Catholic Families Raise More Than $370,000 for Disaster Relief in West Virginia and Kentucky

By Joyce Bibey

WHEELING—Catholic parishes in West Virginia raised more than $370,000 in one weekend special collection to support recovery efforts related to the series of natural disasters in southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky from May to August.

Bishop Mark Brennan said $369,557 was collected at Masses on Aug. 13-14 throughout the state and an additional $695 was given directly to Catholic Charities West Virginia. This support goes directly to the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities as well as their partner agencies in both states.

Noting the generous gifts of prayer and funds of West Virginia Catholics, Bishop Brennan said, “They have shown the spirit of St. Paul’s words: ‘Bear one another’s burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ’ (Galatians 6:2), the law being the Lord’s command: ‘Love one another as I love you’ (John 15:12).”

Catholic Charities West Virginia and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lexington are providing long-term recovery efforts, assisting families long after other organizations have moved out. The role of Catholic Charities will last months and years as they help families and individuals in the rebuilding process to restore safe,

Catholic Schools Welcome Bishop Brennan

By Colleen Rowan

Students and teachers are welcoming Bishop Mark Brennan as he begins his visits to the diocese’s Catholic schools to kick off the start of the new academic year. In addition to dropping by classes and talking with students, his visits also include celebrating Masses for school communities.

His first stop was at Fairmont Catholic School on Aug. 30, where he was met with the joyful, smiling faces of kids in pre-kindergarten to eighth grade. The day began with his celebration of Mass at St. Peter the Fisherman Church in Fairmont with area priests concelebrating.

“Fairmont Catholic School was honored to have our first schoolwide Mass celebrated by Bishop Brennan,” said Principal Diane Burnside. “Faculty, staff, and students enjoyed his visit to the classrooms after Mass. He discussed welcoming our new students with kindness and how Catholic schools provide a strong academic and faith-based education.”

Following the Mass an assembly was held at the school to welcome the bishop and other special guests that included Superintendent of Catholic Schools Mary Ann Deschaine, seated in the center of the front row, following the school’s first Mass of the new school year Aug. 30 which was celebrated by the bishop.

See “Schools” on Page 3

Inside: Our Eucharistic Call to Serve – Get out of the Boat! Page 4 | New Social Ministries Director Wants to Help Catholics Put Their Faith into Action, Page 7
Relief...

Cont’d from Page 1

secure, and sanitary living conditions.

“Catholic Charities is grateful to generous West Virginians who have supported flood relief for our struggling families in West Virginia and our neighbors in Kentucky,” said Beth Zarate, Catholic Charities West Virginia president and chief executive officer.

“Families face immense emotional stress as they watch water destroy their homes and can’t imagine their future. Immediately they lose food, medications, memories...” she said.

and paused. “It is a long road back.

Flooding is overwhelming, every home is an individual story and has its own history, we work to keep families stable, sometimes years, as they literally put their lives back together. At Catholic Charities it is a privilege to be in the position to help others, it is a reality that only comes from the many West Virginians who live their Gospel call to love their neighbors,” she said.

With a strong WV VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) and Catholic Charities USA, CCWVA will be working with more than 60 families in our state who have major damage to their homes, Zarate noted.

According to the West Virginia Emergency Management Division, between May 6 and Aug. 15 there were 856 reports of flood damage due in eight counties of the state (Cabell, Mingo, Fayette, McDowell, Wyoming, Jackson, Doddridge, and Kanawha).

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 hasinterfered 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 800.542.6513. 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 Schuelken, 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 “Office of Safe Environment,” then “Download Files and Forms.” The form is titled “Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor.” The form may be returned via U.S. mail to: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26003.

To Report to the Diocese’s Victim Assistance Coordinator: please call Dr. Patricia Bailey at 304.242.6988. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org under “Accountability”, then “Report Misconduct” or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected. Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

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 workshops. For more information on the Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, click “Diocese,” then “Offices,” then “Office of Safe Environment.”
Schools...
Cont’d from Page 1

Catholic Schools

Mary Ann Deschaine. Students sang the song “Building a Community” and presented the bishop with a thank you card designed by art teacher, Marci Cochran.

Also at the assembly were Father Romeo Bacalso, pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Fairmont and Holy Spirit Parish in Monongah; Father Kishore Varaparla, administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish in Fairmont; Father Joseph Konikattil, pastor of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish in Fairmont and designated school pastor; and Father Binu Emmanuel, administrator of St. Patrick Parish in Mannington and St. Peter Parish in Farmington. They also concelebrated the Mass.

Bishop Brennan’s next visit will be to Notre Dame High School and St. Mary Central School in Clarksburg.

The 24 Catholic schools of the diocese opened their doors to the new school year in late August. In her Aug. 22 letter to West Virginia’s Catholic school community, Deschaine shared her joy for a new academic year and spoke of the students’ success.

“Our Catholic school students in West Virginia have again scored above national averages on the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) for their state-aligned, online Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. Not only do these test results chart that our students are scoring significantly higher than their counterparts, this specific NWEA assessment also tracks they are on the fast track for college and career readiness.

“While we celebrate these accomplishments,” she continued, “we are always looking to set our goals higher and empower our students to exceed their own expectations.

“The diocese’s Catholic schools enthusiastically accept the responsibility to inspire them to be the peacemakers, problem solvers, builders, lawmakers, researchers, advocates, and genuine care givers that our world needs, Deschaine wrote.

“As our children grow so does their faith. We are unapologetically Catholic and that identity shapes how we look at the world — with hope, peace, kindness, responsibility, dignity, empathy, and opportunity,” she said in her letter.

“As we welcome our new families and staff members, we celebrate our growth. Each member is not just a student, parent, or educator, but a significant and valued part of our impressive Catholic school family.”

Bishop Mark Brennan visits Fairmont Catholic School eighth-graders (from left) Maddie Mikeo, Conchetta Cook, Madison Burdette, Katelyn Jochum, Taner Woodman, Maximas Fortier, Sophia Burnside, Andrew Hardesty, and Camdyn Staron.

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Catholic Distance University

September 2, 2022 The Catholic Spirit 3
Our Eucharistic Call to Serve – Get out of the Boat!

By Beth Zarate, President & CEO of Catholic Charities West Virginia

A s an Army Brat, I was raised in the military and lived all over the country, moving every three years. I can remember showing up to a new military base and the first thing my Mom would ask was, “Where is the Catholic church?” Every military base meant a new church and the undeniable comfort and familiarity with the Catholic liturgy. Everything in my life would be in upheaval, but I could count on Sunday morning, going to Mass, and feeling I was at home. In the other table of my Lord. “Blessed is the one who will dine in the kingdom of God.” (14:15) Then there was Sunday brunch with all my favorite foods: homemade hot rolls with ham and eggs, followed by the weekly splurge at the ice cream truck! My mom invited many to our Sunday table; the army soldier with no family in the area, the missionary priest visiting our military base, and the lonely mom with 5 children whose husband was deployed. (My you understand it is the guest list, not the menu, that matters.)

I was taught the Eucharist was the real presence of Jesus Christ, the memorial of Christ’s passion and resurrection, the breaking of the bread from the last supper, holy sacrifice, and Holy Communion – it was a gospel event. For me, a reminder to love well and put my love into action. Mother Teresa said it beautifully: “Love is a one-way street — it always moves away from self in the direction of the others.”

“I was hungry, you gave me to eat. I was naked, you clothed me, I was homeless, you took me in.”

Pope Benedict XVI said, “Jesus’ hour is the hour in which love triumphs and we share his hour if we allow ourselves, through the celebration of the Eucharist, to be drawn into that process of transformation that the Lord intends to bring about” to adopt his attitude of love. This is an extreme love, free and unconditional, a concern for others, especially those in need.

At Catholic Charities every day we serve people who are struggling to make their ends meet. We serve people who are struggling to make their ends meet. The bus driver who delivers a meal to their elderly neighbor. The congregation that connects them with families who can help with sports fees and/or birthday parties. The college student who volunteers his time to read with/tutor struggling students or the senior who commits one hour a week to volunteer at a Catholic Charities office. The man who helps his refugee neighbors learn how to drive. The business woman who regularly pays for the meals of the family behind her in the drive thru, leaves a generous tip for her hotel maid or donates at the dentist office for someone behind on payment. Across the state our teams make “Matthew 25 bags” for people who are homeless or struggling — a simple but powerful ministry, always seeking hands and donations.

Receiving the Eucharist on Sunday is a gift from a loving God; it is “the source and summit of the Christian Life.” Our Eucharistic call is to serve, to listen to our brothers and sisters, whoever that stranger may be. To help every person who searches for and finds cards of encouragement to those in recovery from addiction. The business woman who volunteers his time to read with/tutor struggling students or the senior who commits one hour a week to volunteer at a Catholic Charities office. The man who helps his refugee neighbors learn how to drive. The business woman who regularly pays for the meals of the family behind her in the drive thru, leaves a generous tip for her hotel maid or donates at the dentist office for someone behind on payment. Across the state our teams make “Matthew 25 bags” for people who are homeless or struggling — a simple but powerful ministry, always seeking hands and donations.

Looking for ways to serve? Please contact:

Bill Hagy bhagy@ccwva.org at Catholic Charities, Parish Outreach Specialist, or Kathy Barton kbarton@dwc.org at the DWC, Director of Social Ministries.

Our Eucharistic Call to Serve – Get out of the Boat!

Throughout this Diocesan Year of the National Eucharistic Revival, each print edition of The Catholic Spirit (published on the First Friday of each month) will feature a guest article on the Eucharist.

By Beth Zarate, President & CEO of Catholic Charities West Virginia

As an Army Brat, I was raised in the military and lived all over the country, moving every three years. I can remember showing up to a new military base and the first thing my Mom would ask was, “Where is the Catholic church?” Every military base meant a new church and the undeniable comfort and familiarity with the Catholic liturgy. Everything in my life would be in upheaval, but I could count on Sunday morning, going to Mass, and feeling I was at home. In the other table of my Lord. “Blessed is the one who will dine in the kingdom of God.” (14:15) Then there was Sunday brunch with all my favorite foods: homemade hot rolls with ham and eggs, followed by the weekly splurge at the ice cream truck! My mom invited many to our Sunday table; the army soldier with no family in the area, the missionary priest visiting our military base, and the lonely mom with 5 children whose husband was deployed. (My you understand it is the guest list, not the menu, that matters.)

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Instructional Masses Planned for the Faithful

First Two Will Be Held in Wheeling, Martinsburg Vicariates

By Joyce Bibey

WEST VIRGINIA—As Catholics, it is easy to fall into a dull routine and take for granted what is happening in the Holy Mass. We know we have an obligation to go. We sit. We kneel. We recite the same phrases over and over. We go through a lot of motions, but do we truly grasp what is being celebrated... and why?

As part of our participation in the National Eucharistic Revival, the diocese is sponsoring an Instructional Mass, or sometimes referred to as a Teaching Mass. It is the complete Liturgy given with commentary so we can understand the significance of events happening before us and our role in them. Each movement and response during the Mass has a significant meaning. Understanding them will not only enrich your experience but empower you to be fully alive in the love and joy of Christ and His Church.

The Instructional Masses will fulfill your Sunday obligation and teach why we do what we do as Catholics, so we can fully participate. Bernadette Mcmasters Kime, D. Min., said it is in the Mass we are given the gift of the Eucharist and then sends us out into the world as disciples of Christ.

Whether you are a cradle Catholic, convert, considering becoming Catholic, enrolled in RCIA, confirmation candidate, marrying a Catholic, etc., an Instructional Mass is designed for you. All are welcome to the Holy Mass.

The first in the series of Instructional Masses will be held in September with one in the Northern Panhandle and the other in the Eastern Panhandle.

At 4 p.m., Sept. 18, St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling will welcome Father Jim Gretz, D. Min., to celebrate the Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Father Gretz, a priest in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, is the pastor of St. Matthew Parish, a congregation combining four parishes serving the Pittsburgh communities of Etna, Millvale, Reserve Township, and Glenshaw. He is the former director of the office of Liturgy and Worship for the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

At 4 p.m., Sept. 25, St. Leo Parish in Inwood will welcome Msgr. Rick Hilgartner. He is the former secretary for Divine Worship for the USCCB, associate director of the National Liturgy Office, and president of National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM).

Please, continue to watch TheFaithInWV e-bulletin, The Catholic Spirit, and social media for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston for announcements of additional Instructional Masses to be held throughout the state.

The National Eucharistic Revival began on June 19, the Feast of Corpus Christi. This three-year focus begins with a diocesan year, inviting diocesan staff, bishops, and priests to celebrate Jesus’ true presence in the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ with events, celebrations, and enrichment programs.

“The Eucharist is nothing less than Jesus Christ in person,” Bishop Mark Brennan has repeatedly said in the last year and a half in interviews specifically about the US Bishops revival plan, and also letters to the faithful of West Virginia. “A genuine belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist is essential to Catholic faith and to receiving the benefits of our Holy Communions.”

‘The Holy Eucharist’ is Theme of Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague at the Cathedral

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING — This year’s Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling will center on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Coinciding with the celebration of the National Eucharistic Revival, launched by the U.S. bishops earlier this summer, the novena’s theme is “The Holy Eucharist.”

For the next nine Mondays, from Sept. 5 through Oct. 31, faithful from all over the area will gather at 7 p.m. at the cathedral for the novena which includes Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, a homily given by a guest priest, music, and prayers to the Infant of Prague.

Tyler J. Greenwood, pastoral assistant and associate organist at the cathedral, plans the Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague for the cathedral each year. “The Holy Eucharist” was selected as the theme for this year, he said, not only to join in the celebration of the national revival but also in light of recent studies that have shown a disbelief in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist among Catholics. This is also the reason the bishops wanted to have the national revival.

“Of the main things that makes us Catholic is our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist,” Greenwood said. “At a time when studies have shown that there seems to be a decreasing belief in the Real Presence, it is a most opportune time for all of us to pray for the success of the National Eucharistic Revival. We have been blessed to offer the Infant of Prague Novena at the Cathedral since 2012 and it continually draws people from all over the area. Since Eucharistic Exposition already forms the outline of the novena, it provides a wonderful occasion to take these nine weeks as a deepened time of prayer and reflection on the gift of Jesus himself in the Holy Eucharist — the greatest treasure of our Catholic Faith.”

Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate the opening of the novena (Sept. 5, at 7 p.m.). The bishop discussed the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist in an article he wrote for the Aug. 2 issue (Page 1) of The Catholic Spirit in which he said: “In a mysterious way which we can describe but not truly explain, the risen Lord gives himself to us, transforming bread and wine in their deepest reality into his own Body and Blood. Because he said, holding bread, This is my Body, and has the power as the Son of God to make it happen, we join the Christians of the first and all subsequent generations in saying, ‘Amen, yes, it is Jesus whom I receive in Holy Communion.”

The evenings of the novena that follow will be celebrated by clergy from around the Wheeling area offering homilies on the theme. They are: Sept. 12, Father Jude Perera, TOR, administrator of St. Anthony Parish in Follansbee; Sept. 19, Father Justin Golna, administrator of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling; Sept. 26, Msgr. Samuel Sacus; Oct. 3, Deacon Paul Lim, vice president of Mission Integration, administration at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital; Oct. 10, Father Chester Pabin of the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio; Oct. 17, Deacon Douglas Breiding, director of Cemeteries for the diocese and dean at the cathedral; Oct. 24, Father Satesh Narisetti, HGN, J.C.L., vice rector of the cathedral; and on Oct. 31, Bishop Brennan returns for the closing evening.

Members of the Knights of Columbus Carroll Council 504 of Wheeling will also be participating in the opening and closing evenings of the novena.

“Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful devotion,” cathedral parish officials said. “God has been astonishingly generous in blessing those who have been devoted to His Infant Son.”
Cathedral Parishioners Join Vice Rector on Pilgrimage to Grotto of the Sacred Heart and Little Flower

By Colleen Rowan

On Aug. 28, Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, J.C.L., led a group of 35 parishioners on a journey they will never forget. Their pilgrimage began that morning at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling, where Father Narisetti is vice rector, and led them to the Rhoda Wise Shrine and Grotto of the Sacred Heart and Little Flower in Canton, Ohio.

“The day was filled with a lot of holiness,” said Father Narisetti, who celebrated Mass at the grotto.

Wise was a mystic and experienced the stigmata, Father Narisetti said. “She is a servant of God on the road to sainthood,” he said.

The Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, granted Father Narisetti permission to celebrate the Mass at the grotto. The sisters there, he said, were very happy for the celebration and because he brought such a large group on the pilgrimage.

Father Narisetti visited the grotto last year and wanted to bring parishioners there when he had the chance.

Rhoda Wise

The Diocese of Youngstown states on its website that Rhoda Wise was a woman of faith who became interested in Catholicism and the rosary during a prolonged hospital stay for multiple injuries and cancer. Bishop James Augustine McFadden confirmed her in Mercy Hospital in Canton in March 1939.

“Her devotion to the rosary, the Sacred Heart, and the Little Flower continues to inspire thousands,” the site states.

In May 1939, Wise was declared incurable and discharged from the hospital. “Despite her pain, she took comfort in daily prayer and devotion. Soon after, she began experiencing visions of Jesus and St. Therese (the ‘Little Flower’), as well as healing in the midst of her suffering.

“During her life, she accompanied others in their suffering, and many would gather at her house. Since her death in 1948, her home has become a site of prayer and pilgrimage,” the site states. “You can support her cause by praying for her beatification while asking God for your own prayer intentions.”

The Rhoda Wise Shrine has become so popular that visitors are asked to contact officials to schedule a day and time to visit.

Outside, the Grotto of the Sacred Heart and Little Flower is open for prayer from 8 a.m. to dusk.
By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston’s new director of Social Ministries wants to help West Virginia Catholics put their faith into action by reaching out to those most vulnerable.

“Let’s roll up our shirt sleeves and be unapologetic about our faith,” said Kathy Barton, who officially began in the position Aug. 8. As director, she will serve as a catalyst and resource to the bishop, pastors, and parishes in developing and maintaining services and advocacy on issues concerning local and global justice, respect for all human life, and environmental concerns, she said.

“It is my hope that together, as a church, we can better serve the needs of the vulnerable in West Virginia,” she said.

The reason Barton believes this position is important to a diocese is the same reason that attracted her to it.

“There is so much going on in the world at large today,” she said. “In coming off of Covid, there are a lot of people who are not attending church. Our pews are not as filled as they once were. And I think people are feeling a little lost, and need a little direction.”

Many, she stressed, see issues affecting their communities and ask, “Where is the church?” Her new position is designed to answer that question as she helps guide parishes in creating ministries and outreach initiatives in their communities.

Barton’s focus as director of Social Ministries begins with pro-life issues, starting with abortion. Pregnant women who are facing challenges need help not only in choosing life but also support after their babies are born.

“These women are lost,” Barton said. “These women don’t know where to turn. So, it is about creating a place, and why can’t the church be that place? Where we welcome them lovingly and in a non-judgmental way; that we love mom and child. Because the only way that we can save that child is to save mom’s heart first.”

Parishes can create ministries to help them both, Barton said, from knitting blankets for the babies, to starting an exercise class for new moms, to offering job training—anything that can help.

Building partnerships with other service organizations in a particular area, Barton said, is a crucial element of this outreach. She encourages parishes to assess what ministries are available in their town or region, connect with them, and form partnerships. Disagreements can arise between organizations, but much can be accomplished when the focus stays in the right place.

Perhaps we don’t agree on everything. But can we agree on this? Can we agree that young woman needs a safe haven? That young woman and her child need medical care? That baby deserves a chance at life?” Barton asked.

By doing so, she said, parishes can help establish avenues and connections women and their newborns need. And if anyone knows just how to do this, it is Barton, who previously served for two years as executive director of Aim Women’s Center, a pregnancy care center in Steubenville, Ohio. She encourages the faithful to look into the program Walking with Moms in Need, a nationwide, pastoral effort led by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to encourage increased outreach to pregnant and parenting mothers in need.

And the pregnant women who need someone to walk with them, Barton said, are the ones who won’t be getting gender reveal parties or baby showers. These women need to see that there is a community of people to support them in choosing life, so they can concentrate on the precious little life God has gifted them with.

More information about Walking with Moms in Need can be found at www.walkingwithmoms.com.

Prison ministry is another area of concern for Barton. She has been in contact with Father Bill Kuchinsky, supervisor of the Prison Ministry Office for the diocese, and from him she learned that outreach has been hindered because of Covid shutdowns and that access to prisons has not been easy. Many of the prisons are still on code red because of Covid, she said.

Addiction and recovery is another area that Barton is prioritizing. She is currently looking into recovery programs with a Catholic foundation.

Communities around the state are dealing with numerous issues and the list of ministries a parish or parishes could undertake is limitless, Barton said.

“Anything that is a social justice issue,” she said, “we’d like to have the church front and center and present.”

In the few weeks she has been in her new position, Barton has been reaching out to all six vicariates of the diocese, scheduling meetings to introduce herself and visits to assess how she can assist parishes. She wants to learn about the challenges towns and regions are facing and how the people of the parishes there would like to respond, or what gaps she can help fill in already established ministries of these faith communities.

“That’s first and foremost,” she said, “because this really is about support coming from the parish level out into the entire state of West Virginia. And we will do this one vicariate at a time, one parish at a time.”

“This is a position that is all about sharing your faith and putting faith into action,” she said. “I believe there are people in the pews and people who have left the pews that do want to serve.”

Barton wants the faithful to know that she is available and that anyone can reach out to her for advice and assistance in instituting ministries and outreach.

Barton also said, “I am very honored to be serving Bishop Mark Brennan. It has been an honor getting to know him.”

Barton is a member of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling. In addition to her previous work at Aim Women’s Center, she also worked in development for St. Michael’s admissions and development at Central Catholic High School in Wheeling, and served as associate vice president of advancement at Wheeling Jesuit University (now Wheeling University).

Barton can be reached at the diocese by calling (304) 233-0880, Ext. 289, or by e-mail to: kbarton@dwc.org.

Walking with Moms in Need is an nationwide, pastoral effort led by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to encourage increased outreach to pregnant and parenting mothers in need.

www.walkingwithmoms.com

It is my hope that together, as a church, we can better serve the needs of the vulnerable in West Virginia.”

—Kathy Barton, director of Social Ministries for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Walking with Moms in Need
USCCB’s Labor Day Statement Touts Bills to Help Children, Women, Families

By Mark Pattison, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — This year’s annual Labor Day statement from the U.S. bishops touts two bills awaiting action in Congress as being helpful to children, women and families: the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and an expansion of the federal child tax credit.

“Even before current economic uncertainties, women — especially women of African descent and Latina women — earned less than their male counterparts, including when doing the same work with the same qualifications,” said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, in the statement.

“They filled the majority of direct care jobs, experiencing increased risk of injury, high stress, and exposure to illness while earning low wages. They were the majority of caretakers for their loved ones, yet many lacked adequate family and medical leave policies. These and other economic challenges continue to affect working families and children,” Archbishop Coakley said.

The statement, “Building a Just Economy for Women and Families,” dated Sept. 5 — Labor Day — was released Aug. 31.

Noting that this was the first Labor Day since the Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe v. Wade, Archbishop Coakley said: “This unique moment necessitates a society and an economy that supports marriages, families and women; it demands that all of us reach across political aisles and work diligently to reframe social policies in ways that are pro-woman, pro-family, pro-worker and, thus, authentically pro-life.”

He suggested that both the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act and the child tax credit expansion fulfill that goal, calling the former one of the bishops’ ‘‘policy priorities.”

“There is currently no federal law requiring employers to provide short-term, reasonable accommodations to pregnant women in the workplace and the PWFA would do so. Common requests include being able to carry a bottle of water, a stool for jobs that involve long periods of standing, or lighter duty for jobs that entail heavy lifting,” he said.

“Women in low-wage and physically demanding jobs, disproportionately held by women of color, are regularly denied these simple accommodations and terminated or forced to take leave without pay. A number of states already have laws like this in place; however, pregnant women in every state should be protected by these standards.”

The bill has passed the House, but awaits action in a Senate running out of days on its calendar. “No woman should be forced to risk her or her child’s health, miscarriage, preterm birth, economic security or losing insurance benefits just because she requests a short-term, reasonable, pregnancy-related accommodation,” Archbishop Coakley said.

The archbishop used the statement to press for passage of an expanded child tax credit.

“In 2021, the CTC provided financial relief for families who were having difficulty making ends meet. Families largely spent this money on food, energy bills, housing payments and other basic needs. With rising inflation, continuing to expand this tax credit would be critically helpful to families forced to choose between buying food and filling up their gas tanks,” Archbishop Coakley said.

“Congress should move forward with a CTC proposal that has no minimum income requirement, includes families with mixed immigration status, is available for the year before birth, and is offered to every child — regardless of the size of the family,” he added. “The CTC was enormously effective at reducing child poverty in 2021 and we should not regress from this progress.”

Passing both bills, Archbishop Coakley said, “would have a profound impact on family stability, especially for families who are financially vulnerable.”

He also voiced themes common in the annual Labor Day statement, among them federal paid leave policy, just wages and the right to organize.

“We have long called for a system in which the whole of society enjoys fundamental human needs including nutrition, affordable housing, education, and health care,’’ the archbishop said.

“The efforts of labor unions have helped union workers fare better during the pandemic than nonunion workers, as they were more likely to maintain their pay and their jobs,” he added.

He also lauded the efforts of organizations funded through the Catholic Campaign for Human Development that “work on low-wage workers’ rights and training, in an effort to eliminate labor trafficking and related workplace abuses such as wage theft.”

Archbishop Coakley took note of the death 20 years ago of Msgr. George G. Higgins, head of what was then known as the bishops’ Social Action Department and who either wrote or consulted on multiple decades worth of Labor Day statements.

“He was a fervent advocate of economic justice for all, working closely with unions and union organizers, including Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers, and received many awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom,” Archbishop Coakley said.

“May the spirit and example of Msgr. Higgins inspire us,” he said, “that we might have the wisdom to build up justice and improve the lives of workers and their families as he did throughout his life.”

The statement can be viewed here: https://www.usccb.org/resources/Labor%20Day%20Statement%202022_0.pdf

Moundsville Parish Marks Opening of Season of Creation

MOUNDSVILLE—Sister Theresa Metz from the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph recently helped parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Church in Moundsville appreciate this year’s Season of Creation theme “Listen to The Voice of Creation” by sharing her insights and reverence for nature.

Sister Theresa spoke at an Aug. 30 workshop presented by the parish on Pope Francis’ encyclical “Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home.”

Sister Theresa sprinkled her hourlong talk with observations and insights from her 85 years of experience living as a young farm girl, as an aunt, as an educator, and as a sister. She discussed the grace and humanity offered by the celebration to renew relationship with the creator and with creation.

Sister Theresa grew up on a farm and has great reverence for nature. She believes nature creates a space for silence in us and teaches us how to listen deeply. It is a season of prayer and action for our common home.

Christians annually celebrate the Season of Creation all over the globe for five weeks between the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on Sept. 1 and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4.

Along participating in the workshop were Father That Son Nguyen, pastor of the parish, and parish staffer Sister Agatha Munyanyi, a member of the Sisters of the Child Jesus. The workshop was the parish’s opening of the Season of Creation.

Father Nguyen believes as a priest he has a responsibility to protect all life from harm.

“To be able to sit down and listen, that’s very important,” the Vietnam native told Catholic News Service.

Father Nguyen said he takes every opportunity he can to bring awareness to his parishioners to tie together the needs of people with the needs of the earth.

He can be found addressing the concept of integral ecology as expressed by Pope Francis in his Laudato Si’. Such efforts are important, he said, because people must realize that all life on earth is connected and that humans are called to actively protect what God has created.

(Contributing to this story was Dennis Sadowski, of Catholic News Service.)
Gala to Benefit Mary’s Refuge Maternity Home to be Held Nov. 11

By Colleen Rowan

INWOOD—Organizers say it will be an amazing event in celebration of life, mother and child. Surround with Love: a benefit gala to support Mary’s Refuge in Martinsburg will be held Nov. 11 at 6 p.m. at St. Leo Parish Hall in Inwood.

A ministry of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg, Mary’s Refuge is a 100 percent pro-life maternity home welcoming mothers-to-be who are in a situation which is causing them fear and anxiety. The home provides them with a safe haven.

“The gala is our main fundraiser for the year,” said Kimberley Roche, executive director of Mary’s Refuge. “It is essential to our success for the coming year.”

Two keynote speakers will be featured: a sister from the Sisters of Life (to be determined), and Kathleen Wilson, renowned director of Mary’s Shelter in Virginia. She recently appeared on Tucker Carlson, CBS.

Bishop Mark Brennan will be in attendance as well. Deacon Dave Galvin of St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town will be the MC.

Especially at this time, Mary’s Refuge is a vital ministry in the community, Roche said.

“We give new mothers a chance to stabilize their lives and safely have their babies, offering the tools to an independent life,” she said.

“With the shift in the pro-life movement to a culture of life, we have part of the solution.”

Roche said moms have an opportunity to stay at the home for up to two years.

Donations for the gala will go directly to assisting the families Mary’s Refuge will be helping. The dinner is free but partners are being sought to sponsor tables. Those who cannot attend, can donate at marysrefuge.org. Scan the QR code at the top of the page or scroll down to donate. The Mary’s Refuge Facebook page also offers the QR code which will take visitors directly to the donation page.

Table sponsorships are available and are as follows: $200, two seats and name in the program as a sponsor; $500, four seats and name and business information in the program; and $1,000, eight seats and a half page ad in the program.

Progress on the home has been delayed due to labor shortages and supply chain issues, but Roche is looking at a late October opening.

At Mary’s Refuge, the home’s website states, mothers-to-be can find a loving, structured place to live, offering support, encouragement, and real resources and solutions.

“We walk alongside our mothers-to-be,” the site states, “to support them in making good, independent choices and set them on a path to a fruitful and happy future with their child, ready and equipped for life’s challenges and successes.”

For more information about the gala or the home, e-mail Roche at kimroche.marysrefuge@gmail.com or call (304) 261-3664.

Parish Establishes Ministry to Assist Those Displaced by War in Ukraine

MARTINSBURG—St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg is embarking on a new ministry to assist those displaced by the war in Ukraine.

Under the leadership of the parish’s pastor, Father Tom Gallagher, the Committee for Ukraine will be providing information so that the people of the Catholic community of the Eastern Panhandle can provide support for their brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

“Our goal is to send supplies and to offer refuge for Ukrainians who wish to emigrate to the United States as refugees through Uniting for Ukraine,” parish officials stated in announcing the program.

The ministry is led by Anne McCorkle and Joe Guttmann. McCorkle moved to Martinsburg from Warner Robins, Ga. last year.

“She has felt a connection to Eastern Europe since serving as a Russian linguist for the U.S. Army in the mid 1980s,” parish officials said.

In addition to acting as a point of contact between St. Joseph Parish and Uniting for Ukraine, McCorkle is active in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 392 of Martinsburg and Serving Stitches.

Guttmann has been a parishioner at St. Bernadette for over 35 years. He is a geographer who has taught at Marshall University, Clemson University, and the University of Tennessee.

More information about the initiative and ways to participate will be forth coming soon, parish officials said.

They asked all to, “Please continue to pray for this ministry and for all refugees.”

Contact the parish office at (304) 267-4893 if interested in helping with this ministry.

CDU Offering Online Apologetics Seminar and Sacred Architecture Course

Catholic Distance University (CDU) is offering The Art of Evangelization through Apologetics Oct. 3-24 free to all parish volunteers and educators in the diocese. Participants will learn to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others in a natural and engaging way, as Jesus did, and why being a credible believer is the most effective apologetic tool.

The online seminar will be taught by Allan F. Wright, an author, professor, speaker, and Catholic radio show host who has a passion for scripture and the Catholic faith. Participants will cover current trends in the church, models for evangelization, parish structures that support effective evangelization, and the role of apologetics in making disciples of all nations.

Professor Wright says, “While articulating the truth of the Gospel, we need the relational tools to start a conversation, build trust, serve, and then propose who Jesus Christ is. To quote St. Bernadette, ‘Our job is to inform, not convince.’” The course fulfills 1 continuing education unit.

To register, visit https://www.pathlms.com/cdu/courses/38096. Be sure to use the diocesan access code, CDU20DIOCESEWC, when setting up an account to receive the free tuition.

Faculty member Erik Bootsma, licensed architect, lecturer, and commentator, will teach Theology of Sacred Architecture in CDU’s Fall II term. Classes begin on Oct. 24, and registration is underway.

THEO 290/590, which is offered for both undergraduate and graduate credit, introduces students to the history, theology, and symbolism of Catholic sacred architecture and focuses on how its development has affected the shape, configuration, and use of the Catholic Church throughout various architectural styles and eras.

Professor Bootsma will trace the Church’s development from Pagan and Old Testament ideas of sacred architecture through the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Counter-Reformation, and focuses on how its development has affected the shape, configuration, and use of the Catholic Church throughout various architectural styles and eras.

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See “CDU” on page 10

A Ministry for Catholics with Same-Sex Attraction

COURAGE

Meets monthly in Morgantown
Faith, Fellowship, and Support

courage@dwc.com
dwc.org/courage-apostolate

"Courage is doing the work of God!" - Pope St. John Paul II
By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service News

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a ceremony to create 20 new cardinals, Pope Francis encouraged the College of Cardinals to have the same spiritual zeal for all people, whether dealing with great questions or handling everyday problems, with the powerful of this world or those ordinary people who are great in God’s eyes,” the pope said Aug. 20 during the consistory, a prayer service during which he personally welcomed 20 churchmen into the College of Cardinals.

Those who have this apostolic zeal are compelled “by the fire of God’s love alive through their lives and actions,” the pope said.

The pope also recalled the experience of Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, a full-time Vatican diplomat for decades who served as Vatican secretary of state from 1979 to 1990.

Despite his responsibilities, the pope said the late cardinal would find time to visit young inmates at a juvenile prison in Rome.

Concluding his homily, Pope Francis called on Christians to contemplate on “the secret of the fire of God, which descends from heaven, brightening the sky from one end to the other, and slowly cooking the food of poor families, migrant and homeless persons.”

Today too, Jesus wants to bring this fire to the earth. He wants to light it anew on the shores of our daily lives. Jesus calls us by name; he looks us in the eye and he asks: ‘Can I count on you?’” the pope said.

The consistory brought to 226 the total number of cardinals in the world; 132 cardinals are under the age of 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave.

The 20 prelates who received their red hats from the pope were cardinals:

— Arthur Roche, 72, prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.
— Lazarus You Heung-sik, 70, prefect of the Dicastery for Clergy.
— Fernando Vergez Alzaga, 77, president of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State and president of the Governor's Office for Vatican City State.
— Jean-Marc Aveline of Marseille, France, 63.
— Peter Ebere Okpaleke of Kukwuloba, Nigeria, 59.
— Leonardo Ulrich Steiner of Manaus, Brazil, 71.
— Filipe Neri António Sebastião do Rosário Ferrão of Goa, India, 69.
— Robert W. McElroy of San Diego, 68.
— Virgilio del Carmen da Silva of Dili, East Timor, 54.
— Oscar Cantoni of Como, Italy, 71.
— Anthony Pooja of Hyderabad, India, 60.
— Paulo Cezar Costa of Brasília, Brazil, 54.
— Richard Kuuia Baawobr of Wa, Ghana, 62.
— William Goh Seng Chye of Singapore, 64.
— Adalberto Martínez Flores of Asunción, Paraguay, 70.
— Giorgio Marengo, apostolic prefect of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 48.
— Jorge Jiménez Carvajal of Cartagena, Colombia, 80.
— Archbishop Arrigo Miglio of Cagliari, Italy, 80.
— Gianfranco Ghirlanda, proctor of canon law, 80.
— Fortunato Frezza, canon of St. Peter’s Basilica, 80.

Cont’d from Page 9

and Vatican II.

Bootsma holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture and an undergraduate degree in Liberal Arts from Thomas Aquinas College in California. He is a registered architect in the state of Virginia and has been in private practice since 2014, focusing on ecclesiastical architecture. He is also the author of numerous articles on sacred and classical architecture, and he has lectured at the Catholic Art Guild, the Hillsdale College Kirby Center, and at the University of Notre Dame, Franciscan University of Steubenville, and The Catholic University of America.

To enroll in this course or to learn more about CDU, visit cdu.edu or contact the admissions director at admissions@cdu.edu; 1-888-254-4CDU, ext. 700.


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CDU...
Discover a Career with the Knights of Columbus

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY ◆ STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH ◆ CHANGE THE WORLD

Opportunities in Virginia and West Virginia!
Learn more at our
Virtual Career Fair on September 14th at 7:00 p.m.
Register at abbatekofc.com/career-opportunities
Packing a School Bag with Coping Skills

At Catholic Charities West Virginia, we have a number of childhood development experts on staff through our Child Care Resource Center and Birth to Three programs.

Our Child Care Resource Center provides families with resources on selecting the best quality child care, offers training to child care providers, and administers the state’s child care subsidy.

Our Birth to Three program provides supports and services for families of children ages birth to three who have or may be at risk for a delay.

Wendy Miller, the director of our West Virginia Birth to Three RAU-1 program, shares the following reflection as we enter a new school year:

I planned my very first camping trip this year. Wild horses and an island three states away were involved. I was nervous. Quite a few questions and worst-case scenarios ran through my head. How do I get there? How do I put up a tent? What if it rains? How do I make my morning coffee? Do wild horses attack people? Since I had no past experience from which to draw, I researched what to eat, how to avoid attack by wild horses and bugs, and how to survive a storm in a tent. I practiced setting the tent up in the living room, which was much too small for the man I purchased, so I set it up in the back yard. I gave myself pep talks, saying “If Girl Scouts can do it, so can I!” and “I bought a standard transmission car not knowing how to drive it and did just fine.” I was ready.

My maiden camping experience is much like a situation many children will soon face: the first day of school. For some, this may be going to school for the first time ever, and for others it may be a new school or a new classroom. This journey is not a vacation to a warm, sandy island with beautiful creatures, and it is probably not his or her choice to go, yet they will find themselves with a new experience and unfamiliarity to face. If I felt so much trepidation with something as unimposing as a camping trip, consider how a young child might feel with something as grandiose as school. Surely they will have concerns: Will I have friends? What are the rules? Will there be toys I like? What will happen if I get sick? While I drew from my long history of coping mechanisms to prepare and calm myself, young children’s bags are not yet packed with a rich repertoire of self-calming techniques. How, then, will they sort through a sticky web of feelings to lessen their fears and build excitement?

Since young children don’t have many memories to lean on or a pocketful of coping skills, let them lean on us. This is a rich opportunity to share coping skills that will last a lifetime. We can anticipate their questions and explore solutions together. We can talk about what to expect and how he feels — his hopes, dreams, and concerns. We may reminisce about a positive change — how she felt beforehand, her concerns, and how things turned out great. Maybe we can visit the classroom in advance to meet the teacher. And when the day comes, perhaps we can hint at the hope of a fun task or something to look forward to such as, “try to find a friend who owns a bunny” or “see if there is a book in the reading area that you have at home.” Let her know that she is not alone in this new adventure and her friends are most likely feeling the same way. Remind him that when he gets home, you will be available to talk about all the fun things he learned as well as the worries he has. A little supportive investment now will go a long way.

My investment in preparations paid off. I wasn’t eaten by a horse, I learned that cold brew coffee from a can is almost as satisfying as it is fresh and hot, and mosquitoes laugh at dryer sheets. Next year I will be a little more prepared and mosquitos laugh at dryer sheets.

May God bless all of our children, educators and staff this school year!
Parishes Welcome New Pastor

Parishioners of St. Anthony Parish in Fairmont and Holy Spirit Parish in Monongah were delighted to welcome their new pastor, Father Romeo “Meo” Bacalso, SVD, center. He is pictured with them after his installation as pastor Aug.17 by Very Rev. Casey B. Mahone, V.F.

Employment Opportunity—Director of Catholic Schools Religious Education & Evangelization

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Catholic Schools, in West Virginia, is accepting letters of interest from qualified and highly motivated candidates for the position of Director of Catholic Schools Religious Education and Evangelization.

**Ideal Candidate:** A skilled instructor and administrator with passion both for your field of content expertise and for leading students, staff and faculty in learning and growing in our Catholic Faith. Demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to ensuring that every student learns in a faith-based environment based in Gospel values. You are motivated to provide learning that is rich with motivation, active engagement in cognitively challenging tasks, regular assessment and feedback, as well as modeling and providing differentiated forms of re-engagement and support for administrators, staff, faculty and students. You value experiential learning, that is rooted in a community of Catholic heritage and culture inspired by the rich educational tradition in our Catholic schools. You see relationships of mutual respect and rapport as foundational to learning. You value professional growth through collaboration with other educators both at the school level and in partnership with others. You collaborate well in various collegial structures for professional and ministerial growth.

**Core Competencies**

- Assists in the development and implementation of goals and objectives for the Department of Catholic Schools.
- Confer regularly with the Superintendent, School/Designated principal and religious education chairperson of each school to assess the school religion program.
- Observes teachers of religious education in the schools as part of the ongoing program assessment.
- Provides opportunities for professional and spiritual development of religion teachers in schools.
- Works collaboratively with the Superintendent of Schools to provide leadership and support to school administrators.
- Assists school administrators as needed in recruiting and selecting qualified religion teachers.

- Creates and monitors implementation of Religious Education Guidelines.
- Assist with the creating of Religious Education curriculum mapping.
- Oversees Catholic Schools Religious Education Certification program used by our teachers for professional development.
- Works to maintain and update list of religion texts recommended for use in the schools and parish programs.
- Works with principals to ensure that all religion teachers are certified (or working toward certification) according to Diocesan policy.
- Serves as a resource person for religious education/formation by maintaining a library of texts, manuals, support materials, current literature and media.
- Meets regularly with the religion teachers of secondary schools to evaluate the program, discuss needed changes and make recommendations.
- Assist the superintendent by gathering, organizing and correlate information on teacher certification in the Catholic Schools.
- Trains significantly during the week and on weekends and participates in evening and weekend job-related activities.
- Participates with members of the department in workshops and in-service training sessions.
- Assists in the orientation of new principals and new teachers.
- When requested, observes teachers to assist the administrator in guiding them towards improvement in the teaching of religion.
- Reviews religious education/formation policies in the school policy handbook and suggests revisions when appropriate.
- Maintains religious education files and issues certificates as appropriate.
- Assists superintendent in implementing special programs in the schools; Virtue in Education program.
- Oversees the Assessment of Religious Knowledge (ARK) testing program and works with schools to analyze and utilizing the assessment data.

- Performs other job-related duties as collaboratively determined and within the limits of time, energy and priorities.

**Qualifications Base:** Master’s degree (MA) in Theology, or Religious Education, or related field. Must adhere to the teachings of the Magisterium of the Church. Experience teaching religion in parochial elementary and secondary schools. Must possess leadership, organizational and interpersonal communication skills. Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment. Preferred: Working experience as school administrator or related administrative, department head or lead teacher responsibility. Worked as a teacher with teacher certification.

Qualified and highly motivated candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae or résumé to Julie Link at jlink@dwc.org. Candidates who meet the qualifications for this position will be contacted about the interview process and invited to submit a full set of application materials.

**Community Festival**

**Join us for an afternoon of family fun!**

**Food Trucks & Vendors**

**Games • Live Music**

**Sunday, September 4**

**3 to 7 PM**

**CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH**

**1300 EOFF STREET, WHEELING, WV 26003**
En Español

Papa crea 20 nuevos cardenales, incluyendo obispo de San Diego

Por Junno Archo Esteves, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — En una ceremonia para crear 20 nuevos cardenales, el papa Francisco invitó al Colegio Cardenalicio a tener el mismo celo espiritual por todas las personas, ya sean personas que estén en posiciones de poder o cristianos comunes.

"Un cardenal ama a la iglesia, siempre con el mismo fuego espiritual, ya sea tratando las grandes cuestiones como ocupándose de las mas pequeñas; ya sea encontrándose con los grandes de este mundo como con los pequeños, que son gran cosa delante de Dios", afirmó el papa el 27 de agosto durante el consistorio, un servicio de oración en el que él personalmente dio la bienvenida a 20 eclesiásticos al Colegio Cardenalicio.

Los que tienen este celo apostólico están animados por "el espíritu de fuego" que fundamenta a la iglesia. "Centrándose en la imagen del fuego, el papa Francisco reflexionó sobre las palabras de Jesús a sus discípulos, en las que declaró: 'He venido a echar fuego en la tierra, ¡y cómo quisiera que ya estuviera encendido!'"

Al concluir su homilía, el papa Francisco invitó a los presentes a "centrarse en el fuego, ¿cómo quisiera que ya estuviera encendido?"

Centrándose en la imagen del fuego, el papa Francisco reflexionó sobre las palabras de Jesús a sus discípulos, en las que declaró: "He venido a echar fuego en la tierra, ¡y cómo quisiera que ya estuviera encendido!"

Los discípulos de Cristo son llamados a hacer que "una antorcha encendida y nos dijera: 'Tomen y echemen a lasquietudes adicionales, como sospecha de mala conducta financiera, denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis tambien se ha asociado con Navex para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis: llame a la Dra. Patricia Bailey al 304.242.6988. Además de los metodos enumerados anteriormente para denunciar el abuso sexual, la Diócesis tambien 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, diacono, religioso, o empleado laico de la Diócesis o cualquier parroquia o escuela catolica en West Virginia. Se puede acceder a la plataforma EthicsPoint a través de www.dwc.org, en "Ambiente seguro", luego "Descargar archivos y formularios". El formulario se puede devolver por correo de EE. UU. A: Office of Safe Environment, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, PO Box 230, Wheeling WV 26002.

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

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Confirmation Schedule

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

Friday, September 16: Holy Spirit, Monongah, 6 p.m.

Sunday, October 2: St. James the Apostle, Clarksburg, 4 p.m.

Sunday, October 9: SS. Peter & Paul, Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 16: St. Agnes, Shepherdstown, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 20: Ascension, Hurricane, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 22: Blessed Sacrament, South Charleston, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 23: Combined Confirmation: Sacred Heart, Huntington, & St. Peter Claver, Huntington, at Sacred Heart Parish, 9 a.m.

Sunday, October 30: Holy Rosary, Buckhannon, 9 a.m.

Sunday, November 6: All Saints, Bridgeport, 10 a.m.
Our ER will protect you.

Do Not Ignore Warning Signs of Other Illnesses Because of COVID-19.

Our Emergency/Trauma Department is staffed by board-certified emergency physicians from WVU Medicine.

Don't ignore signs of strokes, heart attacks and other emergency conditions.

We'll protect you, and take good care of you.