

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit

Pope: Bishops Must Handle Communion Debate as Shepherds, Not with Censures

By Junno Arocho Esteves,
Catholic News Service

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM SLOVAKIA (CNS) — The debate about denying Communion to politicians who support abortion must be handled in a pastoral way, not by public condemnations that seek to “ex-

communicate” Catholics who are not in line with church teaching, Pope Francis said.

During his return flight from Bratislava, Slovakia, Sept. 15, the pope said that while there is no question that “abortion is homicide,” bishops must look take a pastoral approach rather than wade

into the political sphere.

“If we look at the history of the church, we can see that every time the bishops did not act like shepherds when dealing with a problem, they aligned themselves with political life, on political problems,” he said.

The pope told journalists that

when defending a principle, some bishops act in a way “that is not pastoral” and “enter the political sphere.”

“And what should a shepherd do? Be a shepherd. Not going around condemning,” the pope added. “They must be a shepherd,
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Prayerful Memorials Mark 20th Anniversary of 9/11



FDNY firefighters file into pews at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City Sept. 11 for Mass offered by New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan on the 20th anniversary of 9/11. CNS Photo/Chris Sheridan, Catholic New York

By Christie L. Chicoine, Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) — New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said he couldn't think of “a better place to be” than St. Patrick's Cathedral “on this somber anniversary” of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

He shared his sentiments in opening remarks at a morning Mass he offered Sept. 11 at the cathedral to members of the New York City Fire Department and to families of firefighters who perished on 9/11.

“My welcome to all of you this morning is especially heartfelt and fervent,” the cardinal said

in his homily.

“While the entirety of this one nation under God observes this two-decade anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, you all have a special claim to it,” he added.

“You, FDNY, were there. You, FDNY, lost cherished
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in God's style, which is closeness, compassion and tenderness."

"A shepherd that doesn't know how to act in God's style slips and enters into many things that are not of a shepherd." The pope said that he preferred not to comment directly on the issue of denying Communion in the United States "because I do not know the details; I am speaking of the principle" of the matter.

During their virtual spring general assembly in June, 75% of U.S. bishops approved the drafting of a document, addressed to all Catholic faithful, on eucharistic coherence. During long discussions on the document before the vote, several bishops specifically pointed to President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who are Catholic, for not actively seeking to end legal abortion, and they said such politicians should be denied Communion.

When asked if he had ever publicly denied Communion to someone, Pope Francis emphatically said, "No, I have never denied the Eucharist to anyone; to anyone! I don't know if someone came to me under these conditions, but I have never refused them the Eucharist, since the time I was a priest."

But, he added, "I was never aware of anyone in front of me under those conditions that you mentioned."

Recalling his apostolic exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium," the pope said that "Communion is not a prize for the perfect," but rather "a gift, the presence of Jesus in his church and in the community. That is the theology."

However, Pope Francis also said he understood why the church takes a hard stance because accepting abortion "is a bit as if daily murder was accepted."

"Whoever commits an abortion, murders," he said. "Take any book on embryology, those books on medicine. At the third week of

conception, many times before a mother even realizes it, all the organs are there. All of them, even their DNA.

"It is a human life. Period," the pope added. "And this human life must be respected. This principle is very clear."

Pope Francis said that those "who don't understand" this principle must ask themselves whether it is "right to kill a human life to solve a problem."

He also recalled the reaction to his apostolic exhortation "Amoris Laetitia," and the debates surrounding giving Communion to divorced or remarried Catholics. Some called it, "heresy, but thank God for Cardinal (Christoph) Schönborn, a great theologian, who cleared a bit the chaos," he said.

Nevertheless, "there was always this condemnation," the pope said. "These are poor people who are temporarily outside, but they are children of God and need our pastoral action."

The pope was also asked about his recent public service announcement in August encouraging people to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and whether his statement

that "vaccinations are an act of love" would alienate Catholics who are skeptical about taking the vaccine.

Pope Francis said he found "a little bit strange" because "humanity has a history of friendship with vaccines."

He also said that doubts about the vaccines may be a consequence of "the uncertainty of the pandemic, of the vaccine itself," or the notoriety of some vaccines in the past that were practically "distilled water."

"Even in the College of Cardinals there are some deniers. One of these, the poor guy, recently recovered from the virus," the pope said, alluding to American Cardinal Raymond L. Burke.

In Slovakia, recent legislation requiring vaccinations sparked protests in the country, causing divisions and tensions, including within the Catholic Church. Although the government initially mandated all participants of papal events to be vaccinated, authorities relaxed their initial regulations and allowed participants who presented a negative COVID-19 test or proof of recovery from coronavirus.

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct or has interfered with an investigation into sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.

To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement: numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. You may report anonymously to this hotline if you prefer.

To Report to Diocesan Authorities: The diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. The diocese also encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also call the Diocese's sexual abuse hotline at 833.230.5656. Complaint forms are available online at www.dwc.org, click "Diocese" on the menu bar, then "Offices," then "Safe Environment," then "Download Files and Forms." The form is titled "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

To Report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988.

In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability," then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected.

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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9/11 Anniversary Renews Call of Sainthood for Franciscan Priest

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The 20th anniversary remembrances of the 9/11 terror attacks in the United States is renewing a canonization push for the first identified casualty: Franciscan Father Mychal Judge.

Father Judge, a New York Fire Department chaplain, was at the World Trade Center site praying with and ministering to attack victims when debris

falling from the ruins of the twin towers struck and killed him. Even then, some Catholics were saying Father Judge should be considered for canonization.

Twenty years later, there has been only a bit of movement toward advancing the priest's sainthood cause. A representative of the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes said Father Judge would be a good fit for sainthood as an "offerer" —

based on Pope Francis' 2017 motu proprio, "The Offerer of Life" — as "someone who offers his life for others," according to Francis DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry. DeBernardo, in a Sept. 10 phone interview with Catholic News Service, said the group collected interviews with people who knew Father Judge, who died at age 68 after 40 years as a priest. But sainthood is a lengthy and time-consuming process.

9/11 ...

Cont'd from Page 1

colleagues — 343," the cardinal said. "You, FDNY, ask the questions ... in your duty to save, rescue and protect."

"And you, beloved families — how much we love you — realized that day, that the day you had long dreaded, the phone call you often feared, the supreme loss you knew was part of the package, had arrived all at once.

"So you are all very much at home here at St. Patrick's, folks," he said.

"This happens to be where we come to sob, to remember with reverence and gratitude, to recall with love those we gave away that day."

The cathedral, he continued, is where we come to hear the inspired word of God, especially the teaching of Christ.

"This is where we come to bow heads, to whisper a prayer, to dry a tear, to fight off a lump in the throat, to light a candle and realize we're not alone. God is with us, family, friends, community, Mother Church, is with us."

At a 9/11 remembrance Mass Sept. 8 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, New Jersey, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin reminded the congregation that what happened 20 years ago was more than a national tragedy. For many in the local area, it was personal, he said.

The terrorist attacks directly impacted New Jersey families and residents who "had no idea that morning they were saying a final goodbye to someone whose loss would rip out their hearts," the cardinal said in his homily.

Some of those who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center attack were at the Mass.

During a Sept. 11 Mass for firefighters at the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph in Brooklyn, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn said: "Remembrance is important, but even more important is our communion with those who have gone before us in death. Life has many, many difficult moments. We live our life for God and for other people."

He also told the firefighters that as they continue their journey they should ask God to be with them and "as we remember those who have gone before us, that we will be as brave as them as we follow

our life's mission."

Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory, the principal celebrant and homilist of the Sept. 11 Mass at St. Patrick's in Washington, said the anniversary of the terrorist attacks is a time to "pause to remember the thousands of people whose lives were lost and their families who still grieve," and also an opportunity to "recall the extraordinary dedication of first responders and even ordinary citizens."

He said the anniversary is not "simply a moment for deep national mourning, but it is also simultaneously a time for deep hope and pride in the courage and the strength of our nation."

At the beginning of the Mass, Father Andrew Wakefield, pastor of St. Patrick's, said: "It is hard to believe we are 20 years removed from that day when the world changed."

"As we saw the very worst of humanity that day, we also saw the very best of humanity" in how first responders and others raced to assist those harmed in the attacks, he said.

(Chicoine is news editor of Catholic New York, newspaper of the Archdiocese of New York.)



CNS Photo/Caitlin Ochs, Reuters

A cross made of steel from one of the fallen towers of the One World Trade Center is seen at sunrise Sept. 11, 2021, at New York's Breezy Point 9/11 Memorial on the day marking the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.



CNS Photo/Hannah Beier, Reuters

A person visits the Flight 93 National Memorial in Stoystown, Pa., Sept. 10, 2021, ahead of the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

USCCB Migration Committee Chairman Praises House Members for Proposing Citizenship Path for Immigrants

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops' migration committee chairman Sept. 15 welcomed a move by House members to include language in the \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation bill to provide a pathway to U.S. citizenship for beneficiaries of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program and other immigrants.

"We are pleased that the House Committee on the Judiciary has taken this important step, setting up an opportunity for many undocumented persons to receive legal status and a pathway to citizenship," said Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington, who heads the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration.

"Undoubtedly, Catholic social teaching will be implicated by many aspects of this budget reconciliation bill, but this is a welcome milestone for many families and the common good," he said in a statement.

Bishop Dorsonville added: "For decades, the bishops of the United States have been proponents of such reforms, which promote integration and family unity. We cannot persist in relegating these members of our society to the margins, especially when we simultaneously depend on so many of them for our collective well-being."

If the budget reconciliation bill passes, the language on citizenship would apply to those covered by DACA, often called "Dreamers," as well as Temporary Protected Status holders, Deferred Enforced Departure beneficiaries, and agricultural workers and other essential workers who are in the country without legal permission.

The full House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate will need to incorporate this language into their respective final versions of the budget reconciliation bill; both chambers will need to pass the bill and President Joe Biden must sign it into law

before it takes effect.

The language approved by the House Judiciary Committee was among several priorities that five USCCB committee chairmen urged Senate and House members to incorporate in their respective final versions of the budget bill.

In a Sept. 7 letter to all members of Congress, the committee chairmen outlined several priorities: integrating migrants and refugees; safeguarding jobs for the poor and vulnerable; strengthening families; expanding access to early childhood education; ensuring "safe, decent and affordable housing"; caring for creation; preserving religious liberty; and respecting the rights and dignity of every human life in health care.

Besides Bishop Dorsonville, the other committee chairmen who signed the letter were: Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, Committee for Religious Liberty; Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, Committee on

Pro-Life Activities; Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; and Bishop Michael C. Barber of Oakland, California, Committee on Catholic Education.

"As we continue to work toward a more comprehensive reform of our immigration system — one that acknowledges and respects the God-given dignity of every person — we welcome this crucial step," Bishop Dorsonville said in his Sept. 15 statement about the House Judiciary Committee's action.

Echoing the Sept. 7 letter, he said: "We call on both the House and Senate to include these provisions in the final reconciliation bill and for Congress to pass a bill that helps all those on the margins of our society, strengthens families, protects religious freedom, promotes care for creation, and respects the rights and dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death."

Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts Hold 9/11 Commemoration in Wheeling



Courtesy Photo

On the morning of Sept. 11, the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard from Assembly 1185 and Boy Scout Troop 5 hold a 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony in front of St. Michael Parish School in Wheeling. After an opening prayer led by Father Joseph Wiley, Council 504 chaplain, and with the honor guard standing by, the troops raised the flag and then lowered it back down to half staff in memory of those who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks 20 years ago. The National Anthem was performed on bagpipes by Knights of Columbus State Treasurer Brian Gordon's son, Zac.

In Celebration of the Year of St. Joseph

— Join a Diocesan Pilgrimage —

By Colleen Rowan

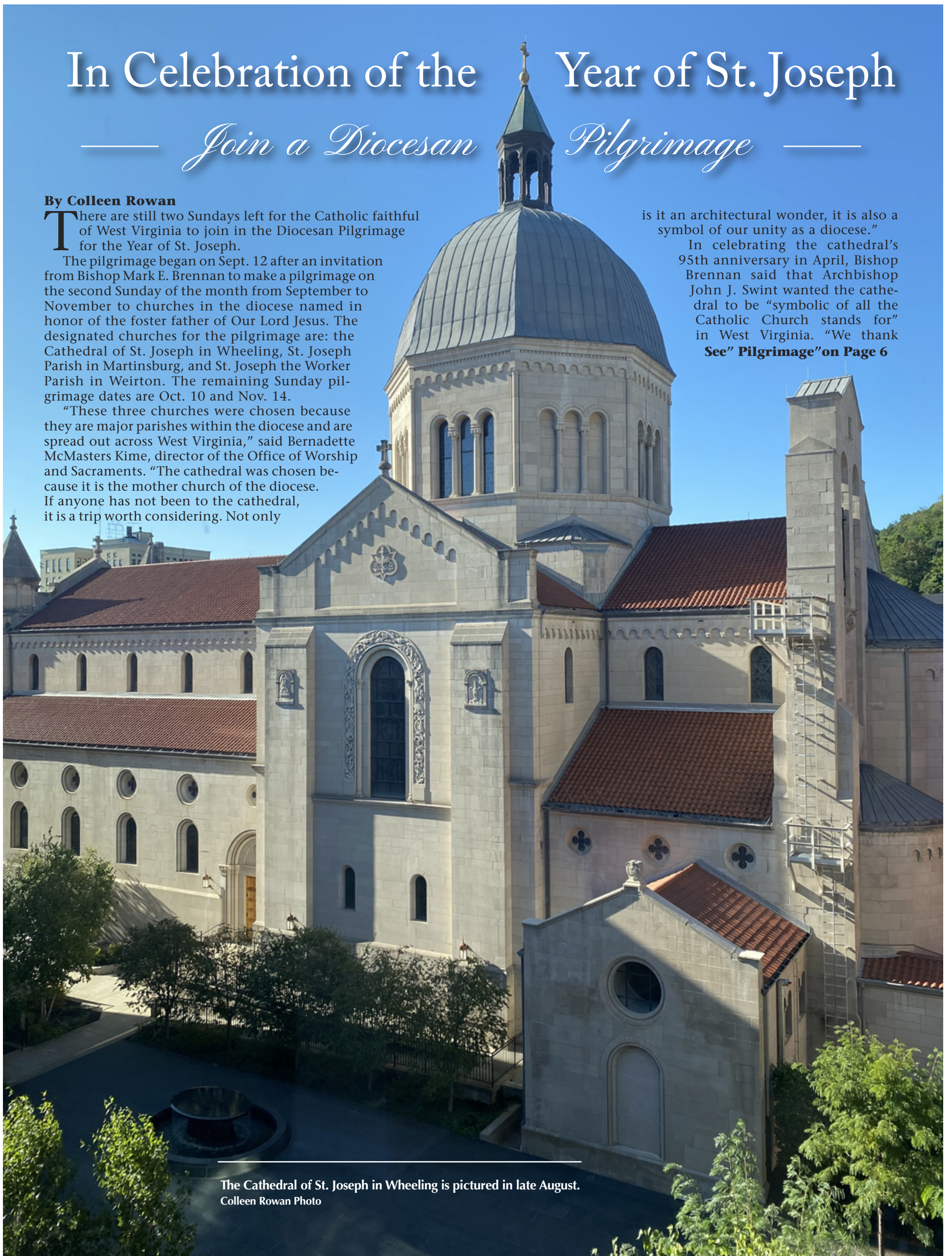
There are still two Sundays left for the Catholic faithful of West Virginia to join in the Diocesan Pilgrimage for the Year of St. Joseph.

The pilgrimage began on Sept. 12 after an invitation from Bishop Mark E. Brennan to make a pilgrimage on the second Sunday of the month from September to November to churches in the diocese named in honor of the foster father of Our Lord Jesus. The designated churches for the pilgrimage are: the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg, and St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Weirton. The remaining Sunday pilgrimage dates are Oct. 10 and Nov. 14.

"These three churches were chosen because they are major parishes within the diocese and are spread out across West Virginia," said Bernadette McMasters Kime, director of the Office of Worship and Sacraments. "The cathedral was chosen because it is the mother church of the diocese. If anyone has not been to the cathedral, it is a trip worth considering. Not only

is it an architectural wonder, it is also a symbol of our unity as a diocese."

In celebrating the cathedral's 95th anniversary in April, Bishop Brennan said that Archbishop John J. Swint wanted the cathedral to be "symbolic of all the Catholic Church stands for" in West Virginia. "We thank **See" Pilgrimage" on Page 6**



The Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling is pictured in late August.
Colleen Rowan Photo

“In the midst of the turmoil that we have experienced in our lives with our nation, state, and diocese, the words ‘Go to Joseph’ resound loud and clear.”

— Father Tom Gallagher, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg

Pilgrimage ...

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Archbishop Swint and all who collaborated with him for giving us such a splendid cathedral church—the mother church of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. ... Its lofty height and colorful art inspire us to reach higher and to frequent the sacraments and imitate the saints whose images adorn these walls.”

The book “Faith in the Mountains: A History of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston,” offers the following account of the cathedral’s history: When the Diocese of Wheeling was created in 1850, St. James Church in Wheeling became the cathedral parish. The name of the parish was officially changed to St. Joseph in 1872. The new cathedral, built entirely of Indiana limestone in the Lombard Romanesque style, was completed and consecrated by Archbishop Swint on April 21, 1926.

The cathedral is renowned for its beauty, stained glass, art, and imagery especially its illuminating rose window, majestic dome, and awe-inspiring Triumphant Christ mural.

In Martinsburg, Father Tom Gallagher said it is an honor for his parish of St. Joseph’s to be named an official site for the diocesan pilgrimage. He invites all of the faithful to join the people of the parish in prayer, asking for the intercession of the patron of the Catholic Church and the diocese. An intercession needed now more than ever, Father Gallagher said.

“In the midst of the turmoil that we have experienced in our lives with our nation, state, and diocese, the words ‘Go to Joseph’ resound loud and clear,” Father Gallagher said. “While St. Joseph is a man of few words—none in the Bible, to be exact—his patronage and assistance speaks volumes. As St. Joseph was entrusted with the care and safety of the Holy Family, I believe his care and watchful protection for us is nonetheless. Now more than ever is it needed to renew our trust in the power of St. Joseph to lead us safely to his son, Jesus, and the Blessed Mother. On behalf of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg I would like to invite you to visit our church, join us for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, seeking the intercession and assistance of our great patron!”

According to “Faith in The Mountains,” the construction of St. Joseph Church was completed in 1860 and dedicated to St. Joseph. Not long after, the church was used as the headquarters for Union forces during the Civil War, with the main floor serving as a hospital and the basement as a stable for the soldiers’ horses, according to the book.

Parishioners are ready to welcome pilgrims to their historic church.

See “Pilgrimage” on Page 7

St. Joseph Church in Martinsburg is pictured this past winter. Beside the church is its rectory. Jon Wright Photo

Pilgrimage ...

Cont'd from Page 6

In announcing the pilgrimage last month, the diocese noted that those who visit a pilgrimage site will gain a plenary indulgence (under the usual conditions: sacramental confession, reception of holy Communion, prayer for the intentions of the pope, and total detachment from all sin, including venial sin).

The third diocesan pilgrimage church is St. Joseph the Worker in Weirton.

"We are excited ... to welcome all pilgrims," said Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., pastor of the parish. "Please come and join us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and enjoy the plenary indulgence that Bishop Brennan has designated for all pilgrims during the Year of St. Joseph. May God bless you all and give you safe travels."

Father Schuelkens said the parish's principle Mass is at 11 a.m. on Sundays, but there is also a 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, and additional Masses on Sunday at 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

St. Joseph the Worker Church was founded in 1957 to serve the growing number of Catholics in Weirton, according to "Faith in the Mountains."

The church stands at the center of a welcoming campus of Catholic faith with

Madonna High School and St. Joseph the Worker Grade School. The church also has the Communion of Saints Adoration Chapel, which sees roughly 250 adorers from the tri-state area every week.

In addition to the three churches designated for the diocesan pilgrimage, there are a number of other churches in the diocese named for St. Joseph which the faithful could add to their pilgrimage.

The oldest church in the diocese is St. Joseph Mission in Proctor, built in 1856. The church is part of the parish cluster with St. Vincent de Paul Parish in New Martinsville, Mater Dolorosa Parish in Paden City, and Holy Rosary Mission in Sistersville. The cluster is planning a pilgrimage to St. Joseph Mission on Sunday, Oct. 17, with the pastor, Msgr. Kevin M. Quirk.

The program for the day involves swapping the cluster Mass schedule so that the St. Joseph Mass that Sunday is 12:30 p.m. followed by the Litany of St. Joseph, tours of the historic church, and a luncheon in the parish hall. RSVPs are necessary in order to have a count of attendees. Call (304) 455-3555 to RSVP.

In the spring, St. Joseph Parish in Huntington will host an event for the Year of St. Joseph as well. The diocese also has St. Joseph chapels in Mason (Mason County), Pennsboro (Ritchie County), and Whites-

ville (Boone County).

The Catholic Church has a rich history of making pilgrimages to holy sites and during the Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis and Bishop Brennan encourage the faithful to visit places dedicated under the patronage of St. Joseph, Kime said. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, she said, is a great place to do that.

"Throughout the state of West Virginia we are blessed with parishes, missions, chapels ... all named for St. Joseph," Kime said. "They each have their own unique histories, characteristics and architectural styles. That is why everyone should try to make a trip to one that they have never visited before. This is also a way to unite us as a diocesan church. Along the way, you will have the opportunity to meet other brothers and sisters in Christ and perhaps form lasting friendships."

In opening the Year of St. Joseph for the diocese in March, Bishop Brennan encouraged all to pray for the intercession of the diocese's patron and said that everyone can find in him a model of loving service to others. The bishop said, "We must pray to St. Joseph, that indispensable man in God's plan, to intercede for us that we may have the wisdom and the courage to continue our pilgrimage of faith and become more effective agents of God's integrity, justice, and peace."



St. Joseph the Worker Church in Weirton is shown at sunset on Sept. 12.
Colleen Rowan Photo

Morgantown Parish Invites Faithful to Rosary Congress Asking the Intercession of Our Lady

By Colleen Rowan

St. John University Parish in Morgantown is inviting the faithful to partake in its Rosary Congress on Oct. 6 praying for the intercession of the Blessed Mother.

"In an era when so many Catholics no longer profess their

faith or are lukewarm in living it out, we need Our Lady's intercession more than ever," said Father Brian Crenwelge, pastor of the parish. "We are asking for Our Lady to intercede at our parish but also throughout our whole diocese. We need her heavenly intercession so that we may

have a spiritual revival in our state."

St. John's gathering is part of the national Diocesan Rosary Congresses which are being held across the country. The congresses are held to pray for life; reparation for sins; and for peace in cities, the nation, and world.

St. John's Rosary Congress will begin with Mass at 7 a.m., followed by Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament all day. A volunteer will lead the praying of the rosary aloud at the start of each hour throughout the day until Mass is celebrated at 5:15 p.m.

"We encourage all who can to attend one of the Masses," said Father Phillip Szabo, associate pastor of St. John's, "and then to join us as well for an hour of adoration and one of the rosaries that will begin on the hour, every hour, until the evening Mass."

St. John's has a strong devotion

to the Blessed Mother, Father Szabo said. He shared that the rosary is prayed before Mass on the weekends, and the traditional Marian antiphons are chanted after Mass during the week.

"Our Lady's votive candle rack is always glowing brightly with the prayers that have been entrusted to her powerful intercession," Father Szabo said. "Therefore, our participation in the Rosary Congress for life, reparation, and peace will not be anything out of the ordinary, but will rather be another opportunity for us to unite as a parish around our Blessed Mother."

The parish's Rosary Congress will be held during its usual period of Eucharistic Adoration, which is on Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Each Wednesday begins with Mass at 7 a.m. An evening Mass is also celebrated on Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m.



Courtesy Photo

Father Brian Crenwelge, pastor of St. John University Parish in Morgantown (right), and Father Phillip Szabo, associate pastor, invite all to their parish's Rosary Congress Oct. 6.

Encounter Love

We all desire meaning and purpose in our relationships, but achieving that kind of depth can seem like a lost art. Join popular young adult speaker Lisa Cotter and guest speaker Fr. Joe Freedy as they break down what's keeping you from the freedom to love and be loved!



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Oct. 16

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Morgantown, WV



Tickets: \$15 at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Lunch included with ticket purchase provided by Nature of Fire Food Truck

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Notre Dame High School Wins Jennings Randolph Award



Jaidyn West Photo/Irish Online Network

West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner presents the Jennings Randolph Award to Notre Dame High School Principal Kelly Light in Clarksburg Sept. 10. NDHS earned the award by registering 100 percent of the student body's eligible voters. The students also heard the story of the passage of the 26th Amendment, told by Sen. Jennings Randolph himself (as portrayed by Lee Dean).

Employment Opportunity

Freelance Grant Writer for 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 Grant Writer is responsible for writing coherent, organized and compelling proposals, in coordination with Catholic Charities' regional staff, for numerous programs and services offered throughout the state. This position is Contractual/temporary and is located in the Advancement office, Wheeling, WV. Essential Job Duties: Develop proficient knowledge of agency's programs; assist in maintaining the cycle of agency grants; coordinate the preparation of grant applications and reports; draft and edit grant applications and reports; track and communicate grant submissions, awards, and other funding-related information; assist with the execution of the Advancement Department's strategy. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree or higher, preferably in creative or technical writing; excellent verbal and interpersonal skills; a minimum of three years' experience, preferably in a not-for-profit.

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by September 30, 2021 to: jcatone@ccwva.org

Application materials can also be delivered to: Jon Catone, Chief Advancement Officer, 2000 Main Street, Suite 121 Wheeling, WV 26003

Special Collection Set for Oct. 2-3 for Hurricane Ida Recovery

By Joyce Bibey

WHEELING—Bishop Mark E. Brennan joins Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and bishops across the country asking the faithful to support a special collection to help with the recovery of Hurricane Ida. The collection in parishes and missions in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will be held at Masses the weekend of October 2-3.

Donations will go to the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund to assist

with the humanitarian, long-term recovery, and significant needs stemming from Hurricane Ida which devastated several states, specifically the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church, as well as the efforts of Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services.

Checks are to be made payable to your respective parish/mission and on the memo line indicate Hurricane Ida Relief. The parish/mission will then send one check for all contributions for this collection.

5K Virtual Walk & Run for Metro Valley Gabriel Project Open to All

CHARLESTON—The Second Annual Diaper Dash 5K Virtual Walk & Run is now underway to benefit the Metro Valley Gabriel Project. The event will be open to all to participate no matter where they live through Oct. 17.

"It's easy and fun to participate!" organizers said. "And open to everyone regardless of where you live."

Registration is \$30 plus processing fee. Then walk or run 5K (3.1 miles) any time, any place during the race period.

"Walk or run as an individual, or

form a team and compete among yourselves for the best time," organizers said. "Submit your time if you wish to let others know your achievement."

All registrants will receive a race T-shirt featuring the new Diaper Dash logo.

"Join us and encourage your family, friends, business colleagues, and fellow parishioners to also participate," organizers said. "Let's all stay healthy during this difficult time and support the Gabriel Project!"

To register or for more information, go to: gabrielwv.org.

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Confirmation Schedule Fall 2021, Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Sunday, September 19, 2021: Ascension Parish, Hurricane, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 24, 2021: St. Thomas Parish, Gassaway, 11:00 a.m.

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.

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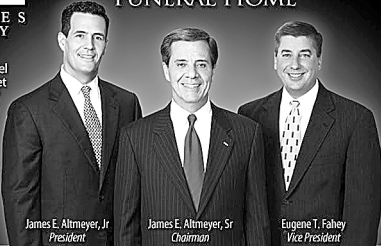


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A Date for the
13th Annual St. George Camporee
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October 1st to 3rd, 2021

Who: Scouts BSA
 Location: Camp Mountaineer (Morgantown WV)
 Hosted by: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Catholic Committee on Scouting
 Contact: Chris Gorski at catholiccamporee@aol.com for further information



All Are Welcome!



A Cause Without Cuisine underway in Martinsburg

MARTINSBURG—For the second year, Catholic Charities West Virginia in Martinsburg is hosting an online auction fundraiser that will assist those in the community who are most in need of social services and other support.

There are two ways to participate: visit <https://catholiccharitieswv.org/ACauseWithoutCuisine> to make a donation, while reading about the types of services being supported. Also, from Sept. 13-30, one can bid on his or her favorite items in the online silent auction at

<https://one.bidpal.net/CatholicCharitiesWestVirginia>.

All proceeds stay in the community to help provide direct assistance to those in need.

Contact Siobhán Bertone for more information by calling (304) 267-8837, ext. 10.

A Homecoming Tradition with Our Lady

It has become a tradition to kick off Central Catholic High School's Homecoming Week with the Rosary Rally. Shown in the photos below are students, homecoming queen and king candidates, teachers, families, priests, and friends in the Cathedral of St. Joseph's courtyard at the Sept. 12 rally. "There is no better way to begin our homecoming celebration than with fellowship, prayer, reflection and the blessings of our Blessed Mother," CCHS officials said. (Courtesy Photos)



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Wheeling University Again Named a Top Tier Regional Institution by U.S. News

WHEELING—U.S. News & World Report 2022 Best Colleges Guide, one of the go-to sources for national college rankings, has named Wheeling University a top-tier Best Regional University – South, maintaining the university's 25-year tradition of being selected one of the best institutions in the region.

Wheeling University was ranked 80th in the Best Regional Universities, South Region by U.S. News. University President Ginny R. Favede said the university remains resolute in providing students an affordable, quality, Catholic education.

"Once again, U.S. News & World Report has distinguished Wheeling University for its academic excellence. This recognition as a top-tier university shows Wheeling continues to educate young men and women to be well-rounded individuals who excel in their chosen careers, while living our mission to serve others," Favede said.

Every year the publication conducts extensive research of schools across the nation, first by arranging them into various subcategories, then ranking them within those categories according to a wide array of metrics. It is important to note that the rankings are driven primarily by quantitative data; that is, by measurable quantities, such as retention rate and student-faculty ratio, rather than opinion surveys or third-party oversight.

U.S. News defines regional universities as offering a broad scope of undergraduate degrees and master's and doctorate level programs. The ratings are based on 17 indicators: undergraduate academic reputation, graduation and retention rates,

faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources per student, and alumni giving.

This year, Wheeling University and its academic programs have received outstanding accolades by a number of ranking services. Intelligent.com, Niche, Stacker.com, and Academic Influence have recognized the university as one of the best institutions in West Virginia. Additionally, Niche and Stacker chose the university as a Best Value College in West Virginia.

"Remaining true to our core values and mission – to educate men and women for life, leadership, and service – is why Wheeling University continues to be recognized for its exemplary educational experience," said Favede. "Wheeling University is consistently ranked among the best of the best, because of our outstanding faculty, staff and students."

While its name may have changed, Wheeling University remains true to its roots of providing its students with educational opportunities grounded in the Ignatian principles. Wheeling remains the only campus-based Catholic institution of higher education in West Virginia.

According to the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU), Wheeling University is one of only 10 diocesan-sponsored universities in the U.S. In addition to Wheeling, those other institutions include; Carroll College, Gannon University, Loras College, Seton Hill University, St. Ambrose University, St. Thomas University, Thomas More University, University of Dallas, and the University of St. Thomas (M.N.).



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CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA
MISSION MOMENT

Sister Jane Harrington Announced as Board of Directors Chairman for Catholic Charities West Virginia

Sister Jane Harrington has been elected as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa).



Sister Jane Harrington

“Sister Jane’s love for all West Virginians, as well as her understanding of board governance and the issues around poverty, make her a tremendous asset,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa President and Chief Executive Officer. “Her sense of humor and warm personality make her a joy to work with. We are beyond excited to welcome her as our next Chairman of our Board of Directors.”

Harrington has served on the CCWVa Board of Directors since September 2013. Her passion to improve health and her dedication to reducing poverty have helped the agency work toward its mission of providing caring and compassionate services to those in need.

Harrington has served as Vice President of the CCWVa Board of Directors since 2017; she has also

Sister Harrington is a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph and has significant experience in non-profit leadership and administration. Her expertise comes at an important time as the challenge for nonprofits continues to grow, with the pandemic and devastating weather events elevating needs.

“Sister Jane’s leadership will be instrumental as we discern a new three-year strategic plan and continue our goals to offer services that provide the greatest impact and reduce poverty across the state,” said Zarate.

The next three-year strategic plan will see a focus on a new hospital transition program partner-

ship, placing a CCWVa social worker on site at hospitals around the state.

“The collaborative aspect of this project would promote the best utilization of community resources, and also provide an enhanced personal impact on the clients served through a more fluid transition from hospital to home,” said Zarate. The hospital transition program model will improve the health, wellness and home stability of community members being discharged from the hospital; at the same time, the program will decrease the number of patients being readmitted, saving the hospital time and resources and strain on emergency rooms. CCWVa’s last strategic

plan focused on increasing collaboration and agency services around addiction and recovery. The agency increased adult education services in partnership with recovery homes around the state; additionally, a successful partnership with WV Jobs & Hope has provided over \$310,000 in direct assistance.

“Sister Jane and the CCWVa Board of Directors are clearly focused on CCWVa’s mission to best serve the most vulnerable West Virginians,” said Zarate. “We will continue to focus on adapting to changing times and reducing poverty across the state.”

To learn more about CCWVa, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

served on various committees, including the executive committee, finance committee, nominating committee and audit committee.

“I am continually inspired by the staff and board of Catholic Charities West Virginia – their generosity, hard work and genuine compassion manifested in their service to our neighbors,” said Sister Harrington. “As I begin a term as Board Chairman, I am grateful for the opportunity to support them and our mission.”

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Papa: obispos deben manejar el debate de Comunión como pastores

Por Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

A BORDO DEL VUELO PAPAL DE ESLOVAQUIA (CNS)—El debate sobre negar la Comunión a los políticos que apoyan el aborto debe manejarse de manera pastoral, no con condenas públicas que busquen "excomulgar" a los católicos que no están en línea con la enseñanza de la iglesia, dijo el papa Francisco.

Durante su vuelo de regreso de Bratislava, Eslovaquia, el 15 de septiembre, el papa dijo que si bien no hay duda de que "el aborto es un homicidio", los obispos deben adoptar un enfoque pastoral en lugar de meterse en la esfera política.

"Si miramos la historia de la iglesia, podemos ver que cada vez que los obispos no actuaron como pastores al enfrentar un problema, se alinearon con la vida política, con los problemas políticos", dijo.

El papa dijo a los periodistas que al defender un principio, algunos obispos actúan de una manera "que no es pastoral" y "entran en la esfera política".

"¿Y qué debe hacer un pastor? Ser un pastor. No andar condenando", agregó el papa. "Debe ser pastor, al estilo de Dios, que es cercanía, compasión y ternura".

"Un pastor que no sabe actuar al estilo de Dios se desliza y entra en muchas cosas que no son de pastor".

El papa dijo que prefería no comentar directamente sobre el tema de la negación de la Comunión en Estados Unidos "porque no conozco los detalles; estoy hablando del principio" del asunto.

Durante una asamblea general de primavera en junio por Zoom, el 75% de obispos estadounidenses aprobaron la redacción de un documento, dirigido a todos los fieles católicos, sobre la coherencia eucarística. Durante largas discusiones sobre el documento antes de la votación, varios obispos señalaron específicamente al presidente Joe Biden y a la presidenta de la Cámara de Representantes, Nancy Pelosi, demócrata de California, que son católicos, por no buscar activamente poner fin al aborto legal, y dijeron que se debería negar Comunión a esos políticos.

Cuando se le preguntó si alguna vez le había negado públicamente la Comunión a alguien, el papa Francisco dijo enfáticamente: "No, nunca le he negado la Eucaristía a nadie; ¡a nadie! No sé si alguien vino a mí en estas condiciones, pero nunca lo he hecho, negado la Eucaristía, desde que era sacerdote".

Pero, agregó, "nunca supe de nadie frente a mí en las condiciones que mencionaste".

Recordando su exhortación apostólica, "Evangelii Gaudium", el papa dijo que "la comunión no es un premio

para los perfectos", sino más bien "un don, la presencia de Jesús en su iglesia y en la comunidad. Esa es la teología".

Sin embargo, el papa Francisco también dijo que entendía por qué la Iglesia toma una postura dura porque aceptar el aborto "es un poco como si se aceptara el asesinato diario".

"Quien comete un aborto, asesina", dijo. "Agarre cualquier libro de embriología, esos libros de medicina. En la tercera semana de la concepción, muchas veces antes de que la madre se dé cuenta, todos los órganos están allí. Todos, incluso su ADN".

"Es una vida humana. Punto", agregó el papa. "Y esta vida humana debe ser respetada. Este principio es muy claro".

El papa Francisco dijo que quienes "no entienden" este principio deben preguntarse si es "correcto matar una vida humana para resolver un problema".

También recordó la reacción a su exhortación apostólica "Amoris Laetitia" y los debates en torno a dar la Comunión a los católicos divorciados o que se han casado de nuevo.

Algunos lo llamaron "herejía, pero gracias a Dios por el cardenal (Christoph) Schönborn, un gran teólogo, que despejó un poco el caos", dijo.

Sin embargo, "siempre hubo esta condena", dijo el papa. "Son gente pobre que está temporalmente fuera, pero son hijos de Dios y necesitan

nuestra acción pastoral".

También se le preguntó al papa sobre su reciente anuncio de servicio público en agosto alentando a las personas a recibir la vacuna COVID-19 y si su declaración de que "las vacunas son un acto de amor" alienaría a los católicos que son escépticos sobre la vacuna.

El papa Francisco dijo que lo encontró "un poco extraño" porque "la humanidad tiene una historia de amistad con las vacunas".

También dijo que las dudas sobre las vacunas pueden ser consecuencia de "la incertidumbre de la pandemia, de la vacuna en sí", o de la notoriedad de algunas vacunas en el pasado que prácticamente eran "agua destilada".

"Incluso en el Colegio Cardenalicio hay algunos negacionistas. Uno de ellos, el pobre, se recuperó recientemente del virus", dijo el papa, en alusión al cardenal estadounidense Raymond L. Burke.

En Eslovaquia, la reciente legislación que exige la vacunación provocó protestas en el país, lo que provocó divisiones y tensiones, incluso dentro de la Iglesia católica.

Aunque el gobierno inicialmente ordenó que todos los participantes de los eventos papales fueran vacunados, las autoridades relajaron sus regulaciones iniciales y permitieron a los participantes que presentaran una prueba de COVID-19 negativa o una prueba de recuperación del coronavirus.

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

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

Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis al 304.230.1504. También puede llamar a la línea directa de abuso sexual de la Diócesis al 833.230.5656. Los formularios de queja están disponibles en línea en www.dwc.org, haga clic en "Diócesis" en la barra de menú, luego en "Oficinas", luego en "Ambiente seguro", luego "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se titula "Formulario de queja para denuncias de abuso sexual de menores". El formulario se puede devolver por correo de EE. UU. A: Office of Safe Environment, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

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

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

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