

THE CATHOLIC
Spirit

Pope Francis, British Catholics Pay Tribute to Queen Elizabeth II

By **Simon Caldwell, Catholic News Service**

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) — Catholics in the U.K. paid tribute to Queen Elizabeth II following her death Sept. 8 and the end of a reign that lasted more than 70 years.

Pope Francis sent a telegram addressed “To His Majesty the King, Charles III,” her son who immediately ascended to the throne.

“I willingly join all who mourn her loss in praying for the late queen’s eternal rest and in paying tribute to her life of unstinting service to the good of the nation and the Commonwealth, her example of devotion to duty, her steadfast witness of faith in Jesus Christ and her firm hope in his promises,” Pope Francis said.

The British sovereign died “peacefully” at Balmoral, the royal residence in Scotland, surrounded by members of her family. She was 96.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster, president of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, paid tribute using many of the queen’s own words.

“On 21 April 1947, on her 21st
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Queen Elizabeth and Pope Francis on April 3, 2014

Vatican Media

Bishop Brennan to Celebrate Blue Mass at Cathedral for Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, EMT, & First Responders

By **Colleen Rowan**

WHEELING—To honor and pray for law-enforcement officers, firefighters, EMT, and all first responders, a Blue Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Mark Brennan at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling on Sept. 17 at 6 p.m.

The Mass is being sponsored by the cathedral and the Knights of Columbus Charles Carroll Assembly 1185 of Wheeling. Matt

Koval, a member of 1185, said the assembly wanted to honor those who protect and serve the community as they embody the four pillars of the Knights of Columbus: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

“Our first responders demonstrate all of those in one form or another, especially charity—helping those in need, patriotism—wanting to make their community

a better place to live for everyone,” Koval said. “They put their lives on the line for us everyday and this is a tangible way for us to show them our appreciation for what they do for us and to pray for their safety while on the job. At the end of the day, we want to go home to our loved ones and so do they. Unfortunately, not all of them are able to.”

To honor those who have given

their lives in the line of duty, there will be a Last Bell Ceremony by the Wheeling Fire Department following the Mass.

Koval said invitations to the Mass were sent to all departments of law enforcement, fire, and emergency in Ohio County. Assembly 1185, he said, is grateful to all involved in bringing this celebration to Wheeling.

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Queen..

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birthday, Princess Elizabeth said, "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service," Cardinal Nichols said. "Now, 75 years later, we are heartbroken in our loss at her death and so full of admiration for the unfailing way in which she fulfilled that declaration."

"Even in my sorrow, shared with so many around the world, I am filled with an immense sense of gratitude for the gift to the world that has been the life of Queen Elizabeth II," he said. "At this time, we pray for the repose of the soul of Her Majesty. We do so with confidence, because the Christian faith marked every day of her life and activity."

The cardinal quoted Queen Elizabeth's Christmas message from 2000, in which she said the teachings of Christ and her own "personal accountability before God" gave her a framework of how to live, and that Christ's words and example offered her "great comfort in difficult times."

Cardinal Nichols said: "This faith, so often and so eloquently proclaimed in her public messages, has been an inspiration to me, and I am sure to many. The wisdom, stability and service which she consistently embodied, often in circumstances of extreme difficulty, are a shining legacy and testament to her faith."

He also offered prayers "for His Majesty the King, as he assumes his new office, even as he mourns his mother. God save the king."

Bishop Hugh Gilbert, president of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, praised Queen Elizabeth for her life of "outstanding and dedicated public service."

"Her determination to remain active to the end of her long life has been an example of Christian leadership, which demonstrated her great stoicism and commitment to duty and was undoubtedly a source of stability and continuity in times of great change," he said. "Scotland's Catholic bishops will remember her in our prayers and pray for all those who mourn her loss."

Anglican Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury said: "As we grieve together, we know that, in losing our beloved queen, we have lost the person whose steadfast loyalty, service and humility has helped us make sense of who we are through decades of extraordinary change in our world, nation and society."

Queen Elizabeth died 17 months after the death of her husband, Philip, who died in April 2021 at age 99. Her 73-year

marriage to Philip was the longest of any British sovereign.

The U.K. has entered a 10-day period of mourning.

Elizabeth was born on April 26, 1926, to Prince Albert, Duke of York, and Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon.

She acceded to the throne Feb. 6, 1952, and during her coronation in Westminster Abbey June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth was open about her Christian faith.

"When I spoke to you last, at Christmas, I asked you all, whatever your religion, to pray for me on the day of my coronation — to pray that God would give me wisdom and strength to carry out the promises that I should then be making," the queen said in her address. "Throughout this memorable day, I have been uplifted and sustained by the knowledge that your thoughts and prayers were with me."

The accession of 1952 made 2022 the year when the world's oldest monarch and the longest-serving monarch in British history celebrated the platinum jubilee of her reign — the point when Elizabeth had sat on the British throne for 70 years.

The queen was able to witness the celebrations in her honor but handed over all of her public duties to her nearest relatives. Her final act of office was to receive Prime Minister Liz Truss in

Scotland Sept. 6, when she was also last photographed.

Fourteen prime ministers served during her reign, beginning with Sir Winston Churchill. Truss was the 15th to greet her in that office.

During her reign, Queen Elizabeth met with four popes — Francis, Benedict, John Paul II and John XXIII, and as princess she met Pope Pius XII.

The queen sometimes joked about her longevity, once quoting Groucho Marx, saying: "Anyone can get old. All you have to do is live long enough."

She served as a constitutional monarch — the British head of state and Commonwealth — the supreme governor of the Church of England and head of the British armed forces.

In her private life, she was a mother of four children, a grandmother of eight, and a great-grandmother of 11 children.

Following her death, King Charles said in a statement: "The death of my beloved mother, Her Majesty the Queen, is a moment of the greatest sadness for me and all members of my family."

"We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished sovereign and a much-loved mother. I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the Realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world."

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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Mass..

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“We would like to thank Bishop Brennan for agreeing to celebrate this Mass and all the help the cathedral has offered in making this, what we hope will be an annual event, a reality,” Koval shared.

The Blue Mass is a tradition in the U.S. that began in September 1934, when Father Thomas Dade of the Archdiocese of Baltimore formed the Catholic Police and Fireman’s Society, Cathedral of St. Joseph parish officials said in a post on Facebook. That year, the first Blue Mass was celebrated for police officers and firefighters, they said. The celebration is called a Blue Mass for the traditional uniform color associated with law enforcement.

Parishes around the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston have also celebrated Blue Masses to

“They put their lives on the line for us everyday and this is a tangible way for us to show them our appreciation for what they do for us and to pray for their safety while on the job.”

—Matt Koval, Knights of Columbus Charles Carroll Assembly 1185 of Wheeling

honor and pray for the heroes of their communities over the years. Bishop Brennan celebrated the Blue Mass at St. Anthony Parish in Follans-

bee in September 2020. The annual Blue Mass in Weirton will be celebrated today, Sept. 9, at noon at St. Joseph the Worker Church by Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens Jr., V.E., pastor. Students from St. Joseph the Worker Grade School, St. Paul School, and Madonna High School in Weirton will be attending.

The Charles Carroll Assembly 1185 of Wheeling, the oldest assembly in West Virginia, is 4th degree order of the Knights of Columbus. The assembly accepts members from the three Wheeling-area councils: Carroll Council, Our Lady of Peace Council, and Corpus Christi Council.

Following the Mass at the cathedral, a reception will be held in the Great Hall of Central Catholic High School.

“All are welcome,” Koval said, “to come and pray in thanksgiving and for the safety of our first responders.”



BLUE MASS

to honor law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMT and all first responders

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022 | 6:00 PM

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling, West Virginia

Bishop Mark E. Brennan, Celebrant

A reception will follow in the Great Hall of Wheeling Central Catholic High School.

All are welcome.



Knights of Columbus

Charles Carroll Assembly 1185



THE Cathedral of St. Joseph

Infant Jesus of Prague Novena with Holy Eucharist Theme Begins at Cathedral



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan celebrates the Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling Sept. 5.

By Colleen Rowan

Catholic faithful filled the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling for the Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague Sept. 5. On this first night, Bishop Mark Brennan was the presider and homilist. He welcomed everyone in attendance and shared that it was a delight to celebrate this devotion to the Infant of Prague.

These nine days of prayer, to be held every Monday at 7 p.m., began with a procession into the cathedral led by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Charles Carroll Assembly 1185 of Wheeling, with parishioners carrying the Infant of Prague statue and crown. Processing with Bishop Brennan were Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, J.C.L., rector of the cathedral; Father Chester Pabin of the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio; and Deacon Douglas Breiding of the cathedral.

Upon reaching the altar, Bishop Brennan

placed the small crown upon the head of the Infant Jesus of Prague statue and then incensed the statue. As the novena began all knelt for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Drawing upon the theme of the novena, "The Holy Eucharist," the bishop spoke of Jesus's saving sacrifice. "When the son of God became man, his conception in the womb of the Virgin Mary was sufficient to save the world," the bishop said to begin his homily. "That would have been enough."

At that moment of conception, the bishop said, Jesus joined himself irrevocably to us fallen human beings in such power that his holiness would wipe out our sins and open for us the path of eternal life. "His becoming man was the perfect act of divine love for us," the bishop said, "as humble as it was merciful."

So, why then did the savior go on to live a true, human life culminating his short public

ministry, crucifixion, death, and resurrection? the bishop asked.

"I think it is because the incarnation, like the sacraments, is for our benefit. How would we ever know how much God loves us and wants to be close to us unless we saw Jesus mixing with sinners, loving them, and dying for them?" Bishop Brennan said. "If he had not risen from the dead, how would we know that through his resurrection he has the power to share his new life with us? How would we know that?"

Jesus's life, death, and resurrection were necessary, the bishop said, to prove that God's immense love for us is real. In the words of the Letter to the Hebrews, Bishop Brennan said, Christ chose to be "...high priest of the good things that have come to be, passing through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by hands, that is, not belonging to this creation, he entered once for all

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Novena..

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into the sanctuary, not with the blood of goats and calves but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption" (Hebrews 9:11-12). The bishop noted that the letter continues saying Christ's blood cleanses us, cleanses "our consciences from dead works to worship the living God" (Hebrews 9:13-14).

By accepting death on the cross on our behalf and rising from the dead, Jesus Christ established a new covenant between God and human beings, Bishop Brennan said, then pointing again to the words in the Letter to the Hebrews, that "those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance" (Hebrews (9:15).

"And he left us a perpetual memorial of his saving sacrifice in the Eucharist," the bishop said, recalling Jesus's words to his apostles in the passage from the Gospel of Mark: "This is my body and this is my blood of the covenant which will be shed for many."

Forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life are implicit at the moment of the incarnation, Jesus's conception, the bishop said. "But for our sake the son of God had to experience a true human life with its joys and sorrows and at the end, supreme sacrifice, that crowned his love for us," he said.

'Give me hands, and I will give you peace. The more you honor me, the more I will bless you.'

In continuing his homily, Bishop Brennan said that the gospels say little about Jesus's childhood. So, why do we focus this devotion on Jesus as an infant? First, the bishop noted the innocence of little children and their lack of power. "Jesus, even as an adult was one of the little people of society," the bishop said. "He was not one of the movers and shakers. He was not one of the elite. He was an ordinary person, a carpenter from Nazareth, one of the little people of his time. And that truth stands up all the more when we look at him as a child because children have no power."

Secondly, the bishop continued, this lack of power in the child Jesus exposes his divine power more forcefully. Bishop Brennan pointed to the words of the risen Lord to St. Paul in the Second Letter to the Corinthians after Paul asked that the thorn in his flesh be removed: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness," (2 Corinthians 12:7).

Finally, the bishop said that little children are free of serious sin, and that Jesus's perpetual innocence is highlighted by viewing him



Colleen Rowan Photo

The Knights of Columbus Charles Carroll Assembly 1185 of Wheeling leads the procession at the end of the novena.



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Brennan places the crown on the head of the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague at the cathedral.

as an infant. "It is of a truer goodness, a child's unsullied heart, that he responds to our needs," he said.

"So we pray to the divine infant of Prague, now our risen Lord, to help us in our needs especially responding to God's call to be holy as he is holy," the bishop said. "And he says to us today, as he said to that Carmelite priest in Prague nearly 400 years ago, 'Give me hands, and I will give you peace. The more you honor me, the more I will bless you.'"

When we raise our hands high in prayer or use our hands to help someone in need, Bishop Brennan said, the Lord sees us.

"And the infant," he said, "who has become the risen Lord, invites us to trust him and to honor him by living as he has taught us and he will not be slow to bless us."

Adoring Him Who is Truly Present in the Holy Eucharist

Following the bishop's homily and prayers, all knelt for a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—uniting their hearts and minds with the Lord and adoring him who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

This year's Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague centers 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 eight Mondays, through Oct. 31, the faithful 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.

The second evening of the novena, Sept. 12, will be celebrated by Father Jude Perera, TOR, administrator of St. Anthony Parish in Follansbee. The remaining Mondays of the novena are: Sept. 19 with Father Justin Golna, administrator of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Wellsburg; Sept. 26 with Msgr. Samuel Sacus; Oct. 3 with Deacon Paul Lim, vice president of Mission Integration, Administration at WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital; Oct. 10 with Father Pabin; Oct. 17 with Deacon Breiding; Oct. 24 with Father Sateesh Narisetti, HGN, J.C.L., vice rector of the cathedral; and Oct. 31 with Bishop Brennan for the closing evening.

Pope: International Law Has Been Violated, Nuclear Risks Worsened with War

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Europe and the entire world are being shaken by a war of great seriousness, Pope Francis told his papal nuncios who serve around the globe.

It is “a particularly serious war, due to the violation of international law, the risks of nuclear escalation and the drastic economic and social consequences,” he said.

“It is a Third World War ‘fought piecemeal’ that you are witnessing in the places where you carry out your mission,” he added.

The pope’s remarks came during his brief greeting to his representatives before opening the floor to their “questions and suggestions” during a private meeting in the Apostolic Palace Sept. 8.

The group included 91 apostolic nuncios and six permanent observers; five papal representatives were

unable to attend, according to Vatican News. The group was at the Vatican Sept. 7-10 as part of an organized gathering of all papal representatives, scheduled every three years.

Pope Francis expressed his gratitude that, after all the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, “now it seems the worst may be behind us, and thank God we were able to meet.”

“But, unfortunately, Europe and the whole world

are shaken by a particularly serious war,” he added. He thanked them for everything they have been doing in “these situations of suffering” everywhere they work. “You have brought the closeness of the pope to the people and the church. You have been points of reference during moments of extreme loss and turbulence.”

The pope asked everyone to remember the retired papal representatives who

have died over the past three years, and in particular, the two nuncios who died while still actively serving their mission: Syro-Malabar Archbishop Joseph Chennoth, 76, papal nuncio to Japan, who died of a heart attack Sept. 8, 2020; and Italian Archbishop Aldo Giordano, 67, papal nuncio to the European Union, who died Dec. 2, 2021, after contracting COVID-19 during the pope’s visit to Slovakia two months prior.

Zero Tolerance for Priests Guilty of Abuse, Pope Says in Interview

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Calling sexual abuse “diabolical” and a “monstrosity,” Pope Francis underlined there is “zero tolerance” for those in the church who are guilty of abuse.

“One very key thing is zero tolerance. Zero. A priest cannot continue being a priest if he is an abuser. He cannot act (as a priest) because he is sick or a criminal,” the pope said in an interview with CNN Portugal.

“If he is a priest, he is there to lead people to God and not to destroy people in the name of God. Zero tolerance and we must not stop at that,” he said.

The lengthy interview was recorded Aug. 11 at the Vatican and aired in two segments over two evenings, Sept. 4-5. Reporters at the Vatican were provided a transcript of the interview in Spanish by CNN Portugal.

The interview covered a wide range of topics, such as the liturgy, the role of women, the importance of dialogue, synodality, prayer life and World Youth Day, which is to be held in Lisbon, Portugal, Aug. 1-6, 2023.

The pope was asked about the anger people may feel toward the church because of the abuse carried out by some of its members and how those cases were handled.

“Abuse by men and women of the church — abuse of authority,

abuse of power and sexual abuse, is a monstrosity because the man or woman of the church — whether priest, religious or layperson, was called to serve and create unity, to foster growth, and abuse always destroys,” the pope said.

Most abuse occurs and remains hidden in families, he said, and it is estimated 3% of reported abuse was perpetrated by members of the church — a number that is still too high, the pope said.

Even if there were just one perpetrator, “it’s a monstrosity,” he said. Unfortunately, the culture of abuse is widespread in the world, but “I look at this one that exists (in the church) and that I am responsible that it doesn’t happen again, right?”

“Let’s take the percentage that concerns us and go after that,” he said.

Celibacy is not the reason for abuse, as can be seen with abusive family members who are not celibate, he said.

Abuse in the church “is simply the monstrosity of a man or woman of the church, who is psychologically sick or evil, and uses their position for their personal satisfaction. It’s diabolical” and it must be faced, he said.

CNN Portugal asked the pope about his efforts to maintain dialogue with the leaders of Ukraine and Russia.

“I always believe that if we talk, we can move forward,” he said.

“You know who doesn’t know how to dialogue? Animals. They are pure instinct,” he said. “On the other hand, dialogue is putting aside instinct and listening. Dialogue is difficult,” and it has to be learned first in the family.

Although he has so far been unable to fulfill his desire to visit Kyiv or Moscow to facilitate peace, “I do what I can, and I ask everyone to do what they can. We can all do something,” he said, adding that “it is a very tragic situation.”

Discussing the role of women in the church, particularly his appointing a number of women to top Vatican positions, he said this did not signal some kind of “feminist trend,” but was “an act of jus-

tice that was culturally neglected.”

Imagine being asked, “Do you want to do something for the church?” and then being told, “‘Become a nun.’ No. You can be a laywoman, a laywoman who is working,” even at the Vatican, he said.

“I didn’t invent this (hiring women at the Vatican). It’s been going on for the last 20, 30 years and is slowly being implemented,” he said.

Talking about World Youth Day, the interviewer told the pope that young people and the world were eagerly awaiting his visit next year and his message.

“I plan to go. The pope will go, either Francis goes or John XXIV goes, but the pope is going,” he said with a laugh.

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Blessed John Paul I, 'the Smiling Pope,' Showed God's Goodness, Pope Says

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Beatifying Blessed John Paul I, Pope Francis praised the late pope for showing the world God's goodness and for living the Gospel without compromise.

"Our new blessed lived that way: in the joy of the Gospel, without compromises, loving to the very end," the pope said.

"He embodied the poverty of the disciple, which is not only detachment from material goods, but also victory over the temptation to put oneself at the center, to seek one's own glory" as he followed the example of Jesus and was "a meek and humble pastor," he said.

The pope spoke during a homily in St. Peter's Square at a Sept. 4 Mass attended by an estimated 25,000 people under dark skies and rain, with an occasional roll of thunder and clap of lightning.

"With a smile, Pope John Paul managed to communicate the goodness of the Lord. How beautiful is a church with a happy, serene and smiling face, a church that never closes doors, never hardens hearts, never complains or harbors resentment, does not grow angry or impatient, does not look dour or suffer nostalgia for the past," the pope said.

"Let us pray to him, our father and our brother, and ask him to obtain for us 'the smile of the soul'" that is "transparent, that does not deceive," Pope Francis said. "Let us pray, in his own words, 'Lord take me as I am, with my defects, with my shortcomings, but make me become what you want me to be.'"

During the beatification ceremony, which took place at the beginning of the Mass, an image of the new blessed was unveiled on a huge tapestry affixed to the facade of the basilica. The image was a reproduction of an oil painting, "The Smiling Pope," created by Zhang Yan, a Chinese artist whose work combines Eastern and Western painting techniques.

The relic, carried by Lina Petri, the niece of the late pope, was a piece of paper, yellowed with age, upon which the pope had written an outline for a spiritual reflection on the three theological virtues — faith, hope and charity — the themes of three of his only four audience talks.

The materials for the reliquary, a sculpted wooden cross on top of a smooth stone, were taken from where Blessed John Paul was born and grew up in northern Italy.

In his homily, Pope Francis connected the day's Gospel reading to the humble and Christ-centered way Blessed John Paul lived his life and to how Christians today are called to live their lives.

The pope said Jesus attracted large crowds with his teachings, but he did not exploit this popularity the way some teachers or leaders do when they see people look to them as a source of hope for the future.



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

A banner showing Pope John Paul I is unveiled on the facade of St. Peter's Basilica as Pope Francis leads the beatification of the late pope in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Sept. 4.

"The same thing happens today, especially at times of personal or societal crisis, when we are especially prey to feelings of anger or we fear things that threaten our future. We become more susceptible and thus, on this wave of emotion, we look to those, who with skill and cunning, take advantage of the situation, profiting from society's fears and promising to be the 'savior' who can solve all its problems, whereas in reality they are looking for wider approval and for greater power," Pope Francis said.

God, he said, "does not exploit our needs or use our vulnerability for his own aggrandizement. He does not want to seduce us with deceptive promises or to distribute cheap favors; he is not interested in huge crowds. He is not obsessed with numbers; he does not seek approval; he does not idolize personal success."

Christians should examine the reasons they follow the Lord, he said, and make sure they are not seeking: the satisfaction of their own needs; personal prestige; social status or control; power and privilege; recognition and so on.

Christians are called to love, "to be purified of our distorted ideas of God and of our self-absorption, and to love God and others, in the church and society, including those who do not think the way we do, to love even our enemies," he said.

Christians must "love even at the cost of sacrifice, silence, misunderstanding, solitude, resistance and persecution," he said. Because, as Blessed John Paul said, "if you want to kiss Jesus crucified, 'you cannot help bending over the cross and letting yourself be pricked by a few thorns of the crown on the Lord's head.'"

Among the family members and devotees who carried candles to place before the relic was Sister Margherita Marin, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Child Mary, who assisted in the papal apartments and was one of sisters who found the deceased pope Sept. 28, 1978.

Candela Giarda, the young Argentine woman whose miracle cleared the path for Blessed John Paul's beatification, was unable to come to Rome because of a fractured foot from playing sports. She was 11 years old when she developed a severe case of acute encephalitis, experienced uncontrollable and life-threatening brain seizures, and eventually entered septic shock.

After doctors told family members her death was "imminent," Father Juan José Dabusti, who attended the beatification ceremony, encouraged the family, nurses and others to pray to the late pope for his intercession. In 2011, a panel of experts studying the cause determined there was no scientific explanation for her complete recovery and that it could be attributed to the late pope's intercession.

Blessed John Paul, an Italian who was born Albino Luciani, served only 33 days as pontiff; he died just three weeks shy of his 66th birthday, shocking the world and a church that had just mourned the death of St. Paul VI.

Although his was one of the shortest papacies in history, Blessed John Paul left a lasting impression on the church that fondly remembers him as "the smiling pope."

In his Angelus address after the Mass, Pope Francis asked everyone to pray to Our Lady, "that she may obtain the gift of peace throughout the world, especially in the martyred Ukraine."

"May she, the first and perfect disciple of the Lord, help us to follow the example and holiness of life of John Paul I," he said.



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www.walkingwithmoms.com

Ravenswood Parish Will Host Prayer Service on National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children



Courtesy Photo

St. Matthew Parish in Ravenswood will celebrate the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children with a prayer service on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 1 p.m. outside at St. Matthew Church. In addition to Father Penumaka Manikyalarao, HGN, pastor of St. Matthew's, Pastor Chris Skeens from Ravenswood Freewill Baptist Church and various priests from the Parkersburg Vicariate will join in the service. The Knights of Columbus made and placed more than 1,600 crosses in remembrance of aborted children. The crosses are shown above outside of the church.



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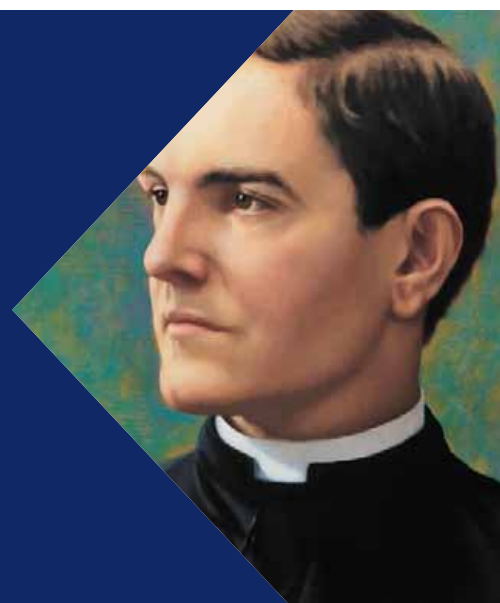
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Morgantown and Summersville Parishes to Host Gatherings on the Eucharist

By Colleen Rowan

Two parishes in the diocese will host gatherings on the gift of the Eucharist beginning this month.

The first is "Deepening Our Devotion" with Father Tony Stephens, CPM, of the Fathers of Mercy, at St. John University Church in Morgantown. All are invited to attend, said Father Brian Crenwelge, pastor of St. John's. This mini retreat, he said, will offer the faithful time to focus on their relationship with Christ and grow in their faith.

"The bishops have asked for a Eucharistic revival in our country," Father Crenwelge said. "St. John's is hosting this mission in order to do our part and help facilitate a renewal of our faith in Jesus's presence in the Eucharist. The Fathers of Mercy are known for their Eucharistic devotion and preaching. We're honored to host Father Stephens to lead us in this mission."

Father Crenwelge said, "The Eucharist should be the source and summit of our lives. Yet we can often take that for granted. This mission is an opportunity for us to take a mini retreat from our lives and focus on our relationship with Christ. If you want to grow in your faith, please come. I encourage anyone who is available to make it to a talk."

Father Stephens will also be preaching at the parish's Sunday Masses this weekend to get everyone ready for the mission, Father Crenwelge said.

This parish mission begins Sunday, Sept. 11, with confession at 3 p.m. followed by Father Stephens's first talk "Wasting Time with the Lord" at 4 p.m. The next day will begin with confession at 6 p.m. followed by the evening talk "Eucharist Aiding the Family Holiness" by Father Stephens. The parish mission continues the next day, Sept. 13, with the 9

a.m. talk "Eucharistic Miracles Aid Our Faith" by Father Stephens. That evening, confession will be available at 6 p.m. and will be followed by Father Stephens's talk, "Breathing Fire Like Lions." The last night will be Wednesday, Sept. 14, with confession at 6 p.m., Mass at 7 p.m., and Father Stephens's final talk "Our Lady and the Eucharist."

St. John the Evangelist Parish in Summersville will host "The Eucharist through the Lens of the Old Testament Texts" Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. The presenter for the gathering is Sister Dianne Bergant of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

Father Rene Gerona SVD, pastor of St. John's, who knew Sister Dianne during his time in seminary, said she is the most sought teacher of the Old Testament.

"She has a good sense of humor and there were never dull moments in her

class," he said. "She is very knowledgeable. I invite everyone to take this opportunity to listen to her as she speaks about the Eucharist through the lens of the Old Testament texts."

Sister Dianne is the Carol Stuhlmüller, CP Distinguished Professor Emerita of Old Testament Studies at Catholic Theological Union. She is past president of the Catholic Biblical Association and Rev. Robert J. Randall Distinguished Professor of

Christian Culture, Providence College Providence, R.I. She holds honorary doctorates from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, Calif.; Marion University, Fond du Lac, Wis.; and Australian Catholic University. She has authored 36 books as well as several book chapters and numerous articles. She has taught and lectured extensively in the U.S., Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, and South Pacific.

The Eucharist
Through the Lens of the Old Testament Texts

Presenter: Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Dianne Bergant, CSA is the Carroll Stuhlmüller, CP Distinguished Professor Emerita of Old Testament Studies at Catholic Theological Union. She is Past President of the Catholic Biblical Association and Rev. Robert J. Randall Distinguished Professor of Christian Culture, Providence College, Providence, RI. She holds honorary doctorates from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, CA., Marian University, Fond du Lac, WI, and Australian Catholic University. She has authored thirty-six books as well several book chapters and numerous articles. She has taught and lectured extensively in the United States, Europe, Asia, the Caribbean and South Pacific.

October 6, 2022 | 6:00PM
St. John Catholic Church
1704 Webster Rd.,
Summersville, WV 26651
(304) 872-2554

Sept. 11 - 14

St. John University Church, Morgantown

"Deepening Our Eucharistic Devotion" with Fr. Tony Stephens, CPM

Sunday, September 11th
3:00 PM ~ CONFESSION
4:00 PM ~ EVENING TALK - "Wasting Time with the Lord"

Monday, September 12th
6:00 PM ~ CONFESSION
7:00 PM ~ EVENING TALK - "The Eucharist Aiding the Family Holiness"

Tuesday, September 13th
9:00 AM ~ MORNING TALK - "Eucharistic Miracles Aid Our Faith"
6:00 PM ~ CONFESSION
7:00 PM ~ EVENING TALK - "Breathing Fire Like Lions"

Wednesday, September 14th
*NO 5:15 PM MASS
6:00 PM ~ CONFESSION
7:00 PM ~ MASS with EVENING TALK - "Our Lady and the Eucharist"

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Catholic Charities Improves Access to Healthy Foods in Food Deserts

A quick run to the grocery store is an errand no longer possible in many rural areas of West Virginia.

“It’s all closed. There’s nothing near us no more,” said Roger Kline, a resident of Ritchie County.

Kline and his family live in an area classified as a “food desert” by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA defines a food desert as “a low-income tract where a substantial number of residents does not have easy access to a supermarket or large grocery store.”

To address the needs of low-income families in rural and isolated communities, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) created a Mobile Food Pantry – a mobile outreach van that travels to remote areas. In addition to providing food, the Mobile Food Pantry also provides nutritional and educational information as well as support and further resources.

The Mobile Food Pantry operates in Calhoun, Doddridge, Ritchie, Roane, and Wirt counties. The poverty rate in these counties ranges from 15.7% to 21.7%.

“The majority of our clients live more than 40 miles from a supermarket,” said Beth Zarate, CCWVa president and CEO. “They’re traveling mountainous roads, in some cases with multiple families sharing a single car.”

In addition to limited access to food, the higher prices of healthier foods often leave low-income families with little choice but to purchase cheaper foods high in sugar,

trans-fat and refined grains.

After 10 years of operating the Mobile Food Pantry from a cargo van, the CCWVa team set a goal of purchasing a refrigerated box truck to provide access to fresh produce, dairy products, frozen meats and other healthy foods.

“A larger, refrigerated truck not only enables us to provide a greater variety of nutritious items, it also allows us to expand our outreach to Jackson and Clay counties,” said Zarate.

Through support from the Sisters Health Foundation, the Bernard McDonough Foundation, the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation, and Humana, CCWVa was able to purchase the new vehicle.

“We’re thrilled to be able to take our program one step further in increasing access to healthy foods,” said Zarate.

“This pantry – it’s a blessing,” said Kline. “You know... sometimes you pay your bills and there’s nothing left to buy food... and there’s really nothing left to buy gas to drive [40 miles to the grocery store]. I’m working... but it’s just hard. What you all [CCWVa] do... it’s a real blessing.”

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia, please 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.



Courtesy Photo

The CCWVa Mobile Food Pantry distributes around 115,705 pounds of food to approximately 275 households every month.



Courtesy Photo

The CCWVa Mobile Food Pantry distributions take place monthly at local community centers and churches with on-site support from volunteers.

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Wheeling University's Olivia Zampedro Presented Athena Leadership Scholarship

WHEELING—Astyr Wealth and company partner, Wheeling alumna Nikki Mullenix, have awarded an Athena Leadership Scholarship to a Wheeling University graduate student.

The class of 2022 Valedictorian Olivia Zampedro of Mentor, Ohio is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship. The award will assist Zampedro pursue her graduate degree at the University this fall.

This marks the second Athena Leadership Scholarship the Washington County Pennsylvania company has awarded an outstanding female Business major at Wheeling University in the past year. Last fall, undergraduate Business major Marlies Wendler was given a \$500 scholarship.

Mullenix, who earned an MBA at Wheeling in 1997, came to campus to present Zampedro with the scholarship award.

Zampedro said, "I would like to thank Ms. Mullenix for this scholarship, as it will certainly assist me in my pursuit of a master's degree. I am truly honored to have been recognized as an outstanding woman business student who exemplifies Wheeling University's mission of life, leadership, and service with



Wheeling University MBA student Olivia Zampedro (center) is the recipient of an Athena Leadership Scholarship, which was awarded by Astyr Wealth of Washington County, Pa., Alongside Zampedro is Astyr partner and Wheeling alumna Nikki Mullenix (left) and University President Ginny R. Favede.

and among others. As the recipient of the Athena Leadership Award, it shows that others recognize my hard work in the classroom."

Wheeling University President

Ginny R. Favede is grateful to Mullenix for her commitment to the students at her alma mater.

"Ms. Mullenix is just one example of how our alumni are willing

to assist today's students in their pursuit of a Wheeling University education. She is committed to helping young female business majors at Wheeling obtain a degree and succeed when they graduate. Through partnerships like this, the University is able to make a private, Catholic education more affordable for our students," the president added.

In addition to receiving her MBA from the university, Mullenix served as an admissions counselor for the adult education department at Wheeling. Her Astyr Wealth partner Mindy Zatta, an alumna at Waynesburg University, has presented scholarships to students at that institution as well.

"Education provides the foundation needed to succeed in our professional careers and in life. Our goal at Astyr Wealth is to encourage more young women to pursue a career in these fields because we (women) are a rare breed in the financial services industry," Mullenix explained. "Awarding scholarships to students at our alma maters, is a small way for Mindy and I to give back to the community and assist female students pursuing business administration degrees."

Courtesy Photo

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Tolerancia cero para sacerdotes culpables de abusos, dice papa en entrevista

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) — Calificando el abuso sexual como "diabólico" y una "monstruosidad", el papa Francisco recalcó que hay "tolerancia cero" para aquellos en la iglesia que son culpables de abuso.

"Algo que es clave es la tolerancia cero. Cero. Un sacerdote no puede seguir siendo sacerdote si es un abusador. No puede actuar (como sacerdote) porque está enfermo o es un delincuente", expresó el papa en una entrevista con CNN Portugal.

"Si es un sacerdote, está ahí para llevar a la gente a Dios y no para destruir a la gente en el nombre de Dios. Tolerancia cero y no debemos quedarnos ahí", manifestó.

La larga entrevista se grabó el 11 de agosto en el Vaticano y se transmitió en dos segmentos durante dos noches, los días 4 y 5 de septiembre. CNN Portugal proporcionó a los reporteros en el Vaticano una transcripción de la entrevista en español.

La entrevista abarcó una amplia gama de temas, como la liturgia, el rol de la mujer, la importancia del diálogo, la sinodalidad, la vida de oración, y la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud, que se celebrará en Lisboa, Portugal, del 1 al 6 de agosto de 2023.

Se le preguntó al Santo Padre sobre el enojo que la gente puede sentir hacia la iglesia por los abusos cometidos por algunos de sus miembros y cómo se manejaron esos casos.

"El abuso por parte de hombres y mujeres de la iglesia -- abuso de autoridad, abuso de poder, y abuso sexual -- es una monstruosidad porque el hombre o la mujer de la iglesia,

ya sea sacerdote, religioso, o laico, fue llamado a servir y crear unidad, para fomentar el crecimiento, y el abuso siempre destruye", sostuvo el papa.

La mayoría de los abusos ocurren y permanecen ocultos en las familias, acotó, y se estima que el 3 por ciento de los abusos denunciados fueron perpetrados por miembros de la iglesia, una cifra que aún es demasiado alta, dijo el papa.

Incluso si hubiera un solo perpetrador, "es una monstruosidad", dijo. Desafortunadamente, la cultura del abuso está muy extendida en el mundo, pero "yo miro esto que existe (en la iglesia) y que yo soy el responsable de que no vuelva a pasar, ¿no?".

CNN Portugal preguntó al Sumo Pontífice sobre sus esfuerzos para mantener el diálogo con los líderes de Ucrania y Rusia.

"Siempre creo que, si hablamos, podemos avanzar", señaló.

Hablando sobre el papel de la mujer en la iglesia, en particular el nombramiento de varias mujeres para los principales puestos del Vaticano, dijo que esto no indicaba algún tipo de "tendencia feminista", sino que era "un acto de justicia culturalmente descuidado".

"Yo no inventé esto (la contratación de mujeres en el Vaticano). Ha estado ocurriendo durante los últimos 20 o 30 años y se está implementando lentamente", dijo.

Hablando de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud, el entrevistador le dijo al papa que los jóvenes y el mundo esperaban con ansias su visita el próximo año y su mensaje.

"Planeo ir. El papa irá, o Francisco o Juan XXIV, pero el papa irá", dijo entre risas.

DIÓCESIS DE WHEELING-CHARLESTON CALENDARIO DE CONFIRMACIÓN

Obispo Mark E. Brennan, Celebrante

Viernes, 16 de septiembre: Espíritu Santo, Monongah, 6 p.m.

Domingo 2 de octubre: Santo Santiago el Apóstol, Clarksburg, 4 p.m.

Domingo 9 de octubre: Santos Pedro y Pablo, Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.

Domingo 16 de octubre: Santa Inés, Shepherdstown, 10:30 a. m.

Jueves 20 de octubre: Ascensión, Hurricane, 6:30 p. m.

Sábado 22 de octubre: Santísimo Sacramento, South Charleston, 5:30 p. m.

Domingo, 23 de octubre: Confirmación combinada: Sagrado Corazón, Huntington y San Pedro Claver, Huntington, en la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón, 9 a. m.

Domingo 30 de octubre: Santo Rosario, Buckhannon, 9 a. m.

Domingo 6 de noviembre: Todos los Santos, Bridgeport, 10 a. m.

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.

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.

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8:00 WBOY NBC 12	Weston-Clarksburg-Fairmont
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