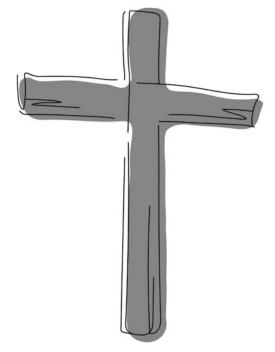
# Saint Agnes



St. Agnes is an inclusive Catholic community dedicated to the love of God and service to others. We rejoice in the Gospel, the celebration of the Liturgy, and the Sacraments. We welcome the opportunity to share God's message and to bring all into the life of Christ.

#### **Pastoral Contacts**

Pastor: Rev. Andrew M. Switzer
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. T. Mathew Rowgh
Associate of Youth Faith Formation: Bill Donahue
Assistant Administrator: Beth Yates
Accounting: Lizzie Lowe
Associate of Liturgy Ministry: Helen Harris
Associate of Music Ministry: Elaine Rendler-McQueeney

#### **Pastoral Council**

Connie Bonner ~ Derek Gallagher Heather Garcia ~ Christine Wiegman-Green Patrick Green ~ Shaná Harris ~ Colin Hayden Brendan Jarrell ~ Gil Sateia Vanessa Santiago ~ Becky Tokarcik

### **Finance Council**

Pat Barth ~ Steve Bledsoe Mike Drewes ~ Todd Hershey Sue Kemnitzer ~ David Matera ~ Arnold Thomas

### St. Agnes Church

200 South Duke Street, Shepherdstown

### St. Agnes Parish Office

106 South Duke Street, Shepherdstown P.O. Box 1603, Shepherdstown, WV 25443 Telephone 304-876-6436 Office@StAgnesShepherdstown.org www.StAgnesShepherdstown.org

### St. Agnes Chapel

204 South Church Street, Shepherdstown

### **Sunday Readings**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 Mark 1:21-28

### **Weekly Schedule**

Sunday Mass Saturday, 5:30pm Sunday, 8am Sunday, 10:30am

Scripture and Communion

Monday and Wednesday at 11am

Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30pm
Parish Office: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm
Cash Card Sales: Weekdays during office hours

(please call first)

### In Case of Inclement Weather...

It is that time of year when we need to be prepared for inclement weather! Should we experience wintry precipitation, we will do our best to make a decision regarding in person CFF class by 8pm the evening prior. Check our website, call the parish office at 304-876-6436 and listen to the recording, or you can also access this information on the St. Agnes CFF/Youth Facebook (closed) group page. If you have not yet joined the group, please do! Contact Bill Donahue at for-

mation@stagnesshepherdstown.org to join.

Please note, if Jefferson County Schools are delayed or closed, there will be no **weekday Mass**. The office will also follow the school system's decision and will be closed if schools are closed.

# Souper Bowl of Caring

Seeking to love God by loving their neighbors, America's teens are transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving through Souper Bowl of Caring. On the weekend prior to the Super Bowl and on Super Bowl Sunday weekend, youth collect one dollar (or more) donations in soup pots as worshippers leave church. Each group donates their collection directly to the charity of their choice— here at St. Agnes, our donations will be split between the Shepherdstown Shares food pantry and the JCCM food pantry that serve our community.

Watch for our youth and their soup pots after each Mass on February 3rd and 4th as well as February 10th and 11th (Super Bowl Sunday).

In addition, you can give online again this year. To do that, go to our St Agnes Website, to giving and to the online giving. From there click "Give Online Now" and Souper Bowl is listed in the dropdown menu. And, of course, you can always drop your donation by the office directly or through snail mail, just note "Souper Bowl Collection" on your check's memo line.

This is St. Agnes' 24th year participating and helping those in our region who are in need. Last year we collected \$1553.00. Our goal is to surpass our collection from last year. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, 5:30pm for Sr Mary Janelle

Sunday, 10:30am for **Bob Bowden** 

May Sr Mary Janelle and Bob share in the fulness of God's mercy and peace.

### Remember in Prayer

Please pray daily for those serving in the Military, our veterans in recovery, and those recently ill, especially Manny Cabral, Vicky Scott (friend of Noreen Albright), Nell Thompson, Harold Paulin (father of Maria Stewart), Patricia Windsor (mother of Valerie Ater), Pat Doyle, Henry & Barbara McDonald, Rebecca Ramsey, Marie Snowden, and Barbara Mueller. Names are placed in the bulletin for approximately one month and then those names are placed on the 2nd Friday prayer list and are remembered in prayer each month.

# 2nd Friday Prayer Group

A list has begun for the 2nd Friday in February. Please contact Judy at any time with names of individuals you would like to add or if you would like to join the group. Judy: 301-432-2276 or <a href="mailto:isliga8@gmail.com">isliga8@gmail.com</a>.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult) is for those who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith and discerning if they might want to be professed members of the Catholic faith. The goal is to see where the process takes you. Father Andy is leading our RCIA process. If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, please call the office at 304-876-6436. All are welcome!

# Attention Liturgical Ministers!

Our next Liturgical schedule will begin on March 1st, so it is time to begin looking ahead to the March 1 through May 31 time frame and let us know of any dates that you will be unavailable to serve in your ministry. It works out much better for all concerned if we have the dates that you know you are unavailable at the beginning of the scheduling process. Please send those dates by email to Helen Harris not later than February 6th (liturgy@stagnesshepherdstown.org).

### Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found basket, located at the end of the hall near the restrooms, is overflowing. It contains all kinds of items ranging from jackets to books to sippy cups to sunglasses and so much more! We need to clean out the basket, so please take a look and see if any of the items are yours. Whatever remains on Monday, February 19, will be regifted.

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend I am thankful for Father Mat who is covering this weekend's Masses while I will be in El Salvador. As I think of Father Mat and St Agnes, I know that St Agnes has been committed to Vatican II long before I arrived. As your pastor, we have been doing some exciting things with the Synod. It's important to remember though that we can do what we do now because we stand on the shoulders of giants. Recently in my reflection on St Agnes, I have been thinking about our young and elders. What comes to me is we are a community of Elis and Samuels, our older members being the Elis and our younger members being the Samuels. So, I offer this thought to our Elis, our younger folks need you to point them in the right direction; they can learn from your wisdom, but the younger members, they have maybe a different way of going about it that we need to honor. For our younger folks, seek the wisdom of our elders; recognize that they have experience that can help you tackle new challenges. This is the beauty of synodality, and I watch the Samuels and Elis at St Agnes work together here in beautiful ways. It's important that all voices be heard as we move forward in a synodal way. We are in another Stage of Vatican II with the Synod that we will be implementing for a long time, but we have a strong foundation thanks to all the Elis and Samuels in this community. I would say we are a church of Pentecost with the fire burning brightly and, as Acts of the Apostles says in Chapter 2:17, "I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh: your sons and daughters shall prophesy, and your young see visions, and your old dream dreams." This is synodality. I will be praying for all of you as I go to El Salvador asking for Archbishop Romero's intercession that we may continue to grow as a synodal church at St Agnes.

> Will see you soon. Fr. Andy

# Let's Talk About...

#### WOMEN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

One of our small groups will meet in the parish center at 10:30 a.m. on six First Fridays (March through June and then September and October) to discuss the six chapters of a new book with the title, <u>Women in the New Testament</u>.

Would you like to join in? Contact Denis Woods (<u>woodsdooley@comcast.net</u>) by February 5<sup>th</sup> so we can order the books (\$14 to be paid later).





### **KOC Chili Cook Off**



# The Super Bowl of Thili!!!

It's time to find that super recipe for your best tasting Chili.

Something sweet, something het, make it a treat, it will hit the spot.

Your Knights of Columbus, St. Agnes Council, #13887, is having its Annual Chili Bowl competition on one our nation's most competitive days --- Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, 2024. Bring your best Chili to the Parish Center and join the contest. There will be a \$75 prize for first place \$50 for second, and \$25 for third. (If there are any ties we'll get Solomon to divide the prize.) This event will start after the 10:30 Mass is over and continue until 2:00 PM.

To enter please send an email or text to <a href="mailto:raymond.nelson.jr@gmail.com">raymond.nelson.jr@gmail.com</a> – 410-241-4205, no later than Saturday, February 10. (the day before) Everyone is welcome. There is no charge to enter. The more the merrier!

Whether you enter a chili in the competition or not, please come and judge for yourself which chili is best; it's a Chili Fest! We don't want to send anything home, and anti-acid tablets will be available.

### Sacred Art in Action

Next Sacred Art In Action Monthly Iconography Session Wednesday, February 7, at 11am-4pm, Open to all! Join these sessions for a spiritual journey to learn the ancient sacred art that has survived through the ages to this day. Icon painting helps in spiritual growth, gives practice for the hand, heart, and mind, introduces one into the world of sacred beauty. Classes are taught by Tatiana Gubenko, an iconographer and instructor with nine years of teaching experience, whose work can be found in private collections and churches in the US and abroad. She will help you paint an icon, and walk you step by step from gilding using clay and real gold leaf to create the halo, to oiling the icon before consecration in the church. You will learn the whole process and the symbolism of each step. For further information or to register, please contact tatiana.istudio@gmail.com.

# Spotlight on Ministry

We moved to Jefferson County in 2015 from Raleigh, NC. We missed our church St. Francis for its total involvement of the laity and the sharing of the Franciscan Friars. When we arrived here, we tried one other church; but we didn't feel the spirit there. When we arrived at St. Agnes, we knew it was for us. We were asked early on to participate in Hospitality and did so with just a bit of trepidation. We didn't know the routine or movements; however, Judy taught us, and Bailey Tune modeled for us. We have thoroughly enjoyed greeting parishioners, collecting the offertory and taking up the gifts to the altar. We have made so many new friends in our service to St. Agnes. We recommend that all those who can contribute their time and talent to do so in any of the ministries. You will find it very fulfilling, and you will have lots of support. The Holy Spirit guides us all in various ways. Mike and Lindy Keefe

Please consider joining one of our ministries at St Agnes. There's so many ways to get involved and grow in your faith. Adult and youth Altar Servers needed. Please contact Helen Harris at liturgy@stagnesshepherdstown.org

# All St Agnes Volunteers... Must Be VIRTUS Trained

The Diocese of Wheeling Charleston requires that all volunteers in all parishes, schools, etc., must be Virtus trained. And they will soon be auditing to verify compliance. If you volunteer in any capacity at St Agnes, you must do the training!

VIRTUS training is designed to help adults recognize the signs that indicate a child or vulnerable adult might be suffering abuse. It also helps adults by offering key points to help children and adults, who might confide in them, deal with potential situations. Finally, it helps adults know who to contact and what the next steps are if they suspect or discover a child or vulnerable adult is being abused. All this training is designed to help adults help others through a difficult situation.

It is truly in the best interests of everyone to have all volunteers VIRTUS trained.

The good news is that the training is all online and can be completed in a short period of time. Our Coordinator, Bill Donahue, can assist with verifying your training status and/or initiating your training. For questions or concerns, contact <a href="mailto:formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org">formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org</a> or call the office at 304-876-6436.

# Scripture Sharing

Our Scripture Sharing group continues to meet via Zoom (link found on website under events calendar) on Mondays at noon except for holidays. All are welcome!

### Godspell

ST AGNES CATHOLIC CHURCH PROUDLY PRESENTS



#### 2012 Revised Version

Conceived & originally directed by John-Michael Tebelak Music and New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Originally Produced on the New York Stage by Edgar Lansbury / Stuart Duncan / Joseph Beruh

> February 2,3,4, and 16, 17, 18 Friday/Saturday 8pm, Sunday 3pm

> St Agnes Church: 200 S Duke Street Free & Open to the Public Donations Gratefully Accepted

> For Reservations call 304-876/6436 or visit stagnesshepherdstown.org

To open the season of Lent, the holiest time of the year, St. Agnes Catholic Church will present a production of Godspell (2012 Revised Version), which was originally conceived and directed by John-Michael Tebelak and with music and new lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. A dedicated and talented group of St. Agnes youth is joined by equally dedicated and talented friends from Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church, Asbury United Methodist Church, and the community of Shepherdstown to present this musical, which is drawn directly from the teachings of Jesus. Godspell has been described as a timeless celebration of Christian friendship, loyalty, and love based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Certainly no easy task, as time pulls our kids in multiple directions, but our youth and their friends are dedicated to bringing the message of the gospels to light. We hope you will join and celebrate with us, and "Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord!"

### Free Community Safety Trainings

# 2024 FREE Community Safety Training Available for ERT and anyone interested

The Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency is offering the following training opportunities:

Community CPR and Stop the Bleed: February 13, March 12, April 9, May 21, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10. All classes start at 6 pm. CPR courses last 3 hours. To register and for more information go to the Jefferson County Emergency Services website: <a href="https://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/county-government/county">https://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/county-government/county</a>

Interested in joining the St. Agnes Emergency Response Team? Please contact Michele Goldman at <a href="mailto:mgold-man9797@gmail.com">mgold-man9797@gmail.com</a> or Teace Noel at <a href="wvnoels@gmail.com">wvnoels@gmail.com</a>.

-agencies/jcesa/community-cpr-first-aid

### Stubblefield Institute

The Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications at Shepherd University studies and promotes civil political discourse. Their website notes that, "When differing viewpoints are respected and considered in ways that avoid labeling, alienation and silencing, it can strengthen our nation's ability to solve problems." Consider participating in their next event...

#### **Labels: Limiting or Leveraging**

Wednesday, January 31st at 5:30 p.m.

Storer Ballroom, Student Center, Shepherd University Labels are all around us—Democrat, Republican, Christian, Jewish, Boomer, Millennial, and the list goes on. In Labels: Limiting or Leveraging, we will start out with small group discussion about our own experiences with labels or being labelled. When have they served to unite groups for a common cause? When have they caused division? What is the difference between labels you put on yourself versus those being imposed upon you by someone else? Together the small groups will develop questions for the panel discussion to follow.

After the small group discussion, panelists Margarita Garrido-Cortes, Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, and Dr. Lindsey Levitan will respond to questions from the group and discuss the way that labels are used in our society and how they are often incorporated into policy making.

Tickets are also available through Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/793607059077? aff=oddtdtcreator

# **Homebound Ministry**

For any parishioners who have needs (groceries, rides to doctors or pharmacies, etc.) our **HOMEBOUND MINISTRY** is willing to help. Please call Judy Lilga (301-432-2276).

### Religious Item Recycling

St. Mary Recycle Mission Group has been working with Catholic churches, Convents, Schools, The Knights of Columbus, and other organizations, as well as with Parishioners who have things at home in helping rescue and recycle used Religious items that are no longer needed. Over the last 25 years, they have helped recycle items from Churches that have items from former Clergy that are no longer being used, or from Churches that unfortunately closed, as well as from Parishioners who need to place their personal religious items from home that they don't know what to do with. Over the years, they have found many of these items in the trash so they came up with a recycling program. They originally got started after finding several items cleared out from a church basement in the dumpster of a local church all in perfectly usable condition. They later found that there is a need for these unwanted items. Their first large effort was following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans as they sent hundreds of recycled items to a parish there that was more than happy to accept items for both the parish and parishioners that they had gathered.

They can take in or give just about anything of Religious nature that can be used by other churches, convents or religious organizations such as:

- Vestments including Chasubles, Stoles, Albs, etc.
   (even if they are soiled or tattered, as we have them
   professionally cleaned and/or restored if possible so
   they can be worn, we can also use them to make new
   vestments, rosary cases or missal covers, we accept
   any style, color, vintage)
- Crucifixes
- Statues (any size, no outdoor concrete statues)
- Rosaries (damaged ok)
- Chalices (Pottery ok)
- Altar Ware
- Candle Sticks
- Tabernacles
- Relics
- Monstrances
- Altar Stones
- Altar Books/Missals/Lectionaries
- Holy Medals
- Holy Cards
- Linens
- Paraments
- Framed Religious Pictures
- Used Musical Instruments
- Prayer books//Breviaries

# (<u>Please No Religious Books/Reading Books/Story Books or Pamphlets/Magazines/DVD's or VHS Tapes or Wax</u> Candles)

Please do not throw anything out that may be questionable as they take items in any condition.

You will find a collection box at the parish center.

# Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024 With Bishop Mark Brennan

Participate in the pivotal moment in the Church and draw deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today! Scan the QR code to attend this historic event.



Please visit the DWC website for more information, including itinerary and cost: https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/

### Tours of St Joe's School

#### St Joe's School group tours for prospective families

We are excited to announce group tours for families interested in sending their children to SJS!

Those considering grades K-8 are invited to visit on: Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, March 20, at 9 a.m.

Or, please email <a href="mailto:mpartington@sjswv.org">mpartington@sjswv.org</a> to set up another time to visit.

Those interested in our Early Childhood Education Program (for those ages 4 and younger) may stop by: Thursday, Feb. 8, at 9 a.m.

Thursday, March 21, at 9 a.m.

Or, please email <a href="mailto:kmackinnon@sjswv.org">kmackinnon@sjswv.org</a> to schedule another time to visit.

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year begins Feb. 2 for families whose children already attend Saint Joseph School and for their siblings who do not currently attend. Catholic families who are active in local parishes may start the application process on Feb. 9, and the general public can apply starting Feb. 16.

To apply, please click on the "apply" tab at <u>siswv.org.</u> If you need more information, please email <u>mpartington@sjswv.org</u> or call the school office at 304-267-6447.

# Gathering for Widows and Widowers

All widows and widowers in our faith community are invited to attend a casual gathering in the home of our parishioner, Brigitte Schmidt on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10am. She lives in Boonsboro, Maryland. Text 301-660-0376 to RSVP, and the address will be provided.

Community is a balm to grief; you are not alone. Come to obtain as well as provide support.

# Stay Up-to-Date with Mary's Refuge

Mary's Refuge invites you to stay up-to-date with their baby bulletin. You can find the bulletin through this QR code or visit <a href="https://marysrefuge.com/baby-bulletin/">https://marysrefuge.com/baby-bulletin/</a>.



### The Gift of Music



\$615

### Memorialize this year's hymnal

Envelopes can be found in each hymnal if you would like to dedicate a hymnal to a loved one (either in memory of or in honor of). Place completed forms in the offertory basket.

### CDA National Education Contest

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are sponsoring a contest for grade 4 through adult. Topics include: essay, poetry, art, computer art, music, and photography. Forms and additional information can be found in the Narthex and parish center or on their website: catholicdaughters.org. Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2024.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston maintains an Office of Safe Environment in accordance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct, 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 Diocesan Authorities: In addition to civil authorities, the diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the **EthicsPoint** platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the

identity of the person reporting is protected.

# Parish Financial Activity

Collections - Last Week		
Offertory Collections		\$6,148
Monthly Mortgage Assistance		\$570
Total (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)		\$6,718
Weekly Target (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)		\$12,000
Total Collections Compared to Target	1	-\$5,282
	·	

Tithe to help those in need

(St. Agnes tithes 10% of all offertory donations)

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### Enrollment at St Joe's School

Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year begins Feb. 2 for families whose children already attend Saint Joseph School and for their siblings who do not currently attend. Catholic families who are active in local parishes may start the application process on Feb. 9 and the general public can apply starting Feb. 16.

To apply, go to siswv.org.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is again offering the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) to Catholic and non-Catholic families. For the 2024-25 school year, hear are dates of note:

### All application windows open Feb. 1.

Phase I (Catholic families): Application period closes April 30; awards given May 21

Phase II (Catholic and non-Catholic families): Application period closes July 14; awards given Aug 1

Phase III (Catholic and non-Catholic families): Application period closes Aug. 23; awards given Sept. 17
For more information, go to <a href="www.wvcatholicschools.org">wvcatholicschools.org</a>. If your child is currently attending public school or entering kindergarten, you also might qualify for the Hope Scholarship. To learn more, go to <a href="https://">https://</a>

www.hopescholarshipwv.com/.

### SJS Alumni Musicians

#### SJS alumni sought for May band performance

We are seeking SJS alums who play an instrument and would be willing to supplement our middle school band for the May 17 concert.

If you are interested, please contact Annie Woodmansey at awoodmansey@sjswv.org.

# Together in Holiness Marriage Conference

Married and engaged couples are invited to the 3rd annual Together in Holiness marriage conference, presented by the St John Paul II Foundation and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, on February 10, 2024 from 10:45 am - 6:00 pm at St. James Catholic Church in Charles Town, WV. This 1-day conference will help you strengthen your relationship with your spouse and discover God's plan for your family. Registration: \$32/couple and \$5/child for on-site childcare. Scholarships upon request. For more info, visit togetherinholiness.org/wheelingcharleston or email cameron@forlifeandfamily.org.

### St Joe's Seeks Pre-K Aide

St Joe's School is seeking a teacher's aide for a classroom of toddlers. Aides support teachers in planning and implementing daily programs. Job responsibilities include ensuring the daily care of every child by following all licensing guidelines and the school's standards of care. Aides also help maintain a fun and interactive environment that is clean and organized.

Job requirements include: Must be at least 21 years old and have a high school diploma, 2 years PK or elementary education experience preferred, ability to meet state licensing requirements, scheduling flexibility, certification in ACDS (Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist) preferred. If interested, please send a résumé to Katie MacKinnon, PK director, at <a href="mailto:kmackinnon@sjswv.org">kmackinnon@sjswv.org</a>.

# St Agnes Columbarium Garden Your Niche For All Time

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James A. Schmitt 304-876-2462



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Dr. Gagan Singh, MD Dr. David Yeh, MD

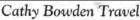
The Medical Eye Center

710 Somerset Blvd. Suite 101 Charles Town, WV 25414 New Patients Welcome Call for an appointment 304-725-2121



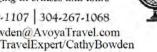
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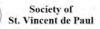
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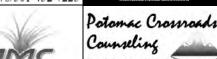
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