



MAY 15, 2020

SZABO TO BE ORDAINED DEACON

By: Colleen Rowan

Charles Town—Seminarian Phillip Szabo will be ordained a transitional deacon by Bishop Mark Brennan at 11 a.m. May 30 at St. James the Greater Parish in Charles Town. There will be limited seating because of the coronavirus pandemic. However, the ordination will be live-streamed on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's website at WWW.DWC.ORG and on its Facebook page.

As a transitional deacon, Szabo will spend a year preaching the Gospel and preparing for his ordination to priesthood. And he will begin that ministry June 3 in his summer assignment at St. Thomas Parish in Thomas, and Our Lady of Mercy Mission in Parsons, with Father Timothy Grassi, pastor.

Twenty-nine-year-old Szabo is the son of Joseph Szabo and Theresa Michael, and hails from Augusta in the Eastern Panhandle's Hampshire County. His home parish is Our Lady of Grace in Romney. Szabo attends Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. He is also a registered nurse, and attended Fairmont State University.

The process of discerning God's will for his life has been a great adventure, Szabo said, filled with many challenges and graces.

"My love for God and His Church has grown to heights that I never knew were possible," he shared. "Although I am still a little fearful about making the three, life-long promises of prayer, celibacy, and obedience on my diaconate ordination day, I nonetheless have a strong and lasting sense of peace in my heart that has been with me ever since I began seminary formation. Truly, God's peace never lies. We can always be certain that we are doing God's will when our hearts are filled with a strong and lasting peace that stays with us even during times of struggle. Therefore, after living in this peace for five years of seminary formation, I know for certain that God is calling me to be a priest. Therefore, I am filled with joy as I prepare to take the next step towards priesthood by being ordained to the Order of the Diaconate."



Father Brian Crenwelge, director of Vocations, said the diocese is receiving a tremendous gift from God in the ordination of Szabo to the diaconate.

"Phillip is truly a man for others who is excited to lay down his life for the people of West Virginia," Father Crenwelge said. "The diaconate is about being conformed to Christ the Servant, and I know I am joined by many others in my excitement to see Phillip give of himself as a deacon and soon-to-be future priest for our diocese. I look forward to Phillip's year as a transitional deacon before his ordination to the sacred priesthood."

Father Crenwelge invited all to join in celebrating this joyful day in the life of the diocese by watching the livestream.

During his ordination to the diaconate, Szabo will promise obedience to the bishop and his successors and take on the vow of celibacy. Once ordained, he will be vested with the stole and dalmatic by Deacon David Galvin, permanent deacon at St. James, and Deacon Larry Hammel, permanent deacon at Assumption of Our Lady Parish in Keyser and Szabo's home Parish of Our Lady of Grace. These vestments are worn by deacons during liturgies.

Bishop Brennan will then present the Book of the Gospels to him so that he may proclaim the Good News and model his life after Christ. As he presents the Book of the Gospels, the bishop will say to him, "Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you have become. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach."

Join us as we celebrate the
ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE
of *Phillip Szabo*

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

May 30, 2020 • 11:00a.m.
from St. James the Greater Parish, Charles Town

MONDAY WOULD BE POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Monday, May 18th, marks what would have been Pope St. John Paul II's 100th birthday. We celebrate his life and thank God for his wisdom – despite all the anxiety, burdens, loneliness, and sadness in your life “be not afraid ... Open wide the doors to Christ!”

He was born in 1920, as Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland (near Krakow). He was the youngest of three children born to Karol Wojtyla (a tailor and a non-commissioned officer in the Polish Army) and Emilia Kaczorowska Wojtyla (a schoolteacher). A sister had died before he was born. His mother and brother, Edmund, died when the saint was just a young boy. He was very close to his father, who raised him with strong faith in the Catholic church and structure like the Polish Army.



As a young man he was known for his love of soccer, swimming, skiing, religion, and theater. He enrolled Krakow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 to study drama. However, Nazi occupation forces closed the university a year later. He had to work in a quarry and then in a chemical factory to avoid being deported to Germany.

He was only 20 years old, when his father passed away in 1941. He later said it was during that time of great depression and loneliness he felt God's love and a strong call to the priesthood.

In 1942, he entered an underground seminary in Krakow. In 1946, he was ordained Fr. Karol Wojtyla. Because of the hostile environment

in Europe, ordinations to the priesthood were celebrated in secret.

His rise in the church included becoming bishop in 1958, archbishop six years later, and cardinal within three years. As an archbishop he took part in Vatican Council II, and as Cardinal Wojtyla he participated in all the assemblies of the Synod of Bishops. He became pope in 1978, taking the name of John Paul II. He was an advocate for youth and families.

He urged young people to give their lives to God and to never give up hope, saying “remember that you are never alone, Christ is with you on your journey every day of your lives! He has called you and chosen you to live in the freedom of the children of God. Turn to him in prayer and in love. Ask him to grant you the courage and strength to live in this freedom always. Walk with him who is ‘the Way, the Truth and the Life!’”

In his homily during the inauguration of his pontificate he told the faithful that no matter what fear or anxiety they are facing, open the doors of your heart to Christ in prayer, surrender to Him and let Christ unfold in your life.

“Brothers and sisters, do not be afraid to welcome Christ and accept his power. Help the Pope and all those who wish to serve Christ and with Christ's power to serve the human person and the whole of mankind. Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ. To his saving power open the boundaries of States, economic and political systems, the vast fields of culture, civilization and development. Do not be afraid. Christ knows ‘what is in man’. He alone knows it.”



In honor of Pope St. John Paul II's centennial, Pope Francis will celebrate his morning Mass on Monday, May 18 on the altar over the Saint's tomb in St. Peter's Basilica.

Significantly, this Mass will be the last of his livestream Masses that millions of people around the world have virtually attended for more than two months. Public Masses in Italy are being allowed to resume Monday.

The faithful has considered the live video, radio and streaming transmission of the celebration of morning Mass in the Casa Santa Marta during this period of quarantine was an unexpected and beautiful gift.

The homilies given at Santa Marta during this crisis represent a significant aspect of Pope Francis's service as Bishop of Rome.

Pope Francis does not take for granted the gift he has received to be welcomed into the homes of the faithful.

The Vatican has put together the 130+ page publication, “Strong in the Face of Tribulation,” the digital volume of the LEV which includes most of the homilies preached by the Pope beginning with March 9 at Santa Marta during this time of crisis. You can review and download it at: WWW.VATICANNEWS.VA/CONTENT/DAM/LEV/FORTI-NELLA-TRIBOLAZIONE/PDF/ENG/STRONG-IN-TRIBULATION.-20042020.PDF

LET US GO *Rejoicing* TO THE HOUSE OF THE *Lord.*

PSALM 122

TOGETHER OR APART GOD IS WITH US

While we proceed with extreme caution to celebrate the resumption of public Masses in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston May 23-24 under the directives set forth by Bishop Mark Brennan, it is important to stress, the Bishop has extended the dispensation to attend Mass on Sundays until further notice.

It is strongly recommended that anyone age 65 or older and all those with a serious health conditions to please stay home. Likewise, anyone with symptoms or feeling ill are to stay home.

Choose the safest course for you, your loved ones and your neighbors.

Together we need to honor the sacredness of each person, being mindful to protect our sisters and brothers in Christ.

While we are excited that the stay at home order has lifted so far as to allow us to return to church, we need to be

responsible and not too eager to where we put anyone at risk. Not matter if we are together in our church or if we must remain apart, we are all united through the Trinity.

As we will hear in the Gospel reading from Matthew (28:20) next weekend (the Ascension of the Lord Sunday), "I am with you always until the end of the World: - Matthew 28:20. God knows our heart and our desires.

Having to remain away from church, when we are longing to be there, is true fasting.

Those who are unable to come to worship and experience the Sacrament can offer their experience as fasting bringing graces and a deeper connection to the Lord.

"Such fasting could help people toward a deepening of their personal relation to the Lord in the Sacrament; it could be an act of solidarity with all those who

have a yearning for the Sacrament but cannot receive it...Spiritual hunger, like bodily hunger can be a vehicle of love," Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI wrote in his book Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith, when he was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

For details about the directives in place for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston please go to <https://dwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/REOPENING-OF-PARISHES-FOR-PUBLIC-WORSHIP-DIOCESAN-DIRECTIVES.PDF>.

Moreover, the faithful must also check in with their parishes for more specific directives to their church. It is a good time to make sure your parish office has your most current telephone number, and both mailing and email addresses, so you are up to date with any and all announcements.



The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely, or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature, and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be.

Anne Frank

POPE FRANCIS URGES REDISCOVERY OF THE ROSARY

The month of May is a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet at: (WWW.VATICAN.VA/SPECIAL/ROSARY/INDEX_ROSARY.HTM) to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

- Pope Francis

FIRST PRAYER TO OUR LADY

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.

For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

*We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

SECOND PRAYER TO OUR LADY

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

From the Desk of Superintendent Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

Department of Catholic Schools • www.WVCatholicSchools.org

WORD OF GRACE FOR WV CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

As we enter these last days of school, let's not lose sight of who we are, what we stand for, and how we choose to push forward as a school family. That is exactly the focus of my meetings with principals. It is that way of thinking that enables us to engage and encourage our students. Where does it come from? It is the wisdom and grace of God.

I'm reminded of a print one of my colleagues at the diocese shared with me. It's called You Say versus God Says. I can see each one of our principals and teachers instinctively and without hesitation expressing it to their students. I'll recall it as best I can:

You say – It's Impossible.

God says – All things are possible. (Luke 18:27)

You say – I'm too tired.

God says – I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28-30)

You say – I can't figure it out.

God says – I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

You say – I can't.

God says – You can do all things. (Philippians 4:13)

You say – It's not worth it.

God says – It will be worth it. (Romans 8:28)

You say – I'm afraid.

God says – I have not given you a spirit of fear. (2Timothy 1:7)

You say – I'm overwhelmed.

God says – Cast all your cares on Me. (1Peter 5:7)

You say – I feel all alone.

God says – I will never leave you. (Hebrews 13:5)

We move forward confidently, when we keep Christ as our light.

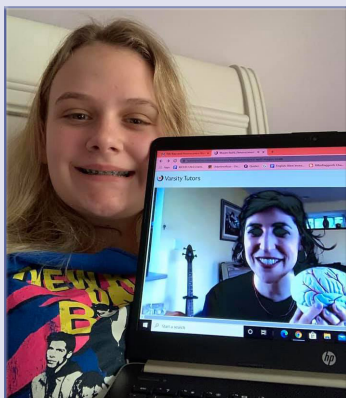
I ask you to keep Bishop Mark Brennan in your prayers as he meets with a committee of religious and lay leaders to come up with a plan to safely resume the public celebration of the Mass as the stay at home order is gradually lifted. He is proceeding with an abundance of caution to preserve the health and safety of our Church family and our priests. We respect his genuine and loving considerations.

It is that same genuine and loving compassion our principals and teachers have poured out unconditionally these last two months. Why do they do it? The answer is simple – they love your children. We are a family! So many of the videos and photos posted on social media by our schools express that. It didn't take COVID-19 to reveal it. We just put an exclamation point on it.

Peace,

Mary Ann Deschaine, Ed.S.

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ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL
MARTINSBURG

7th grader Olivia enjoying an online neuroscience enrichment classes.



CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

WHEELING

Integrated Digital Media classes created Split Personality images, using multiple photographs of themselves and their knowledge of graphic design.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SCHOOL
WHEELING

Kindergarten graduate Roman and his sister Mila were happy to find a surprise yard sign to celebrate the milestone.

MASS READINGS FOR MAY 17, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: ACTS 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial PSALM 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20

**R. (1) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
or R. Alleluia.**

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!"

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
or R. Alleluia.**

"Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!" Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam.

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
or R. Alleluia.**

He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever.

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
or R. Alleluia.**

Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness!

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.
or R. Alleluia.**

Second Reading PT 3:15-18

Beloved:

Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ

may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

Alleluia JOHN 14:23

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JOHN 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For both religious and secular leaders, as they develop plans for reopening public places, that the Spirit may guide them so that the health and safety of all are safeguarded, we pray . . .

For young people as they anticipate the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation, that they may have the patience to wait until they can be scheduled responsibly and not become discouraged, we pray . . .

For continued protection and strength for health care workers, first responders, essential employees and for all who work for the common good during this time of uncertainty, we pray . . .

For men and women called to a Religious Vocation, especially our own seminarians, Philip Szabo and Justin Golna who prepare for ordinations in the weeks ahead, that Christ may lead their hearts to persevere in faith, we pray . . .

Lord hear our prayer





NOVENA

COME HOLY SPIRIT COME
VENI SPIRITUS VENI

All are encouraged to pray the nine day Novena to the Holy Spirit.

Before Jesus ascended from earth to heaven, He told the disciples to wait for a helper – the Advocate – the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:4

Join the church in prayer for the nine days from Ascension Thursday May 21st to Pentecost Sunday

The prayer for each of the nine day's of the Novena will be available:

1. by broadcast over the air on LoL Radio and on the LoL Radio internet stream at WWW.RDO.TO/WLOL
2. on the web at WWW.LOLRADIO.ORG/1HOLYSPIRIT.HTML
3. on FaceBook at LIGHTOFLIFERADIO
4. by email - register to receive the daily prayer at info@LoLradio.org or call 304-598-0026.

COME HOLY SPIRIT COME
VENI SPIRITUS VENI

WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

Berkeley Springs - Hancock, MD	FM	96.3
Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City - Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7

You can find LoL Radio online at LoLRadio.org

A LITTLE CATHOLIC HUMOR



Liturgy of the Hours

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.

[EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS](http://EBREVIARY.COM/LITURGY_OF_THE_HOURS)



YOUTH MINISTRY CONTINUES

YOUNG WV CATHOLICS invites teens to be part of



Instead of feeling cooped up, encourage your teen to feel energized by participating in the PROJECT YM LIVE event and Young WV Catholics Zoom conversation. Office of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry Interim Director, Shawn Madden, invites you to find out more and sign up at:

www.youngwvcatholics.com/ymlive.html

Project YM, a national youth ministry organization, streamed its first hour-long live youth night last week. It was attended online by more than 9,000 households! The event at projectym.com/live had games, prizes, a solid message, and engaging prayer. Help middle and high school students you know by sharing this opportunity.

ONLINE RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT THIS WEEK:

In addition to our diocesan website, DWC.ORG, check out:

- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website, for resources presented in text, audio, and video formats. Daily Readings written: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS Daily Readings audio: USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS-AUDIO.CFM Video Reflection USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/REFLECTIONS/INDEX.CFM
The usccb.org site will also give you tutorials on how to pray the Rosary, the Divine Chaplet, and other prayers and devotions.
- National Catholic Register for Catholic news, stories, blogs, etc. at NCREGISTER.COM
- The Catholic News Service for the latest headlines for Catholics WWW.CATHOLICNEWS.COM
- My Daily Living with Fr. John Chapin Engler at MYDAILYLIVING.COM
- Fr. James DeViese – Altar-ed State: WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/FRDEVIESE
- Music ministries on Facebook: My Heart is Ready, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WWW.DAVIDHAAS.US and John Angotti Music Mission, WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHNANGOTTIMUSICMISSION