

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Huntington Parish's 12-Hour Eucharistic Adoration Draws Faithful from Tri-State Area

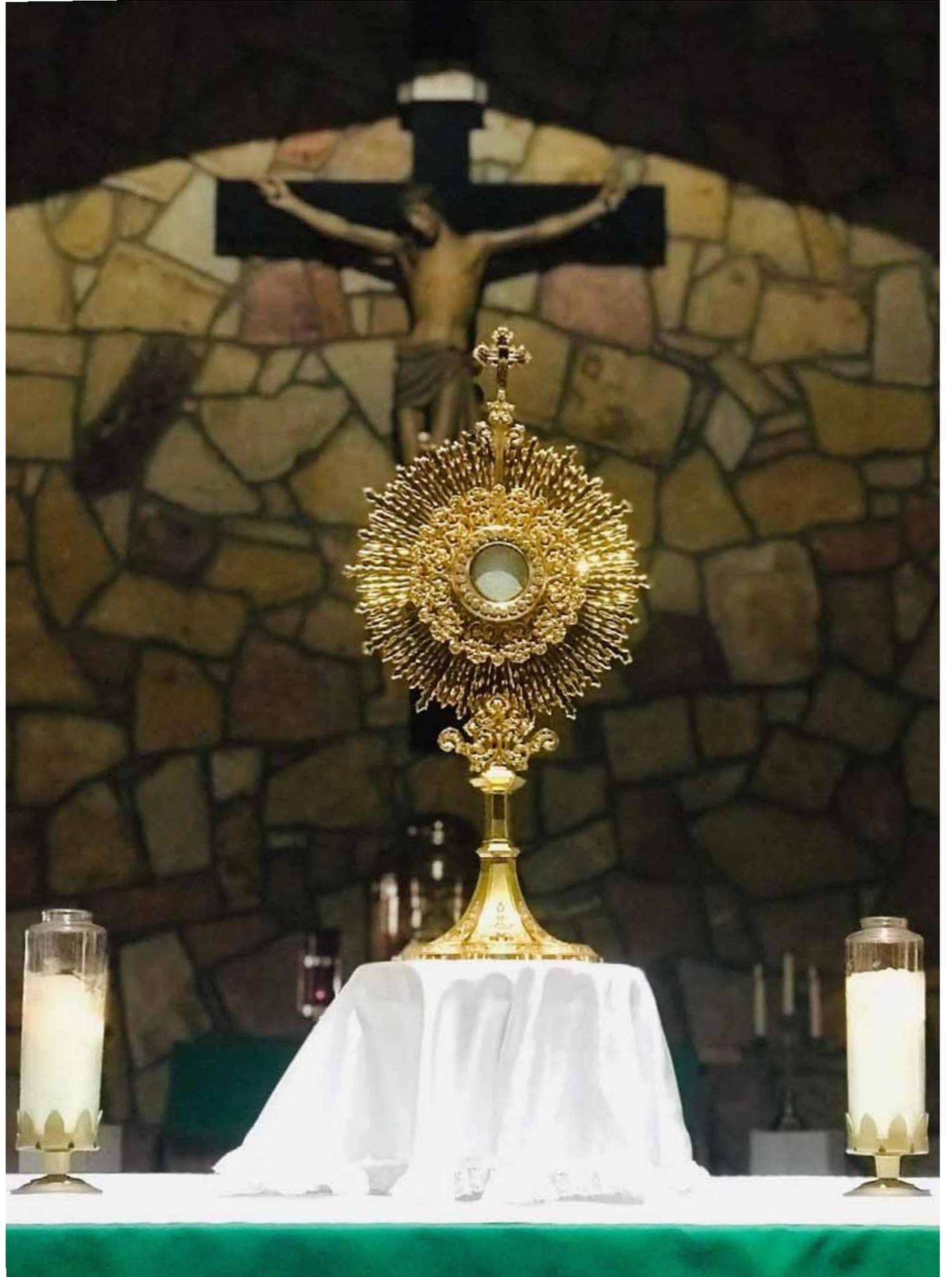
Sacred Heart Parish in Huntington held a 12-hour Eucharistic Adoration to celebrate the Parish Year of the National Eucharistic Revival. The parish offers adoration every Tuesday and First Friday, "but felt this particular year is the time to rekindle our love of the Eucharist," parish officials said.

"The number in attendance for the adoration exceeded 30% of the total weekend Mass attendance. Considering this was a work and school day, it was impressive that so many took time from their busy schedules to show their love and respect for our Lord Jesus.

—Officials at Sacred Heart Parish in Huntington

The 12-hour Eucharistic Adoration began Sept. 8 at 6 a.m. Families and parishioners were encouraged to spend one hour with our Lord during this time. Families were asked to stop on the way to or from school or work, and especially stop before dinner to attend benediction and a 6 p.m. Mass.

"Not only did members from Sacred Heart attend, but also Catholics from the surrounding area churches located
See "Adoration" on Page 2



The Most Blessed Sacrament is exposed during 12-hour Eucharistic Adoration at Sacred Heart Parish in Huntington Sept. 8 to celebrate the Parish Year of the National Eucharistic Revival.

Courtesy Photo

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Adoration...

Cont'd from Page 1

in Huntington and even Ohio and Kentucky," parish officials said. "The number in attendance for the adoration exceeded 30% of the total weekend Mass attendance. Considering this was a work and school day, it was impressive that so many took time from their busy schedules to show their love and respect for our Lord Jesus."

Parish officials went on to say that additional events are being planned to include a group discussion on the book "This is My Body," by Bishop Robert Barron, which was provided to parish members.

Sacred Heart is pleased to participate in the revival, parish officials said.

The Parish Year of the U.S. Bishops' National Eucharistic Revival began June 11 and ends July 17, 2024. The revival's website says this year is about fostering Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, "strengthening our liturgical life through the faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit."

These are all being offered in parishes across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston throughout the year.

The diocese offers many resources and more information about the National Eucharistic Revival at <https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/>

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 Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, at 304.559.6742. 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, reli-

gious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities

where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

Sexual Abuse Awareness Training

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) requires that all Dioceses/Eparchies have in place a Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and young people.

In accordance with these requirements, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Safe Environment Program consists of the following components for persons seeking employment or to volunteer—directly or indirectly—

with children: background check; receipt of the Diocese's Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children; and sexual abuse awareness training for adults. Sexual abuse awareness training may be completed online or via live workshop.

For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, click "Diocese", then "Offices," then "Office of Safe Environment."

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Courtesy Photo

Weirton's firefighters, police, EMS, and military personnel stand for a blessing at the annual Blue Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton Sept. 11.

Weirton's Catholic Community Prays for Police, Firefighters, EMS, Military, and Heroes of 9/11

By Colleen Rowan

On Sept. 11, the Catholic community of Weirton gathered for the celebration of the annual Blue Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church to pray for police, firefighters, EMS, the military, and their families. The community also remembered the heroes and victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

Each year on this day, students from Weirton's St. Joseph the Worker Grade School, St. Paul Grade School, and Madonna High School participate in the Mass which was celebrated by Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens Jr., V.E., pastor of the parish and St. Joseph the Worker Grade School.

The parish and schools welcomed all to the celebration to

honor and pray for those who are willing to lay down their life every day.

"Our Blue Mass today was beautiful!" officials of St. Joseph the Worker posted on the school's Facebook page. "Thank you to the faculty, staff, and students of Madonna High School, St. Paul's School, and St. Joseph the Worker School, along with families and parish-

ioners for gathering today to honor our first responders and military and honored guests, and to remember the heroes of 9/11."

Following the Mass, the first responders, military, and honored guests, and all who attended the celebration were invited to a ceremony outside of the church and a luncheon at St. Joseph's Dube Dome.



Courtesy Photo

The faithful fill St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton for the annual Blue Mass Sept. 11.

Manchin Announces \$122k to Expand Broadband Access for Students at Seven West Virginia Schools

WASHINGTON, DC – On Sept. 8, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), member of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee, announced \$122,155 from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for seven West Virginia schools. This funding is made possible through the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) and will help the schools purchase laptops and tablets, Wi-Fi hotspots, modems, routers and broadband connections for students, faculty and staff.

“The Emergency Connectivity Fund continues to provide critical resources for West Virginia students, schools and libraries to secure re-

liable broadband connections. I successfully fought to include this funding for West Virginia in the American Rescue Plan, which will help ensure our communities have the essential tools they need to be competitive in today’s digital economy,” said Manchin. “As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue working to ensure every student across the Mountain State has access to reliable, affordable broadband.”

The Emergency Connectivity Fund was authorized in the American Rescue Plan, which passed the Senate in March 2021, to provide \$7.17 billion to expand distance learning and

connectivity around the country. It included key provisions authored by Manchin that prioritized rural areas and made these funds fully reimbursable to ensure rural states like West Virginia do not bear the burden of higher costs.

Individual awards listed below:

\$53,850 – Eastern Panhandle Preparatory Academy, Kearneysville

\$37,600 – St. Patrick School, Weston

\$6,926 – St. Michael School, Wheeling

\$6,926 – Central Catholic High School, Wheeling

\$6,926 – Our Lady of Peace School, Wheeling

\$6,233 – St. Paul School, Weirton

\$3,694 – Fairmont Catholic School, Fairmont

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DR. DONALD PATTHOFF

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Don Patthoff is a dentist, author, editor-in-chief: “Journal of Laser Dentistry,” and co-founder George Washington Institute of Living Ethics.

Keynote: BOB O’CONNOR

Priestfield and the Colonial Founding of the American Catholic Church

Bob O’Connor is a Civil War historian, author of over two-dozen books on Civil War history, frequent speaker and historical impersonator, and past Director of Tourism in Washington County, Maryland.

STANLEY D. WILLIAMS, PhD

*Persecution of the Catholic Church in America
and Writing the Wizard Clip Haunting Novel*

Stan Williams is a filmmaker, author, Hollywood screenplay consultant, and publisher of Catholic apologetic media.

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Aim Women's Center Has a New Ultrasound Machine Thanks to Weirton Knights of Columbus

STEUBENVILLE, OHIO—The Aim Women's Center in Steubenville, Ohio, has a new ultrasound machine thanks to the efforts of Knights of Columbus Council #3734 of Weirton.

The mission of Aim Women's Center is to be the first place a woman, seeking an abortion, turns when faced with an unexpected pregnancy. By offering free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds, options counseling, and community referrals, Aim strives to change a young mother's fear of the future into confidence to choose life, Aim officials said. Aim Women's Center also supplies new mothers and their newborn babies with supplies such as diapers and wipes,, etc.

"I am extremely thankful for the dedication and service the Knights of Columbus Council #3734 Weirton provided our center with the donation of a new ultrasound machine," said Shari Prichard of AWC. "It is very exciting for us as we continue to provide caring and compassionate service to women who are faced with an unplanned pregnancy."

The machine was dedicated at a ceremony in August. A plaque, presented at the ceremony, states: "Ultrasound donated to the Aim Women's Center by Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Ultrasound Initiative Program, Sponsored by K of C Weirton Council #3734." Also listed are additional donors: Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, West Virginia State Council Knights of Columbus, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, and K of C councils from Elkins, Follansbee, Weirton, and Fourth Degree Assembly of Weirton.

The Weirton council brought the ultrasound machine to Aim through the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Ultrasound Initiative Project, a nationwide endeavor pledging 1,000 machines for centers like Aim throughout the country — covering half of the cost of each machine. The Supreme Council has already surpassed its goal and has now placed over 1,300 ultrasound machines and is continuing the initiative. The goal is to save over 1 million lives; the expectation is that each of those ultrasound machines can save 1,000 lives."

Lives can be saved with the machines by showing mothers clear 4D images of their unborn babies. Not only does it produce a higher



Larry De Rosa of Knights of Columbus Council #3734 of Weirton presents the ultrasound donation plaque to Shari Prichard of Aim Women's Center in Steubenville, Ohio. With them is Joe La Mantia, also of Council #3734.

quality image than ever before but it also allows the mother to hear the baby's heartbeat. So, it's more that the mother will be able to experience. Ultimately, Aim officials are hoping that this machine will help even more women to choose life.

Over the years women seeking an abortion found the courage to choose life after engaging in the ministries provided by AWC. In addition to focusing on the life of the baby, Aim also focuses on the mother and how finding herself in an unexpected pregnancy can be a traumatic and scary event for her. Aim helps her see that she is not alone and AWC will be with her, loving her and praying with her really which enables her to make a choice for life."

"The Knights of Columbus, just like the Catholic Church, values all life in all stages from conception to natural death. The Supreme Council's Ultrasound Initiative Project is an opportunity to save the most vulnerable lives—unborn babies. We know that some in our culture do not place a value on these unborn lives so we need to step in and do our part," said Scott Nale, former West Virginia State Deputy Knights of Columbus.



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Follow the Pace of Our Elders

Pledge Big for #MillionRosaries4WV

It is often our elders who set the example for us in the Church. That has also proven to be true with the One Million Rosaries for Increased Vocations in WV campaign.

"I'm 83 and can't complain too much about my health, so I'll pledge to say 730 Rosaries. I'd pledge more, but I want to be sure I meet my goal before my number is called at the gates of heaven," said one Marshall County parishioner who called in her pledge for the One Million Rosaries for Increased Vocations in WV.

Other seniors from Beckley, Charles Town, and Buckhannon have called to make additional pledges because they have already

reached the initial goal they entered, and because they didn't realize their Rosaries still count if they are said after Oct. 7.

Campaign originator Sister Martha Gomez has emphasized that we need to know and get the word out that Oct. 7 is the end of the pledge period for the #MillionRosaries4WV not the end of fulfilling prayer pledges.

Make your pledge by going to: <https://dwc.org/onemillionrosaries/> or by calling it in to Manager of Writing and Social Media Joyce Bibey at (304)233-0880, ext. 357. Bibey initially announced plans for the campaign at the final Diocesan Eucharistic Congress that was held in

Charleston last Spring.

All parish priests and Catholic school principals learned about the program earlier this summer. Many of our parish congregations are reminded weekly and inspired to participate in the campaign in their parish bulletins, pulpit announcements, and through Rosary groups.

The pledge period began on the Feast of the Assumption Aug. 15 and the last day to enter pledges will be on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Oct. 7.

We need you to prayerfully consider not only taking part, but sharing the mission, Sister Martha said.

"We do not want people to stop praying on Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary,"

she said. "It is an honor system. Your pledge is between you and God. We will keep a running tally to gauge our success. That number is slowly climbing. We need a lot more. Let it be a visible life line of love and support for those who are discerning their vocation."

Don't know the Rosary or unsteady to do it on your own? No worries. Click on the "How to Pray the Rosary" printable on the dwc.org/onemillionrosaries page, download one of the suggested free apps, or search "Rosary" on your favorite audio streaming service like Spotify. Turn 13-25 minutes praying the Rosary with the help of one of these re-

sources into the best faith building 13-25 minutes of your day.

Sister Jennifer Berridge, who will make her final vows as a religious sister for the Congregation of St. Joseph in WV, is so happy Sister Martha initiated the campaign to not only focus on vocations, but to stress the importance of being faithful to prayer not pessimistic assumptions. "It gets frustrating, when you hear so much talk about religious life in the future diminishing... dying out," she said. "Thank God there are those strong willed among us that totally see it differently and believe religious life will continue in good ways - God's way - and we trust in that."



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-Sr. Martha Gomez, RGS




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dwc.org/onemillionrosaries

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center Spaghetti Dinner Returns in Person

WHEELING—In a heartwarming tradition, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) is set to bring the community together for its 27th Annual Neighborhood Center Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, Sept. 17, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

“The Spaghetti Dinner supports the important services provided by our Neighborhood Center to assist and empower those we serve,” said Ashlie Kotson, CCWVa Northern Regional director. “At the same time, it’s a great opportunity for our entire community to come together over good food and warm conversation. We’re thrilled to see our friends back in person this year.”

After a hiatus due to COVID, this year’s event allows supporters to reconnect face-to-face at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center at 125 18th Street in Wheeling. Take-out meals will be available as well.

All proceeds will support the vital social services Catholic Charities provides to vulnerable individuals in the local community.

“This is a great opportunity to come to our center and learn more about what we do,” said Betty Simeth, CCWVa Food Program manager. “We’re so grateful to our Spaghetti Dinner committee and to our sponsors who have come together to make this event happen.”

Tickets will be available on-site for \$10 each. The event will also fea-



From left: Betty Simeth, CCWVa Food Program manager; Gloria Milliken, CCWVa Kitchen assistant; Ashlie Kotson, CCWVa Northern Regional director; Derek Lantz, CCWVa Neighborhood Center coordinator.

Courtesy Photo

ture a raffle and auction.

For more information, or to learn more about the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center, call (304) 232-7157 or visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.



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Pope Urges Prayer, Solidarity after Deadly Flooding in Libya

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After a severe storm set off flooding that breached dams in eastern Libya, leading to the deaths of thousands of people, Pope Francis sent his condolences and urged all people to pray and to offer concrete assistance.

Addressing pilgrims and visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square Sept. 13 for his weekly general audience, Pope Fran-

cis spoke about the intense storm that made landfall in Libya Sept. 10, leading to two dams bursting near the city of Derna, unleashing torrents of water that wiped out a huge section of the city.

Local officials said Sept. 13 that the death toll had risen above 5,100 and was expected to increase as thousands of people were still missing.

"I invite you to join my

prayers for those who have lost their lives, for their families and for the displaced people," the pope said at his general audience. "May we not fail in our solidarity with these brothers and sisters, tried by such a devastating calamity."

The pope's concern was expressed a day earlier in a telegram to Archbishop Savio Hon Tai-Fai, the nuncio to

Libya. "His Holiness Pope Francis was deeply saddened to learn of the immense loss of life and destruction caused by the flooding in the eastern part of Libya, and he sends the assurance of his prayers for the souls of the deceased and all who mourn their loss," said the telegram signed by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state. "His Holiness also expresses heartfelt spiritu-

al closeness to the injured, to those who fear for their missing loved ones and to the emergency personnel providing rescue and relief assistance."

Tamer Ramadan, head of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Libya, told reporters the death toll is likely to be "huge," the BBC reported Sept. 12.

Pope Prays for Those Affected by Quake in Morocco, Urges Solidarity

By Carol Glatz

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called for solidarity and concrete assistance for all those affected by a devastating earthquake in Morocco.

As the official death toll from the quake neared 3,000, the pope prayed for the people of Morocco at the end of his weekly general audience Sept. 13.

"We pray for Morocco; we pray for the inhabitants," the pope said. "May the Lord give them the strength to recover after this terrible 'ambush' that has passed over their land."

Moroccan officials said at least 5,000 people were injured after an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.8 struck central Morocco near Marrakech Sept. 8 after 11 p.m. local time. The World Health Organization estimated more than 300,000 people have been affected in the region.

"I wish to express my proximity to the dear people of Morocco, stricken by a devastating earthquake," the pope said after praying the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter's

Square Sept. 10. "I pray for the injured, for those who have lost their lives — so many! — and for their relatives."

The pope thanked rescue workers and "those who are working to alleviate the suffering of the people; may concrete help on the part of everyone support the population at this tragic time. Let us be close to the people of Morocco!"

The pope also expressed his sadness, prayers and "deep solidarity" with the nation's people in a telegram sent by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, Sept. 9.

The pope, the cardinal said, is praying for the repose of those who have died, healing for those who have been injured and consolation for those mourning the loss of loved ones and homes. The pope, he said, was praying God would "support Moroccans in this ordeal."

The pope offered his "encouragement to civil authorities and rescue services" and invoked God's blessings on everyone "as a token of comfort."

The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality

*Embracing My Personal Journey:
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Presented by:
**Sister Carole Riley, CDP, Ph.D., AAPC-Fellow,
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8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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As Entire Ulma Family Beatified in Poland, Pope Hails Them as ‘Ray of Light in the Darkness’

By **Paulina Guzik**

MARKOWA, Poland (OSV News) — In one of the most significant moments in Polish post-war history, the Ulma family was beatified in Markowa Sept. 10.

“I think it will only get me at night, when I come back home, because now I still can’t believe it,” Jerzy Ulma, nephew of Blessed Józef Ulma, told OSV News.

His uncle Józef, along with wife Wiktoria and seven children: Stanisława, Barbara, Władysław, Franciszek, Antoni, Maria and a child without a name born during the martyrdom of their mother were declared blessed by papal envoy Cardinal Marcello Semeraro in Markowa, where the Ulma family lived and died March 24, 1944. They were killed by German occupants of Poland for giving shelter to eight Jews in their house.

“It would be a mistake if the day of the Ulma beatification would be used only to remember the terror and atrocities committed by the perpetrators,” Cardinal Semeraro said in a homily. “We would like this day to be a day of joy,” he said.

In 1942, Wiktoria and Józef accepted a Jewish family into their home. “Today, along with the new blessed, we would like to remember their names,” Cardinal Semeraro said. They were: Saul Goldman with sons Baruch, Mechel, Joachim, Moses as well as Golda Grünfeld and Lea Didner with little daughter Reshla,” he listed.

“The gesture of Józef and Wiktoria was a sign of obedience to God’s commandment,” the cardinal said. “It was a ‘yes’ to God’s will,” he said, emphasizing that a man “despised, rejected and mortally wounded” was welcomed to their home.

During the Angelus prayer Sept. 10, Pope Francis praised the new blessed, “an entire family exterminated by the Nazis



OSV News Photo/Polish Bishops Conference
A beatification image of the Ulma family is seen in a Sept. 10 photo in Markowa, Poland, at the beatification Mass. Józef and Wiktoria Ulma with their seven children were beatified as martyrs. They helped a Jewish family during World War II in their home, were denounced and killed by German Nazis on March 24, 1944.

on 24 March 1944 for having given shelter to some persecuted Jews.”

“They opposed the hatred and violence that characterized that time with evangelical love,” the pontiff said. “May this Polish family, which represents a ray of light in the darkness of the Second World War, be for all of us a model to imitate in the zeal for goodness and service to those in need,” he said before asking the faithful to applaud for the newly blessed.

In Markowa, the families of Wiktoria and Józef accompanied Father Roman Chowaniec, parish priest at Markowa’s St. Dorothy Church when he carried relics of the Ulma

family. The project of reliquary includes a tree from which “the family grew,” as beatification organizers explained, and now will be part of the parish church where they proclaimed their faith and their house where they sheltered their Jewish neighbors.

The beatification altar included multimedia elements. Pictures taken by Józef Ulma were displayed throughout the beatification Mass to illustrate who was being beatified — “saints from the neighborhood.” Before and after the liturgy, the images could be seen as a slide show.

“This beatification is an emphasis on the importance of married and family

life in unity and fidelity in everyday life,” Archbishop Wojciech Polak of Gniezno, primate of Poland, told OSV News. The Ulmas “took up their vocation very concretely, being faithful to the end to what is the basic reality of man, which is love of life, fidelity to life and also love towards other people. This is something amazing that we can pass on from this beatification to the whole world,” he said.

Manuela Tulli, author of the book “Martyred and Blessed Together: The Extraordinary Story of the Ulma Family,” written with Polish Father Pawel Rytel-Andrianik and published by Our Sunday Visitor, said

she discovered the Ulmas only in December 2022, when she passed through Poland on her way to Ukraine. “I didn’t look for the Ulma story, the story found me,” she said.

She said the Ulmas were “an ordinary family like many others, with work-related problems associated with such a large family, with the joy of the little ones who arrived in just a few years. An ordinary family deciding to do an extraordinary thing, which was to open the doors of their home to eight Jews, risking their lives,” she told OSV News.

For U.S. priest Father Michal Niemczak, being in Markowa for the beatification of his family members was something he was “very grateful for.”

The priest of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico, who is now forming seminarians at Mount Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon, came to Poland carrying his tablet with 1,156 intentions shared with him through a Google doc by his parishioners in New Mexico, family and friends, but also people from around the United States and Poland.

“So far I got 423 of them,” he told OSV News at 7 a.m., three hours before the beatification, about how many intentions he had already gotten through. “I wish that our family in heaven grows, because now we have an example.

“Many families are going through difficulties in their lives but there is so much hopes I see in these **See “Family” on Page 10**



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Seminarian is Burned to Death in Nigeria in Endless Cycle of Violence against Christians

ABUJA, Nigeria (OSV News) — In an endless cycle of violence against Christians in Nigeria, seminarian Na'Aman Danlami Stephen of the Diocese of Kafanchan was burned to death Sept. 7 when a terrorist group called Fulani herdsmen attacked the rectory at St. Raphael Church in Fadan Kamantan.

Bishop Julius Kundi of Kafanchan told the Catholic agency Aid to the Church in Need that the parish priest, Father Emmanuel Okolo, and the assistant priest were able to escape the fire at the rectory, while the 25-year-old seminarian died in the attack. Bishops meeting for their 2023 plenary in the capital city of Abuja celebrated Mass Sept. 10 in memory of the seminarian.

"We offer this Mass for the happy repose of Na'Aman Danlami Stephen, the seminarian who was killed two

days ago when bandits attacked and burnt the rectory in (Fadan) Kamantan. ... We pray also for all those who have suffered similar fate and for peace in Nigeria," said Father Michael Banjo, deputy secretary-general of the Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria.

The latest killing is just one in a long list of attacks that have targeted churches and Christians in Africa's most populous nation, and Kafanchan in particular has been hit hard by the kidnapping of clergy, seminarians and other Christians. According to a January report by the research organization SB Morgen Intelligence, not fewer than 39 Catholic priests were killed by gunmen in 2022, while 30 others were abducted. Meanwhile the April 10 report by Intersociety said that more than 50,000 Christians have been killed in Nigeria over the last 14 years.

Family...

Cont'd from Page 9
intentions that the Ulma family will intercede," he said.

Along with Cardinal Semeraro, Cardinal Gerhard Müller and Cardinal Robert Sarah arrived from the Vatican, accompanied by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, longtime personal secretary of St. John Paul II, Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz of Warsaw and Cardinal-designate Grzegorz Rys of Łódz. Over 70 bishops and 1,000 priests concelebrated Mass.

Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich participated in the outdoor Mass, celebrated at the football stadium in Markowa.

He said the Ulmas are "mentors."

"We ask ourselves, what does God want from us? How do we know what we should do?" he said in an interview with Vatican News. "Of course we have many verses in the Bible that are clear. But it's very helpful to see someone who lives the way God wants us to live," he said.

A separate ceremony conducted Sept. 10 by Cardinal Semeraro, Archbishop Adam Szal of Przemyśl

and Rabbi Schudrich accompanied the beatification at the nearby Jagiella-Niechcialki war cemetery, where the eight murdered Jews lie buried.

President Adrzej Duda of Poland, first lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda and Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki also were present along with several members of the Polish government. Delegations from Israel, the United States and Germany arrived as well to celebrate the heroic family that showed mercy to their persecuted neighbors.

"I truly thank God today where he had led me," Urszula Niemczak, a family relative, told OSV News. Her father-in-law was Wiktor's brother. Her husband, Franciszek, said that "the sun rose early today, this is a good sign," he said, smiling.

Jerzy Ulma recalled "More than 20 years (ago) someone asked my father whether he would like the Ulma family to be beatified. He said: 'God willing! I wish my brother that he rests in peace, because what else can I wish him?'"

(Paulina Guzik is international editor for OSV News.)



Daily Living
with Fr. Chapin
Sunday Mornings

6:30 WTOV FOX 9	Wheeling-Steubenville
7:30 WOWK CBS 13	Huntington-Charleston
8:00 WBOY NBC 12	Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
6:30 WOAY ABC 4	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
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Tuesday, September 19: Our Lady of Mercy Mission, Parsons; 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 23: Sacred Heart, Chester; 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 4: St. Francis Xavier, Parkersburg; 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 19: Sacred Heart, Bluefield; 9:00 a.m.



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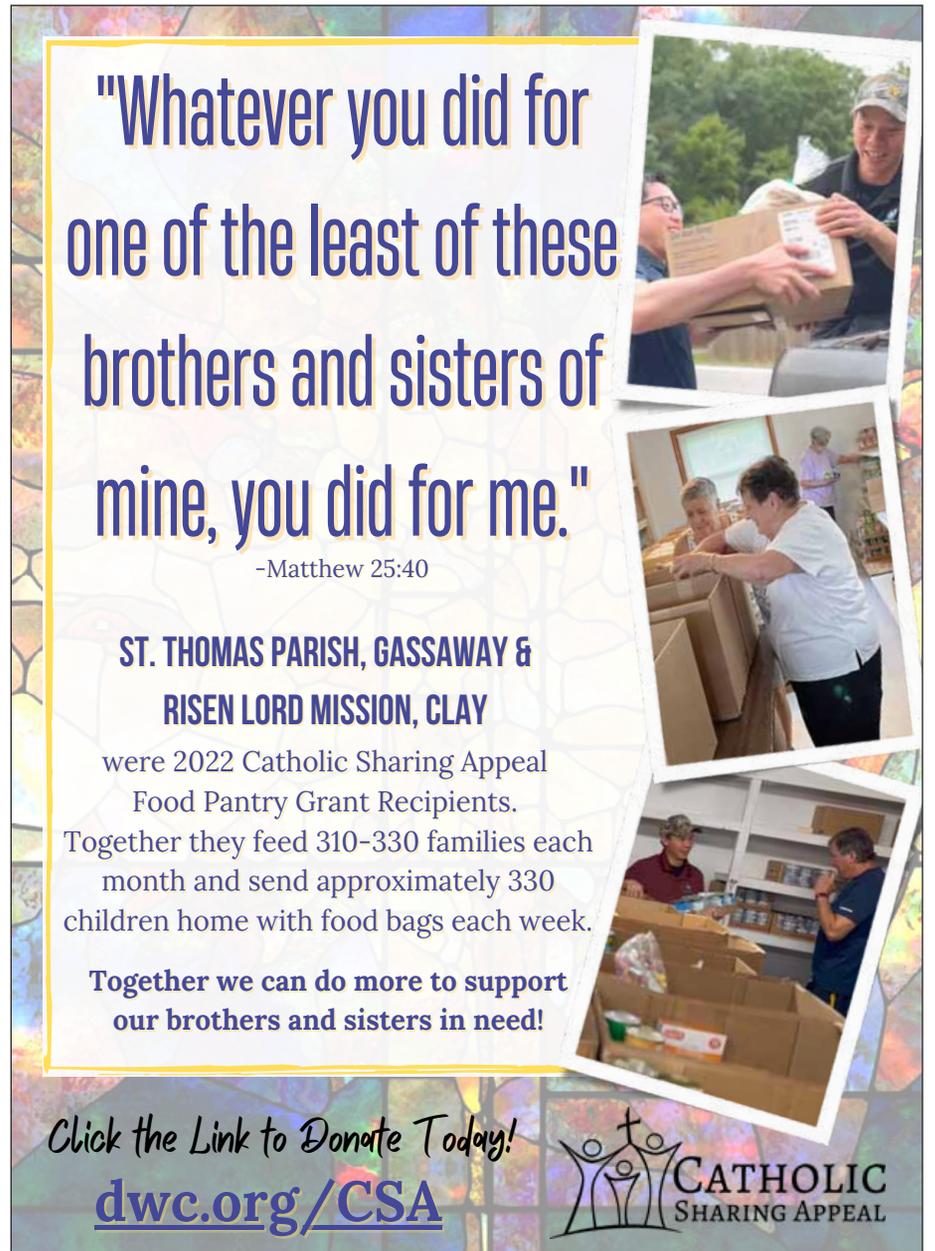
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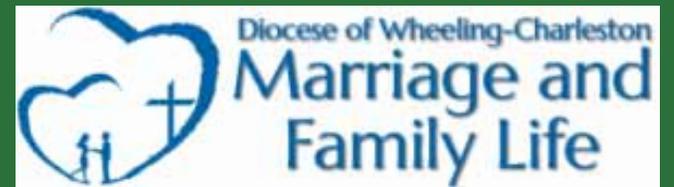
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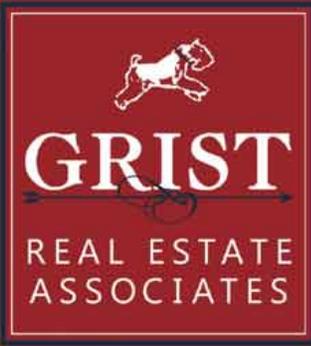
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La familia Ulma es beatificada en Polonia y el Papa la considera 'un rayo de luz en las tinieblas'

Por **Paulina Guzik, OSV News**

MARKOWA, Polonia (OSV News) — En uno de los momentos más significativos de la historia polaca de posguerra, la familia Ulma fue beatificada en Markowa el 10 de septiembre.

"Todavía no me lo creo", dijo a OSV News Jerzy Ulma, sobrino del beato Józef Ulma.

Su tío, Józef, junto con su esposa Wiktoria y sus siete hijos: Stanisława, Barbara, Władysław, Franciszek, Antoni, María y un bebé sin nombre nacido durante el martirio de su madre, fueron declarados beatos por el enviado papal cardenal Marcello Semeraro en Markowa, donde la familia Ulma vivió y murió el 24 de marzo de 1944. Fueron asesinados por los ocupantes alemanes de Polonia por dar cobijo a ocho judíos en su casa.

"Sería un error que el día de la beatificación de los Ulma se utilizara sólo para recordar el terror y las atrocidades cometidas por los autores", dijo el cardenal Semeraro en una homilía. "Nos gustaría que este día fuera un día de alegría", dijo.

En 1942, Wiktoria y Józef acogieron en su casa a una familia judía. "Hoy, junto con los nuevos beatos, quisiéramos recordar sus nombres", dijo el cardenal Semeraro. "Ellos eran: Saúl Goldman con sus hijos Baruj, Mechel, Joaquín y Moisés, así como Golda Grünfeld y Lea Didner con su pequeña hija Reshla", enumeró.

"El gesto de Józef y Wiktoria fue un signo de obediencia al mandamiento de Dios", dijo el cardenal. "Fue un 'sí' a la voluntad de Dios", dijo, subrayando que un hombre "despreciado, rechazado y herido de muerte" fue acogido en su casa.

Durante el rezo del Ángelus el 10 de septiembre, el Papa Francisco elogió a los nuevos beatos, "una familia entera exterminada por los nazis el 24 de marzo de 1944 por haber dado refugio a algunos judíos perseguidos".

"Al odio y la violencia que caracterizaban aquella época, opusieron el amor evangélico", dijo. "Que esta familia polaca, que representó un rayo de luz en las tinieblas de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, sea para todos nosotros un modelo a imitar en el celo por el bien y en el servicio a los necesitados", dijo antes de pedir un aplauso para la familia de beatos.

En Markowa, las familias de Wiktoria y Józef acompañaron al padre Roman Chowaniec, párroco de la Iglesia de Santa Dorotea de Markowa, cuando portaba

las reliquias de la familia Ulma. El proyecto de relicario incluye un árbol del que "creció la familia", según explicaron los organizadores de la beatificación, y ahora formará parte de la iglesia parroquial donde proclamaron su fe y de la casa donde acogieron a sus vecinos judíos.

El altar de la beatificación incluía elementos multimedia. A lo largo de la Misa se mostraron fotografías tomadas por Józef Ulma para ilustrar quiénes estaban siendo beatificados: "santos del barrio". Antes y después de la liturgia, las imágenes podían verse como una presentación de diapositivas.

"Esta beatificación es un énfasis en la importancia de la vida matrimonial y familiar en unidad y fidelidad en la vida diaria", dijo a OSV News el arzobispo de Gniezno, monseñor Wojciech Polak, primado de Polonia. Los Ulma "asumieron su vocación de forma muy concreta, siendo fieles hasta el final a lo que es la realidad básica del hombre, que es el amor a la vida, la fidelidad a la vida y también el amor hacia los demás. Esto es algo asombroso que podemos transmitir desde esta beatificación a todo el mundo", afirmó.

Manuela Tulli, autora del libro "Martyred and Blessed Together: The Extraordinary Story of the Ulma Family" ("Martirizados y beatos juntos: La extraordinaria historia de la familia Ulma"), escrito con el padre polaco Pawel Rytel-Andrianik y publicado por Our Sunday Visitor, dijo que descubrió a los Ulma sólo en diciembre de 2022, cuando pasó por Polonia de camino a Ucrania. "No busqué la historia de los Ulma, la historia me encontró".

Dijo que los Ulma eran "una familia ordinaria como muchas otras, con problemas laborales asociados a una familia tan numerosa, con la alegría de los pequeños que llegaron en pocos años". Una familia ordinaria que decidió hacer algo extraordinario, que fue abrir las puertas de su casa a ocho judíos, arriesgando sus vidas", dijo a OSV News.

Para el padre Michal Niemczak, estar en Markowa para la beatificación de sus familiares fue algo por lo que se sintió "muy agradecido".

El sacerdote de la Arquidiócesis de Santa Fe, Nuevo México, que ahora forma seminaristas en el seminario Mount Angel de St. Benedict, Oregón, llegó a Polonia cargando su tableta con 1.156 intenciones que le compartieron a través de un documento de Google sus feligreses de Nuevo México, familiares y amigos, pero también personas de todo Estados Unidos y Polonia.

"Hasta ahora voy 423", dijo a OSV News a las 7 de la mañana, tres horas antes de la beatificación, sobre el número de intenciones que llevaba rezando. "Quiero que nuestra familia en el cielo crezca, porque ahora tenemos un ejemplo".

"Muchas familias atraviesan dificultades en sus vidas, pero hay tantas esperanzas que veo de que la familia Ulma interceda por estas intenciones", dijo.

Junto con el cardenal Semeraro, llegaron desde el Vaticano los cardenales Gerhard Müller y Robert Sarah, acompañados por el cardenal Stanisław Dziwisz, durante mucho tiempo secretario personal de San Juan Pablo II, el cardenal Kazimierz Nycz, de Varsovia, y el cardenal designado Grzegorz Rys, de Łódź. Concelebraron más de 70 obispos y 1.000 sacerdotes.

El rabino de Polonia Michael Schudrich participó en la Misa al aire libre, celebrada en el estadio de fútbol de Markowa.

Dijo que los Ulma son "mentores".

"Nos preguntamos: ¿qué quiere Dios de nosotros? ¿Cómo sabemos lo que debemos hacer?", dijo en una entrevista con Vatican News. "Por supuesto que tenemos muchos versículos en la Biblia que son claros. Pero es muy útil ver a alguien que vive como Dios quiere que vivamos", dijo.

En otra ceremonia el 10 de septiembre, el cardenal Semeraro, el arzobispo de Przemysl, Adam Szal, y el rabino Schudrich acompañaron la beatificación en el cercano cementerio de guerra de Jagiella-Niechcialki, donde yacen enterrados los ocho judíos asesinados.

El presidente de Polonia, Andrzej Duda, la primera dama, Agata Kornhauser-Duda, y el primer ministro, Mateusz Morawiecki, también estuvieron presentes, junto con varios miembros del gobierno polaco. También llegaron delegaciones de Israel, Estados Unidos y Alemania para celebrar la heroica familia que mostró piedad a sus vecinos perseguidos.

"Hoy doy gracias a Dios por haberme guiado", dijo Urszula Niemczak, pariente de la familia de beatos, a OSV News. Su suegro era hermano de Wiktoria. Su esposo, Franciszek, dijo que "el sol salió temprano hoy, esto es una buena señal", dijo sonriendo.

Jerzy Ulma recordó: "Hace más de 20 años, alguien preguntó a mi padre si le gustaría que la familia Ulma fuera beatificada. Él respondió: ¡Si Dios quiere! Le deseo a mi hermano que descanse en paz, porque ¿qué otra cosa puedo desearle?".

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.reportbishopabuse.org.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: comuníquese con la policía local; los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llame al 911. Para informar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios de Protección Infantil de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800.352.6513. Puede informar anonimamente a esta línea directa si lo prefiere.

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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 Erin McFarland, M.Ed., LPC, al 304.559.6742.

Además de los métodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis también se ha asociado con Navex Global para ofrecer la plataforma EthicsPoint para informar otras inquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, profesional y personal de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela católica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de www.dwc.org, en "Rendición de cuentas", luego "Informar mala conducta" o llamando al 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint es un sistema de informes de terceros que informa a las autoridades civiles cuando corresponda y a las autoridades diocesanas, y la identidad de la persona que informa esta protegida. Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. Policía Estatal de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Crímenes contra Niños: 304-293-6400.



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9:00am - 4:15pm

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The pressing issue of food insecurity affects one in seven West Virginians, encompassing more than 256,000 individuals, spanning across both adults and children.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) plays a crucial role as a federally-funded safety net that reaches out to our fellow community members in need. SNAP provides food benefits to individuals and families, helping them supplement their grocery budget until they can regain their financial stability.

Our commitment to ensuring that people have access to nourishing food remains steadfast. This is why Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) administers our SNAP Outreach Program, helping people determine whether they are eligible for SNAP and helping them apply for benefits.

CCWVa is honored to receive grant funding from Catholic Charities USA and the Walmart Foundation, in addition to support from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR). This collective support is part of a nationwide initiative aimed at combating hunger.

Rebecca and her husband Todd are just one of the numerous families we have encountered and aided through this program.

In October, Rebecca's husband experienced job loss from his position with a local painting contractor. In response, Rebecca took swift action to seek assistance. She independently completed a SNAP application, awaiting confirmation of benefits. Unfortunately, her application remained unprocessed due to a variety of factors. Undeterred, she persistently navigated the process on her own, but the outcome remained unchanged. This left her feeling disheartened, bewildered, and frustrated. During the waiting period and the exchange of documentation, Rebecca and Todd exhausted nearly all of their financial resources, resorting to selling one of their cars to make ends meet.

In January, Rebecca became aware of the SNAP Outreach Program offered by Catholic Charities and reached out to our office. The SNAP team, in collaboration with the regional Catholic Charities office, promptly intervened in their situation. They received immediate assistance in the form of food supplies to address their urgent needs, and WVDHHR stepped in to



expedite their SNAP application. After close cooperation with their office and WVDHHR, Rebecca and her husband received the heartening news that they would be receiving retroactive benefits dating back to their original application in October. They began to see a glimmer of hope at the end of the tunnel.

To learn more about Catholic

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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.



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Catholic in Recovery

OCTOBER 17 • 6:30 P.M.

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FREE EVENT

SPEAKER - SCOTT WEEMAN



Scott Weeman is a beloved son of God, a husband, and a father. He is the founder of Catholic in Recovery, a community of men and women seeking freedom from a variety of addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments. Scott is the author of *The Twelve Steps and the Sacraments* and editor/compiler of *The Catholic in Recovery Workbook*, both published by Ave Maria Press. He holds a master's degree in clinical counseling from Point Loma Nazarene University and is an associate marriage and family therapist. Scott and his family live in San Diego, California.

PRESENTATION

Finding Freedom from Addictions, Compulsions, & Unhealthy Attachments

The allure of addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments related to alcohol, drugs, food, lust, money, codependency, and many others seek to separate us from God, isolate us from our families, and leave us empty. While sharing personal experience, strength, and hope, Scott Weeman offers key spiritual insight rooted in Catholic faith and 12-step recovery wisdom on how to avoid these temptations and find freedom if already in the grip of addiction.

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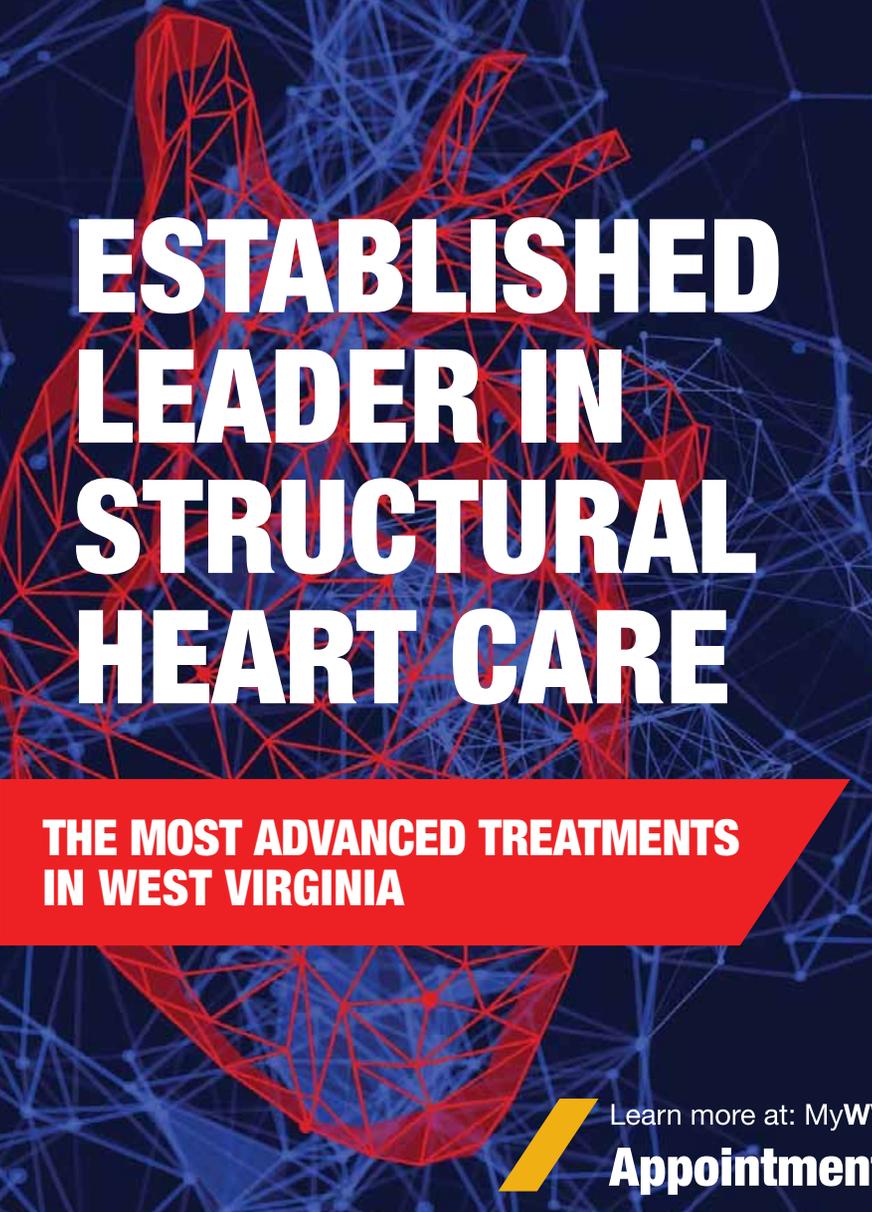


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Deepak Hooda MD
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Sushant Sharma MD
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