

THE CATHOLIC Spirit

Eucharist Heals, Gives Strength to Serve Others, Pope Says



CNS Photo/Tiziana Fabi, Reuters pool
Pope Francis leads Benediction at the conclusion of the Mass marking the feast of Corpus Christi in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 14.

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Eucharist heals people of their wounds, emptiness and sadness, and gives them the strength to share Christ's loving mercy with others, Pope Francis said.

The joy of the Lord can change lives, the pope said in his homily
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Diocese's Permanent Diaconate Program Progressing

WHEELING—The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has 33 aspirants for the permanent diaconate.

"We have two aspirants from the Beckley Vicariate, seven from Charleston, five from Clarksburg, seven from Martinsburg, four from Parkersburg, and eight from Wheeling," said Deacon John Yaquinta, chairman of the 2020-2024 Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston Permanent Deacon
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Bishop Brennan and Faithful Pray for End of Racism



Colleen Rowan Photo

Bishop Mark Brennan, right, joins Father Carlos Melocoton, Jr., pastor of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling, left, and parishioners at the church June 17 for the "Peace, Justice, and Love" Prayer Service. See story on Page 6.

Deacon Golna Reflects on His Upcoming Priesthood Ordination

By Colleen Rowan

WHEELING—Ordination to priesthood cannot come soon enough for Deacon Justin Golna. "I can't wait!" he said in a recent interview for The Rochumentary video series by St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town.

Deacon Golna will be ordained to priesthood by Bishop Mark Brennan at 11 a.m. June 27 at the Cathed-

ral of St. Joseph in Wheeling. The ordination will be livestreamed on the diocese's website (www.dwc.org) and Facebook page.

The 30-year-old Washington, Pa., native came to West Virginia by way of Wheeling Jesuit University. After being away from the faith for many years, he shared with The
See "Golna" on Page 5



The Catholic Spirit Photo

Deacon Justin Golna is pictured in an interview for The Rochumentary video series.

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Obituary - Michael Louis Iafrate

Born January 31st, 1955 in Steubenville, Ohio, Michael Louis Iafrate passed away on May 28th, 2020, in Columbia, Maryland. He was the beloved husband of Hana Kaibni, loving son of Theresa and Albert Iafrate, and brother and first friend to Marie Iafrate and the late David Iafrate. Michael was the cherished father of Michael J. Iafrate (Jocelyn), Angie Iafrate, Janet Iafrate, Andrew Iafrate; and stepfather of Michael Orlando (Christine), Nina Zunt (Petr), and Samantha Orlando. He was the proud "Papa Mike" to grandchildren Luca, Hazel, and Isidora Iafrate, and to Zoey Zunt and Naomi Orlando.

After attending St. Joseph Preparatory Seminary and Wheeling Central Catholic High School, Michael spent three years in the Air Force (A1C), working in the Radio Department at Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, CA, which led to a career as a medical technician with Air Shields for over twenty years. He was an active parishioner and member of the folk choir at Saint Margaret Mary Church in Parkersburg, WV. In Columbia, MD, he worked at CAS Severn as a senior sys-

tems engineer, and was a member of St. John's Catholic Church, where he also shared his musical gifts.

Michael was a lifelong learner with an insatiable curiosity whose many hobbies and talents over the years included amateur ham radio, woodworking, fly-fishing, pen restoration, road cycling, photography, astronomy, and playing in classical guitar societies. He loved traveling, camping, the outdoors, his family, and being of help to anyone who needed it. He was calm and kind, his presence comforting. His quiet optimism was a light. He was a universe inside of a person. He is missed.

Michael's life was celebrated by friends and family on June 1st in Columbia, MD, and he was buried at Rocky Gap Veteran's Cemetery, facing the mountains. Donations can be made in his name to Hungry for Music, a nonprofit that provides musical instruments to children in need.



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 report. 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.

To report to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston: The Diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate civil authorities first and foremost as well as 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 designees at 304-233-0880. The proper extensions are: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Tim Bishop, ext. 353. You may also fill out a confidential "Complaint Form for Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor" by picking one up at your local parish or requesting one in the mail from Safe Environment Coordinator, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. The Complaint Form also is available for download on the diocese's web site www.dwc.org, click Diocese on the menu bar, then click Offices, click Safe Environment and click "Download Files and Forms" section. It is listed as "Complaint Form." To report to the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-6988

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

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."

Diocesan Official Appointments:

Bishop Mark E. Brennan has made public the following appointments:

Father John McDonough is appointed pastor of St. Mary Parish in Morgantown, with residence at the parish rectory, effective July 29, 2020.

Father Brian Crenwelge is appointed pastor of St. John University Parish in Morgantown, with continued residence at the parish rectory, effective July 29, 2020. This is in addition to his current assignments as director of Campus Ministry at West Virginia University and director of Vocations.

Father William Kuchinsky is appointed administrator of St. Bernadette Mission in Hedgesville, with residence at the mission rectory, effective June 24, 2020.

In consultation with Bishop Agapitus Nfon, **Father Aloysius N. Boh** is appointed associate pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Martinsburg, effective immediately.

Father Martin Smay is appointed diocesan chaplain to the Boy Scouts of America for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023. This is in addition to his current assignment as associate pastor of St. Michael Parish in Wheeling.

Mr. Robert L. Greer is appointed a member of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.


Mr. Craig O'Leary is appointed a member of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.

Mr. Ernest Richard Fauss is appointed a member of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.

Mr. Shawn Madden is appointed a member of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.

Mr. Fred Esker is appointed secretary of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.


Mr. Mark Enders is appointed chairman of the Diocesan Committee on Scouting for a period of three years, effective immediately, and terminating on June 12, 2023.




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A Decree from Bishop Mark Brennan



DIocese of WHEELING-CHARLESTON

1311 BYRON STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 230
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

Decree

The Holy Eucharist, as the “source and summit of the Christian life” (Lumen Gentium 11), is given to the faithful as the most efficacious spiritual nourishment that the Church can offer. For this reason, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that every properly disposed Catholic “shall humbly receive [their] Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season” (2042) in order to illustrate fully the sublime relationship between the reception of the Body and Blood of the Lord and the Paschal feasts, which are “the origin and center of the Christian liturgy” (ibid.). Like all the Church’s precepts (cf. CCC 2041-2043), the reception of Holy Communion during the Easter Season is a law of the Church that imposes an obligation upon all the faithful, established to “guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth of God and neighbor” (CCC 2041).

Following the sudden suspension of public liturgies and the closure of parishes in response to the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, there was concern about the faithful’s ability to fulfill the obligations of some of the Church’s precepts. For that reason, the precept requiring attendance at Mass for all Sundays and holy days of obligations has been temporarily suspended, while the other precepts of the Church remain in force. As parishes in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston have now begun to resume the celebration of public liturgies, it is apparent that the fulfillment of the obligation to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season, while not constituting an absolute impossibility, nonetheless poses a difficulty for many of the faithful in West Virginia, who continue to shelter in place or are at risk of infection due to age or existing health conditions.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has established that this precept may be fulfilled at any time during the Easter Season up to the first Sunday after Pentecost (the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity). However, with but days until this time period elapses, adequate provision for the fulfillment of this obligation must be made.

Therefore, as Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston, desiring that the faithful of this Diocese, while not putting themselves or others at risk, be enabled to avail themselves fully of the fountain of graces obtained through a “moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life” (2041), and wishing to encourage the diligent observance of all of the Church’s precepts among the Catholics of West Virginia, I hereby decree that for the Year of Grace 2020, those faithful of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston who are properly disposed, having been absolved of any grave sins in the Sacrament of Penance, may receive Holy Communion at any time between the Solemnity of the Lord’s Resurrection and the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, which occurs on November 22, 2020, in fulfillment of the above-stated precept.

Given at Wheeling on this, the third day of June, in the year of Our Lord two thousand twenty.

+ Mark E. Brennan

Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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Thank you, dear readers, for your continued support!

USCCB President 'Deeply Concerned' about Court's LGBT Ruling

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said he is "deeply concerned" that by ruling federal law protects LGBT workers from discrimination, the U.S. Supreme Court "has effectively redefined the legal meaning of 'sex' in our nation's civil rights law."

"This is an injustice that will have implications in many areas of life," Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez said in a statement issued late June 15.

Earlier in the day the high court in a 6-3 vote said LGBT people are protected from job discrimination by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"An employer who fires an individual for being homosexual or transgender fires that person for traits or actions it would not have questioned in members of a differ-

ent sex," said Justice Neil Gorsuch writing the opinion in the case argued at the start of the court's term last October.

"Only the written word is the law, and all persons are entitled to its benefit," Gorsuch wrote. Dissenting votes were from Justices Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh.

Archbishop Gomez said that "by erasing the beautiful differences and complementary relationship between man and woman, we ignore the glory of God's creation and harm the human family, the first building block of society."

"Our sex, whether we are male or female, is part of God's plan for creation and for our lives," he continued. "As Pope Francis has taught with such sensitivity, to live in the truth with God's intended gifts in our lives requires that we receive

our bodily and sexual identity with gratitude from our Creator. No one can find true happiness by pursuing a path that is contrary to God's plan."

The decision handed down was for two consolidated cases about fired gay employees and a separate case concerning a fired transgender worker who had sued for employment discrimination after being fired.

At issue in this case is the wording in the Civil Rights Act, which prevents employment discrimination based on race, religion, national origin and sex. The court had to determine if discrimination that was not allowed based on sex applied to sexual orientation as well as gender identity.

In his statement, Archbishop Gomez said that "protecting our neighbors from unjust discrimination does not require redefining

human nature." Every human person "is made in the image and likeness of God and, without exception, must be treated with dignity, compassion and respect," he said.

"We pray that the church, with the help of Mary, the Mother of God, will be able to continue her mission to bring Jesus Christ to every man and woman," he said including his statement.

The USCCB, along with a number of other religious groups, filed friend-of-the-court, or "amicus," briefs in the cases in favor of the employers. The USCCB brief said the added employee protection could impact faith-based schools, health care providers and homeless shelters that operate by "religious and moral convictions."

(Carol Zimmermann contributed to this story.)

Final HHS Rule Helps 'Restore Rights of Health Care Providers,' Say Bishops

By Julie Asher, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairmen of three U.S. bishops' committees welcomed a final rule implemented by the Trump administration June 12 to restore "the long-standing position of the federal government that discrimination on the basis of 'sex' means just that and does not refer to 'termination of pregnancy' nor 'gender identity.'"

This final rule replaces the Obama administration's Health and Human Services rule issued in 2016 — and vacated by a court last October — that revised the definition of "sex" in the civil rights provision of the Affordable Care Act known as Section 1557.

Section 1557 provides that individuals cannot be subject to discrimination based on their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Under the Obama administration's rule, this section included "gender identity" and "termination of pregnancy," and HHS regulations governing its implementation had no exemption for religious organizations.

The Trump administration's new regulation "will help restore the rights of health care providers — as well as insurers and employers — who decline to perform or cover abortions or 'gender transition' procedures due to ethical or professional objections," the bishops said in a statement released late June 12.



John Sherwood Photo
Members of St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town participate in a Eucharistic procession on the feast of Corpus Christi.

Eucharist ...

Cont'd from Page 1

during Mass June 14, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

"This is the strength of the Eucharist, which transforms us into bringers of God, bringers of joy, not negativity," he said during the morning Mass, which was celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica with a small congregation of about 50 people, the majority of whom wore masks and maintained social distance.

Drastically reducing the size of the congregation and not holding a traditional outdoor Corpus Christi procession after Mass were part of the ongoing efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

Over many decades, popes have celebrated the feast either in different neighborhoods in and around Rome or at the Basilica of St. John Lateran followed by a one-mile procession to the Basilica of St. Mary Major. The solemn procession, in which

the pope or a priest carried a monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament through the streets, would be lined with thousands of people.

For the feast day celebration June 14, however, the entire ceremony was held inside St. Peter's Basilica and concluded with a long moment of silent eucharistic adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ celebrates the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

In his homily, Pope Francis said, "The Lord, offering himself to us in the simplicity of bread, also invites us not to waste our lives in chasing the myriad illusions that we think we cannot do without, yet that leave us empty within."

Just as the Eucharist satisfies the hunger for material things, it also kindles the desire to serve others, he said.

"It raises us from our comfortable and lazy
See "Eucharist" on Page 15

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Father O'Donnell Leaves WV for New Role in DC Parish

Experiences in Social Justice Ministries Fuels New Focus

By Joyce Bibey

He has spent the vast majority of his priesthood building bridges towards a better society. Now it is time for him to cross one, and to help a new community of faithful to not only deepen their relationships with Christ, but also empower them to work for social justice.

The resume of the charitable ministries Father Brian O'Donnell, S.J., has been involved with is seemingly endless. He has most recently served as the executive director for the Catholic Conference of West Virginia; the Department of Social Ministries for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; and the Office of Justice and Life. Additionally, he has worked with Catholic Relief Services, WV Council of Churches, Appalachian Institute, Prison Ministries, and Wheeling Jesuit University.

In his various roles he worked with many religious denominations across the state and although their beliefs and practices were quite dif-

ferent "everyone was on the same page when it came to public policy to uphold the basic and crucial fullness of life for everyone – clean air, food, water, shelter, prison reform, and health care."

It is that experience that will now benefit the laity living near our nation's capital. There he will serve in a pastoral role for the Catholic community of Holy Trinity Parish in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C.

Father O'Donnell said his past and future steps are all guided by Christ as he eagerly serves as "a disciple among disciples."

He said it is John's gospel that has fueled his mission. Just as we are taught in John 14:1-6, our life on earth is a journey and we are to learn and follow in the ways of Jesus Christ to have eternal life.

"The theme of my life has been to build bridges," he said. "They are necessary if we want to serve like Christ."

Thus, it made perfect sense for



Father Brian O'Donnell, SJ

Father O'Donnell to spend the greater part of three decades helping behind the scenes as an advocate for fair health care, mental and behavior health services, hunger, opioid addiction recovery, mine

safety, and pro-life.

"When you get a broad and deeper look at the issues, it presses you to want to do more," he said. "There are so many dedicated people out there, but it is often as if we are rolling a boulder up hill and it takes years to make progress."

He said along the way you meet more and more people who have ideas to make the load easier and sometimes you find out that even though "our efforts aren't always successful they were worthwhile."

He will always cherish working with the people of West Virginia and his time serving at Wheeling Jesuit University.

"It's been very humbling," Father O'Donnell said. "I've been able to work with and meet some real heroes fighting for social and spiritual justice in West Virginia and all over the world. It is bittersweet leaving, but for all of us comes a time we are challenged to make a change, and after contemplating in prayer this is my time."

Golna ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Roch-umentary, that he went to confession one day while on a spring break trip.

"A priest heard my confession, and that changed my life," he said.

Upon his return from the trip, Deacon Golna would visit different Wheeling parishes to receive the sacrament of penance. And it was then that he met Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., who was pastor at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Wheeling at the time. He then joined the parish.

Deacon Golna also spoke of "the great love I experience from the priests" in the diocese as one of the reasons he wanted to serve in West Virginia. The need for priests was another reason that he felt called to West Virginia.

"I wasn't made for comfort. I was made to labor," he said in The Roch-umentary interview. "The harvest is plentiful, and the laborers are few, and I

want to do my part in this mission field to draw souls to Christ."

Deacon Golna has three godchildren in this diocese. "Two of them are older than me," he said. "There are a lot of unbaptized people out there that want and yearn to know Jesus." And he is more than ready to introduce them to our Lord.

Deacon Golna is the son of John and Deborah Golna. He received a bachelor of arts from Wheeling Jesuit University and a master's in philosophy from Duquesne University. His home parish is Our Lady of Peace in Wheeling.

Following his ordination, he will be assigned to St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart of Mary parishes in Weirton for the summer before he returns to Rome to continue his advanced studies in canon law at the Gregorian University.

During the ordination, Deacon Golna will stand before Bishop Brennan and promise to serve the people of

God as a priest. As he kneels before the altar, the bishop will lay his hands upon Deacon Golna's head, calling upon the Holy Spirit to ordain him a priest. The bishop will then pray the prayer of ordination.


Vesting him with the stole and chasuble at his ordination to priesthood will be Father Schuelkens, who is now vicar for clergy and pastor of the Parishes of St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart of Mary in Weirton, and Msgr. Kevin M. Quirk, pastor of the Parishes of St. Vincent de Paul in New Martinsville and Mater Dolorosa in Paden City and the Missions of St. Joseph in Proctor and Holy Rosary in Sistersville.

All are invited to attend a holy hour at 3 p.m. June 26 at the cathedral to pray for Deacon Golna on the eve of his ordination. Msgr. Quirk will be preaching.


Last fall, Deacon Golna was among 32 men ordained to the diaconate at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City by Bishop Robert Deeley of Port-

land, Maine. Recalling that memorable day, Deacon Golna told The Roch-umentary that as he lay prostrate at his diaconate ordination his prayer was for the people of God in West Virginia, for people who are influential in his life, but ultimately that he

never gives up in the vocation to which the Lord has called him. "And that I become a good, holy priest for you," he said to the Catholic people of West Virginia as he spoke, looking into the camera, "because that is what you deserve."



Join us as we celebrate the
ORDINATION TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD
of Deacon Justin Golna



The Ordination will be livestreamed
on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's
website & Facebook page.

June 27, 2020
11:00a.m.
from
The Cathedral of Saint Joseph
Wheeling, WV



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Colleen Rowan Photos

Speaking at the “Peace, Justice, and Love” Prayer Service at St. Michael Parish in Wheeling June 17 are, from left, Bishop Mark Brennan, parishioner Damion Saunders, and Father Carlos Melocoton, Jr., pastor of the parish.

Gathering for Peace, Justice, and Love

By Colleen Rowan

Wheeling’s St. Michael Parish community came together with Bishop Mark Brennan “to pray for an end to racism and inequality and to commit ourselves, as individuals and as a community, to work for bringing about God’s peace, justice, and love in our world,” Father Carlos Melocoton, Jr., pastor, said in opening the June 17 prayer service. The gathering, aptly named “Peace, Justice, and Love,” was livestreamed on the parish’s Facebook page and began with a welcome from parishioner Kathleen Dieffenbaugher.

Father Melocoton followed his remarks by asking for a moment of silence for those who have lost their lives due to racial violence.

In his talk, “Human Dignity and Gift of Life,” Bishop Brennan shared that his parents taught him and his brother to respect all people, and did so by their own actions. He recalled a story from his youth in which his father, who was in the Navy, was on a planning committee for a picnic for the families on the base. This particular year, Bishop Brennan said, the picnic would be at a beach in southern Maryland. His mother and father were told, “Our beach is whites only.”

“My dad said, ‘the day we come it’s integrated...’ And it was,” Bishop Brennan said. “We learned something from mom and dad—that black lives do matter.”

Racism disrespects the divine image in people, the bishop said. As the moon reflects the light of the sun, human beings’ intelligence, strength and creativity, love and the capacity to love, all reflect God’s attributes, he said. That’s why, he noted, that it is said human beings are made in the image and likeness of God, and that is true of all human beings regardless of race or any other external attribute they may have.

“Pope Francis said, rightly, racism is a pro-life issue,” Bishop Brennan emphasized, “precisely because it is the same denial of the humanity and the worth of a human being as in abortion and euthanasia... it denies people’s humanity because of the color of their skin” or their race.

Life is a gift from God, the bishop said, and one’s gift to God is to treat others with respect and how he or she wishes to be treated. The

golden rule, Bishop Brennan said, do unto others as you would have them do unto you. “How do you want to be treated?” he asked. “Fairly and with respect, and given a helping hand when you need it.”

Focus, he continued, should be on removing obstacles that hold people back, and to love one’s neighbor as thy self. With all that is going on, the bishop said, the question is what should we be doing? The gathering that night was a great response—coming together to reflect on a real problem in society, gathering in prayer and reflecting on the word of God and praying.

“We need to pray for strength to examine our own attitudes. As Scripture says, the first thing a just person does is to accuse himself,” Bishop Brennan said. “No one has the right to cast the first stone, we have all sinned. And a just person recognizes that.”

This is a time when people can look at themselves and ask, “What can I change in me?” he said.

“Racial justice really takes a conversion of mind and heart,” the bishop said. He noted the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in his speech, I Have a Dream: “Now is the time to lift our nation out of the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherly love.”

“Words as pertinent today as they were so long ago,” the bishop said.

All should really reflect on the reality of racism in light of faith, the bishop said, encouraging all to read “Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love - A Pastoral Letter Against Racism” by the U.S. bishops in 2018. The document may be found on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ website: www.usccb.org under Issues and Actions, then clicking Racism.

Bishop Brennan also encouraged all to think about how they can relate to people of other races. Conversations and gatherings in parishes are a good way to go, he said, remembering engaging in such gatherings as a college student.

Finally, he said, it is important to support efforts to overcome the effects of racism, and think about what everyone can do to create a more just society for all. He also shared that as a pastor his parish was involved in a cursillio in

which black and white members worked together. “Because Jesus Christ is the one that brings unity to all human beings and looking to him they discovered one another, truly, as brothers and sisters,” the bishop said.

“It’s possible,” he said. “We have to trust God to work in and through us.”

Seek the Holy Spirit, Bishop Brennan said, “My brothers and sisters, with God all things are possible.”

The prayer service continued with words from a few parishioners. In his talk, “Common Good and Quality of Life,” Damion Saunders shared his experience as a black teenager who came to live with a white family.

“I remember the first day I was there, I realized this is just like my family,” he said. “They want the same things for their kids that my mom wants for her kids.”

This is a time for unity, he said, and knowing that people are there for each other.

“We have the ability to make a change,” he said. “But for us to have change we have to learn things about one another.”

It’s not enough for one to say he or she is not racist, Saunders said, people must stand up against racism. “Now is a time in our society that we have to decide to actively fight racism,” he said.

Saunders continued by saying, “In the situation that was the pinnacle to bringing us all here, we have an officer that everybody wants to judge officers by and since then we have looters who everybody wants to judge protesters by. We know that 98 percent of people down the middle are good people, but we’re just shifting the focus to the extremes on each end.”

Saunders said it is important for people to not be silent or apathetic about racism. “Until that happens,” he said, “there will be no change.”

Further remarks were offered by Daniel O’Leary on “Harmony and Respect” and by Father Martin Smay, associate pastor, on “Peace, Justice, and Love.”

Before the closing prayer by Father Paul Carbita, SM, and the final blessing by Bishop Brennan, Father Melocoton came to the altar to light a candle for all victims of racism.

Kingwood Parish Holds Black Lives Matter Gathering



Lora and Alan Walters perform during the Black Lives Matter gathering at their Parish of St. Sebastian in Kingwood June 11.

By Colleen Rowan

KINGWOOD—Members of St. Sebastian Parish in Kingwood came together in front of their church on the afternoon of June 11 for a Black Lives Matter gathering.

Livestreamed on parish's Facebook page, the event began with a welcome from Father Andrew Switzer, pastor of the parish and the missions of St. Zita's in Masontown and St. Edward the Confessor in Terra Alta.

"We're here today as a Christian community, by our baptism, called to be a prophetic people," Father Switzer said. "We're here because we believe that black lives matter." He said he stands with communities across the country and the world that are facing racism.

Noting that they were gathered in front of the statue St. Sebastian, he said, "We stand in solidarity with his intercession and the other profits and martyrs that were murdered. Father Switzer then read the names: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and Tony McDade.

"We are here to repent of America's original, original sin, racism. We must look into our hearts," Father Switzer said. "We want to raise this issue in rural America, white culture, to say to you, our black brothers and sisters, we stand in solidarity with you."

Speaking next was Preston County Prosecut-

ing Attorney Mel Snyder, who is also a St. Sebastian's parishioner. He expressed his hope that the country and the world would one day change.

Father Patsy Iaquina, a priest of the diocese retired from active ministry, gave a reflection on racism, and said that he was raised to have respect for all people. He also shared his experience of participating in the civil rights march in Washington in the 1960s as a seminarian.

"We've come a long way, but boy do we have a long way to go," Father Iaquina said.

Parishioners Lora and Alan Walters then took the podium to perform the song "Strange Fruit."

In his remarks after the song, Alan reminded those gathered of Jesus' new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. "What does Jesus say about this love?" Alan asked. "He says, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... he has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives ... and to let the oppressed go free...' Let us join the holy will of Christ and work to resurrect this world from the sin of racism that the oppressed might be free. The Lord hears the cry of the oppressed. Blessed be the Lord."

The gathering ended with Father Iaquina leading all in the singing of "Amazing Grace."

New Western Region Director of Catholic Charities Named

CHARLESTON—Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) announced William C. (Bill) Hagy has joined the team as the Western Region director.

The CCWVa Western Region covers 16 counties and encompasses Charleston, Huntington, Parkersburg and the surrounding areas.

"Through the years, I have had the good fortune to work, develop and hone business and leadership skills in the fields of education, retail management, and non-profits," said Hagy. "Devotion to Christ and family has brought me to this point in time to Catholic Charities."

Hagy joins the team with over 30 years of experience in management, development, organizational growth and facility management.

Most recently, Hagy served as the director of Food Sourcing

See "Director" on Page 10



William C. Hagy

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center to Host Takeout Spaghetti Dinner Event

WHEELING—The Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center on 18th Street in Wheeling will hold its 24th Annual Spaghetti Dinner June 28 from noon until 5 p.m.

Originally scheduled for April 28, the fundraiser has been reformatted as a takeout-only event for the safety of staff, volunteers and guests amid the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

"When we had to cancel our initial event, everyone here at the Neighborhood Center was really disappointed," said Mark Phillips, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) Northern Regional director. "The Spaghetti Dinner has been an important community event for more than 20 years, and we thought that it was important to continue that tradition – even if it might operate a little differently."

See "Dinner" on Page 10

Charleston Catholic Announces Graduation Plans

By **Martina Hart**

CHARLESTON—Charleston Catholic High School announced plans for their graduation ceremony to take place at Haddad Riverfront Park in Charleston on Saturday, June 20.

A detailed proposal to safely hold the event amid the coronavirus pandemic had just been approved the week prior. The school administration had been working with the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department, the City of Charleston, as well as the Department of Catholic Schools and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to make sure that they were following all health guidelines.

"It's been such a long process because every time we get something shaped out, then the circumstances would change and the guidelines would change, and we go back to the drawing board," said Colleen Hoyer, principal of Charleston Catholic High School. "So, we've been through multiple plans and multiple ideas, and so this one was finally just approved on Friday afternoon."

Attendance will be limited to the 66 seniors, each with their immediate household who will be able to sit together in designated areas with six feet of space between households. In addition to the traditional cap and gown, they will also wear masks (as

will everyone else in attendance). Faculty and staff have been invited as well. The event will be livestreamed to enable extended family and friends to follow online.

"We will start with Baccalaureate Mass at 9:30 Saturday morning, and after Mass we will go straight into a graduation ceremony with the student speakers and distribution of diplomas," Hoyer explained. The Mass will be concelebrated by Father Donald X. Higgs, president of CCHS and rector of the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and Father Binu Emmanuel, C.S.T., high school chaplain and vice rector. Hoyer heard back from families that

everybody is getting excited for graduation.

"They were anxious for an opportunity to celebrate together, and I'm glad that we are able to provide them that opportunity," she said, adding that Haddad Riverfront Park, an amphitheater on the Kanawha River will be a great venue. "We like the downtown location. It's still close to school, but we feel like an outdoor venue is the safest way to bring that group together for a ceremony, and we felt like Haddad would get us outside, still be downtown, and I think it's a really pretty spot with the river as our backdrop. I think it will be a special experience."

Wheeling University Plans On-Campus Classes for 2020-2021 Academic Year

By **Colleen Rowan**

WHEELING—Wheeling University is planning to have on-campus classes for the 2020-2021 academic year, and announced new 15-week semesters.

Ginny R. Favade, president of Wheeling University, made the announcement in a letter to the campus community.

"While Wheeling University is fully able to deliver a robust and supportive educational experience to students in any format—including remote/hybrid or fully asynchronously online—it's our preference and, overwhelmingly, the preference of our students, that classes be held in person unless public health conditions require switching to alternative forms of distance instruction," Favade says in the letter which was posted on the university's Facebook page June 7. "In order to ensure that we're able to deliver this experience as safely and completely as possible, the university is planning multiple mitigation tactics for the fall and has revamped the Fall 2020-21 Academic Calendar."

She listed highlights of the new calendar, which features the 15-week semesters: Undergraduate students will return to campus and move into the dormi-

tories starting the week of Aug. 17 in a staggered schedule to permit social distancing; fall 2020 undergraduate classes will begin on Aug. 24; fall break will not be recognized this year; students will return home on Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving break and will then finish their classes online for the remainder of the semester; final exams will begin online on Dec. 7-11; an online winter session will start on Dec. 12–Jan. 10 and be offered at a reduced tuition cost; undergraduate students will return to campus to move into the dormitories starting the week of Jan. 4 in a staggered schedule to permit social distancing; and on-campus undergraduate classes will begin on Jan. 11.

"We regret any disruption or inconvenience caused by these new calendar dates," Favade says in the letter. "We believe completing the semester at a rapid pace will help us avoid much more severe disruptions if a resurgent COVID-19 outbreak occurs in the late fall. Many public health care experts are predicting a new heightened outbreak to coincide with flu season. The new academic calendar should help us avoid that outbreak while minimizing students' travel between home states and the Wheeling area."

Favade went on to write that the university is re-

viewing the following other mitigation options: WU will provide all on-campus students, faculty, and staff with masks; exploring the testing of students, faculty, and staff upon their return to either campus this fall, and exploring monitoring of symptoms; enhanced cleaning of facilities; scheduling multiple lunch periods; minimizing gatherings; and utilizing larger classrooms to enhance social distancing.

Favade assured the community that Wheeling University is highly committed and able to do everything possible to keep the community safe. She encouraged those with questions to direct them to covidquestions@wju.edu, and that updates will continue as the situation evolves.

Favade ended her letter by saying, "It's been generations since we, as a country and community, have weathered such disruption. With your help, we will emerge stronger and tell our future generations of the successes hard-earned through our collective efforts."

Wheeling University will hold its 62nd graduation exercises July 25 at 10:30 a.m. on Bishop Schmitt Field to comply with social distancing guidelines. Favade will confer 124 undergraduate and graduate degrees during the graduation ceremonies.



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Job Opening

Director of Programs and Development for Campus Ministry

"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement." -St. Augustine. The St. John University Parish Newman Center at West Virginia University is seeking a person who is devoted to bringing the souls of college students into a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church as the new Director of Programs & Development for Campus Ministry. This campus minister will work with the priest chaplain to foster an environment of hospitality, discipleship, prayer, love of the Church and her teachings, love of the Sacraments, and relational ministry, that is apparent to all who come to the Newman Center or interact with its initiatives. This person will help plan and facilitate the weekly Newman Center events, and develop and implement catechetical opportunities and pastoral services including semesterly retreats, faith-sharing groups, and other formational events, appropriate to the needs, concerns, and schedules of the community. The campus minister will also plan and

oversee strategic events to build support from alumni and the broader community, as well as work with the chaplain to develop and manage the budget.

Requirements: Must be able to give evidence of personal love and witness to, and sound knowledge of, the teachings and life of the Catholic Church. A Masters Degree in Theology, or related field preferred. C.C.M.A. Certification or another Campus Ministry based certification preferred (or willing to pursue certification). Experience in and knowledge of campus life. Interpersonal communication and effective presentation skills. Ability to organize and facilitate meetings and work collaboratively in a team environment. Other skills include, but are not limited to: effective planning and time management, writing proficiency using Microsoft Office and new technologies, graphic design for advertising/flyers.

Please send in a copy of your resume and a cover letter to bcrenwelge@dwc.org

St. Joseph Central Catholic High School Ends Relationship with Huntington Prep

HUNTINGTON—St. Joseph Central Catholic High School in Huntington moved June 4 to end both its academic and athletic relationship with the Huntington Prep Academy, beginning with the academic year 2020-2021.

As the academic year draws to a close and graduation celebrations have taken place, the Huntington Prep Academy has, unfortunately, failed to uphold their financial obligations with St. Joseph Central Catholic High School leaving a large amount of unpaid tuition in arrears. Attempts to collect the agreed-upon tuition by the school, and prior to the COVID-19 era, have been futile. St. Joseph's principal, Dr. Carol Templeton, stated that "it is a disappointing and sad end to the school year, as the

school remained committed to providing each Huntington Prep student with a high-quality academic program, embedded within our Catholic values. Many of the Huntington Prep students have now graduated St. Joseph this year to play basketball at the collegiate level and we wish them all the very best."

Templeton also stated that the teachers continued to provide instruction, conducted lessons, administered assessments, and worked with the students throughout the academic year despite an unresolved tuition balance. Templeton stated that "this is not a student issue, we remained steadfast in our commitment to our students, this, unfortunately, is an organizational issue."

The decision to terminate the

relationship was made after consultation with the school's Advisory Council and the Department of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

"St. Joseph's has enjoyed a good relationship with the Huntington Prep Academy over the years," Templeton said, "and we have appreciated the excitement and attention they have provided the school. However, we are a Catholic School first and foremost, and we have to fulfill our mission of educating our students."

"During this difficult time," she said, "St. Joseph must operate prudently in order to maintain a quality educational program for its students and to cover its costs, including the salaries of our dedicated and loyal faculty and staff."

"Saying goodbye to the Hun-

tington Prep Academy students is a tough decision for us, and if circumstances allow, all of the young men in the program are invited to apply for enrollment at St. Joseph through the school's enrollment process," Templeton said. "Our diverse and successful educational program is open to all the Huntington Prep students as well as other young men and women who seek academic rigor, service-learning opportunities, a Christ-centered environment, and a commitment to living Catholic values."

St. Joseph Central Catholic's mission is to educate the body, mind, and soul in the Catholic tradition, and to provide a safe environment in which students can become responsible members of society.

ATS Grants Accreditation to CDU's Graduate School of Theology

CHARLES TOWN—On June 2, the Board of Commissioners of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) voted to accredit Catholic Distance University's Graduate School of Theology for an initial period of seven years. Founded in 1918, ATS accredits more than 270 graduate schools of theology and most Catholic seminaries in the United States and Canada. CDU is the first exclusively online Catholic university without campus-based programs to achieve ATS accreditation.

University Chancellor Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio said, "The Catholic Distance University Community and its Board of Trustees rejoice in the ATS accreditation for the next seven years. This vote of confidence for our Graduate School of Theology is a tribute to very diligent work and academic excellence, as well as a stimulus for increased effort and an ever deeper commitment to faithful theological education." Archbishop Broglio heads the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

President Dr. Marianne Evans Mount said, "This accomplishment is a gift to the CDU community and to all who will come to CDU in the future. I thank ATS for its commitment to accreditation standards that objectively evaluate schools based on their mission and academic outcomes, not the modality of educational delivery. CDU is honored to join so many highly respected Catholic seminaries and Christian theological institutions in Canada and the United States. We look forward to joining a community of scholars who will help to enhance our work and motivate us even more to make Jesus Christ more present today through our mission to communicate the mind and heart of the church in a digital world." Mount has been with CDU since 1983 and has served as president since 2008.

The Graduate School of Theology provides a transformative learning experience in the digital space and

See "CDU" on Page 13

Blessings for Graduation



Courtesy Photo

Princeton Senior High School graduate Matthew Hillyer receives a special blessing from his parish pastor, Father Sebastian Devasya, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Princeton. Vickie Blankenship, the youth minister at the parish, made graduation boxes for each of Sacred Heart's graduates. She and Father Devasya delivered them to the graduates' homes and he then offered a special blessing. Each graduate received a Notre Dame prayer book, t-shirt, postcards with pictures of their experience at the church, and a compass keychain reminding them to never lose their way.

Diaper Dash Virtual 5K Walk & Run Supports Gabriel Project of West Virginia

WEST VIRGINIA—Participants of the Diaper Dash Virtual 5K Walk & Run can get great exercise while providing support for The Gabriel Project of West Virginia.

The event will benefit the organization and essential services for low-income families.

The Virtual Diaper Dash takes place from June 15 through June

30, and participants can complete the dash at their convenience.

"Run or walk your event at any time and then submit your time in that time frame to have your result published," organizers said.

Registration is \$30 which includes a race shirt (with shipping). All proceeds will be donated to The Gabriel Project.

Participants can post their times

online. Individuals and teams are welcome.

Those who cannot be a participant, are invited to donate to support the organization's work. The mission of The Gabriel Project of West Virginia is to provide immediate, practical and compassionate assistance to pregnant women in need and to families with infants and children

2 years of age and younger.

"Through our tangible support we help parents give their child a healthy and safe start in life," organization officials state on The Gabriel Project's website.

For more information, or to sign up for the Diaper Dash, visit <http://gabrielwv.org/> and click on Gabriel News.

Director ...

Cont'd from Page 7

Operations for the Facing Hunger Food Bank in Huntington.

"We have many opportunities for growth, and William will guide our efforts through strategic planning and nurturing key relationships for our agency," said Beth Zarate, CCWVa chief executive officer. "We are thrilled to have him on board."

CCWVa collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change in West Virginia.

Hagy has also served as the Assistant Chair of the CCWVa Western Region Regional Advisory Council.

"I feel both working at the food bank and now at Catholic Charities is more of a calling as opposed to a job," said Hagy.

For more information about CCWVa, visit the website: www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.

Dinner ...

Cont'd from Page 7

Proceeds will support the vital services the Neighborhood Center provides to ensure all people can access the services they need to reach their full potential and work toward lasting and meaningful change.

Phillips indicated that the Neighborhood Center has continued to operate throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to help ensure food security for people in Wheeling and throughout the Ohio Valley.

"In the 11 weeks since this health crisis began, we have provided over 500 boxes of food to families in need. Over 4,000 hot meals have been served in our doorway. More than 10,000 meals have been delivered to folks who are unable to shop or prepare food for themselves," said Phillips.

Spaghetti Dinner meals will include spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, salad and dessert. Dinners will be delivered to cars curbside outside of the Neighborhood Center on 18th Street in Wheeling.

Members of the community are encouraged to purchase tickets online in advance, and guests who buy tickets online will be entered in to a special drawing for several prizes.

"Though we're sad that we won't have the pleasure of dining with so many community members in person, we know that we can still provide a fantastic meal to hundreds of people while serving our core mission. We look forward to seeing people for pickup at the end of the month," said Phillips.

Tickets are \$8 each and can be purchased at <https://catholiccharitieswv.org/blog/catholic-charities-neighborhood-center-spaghetti-dinner-2020/> or by contacting the Neighborhood Center at (304) 232-7157.

For more information, visit www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org.



Courtesy Photo

A volunteer is pictured at the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling, which has continued to operate during the coronavirus pandemic. The Annual Neighborhood Center Spaghetti Dinner will feature a takeout format on June 28.



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Stitching Love, Giving Hope

By Joyce Bibey

Before mid-March, she had only used the sewing machine four times. Today it is rarely turned off.

Jeanette Monteith of Falling Waters in Berkeley County has made more than 2,000 masks in response to the COVID-19 health and safety measures, donating more than half.

"I had been following the pandemic in China on the news since December, and then became more concerned when it quickly made its way to Italy," Monteith said. "Hearing that medical staff there were reporting a shortage of personal protective equipment, I wanted to act and do something before it hit us; but what? Then once I heard masks might be required for not only frontline workers, but also the public I knew the demand would be greater than the supply."

Even though every time she used her sewing machine she had to refer to the user's manual on how to thread the bobbin, she did not let her lack of experience thwart her determination.

"I saw a post on Facebook that had a link to a video on how to make face masks," she said. "So, I watched it over and over and took off from there. I raised some money from family and friends, so I could get the supplies needed to get rolling on a big scale."

"I was so focused on this endeavor it devoured my time. My family was happy to see me turn a very bad situation into something good, but they were losing time with me. I needed some helping hands."

Monteith hired a few women who were out of work, because of the stay-at-home orders. A few people also volunteered to help, including her husband, David, and their four children – Angenette "Gigi", David, Tobias "Toby", and Gloriana "Glo" – along with a few of their friends.

More than 1,000 masks were donated to healthcare workers, nursing



Courtesy Photo
Pictured is Jeanette Monteith, the founder of MODO (Make One, Donate One) face masks.

homes, food-service workers, essential employees, and high-risk individuals in West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania in the first 10 weeks.

Monteith officially named her business MODO, it stands for Make One, Donate One.

"For every mask we make, we donate one to a worthy group to continue our mission," she said.

When her venture became known in her area, requests for masks came flooding in. She needed more machines besides her own and the small child's one Glo was using. She posted a request on Facebook to see if anyone had a machine to donate.

Monteith believes one of the ones she received was heaven sent.

"A woman donated a Singer 301A to me. She said it was used by her grandfather and then her father, but the lady wasn't using it and thought that now was the perfect time and purpose to give it up," Monteith said. "This machine is amazing."

The Singer is circa 1953-1956. The donor said her father, who had just recently passed, used it to make drapes for



Courtesy Photo
Toby Monteith sews on a Singer sewing machine that was previously used to make drapes for the White House.

the White House under the Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard Nixon administrations.

Monteith said she loves using the machine, watching her children maneuver it, and knowing that this same machine that stitched draperies seen by dignitaries, is also stitching masks worn by heroes caring for others.

"This is God's work every step of the way," Monteith said. "When people thank me, I immediately say 'the glory goes to God.' He is with us in so many places, we just don't always take the time to see it or accept the nudge."

Monteith's own sewing machine was a gift from her mother-in-law Merlene Monteith.

"She was an excellent seamstress," she said, acknowledging that Merlene might just be the guardian angel of sorts for the vocation.

Merlene Monteith passed away one year ago.

"She would certainly be amazed not only to see her grandkids using my (sewing) machine, but also to see my husband involved," she said. The family made masks for the hospice care facility that took care of Merlene. "It's been a touching memory to make."

Caring for others has been her livelihood. Monteith holds a doctorate degree in special education. She teaches in nearby Fredrick, Maryland. She also serves her parish, St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Martinsburg, as a confirmation class instructor.



Courtesy Photo
David Monteith and son David cut elastic for face masks.

"It's how God made me," she said.

Part of the MODO mission is to help non-profit organizations and other parishes.

The organization Alex's Lemonade Stand (which raises money for pediatric cancer research) recently partnered with MODO. Not only does Monteith donate a mask for each one sold by the organization's online sales, but she also gives them a monetary donation for each sale.

Monteith sells her masks to the general public on her Etsy site www.etsy.com/shop/MODOMasks. Individuals from 22 states, as well as, Canada and the United Kingdom have purchased her product.

To learn more how you can help or get your parish involved as a non-profit email her at modomasks@gmail.com.



Courtesy Photo
Glo Monteith sews on a Singer sewing machine that was previously used to make drapes for the White House.



Jeremy Elliott-Hundley sorts fabric with Gigi Monteith.

Courtesy Photo

#FaithInWV

Do you know an exceptional Catholic in West Virginia, someone or a group who are shining examples of #FaithInWV? Email Joyce Bibey your feature idea to jbibey@dwc.org. Visit FaithInWV.org and every issue of The Catholic Spirit to read more inspiring stories.

Priest and Parishioner Receive Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award

BUCKHANNON—For their years of dedicated and unselfish service to Holy Rosary Parish in Buckhannon and to the community, Father Joe McLaughlin, pastor, and Knights of Columbus Brother John Walsh received the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award.

The ceremony was conducted June 5 by Knights of Columbus Council 603. Participating in the award presentation were Council 603 Brothers Frank Koenig, Mike Gasper, Mike Ashley, and Roger Ware.

The award is named for four U.S. Army chaplains who gave their life-jackets to crew members aboard the USAT Dorchester after it was torpedoed by a German submarine on Feb. 3, 1943, during World War II. The chaplains linked arms and prayed as they sank beneath the waves in the incident that claimed 675 lives.

Father McLaughlin and Walsh's names will be listed on permanent record at the Chapel of the Four Chaplains' interfaith memorial chapel in the Navy Yard in Philadelphia.



Courtesy Photo

Father Joe McLaughlin, pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Buckhannon, third from left, and Knights of Columbus Brother John Walsh, third from right, receive the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award by Knights of Columbus Council 603 in Buckhannon. Participating in the award presentation are, from left, Council 603 Brothers Frank Koenig, Mike Gasper, Mike Ashley, and Roger Ware.

Program ...

Cont'd from Page 1

Steering Committee. The names of aspirants have not been released because they are still going through the process.

When the bishop expressed his intention to begin a permanent diaconate class in the fall of 2020, a steering committee was mobilized which included permanent deacons and their wives, the head of the diocesan worship office, priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, and others.

The committee was organized by suggestions from the Presbyterian Council and the process was overseen and facilitated by the vicar for clergy. In the last two weeks, the bishop has named Deacon John Yaquina as the chairman of the steering committee. Deacon Yaquina and Father Schuelkens will continue to

work side-by-side with the steering committee members to complete the interview process and begin the program in late August 2020. The applications were reviewed, voted on, and some even discussed. The final list of names passed the first hurdle, Deacon Yaquina said. Now they are collecting all the necessary forms and letters while waiting their turn for the psychological tests taking place in Wheeling.

In July, after all their information has been collected and distributed, each vicariate will hold interviews with their candidates getting additional information, resolving any questions or concerns. And providing prayer and support.

Deacon Yaquina encouraged his fellow deacons and all to "pray for these fine men! They come from all careers and backgrounds and being with them the same love of Jesus we all share."

Classes are scheduled to start on Aug. 28 at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston.

Steering committee members include: Deacon Doug Breiding, Deacon Lou and Barb Beldina, Deacon Harry Evans, Tina High, Berna-

dette Kime, Deacon Helgi Nelson, Deacon Dennis and Val Nesser, Deacon Marcus Pressl, Deacon Tom and Elaine Soper, Deacon Steve Wharton, Deacon Yaquina, chairman, and Father Schuelkens, Vicar for Clergy.

Daily Living

Sunday Mornings: with Fr. Chapin

11 Nexstar WDVM Hagerstown, Md.

6:30 WOWK CBS 13 Charleston, Huntington

8:30 WVNS FOX 59 Beckley, Bluefield, Lewisburg

10:00 WTV METV Wheeling, Steubenville

9:30 WVFX FOX 10 Clarksburg, Fairmont, Morgantown

10:00 DirecTV 367 World Harvest Television

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Faith Alive

Faith, Fathers and the Real Power of Persuasion

By Mike Nelson, Catholic News Service

"My son," says the Book of Proverbs, "do not despise the Lord's discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in" (Prv 3:11-12).

If that's the case, I must have been one delightful son, seeing as how my father — whom I loved very much — could have taught a master class in "discipline" and "rebuke."

And, like a lot of fathers, he had a way of getting his children to do things they didn't necessarily want to do.

Even Jesus' heavenly father asked him to do something that no father I know would ever suggest: sacrifice his life for the sake of the world.

Luke (22:42) tells us that Jesus didn't exactly want to do it ("Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me"), but he dutifully acquiesced to his Father's request ("Not my will, but yours be done").

But then, Jesus himself was able to get people to do things they might not do otherwise. No one knew his power of persuasion better than his first disciples.

Two of them, James and John, were working with their father, Zebedee, mending their fishing nets in their boat, when Jesus called them.

"Immediately," writes St. Matthew, "they left their boat and their father and followed him" (Mt 4:22).

I shudder to imagine what would have happened if I or my brothers were, let's say, doing yardwork with our dad, and a stranger came along and said, "Follow me," and we'd up and left our dad holding the leaf rake. I'm not sure we'd have been anxious to return home anytime soon.

(Come to think of it, Scrip-

ture doesn't tell us that James and John ever returned home, either.)

It is, of course, possible to follow Jesus and to love and honor our parents. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right," says St. Paul (Eph 6:1-3). "'Honor your father and mother.' This is the first commandment with a promise, that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

But in the very next sentence (Eph 6:4), Paul has instructions for fathers as well: "Fathers, do not provoke your children in anger, but bring them up with the training and instruction of the Lord."

In that regard, I am grateful that my parents — both raised in families who regularly attended church on Sundays — sent my brothers and I to Lutheran Sunday School when we were young. Such is the call of the Book of Proverbs: "Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they will not swerve from it" (22:6).

The same book also tells us that "the fear of the Lord is a strong defense, a refuge even for one's children" (Prv 14:26). That early faith foundation — an awareness of and belief in God the Father and his son Jesus — has been both refuge and sustenance for me, even in my adolescent and teen years, when I rarely attended church.

To be honest, I was just as happy to spend my weekends playing games, watching TV and sleeping late. Which is why I am forever blessed that my wife and toddler son drew me not only back into church, but into the Catholic faith.

She, a lifelong Catholic, became director of our parish preschool when our son turned three, and I joined other dads (some regular churchgoers, some not) in

"helping out" — moving chairs, laying out floormats and setting up tables in the classrooms.

Soon, I was attending Mass each week with our son, and within two years I was confirmed. That was 35 years ago, and we have remained an active, church-going family ever since.

My wife and I are doubly blessed that our son, throughout his life, has attended Mass willingly and, for the most part, joyfully. He is a lector and usher, always lends a hand when (and often before) he is asked, and is truly a son his parents "delight in."

His attitude, I admit, contrasts markedly with the one I sometimes had when my dad would drive my brothers and I to Sunday school. Well, not so much attitude as puzzlement over why my parents rarely attended Sunday services themselves.

In that regard, maybe it's no wonder I was away from church for so long. The power of persuasion is more effective by action than by words. Jesus never asked of his disciples anything he wasn't willing to do himself. He taught and led by example.

Perhaps his best example was articulated by St. Paul to the people of Corinth: "Stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Your every act should be done with love" (1 Cor 16:13-14).

Faith. Courage. Strength. Love. That's a solid foundation for persuasion — and the best kind of marching orders for any dad.

(Catholic journalist Mike Nelson writes from Southern California.)

CDU ...

Cont'd from Page 9

develops leaders and teachers for the new evangelization in the 21st century. Its two degree programs and three certificate programs are offered completely online. Ninety percent of Graduate School of Theology alumni serve the Church in some ministry, including as youth ministers, directors of religious education, catechists, school teachers, liturgy directors, professors of theology, parish administrators, religious sisters, and diocesan staff. Others use their education to work in the public, non-profit, or private sectors in a variety of fields including education, healthcare, and business.

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Un decreto del obispo Mark Brennan

decreto


La Sagrada Eucaristía, como “fuente y cumbre de la vida cristiana” (Lumen Gentium 11), se da a los fieles como el alimento espiritual más eficaz que la Iglesia puede ofrecer. Por esta razón, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica enseña que todo católico debidamente dispuesto “recibirá humildemente [su] Creador en la Sagrada Comunión al menos durante la temporada de Pascua” (2042) para ilustrar completamente la relación sublime entre la recepción de la Iglesia. Cuerpo y Sangre del Señor y las fiestas pascales, que son “el origen y el centro de la liturgia cristiana” (ibid.). Como todos los preceptos de la Iglesia (cf. CCC 2041-2043), la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión durante la temporada de Pascua es una ley de la Iglesia que impone una obligación a todos los fieles, establecida para “garantizar a los fieles el mínimo indispensable en el espíritu de oración y esfuerzo moral, en el crecimiento de Dios y del prójimo” (CIC 2041).

Tras la repentina suspensión de las liturgias públicas y el cierre de parroquias en respuesta a la pandemia de coronavirus en marzo de 2020, hubo preocupación por la capacidad de los fieles para cumplir con las obligaciones de algunos de los preceptos de la Iglesia. Por esa razón, el precepto que requiere asistencia a Misa para todos los domingos y días santos de obligaciones se ha suspendido temporalmente, mientras que los otros preceptos de la Iglesia siguen vigentes. Como las parroquias de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston han comenzado a reanudar la celebración de las liturgias públicas, es evidente que el cumplimiento de la obligación de recibir la Sagrada Comunión durante la temporada de Pascua, aunque no constituye una imposibilidad absoluta, plantea una dificultad para Muchos de los fieles en Virginia Occidental, que continúan refugiándose en el lugar o corren el riesgo de infección debido a la edad o las condiciones de salud existentes.

La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos ha establecido que este precepto se puede cumplir en cualquier momento durante la temporada de Pascua hasta el primer domingo después de Pentecostés (la solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad). Sin embargo, con solo unos días hasta que transcurra este período de tiempo, debe tomarse una provisión adecuada para el cumplimiento de esta obligación.

Por lo tanto, como Obispo de Wheeling-Charleston, deseando que los fieles de esta Diócesis, sin ponerse en peligro a sí mismos ni a otros, puedan aprovechar plenamente la fuente de gracias obtenida a través de una “vida moral ligada y alimentada por la vida litúrgica” (2041), y deseando alentar la observancia diligente de todos los preceptos de la Iglesia entre los católicos de Virginia Occidental, por la presente decreto que para el Año de la Gracia 2020, los fieles de la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston que estén debidamente dispuestos, habiendo sido absuelto de cualquier pecado grave en el Sacramento de la Penitencia, puede recibir la Sagrada Comunión en cualquier momento entre la Solemnidad de la Resurrección del Señor y la Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Rey del Universo, que ocurre el 22 de noviembre de 2020, en cumplimiento del precepto mencionado anteriormente.

Dado en Wheeling en esto, el tercer día de junio, en el año de Nuestro Señor, dos mil veinte.



Monseñor Mark E. Brennan
Obispo de Wheeling-Charleston

Reportar casos sospechosos de abuso sexual de niños

La Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston alienta a informar a las autoridades civiles ante todo si se ha cometido un delito. También alentamos a utilizar www.reportbishopabuse.org para informar. Si tiene razones para creer que un obispo se ha involucrado en una conducta sexual inapropiada o ha interferido con una investigación de conducta sexual inapropiada, comuníquese con las autoridades civiles de la jurisdicción correspondiente y visite www.reportbishopabuse.org.

Para informar a las autoridades civiles: Póngase en contacto con la policía local; Los números variarán según su ubicación. Si cree que alguien está en peligro inmediato, llama al 911. Para reportar confidencialmente cualquier incidencia de sospecha de abuso o negligencia infantil, incluido el abuso sexual, comuníquese con la Oficina de Servicios para la Protección Infantil de la Oficina de Niños y Familias de West Virginia llamando a la línea directa de abuso infantil al 800-352-6513.

Para informar a la Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston: La Diócesis alienta a que se informe ante las autoridades civiles apropiadas, en

primer lugar, así como 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 designados al 304- 233-0880. Las extensiones adecuadas se enumeran a continuación: Sr. Ellen F. Dunn, O.P., ext. 264; Señor. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Rdo. Tim Bishop, ext. 353. También puede completar un “Formulario de Queja por Alegaciones de Abuso Sexual de un Menor” confidencial recogiendo uno en su parroquia local o solicitando uno por correo a la Coordinadora de Ambiente Seguro, Diócesis de Wheeling-Charleston, P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003. El formulario de queja también está disponible para descargar en el sitio web de la diócesis www.dwc.org, haga clic en Diócesis en la barra de menú, luego haga clic en Oficinas, haga clic en Entorno seguro y haga clic en la sección “Descargar archivos y formularios”. . Está listado como “Formulario de Queja”. Para informar al Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas de la Diócesis: Dr. Patricia M. Bailey: 304-242-6988

Enlaces e información: Departamento de Salud y Recursos Humanos de WV: <https://www.wvdhhr.org/report.asp> Policía del Estado de Virginia Occidental, Unidad de Delitos contra los Niños, Crímenes de Internet contra los Niños

Powhatan Church Serves 72 Families in Need



Courtesy Photos

Sacred Heart Mission in Powhatan served 72 families in need in May during its monthly food distribution. Mission officials and food recipients are pictured at the church during the distribution. Food recipients lined up observing social distancing guidelines.

Eucharist ...

Cont'd from Page 4

lifestyle and reminds us that we are not only mouths to be fed, but also his hands to be used to help feed others."

"It is especially urgent now to take care of those who hunger for food and for dignity, those without work and those who struggle to carry on," the pope said. "This we must do in a real way, as real as the bread that Jesus gives us," and with real solidarity and genuine closeness.

Pope Francis also spoke about the importance of memory in order to stay rooted in the faith, united as a community and part of a "living history."

God helps by leaving "a memorial," that is, "he left us bread in which he is truly present, alive and true, with all the flavor of his love" so every time people receive him, they can say, "He is the Lord; he remembers me!"

The Eucharist, he said, also heals the many ways one's memory may be wounded.

"The Eucharist first heals our orphaned memory," caused by a past darkened by a lack of affection and "bitter disappointments caused by those who should

have given them love and instead orphaned their hearts."

The past cannot be changed, he said, however, God can heal those wounds "by placing within our memory a greater love — his own love," which is always consoling and faithful.

Through the Eucharist, Jesus also heals "negative memory," which harbors all the things that have gone wrong and leaves people thinking they are useless or only make mistakes.

"Every time we receive him, he reminds us that we are precious, that we are guests he has invited to his banquet," the pope said.

"The Lord knows that evil and sins do not define us; they are diseases, infections. And he comes to heal them with the Eucharist, which contains the antibodies to our negative memory," he said.

Finally, the pope said, the Eucharist heals a closed memory filled with wounds that make people fearful, suspicious, cynical and indifferent.

Only love can heal fear at its root "and free us from the self-centeredness that imprisons us," he said.

Jesus approaches people gently, "in the disarming simplicity of the host," as bread that has been broken

"in order to break open the shells of our selfishness," he said.

After Mass, the pope greeted a few hundred people spread out in St. Peter's Square for the noon recitation of the Angelus prayer.

After the prayer, he expressed his deep concern for the ongoing conflict in Libya, urging "international bodies and those who have political and military responsibilities to recommence with conviction and resolve the search for a path toward an end to the violence, leading to peace, stability and unity in the country."

"I also pray for the thousands of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons in Libya" as health conditions have deteriorated, making them even more vulnerable to exploitation and violence, he said.

The pope called on the international community to find ways to provide them with "the protection they need, a dignified condition and a future of hope."

After civil war broke out in Libya in 2011, the country still finds itself divided between rival leaders, each one supported by militias and foreign governments.

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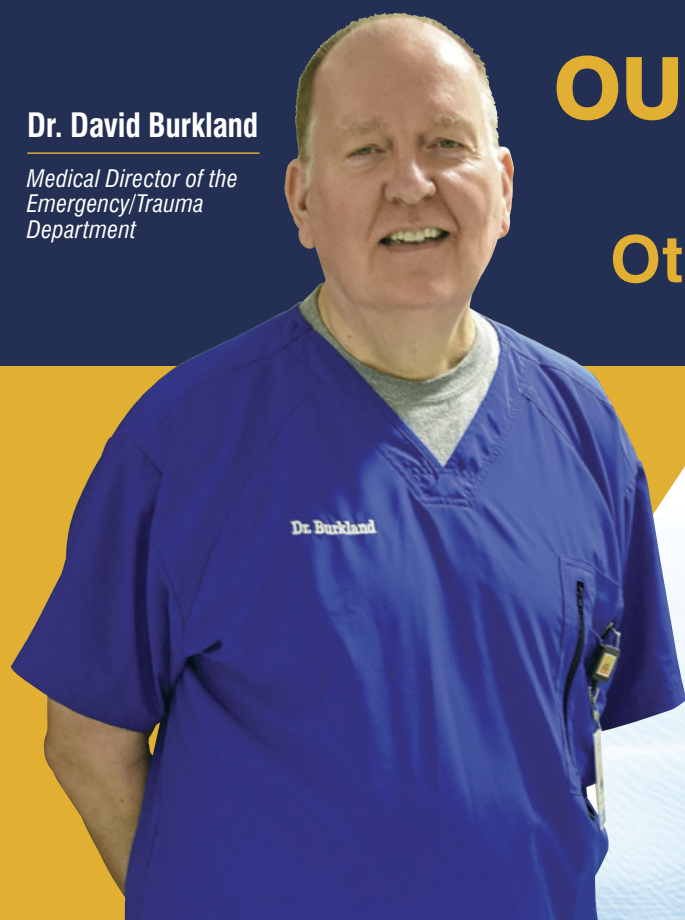
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