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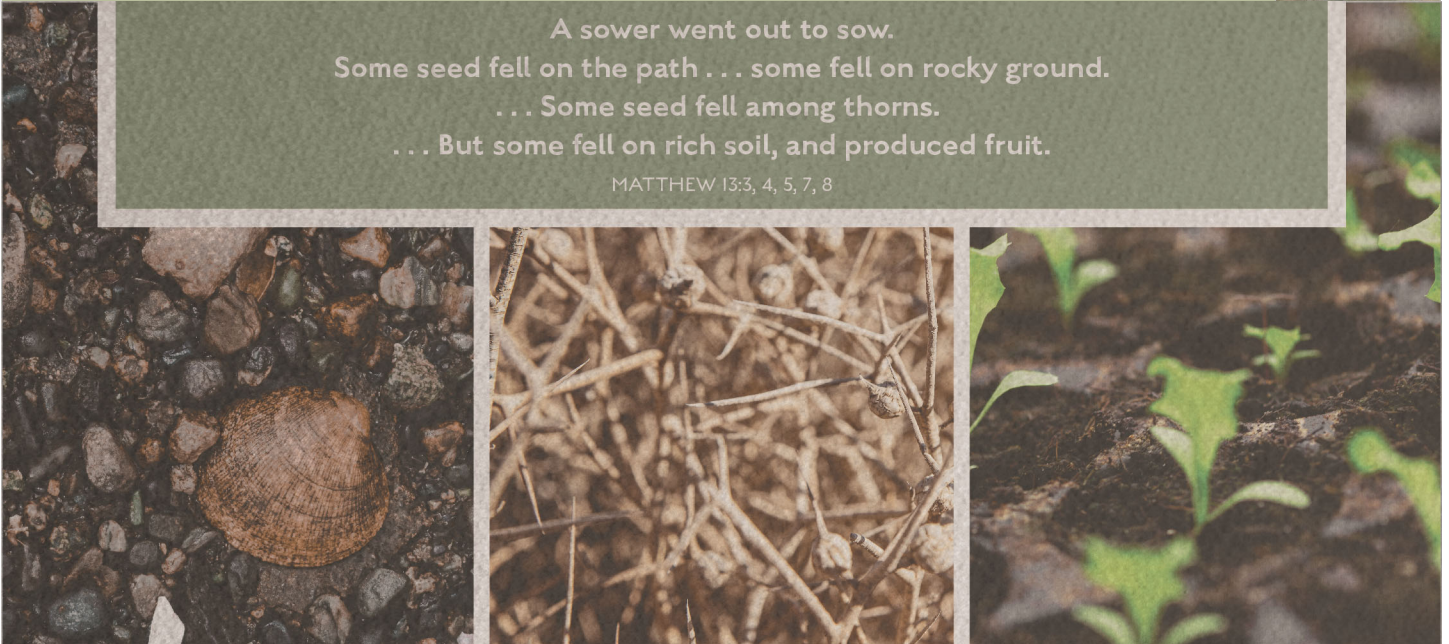
304-845-1593

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A sower went out to sow.
Some seed fell on the path . . . some fell on rocky ground.
. . . Some seed fell among thorns.
. . . But some fell on rich soil, and produced fruit.

MATTHEW 13:3, 4, 5, 7, 8



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 12
2020

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Every child in school has experienced the excitement of growing a simple bean seed planted in a paper cup or watched a time lapse video of the growth process. We watch this miracle sprout in a matter of days, and marvel at the whole process. A seed must be planted and die to itself in order to create a new life. Then it must be fertilized and watered and cared for. But most importantly, one must be patient and wait. Seeds take a certain amount of time to develop and may require being dormant for a while. Similarly, a human baby takes nine months to grow from the time the seed is fertilized.

But no matter what we do, and how well we do it, not all seeds will yield fruit. Sometimes the conditions are just not right to allow it. Not all pregnancies go full term. Farmers know the pain of a drought year, or storms that ruin a crop before it can be harvested. Diseases and blight and other things can take hold.

SOME WILL BE LOST

Growing up in the Western states, beautiful fields of wheat and beans were a common sight for me, but I did not fully understand this parable until going to the Holy Land and seeing the rocky ground that Jesus spoke of. This was an “aha” moment, as I witnessed what a miracle it was when something had the strength and tenacity to grow among the crags despite the arid conditions. What a sign of faith and trust and hope even to plant crops there, knowing that some would be lost! It would seem easier to write them all off, or even less work not to plant them at all.

Jesus could do that to us, but he has not. He has faith and trust that a number of the seeds planted in us will bear great fruit. They will not wither and fade away, but will produce fruit, a hundred-, or sixty- or thirty-fold. And his faith in us gives us hope.



Kateri Tekakwitha: First Native American Saint Inspires

The blood of martyrs is the seed of saints. Nine years after the Jesuits Isaac Jogues and Jean de Lelande were murdered by Iroquois warriors, a baby girl was born near the place of their martyrdom, Auriesville, New York. Her mother was a Christian Algonquin, taken captive by the Iroquois and given as wife to the chief of the Mohawk clan, the boldest and fiercest of the Five Nations. When she was four, Tekakwitha lost her parents and little brother in a smallpox epidemic that left her disfigured and half blind. She was adopted by an uncle, who succeeded her father as chief. He hated the coming of the Blackrobes—Jesuit missionaries—but could do nothing to them because a treaty with the French required their presence in villages with Christian captives. She was moved by the words of three Blackrobes who lodged with her uncle, but fear of him kept her from seeking instruction. Tekakwitha refused to marry a Mohawk brave, and at 19 finally got the courage to take the step of converting. She was baptized with the name Kateri—Catherine—on Easter Sunday.

Now she would be treated as a slave. Because she refused work on Sunday, Kateri received no food that day. Her life in grace grew rapidly. She was powerfully moved by God’s love for human beings and saw the dignity of each of her people. She was always in danger, for her conversion and holy life created great opposition. On the advice of a priest, Kateri stole away one night and began a 200-mile walk to a Christian Indian village at Sault St. Louis, near Montreal. At 23, Kateri took a vow of virginity, an unprecedented act for an Indian woman whose future depended on being married. She found a place in the woods where she could pray an hour a day. She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 21, 2012.

PARISH YOUTH....

Put down your smartphones and I-pads, and come take a walk with Father on St. Kateri Tekakwitha’s feast day. Walking begins at 7 p.m. this Tuesday, July 14. Parish youth are invited on an evening stroll through the woods with Father to honor St. Kateri’s enduring love for nature and to earn fabulous cash prizes! Father will lead a tour of Grand Vue Park’s four-mile loop trail, where you will have the chance to identify edible trees and weeds. Whoever finds the most plants to eat will win a prize. See you Tuesday, July 14!

(Special contest rules apply: No sneak-eating allowed. Any and all disputes will be resolved by Fr. That Son.)

- JULY 11 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Rose Marie Ebert†**
(Bob & Patty Shutler)
- JULY 12 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **For the People**
10:00 A.M. **Frank Curia†**
(Curia Family)
- JULY 13 MONDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Joseph Webb†**
(Jane Klug)
- JULY 14 TUESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Dennis Romanoski†**
(Cindy Gunto)
- JULY 15 WEDNESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **H. John Rogers†**
(Board Family)
- JULY 16 THURSDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Alberta Klug†**
(Jane Klug)
- JULY 17 FRIDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Regina Regiec†**
(Lottie & Jerry Durbin)
- JULY 18 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Doc & Opel Romanoski†**
(Artimez Family)
- JULY 19 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Margaret Harrigan†**
(Harrigan Family)
10:00 A.M. **Marilyn Neidhardt†**
(Kathleen & Stan Pazyk)

Daily Mass Intentions will become available beginning July 15.

LECTORS

- July 18** 4:00 p.m. **L. Remke**
- July 19** 8:00 a.m. **C. Frame**
10:00 a.m. **L. Freeland**

REV. THAT SON NGOC NGUYEN, PASTOR

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m. or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office.

Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593
Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238
Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080
Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467

Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net
Website: sfxmoundsville.org

MASS SCHEDULE:
Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR OUR
PARISHIONERS
& FRIENDS**



Prayer Request: Deanne Ferraro, Joseph Grampa, Ronnie Hill, Eleanor Smith, Mary Coffield, Jim Conner, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Jim Ali, Wanda DeTemple, Sue Riffle, Jane Klug, Patty Kudlak-Kettler.

Homebound: Semon & Phyllis Prado, Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy.

Nursing Home: Ron Jaworski, Bill Tennant, Helen Remke, Bertie Gaughenbaugh, Barbara Meyer.

REMINDERS FOR MASSES

- * Gov. Jim Justice signed an executive order July 6 requiring masks to be worn in-doors where distancing cannot be mandated. If you are in need of more masks, please contact the parish office and we will connect you with someone who can provide. Thank you for remembering to bring masks to Mass, but don't stay away because you forgot one or do not have one. We will always provide for you.
- * Let us know if you need help signing up to use Formed.org.

WEEKLY OFFERING JUNE 28, 2020

Envelopes:	\$2,558.00
Loose Offerings:	\$300.00
Church Repair:	\$20.00
Candles:	\$50.00
Attendance	125

"Indifference, self-centeredness, division, forgetfulness are not words we want to hear at this time. We want to ban these words forever!" Pope Francis



*to the family and loved ones
of
Theresa Jane Reilly Myer,
Cindy Gunto's beloved aunt,
Heartfelt condolences.*

*to the family and loved ones
of
Gary Dobbs,
St. Martins of Tours Cameron,
Heartfelt condolences.*

THE PARISH OFFICE

will no longer be open during Thursdays. However, we welcome your help if you would like to volunteer for a couple of hours answering the phone or pointing stray visitors in the right direction.

KATHY BEE IS OFFERING

free rosary repairs to those in need. Please call Kathy for help at 304-639-2299.

THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

print edition will move to once-monthly distribution as part of recently enacted cost cutting measures by the Diocese.

The print version will now circulate the first Friday of each month, while a new electronic version will be delivered by e-mail every Friday to those who subscribe. Those already receiving the e-mail version of the print edition need only reply to a delivery e-mail to get on the new list.

Sign up for e-mail delivery at thecatholicspiritwv.org. Electronic editions can also be downloaded at the same address for non-subscribers.

Both editions of The Catholic Spirit continue to be free to Catholics in the Diocese. Contact crowan@dwc.org to stop print delivery of the paper should you decide you no longer need it.

In Memory



*Please remember
at the altar of our
Lord Fr. Jim LaCrosse, S.M,
who we learned
recently passed on.*

*Fr. LaCrosse helped us last
year and in the past with
communal penance service.
May he rest in the sure hope
of Christ's resurrection.*

THE GABRIEL PROJECT

mission at St. Francis Xavier Church reminds everyone that their annual summer shower is ongoing throughout July. The shower replenishes items for clients and their babies. You can find the Summer Shower Wish List posted with this week's bulletin at our website and on our Facebook page.

Please put monetary donations in a marked envelope and drop in the weekly collection. Donations can also be left at the parish office. Make checks out to the Gabriel Project and write St. Francis Xavier Church on the memo line. For Gabriel Project questions or if you would like to volunteer as a "Gabriel Angel," contact Cathy Frame at 304-845-3892. God bless you, and thank you for your support.

DWC Cuts Budget: Restructuring Focused on Long-Term Mission

The Diocese of Wheeling Charleston is cutting \$7 million from its \$22.6 million operating budget—a move that makes good on Bishop Mark Brennan’s vow to bring spending “within means.”

The cuts also reflect losses during pandemic, which has dealt blows to finances and charitable activities of churches worldwide.

Bishop Brennan outlined the more than 30 percent reduction in a June 29th letter to clergy.

In total, 35 positions are affected through attrition and elimination. That number could increase depending upon how many staff elect to take early retirement.

Among cost-cutting measures are closing two pastoral centers, eliminating six chancery positions, and consolidating certain diocesan ministries. The plan also stream-

lines diocesan communications and locates \$2 million in health insurance savings.

“We must trim down so that we have the agility and strength to meet challenges...”
Bishop Brennan

Also noted is the ongoing health of an investment portfolio that relies on oil revenues. Those revenues have “drastically” declined during the pandemic, states Brennan.

“Guidance from our professional advisors indicates that we need to be very conservative when budgeting for unrestricted operating income from these (investment) sources,” the Bishop writes.

Brennan believes the Diocese’s mission to bring Christ to West Virginians relies on the changes.

“Like a fighter training for the next fight, we must trim down so that we have the agility and strength to meet the challenges we face not only to live our faith but to share it with others,” he explains.

“We also must try to leave a legacy ... for future generations ... rather than seeing it dwindle each year and eventually run out.”

The bishop’s close evaluation of finances began upon his arrival to West Virginia. He said the need to restore wise use of resources was “immediately clear” at that time to restore the Church’s mission and provide financial security for future generations.

The Diocesan Finance Council unanimously backed the plan. It was also reviewed by Presbyterial Council, College of Consultors, and Diocesan Finance Council.

Reorganization Outline:

PASTORAL CENTERS

The Mary Help of Christians Pastoral Center and the Priest Field Pastoral Center will close Aug. 1, 2020. Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston will remain open. Repurposing the closed facilities for continued use in Catholic ministry will be explored.

CAMP BOSCO

Operations at Camp Bosco are canceled for the 2020 season because of pandemic. While the camp is closed, operations will be evaluated with the hope of reopening in the future.

CHANCERY OPERATIONS

Six positions have been eliminated through attrition. Continued downsizing will occur with reorganizations and the offering of early retirement incentives. Health insurance coverage options will change, with new coverage beginning January of 2021. The addition of third-party gap insurance is expected to save \$2 million on the self-insured medical plan each calendar year while also keeping affordable health care options for staff members at the Diocese, parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities.

NEW DEPARTMENT: EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

The offices of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Campus Ministry, and Faith Formation have been combined to form the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. Mr. Daniel Maul will serve as director, and an associate director will be hired soon.

STREAMLINING COMMUNICATIONS

The Catholic Spirit, Website Development, and Communications & Marketing are now one unit. Also, The Catholic Spirit has moved from bi-monthly to monthly circulation. Electronic communication strategies are already in place, including a weekly issue of The Catholic Spirit

THE COMPLETE TEXT OF BISHOP BRENNAN’S LETTER FOLLOWS THIS PAGE.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

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

June 29, 2020

To the Clergy of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston:

On this feast day of Saints Peter and Paul, I thought it appropriate to express my gratitude to you for the wonderful service you render to the people of this Diocese. You and the people you serve are constantly in my prayers.

Upon my arrival as Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston less than one year ago, it was immediately clear to me that I needed to work with our consultative bodies, Diocesan staff and our professional advisors to ensure that fiscal resources are wisely used to advance the mission of the Church. It is also necessary to work to provide financial security for generations to come.

In my January letter to the Faithful, I mentioned that “as I have been telling Diocesan staff and the priests’ council for a couple of months, the Diocese has been living above its means. I didn’t do that in my parishes nor in my personal life, nor can our families live that way. I don’t think the Diocese can do that either.”

The Diocese has seen a reduction in the value of its investment portfolio due to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic and a drastic reduction in oil revenues. Guidance from our professional advisors indicates that we need to be very conservative when budgeting for unrestricted operating income from these sources. Concurrently, I am very thankful our Diocesan consultative bodies and administrative staff for their diligent work and commitment to prudent financial stewardship of our Diocesan Church. Their leadership and advice are greatly appreciated.

This week, the Diocesan Finance Council unanimously recommended a plan that cuts our operational budget from \$22.6 million in FY 2020 to \$15.6 million in FY 2021, a reduction of more than 30 percent. Much of this budget is made possible by a reorganization of Diocesan operations and reflects the need to make some very difficult decisions regarding the size of our payroll and the status of pastoral centers in the Diocese.

My brother priests, while we are called to be ministers and not financiers, we do have an obligation to be good stewards of the financial blessings bestowed on this Diocese. Therefore, I have approved the following reorganization plan, which was reviewed and critiqued by our Presbyteral Council, College of Consultors, and Diocesan Finance Council. The major elements of that plan are:

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PASTORAL CENTERS

Beginning August 1, 2020, operations at the Mary Help of Christians Pastoral Center and the Priest Field Pastoral Center will cease. The Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston will remain in operation. I do wish to explore opportunities with partner non-profits to repurpose the two closed pastoral centers for a continued use in Catholic ministry.

CAMP BOSCO

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, operations at Camp Bosco were cancelled for the 2020 season. While the camp is closed, the Diocese will begin evaluating its options with the hope of reopening the camp in the future.

CHANCERY OPERATIONS

A number of changes have been made in Chancery operations. Six positions have been eliminated as a result of attrition and continued downsizing will occur with the offering of an early retirement incentive for certain employees and reorganization of offices.

The Diocese will also be making changes to its health insurance coverage options with new coverage beginning January 1, 2021. With the addition of Gap insurance through a third-party insurer, we hope to save nearly \$2 million on our self-insured medical plan each calendar year while also keeping affordable health care options for staff members at the Diocese and those in parishes, schools, and Catholic Charities. The plan will continue to provide for quality health care.

NEW DEPARTMENT: EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

Ministry to young people will continue in a variety of ways, but we are announcing that the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, as well as Campus Ministry, have been combined with the duties of the Office of Faith Formation to form the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis under the direction of Mr. Daniel Maul. He will now have the title of Director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. A new Associate Director of Evangelization and Catechesis will be hired soon. The name change focuses on our need to evangelize and catechize. The thrust of the office will be to assist parishes and their mission to evangelize and catechize both youth and adults.

STREAMLINING COMMUNICATIONS

We are bringing *The Catholic Spirit*, Website Development, and Communications & Marketing together into one unit thus streamlining Diocesan communications efforts. In another cost saving measure, we will cut production of the *Spirit* in half, from 24 issues to one monthly issue. At the same time, electronic communication strategies have already begun and will be further developed.

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In total, through attrition and position elimination, 35 positions are affected by the reorganization plan, a number which could increase depending on how many staff elect to take an early retirement package.

The above changes are not driven solely by financial considerations, but by a desire to position the Diocese to carry out its mission of bringing Jesus Christ to the people of our State. Like a fighter training for the next fight, we must trim down so that we have the agility and strength to meet the challenges we face not only to live our faith but to share it with others. We also must try to leave a legacy from our Diocesan resources for future generations of West Virginia Catholics rather than seeing it dwindle each year and eventually run out.

The challenge before us is to believe what St. Paul tells us: *God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having what you need, you may have an abundance for every good work* (II Corinthians 9:8). With trust in the Lord, even if we are rather poorer in financial resources than we were before, we can become richer in faith and learn as we move forward, to use the resources we possess in a prudent and focused way to support our common mission.

May God bless you and keep you strong in the service of His people!

Fraternally in Christ,



Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston

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