By Carol Glatz Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis and U.S. President Joe Biden had an unusually long meeting at the Vatican Oct. 29, talking about the climate crisis and poverty, among other issues.

According to a statement released by the White House, “President Biden thanked His Holiness for his advocacy for the world’s poor and those suffering from hunger, conflict and persecution.

“He lauded Pope Francis’ leadership in fighting the climate crisis, as well as his advocacy to ensure the pandemic ends for everyone through vaccine sharing and an equitable global economic recovery,” the statement said.

During a nearly 90-minute meeting in the library of the Apostolic Palace, which included 75 minutes of closed-door discussions between the two leaders, Pope Francis gave Biden a large painted ceramic tile of a pilgrim walking along Rome’s Tiber River and pointing to St. Peter’s Basilica in the distance. It and its border of shell designs symbolize “protection from adversity” during one’s spiritual growth and the hope of reaching a deeper and more fulfilling purpose at the end of this spiritual journey, according to an explanation of the artistic piece.

Pope Francis also gave the president a signed copy of his message for World Day of Peace 2021, a collection of his major documents, including his document on human fraternity, and the book, “Why Are You Afraid? Have You No Faith? The World Facing the Pandemic.” The book contains photographs and homilies, messages and prayers the pope delivered during the pandemic, emphasizing the importance of love, hope, solidarity and the common good.

Biden presented Pope Francis with a framed handwoven “fiddleback” chasuble that had been handmade by the famous tailor shop of Rome, Gamarrelli, in 1930, for use by the Society of Jesus in the United States. The White House was also making a donation of winter clothing to charities in the name of Pope Francis to commemorate the World Day of the Poor Nov. 14.

Biden also gave the pope a copy of his memoir, “Promise Me, Dad: A Year of Hope, Hardship, and Purpose,” about losing his firstborn son, Beau Biden, to brain cancer at the age of 46 and a presidential command coin inscribed with the unit of his late son, who had been deployed to Iraq in 2008.

Biden explained the reason for the coin to the pope, “I’m not sure this is appropriate, but there’s a tradition in America that the president has what is called a command coin that he gives to warriors and leaders and you are the most significant warrior for peace I’ve ever met.”

“And with your permission, I’d like to give you this coin,” he said, saying, “I know my son would want me to give this to you.”

“The tradition — I’m only kidding about this — next time I see you, if you don’t have it, you have to buy the drinks,” Biden said, adding, however, “I’m the only Irishman you’ve ever met who’s never had a drink.”

Later, as the pope walked Biden to the door, he thanked him for the visit and “for this,” he said, clutching the coin.

After meeting the pope, Biden went downstairs to meet Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, the Vatican foreign minister. In addition to his wife, Jill Biden, the president traveled with a 10-person entourage of senior White House staff, including U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Jake Sullivan, his national security adviser.

The White House said in a statement that those discussions included “efforts to rally global support for vaccinating the developing world against COVID-19” and Biden thanking the pope for speaking up for the poor, fighting climate crisis.

See “Biden” on Page 3
Moyra Fayre Crenwelge

Moyra Fayre Crenwelge, 88, of New Braunfels, Texas, passed away, Sunday, October 24, 2021. She was born to Herbert Reiland and Helene Behrendt on a farm near Marion, Texas on November 3, 1932. She was a 5th generation Texan, whose great-great grandfather came to Texas from area from Germany on December 31, 1847, settling near Schumansville. She was the eldest child, having two younger brothers, Wilfred and Lloyd Reiland.

Moyra was baptized by Rev. Morningway at First Protestant Church as a young child. When she entered school in September, 1939, she spoke only German, though she understood English.

She moved to New Braunfels as a child, in December 1942. There she attended Carl Shultz Elementary School, and was a proud graduate of New Braunfels High School's class of 1950.

Upon graduation, Moyra worked as a telephone operator for the local Southwestern Bell Telephone Exchange in downtown New Braunfels and later in Seguin when the company changed to a dial system. In her free time after work, she would visit the dance slab at Landa Park. It was there that she met her husband, Roy.

On December 8th, 1956, Moyra married Roy Crenwelge at St. Paul Lutheran Church by Reverend Arthur Holm. In 1969 when Roy started Crenwelge Plumbing, Moyra became his business partner, assisting him by being a dispatcher, bookkeeper, and secretary.

Their marriage lasted 61 years until his passing in 2018. Roy and Moyra were blessed to have three sons, Jerry, Randall, and Karl. Moyra enjoyed reading (she was an avid reader), enjoyed collecting post cards from everywhere. As a teenager, she sewed most of her own clothes on an old treadle machine. She was an avid History lover, preferring non-fiction to fiction. Later, she enjoyed traveling to visit with her out-of-state family, seeing historical sites, and National Parks across the US. Another one of her interests involved researching family genealogy and scrapbooking. She enjoyed telling stories about the old days to her children and grandchildren, and doing crafts together. She was proud to be an Omie to her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She enjoyed reading, baking, solving the daily crossword and Sudoku puzzles, trying to “win” Jeopardy in the afternoon, and FaceTiming with her family. She had a passion for learning, and often said that if she’d had the chance to go to college, she would have liked to have studied microbiology. She is survived by sons, Randall of Greenbelt, Maryland of New Braunfels and Lloyd Reiland of Hamilton, MS; two great-grandchildren, Perry James Tilkens and Rosalie Gonzales of Riverdale Park, MD; Rev Father Brian Crenwelge of Crenwelge Plumbing, Moyra became his business partner, assisting her by being a dispatcher, bookkeeper, and secretary. Their marriage lasted 61 years until his passing in 2018. Roy and Moyra were blessed to have three sons, Jerry, Randall, and Karl.

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A Funeral Service will be held 10 a.m. Friday, October 29, 2021 at the Zoeller Funeral Home Chapel with Father Brian Crenwelge officiating. Burial will follow in Guadalupe Valley Memorial Park.

The Crenwelge Family thanks all of her caregivers who graciously offered their care and support. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Meals on Wheels, or a charity of your choice.

Lisa Jo Gonzales

Lisa Jo Gonzales, 62, of New Martinsville, WV passed away at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV on Friday, October 22, 2021. Lisa was born in Moundsville, WV on January 14, 1959. She was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in New Martinsville, WV.

Lisa worked and worried daily for the poor, the homeless, seniors, and those in need in Wetzel and Tyler counties both as her profession with Community Resources, Inc. – Wetzel County and as an expression of her deep compassion for others. In the last five years, her office has been located at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, where she touched the lives of so many volunteers and clients. In addition to working with Mountain Food Bank for a monthly distribution which regularly served over 250 families, assisting with the organization of High Water Project and Father Crenwelge Foundation’s annual distribution, ensuring that the Gabriel Project would remain open and operative throughout the pandemic, Lisa did hundreds of tax returns each year, provided case management, organized emergency relief, and provided genuine, compassionate support to all.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Jolene Tuttle; brother, Nicholas Tuttle and nephew Kristopher Gonzales. She is survived by her father, Donald Tuttle of New Martinsville; two sons, Daniel (Lisa) and Adam Gonzales of Paden City, WV; two grandchildren, Brady Anderson and Cole Gonzales; and sister, Jane Ann Tuttle, MD of Morgantown; sister-in-law, Teresa Tuttle of Greensboro, NC; brothers, David (Susan) Gonzales of Clarksburg, WV, Joseph Gonzales of Florida, James Gonzales of Moundsville, WV, Tony (Darlene) Tuttle of Suffolk, VA, Christopher (Elizabeth) Tuttle of Union Hall, VA, Rodger Tuttle of Winston-Salem, NC, and Tom (Charlene) Tuttle of Hooptown, PA; eleven nieces and nephews; special friends, Denise Klug and Mindy King of New Martinsville, and many other friends too numerous to mention.

Remains received at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with rite of reception at 4 p.m., Monday, November 1, 2021, visitation 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., with Rosary service at 6:30 p.m. followed by Vigil Service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 2, 2021 until time of Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. with Msgr. Kevin Quirk officiating. Burial to follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park in New Martinsville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Charitable Needs Fund, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 21 Rosary Rd., New Martinsville, WV 26155.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Eparchies have in place a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people. In accordance with these requirements, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer—directly or in close contact 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 “Office,” then “Office of Safe Environment.”

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Biden ...  

Cont’d from Page 1

Vatican for its “leadership in fighting the climate crisis” and for “speaking out on behalf of the wrongfully detained, including in Venezuela and Cuba.”

“The leaders committed to continue using their voices to advocate for personal and religious freedoms worldwide,” the White House said.

The Vatican had unexpectedly canceled — about 24 hours before Biden’s arrival — a scheduled livestream of the visit to the objections of reporters. Accredited journalists covering the Vatican have not been present for the beginning and concluding portions of any meetings with heads of state in the papal library since late February 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A group of reporters was given permission to be present for Biden’s arrival by car in the San Damaso Courtyard of the Apostolic Palace and a livestream was aired only of the presidential vehicle convoy arriving at the Vatican and stopping in the courtyard.

The only explanation the Vatican provided was that no livestreams of the pope’s meetings with heads of state have been provided since the pandemic began. However, as is customary, Vatican Media was to provide photographs and edited footage of some parts of the meeting.

Reaching the courtyard of the Apostolic Palace, where the U.S. flag had been raised and a formation of Swiss Guards stood watch, Biden and his wife were welcomed by Msgr. Leonardo Sapienza, regent of the papal household. Shaking his hand, Biden said, “It’s a pleasure to see you,” introduced his wife, and added that he was “glad to be here.”

“It’s good to be back,” he said, smiling, greeting and thanking each of the awaiting papal gentlemen who would accompany him upstairs.

“I’m Jill’s husband,” he told one member of the papal household, and, “If I had had your hair, I would have been elected much earlier,” he joked to another gentleman, blessed with a full head of salt-and-pepper-colored curls.

The monsignor then led them upstairs to the papal library before the live footage was cut off.

The private papal audience was Biden’s first presidential visit to the Vatican. Pope Francis had previously met Biden three times when Biden was vice president; the previous time was in 2016, after they both spoke at a conference on adult stem-cell research at the Vatican.

Biden is now the 14th U.S. president to have met a pope at the Vatican and the second Catholic president after President John F. Kennedy met Pope Paul VI almost 60 years ago.

The White House had said in mid-October that Biden planned on discussing working together on efforts promoting the respect of basic human dignity, ending the COVID-19 pandemic, addressing the climate crisis, income inequality and migration, and caring for the poor.

Whether the issue of abortion came up was not immediately known; Biden supports legal abortion, while church teaching upholds the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. (Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden at the Vatican.)
Mass Honoring St. Joseph to be Celebrated in Weirton

By Colleen Rowan

WEIRTON—The Weirton Catholic community will have the chance to gather for a celebration in the Year of St. Joseph. A Mass to honor St. Joseph will be celebrated at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton on Wednesday, Nov. 3, at 7 p.m.

“Holy Mother Church has given us Wednesdays as the day of the week to remember St. Joseph, our spiritual father—to reflect on, be grateful for, to honor, and to ask for his intercession,” parish officials said in inviting all to the Mass. Sponsored by “That Man Is You” group, the Mass will be celebrated by Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., pastor of St. Joseph’s and Sacred Heart of Mary Parish in Weirton.

“Our men’s spirituality group, ‘That Man Is You’ (TMIV), which is comprised of men from St. Joseph the Worker, St. Paul, Sacred Heart of Mary, and other local parishes, is working together with another spirituality group at St. Joe’s that participated in a consecration to Jesus through St. Joseph,” Father Schuelkens said. “These two groups are coming together in a request to have a Mass offered to celebrate St. Joseph as a chaste husband and a faithful father. After Mass we will all come together in fellowship to celebrate our patron saint of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.”

The gathering will be held in the cafeteria of Madonna High School. “That Man Is You” is a Catholic men’s group with more than 40 members. The group meets on Sundays from 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph the Worker Grade School in Weirton.

The group offers multiple speakers, food, fellowship, and faith. “This program will help to make you a better husband, father and man,” group members said.

St. Joseph the Worker Church is one of the three churches in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston designated as pilgrimage sites for the Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Year of St. Joseph. The next and last of the pilgrimage Masses at the church is Nov. 14 at 11 a.m.

Priests Learning More about Domestic Violence

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—For Domestic Violence Awareness Month, annually observed in October, priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are learning more about the issue, how to recognize signs of abuse in the home, and how to get victims the help they need.

Continuing education sessions on the issue are being offered by the diocese’s Office of Clergy in different regions of the state. The first session was held in Charleston Oct. 28 at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, and the second session will be held Nov. 3 in Morgantown.

The featured presenter for the first session in Charleston will return for the next session. Advocate and Director Molly Holden of the YWCA in Wheeling will be presenting on common traits of domestic violence, warning signs someone is experiencing domestic violence and how to assist a person who is in this situation, according to the diocese’s Clergy Office. Attendees will learn about supportive counseling and how to assist someone from childhood to adult. They will also learn about the legal system when it comes to inter-articipation in the legal system when it comes to inter-actions about domestic violence as well as resources available across the state.

Bishop Mark E. Brennan noted in his homily at the Mass he celebrated for Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling Oct. 10 that the observance coincides with Respect Life Month, which is also observed annually in October.

“As we rightly decry the violence committed against unborn babies in the womb, so we have to stand also against the violence that born persons, overwhelmingly women, experience at the hands of ... husbands or boyfriends or their ex-husbands or ex-boyfriends,” Bishop Brennan said. “Violence of any kind has no place in human relations and certainly not among Christ’s followers.”

Priests who wish to attend the session in Morgantown can register online at: https://dwc.org/family-violence-prevention-program/. For more information, contact Tina High in the Office of Clergy at (304) 233-0880, ext. 271, or by e-mail to thawigh@dwc.org.

Confirmation Schedule Fall 2021

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Saturday, October 30, 2021: St. Patrick Parish, Mannington, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 7, 2021: Immaculate Conception Parish, Fairmont, 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 10, 2021: Combined Confirmation: Holy Redeemer Parish, Spencer, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission, Elizabeth; at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission, 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 20, 2021: St. Francis Xavier Parish, Parkersburg, 5:00 p.m.
By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop James F. Checchio of Metuchen, New Jersey, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, is encouraging dioceses to use National Vocation Awareness Week, Nov. 7-13, as a time to foster vocations in their local faith communities.

“Studies of those recently ordained and religiously professed consistently show that the encouragement of the parish priest is the most influential factor in vocational discernment,” Bishop Checchio said in an Oct. 20 statement about the upcoming weeklong observance.

“But the accompaniment of the whole faith community is key for genuine vocational discernment — from one’s parents and family members, to the Catholic educators, as well as bulletin-ready quotes are all available online at: https://bit.ly/3jCqTcS.

The observance of National Vocation Awareness Week began in 1976 when the U.S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year to call attention to the importance of upholding vocations and praying for those discerning a religious vocation and celebrating those who were in ordained ministry and consecrated life.

In 1997, the celebration was moved to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord and in 2014, the USCCB’s Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations moved the observance to November to influence youth and young adults by engaging Catholic schools and colleges.

In his message for the 58th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations April 25, Pope Francis offered St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, as a model for vocational discernment.

He urged the church “to look to St. Joseph as an outstanding example of acceptance of God’s plans.”

“For St. Joseph, service — as a concrete expression of the gift of self — did not remain simply a high ideal, but became a rule for daily life,” the pope said in his message. “I like to think, then, of Saint Joseph, the protector of Jesus and of the church, as the protector of vocations. In fact, from his willingness to serve comes his concern to protect.”

Pope Francis added: “What a beautiful example of Christian life we give when we refuse to pursue our ambitions or indulge in our illusions, but instead care for what the Lord has entrusted to us through the church! God then pours out his Spirit and creativity upon us; he works wonders in us, as he did in Joseph.”

Resources for dioceses to utilize during National Vocation Awareness Week, including homily aids in both English and Spanish, as well as bulletin-ready quotes are all available online at: https://bit.ly/3jCqTcS.

U.S. Catholic Church to Observe National Vocation Awareness Week Nov. 7-13

Celebrating Vocation: Through, With, and In Christ

NOVEMBER 8 – 11 | 6:15 PM

November 8th ............ Marriage
November 9th ............ Diaconate & Consecrated Life
November 10th ............ Religious Life
November 11th ............ Priesthood
By Katie Peterson, Catholic News Service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — When the Taliban began taking control of Afghanistan in mid-August, “in one night, everything changed,” recalled Adam.

Adam, his wife and their 7-year-old son are three of the more than 150 Afghans whom Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Nashville have helped and will continue to help resettle in the next several months through the State Department’s Afghan Placement Assistance Program.

At the beginning of September, the Department of Homeland Security implemented Operation Allies Welcome “to support vulnerable Afghans, including those who worked alongside us in Afghanistan for the past two decades as they safely resettle in the United States,” according to the official Department of Homeland Security website, further leading to implementation of the placement program.

Since August 2018, Adam served as an Afghan interpreter for U.S. service members through the security office at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Because of his service to the U.S. troops, he requested his family’s true identity remain anonymous to protect their loved ones who are still in Kabul.

“I loved working with the U.S. Embassy because of that diplomatic mission. That was very important for Afghans,” Adam said.

“At that time, I needed to work with them and to support them for their security, for everything. That diplomatic mission, that built our government, and I’m greatly appreciative that I worked with them.”

“We had a really nice life in Kabul. We had everything,” he said. “We had an apartment; we had our own car. All of our families were very happy.”

Then everything changed. Adam said he was on duty like any other night, taking security instructions, checking posts, and even creating emails for other security guards so that they could communicate with their guard force commanders.

“We had intelligence reports that Kabul couldn’t be safe,” Adam told the Tennessee Register, Nashville’s diocesan newspaper, so he decided “to create email addresses for each individual, so that they would be able to apply for the Special Immigration Visa program in the near future.”

“The next morning, I came home, and my friend called me saying that our bank accounts will be closed,” Adam said.

Sure enough, when he went to the bank later that morning, even with his ID card from the U.S. Embassy and mobile phone photos proving his identity, he was unable to withdraw funds. He was forced to leave behind three years of savings from his salary as an interpreter.

Adam later returned to the U.S. Embassy to retrieve another of his ID cards and saw more changes.

“The police were not wearing their uniforms, but they were holding their posts,” he said. “I got permission from them to take my ID card because that was important for me, and I went back home. I was very afraid at that time.”

Adam and his family spent three more nights in Kabul before his guard force commander called to say that he could go to the airport to leave. Unfortunately, only his immediate family could come with him, forcing him and his wife to both leave extended family members behind.

At the airport, “we had a very bad problem with the crowd of people,” he said. “The U.S. Marine forces helped us, but they couldn’t control the situation inside the airport. Even my son was very scared at the time. His shoes were gone, but he didn’t mention that because he couldn’t talk at that time.”

“He was so afraid, and he couldn’t even breathe,” Adam’s wife added.

The family spent a full 24 hours at the Kabul airport before they were able to fly out on a military airplane; they went without their belongings because their luggage was lost. That flight got them out of Kabul. They were at their next stop for 48 hours.

Because it took time to prepare sleeping arrangements in the airplane hangar, Adam and his family sat under the wings of the airplane to try to shield themselves from the hot sun.

Eventually, the family ended up at a U.S. air base in Germany for eight days and nights. From Germany, Adam and his family arrived at Fort Beckett, Virginia, where they were processed.

During processing, Afghans go through medical screenings, including testing for COVID-19, receiving vaccinations, applying for immigration status, and more as coordinated by the U.S. State Department.

After a month in Virginia, they headed to their final destination of Nashville, where they met with Catholic Charities at the airport Sept. 30. The agency has helped provide the family with an apartment, furniture, dishes and more.

Adam’s brother has lived in Nashville since 2011 and also is helping the family get settled.

But they’re still waiting for health care, food stamps and education opportunities.

“I know the process takes time, and Catholic Charities is helping with that,” Adam said.

Additionally, Adam’s work as an interpreter with the U.S. Embassy was not documented as it should have been by the Department of Homeland Security, which means he doesn’t have the papers he needs to secure employment.

“That was not fair for me,” he said. “I served three years. That should be documented.”

They also still live in fear for the safety of their family back in Kabul.

“We can’t sleep at night because of what happened,” Adam’s wife said. “We wonder, ‘What do they need? What will happen in the future for them?’ It is a big problem for us.”

But Adam and his family remain hopeful and are grateful to be in a safe place.

“We hope to live happily and have everything we need soon,” Adam’s wife said, including schooling opportunities for all three of them.

Adam hopes to study anthropology and prepare for his dream career.

“My hope for my future in America is to serve as I served before,” Adam said. “I want to serve for the government because the government can help Afghanistan; the government can help my people.”

(Peterson is on the staff of the Tennessee Register, newspaper of the Diocese of Nashville.)

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The Catholic Spirit

October 29, 2021

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October 29, 2021

The Catholic Spirit

We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses!” said Carol Dindinger of St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town. Her parish church is home to numerous beautiful mosaics gracing the interior of the main building, all of which are works of a parish program now in its fifth year.

“The mosaic program was started in 2016 for an active way to learn about the saints, to honor family members and others, to raise funds to be applied to our building debt and to beautify our worship space,” said Dindinger, who is the director of the parish’s Sacred Art & Mosaic Program.

The mosaics themselves are in a golden, arched frame and measure approximately 36’ high and 30’ across at the base. The mosaic is first painted by an artist Angel Scorza, who paints for the St. Jude Shop in Havertown, Pa. Every piece of colored, Venetian glass tessera is cut by hand and then placed on a clay bed. The cut pieces are of varying sizes. Each piece of glass is matched perfectly to the painting. Once all the pieces are put in place, they are then transferred to a pre-made frame. These are groutless mosaics.

“Currently we have 28 saints’ mosaics that have been blessed and installed,” Dindinger said. “Additionally, there are 23 mosaics that are ‘somewhere’ in the process, with another eight waiting their turn.”

The mosaics represent saints from the well-known such as SS. Peter and Paul to lesser known saints such as St. Chiara Bedano and St. Drogo.
Assumption Parish in Keyser Welcomes Back Parish School of Religion Students in a Memorable Way


Coordinated by Director of Religious Education Kelley Kuhn, the students found their classrooms, met their teachers and got reacquainted with their classmates. Each class then rotated through several activities which were held outside. There was a cake walk along with two games: one required them to balance a container of golf balls with their feet while each of them took turns removing their socks; the other required them to stack cups with just strings attached to a rubber band.

“The kids had fun with the activities while learning a great lesson in the importance of cooperating, communicating and supporting each other,” said Kuhn.

Everyone was then treated to donuts and snow cones in their choice of flavors: Biblical Blue Raspberry, Mother Mary Mango, Water & Wine Wedding Cake, or Church Bell Cherry!

“We are blessed to have a vibrant program for the children of our parish. We are looking forward to an outstanding year of continued faith formation for our young people,” said Father Thomas Sebastian, CST, parish administrator.

A total of 66 students registered for the 2021-2022 education year in pre-k/kindergarten through grade 12.

Rosary to be Prayed at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto in Berkeley Springs Oct. 30

BERKELEY SPRINGS—St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Berkeley Springs invites all to attend and pray the Holy Rosary for America in front of the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday, Oct. 30 at 4 p.m.

This will be followed by the vigil Mass at 5 p.m. This prayer is in consonance with the culmination of the Holy Rosary Month of October. Prayer guides and rosaries will be provided.

Clarksburg Parish’s Gift Shop Offering Additional Hours for Christmas Shopping

CLARKSBURG—It’s not too early to start Christmas Shopping! Beginning the weekend of Nov. 6-7, the gift shop at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clarksburg will be open before and after Masses.

“The ICC Gift Shop has many wonderful religious items for sale,” parish officials said.

The gift shop is located inside the church.

Knights of Columbus Collecting Donations for Hospitalized Veterans

CLARKSBURG—The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus is conducting a campaign to collect personal hygiene items and undergarment items for hospitalized military veterans at the VA Hospital in Clarksburg.

Personal Hygiene Items: Razors and razor blades, shaving cream, after shave lotion deodorant, combs, tooth brushes and tooth paste. Undergarments: New, small, medium, large and extra large.

The items will be collected during the months of November and December and delivered to the VA Hospital in Clarksburg.

“Thank you in advance for your patronage,” Knights said.

For more information and to make a donation, contact Angelo Viani at (304) 366-7336.

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St. Joseph
Faithful Protector of Mother and Child

The infant Christ “came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph” (PC 5). The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come.

While the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary to announce that she would bring forth the Savior of the world, it was revealed to Joseph in a series of dreams how God’s plans would be brought to fulfillment. As Pope Francis highlights, “God trusted Joseph, as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child” (PC 5).

Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, “in every situation, Joseph declared his own ‘fiat’” (PC 3). His “yes” to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us.

During this Year of St. Joseph, each of us can find in him “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble” (PC, Intro). Joseph shows us how to say “yes” to life, despite our own fears, frailties, and weaknesses. For it is Joseph who was “chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true ‘miracle’ by which God saves the child and his mother” (PC 5).

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life. Dear St. Joseph, you who were “able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence” (PC 5), help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.

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Our Lady of Peace Students Collect Food for Those in Need

Fifth-graders from Our Lady of Peace School in Wheeling deliver canned goods to the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling Oct. 15.

WHEELING—Fifth-graders from Our Lady of Peace School in Wheeling delivered canned goods to the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling Oct. 15.

“Our students collected 3,194 cans!!” school officials said. “That equaled 2,643lbs!!! Thank you to our students and all of our families who donated to help the less fortunate.”

The Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center is a comprehensive social service center located in Wheeling that serves individuals and families in Ohio, Marshall, and Belmont (Ohio) counties. The center runs several anti-hunger programs, including a food pantry, meals served on-site, and meals delivered to shut-ins throughout Wheeling. The center also provides assistance to those facing utility shut-offs, as well as help obtaining official documents like birth certificates and state IDs. The center offers a case management program in which families work with staff to identify barriers or obstacles on the path to greater self-sufficiency, and then set goals and action steps to work toward overcoming those barriers.

For information about these and other services provided by the Neighborhood Center, call (304) 232-7157.

Martinsburg’s St. Joseph School Welcomes New Little Crusaders Teacher

MARTINSBURG—St. Joseph School in Martinsburg welcomed Angelia Small as the new Little Crusaders teacher.

Angelia, who goes by Angie, recently moved from Virginia to the Spring Mills, Md., area with her husband. They successfully raised five children and have been empty-nesters for several years.

She earned a Bachelor of Science in child and family welfare from Kaplan University. Her career has taken her in many directions, but it always comes back to children. She finds joy in their presence and delights in their genuineness.

She is excited to be the lead teacher for SJS’ 2-year-olds, an age group she considers to be profound. They are like sponges, ready to absorb all that is poured out before them.

Angie is dedicated to the social and emotional development of each child. As children are at the beginning of an educational journey, she makes it her personal goal to ensure that each one flourishes from the best care and develops a love for learning that will last. To that end, she hopes to make every day a great one for the children in her class.

Knowing that she has taken part in their success fills her with pride and satisfaction.

She feels very proud and fortunate to be part of the SJS team.

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Providing Nutritious Foods for Children in West Virginia

By Katie Hinerman Klug, Catholic Charities West Virginia Marketing Communications Specialist

A key part of the mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is working to ensure that every child in our state has access to the services that he or she needs to be healthy, happy, and to reach his or her full potential.

Our CCWVa Child Care Food Program helps to support the health and growth of children by supporting healthy meal choices in homes of child care providers. Our program provides education and assistance to caregivers in meal planning and application for meal reimbursements.

“Children in our program gain from early nutrition education that helps them establish positive eating habits that will enrich the quality of their diet throughout their lives,” said Jane Rose, CCWVa Child Care Food Program director.

The primary goal of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is to serve nutritious meals to children attending child care homes and centers. Secondary goals are: 1. The establishment of positive eating habits at the earliest stages of development. 2. Reduction of future health care and education costs due to lack of proper early development. 3. Training and support of local child care personnel.

Child care providers in the program receive nutrition education and support services that help them serve nutritious meals and create a positive eating environment for children.

A child care provider named Rebecca enrolled with CCWVa Child Care Food Program in 2017. Rebecca has a state-issued license to provide care for six children at once, but she has 20 children enrolled in her family child care program. These children are in care during different times of the day and on different days of the week, depending on the parents’ work schedules.

Rebecca said that this program has been a blessing to her. It gives her the opportunity to provide a nutritious variety of foods that would be limited if she paid out of pocket to feed the children.

Rebecca said that she feels good knowing that the meals being served in her home are “sowing the seeds that might save lives some day” through establishing healthy eating habits.

The Child Care Food Program offers a two-tiered reimbursement for meals and snacks provided to children in care. A child care provider may claim reimbursement for two meals and one snack (or two snacks and one meal) per child each day of care.

In order to receive this reimbursement, providers must agree to serve healthy meals and snacks to children in care. These meals have requirements that include whole-grain rich items, more vegetables and fruits, lean meats, low-fat dairy options and less sugar.

“Research shows child care providers participating in a program like ours offer more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and lean meats than providers who do not,” said Rose. “Research also shows that children who receive high quality meals are less likely to be tired and are sick less.”

This is especially important in West Virginia, a state that consistently has a high rate of childhood obesity.

“Being in the CCWVa Child Care Food Program helps shape a positive attitude about healthy foods that will leave a lasting impression on child care providers and children,” said Rose.

The CCWVa Child Care Food Program served 2,997 children in 21 counties of West Virginia last year.
El Vaticano extiende las indulgencias tradicionales del Día de los Difuntos

Por Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)—Con la pandemia de COVID-19 aún en curso y con restricciones a las uniones aún vigentes en algunos países, el Vaticano ha extendido nuevamente el periodo de tiempo en el que las personas pueden obtener una indulgencia plenaria por visitar un cementerio y orar por los almas de los fieles en el purgatorio.

El cardenal Mauro Piacenza, jefe de la Penitenciaria Apostólica, un tribunal del Vaticano que se ocupa de asuntos de conciencia, dijo que las indulgencias obtenidas tradicionalmente durante la primera semana de noviembre se pueden obtener durante todo el mes de noviembre, anunció el Vaticano el 28 de octubre.

El cardenal dijo que estaba actuando en respuesta a “las súplicas recibidas recientemente de varios pastores sagrados de la iglesia debido al estado de la pandemia continua”.

Tradicionalmente, los fieles podían recibir una indulgencia plena todos los días desde el 1 de noviembre hasta el 8 de noviembre cuando visitaban un cementerio para orar por los difuntos y cumplían otras condiciones y, en particular, cuando iban a una iglesia o un oratorio a orar. 2 de noviembre, Día de los Difuntos.

Debido a la pandemia y la popularidad de muchas culturas de visitar los cementerios para el Día de los Difuntos, alrededor de 40 millones de personas visitaron cementerios en la primera semana de noviembre, así que la Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston, comuníquese con uno de los oficiales de la Diocesis.

La diócesis está ofreciendo una indulgencia plena todos los días desde el 1 de noviembre hasta el 8 de noviembre para aquellos que prefieren. En el caso de los diferentes gobiernos locales y diócesis cerraron los cementerios en la primera semana de noviembre, aunque el decreto para 2021 renovó esas disposiciones.

Las indulgencias se conceden cuando un católico visita un cementerio para rezar por los muertos, se confiesa, asiste a misa y recibe la Eucaristía y rezar por las intenciones del Papa.

Una indulgencia es una remisión del castigo temporal que uno merece por sus pecados; la gente a menudo busca la indulgencia en nombre de un ser querido que ha muerto o, especialmente a principios de noviembre, de un alma desconocida en el purgatorio.

La iglesia enseña que la oración, particularmente la Misa, y los sacrificios pueden ofrecerse en nombre de las almas en el purgatorio. La fiesta de Todos los Santos difiere de la fiesta de Todos los Santos del 1 de noviembre precisamente porque ofrece oraciones por la paz eterna y el descanso celestial de aquellos que murieron en estado de gracia, pero no totalmente purificados.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice: “Todos los que mueren en la gracia y la amistad de Dios, pero aún imperfectamente purificados, tienen ciertamente asegurada su salvación eterna; pero después de la muerte se someten a una purificación para alcanzar la santidad necesaria para entrar en el gozo del cielo”.

Para denunciar presuntos casos de abuso sexual de niños:
La Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar ante las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También alientan a utilizar www.reportbishopbuse.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.reportbishopbuse.org.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar concretamente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Proteccion Infantil de Ninos y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anónimamente 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 come- tido un delito. La diócesis también alienta a informar a las autoridades eclesiásticas apropiadas. Para reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños por parte del personal de la Diocesis 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 Schuelens, 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 obispo 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, Diocesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.


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 "Rendir cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de formularios de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y a 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 Ninos: 304-293-6400.

Semana Nacional de Concienciación Vocacional del 7 al 13 de noviembre

Por Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - El obispo James F. Checchio de Metuchen, Nueva Jersey, presidente del Comité de Clero, Vida Consagrada y Vocaciones de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de EE. UU., está animando a las diócesis a utilizar la Semana Nacional de Concienciación sobre las Vocaciones, del 7 de noviembre, 13, como un momento para fomentar las vocaciones en sus comunidades de fe locales.

"Los estudios de los recién ordenados y profesos religiosos muestran consistentemente que el estímulo del párraro es el factor más influyente en el discernimiento vocacional", dijo el obispo Checchio en un comunicado del 20 de octubre sobre la próxima semana de celebración.

"Pero el acompañamiento de toda la comunidad de fe es clave para un genuino discernimiento vocacional, desde los padres y miembros de la familia hasta los educadores católicos, así como el papel vital que desempeñan los ministros de jóvenes y los feligreses como los primeros encuentros para los jóvenes con el fe ", añadió. La Semana Nacional de Concienciación Vocacional es una celebración anual de la Iglesia Católica de los Estados Unidos dedicada a promover las vocaciones al sacerdocio, al diaconado y a la vida consagrada a través de la oración y la educación, y a llamar a los fieles a orar y apoyar a aquellos que están considerando tal vocación.

Los recursos para que las diócesis los utilicen durante la Semana Nacional de Concienciación Vocacional, que incluyen ayudas para la homilía tanto en inglés como en español, consejos de lectura y discernimiento recomendados, oraciones de los fieles en inglés y español, así como citas para boletines. todos disponibles en línea en: https://bit.ly/3Cq Michaels.

Anunciar con El espíritu católico

Póngase en contacto con Colleen Rowan en crowan@dwc.org
Executive Director of Department of Social Ministry

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is seeking to hire an Executive Director of the Department of Social Ministry.

The Executive Director is responsible for serving as a catalyst and ongoing resource to the Bishop, diocesan staff, pastors and parishes in developing and maintaining effort which link direct service, advocacy, action and empowerment toward concerns of local and global justice, respect for all human life and environmental concerns.

This person also provides leadership, vision and advocacy for the development and implementation of a strategic plan for Prison, Hispanic ministries and other immigrant groups.

Qualification requirements include a Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred), 2-5 years experience in parish Social Ministry, extensive knowledge of Catholic Social Teachings, working knowledge of the operation of the Catholic Church, self-motivated, ability to work in a team environment.

Please submit resume, references and cover letter to:
Human Resources Office
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston
1311 Byron Street
PO Box 230
Wheeling, WV 26003
mwalsh@dwc.org
Position will stay open until filled.

Assistant Director for Youth and Young-Adult Ministry

The Assistant Director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services’ Mission Statement.

The Assistant Director assists the Bishop and the Office Director in advancing the vocation and mission of the lay faithful, particularly with youth and young adults. This position assists in the evangelization, faith formation and public witness of these persons, leading them toward a deeper commitment to Christ and his Church.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Coordinates the diocesan ministries to, with, and for youth and young adults; directs the sub-office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, within the wider Office of Evangelization and Catechesis; works with youth and young adult ministers at the parish level to promote, develop, and execute their ministries; oversees Development for Camp Carlo management and staff; Acts as the diocesan liaison to TEC (Teens Encounter Christ); Oversees Catholic Scouting within the diocese; organizes and executes the diocesan NYCC (National Catholic Youth Conference) trip; oversees diocesan involvement in youth sports; Assists the Director in upholding Church teaching within the ministerial programs of the Diocese; incorporates the needs and perspectives of different ethnic groups and the disabled in all programming; makes an ongoing commitment to professional development in areas of responsibilities.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's Degree in Theology, religious education or related area (Master's Preferred); three (3) or more years' experience in Catechetical Formation at the parish, in a Catholic school or at the diocesan level; deep faith and personal commitment to the life of the Church, adherence to the teachings of the Church, and a desire to teach and communicate this to others; in-depth knowledge of the Catholic Church, its mission, structures, and ministerial life, and in particular its teachings and principles on family, youth, and young adults; knowledge, ability, and manual dexterity to use diocesan technology effectively; ability to maintain confidentiality; Demonstrated leadership and organizational ability including the prioritization of responsibilities, skills and desire for collaboration, together with ability to take initiative and work independently; ability to communicate effectively and work collaboratively with all members of the organization; ability to work a flexible schedule, including evenings and weekends when necessary; ability to effectively articulate the catechetical vision, mission, and goals of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, to present information effectively, and to respond to questions from a variety of groups; ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists; ability to do long-range planning and project management; resourcefulness and flexibility to achieve planned objectives in a timely manner, and also to respond effectively and creatively to emerging needs, demands and opportunities; knowledge and skills to do research, writing, and prepare formational materials and programs; ability to organize, conduct, and evaluate formation programs.

Interested candidates may submit a resume and cover letter to mwalsh@dwc.org.

Case Manager, Catholic Charities W.Va.

The Case Manager is responsible for assisting and supporting the Regional Director in multiple programs. This employee will also direct case management duties, essential in carrying out the mission and vision of Catholic Charities West Virginia.

This is a full-time position. Essential Job Duties: Conduct face-to-face interviews with clients; assist clients in implementation of long-range plans; Maintain the operation of region's Emergency Assistance Program; develop comprehensive service plan with client; possess excellent writing skills; assist the Regional Director in working with regional Catholic parishes.

Qualifications: Bachelor in Social Work or related field; working knowledge of an ability to articulate Catholic Social Teaching; experience in working with parish social concerns committees; casework experience working with at-risk populations; excellent computer skills with ability to track and analyse data. Must have transportation to travel.

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references to: bhagy@cwwva.org
Application materials can also be delivered to:
Bill Hagy, Regional Director, Western Region, 1024 Quarrier Street Charleston, WV 25301
Child Care Coordinator, Morgantown, WV, Catholic Charities West Virginia

At Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa), we have a culture deeply rooted in Catholic social teaching and respect all Catholic beliefs and practices.

The Child Care Coordinator will oversee the administrative and case management activities of the Child Care Resource Center staff. This position will ensure that clients receive quality services in a timely manner, and that all program requirements are followed. The Child Care Coordinator will work with the Director, to oversee the administration and case management of office staff. This is a full-time position.

Essential Job Duties: Implementation of state and federal case management guidelines; monitor caseload sizes.

- Responsible for all monthly reports and RODCA collection; responsible for staff supervision and training; prepare personnel evaluations; approval of all casework in FACTS; reviews child care cases.

Location: Child Care Resources Center, Northern Region, Morgantown

Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in human services or related field or early childhood field as well as thorough knowledge of child care policies and FACTS; 2 years supervisory experience; ability to work collaboratively in a team environment; ability to maintain confidentiality and professional boundaries.

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by Nov. 3, 2021 to: Brittany Lucci at Brittany.k.lucci@wv.gov

Application materials can also be delivered to:
Brittany Lucci
965 Hartman Run Road
Suite 1103
Morgantown, WV 26505

WHERE SPOUSES DISCOVER GOD’S PLAN FOR THEIR FAMILY

YEAR-ROUND MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES OF SPOUSES

Drawing from the life, teaching, and witness of St. John Paul II, spouses gather as a community of friends for a 7-part series to explore their call to holiness in and through their marriage and family life.

PRESENTED BY ST. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION | DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

HIGHLIGHTS
- A meal and time for fellowship
- Prayer and meaningful friendships
- Short, compelling video presentations
- Discussion facilitated by Host Couples
- A Bring It Home component that translates learning into living
- Available for Spanish-speaking couples

Series One: Family, a Domestic Church
Each video features national speakers and faithful witness couples:

Damon Owens
Danielle Bean

Maintenance/Janitorial Worker at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Wheeling

St. Vincent de Paul Parish is a vibrant Catholic congregation in Wheeling, WV. Our staff works as a team to create a great working environment as we serve the needs of our parish and school communities. We have multiple buildings that require daily maintenance and repair.

Maintenance Worker Responsibilities: Conducting routine inspections of premises and equipment; performing preventative maintenance; handling basic repairs and maintenance; overseeing contractors when professional repairs are necessary; diagnosing mechanical issues and correcting them; repairing machines, equipment, or structures as necessary; lawn care; snow removal; cleaning the church and grounds; cemetery management; collaborates with St. Vincent School Maintenance / Janitorial Worker; and preparing the church for Mass, weddings, and funerals.

Maintenance Worker Requirements: Proven maintenance experience; high school diploma or general education degree (GED); related degree from a technical college (preferred); must have a vehicle with capability of towing 1000 lbs.; must pass a background check and complete Safe Environment training. Hours of work: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; occasional night and weekend hours required.

Compensation based on experience. Employee benefits offered through the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston. If interested, send resume to St. Vincent de Paul School 2244 Marshall Ave., Wheeling WV 26003 or to skoval@saintvincentparish.org
Grant Them Eternal Rest

COMMEMORATING THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

“FOUR LAST THINGS & MORE”

Wednesday, November 3
6:00 p.m.

Presented by Rev. Mr. Douglas Breiding
Diocesan Director of Catholic Cemeteries

CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOSEPH
1300 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
MORGANTOWN—WVU Medicine Children’s has entered into program affiliations with WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital and WVU Medicine Reynolds Memorial Hospital to help serve the children of the Northern Panhandle and surrounding region.

Together, providers will have the ability to give an enhanced level of care to infants, children, and adolescents close to home. Providing these capabilities and best practices will allow Wheeling Hospital, Reynolds Memorial Hospital, and WVU Medicine Children’s to ensure affordable, accessible, and comprehensive care for their most vulnerable patients.

“As WVU Medicine makes final preparations to open the new WVU Medicine Children’s Hospital, we at Wheeling Hospital could not be more proud of our affiliation and what it has brought to the children of the Northern Panhandle,” Douglass Harrison, president and CEO of Wheeling Hospital, said. “Keeping our kids close to home is our top priority, and the services offered in the region by WVU Medicine Children’s have done just that.”

This collaboration will provide state-of-the-art, nationally recognized pediatric care for families in the Ohio County and Marshall County area through access to subspecialty care, preventive care, research, and education programs.

“Our mission at WVU Medicine Reynolds Memorial Hospital has always been about bringing world-class healthcare to our patients in our own community,” David Hess, M.D., president and CEO of Reynolds Memorial Hospital, said. “This affiliation with WVU Medicine Children’s will make good on this commitment by giving access to this level of care to the children in our region. As a pediatrician, and parent, I recognize that our children’s health and well-being has to be our top priority.”

Collectively, the hospitals share the common mission of improving the health of children in West Virginia and the region through ensuring the delivery of high quality and safe care.

“WVU Medicine Children’s, Reynolds Memorial Hospital, and Wheeling Hospital share a dedication to improving children’s health,” Amy L. Bush, B.S.N., M.B.A., R.N., C.N.O.R., WVU Medicine Children’s chief operating officer, said. “We look forward to an alliance that will provide families access to the best of both of our organizations. Together, we will advance patient care by keeping children’s wellbeing at the center of all we do.”

For more information on WVU Medicine Children’s, visit WVUKids.com. For more information on Wheeling Hospital, visit WVUMedicine.org/Wheeling. For more information on Reynolds Memorial Hospital, visit WVUMedicine.org/Reynolds-Memorial.