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance. He said the USCCB is on solid financial footing for now, having restructured some operations while weathering the end of key federal refugee resettlement contracts, but he added that changes in resource allocations may be on the horizon.

Regarding the special statement on immigration, Archbishop Richard G. Henning of Boston told OSV News in an interview that the feeling "we have to say something" on the subject of showing solidarity with immigrants has been "kind of bubbling up from the bishops."

"We're pastors," he said. "We care about the people we serve, and what we're hearing from them is fear and suffering. So it's hard not to want to respond to that."

In releasing the text of the statement late in the afternoon, a USCCB press release said it was "the first time" in 12 years the bishops' conference "invoked this particularly urgent way of speaking as a body of bishops. The last one issued in 2013 was in response to the federal government's contraceptive mandate."

"As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ," said the statement, which was approved by the vast majority of voting bishops and was met with a standing ovation.

Ahead of the afternoon public session, Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez of Philadelphia and Montse Alvarado, president and chief operating officer of EWTN News, spearheaded a press conference about Pope Leo XIV and the upcoming National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis. The pope is going to enter into a unique digital encounter Nov. 21 with young

people attending the conference. EWTN News is the event's exclusive multicast provider.

Archbishop Pérez told reporters that the encounter "reflects the Holy Father's desire to connect with young people" and it "represents a virtual visit of the Holy Father to them." During the gathering, the pope will address an expected crowd of about 15,000 young people ages 14-18. He will engage in a 45-minute dialogue with the attendees at Lucas Oil Stadium, marking the first time in history a pope has been a part of a digital encounter with American young people.

Alvarado emphasized the importance of "an authentic experience" for Pope Leo and the young people, "so that the Holy Father can see the young person asking him the question, and the young people can see the Holy Father in this kind of a reaction."

During the afternoon public session, the bishops' approval of holding the 11th National Eucharistic Congress in the summer of 2029 came after a presentation by Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, chairman of the National Eucharistic Congress Inc., which will organize the event.

The location for the congress has not yet been made public. However, the possible cities have been narrowed down to three, according to Bishop Cozzens. The 2029 congress follows the successful 10th National Eucharistic Congress that took place in July 2024 in Indianapolis, as part of the larger three-year

We note with gratitude that so many of our clergy, consecrated religious, and lay faithful already accompany and assist immigrants in meeting their basic human needs. We urge all people of good will to continue and expand such efforts.

We oppose the indiscriminate mass deportation of people. We pray for an end to dehumanizing rhetoric and violence, whether directed at immigrants or at law enforcement. We pray that the Lord may guide the leaders of our nation, and we are grateful for past and present opportunities to dialogue with public and elected officials. In this dialogue, we will continue to advocate for meaningful immigration reform.

As disciples of the Lord, we remain men and women of hope, and hope does not disappoint! (cf. Romans 5:5)

May the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe enfold us all in her maternal and loving care and draw us ever closer to the heart of Christ.

National Eucharistic Revival.

The bishops' vote to approve updates to the "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services," or ERDs, came a day after a preliminary presentation on the changes by Auxiliary Bishop James Massa of Brooklyn, New York, chair of the USCCB Committee on Doctrine.

The ERDs — developed in consultation with medical professionals and theologians, and regularly reviewed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops — articulate ethical standards for health care in light of church teaching, and provide authoritative guidance on moral issues encountered by Catholic health care. Now, the seventh edition of the ERDs — endorsed by 206 bishops, with eight abstaining and seven opposing — incorporates guidance issued in 2023 by the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine, which prohibited surgical or chemical interventions seeking to exchange or simulate the sex characteristics of a patient's body for those of the opposite sex.

The faithful can expect a new edition of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office, by Easter 2027, according to Bishop Steven J. Lopes, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, who made the announcement Nov. 11, during the bishops' fall meeting.

Bishop Lopes, head of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, expressed his gratitude to the body of bishops for their patience and their work

over "what has been a 13-year process" from when the bishops first agreed to begin work on revising the Liturgy of the Hours in November 2012 with the aim of retranslation to "more accurately reflect the original Latin texts."

Outgoing USCCB president Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for Military Services signed the decree of publication, moving the process to the publishers.

(Contributing to this story were OSV News staffers Kate Scanlon, Gina Christian and Loretta Brown.)

Cardinal Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, then addressed the USCCB. His remarks at this year's plenary were his first as Pope Leo XIV's representative.

"Where have we been and where are we going?" he asked, pointing to "a guiding light: the teaching and vision of the Second Vatican Council." He emphasized that Vatican II "remains the key to understanding what kind of church we are called to be today, and the reference point for discerning where we are headed."

Also, Bishop Steven J. Lopes, head of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter and chair of the bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, announced that a new English version of the Bible will be released in 2027 with the name The Catholic American Bible.

(Julie Asher is OSV News senior editor. Contributing to this roundup were Kate Scanlon, Loretta Brown and Gina Christian of OSV News.)



**We stand for
AMERICAN CRAFTSMANSHIP**
— 95% of what we sell is made right here, because
that's the way we've always done it.

Wells Home

(304) 343-3600 Corridor G in Charleston / Mon-Sat 10 to 6 Closed Sunday wellshome.com

Concert ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Many of those music makers represent Catholic churches of the Morgantown and central regions of the state—39 of them are members of St. Francis de Sales alone. Wheeling Catholic parishes will bring almost 20 choir members and musicians to participate and another 11 are coming from the Charleston area. Smaller Catholic churches in the diocese will have a great presence at the concert as well with parishioners from Our Lady of Grace Parish in Romney and St. Patrick Parish in Mannington participating.

This historic ensemble will be under the direction of Conductor Shaun Hancher, music director of the Monongalia Symphony Orchestra, and the performance will feature

music and songs from various times of the Liturgical Year as well as original compositions and arrangements by pastoral musicians from Catholic churches in West Virginia.

"The concert will contain some of your favorite hymns throughout the Liturgical Year, such as 'Jesus Christ Is Risen Today', 'All Glory Laud and Honor', and 'The First Nowell' to name a few," said Hancher, who is also music director and conductor of the Wheeling Symphony Youth Orchestra and music director at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling. He and orchestra musicians are excited to be combining with choir members for this memorable celebration.

"Whether you're a singer, instrumentalist, or just a simple congregation member, there is something at this concert for ev-

eryone," Hancher said. "To my knowledge, this is the first time the diocese has put together this large of a concert featuring full orchestra, choir, handbells, organ, and audience participation. Make sure to bring your singing voices to help us out on your favorites!"

Also joining the ensemble will be Stephen Pishner, director of Music and Liturgy at All Saints Parish in Bridgeport, who will be accompanied by nine members of his parish's choir at the concert. The voices raised in song along with the orchestra, organ, handbell choirs, and a few more instruments, he said, "will surely raise the roof, bring joy to hearts, and lift the spirit of anyone in earshot."

One of his pieces, "Come Follow Me," will be featured. "I never envisioned a huge choir and

symphony totaling over 200 people would ever play and sing it," he said.

Pishner said the concert will be a great moment for the diocese as people come together "uniting their hearts and voices, because we are family and God is at work."

Attending the concert, Carter said, is the perfect


way to celebrate the diocese's rich history during this Holy Year.

A reception will follow the concert. Free will donations will be accepted.

Food service Equipment, Supplies, Disposables, Janitorial and more



1 Fourteenth Street,
Wheeling, WV 26003
304-233-2270
Stop in or call us today!



MJ T

MICHAEL J. TUPTA, D.D.S.

Dentistry That Makes You Smile

1701 Oakhurst Drive
Charleston, WV 25314
304-744-4150

MyDentistInCharleston.com

Accepting New Patients



We Sell Handmade Custom Rosaries & Religious Gifts!

Scan The QR Code To Visit Our Online Store Today!



Phone: (304) 277-8049
www.heavenlydivinerosaries.com

Visit Our YouTube Channel For Daily Devotionals, Prayers & Quotes of The Saints

YouTube @HDRosaries





DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON
1850 - 2025

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF HOPE

MONONGALIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & REGIONAL DIOCESAN CHOIRS AND MUSICIANS

6 PM NOV. 16

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH MORGANTOWN, WV

JUBILEE & HOPE SYMPHONY CONCERT

SONGS TO CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE AND THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

EVENT IS FREE

ALL ARE WELCOME

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

SPONSORED BY: DIOCESAN MUSIC COMMISSION



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON www.dwc.org

Now is the time to Talk!

Kepner
FUNERAL HOMES CREMATORY

304.232.5110 | KepnerFuneral.com
James B. Kepner President | Melissa Hill COIC

RICH & SHIRLEY'S QUICKPRINT

RSQP.net
PRINT & DESIGN

(304) 233-7433
92 16th Street,
Wheeling, WV

St. Joseph the Worker Students Honor Veterans in Weirton



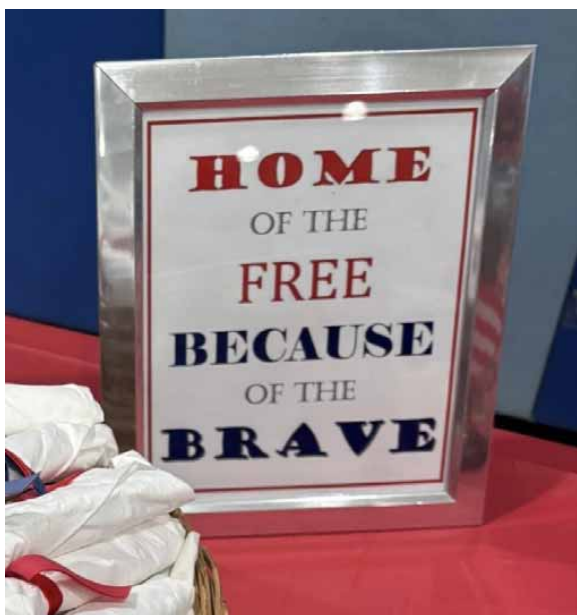
St. Joseph the Worker School in Weirton held a Veterans Day Breakfast at their school honoring moms, dads, grandparents, friends, and family members who have served our country so bravely. Among them was their pastor, Father Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., who served in the U.S. Navy (pictured at right). The celebration is shown in pictures on this page. (Courtesy photos)

"This morning, our school community came together for our annual Veterans Day Breakfast — a wonderful morning filled with good food, warm fellowship, and heartfelt gratitude," the school posted on Facebook. "It was a beautiful way to honor those who have served or continue to serve, answering the call of duty to defend our freedoms and protect our great nation."

"We are truly blessed to have so many heroes among us. Veterans, your courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment remind us every day what it means to serve with honor and love for country."

"A huge thank you goes out to Cub Scout Pack 151 and the Betlem family, our St. Joseph the Worker grounds crew, and the many volunteers who helped make this morning so special. Your hard work and generosity made this event one to remember."

"Thank you, veterans — today and every day, we salute you."



Special collection
Nov. 22-23



\$1,000,000
Campaign Goals:

- *Roof Replacement*
- *Exterior Stone Repair*
- *Interior Repair & Restoration*



Let Us Go Rejoicing
to the House of the Lord
Psalm 122:1
Celebrating 100 Years of Faith.



A Cathedral for All the Faithful

The Cathedral of St. Joseph is more than a parish—it is the spiritual heart of the entire Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. It is where we gather as one Church for Chrism Mass, ordinations, diocesan celebrations, and moments of mourning and hope.

As we mark 100 years of grace, we invite every Catholic across the Diocese to participate in preserving this sacred treasure that belongs to all of us.

Support the Cathedral of St. Joseph
by donating online at:

saintjosephcathedral.com/100th

Attention Catholic Parishes: A Call to Embrace and Promote the Legion of Mary

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
As we seek to strengthen our diocesan mission of evangelization, leadership, and spiritual growth, there is an opportunity for your parish to participate in a time-honored tradition of service and devotion: the Legion of Mary.

Founded in 1921 by Frank Duff in Dublin, Ireland, the Legion of Mary is a lay Catholic organization dedicated to prayer, works of mercy, and fostering a deep love for Our Blessed Mother. Its mission is to serve as “the hands and feet of our priests with Our Lady’s help,” bringing Christ’s love to those in need through prayer, service, and outreach. By cultivating both personal holiness and parish vitality, the Legion empowers its members to live out their baptismal call to discipleship.

This mission complements diocesan initiatives, including our ongoing efforts with the Catholic Leadership Institute and the Disciple Maker Index, which invite each of us to reflect on our journey of faith and our call to serve as missionary disciples. By establishing a Legion of Mary presidium in

your parish, you can provide parishioners a structured and supportive way to live out these very principles—through prayer, leadership, and active engagement in evangelization and service.

For over a century, the Legion of Mary has helped countless individuals grow in holiness, inspired by saints such as St. Louis de Montfort and St. Maximilian Kolbe. Starting a presidium in your parish can deepen devotion to Mary, strengthen the bonds of parish community, and create pathways for discipleship in alignment with the bishop’s vision of a vibrant, missionary Church.

In November of 2024, Bishop Mark Brennan of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston approved the establishment of a Curia of the Legion of Mary in his diocese. He wrote “In parishes where I have served, the Legion of Mary has always been in the forefront of spiritual care for Catholics, especially those alienated from the Church or disaffiliated for other reasons, and in evangelization efforts. I count on the Legion to help move us forward as the Diocese responds more vigorously to the Lord’s command to go, make disciples of all nations.” The newly formed Curia held its first meeting on January 25, 2025. At that time we had four praesidia. Today, we have six praesidia/groups, including almost fifty active members, and over 115 auxiliary members (praying members), and our works include promoting the home enthronement to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pilgrim Virgin visitations, teaching religious education, visiting the shut-ins, visiting nursing homes, promoting the First Saturday devotions in parishes and much more.

If your parish is interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Maria Byrd, Curia president, at legionofmary@stjameswv.org. She will provide guidance on starting a presidium

and assist with extension work to ensure your parish’s success in this spiritual initiative.

Together, let us embrace Our Lady’s guidance and carry Christ’s love into our communities, supporting the Diocese’s mission to evangelize, lead, and grow in holiness. May each parish in WV have a praesidium of the Legion of Mary one good day, amen.

I am all yours, my Queen and my Mother, and all that I have is yours.

Mary, Ark of the New Covenant
WV Eastern Panhandle Curia



Courtesy photos above and at right



Mansuetto
Roofing & Sheet Metal

N.F. Mansuetto & Sons, Inc.
Roofing and Sheet Metal Contractors

Serving West Virginia, the Ohio Valley and the Catholic Community
Since 1945
Three Generations of Family Management
116 Wood Street
Martins Ferry OH 43935
740-633-7320

Catholic International,
Joy from The Truth

100% Online

Catholic International partners with our diocese to offer free continuing education courses for catechists and those involved in parish ministry.

Start Today!

Use the access code:
CDU20DIOCESEWC
when setting up your account to receive your free tuition!
<https://catholiciu.edu/continuingeducation/>

Jarvis-Williams Funeral Homes

Weldon P. Williams, FD & LIC
“Boots” Jarvis, Co-Owner & Sec

1224 S. Bridge Street,
New Martinsville, WV
(304) 455-3456

309 N 4th Avenue,
Paden City, WV
(304) 337-2311

We Are Now A Full Service Hardware Store!

Do it Best We Also Specialize in Plumbing, Heating & Cooling

Lou W. Nau, Inc.
69 Edgington Lane, Wheeling Phone (304) 242-6311

louwnau.doitbest.com

JOHNSON BOILER WORKS, INC

53 Marshall St.
Benwood, WV 26031
(304) 232-3070
Steam Boiler Repairs

WLU Athletics Hosting Food Drive to Support Campus Food Pantry

WEST LIBERTY — West Liberty University Athletics is partnering with Hilltop Catholic Campus Ministry to host a campus-wide Food Drive to benefit the WLU Food Pantry.

Fans attending Hilltopper athletic events on Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15 are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to donate at the gate. Collection boxes will be available at all home events, including: Friday, Nov. 14: WLU Basketball Games; Saturday, Nov. 15: WLU vs. Wheeling Football Game; and Saturday, Nov. 15: WLU Basketball Games.

Each fan who donates will be entered to win one of five WLU prize baskets as a thank-you for their support.

For those unable to attend in person, donations can also be made directly to the Food Pan-

“The campus food drive reflects the compassion and unity of the West Liberty community.”

—Deacon Jacob Manning, general counsel and Catholic campus minister

try through its Amazon Wish List, allowing items to be shipped straight to campus. The Amazon link can be accessed by scanning the QR code (below) featured on promotional materials or on the WLU Athletics and Campus Ministry websites.

The WLU Food Pantry provides essential resources to help support students facing food insecurity, ensuring that every Hilltopper has access to nutritious meals throughout the year.

“This is a great opportunity for our fans, student-athletes, and community to come together and make a difference,” said WLU Athletic Director Brad Forshey. “Every donation helps support our students and strengthens the sense of care and connection that defines our campus.”

“The campus food drive reflects the compassion and unity of the West Liberty community,” said Deacon Jacob Manning, general counsel and Catholic campus minister. “By supporting our food pantry, not only do we show care for one another but also we ensure every student has what they need to thrive.”

Bring Nonperishable Food Items to Donate at Each Game and Be Entered to Win 1 of 5 WLU Prize Baskets.

or

Access the Food Pantry’s Amazon List Below, and Ship Directly to the Food Pantry:



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON WV PILGRIMAGE SITES FOR JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

- **Cathedral of St. Joseph**
1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling
- **Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart**
1032 Virginia Street East, Charleston
- **St. Patrick Church** 210 Center Avenue, Weston
- **St. Joseph Parish** 225 S. Queen Street, Martinsburg

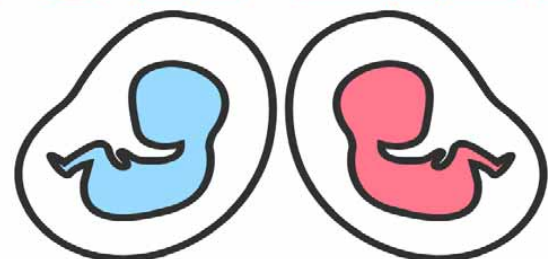
Through December 28, 2025, Catholics are invited to visit any and all of these locations to obtain a Plenary Indulgence by completing:

- **Reverent Prayer** (at site): Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Liturgy of the Hours, or Mass.
- **Confession** - within 20 days before or after pilgrimage.
- **Holy Communion**
- **Pray for the Pope**

For information and updates go to: dwc.org/jubilee-year-2025

Join Saint Agnes in Charleston for the

MARCH FOR LIFE



January 23, 2026

Bus Leaves: 5:00am

Bus Returns: ~10:30pm

Cost: \$140

Scholarships Available

Sign Up



Questions?

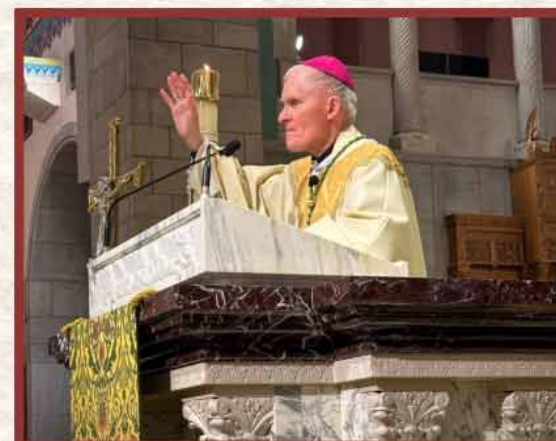
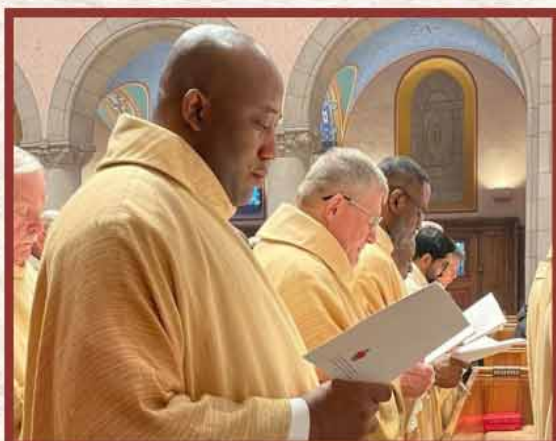
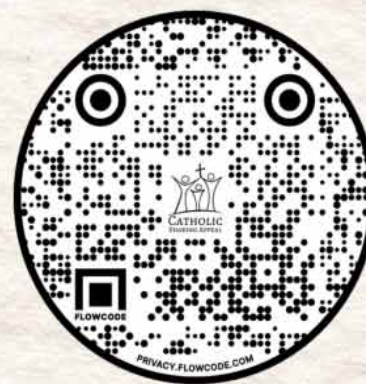
dre.stagneswv@gmail.com

Please join us for the 7th annual
Mass of Gratitude

In thanksgiving of all those who
 support the Catholic Sharing Appeal

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH, WHEELING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025
12:05 P.M.

Unable to attend in person?
JOIN US VIA LIVE STREAM AT DWC.ORG/CSA



New Barna Data Shows Gen Z Leads In Weekly In-Person Church Attendance

By **Kimberley Heatherington, OSV News**

(OSV News) — They were the first generation to have technology at their fingertips from birth — “digital natives” who grew up with the Internet, iPhones, iPads, and computers. They’re Generation Z, better known as “Gen Z” — born between 1997-2012 — and they’re estimated to be nearly a quarter of the world’s population.

In the U.S., Gen Z is part of an under-30 demographic known to have 97% smartphone ownership, where six in 10 say they use the internet “almost constantly,” according to Pew. But for all their virtual connectivity, a perhaps startling fact has emerged: Gen Z craves in-person religious worship experiences.

New data from the Barna Group — a leading marketing research firm focused on the intersection between faith and culture — indicate Gen Z now leads a surge in church attendance across Christian churches, outpacing older generations in regular weekend worship. Gen Z attends church, on average, about 1.9 times per month or close to 23 services per year.

Millennials (born 1981-1996) are right behind them, attending on average close to 22 services annually (1.8 times per month). Barna noted that these younger generations “have moved from an average of just over one weekend per month in 2020 to nearly two in 2025.” In part, this is due to the fact that Gen Z, as children, would have mirrored their own adult parents religious activities, but now they are adults making their own decisions to attend church.

Gen X (born 1965-1980) is slightly less active, attending church 1.6 times per month, averaging 19 church services a year — effectively the same position they were in 2000. But Boomers (1946-1964) and even older adults were attending church “well below the frequency of attendance they practiced in the past”. Barna found both these groups attended church 1.4 times per month. That is just under 17 church services out of 52 Sundays in a year.

As Barna noted however, attendance alone doesn’t ensure discipleship; additionally, the overall decline in American Christian identification has continued. The Pew Research Center’s Religious Land-

scape Study for 2023-2024 found just 45% of adults under 30 identify as Christian — 14% of whom are Catholic — while 44% identify as religiously unaffiliated.

Still, this movement of Gen Z toward church attendance is being welcomed as a positive sign. “I always had a feeling and a hope that something like this would happen with my generation. But I was definitely surprised that it happened so soon, and that we were able to see proof so soon,” John Donahue, founder and content creator at Truth Charting, a Catholic media ministry focused on reaching Gen Z, told OSV News. “I think one of the headlines was, ‘Faith is a hit among Gen Z, and the Catholic Church may have influencers to thank.’ That headline — the first time I read it — frankly,” he shared, “I had kind of a moment of silence, and I got a little bit emotional.”

Donahue said he has seen a remarkable rise in Gen Z’s online activity — something he attributes to the influence of recently canonized digital influencer St. Carlo Acutis. St. Carlo (1991-2006) was known for his dedication to the Eucharist, and his pioneering use of digital media to promote devotion to it. “About three years ago when I started Truth Charting, I don’t remember a whole lot of movement like there is today on social media, and particularly just among young people in general,” recalled Donahue. “I think that there were always young people who were uniquely devoted to the faith, but this uprising — honestly, I do think Carlo Acutis, and his beatification and canonization, had a really big role to play in it.”

In many ways, Donahue feels it’s kind of a digital Catholic Renaissance.

“We’re seeing a period of flourishing online — just in the past three years, I know that I’ve seen a huge difference in the amount of Catholic content on social media,” he shared. “Now there’s an entire genre of Catholic content on

social media, depending on where you’re looking, where there’s hundreds of creators. It’s its own niche — and that is really, really amazing and beautiful to see.”

And just what accounts for such enthusiasm among these new digital missionaries? “Within the Gen Z community, there’s a massive value placed on the concept of authenticity. Gen Z is the generation that kind of hates corporate talk. They prefer to say it like it is; they don’t want any PR spin,” explained Donahue. “I think one of the reasons why Catholicism stands out to young people now is because our teachings are well thought out and expertly presented — presented with charity, but they do say it like it is; there’s no room for fakeness. And I think,” he concluded, “that’s a thing that makes Catholicism stand out — that there’s really an emphasis on authenticity.”

Monét Souza, founder of A Message of Hope, a ministry encouraging high school and college young adults to live out their Catholic faith, agreed.

“There’s so much of, ‘Whatever truth you want can be your truth’ — it’s all this relativism,” she observed. “Relativism has really just taken its fruits into our society, our schools, our culture, a lot of our spaces; especially social media. And I think people are just getting fed up with that.”

At 28, Souza — a voiceover actor, producer and Catholic speaker — says she can relate.

“I’ve seen this firsthand, being a part of starting up young adult groups or just being asked to be on leadership teams, especially post-college,” Souza told OSV News. “There’s a lot of, ‘I need accountability. I need accountability to not get lost in this way of thinking once again. I need accountability to make sure I am getting to church.’”

“This age group, the 18- and 28-year-olds, are just really getting fed up with this lack of truth,” she added. “So I think people are finding rest, and answers. Finally, they can just

take a breath and be like, ‘Hey, this is a place I can come and receive a truth that I’m not receiving anywhere else.’”

“I think the bigger question at hand,” Souza said, “is, ‘Whoa, is this something the Holy Spirit has done — really just invigorated people’s hearts to start going, to frequent the sacraments more — or is it something that the church is doing, to really just draw back this age group?’ When I saw the numbers, I was like, ‘OK, thank God there’s something good happening in the universal church here.’”

Amie Duke, a 27-year-old social media manager at Ascension Press, home to Father Mike Schmitz’s wildly popular “Bible In a Year” podcast, said she thinks the narrative around Gen Z may be changing. “For years, I think we’ve heard the story that young people are leaving the faith, which is still true,” Duke told OSV News. “But maybe the story now is that we’re looking for something real. We’re looking for truth, and purpose, and community — and finding that in the church.”

The “big questions” about the faith, she said, are now also different.

“Father Mike interacts with Gen Z all the time. And he says, ‘The question before was like: Is God real? Does he exist?’ That’s what it was 20, 30 years ago,” Duke noted. “But now the question is, it’s not ‘Does he exist?’ The question is, ‘Is he good? And does he care for me? Does he love me?’”

A seemingly unceasing barrage of negative headlines, Duke suggested, might also account for increased seeking activity. “I think that hunger is getting so real, especially with events in the past couple of years — disasters, and destruction, and sadness, and depression. In those things, I think young people are recognizing that the church has answers to that,” she said.

That said, a critical element of keeping Gen Z coming to church is content creation. “The piece here is, how do we reach these young people outside of just church on Sunday? If they’re going — which, praise God, they are — then how do you translate that into the rest of the week for them?” asked Duke. “So it’s not just one day of the week where I’m feeling good, and I’m putting in the effort to go, and try to hear something, and maybe learn something about the truth of God — but then I go back to my day-to-day life.”

Ascension’s digital outreach efforts are over a decade old, and Duke shared how they are trying to bring the light of the Gospel into people’s social media doomscrolling.

“We want something to pop up on their feed that shifts their perspective — whether it’s a homily from Father Mike, or even just a simple reminder that God loves them,” Duke said. “Offering those faith formation opportunities outside the Sunday Mass is vital.”

(Kimberley Heatherington is an OSV News correspondent. She writes from Virginia.)

Duplaga's
TOP NOTCH

LANDSCAPING and SUPPLY LLC


Mowing • Landscaping • Patios • Retaining Walls

Supply Yard

Chris Duplaga, Owner
140 Peninsula Street, Wheeling
www.topnotchlandscape.com

WE DELIVER

office@topnotchlandscape.com (304) 233-0332



Established
1914
Centre Wheeling
Market House

304-232-8510

111 Years

304-232-0330

ALTMAYER
FUNERAL HOMES
& CREMATORY

“THE PRE-ARRANGEMENT FUNERAL HOME”

Wheeling Chapel
1400 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV
304-232-0330

South Wheeling Chapel
3828 Jacob Street
Wheeling, WV
304-232-5444

Elm Grove Chapel
154 Kruger Street
Elm Grove, WV
304-242-0330

Benwood-McMechen
214 Marshall Street
McMechen, WV
304-232-1710

Moundsville
118 Grant Avenue
Moundsville, WV
304-845-4560

Beck-Altmeier
204 West Main Street
St. Clairsville, OH
740-695-0475



James E. Altmeier, Jr. President
James E. Altmeier, Sr. Chairman
Eugene T. Falley Vice President

www.altmeier.com



WE'RE HIRING



Principals for Notre Dame Middle/High School & St. Mary's Grade School

JOIN OUR TEAM!

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is seeking dynamic, faith-filled leaders to serve as principals for Notre Dame High School and St. Mary's Grade School in Clarksburg, West Virginia.

These schools share a proud tradition of academic excellence, spiritual growth, and community engagement, forming young men and women who live out their faith in service and leadership.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The principals will serve as the spiritual, instructional, and administrative leaders of their respective schools. Each will work closely with the designated pastor, faculty, parents, and the DWC Catholic Schools Office to advance the mission of Catholic education.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

- ✓ The ideal candidate must have an earned Master's Degree in Educational Leadership or Administration or begin the process of completing degree requirements; or hold a valid Educational Leadership certification from the state of West Virginia or be eligible for such certification.
- ✓ The candidate will have a minimum of three years of successful educational experience with a preference for administrative experience.

HOW TO APPLY


Candidates interested in this position should be energetic, positive, enjoy working with children, and be able to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Interested candidates should email their resume to averson@stmaryswv.org



Faith - Knowledge - Service






HERE FOR GOOD.

Catholic Charities West Virginia Invites You to Join Us in Our End-of-Year Campaign: A Season of Hope, Generosity, and Community, Where You Make a Difference.

Through every season of change, you have been there for your community. Because of your generosity, families have had food on their tables, lights in their homes, and hope in their hearts. You have trusted us, year after year, to meet West Virginians in their most difficult moments. Together, we have proven that we are **Here For Good**. But today, the need is greater than ever. **One in six of our neighbors is hungry.** Nearly half of Mountain State families **struggle to meet their basic needs.** In these moments of hardship, your compassion shines like a light in the darkness.

When eviction looms, **Catholic Charities is there.**
 When the electricity is about to be shut off, **we are there.**
 When disasters strike, **we are there.**
 And with your support, **we will always be there.**


This giving season, you can help carry that light into the new year. With you by our side, we are and always will be Here For Good.





HERE FOR GOOD.

Catholic Charities WEST VIRGINIA



Join in Our Mission to Reduce Poverty in West Virginia



Scan to donate or visit Here4WV.givesmart.com





St. John University Parish
Mountaineer Catholic
On the campus of West Virginia University





Going to WVU?



Mass and Confession
Friendship
Movie Nights
Bible Studies
Game Nights
Jam Sessions



Grow your Faith with us!



mountainercatholic.com


project rachel
 Peace starts here

If you experience regret, guilt, or grief after abortion, be assured that God's healing love and mercy are always available to the repentant heart.

For confidential, non-judgmental help, call **888-456-HOPE (4673)**, or visit www.HopeAfterAbortion.org



LEWIS GIANOLA PLLC
 Webster J. Arceneaux • Matthew R. Bowles • James A. Gianola
 John F. Gianola • Sandra H. Kinney • Mark A. Sadd
 Charleston | Morgantown
 A West Virginia law firm www.lewisgianola.com

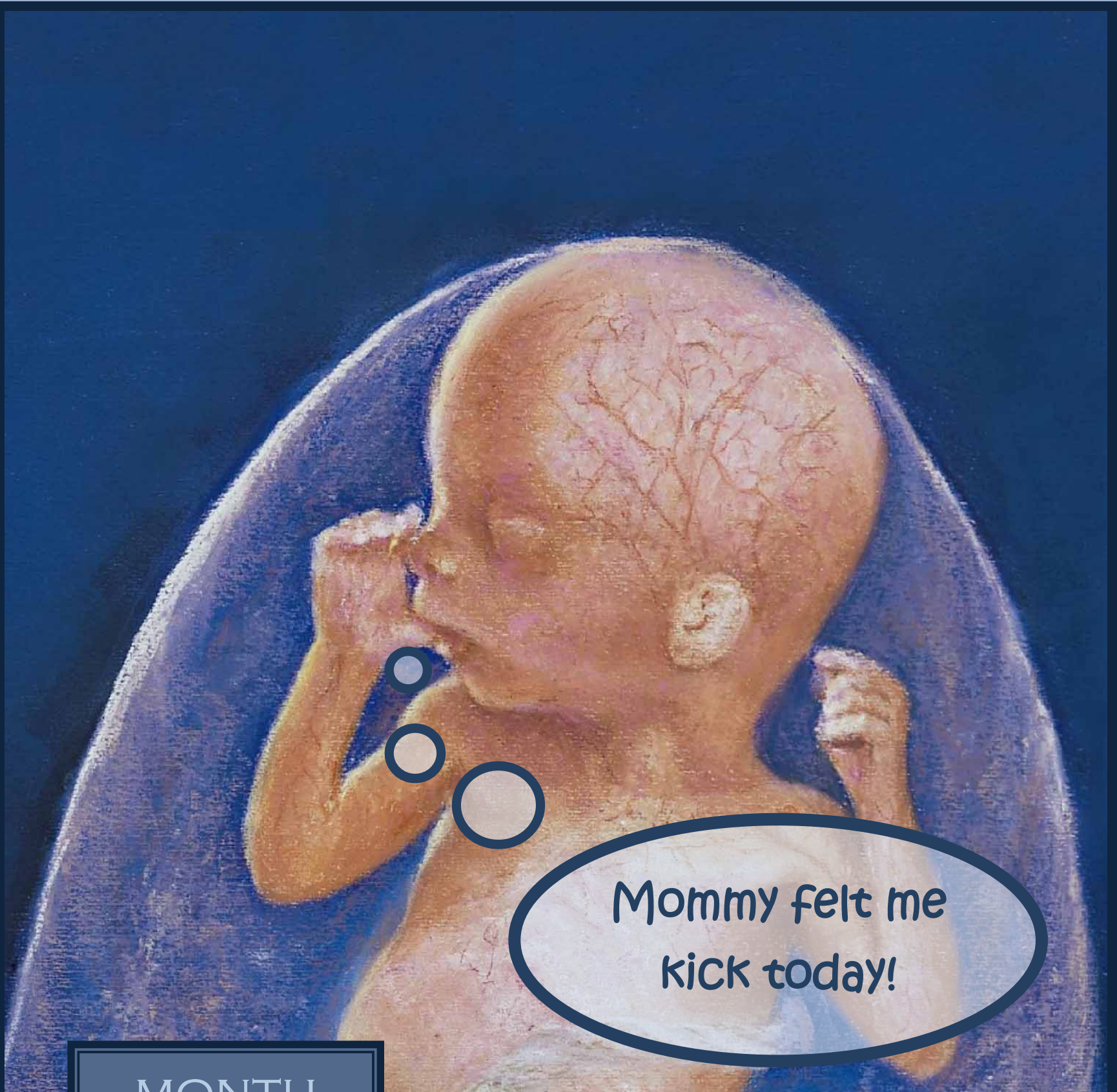


Panhandle
 CLEANING & RESTORATION
 FIRE SMOKE WIND MOLD SEWAGE WATER

800.504.7054
 Wheeling • Morgantown • Charleston
 Pittsburgh • Sarasota
PanhandleCR.com

“CALL THE RESTORATION COMPANY THE MOUNTAINEERS CALL”



Mommy felt me
kick today!

MONTH
5

This month marks the halfway point to birth, and the baby is very active. Sleep habits develop and his mother can feel him move and stretch, particularly when she is resting. He is big and strong enough to kick hard against the outside uterine wall and dent it. Up to now, although he swam with ease in his watery world, he was too small for her to detect because the inside wall of the uterus has very little feeling. Babies born at this age have survived.

Information on the developing baby was taken from: *Life before Birth* by Marjorie A. England, © 1996, Mosby-Wolfe, Times Mirror Int'l. Pub., Ltd., London, and *Abortion: Questions and Answers*, Dr. and Mrs. John C. Wilke, © 1985, Hayes Publishing Company, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Confirmation Schedule, Fall 2025 Bishop Mark Brennan, Celebrant

Tuesday, Nov. 18: St. Patrick Mission, Bancroft, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6: St. Anthony Parish, Follansbee, 4 p.m.

A message from the West Virginia Knights of Columbus State Council

Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend.

Men today need a band of brothers – other Catholic men to share in that call, who walk together on the journey towards something better.

**You are invited
to put your
faith in action**

kofc.org/joinus



The **Knights of Columbus** is a trusted name, tried by time, present where men are, providing inspiring resources and support for strengthening your faith and living a life of virtue.

Knights lead with faith. Knights protect our families. Knights serve those in need.

When the world says men should step aside, Knights of Columbus step up.

We are Catholic men. We live by principles informed by faith. We are sons, fathers, husbands, and grandfathers. Join us on life's greatest adventure to discover the man God calls you to be.

Become a Knight.

Click here



5095 National Road, Triadelphia, WV
304-547-1800

www.flooringamericawestvirginia.com

Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin

Sunday Mornings

- 6:30 WTOV FOX 9 Wheeling-Steubenville
- 6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Huntington-Charleston
- 8:00 WBOY NBC 12 Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
- 6:30 WOAY ABC 4 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
- 8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
- 9:30 WVVA NBC 6 Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
- 11:00 WDVM 25 Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

Plus watch online at - www.mydailyliving.com and YouTube

The Welty Home Difference: Assisted Living At Its Best



SERVING THE DIOCESE OF
WHEELING-CHARLESTON'S PARISHES
AND SCHOOLS FOR OVER 25 YEARS



DWC PARISHIONERS VICTOR GRECO, JULIE DOERR AND ALEXIS BEHRENS

VISIT US @ MILLSGROUPONLINE.COM



www.WeltyHome.org • (304) 242-5233

Obispos consagrarán Estados Unidos al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús con motivo del 250 aniversario de la fundación del país

Por Gina Christian, OSV News

BALTIMORE (OSV News)—Cuando Estados Unidos celebre su 250.º aniversario el año que viene, los obispos estadounidenses consagrarán la nación al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús.

La decisión se tomó durante la sesión del 11 de noviembre de la asamblea plenaria de otoño de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos, celebrada en Baltimore.

Antes de la votación, el obispo Kevin C. Rhoades, de Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, presidente del Comité para la Libertad Religiosa de la conferencia episcopal (conocida como USCCB por sus siglas en inglés), dijo que la consagración tendría lugar en la asamblea de primavera de la USCCB en junio de 2026, que concluye con la solemnidad del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús.

"Para ayudar a los católicos a prepararse para la consagración, desarrollaremos recursos de oración, incluida una novena que conducirá a la solemnidad del Sagrado Corazón", dijo el obispo Rhoades.

La devoción al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, cuyas raíces se remontan al menos al siglo II, creció durante la Edad Media y más tarde se extendió a la Iglesia universal tras las revelaciones de Cristo sobre su Sagrado Corazón a Santa Margarita María Alacoque, una religiosa francesa del siglo XVII.

El obispo Rhoades dijo que el personal de la USCCB está reuniendo recursos para que "las diócesis, parroquias y otros grupos involucren a los católicos" durante el 250 aniversario de la firma de la Declaración de Independencia, el 4 de julio de 1776, mediante la cual las 13 colonias americanas se separaron formalmente de Gran Bretaña.

Como preparación, una diócesis podría, por ejemplo, "invitar a los fieles a participar en 250

horas de adoración o 250 obras de misericordia", dijo el obispo Rhoades.

El prelado señaló la tradición que hay detrás de tal consagración y su objetivo.

"Hace cien años, en 1925, en su encíclica por la que instituyó la fiesta de Cristo Rey, el Papa Pío XI, basándose en las enseñanzas del Papa León XIII, se refirió a la piadosa costumbre de consagrarse a uno mismo, a las familias e incluso a las naciones al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús como una forma de reconocer la realeza de Cristo", dijo el obispo Rhoades.

A través de su última encíclica, "Dilexit Nos" ("Nos amó"), el Papa Francisco "puso la devoción al Sagrado Corazón en primer plano de la vida católica como símbolo supremo del amor humano y divino, calificándola de fuente de paz y unidad", dijo el obispo Rhoades.

El Papa Francisco "escribió sobre cómo el Sagrado Corazón nos enseña a construir en este mundo el reino de Dios de amor y justicia", afirmó el obispo Rhoades.

El Papa León XIV, en su primera exhortación apostólica, "Dilexi Te" ("Te he amado"), continuó con las enseñanzas de su predecesor e invitó a los fieles a "contemplar el amor de Cristo, el amor que nos mueve a la misión en nuestro mundo sufriente de hoy".

"Encomendar nuestra nación al amor y al cuidado del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús mientras celebramos su 250 aniversario es una oportunidad para promover la hermosa devoción al Sagrado Corazón entre nuestro pueblo, y también para recordar a todos nuestra tarea de servir a nuestra nación perfeccionando el orden temporal con el espíritu del Evangelio, tal y como enseñó el Concilio Vaticano II", afirmó el obispo Rhoades.

(Gina Christian es reportera multimedia de OSV News.)

Los obispos de EEUU aprueban un 'mensaje especial' sobre la inmigración

BALTIMORE (OSV News) -- La Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos aprobó el 12 de noviembre un mensaje pastoral especial sobre el tema de la inmigración, en el que expresaron "nuestra preocupación" por los inmigrantes durante su asamblea plenaria anual de otoño celebrada en Baltimore.

La declaración se produjo cuando un número cada vez mayor de obispos ha reconocido que algunas de las políticas de inmigración de la administración Trump pueden plantear a la Iglesia retos en la administración del apoyo pastoral y las iniciativas caritativas, así como retos en materia de libertad religiosa.

La declaración, publicada en la tarde, afirmaba: "Nos inquieta ver en nuestras comunidades un clima de temor y ansiedad ante las prácticas de perfilamiento y la aplicación de las leyes migratorias", decía el documento, cuya traducción al español fue publicado a las pocas horas de publicarse la declaración original en inglés.

"Nos entristece profundamente el tono que ha adoptado el debate contemporáneo y la creciente denigración de los inmigrantes. Nos preocupan las condiciones en los centros de detención y la falta de acceso a una atención pastoral adecuada. Lamentamos que algunos inmigrantes que viven en los Estados Unidos han perdido su estatus migratorio de manera arbitraria", continuaba el documento. "Nos preocupan las amenazas contra la santidad de los lugares de culto, y el carácter especial de los hospitales y las escuelas. Nos entristece profundamente cuando nos encontramos con padres que temen ser detenidos al llevar a sus hijos a la escuela o cuando intentamos consolar a familiares que ya han sido separados de sus seres queridos".

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de menores:

La diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston te exhorta a denunciar cualquier delito ante las autoridades civiles. Para realizar una denuncia en contra de cualquier obispo en todos los Estados Unidos, favor de reportarlo en la página web www.repostbishopabuse.org. Y si, además, existen motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido alguna conducta sexual inapropiada favor de comunicarse con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y también puede realizar un reporte en la página web antes mencionada. **Para informar a las autoridades civiles:** comuníquese con la policía local; los números varían según su ubicación. Si considera que alguien está en peligro inmediato, favor de llamar al 911. Para informar de forma confidencial sobre cualquier sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, favor de comunicarse con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia, llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 1-800.352.6513.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis exhorta a informar primeramente a las autoridades civiles correspondientes, cuando la denuncia incluye un delito, y también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales correspondientes. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese directamente con la diócesis a los teléfonos 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880 para hablar con cualquiera de las siguientes personas asignadas: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; y si desea hablar en español con Sor Martha Gómez, ext. 264. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la diócesis al

304.230.1504 o a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de quejas están disponibles en línea en la página web www.dwc.org, favor de hacer clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", en "Ambiente seguro" y en "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede enviar por correo en Estados Unidos a: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003. **Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis:** Favor de llamar a Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742. Además de las vías mencionadas anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la diócesis se ha asociado con la compañía Navex Global que ofrece la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar cualquier inquietud adicional, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de la página web www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es una herramienta de denuncia confidencial y anónima, ellos se encargarán de transmitir su denuncia directamente a las autoridades civiles y a las autoridades diocesanas correspondientes, y lo más importante al denunciar a través de ellos, la identidad de la persona que denuncia está 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 a menores: 304-293-6400.

Good Shepherd
treats us like family.



www.WeltyHome.org • (304) 242-1093



Knights of Columbus®

Carroll Council 504
OF WHEELING, W.VA.

Since 1900, West Virginia's first Knights of Columbus Council – Carroll Council 504 – has been committed to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

Guided by these Principles, we will continue to serve the parishioners of St. Michael, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Alphonsus, and the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and the Wheeling community today and tomorrow.

To learn more and to join us,
[click here](#)

ESTABLISHED LEADER IN STRUCTURAL HEART CARE

**THE MOST ADVANCED TREATMENTS
IN WEST VIRGINIA**

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

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

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

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

OUR TEAM



David Michael Campsey MD
Interventional Cardiology



Deepak Hooda MD
Interventional Cardiology



Sushant Sharma MD
Cardiology

Learn more at: MyWVUHeart.com

Appointments: 304-243-8362

**WVU Heart & Vascular
Institute**