

THE CATHOLIC

Spirit



A Joyful Confirmation in Hurricane

Bishop Mark E. Brennan celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Church of the Ascension in Hurricane Sept. 19. In the front row, from left, are Khalil Ramey, Alfred Biju, Bishop Brennan, Shayla-Jayne Marshall, and Adam Rock. In the second row, from left, are Spencer Macko, Elise Pye, Tiffany Cochran, Carson Schoen, and Carolina Leachman, director of Religious Education at the parish. In the back, from left, are Father Bill Matheny, pastor, and Tanner Westfall.
Wendy Cochran Photo

Inside: Innovative Hospital Transition Program Launched in Wheeling, Page 3

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To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

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

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

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

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

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

Links and information: WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp>. West Virginia State Police, Crimes Against Children Unit: 304-293-6400.

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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8:30 WVNS FOX 59	Beckley-Bluefield-Oak Hill (Lewisburg)
11:00 WDVM 25	Hagerstown-Washington D.C.

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Tickets will be sold at the door prior to the event and online through Corpus Christi's Parish Facebook page

Innovative Hospital Transition Program Launched in Wheeling

WHEELING—An innovative community health model for care transition has been launched in Wheeling, West Virginia.

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has piloted a Hospital Transition Program in partnership with WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital. The program provides a supportive transition for high-risk patients as they are discharged from the hospital.

“For people who have been in the hospital for a few days or more, returning home can be daunting—especially if they don't have a lot of family or social support,” said Mark Phillips, CCWVa Northern Regional Director. “Our Hospital Transition Program, in partnership with WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital, helps to provide people with a sense of confidence and comfort as they transition from hospital to home.”

The Hospital Transition Program aims to serve people with higher risk factors for negative health outcomes. Persons admitted to WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital are screened for certain social determinants of health—external environmental circumstances or factors that could contribute to decreased health and wellness. Examples include unstable housing, lack of steady income, lack of transportation or community technology, etc.

“We feel strongly that we at CCWVa are experts in providing compassionate care to those affected by these complex social determinants of health,” said Sara Lindsay, CCWVa Chief Program Officer. “Supporting people with their social and environmental needs, on top of their basic medical needs, involves a level of experience and skill to meet people where they are and accept their situations, unconditionally, as a starting point on their health journey.”

See “Program” on Page 4



Courtesy Photo

Catholic Charities West Virginia and WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital have partnered to provide a Hospital Transition Program, holistically supporting high-risk patients as they transition from the hospital to the home. Pictured in the back row, from left: Deacon Paul Lim, VP of Mission Integration at Wheeling Hospital; Mark Phillips, CCWVa Northern Regional manager; and Sara Lindsay, CCWVa chief program officer. In the front row, from left: Laurie Quinn, Hospital Transition Program client; Sister Jen Berridge, CSJ, CCWVa Hospital Transition Program case manager.

Special Collection for Hurricane Ida Recovery

October 2-3 at All Churches in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

St. Michael Parish, NAMI Greater Wheeling to Host Interfaith Prayer Service on Mental Illness

WHEELING—St. Michael Parish will again join NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Greater Wheeling in hosting an interfaith service to pray for individuals and families living with mental illness at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5. The event, which will take place at St. Michael Church in Wheeling, has been held every year for more than decade as part of National Mental Illness Awareness Week.

Father Carlos Melocoton, pastor of St. Michael Parish, will be leading the prayer service. Chad Carter, St. Michael's liturgical music director and organist, will again provide the music.

The annual prayer service is part of the parish's stewardship activities.

This year's speaker will be Wheeling resident Terra Crews, director of Development at Youth Services Sys-

tem. A Buckhannon native, Crews and her husband Micah moved to Wheeling with their four children nine years ago.

Crews said her struggle with mental health began when she was a young teenager. For more than two decades, she has worked hard to break the cycle of ignoring mental health issues in her family. She also tries to help others to do the same. Everyone who at-

tends the vigil at St. Michael's will have the opportunity to light a prayer candle in honor of a friend or loved one who lives with mental illness.

Along with the requirement to wear masks, social distancing will be maintained and there will be no social event following the prayer service.

For information, call Wendy Hinerman, St. Michael Parish manager, at (304) 242-1560.

Program ...

Cont'd from Page 3

Initial funding for the program was provided by Catholic Charities USA.

Returning Home with Confidence

After sustaining injury from a severe fall at her home, Wheeling resident Laurie Quinn was admitted to WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital. Upon discharge, Quinn was connected with Sister Jen Berridge, CCWVa Hospital Transition Program Case Manager.

Berridge worked with Quinn to develop a plan to holistically support her in her transition home, ensuring Quinn understood discharge instructions and was connected to community resources.

"Sister Jen has been a very big help," said Quinn. "She has helped me out with food orders, with blankets and pillows, and a chair for me to get in and out of more easily, because when I got hurt it was hard to sit down."

The Hospital Transition Program focuses on basic chronic disease management, home safety, support networks and food security from a nutritional angle.

"Through this Hospital Transition Program, we are able to do great things for the people who need it the most," said Deacon Paul Lim, WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital Vice President of Mission Integration. "WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital is so proud to have this truly unprecedented partnership where patients now have access to the array of services at Catholic Charities West Virginia. This is going to change the lives of so many and pave the way for even stronger collaboration moving forward."

To learn more, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.



Domestic Violence Awareness Events

AT THE
CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

OCTOBER 10, 2021

SPECIAL MASS WITH BISHOP MARK E. BRENNAN

10:30AM

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Great Hall of Central Catholic High School

11:30AM

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Catholics for Family Peace • Lori Jones - Executive Director of the YWCA

Shelly Ernest - Victim/Witness Coordinator of the Ohio County Prosecutor's Office

B.L. Edmundson - Licensed Outpatient Mental Health Therapist

Rev. Erica L. Harley - Pastor at Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS EXPERIENCING ANY FORM OF ABUSE, PLEASE KNOW THAT THERE IS HOPE, HELP, AND HEALING.

For information on local resources, call the

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE AT 1-800-799-7233; TTY: 800-787-3224.

This program will also be shared on the Cathedral of St. Joseph's Facebook page at

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WHEELINGCATHEDRAL AND DWC.ORG.

Reservations are requested by calling 304-975-3230.

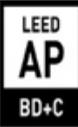
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Catholic Leaders urge Humane Treatment for Haitian Migrants as Numbers Grow

By **Julie Asher, Catholic News Service**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' migration committee and the head of Catholic Charities USA issued a joint statement Sept. 22 urging humane treatment of Haitians and other migrants as their numbers grow in southern Texas at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Thousands of Haitians have made their way across the Rio Grande from Mexico and illegally entered the United States at the Del Rio Sector of the border, roughly 145 miles west of San Antonio.

The Haitians and other migrants have been living under the Del Rio International Bridge awaiting processing, while coping with temperatures exceeding 100 degrees and limited access to food, water and shelter.

"We call on the U.S. government to reassess its treatment of migrants in Del Rio and elsewhere along the U.S.-Mexico border, especially Haitians, who face life-threatening conditions if returned to Haiti and possible discrimination if expelled to third countries," said Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington and Dominican Sister Donna Markham.

The bishop is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration and Sister Markham is president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA.

"As a church at the service of all God's people, we embrace Christ's call to welcome the newcomer and accompany them wherever they may be," they said. During this National Migration Week, observed Sept. 20-26, "we are especially mindful of that obliga-

tion and saddened to see such a disregard for human dignity," the two Catholic leaders said. "It is in the face of each migrant that we see the face of Christ."

The Biden administration announced Sept. 18 it would quickly begin deporting the Haitians back to Haiti, even though a majority of them did not arrive at the border recently from their homeland. News reports said many have been living in or traveling through Latin America for varying periods of time after fleeing widespread violence, political turmoil, natural disasters and economic stagnation in Haiti.

The Biden administration has been deporting asylum-seekers using Title 42, despite criticism for doing so from advocates for migrants and a court battle over it. Title 42 is a provision of U.S. public health law that was activated by the Trump administration to expel migrants at the border, with the exception of minors, over COVID-19 concerns.

Bishop Dorsonville and Sister Markham criticized policies such as Title 42 and expedited removal because "all too often" they "deny the reality of forced migration, disregard the responsibilities enshrined in domestic and international law, and undermine the vulnerability of those against whom they are applied."

"These are not hallmarks of a 'fair, orderly and humane' immigration system," they said. Other groups calling for humane treatment of Haitians and other migrants by the Biden administration include the Sisters of Mercy and Network, a Catholic social justice lobby.

"The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas join with people worldwide in ex-

pressing outrage over the shocking treatment of Haitian asylum-seekers trying to enter the United States in Del Rio, Texas," the religious order said in a Sept. 22 statement. "Haitian women, children and men are among our most vulnerable sisters and brothers."

"We call on the Biden administration to immediately end deportation flights to Haiti and to undertake measures to assure that all Haitian asylum-seekers have the right to make their case. This right is guaranteed under both domestic and international law," it said.

The Sisters of Mercy noted Haiti in recent months "has experienced a political assassination, a massive earthquake and a fierce hurricane."

"These catastrophic events further burden a nation with a long history of political upheaval and widespread, grinding poverty, conditions often exacerbated by U.S. policy over the years," the statement said.

The executive director of Network, Mary J. Novak, accused the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents and the Biden administration of abusing Haitian asylum-seekers, calling it "unacceptable."

Novak didn't describe the abuse, but

news reports claimed Border Patrol officers on horseback were whipping some of the Haitians as they tried to control the crowd. CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility was investigating the incident, but agents said they were using long reins to control their horses as they tried to control the crowd.

She also criticized "the continued misuse of Title 42," saying it "relies on the false idea that we have to choose between welcoming people fleeing violence and protecting communities from the pandemic. We can do both."

"The Biden administration must end Title 42 immediately and welcome immigrants and asylum-seekers with dignity," she said.

In May, those Haitians who currently reside in the United States under Temporary Protected Status were told they could apply for an 18-month extension of that status so long as they meet eligibility requirements.

TPS grants a work permit and relieve from deportation to certain people whose countries have experienced natural disasters, armed conflicts or exceptional situations so they can remain temporarily in the United States.

40 Days for Life Campaign to End Abortion Begins in Over 1,000 Cities

By **Catholic News Service**

BRYAN, Texas (CNS) — The national 40 Days for Life organization launched its fall campaign Sept. 22, with volunteers in over 1,000 cities across the country planning to pray, fast and hold 24-hour vigils outside abortion clinics. They also will participate in outreach to the community to promote awareness about abortion and outreach directly to women considering abortion.

"With the changing abortion landscape, as well as things happening legislatively in the states and nationally in the Supreme Court, there has never been a greater time for this coordinated pro-life movement in our nation," said Shawn Carney, president and CEO of the Texas-based organization. "Great strides are being made to end abortion,

and we know these peaceful vigils make a difference," Carney said in a statement. Regarding this "changing" landscape, he pointed to "the national angst and protests related to abortion, specifically concerning the Texas 'heartbeat bill,'" which bans abortions in the state after six weeks of pregnancy and allows an exception only in the case of a medical emergency.

On Dec. 1, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in an appeal from Mississippi to keep its ban on abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, and supporters of the law are urging the court to reexamine its previous abortion rulings, including 1973's *Roe v. Wade* ruling legalizing abortion nationwide. Carney said the goal of the 40 Days for Life event, which will end Oct. 31, "is threefold."

October 2021

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

St. Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!



respectlife.org/celebrate

Church Suffers Temptation to go Backward, Pope Tells Jesuits in Slovakia

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church suffers from a temptation to attempt to return to attitudes and practices of the past, an attitude that blocks pastoral outreach to many of those who are marginalized, Pope Francis told Jesuits in Slovakia.

"We are suffering this today in the church: the ideology of going backward. It is an ideology that colonizes minds. It is a form of ideological colonization," the pope told his Jesuit confreres Sept. 12 during a meeting at the apostolic nunciature in Bratislava.

He also said the purpose of the 2015 Synod of Bishops on the family was "to make it understood that couples in second unions are not already condemned to hell."

Today, he said, many in the church are afraid of accompanying people "with sexual diversity."

"That is why today we look back to the past: to seek security. It frightens us to celebrate before the people of God who look us in the face and tell us the truth. It frightens us to go forward in pastoral experiences," the pope said.

"This is the evil of this moment: namely, to seek the path in rigidity and clericalism, which are two perversions," he said.

As is customary when the pope meets Jesuits during a foreign trip, a transcript of his remarks was released weeks later by the Jesuit journal *La Civiltà Cattolica*.

According to the text published Sept. 21, Pope Francis greeted the 53 Slovak Jesuits and expressed surprise at how many were present in the country.

"I didn't know there were so many Jesuits here in Slovakia. The 'plague' is spreading everywhere," the pope said jokingly.

When asked how he was feeling a month after undergoing intestinal surgery, the pope said he was "still alive even though some people wanted me to die."

"I know there were even meetings between prelates who thought the pope's condition was more serious than the official version. They were preparing for the conclave. Patience! Thank God, I'm all right," he said.

Asked what should be the center of

the Jesuits' pastoral work in Slovakia, the pope said the word "closeness" came to mind; closeness to God in prayer, to each other and to the people of God is crucial in their mission.

He also emphasized the need for them to be close to their bishops, even with those "who don't want us."

"If a Jesuit thinks differently from the bishop and has courage, then let him go to the bishop and tell him what he is thinking. And when I say bishop, I also mean the pope," he said.

Another Jesuit asked the pope about his words regarding "diabolical ideological colonization," specifically his criticism of gender theory.

The pope warned that "ideology always has a diabolical appeal," which must be exposed, and said gender theory is dangerous because "it is abstract with respect to the concrete life of a person, as if a person could decide abstractly at will if and when to be a man or a woman."

"Abstraction is always a problem for me," he said. "This has nothing to do with the homosexual issue, though. If there is a homosexual couple, we can do pastoral work with them," helping them grow in faith and their relationship with Jesus.

"When I talk about ideology," he said, "I'm talking about the idea, the abstraction in which everything is possible, not about the concrete life of people and their real situation."

Pope Francis was also asked about how he deals with criticism against him by "people who look at you with suspicion."

Without naming it, the pope said there was "a large Catholic television channel that has no hesitation in continually speaking ill of the pope" and that while he feels he personally deserves "attacks and insults because I am a sinner," the Catholic Church does not.

"They are the work of the devil. I have also said this to some of them," he said.

Pope Francis also commented on his recent apostolic letter "Traditionis Custodes" ("Guardians of the Tradition"), which restored the obligation that priests have their bishop's permission to celebrate Mass using the "extraordinary form" or pre-Vatican II ritual.

The pope said the "phenomenon"

of young priests who "after a month of ordination go to the bishop" to ask to celebrate in Latin was an indication "that we are going backward."

He also recalled the response of one cardinal who was asked for permission by two newly ordained priests to learn Latin to celebrate the "extraordinary" form of the Mass.

"With a sense of humor, he replied: 'But there are many Hispanics in the di-

ocese! Study Spanish to be able to preach. Then, when you have studied Spanish, come back to me and I'll tell you how many Vietnamese there are in the diocese, and I'll ask you to study Vietnamese. Then, when you have learned Vietnamese, I will give you permission to study Latin,'" the pope recounted.

"So, he made them 'land,' he made them return to earth," the pope said.

Celebrate!

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

September 26, 2021

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. This nationwide event is coordinated and sponsored by the U.S. Council of Serra International.

<https://serraus.org/priesthood-sunday/>

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Inwood Knights of Columbus Sponsor Effort to Encourage Adoration

INWOOD—In an effort to encourage more active participation of parishioners in monthly First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Leo Church in Inwood, the local Knights of Columbus council is sponsoring a renewed effort and expand the time of adoration.



October. Following the noon Mass every First Friday, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar and adoration will continue until 9 p.m., when the Blessed Sacrament is reposed to the tabernacle.

The goal of the initiative is also to ensure that a sufficient number of people committed to adoration are present throughout the duration of the First Friday Adoration. Father Alfred Obiudu, pastor of St. Leo's, has requested that a minimum of two people be present during each hour of adoration.

The initiative begins on the first Friday of each month, beginning in

“Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is an ancient tradition of the church,” parish officials said. “Many saints, including Pope St. Pope John Paul II, stated that adoration is vital to the life of the church as a whole, and confers great graces to those who participate in it. Adoration gives each of us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in much the same way we would visit a dear friend. It also avails us the opportunity (as members of the Body of Christ) to spend time in prayerful thanks and praise to God for the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, who has made Himself readily present among us, under the auspices of Consecrated Bread and Wine and Food for Hu-

manity.” All members of the parish and anyone who wishes to participate reverently is welcome and encouraged to attend.

For the continued success of the eight hours of adoration, the parish is in dire need of at least two people per hour, who are willing to commit to being present for each of the eight hours of adoration.

“A total number of 16 people are required to guarantee the continued success of this effort,” parish officials said. “God Bless our effort.”

Those willing to participate in this capacity, are asked to contact Steve Smith at (703) 932-4797 or sdsmith21@hotmail.com for more information.

‘God is Good!’ Martinsburg Catholic Daughters Say at Gathering

“**G**od Is Good! All The Time!” This was the theme of the September social of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #392 of Martinsburg. After more than 18 months of the pandemic, CDA members and guests were able to gather and were treated to a wonderful evening of great food, spiritual discussion, and socialization, said Lisa Cerevalo, West Virginia Catholic Daughters state regent.

The evening began with those in attendance hearing from Father Aloysius N. Boh, administrator of St. Bernadette Parish in Hedgesville. Father Boh is from the Diocese of Kumba, Cameroon, and explained why he truly believes “God is Good!” Yes, God does place us where we need to be, and helps to direct us in our lives, he shared.

Other guests in attendance were Father William Kuchinsky, supervisor of Prison Ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, and diocesan seminarians attending Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. They were John Soplinski, Tyler Boyd, Dominic Re, and Bryan Tedeschi.

Time was spent during the evening learning a little about each other, said Cerevalo, who is also a member of Court Martinsburg. An invitation from the seminarians was extended to all to visit them in Emmitsburg. Court Martinsburg will work on the trip for the spring of 2022, Cerevalo said.

Court Martinsburg consists of members from the parishes of Berkeley and Jefferson counties in the Eastern Panhandle: St. Joseph's



Courtesy Photo

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #392 of Martinsburg gather with seminarians of the diocese at the court's September social gathering.

in Martinsburg, St. Bernadette's, St. Leo's in Inwood, St. James the Greater in Charles Town, and St. Agnes in Shepherdstown.

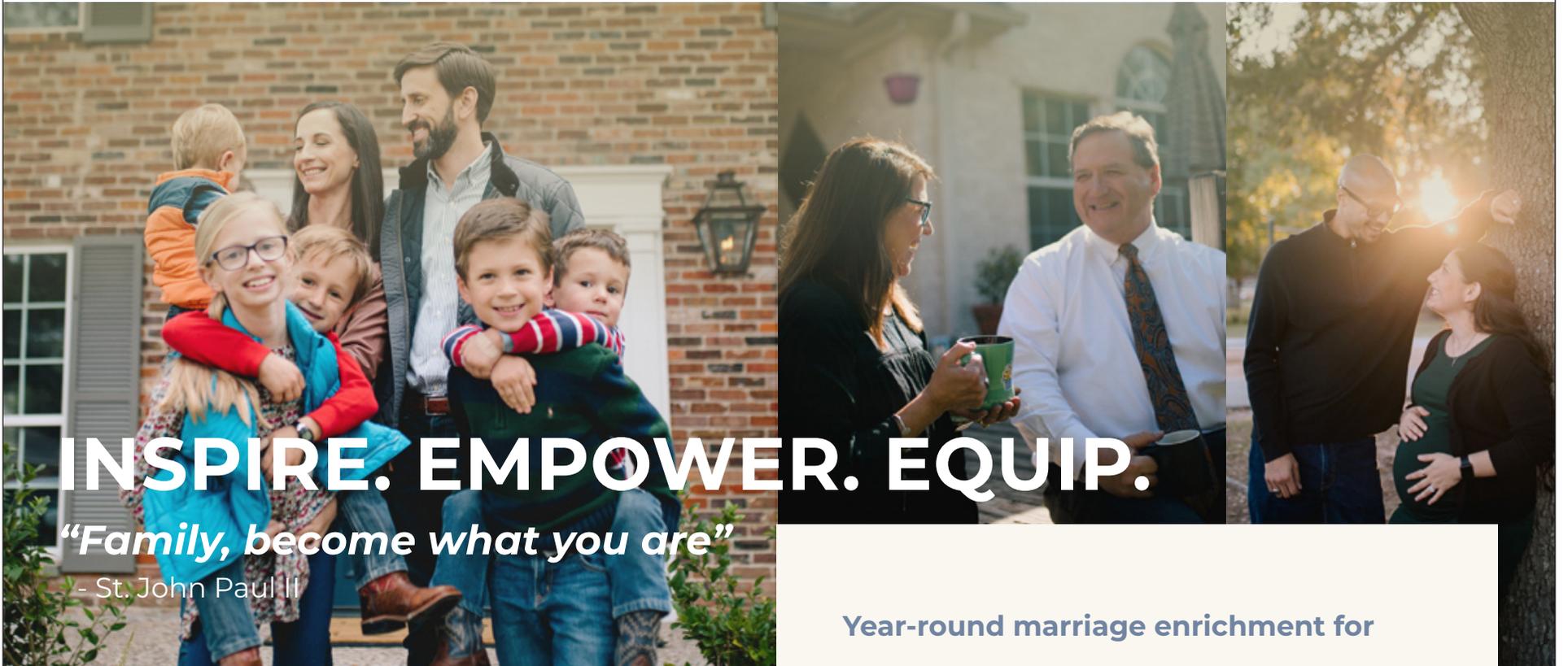
Court #392 celebrated its 100th anniversary

in 2019. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Lackey Hall of St. Joseph Church in Martinsburg.

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Knights Bringing Coats for Kids in Need across West Virginia

WEIRTON—When families struggle to clothe their children with warm coats in the winter, Knights of Columbus councils help meet this basic need with the Coats for Kids program. The program allows councils across North America to purchase new winter coats for children and to distribute them to children in need in their local communities. Since the program's launching in 2009, nearly 500,000 coats have been distributed in 49 states and all 10 Canadian provinces.

The Knights of Columbus Council #3734 of Weirton recently donated 24 coats to St. Paul School and St. Joseph Grade School in Weirton as part of the program.

This is just one of the many programs and organizations the council supports.

Pictured at St. Paul's are Principal Michele Martin; George Charnie and Larry De Rosa (center) of Council #3734; and students Sophia Woods, Hudson Cestaric, Vivienne Cullinan, Hagan Gillespie, and Keegan Osleger—representing St. Paul's student body. Courtesy Photo



Shepherdstown Knights Reach out to Migrants



Courtesy Photo

Stan Nelson and Bob Rizzo, members of the Knights of Columbus St. Agnes # 13887 Council in Shepherdstown, deliver 120 hygiene kits to a local medical center for distribution to migrants.

Mystery Dinner Theater to Benefit St. Joseph School in Martinsburg

MARTINSBURG—The Princess Street Players will present a mystery dinner theater production at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, at St. Joseph School in Martinsburg. Those 21 and older are invited to take part in a "whodunit" to raise funds for the school.

Ticket cost to attend is \$45 per person and includes a spaghetti dinner, one beverage, and the show. A cash-only bar will be available.

To order tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mystery-dinner-tickets-168589607053>.

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- What if you suddenly died – Wouldn't you rather leave a loved one with your hard-earned money rather than the Internal Revenue Service?

Join us as Van helps us think through our answers to these questions, and many more!

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Registration link: sept29.abbatekofc.com

Learn more at our virtual job fair on October 6 at 7 p.m.



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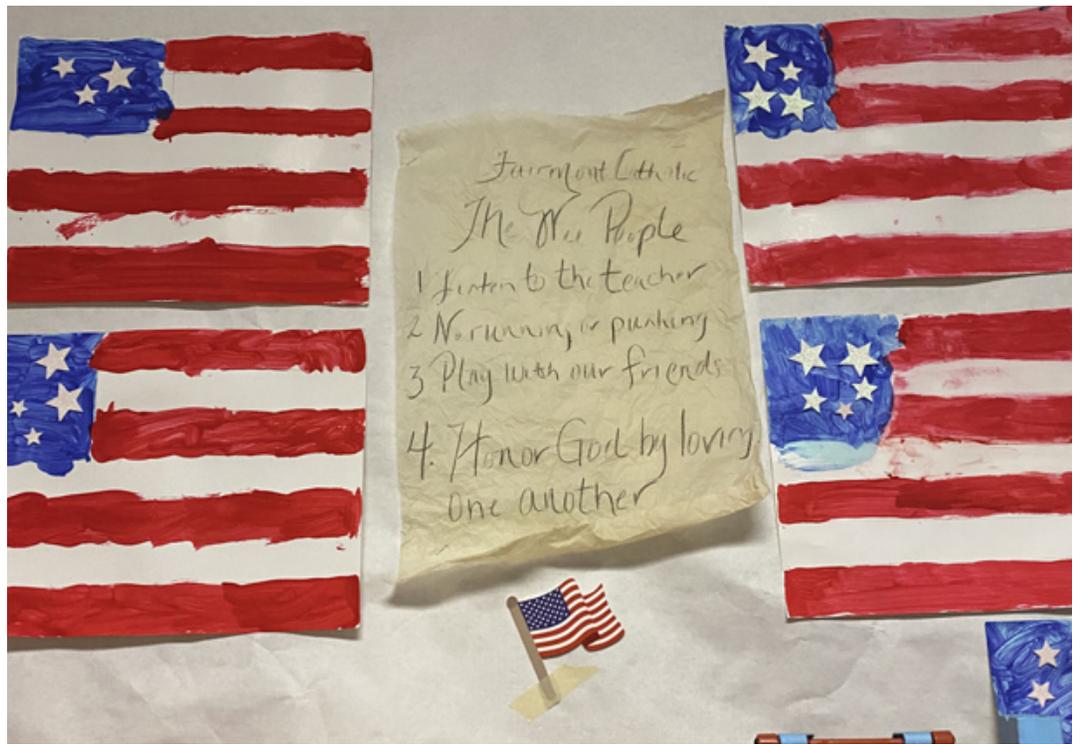
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Fairmont Catholic Holds Constitution Day Celebration



Courtesy Photos
Fairmont Catholic Grade School held Constitution Day recently. Clockwise, from left: Students gather outside for a celebration; pre-kindergarten students learn about the American Flag; and patriotic and educational decorations adorn the interior of the school. During the celebration, students sang, prayed, and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.



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Confirmation Schedule Fall 2021, Bishop Mark E. Brennan,

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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A Date for the
13th Annual St. George Camporee
 (Formerly Known as the Catholic Camporee)
October 1st to 3rd, 2021

Who: Scouts BSA
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 Contact: Chris Gorski at catholiccamporee@aol.com for further information




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‘Matthew 25 Bags’ Created to Serve Others



Courtesy Photo
Bill Hagy, CCWVa Western Regional director, packs a “Matthew 25 Bag” to give to a person experiencing homelessness.

By Bill Hagy, CCWVa Western Regional Director

To better demonstrate care and concern for the many individuals experiencing homelessness, the Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Western Region has begun filling tote bags with personal care items and distributing the bags in Charleston, Huntington, and Parkersburg.

“What so ever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me.” – Matthew 25

The tote bags, known as “Matthew 25 Bags,” are filled with food, bottled water, personal hygiene items, socks, a blanket, and other assorted items vital for someone without a home. The CCWVa team plans to continue connecting with parishes and other sites throughout the area to continue distributing the supplies.

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

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.



Help support our neighbors in need
in the Eastern Region

For the safety of our supporters, we are hosting our traditional Cuisine With A Cause event virtually this year— as A Cause Without Cuisine. We invite you to donate what you would have spent to attend our annual gala. Your financial support is critical to helping us provide supportive services and financial assistance to the members of our community who are struggling.

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.



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Employment Opportunities

Substitute School Nurse Needed

St. Joseph School in Martinburg is in need of a West Virginia-licensed RN to serve as a substitute school nurse as needed. If you are interested, please email acarter@sjsvw.org or call the school office at (304) 267-6447.

Teaching Opportunities

St. Joseph School in Martinburg is seeking a certified elementary school teacher for first grade, as well as a prekindergarten aide. If you are interested in working in a rewarding, faith-filled environment as an aide, please email a résumé and cover letter to Allison Ferrell at afferrell@sjsvw.org. If you are interested in the teaching position, please email a résumé and cover letter to Principal Pat Blanc at pblanc@sjsvw.org.

Office Manager

St. Jude Parish in Glen Dale is looking for a part-time office manager. Responsibilities include; publishing the weekly bulletin, overseeing hall and park rentals, scheduling of Masses, oversee the Safe Environment for the parish and ordering supplies for PSR, RCIA, and maintenance. Hours are negotiable. To apply, please send your resume with a cover letter and three references to: St. Jude Church, PO Box 147, Glen Dale WV 26038

Infant Toddler Specialist Child Care Resource Center, Catholic Charities West Virginia - Fairmont

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

Infant Toddler Specialist will be responsible for the provision of professional development and technical support for programs serving infants and toddlers. Job duties include but are not limited to implementing and presenting WVIT module series including TACIT visits. Essential Job Duties: Reporting all activities on the CCR&R quarterly report, Infant/Toddler Section; Identifying needs, presenting sessions as time allows or suggesting other resources/personnel for training; Mentoring newly hired Infant/Toddler Specialists; Complete RODCA as requested by FACTS; Willingness to drive the TRAO:S van in needed; Performs clerical duties as needed (typing, filing, composing letters, etc.) Qualifications: Willing to obtain a current WV STARS credential and meet the qualifications to be at least an affiliate trainer through the WV Early Care and Education Professional Development System. Shall meet one of the following requirements: PREFERRED – a Master's Degree in Early Childhood, Developmental Psychology, Educational Psychology or Child Development and one-year professional experience working with infants and toddlers; A Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood, Developmental Psychology, Educational Psychology or Child Development and one-year professional experiences working with infants and toddlers. This position is a full time position.

Please email resume, cover letter, and three professional references by Oct. 8 to: Brittany Lucci Brittany.k.lucci@wv.gov. Application materials can also be delivered to: Brittany Lucci, CCRC, 965 Hartman Run Road, Suite 1103, Morgantown, WV 26505

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.



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Papa: La Iglesia sufre la tentación del retroceso, mirar hacia el pasado

Por Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS)—La Iglesia Católica sufre la tentación de intentar volver a las actitudes y prácticas del pasado, una actitud que bloquea el alcance pastoral de muchos de los marginados, dijo el papa Francisco a los jesuitas en Eslovaquia.

"Estamos sufriendo esto hoy en la iglesia: la ideología del retroceso. Es una ideología que coloniza las mentes. Es una forma de colonización ideológica", dijo el papa a sus hermanos jesuitas el 12 de septiembre durante un encuentro en la nunciatura apostólica en Bratislava.

También dijo que el propósito del Sínodo de los Obispos de 2015 sobre la familia era "hacer entender que las parejas en segundas uniones no están ya condenadas al infierno".

Hoy, dijo, muchos en la iglesia tienen miedo de acompañar a personas "con diversidad sexual".

"Por eso hoy miramos hacia el pasado: para buscar seguridad. Nos da miedo celebrar ante el pueblo de Dios que nos mira a la cara y nos dice la verdad. Nos da miedo seguir adelante en las experiencias pastorales", dijo. dijo el papa.

"Este es el mal de este momento: es decir, buscar el camino en la rigidez y el clericalismo, que son dos perversiones", dijo.

Como es habitual cuando el papa se reúne con jesuitas durante un viaje al extranjero, semanas después la revista jesuita *La Civiltà Cattolica* publicó una transcripción de sus comentarios.

Según el texto publicado el 21 de septiembre, el papa Francisco saludó a los 53 jesuitas eslovacos y expresó su sorpresa por la cantidad de personas presentes en el país.

"No sabía que había tantos jesuitas aquí en Eslo-

vaquia. La 'plaga' se está extendiendo por todas partes", dijo el papa en broma.

Cuando se le preguntó cómo se sentía un mes después de someterse a una cirugía intestinal, el papa dijo "Vi:vo todavía. Aunque algunos me querían muerto".

"Sé que hubo incluso reuniones entre prelados, que pensaban que el Papa estaba más grave de lo que se decía. Preparaban el cónclave. ¡Paciencia! Gracias a Dios, estoy bien", dijo.

Cuando se le preguntó cuál debería ser el centro del trabajo pastoral de los jesuitas en Eslovaquia, el papa dijo que la palabra "cercanía" le llegó, a la mente; La cercanía a Dios en la oración, a los demás y al pueblo de Dios es crucial en su misión.

También enfatizó la necesidad de que estén cerca de sus obispos, incluso con aquellos "que no nos quieren".

"Si un jesuita piensa diferente al obispo y tiene valor, entonces déjelo ir al obispo y decirle lo que está pensando. Y cuando digo obispo, también me refiero al papa", dijo.

Otro jesuita le preguntó al papa sobre sus palabras con respecto a la "colonización ideológica diabólica", específicamente su crítica a la teoría de género.

El papa advirtió que "la ideología siempre tiene un atractivo diabólico", que debe ser expuesto, y dijo que la teoría de género es peligrosa porque "es abstracta con respecto a la vida concreta de una persona, como si una persona pudiera decidir abstractamente a voluntad si y cuándo ser hombre o mujer".

"La abstracción es siempre un problema para mí", dijo. "Sin embargo, esto no tiene nada que ver con el tema homosexual. Si hay una pareja homosexual, podemos hacer un trabajo pastoral con ellos", ayu-

dándoles a crecer en la fe y su relación con Jesús.

"Cuando hablo de ideología", dijo, "me refiero a la idea, la abstracción en la que todo es posible, no a la vida concreta de las personas y su situación real".

También se le preguntó al papa Francisco sobre cómo lidia con las críticas en su contra por parte de "personas que lo miran con sospecha".

Sin decir nombres, el papa dijo que había "un gran canal de televisión católico que no duda en hablar continuamente mal del papa" y que si él personalmente merece "ataques e insultos porque soy un pecador", la Iglesia Católica, no.

"Es obra del diablo. Incluso se lo dije a algunos de ellos", dijo.

El Papa Francisco también comentó sobre su reciente carta apostólica "Traditionis Custodes" ("Guardianes de la Tradición"), que restauró la obligación de que los sacerdotes tengan el permiso de su obispo para celebrar la misa utilizando la "forma extraordinaria" o ritual anterior al Concilio Vaticano Segundo.

El papa dijo que el "fenómeno" de los sacerdotes jóvenes que "después de un mes de ordenación acuden al obispo" para pedirle que celebre en latín era un indicio "de que estamos retrocediendo".

También recordó la respuesta de un cardenal a quien dos sacerdotes recién ordenados pidieron permiso para aprender latín para celebrar la forma "extraordinaria" de la misa.

"Con sentido del humor me respondió: '¡Pero hay muchos hispanos en la diócesis! Estudia español para poder predicar. Luego, cuando hayas estudiado español, vuelve a verme y te diré cuántos vietnamitas hay en esta la diócesis y te pediré que estudies vietnamita. Luego, cuando hayas aprendido vietnamita, te daré permiso para estudiar latín'", relató el papa.

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.

WVU Medicine Encourages Patients to Utilize Their Local Urgent Care Centers

MORGANTOWN—As COVID-19 cases across the state and country continue to rise, WVU Medicine Emergency Medicine encourages those seeking treatment to utilize their local urgent care centers when possible.

“When it comes to medical emergencies, we do not want people to delay getting the care that they need. In some cases, like heart attack or stroke, delaying care can lead to catastrophic consequences,” Christopher Goode, M.D., chair of WVU Medicine Emergency Medicine, said. “What we’re encouraging people to do is to go to an urgent care center when their emergency is best suited for that level of care.”

Life-threatening emergencies and those that pose a risk of disability, such as symptoms of a heart attack or stroke, injuries sustained in a vehicle crash, and lacerations that cause substantial bleeding, should be treated in an emergency department.

Minor, unexpected injuries and illnesses that do not fall into those categories, including ear infections, strep throat, simple abdominal pain, urinary tract infections, minor lacerations, sprains, and simple fractures, can be treated at an urgent care center. The wait times are often shorter, and the cost is lower than going to the

emergency department.

There are WVU Medicine Urgent Care locations in Charles Town, Fairmont, Inwood, Morgantown, Parkersburg, and Spring Mills in West Virginia; Grantsville and McHenry in Maryland; and Marietta, Ohio.

Those who suspect they may have COVID-19, including those who develop a fever, cough, or other symptoms and have been in close contact with someone known to have COVID-19 as well as those who have recently traveled to an area with ongoing spread, should first call their healthcare provider before seeking treatment.

Anyone experiencing emergency warning signs, including but not limited to trouble breathing; persistent pain or pressure in the chest; new confusion; inability to wake or stay awake; or pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone, should get help immediately. Either call 911 or call the closest emergency department, and let the operator know that care is being sought for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Those who are unsure whether or not they should be seen should call their local health departments for guidance. Assistance can also be found on the website of the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Regardless of where you seek care – whether it’s at one of our urgent care centers or at our emergency departments – it’s important to remember that it is safe to receive care during the pandemic,” Dr. Goode said. “We are taking the appropriate steps to ensure the safety of our patients and our staff.”

The best way to stop the spread of COVID-19 is to receive the vaccine. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is now FDA-approved for people ages 16 and older. The vaccine is still designated for use under FDA emergency use authorization for children ages 12 to 15. Many people have questions about safety, possible side effects, and effectiveness. WVU Medicine officials answer frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.

To hear Dr. Goode discuss why he and his family received the COVID vaccine, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiZrph_Qrxg. To hear him discuss emergency medical care during the pandemic, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYpT_jmtMhg.

For more information on COVID-19, visit [WVUMedicine.org/COVID](https://www.WVUMedicine.org/COVID). For more information on WVU Medicine Urgent Care, including locations and hours, visit [WVUMedicine.org/UrgentCare](https://www.WVUMedicine.org/UrgentCare).

Dr. David Burkland

Medical Director of the
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