

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Bishop Brennan Suggests Modification to Process of Appointment of Bishops

By Colleen Rowan

WEST VIRGINIA—Bishop Mark Brennan is suggesting a modification to the process of the appointment of a bishop to give papal nuncios more opportunity to gain information about the priests being considered for episcopal ordination.

Bishop Brennan makes the suggestion in the wake of the Vatican's McCarrick report, which details Theodore McCarrick's rise in the church's hierarchy despite rumors of sexual impropriety. According to the report, McCarrick's rise was based on personal contacts, protestations of his innocence and a lack of church officials reporting and investigating accusations.

Bishop Brennan spoke to *The Catholic Spirit* the day after he and his fellow U.S. Bishops met virtually for their fall assembly. His suggested modification deals with the announcement of a bishop to the public. He suggests that instead of announcing that a priest has been selected to be a bishop by the pope, that an announcement be made (following the investigation of the individual) that this priest is proposed to be a bishop and allowing a 60-day waiting period during which the Catholic lay faithful and anyone else are invited to offer their comments or concerns to the papal nuncio.

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The Catholic Spirit Photo
Bishop Mark Brennan offers his homily during Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling Nov. 7. In the wake of the Vatican's McCarrick report, Bishop Brennan is suggesting a modification to the process of the appointment of a bishop to give papal nuncios more opportunity to gain information about the priests being considered for episcopal ordination.

Working Group Formed to Deal with Conflicts Between Biden Policies, Church Teaching

By Mark Pattison, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit will head up a special working group of the U.S. bishops to address issues surrounding the election of a Catholic president and policies that may come about that would be in conflict with Catholic teaching and the bishops' priorities.

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Con-

ference of Catholic bishops, announced the establishment of this working group at the end of the public portion of the bishops' Nov. 16-17 meeting, held this year completely online.

Archbishop Vigneron is vice president of the USCCB. Other members of the working group will be USCCB committee chairmen in a number of areas where disagreement is expected between the church and President-elect Joe Biden.

"We are facing a unique moment in the history of our country" with the election of only the second Catholic as president, Archbishop Gomez said. "This presents certain opportunities but also certain challenges."

While "the president-elect has given us reason to believe his faith commitments will lead to certain policies that we favor," Archbishop Gomez said, listing immigration, aid to refugees and the poor, racial justice, capital punishment and climate change

among them, there also is the expectation that "he will support policies that are against some fundamental values we hold dear as Catholics," the archbishop said. "This includes repeal of the Hyde Amendment and his support for *Roe v. Wade*."

The 1973 Supreme Court *Roe v. Wade* decision allowed legal abortion virtually on demand throughout the United States. The Hyde Amendment forbids the use of federal funds to be

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Brennan ...

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"A proposal rather than an announcement that this will be done," Bishop Brennan said, "that this is the priest the pope is proposing to be a bishop, but we would like to hear from the lay faithful."

This, he said, would expand the range of possibilities in learning more about priests being considered to be ordained bishops.

"Some people might bring forward really good things that confirm the appointment," Bishop Brennan said, emphasizing that people could also bring forward vital information as to why this priest should not be a bishop, things the nuncio would not know. Bishop Brennan pointed to the McCarrick report which described a mother's account of writing to every U.S. cardinal and the papal representative in the mid-1980s detailing McCarrick's "dangerous" behavior toward her underage sons. Having left no address or legible name, her red-flag warnings went unheeded, as reported by Catholic News Service. Had there been an invitation to make a comment on McCarrick before his appointment as archbishop of Newark in 1986 for example, Bishop Brennan said, maybe she would have been able to come forward and tell the nuncio what she had seen.

"Maybe that would have made a difference," Bishop Brennan said.

In the current process for the selection of a bishop, there is an investigation in which the clergy and laity are consulted unbeknownst to the priest being considered. There is then a public announcement that the individual will be ordained a bishop and there is a certain amount of time between then and the ordination. However, Bishop Brennan believes the modification to propose the man as bishop rather than announcing that he will be bishop would be a great help in ensuring that the right priest is chosen.

"This would widen the scope of the information available to the nuncio," he said. "There is nothing that is full proof, but this would be a stronger effort to get the appropriate information needed to make a sound decision."

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.

Conflicts ...

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used for abortions, with exceptions in cases of rape or incest or to save the life of the mother.

The USCCB's quadrennial statement "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," Archbishop Gomez said, has "a preeminent priority of elimination of abortion."

He also listed "unequal treatment of Catholic schools," the Equality Act and the "restoration of the HHS mandate."

In 2011, under the Obama administration, coverage of contraceptives was added by the federal Department of Health and Human Services to a list of preventive services covered by the Affordable Care Act that employers would cover in their employee health plans without requiring a copay.

"These policies pose a serious threat to the common good whenever any politician supports them. We have long opposed these policies strongly and we will continue to do so," Archbishop Gomez said.

"When politicians who profess the Catholic faith support them there are ... problems," Archbishop Gomez added. "And one of the things it creates confusion among the faithful about what the church actually teaches on these questions."

The HHS mandate included an exception for houses of worship and offered an accommodation for

religious employers whereby they could ask a third party to cover contraceptives.

In separate cases, the family-owned Hobby Lobby Chain and the Little Sisters of the Poor won the right from the Supreme Court to be exempt from the mandate.

But the Little Sisters were still in litigation over it for years. A Trump administration policy exempted them from the mandate. It was challenged again in the courts, and in July of this year, the Supreme Court again ruled in favor of the religious order.

Also serving on the working group announced by Archbishop Gomez will be the chairmen of the USCCB committees on doctrine and on communications.

Archbishop Gomez reminded his fellow bishops that after President Donald Trump was elected four years ago, there were "critical issues" that needed to be addressed. "Then as now, the committee existed to address those issues and the goal was to emphasize our priorities and enhance collaboration." "Thank you, brothers for raising these concerns," Archbishop Gomez said to the committee chairs who had initially raised these concerns to him, "and please stay tuned as this develops further."

The U.S. bishops were to enter into an executive session following the close of the public portion of the meeting.

(Contributing to this story was Dennis Sadowski in Cleveland.)

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Epararchies 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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Bishops, in Virtual Meeting, Focus on McCarrick Report, Pandemic, Racism

By Carol Zimmermann,
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)

— The first day of the virtual fall assembly of the U.S. Catholic bishops, Nov. 16, included discussion about the Vatican report on Theodore McCarrick, the ongoing pandemic and the church's response to racism.

The two-day assembly, which usually takes place in Baltimore, was virtual this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. The public sessions were livestreamed. About 300 bishops logged on and for the most part, they crossed the technological hurdles of making sure their individual responses came through on the teleconference format.

One of the first bishops to individually address the group was Bishop James D. Conley of Lincoln, Nebraska, who thanked his brother bishops and Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio, for their support during his 11-month medical leave of absence.

"It's been a great source of strength and grace for me," the bishop, who returned to full pastoral care of his diocese Nov. 13, told the assembly. "We live in very difficult times and there are a lot of stresses on bishops and it's only going to get worse," advising them not to hesitate to reach out if they are struggling mentally or psychologically from stress.

The main topic of the day, which was added late to the bishops' agenda, was the Vatican report on McCarrick, released less than a week before, on Nov. 10.

Bishop Joseph E. Strickland of Tyler, Texas, said the report which described McCarrick's ascent to highest rungs of the church, even amid rumors of abuse, read like a list of the seven deadly sins.

"It's very clear that there's still very much a tendency in the world and

in the church to turn a blind eye to many of these sins," he added during the 45 minutes of discussion about the long-awaited 460-page report.

Bishop Michael F. Olson of Fort Worth, Texas, mentioned that the people and organizations to whom McCarrick gave money were not named in the report, nor were the amounts of money. He also thanked survivor James Grein for coming forward with his account of abuse at the hands of the former cardinal.

"It's curious to wonder what McCarrick would be doing today if he (Grein) had not come forward," Bishop Olson said.

Chicago's Cardinal Blase J. Cupich said Pope Francis had taken historic action in issuing the document as well as other unprecedented measures.

"It really has been a watershed moment," he said. "And something that we should continue to study and read."

The cardinal also stressed the need to "make sure that we never again have a situation where anyone from our conference is taking sides in this, with the Holy Father or challenging him or even being with those who are calling for his resignation. That kind of thing really has to cease, and the Holy Father pointed the way in which we take up this initiative together in a collegial manner."

He said it was important to recognize that there would be no report if victims did not have the courage to come forward in the first place and encouraged bishops and others in the church to spend time with victims, to give them courage.

"The report indicates that there are a number of reasons why victims did not come forward," he said. "They were intimidated ... they thought they would



CNS Photo/Bob Roller

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, speaks Nov. 16 at the USCCB headquarters in Washington during the bishops' virtual fall meeting.

not be listened to because of the power structure and so on.

"But the more that we listen to victims and make it public that we're meeting with victims, as the Holy Father does on a regular basis," the Chicago prelate said, "the word will get out there that we are on the side of victims. And we have to continue to do that."

The McCarrick report also overlapped into other parts of the meeting. In his opening address, Los Angeles Archbishop José H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, paused at the start to remember the children and adults within the church who are victim-survivors of clergy sexual abuse.

Acknowledging the McCarrick report, he also expressed "deep sorrow" and offered prayers the victim-survivors "might find healing and hope."

The archbishop also pointed to the ongoing suffering caused by the coro-

navirus pandemic, noting that people's faith in God "has been shaken" by the pandemic and related economic turmoil, and he urged the church leaders to help people navigate this enormous challenge.

"At the heart of their fears are fundamental questions about divine providence and the goodness of God," he said, noting that it is "far more than a public health emergency," because of the overwhelming fear of illness and death.

The current time, with its social unrest and uncertainty caused by the pandemic, "call for heroic Christianity," he explained. In response, he said: "We need to continue to form and empower missionary disciples, as Pope Francis calls us to do."

Archbishop Pierre, the papal nuncio to the United States, also spoke about the pandemic, as one of the "dark clouds" looming over today's world.

Other dark clouds, he said, include society's "throwaway culture,"

which leads to disregard for human life," the fragmentation and polarization of society and the rapid growth of secularization.

The church suffers from the same problems, the same maladies as the rest of society, he said, encouraging the bishops to respond in a way that brings healing.

"Our mission is to heal the world ... I encourage you during your meeting to look at ways that you can feed your hope and that of your flock," he said.

The bishops also looked at the pandemic in light of their four-year strategic plan, adopted one year ago, and not scheduled to go into effect until January 2021. The USCCB Committee on Priorities and Plans said it was modifying the plan to accommodate the pandemic and associated consequences.

"A strategic plan with no mention of the pandemic would not reflect the concerns of the bishops or the expected planning

See "Bishops" on Page 4

Diocesan Official Appointments

Bishop Mark Brennan has made public the following appointments:

Msgr. Samuel Sacus is appointed temporary administrator of St. Alphonsus Parish in Wheeling, St. John Parish in Benwood, and St. James Parish in McMechen, with residence at the St. Alphonsus Parish Rectory, effective October 30, 2020.

Bishops ...

Cont'd from Page 3

environment, and as such would not, and should not, be accepted," the report said.

An additional priority was to "promote the healing of the personal, spiritual and societal wounds of COVID-19 through the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ, the Divine Physician," the proposed language said.

A key aspect of this was to foster the efforts of dioceses and parishes to recover from the destructive impact of COVID-19, especially among the poor.

The committee also wished to make changes that would reflect the country's look at racial injustices after the May 25 killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Under the priority of "Life and dignity of the human person: Serve the common good as the leaven in a free society," a revised emphasis area is now proposed to read, "Work to heal the scourge of racism and religious intolerance."

The modifications to the strategic plan required a majority email vote of those bishops present and attending.

The bishops also were considering renewing the mandate of their Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism for a second three-year term.

The plan, the Committee on Priorities and Plans report said, "will focus on the areas of combating racism in education, training the trainer to support theological, liturgical and pastoral needs, youth and young adult engagement, formation of seminarians and religious, advising dioceses, providing communication outreach through podcasts, social media, bishop roundtables and more, providing public policy engagement and collaborating with ecumenical partner organizations."

"The committee has fulfilled its mandate through some very enlightened work to address the evil of racism," said a prerecorded message from Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, USCCB secretary and chairman of its Committee on Priorities and Plans, which advanced the proposal.

For the next three years, Archbishop Broglio added, the committee has developed "a very ambitious and promising plan."

The listening sessions were interrupted this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, said Bishop

Shelton J. Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana, chairman of the ad hoc committee, during a news conference following the USCCB's Nov. 16 session. "We hope that, once we get beyond COVID, to pick up on the listening sessions."

After episodes of racism and police violence roiled many U.S. cities this summer, "I have talked to my brother bishops in the dioceses," Bishop Fabre said, "offering my assistance to them."

The bishops did not address the recent presidential election, although during the news conference held after the bishops adjourned, when a reporter asked Archbishop Gomez about his Nov. 7 message congratulating President-elect Biden, the archbishop said that was a just acknowledgment and that he and his fellow bishops "respect the election process."

The bishops had election results of their own in this meeting. Msgr. Jeffrey D. Burrill, a priest of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin, was elected the new general secretary of the USCCB, succeeding Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, who has served in this position since 2015.

In another vote, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York was elected chairman of the bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty.

The bishops also voted on chairmen-elect for seven committees and seven seats on the board of directors of Catholic Relief Services.

The votes for chairmen-elect included: Committee on Priorities and Plans: Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services; Committee on Catholic Education, Bishop Thomas A. Daly of Spokane, Washington; Committee on Communications, Auxiliary Bishop Robert P. Reed of Boston; Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church, Auxiliary Bishop Arturo Cepeda of Detroit; Committee on Doctrine, Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas; Committee on National Collections, Bishop James S. Wall of Gallup, New Mexico; and the Committee on Pro-Life Activities, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore.

The second day of the meeting, Nov. 17, was to include continued discussion on racism and the pandemic.

(Contributing to this report was Dennis Sadowski, Mark Pattison, Rhina Guidos and Julie Asher.)

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Giving Tuesday Offers Way to Support Diocese's Parishes and Ministries

Website is Now Accepting Donations at dwc.org/GivingTuesday

By Colleen Rowan

On Giving Tuesday (Dec. 1), the faithful will have the chance to provide much needed support for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's parishes and ministries.

Heidi Sforza, assistant director of Stewardship and Development for the diocese, explained that Giving Tuesday is a global day of kindness and generosity celebrated the Tuesday following Thanksgiving.

"There are a number of ways to participate in Giving Tuesday," she said, "whether its donating funds, signing up to participate in a new ministry, volunteering, or praying—every act counts!"

This year, Giving Tuesday is being held in lieu of the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

"We had planned the appeal to kick off just as the pandemic hit. Therefore, we suspended the appeal," said Krissie Benson, director of Stewardship and Development for the diocese. "This one day of giving is one small way that we can allow donors to continue to support their parish, as well as shared ministries such as Catholic education, Catholic Charities and evangelization."

The diocese's parishes have continued to serve their communities in many creative and new ways throughout the pandemic, Sforza

"In this time of uncertainty, there's a fundamental truth that can give us hope—together we can do great things!"

—Heidi Sforza, assistant director of Stewardship and Development for the diocese

said. At the same time, she continued, they have also had to cancel or postpone many of the events and fundraisers they rely on for financial support.

"Giving Tuesday is a fun opportunity to help them recover some of that lost funding," she said, "while also building up their on-line community and sharing their faith!"

Sforza said the full amount of one's donation will go to his or her parish. There will also be an opportunity to make donations to Catholic Education, Evangelization and Catholic Charities West Virginia.

The Giving Tuesday website dwc.org/GivingTuesday was set to go live Nov. 20, and will be available for those who wish to make their donation early. The website will be open to accept donations through Dec. 2. Every parish will

of the diocese's one-day fundraising event for its Catholic schools—One Mission, One Day to Make a Difference—held this past spring. Almost \$235,000 was raised for the 19 participating schools.

"It was a wonderful show of support for our Catholic schools, especially considering we were in the midst of the pandemic and all of our schools were learning from home," Sforza said.

Catholic schools are planning another giving day May 4.

In looking ahead to Giving Tuesday for parishes and ministries, Sforza believes it will be a success even in the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

"In this time of uncertainty," she said, "there's a fundamental truth that can give us hope—together we can do great things!"

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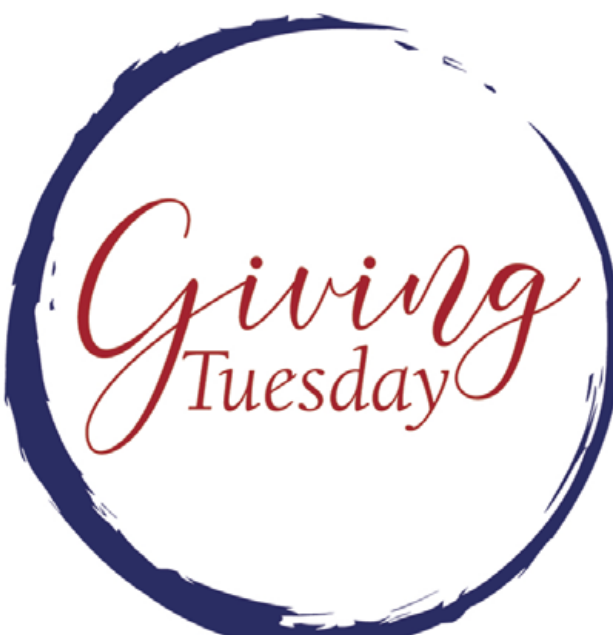
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Prayers for the Little Souls at Rest in Harpers Ferry



John Sherwood Photo

At the center of St. Peter Cemetery in Harpers Ferry is a statue of Our Lady at the top of a small hill. This ground is reserved for the burial of infants who have died before birth. To help families who have suffered the loss of their unborn child, no charge is made for this service. A grave-side service is conducted at the time of interment. This Corporal Work of Mercy by St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town is available to any family who has suffered such a loss. They do not need to be parishioners. On All Souls Day, Father Leonard Smith, pastor of St. James, celebrated Mass at the cemetery. After the Mass, he led a procession through the cemetery and blessed the graves of relatives of the family members of the gathered faithful. The final blessing was at the statue of Our Lady at the resting place of those precious babies. Father Smith is pictured above (center) in front of the statue. To his right is Deacon James Munuhe, a permanent deacon at St. James.

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Mary Shows How to Turn Fear into Invitation to Hear God's Call, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — There is no better way to pray than like Mary, who opened her heart to God with humility and trust, Pope Francis said.

"It is putting our life in the Lord's hands, that he be the one who guides us. We can all pray like this, almost without words," the pope said Nov. 18 during his weekly general audience, which was live-streamed from the library of the Apostolic Palace.

Continuing his series of audience talks about prayer, Pope Francis reflected on Mary as a model of prayer.

Mary did not autonomously orchestrate her life, the pope said. "She waits for God to take the reins of her path and guide her where he wants."

By being docile and willing to be God's instrument, she prepares the way for "the great events in which God takes part in the

world," he said.

"There is no better way to pray than to place oneself like Mary in an attitude of openness with a heart open to God, 'Lord, what you want, when you want and how you want,'" he said.

Those whose lives are inspired by such a prayerful attitude, he said, "do not get upset when their days are filled with problems," but face reality knowing that if they offer themselves with humble love, "we become instruments of God's grace."

When the angel Gabriel told Mary of God's plan for her, the pope said, Mary "knew how to reject fear, even while sensing that her 'yes' would bring her tremendously difficult trials. If in prayer we understand that each day given by God is a call, our hearts will then widen, and we will accept everything."

People also should pray that the Lord would be present every step of the way, "that he does not leave us alone, that he does not leave us to temptation, that he does not abandon us during terrible moments," he said.

Mary not only accompanied Jesus's entire life in prayer, right up to his death and resurrection, she also



CNS Photo/Vatican Media

Pope Francis leads his general audience in the library of the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican Nov. 18.

accompanied the first steps of the church, praying with "the men and women whom her son had called to form his community," Pope Francis said.

"Mary is not a priest among them. No. She is the mother of Jesus who prays with them in community, like one of the community; she prays with them and for them," he said.

Not only did she become the mother of God,

she also became the mother of the church through the work of the Holy Spirit, he said.

Her "natural feminine intuition is exalted by her most singular union with God in prayer," the pope said. "This is why, reading the Gospel, we note that she seems to disappear at times, only to reappear for crucial moments: it was God's voice that guided her heart and her steps where her presence was needed."

Pope Francis concluded his catechesis recalling how Mary's heart has been compared to "a pearl of incomparable splendor, formed and smoothed by patient acceptance of God's will through the mysteries of Jesus meditated on in prayer."

"How beautiful it would be if we, too, could be a bit like our Mother with a heart open to the Word of God, with a silent, obedient heart" that lets God's word grow.

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Second Collection to Benefit Catholic Campaign for Human Development

WHEELING—Catholic Charities West Virginia announces that second collections taken at all parishes in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston on Nov. 21 and 22 will benefit the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

Monies raised from these collections allow Catholic Charities West Virginia to facilitate the awarding of grants to nonprofit corporations in West Virginia whose missions are to reduce poverty in the Mountain State.

CCHD works to affect the root causes of poverty and partners itself with groups that align with Catholic Social Teaching. It has awarded nearly 8,000 grants nationwide promoting self-reliance as a means to end poverty. These projects aim to improve lifestyles and promote financial stability through fair housing, education, accessible health care and child-care, and vocational training. Often projects are created and managed by people with low incomes.

"Working with CCHD gives us the opportunity to learn about attacking poverty from every angle. How do we fight poverty? It is not one thing, but a web of choices and opportunities that each person has to work within. The answer could be a job, a steady place to live, a better diet and exercise, basic equal rights or seeking mental health help. More likely it is a combination of things," said Susan Hollis, the CCHD Wheeling-Charleston diocesan director.

"CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out," said Hollis.

Forty million people in the United States live in poverty. This

collection supports programs to empower local communities to address the challenges they face. CCHD identifies and addresses the unique obstacles people face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty.

In the past, grantee Try This WV, a statewide grassroots movement, works to knock West Virginia off the top of the worst health lists, community by community. They also work to enable local groups to make positive changes in their communities.

Another grantee, Coalfield Development, inspires growth, and activates creativity to innovate and cultivate communities of opportunity in central Appalachia.

In addition to making a donation at parishes this weekend, donors may also send a check to their parish with the notation "CCHD" in the memo line.

Knights Launch Fourth Coats for Kids Drive in Shepherdstown



Courtesy Photo

The Knights of Columbus are once again conducting their annual Coats for Kids drive. This is their fourth year of providing new coats to area school children. Above, Knight Bob Rizzo presents coats to Siobhan Bertone, program assistant at Catholic Charities Eastern Regional Office in Martinsburg.



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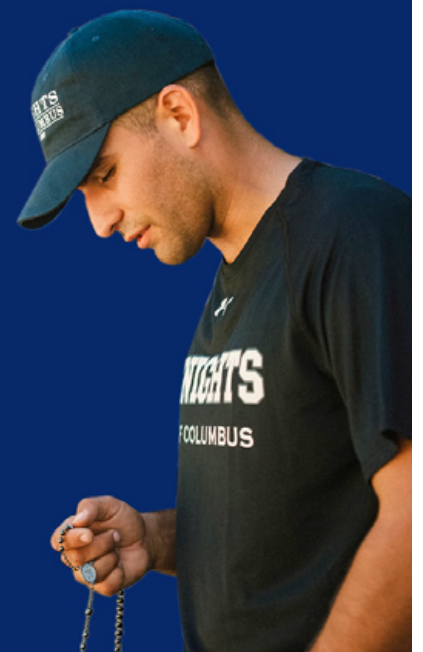
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Children Celebrate the Saints

Three classes from St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School in Morgantown dressed as saints for Mass on the Solemnity of All Saints. The children are pictured during the Mass, which was celebrated by Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati at St. Francis de Sales Church on Oct. 30. Courtesy Photo



Evening Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary begins at Ravenswood Parish

RAVENSWOOD—St. Matthew Parish in Ravenswood has begun having Eucharistic Adoration followed by the rosary for the sick of the parish and all those friends and family members who need God’s help to heal. This will be held at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month.

Charleston Gabriel Project in Need of Items

CHARLESTON—The Gabriel Project in Charleston is in need of immediate donations of gently-used winter infant and toddler clothes. All infant and toddler sizes are welcome, but newborn (0-3 months) is particularly needed. All types of clothing are also needed, including sleepers, shirts, pants, sweaters, outerwear, etc. The organization asks the faithful to share the Gabriel Project’s clothing needs with family, friends and colleagues. To donate items, call (304) 414- 4666, (304) 205-5865, or email: metro_valley@gabrielwv.org. Donna Hawkins, state executive director of the Gabriel Project of West Virginia, thanks all for responding.

Catholic Daughters Making Blizzard Boxes for Shut-ins

FAIRMONT—The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Chapter in Fairmont will once again be making and collecting blizzard boxes for the Senior Center/Meals on Wheels. The small boxes consist of non perishable healthy food items for the shut-ins to have on hand when Meals on wheels cant run due to poor road conditions. “We’re asking if you’d like to make one or donate to have one made for you,” chapter officials said, call (304) 278-7320 for more explicit details.

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Employment Opportunities

Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center

The Diocese is currently searching for candidates to fill the position of Director, St. John XXIII Pastoral Center. This is a full time position located in Charleston, WV. The Director is responsible for the overall management of personnel, facilities and services offered at the Center. This person will implement policies, procedures and directives in order to manage the facility. The individual will see to the quality of care, hospitality, environment provided to the guests at the center. The Director is accountable for the budget, financial management of the Center and operations and maintenance of the facility. Qualified individuals should have at least a Bachelor's Degree. Person should have demonstrated experience in the management of a retreat/conference facility, lodging, resort management or related facility management. Person must be in adherence with the teachings and traditions of the Catholic faith. The individual will possess excellent organizational, leadership and communication skills. Interested individuals should send letter of interest and resume to the Human Resources Office. Please contact Michael A. Nau, Director of the HR Office for a complete job description and application by e-mail to mnau@dwc.org. Position will remain available until an offer has been accepted.

St. Francis de Sales School in Beckley has an opening for a Title I teaching position.

This is a three day per week assignment — Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The duties include: To provide a supplemental, structural support to identified K-5 students in reading and math; the implementation of research-based interventions to strengthen learning; to collaborate with classroom teachers, school staff and Raleigh County Schools' Federal Program staff. Qualifications include working with K-5 students in reading and math; West Virginia Elementary Education certification; or experience or training in West Virginia college and Career Ready Standards and technology skills. Contact Principal Mary Grace Peck at (304) 252-4087.

Associate Immigration Attorney, Martinsburg

Catholic Charities West Virginia is seeking a full-time Associate Immigration Attorney for its Migration and Refugee Office located in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Responsibilities include: assists in the development and provision of services to immigrants and refugees in West Virginia; provides legal advice and representation in accord with the best practice of the profession; maintains caseload of detained and non-detained clients in removal proceedings eligible for immigration remedies such as SIJS, asylum, CAT or withholding of removal, cancellation of removal, UVAWA, or family-based petitions; interviews individuals seeking legal assistance and advises the client as to possible options through proper interpretation of current laws; and provides ongoing legal representation to the client commencing with the initial intake interview, drafting of documents, correspondence and client applications/petitions. Required job qualifications: Law Degree (J.D.) required. Admission to the practice of law in any state and/or Washington, DC required. Completion of Continuing Legal Education required, in addition to any and all licensing requirements for the Jurisdiction where the attorney is licensed to practice. A year of experience practicing immigration law preferred. Bilingual (English, and Spanish or French) preferred; public speaking skills in English and Spanish or French preferred. Ability to work independently and manage multiple tasks at once. Excellent interpersonal, team, and communication skills. Strong organizing skills and attention to details, especially with regard to immigration laws, guidelines, and policies. Ability to work effectively with diverse populations. Tolerance and sensitivity necessary in dealing with people with hardships. Must have a valid driver's license and be able to drive and travel to court hearings. Please send cover letter, resume and three references to Beth Zarate, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities WV, 2000 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003, or . Applications will be accepted through November 30, 2020.

Catholic Charities West Virginia Case Manager, Western Region

Catholic Charities West Virginia is seeking a full-time Case Manager, who will be responsible for the coordination of program services at the Western Region's Charleston office. This includes assisting and supporting the Regional Director in multiple programs, and performing case management duties that are essential in carrying out the mission and vision of CCWVa. The essential job duties include: Conduct face-to-face interviews with clients to assess needs, utilizing agency's instrument for interviews; Assist clients in implementation of long-range plan by exploring all available options, identifying the client's own resources and available community and governmental resources, making appropriate referrals, and assisting in linking client with available resources serving as facilitator and advocate when necessary; Maintain the operation of region's Emergency Assistance Programs in the Charleston Office by assisting clients with applications and providing follow up as necessary; Maintain

accurate and timely records for all revenues as budgeted; Develop comprehensive service plans with clients that state goals, identify needs, and outline corresponding interventions, responsible agents, and time frames; Exhibit professional documentation skills in writing case management progress notes. Document accurately all client information and contacts in the case file according to protocol; Assist the Regional Director in working with regional Catholic parishes to develop and maintain ongoing working relationships, and network these parishes with other community-based groups, churches, and coalitions to meet the larger needs of the community. Qualifications include: a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or related field; experience in working with parish social concerns committees; casework experience working with at-risk populations; excellent computer skills with the ability to track and analyze data; excellent communication and interpersonal skills; willingness to adapt to change in schedule, including evenings and weekends, if necessary; knowledge of federal, state and community resources, case management practices, populations served and their culture and needs; and must have transportation to travel as needed. Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by Monday, November 23, 2020, to: bhagy@ccwva.org. Application materials can also be delivered to: Bill Hagy, Western Regional Director, Catholic Charities WV, 1024 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV 25301.

Catholic Charities West Virginia HomeCare Marketing & Outreach Coordinator

Medicaid Aged & Disabled Waiver (ADW) Services, Veteran's Waiver Services, Private Pay Services. Serve as the main contact person for general program questions and referral info for the community; Development/implementation of a client recruitment plan in both office areas; Deliver HomeCare program info sessions at community sites/potential referral sites/health fairs (with accommodations during the COVID-19 pandemic) on an ongoing basis; Work with Advancement Department to create and maintain functional marketing materials for program, craft appeal requests, and market program for maximum coverage through all identified networks (including social media); Perform other job-related duties as assigned. Qualifications include: Bachelor's degree preferred; experience working with programs serving people with disabilities and/or seniors preferred; solid interpersonal skills/experience for building a genuine rapport with people and families in need of supportive services; ability to communicate clearly with audiences from various social, cultural, economic, and educational backgrounds; ability to work independently; good customer service skills/experience; and must have a valid driver's license. Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by December 1, 2020 to: Sara Lindsay at slindsay@ccwva.org. Application materials can also be delivered to: Sara Lindsay, Chief Program Officer, Catholic Charities West Virginia, 2000 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003.

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Catholic Charities
West Virginia
Mission Moment

CCHD Supports Innovative Response to Poverty

By Susan Hollis, Catholic Charities West Virginia Diocesan Director of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development

In the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is housed within Catholic Charities West Virginia. With both organizations having missions to create positive change for people living in poverty, our work complements each other and is motivated by love.

CCHD, started by the USCCB in 1970, works with diverse organizations across the country that are addressing the root causes of poverty in innovative ways. Here in West Virginia, two organizations recently received funding from CCHD: Coalfield Development Corporation and Try This WV.

Coalfield Development Corporation is a business incubator of social enterprises in Wayne County. Since 2010, they have been striving to employ would-be coalminers and other unemployed people in diversified work opportunities. Following the 33-6-3 business model, trainees work for 33 hours each week, are in the classroom for 6 hours, and receive professional and personal development for 3 hours each week. This model, developed by Coalfield, speaks to the fact that people sometimes need more than a job to keep themselves on track. Incentivizing education and personal development so concretely has led to very successful graduates of the trainee program.



Courtesy Photo

Individuals participate in Refresh Appalachia, a program offered through Coalfield Development.

Try This West Virginia strives to get West Virginia off the top of the worst-health lists. They focus on healthy lifestyles and eating practices coupled with policy work to combat health issues including obesity, heart disease, and diabetes. This statewide network of movers and shakers gives local communities the opportunity to learn best practices, create new initiatives, and infuse energy by funding mini-grants and hosting interactive work-

shops. Since 2014, Try This has awarded more than \$780,000 to local West Virginia communities. They have funded 367 healthy-community projects, ranging from community and school gardens to active afterschool programs, to forming healthy community councils in city governments to supporting health-related policy statewide.

Both of these organizations are doing vital work and creatively addressing issues that

have been around for decades. Coalfield and Try This are working for the good of people in West Virginia.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development strives to eradicate poverty by removing barriers, supporting organizations that are made up of and for the poor, and educating all people on the realities of living in poverty. Learn more by visiting povertyusa.org or contacting Susan at shollis@ccwva.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.

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

María nos muestra a transformar miedo en oportunidad para escuchar a Dios

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — No hay mejor manera de rezar que como María, quien abrió su corazón a Dios con humildad y confianza, dijo el papa Francisco.

"Es poner nuestra vida en las manos del Señor, que sea él quien nos guíe. Todos podemos rezar así, casi sin palabras", dijo el papa el 18 de noviembre durante su audiencia general semanal, que fue transmitida en vivo desde la biblioteca del Palacio Apostólico.

Continuando con su serie de charlas en la audiencia sobre la oración, el papa Francisco reflexionó sobre María como modelo de oración.

María no orquestó su vida de forma autónoma, dijo el papa. "Ella espera que Dios tome las riendas de su camino y la guíe a donde él quiera."

Al ser dócil y estar dispuesta a ser el instrumento de Dios, ella prepara el camino para "los grandes eventos en los que Dios participa en el mundo", dijo.

"No hay mejor forma de rezar que ponerse como María en una actitud de apertura con un corazón abierto a Dios, diciendo: Señor, lo que quieras, cuando quieras y

como quieras", dijo.

Aquellos cuyas vidas se inspiran en tal actitud de oración, dijo, "no se molestan cuando sus días están llenos de problemas", sino más bien se enfrentan a la realidad sabiendo que si se ofrecen con humilde amor, "nos convertimos en instrumentos de la gracia de Dios".

Cuando el ángel Gabriel le contó a María el plan de Dios para ella — dijo el papa — María "sabía cómo rechazar el miedo, incluso sintiendo que su sí le traería pruebas tremendamente difíciles. Si en la oración comprendemos que cada día que Dios nos da es una llamada, nuestros corazones entonces se agrandarán y aceptaremos todo".

La gente también debería rezar para que el Señor esté presente en cada paso del camino, "para que no nos deje solos, para que no nos deje a la tentación, para que no nos abandone durante momentos terribles", dijo.

María no sólo acompañó toda la vida de Jesús en oración, hasta su muerte y resurrección, sino también acompañó los primeros pasos de la iglesia, rezando con "los hombres y mujeres a quienes su hijo había llamado para establecer su comunidad", dijo el papa Francisco.

"María no es un sacerdote entre ellos. No. Es la madre de Jesús que reza con ellos en comunidad, como una más de la comunidad. Ella reza con ellos y por ellos", dijo.

No sólo se convirtió en la madre de Dios, sino que también se convirtió en la madre de la iglesia por obra del Espíritu Santo -- agregó.

Su "intuición femenina natural sobresale por su más singular unión con Dios en oración", dijo el papa. "Por eso, leyendo el Evangelio, notamos que ella parece desaparecer a veces, solo para reaparecer en momentos cruciales: Fue la voz de Dios la que guió su corazón y sus pasos hacia donde su presencia era necesaria".

El papa Francisco concluyó su catequesis recordando cómo el corazón de María ha sido comparado con "una perla de incomparable esplendor, formada y suavizada por la paciente aceptación de la voluntad de Dios a través de los misterios de Jesús meditados en la oración".

"Qué hermoso sería si nosotros, también, pudiéramos ser un poco como nuestra madre con un corazón abierto a la Palabra de Dios, con un corazón silencioso y obediente" que deja que la palabra de Dios crezca.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños: La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar ante las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También alentamos a utilizar www.reportbishopabuse.org para hacer un informe sobre cualquier obispo en los EE. UU. Si tiene motivos para creer que un obispo ha cometido una conducta sexual inapropiada, comuníquese con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y visite www.reportbishop-abuse.org.

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.

Para informar a las autoridades diocesanas: La diócesis alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles apropiadas, ante todo, si se ha cometido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiales apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston a la Diócesis, comuníquese con uno de los siguientes designados al 1.888.434.6237 o 304.233.0880: Sr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Sr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; o Muy Reverendo Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. También puede llamar a la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al 304.230.1504.

También puede llamar a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la Diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja están disponibles en línea en www.dwc.org, haga clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", luego en "Ambiente seguro", luego "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede devolver por correo de EE. UU. A: Office of Safe Environment, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis: llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida.

Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crímenes contra Niños: 304-293-6400.

Wheeling University Healthcare Academy Provides Training to Wheeling Hospital Leaders

WHEELING—Wheeling University's new Healthcare Leadership Academy was established to train Wheeling Hospital managers to become transformative leaders in the workplace.

Ten Wheeling Hospital managers make up the first HLA cohort, which began Sept. 22. Throughout the 12 weeks of courses, the managers gain knowledge, skills, and tools to build a highly reliable, performance-based managerial culture at the hospital. The cohort meets once a week at Wheeling University, where university professors, administrators, and guest speakers specializing LEAN/Change health care and hospital management offer instruction.

"The launch of the Healthcare Leadership Academy is a wonderful partnership that allows Wheeling University to educate Wheeling Hospital employees to be leaders in health care delivery. Through our shared Catholic missions, this partnership will benefit the hospital employees, as well as the patients they serve in the Ohio Valley," said Ginny R. Favede, president of Wheeling University.

The program broadens the participants' leadership skills and strengthens their capability to lead. Additionally, those participating in the HLA learn to increase personal a

nd professional performance, act as a team to optimize organizational efficiency, responsiveness and accountability, and work together to improve patient care at the hospital continually.

"We are so pleased to be able to partner with Wheeling University in the development of a Healthcare Leadership Academy for Wheeling Hospital employees," Douglass Harrison, Wheeling Hospital CEO, said. "Our first class includes employees we have identified as future leaders within the organization and our community. Making this investment in developing talent hopefully ensures a pipeline of talent that we can rely on to lead the organization forward into the future. We could not be happier in this partnership with Wheeling University as we come together to share our common faith-based mission and values."

"The Healthcare Leadership Academy is an investment in the future of Wheeling Hospital and its employees, ensuring it continues to serve the people of the Wheeling area for generations to come," Favede added.

Wheeling University's Healthcare Leadership Academy offers five learning modules to the HLA participants during the length of the instruction. The modules teach skills in transformational leadership,

leading and enabling improvement and change, and systematic thinking and results-driven management. The final module is a capstone session.

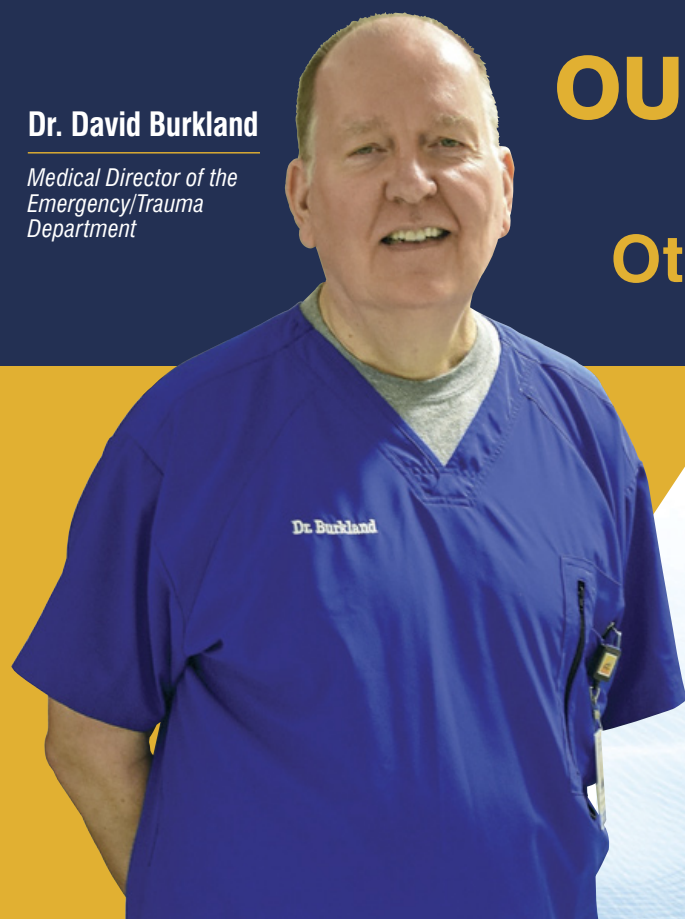
"Managers advancing through the Academy will be able to act as results-driven, systematic thinkers and organizational change enablers at Wheeling Hospital," said Dr. Jacqueline McGlade, interim vice president of Academic Affairs at WU. "The curriculum we have developed will educate the hospital staff to be integrated managers able to oversee and carry out improved levels of patient care and health care services."

Favede added Wheeling University's founding father, Father Clifford Lewis, S.J., dreamed of a college "that would provide 'independent enlightenment to tomorrow's problems.' It is a privilege to see his vision continued 66 years later as we work hand-in-hand to develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence in the future leaders of Wheeling Hospital."

Wheeling University is already developing an executive leadership program that will provide valuable management theories, tools, and techniques to enable leaders to transform companies and non-profit organizations in the region.

Dr. David Burkland

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