

We Are Family!

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, March 20, 2016

Rev. J. Stephen Vallelonga, Pastor
pastor.spchurchweston@gmail.com
210 Center Ave., Weston, WV 26452
304-269-3048

St. Patrick Church

Up Front



with Mary Hendricks

Website: www.spchurchweston.net

Like us on Facebook: "St. Patrick Church, Weston, WV"

Pastoral Associate: Mary Mazza Hendricks
(304) 269-1244 Mash111@aol.com
Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30am - 6pm
Parish Office Manager: Sandra R. Mick
(304) 269-3048 spchurchweston@gmail.com
Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9am - 4pm

Mass Schedule:

Monday: 8am (St. Joseph Chapel)
Tuesday: NO MASS
Wednesday: 6pm (church)
Thursday: 6pm (church)
Friday: NO MASS
Saturday: 8:30pm (church)
Sunday: 9:30am (church)

The Sacraments:

Baptism - By arrangement
Marriage - At least nine months' notice.
Reconciliation - Wednesday: 5:00 - 5:45
Saturday: 5:00 - 5:45pm
Sunday: 9:00 - 9:20am
Anytime by request (304-269- 3048)

Pastoral Care of the Sick - Please notify the parish office (304-269-3048) of parishioners who are hospitalized or homebound and wish to receive Eucharist or the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

RCIA: Wed, 6:30 in the parish meeting room.
For more info, contact Mary Hendricks at 304-269-1244.
Sat - 7pm & Sun - 10:30am, church - "After Mass Class."
"Like" on Facebook: St. Pat's RCIA

Counseling: Contact Valerie Corley at 304-476-6009.

Rosary: Weekly: Wed 5:35pm & Thurs: 7:35am
(no Mass = no Rosary)
Oct. and May: Saturday: 5:30pm, Sunday: 9am

Miraculous Medal Novena: Wed: 5:55pm

Prayer Line: Micki Snyder 304-269-3688 or 304-476-6516

Mission Contact Info: Kim Derico 304 884-6984
or hshcrafts1@yahoo.com.

St. Patrick School

Pre-School - 6th Grade
224 Center Ave. Weston, WV 26452
304-269-5547

Principal: Maureen Gildein
Secretary: Regina Frazier
email: st.pats@stpatswv.org website: stpatswv.org

Luke 22:14—23:56

It's a long Gospel today, folks, but let's look at a little story buried in there, the story of the Good Thief.

"Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with [Jesus]. . . . One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'"

The thief who asked for mercy came to be known as Dismas, which means "sunset" or "death" in Greek. I found on Catholic.org that he is a saint whose feast day is March 25. Here's another story about Dismas, related by Fr. Gordon Macrae:

"In an unsubstantiated legend that circulated in the Middle Ages, in a document known as the 'Arabic Gospel of the Infancy,' this encounter from atop Calvary was not the first Gestas (the unrepentant thief) and Dismas had with Jesus. In the legend, they were a part of a band of robbers who held up the Holy Family during the Flight into Egypt after the Magi departed in Saint Matthew's gospel.

"This legendary encounter in the Egyptian desert is also mentioned by Saint Augustine and Saint John Chrysostom who, having heard the same legend, described Dismas as a desert nomad, guilty of many crimes including the murder of his own brother. In the legend, Saint Joseph, warned away from Herod by an angel, opted for the danger posed by brigands over the danger posed by Herod's pursuit. Fleeing with Mary and the child into the desert toward Egypt, they were confronted by a band of robbers led by Gestas and a young Dismas. The Holy Family looked like an unlikely target having fled in a hurry, and with very few possessions. When the robbers searched them, however, they were astonished to find expensive gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh - the Gifts of the Magi. However, in the legend Dismas was deeply affected by the infant, and stopped the robbery by offering a bribe to Gestas. Upon departing, the young Dismas was reported to have said: 'O most blessed of children, if ever a time should come when I should crave thy mercy, remember me and forget not what has passed this day.'"

Yeah, it's a legend, but isn't it a cool legend? Looks like Jesus remembered when Dismas asked for mercy, dying on the cross next to him.

It's the Year of Mercy. We learned at the Lenten Mission that mercy means "entering into the chaos of another person." We don't walk on by when we see our brother or sister in pain. We don't ignore suffering to stay within our comfort zone.

The Good Thief, who was suffocating as he tried to talk, used his last words to defend Jesus and ask for forgiveness, to ask for mercy. Jesus, also struggling to breathe, gave him comfort and promised him Paradise. What an amazing scene at Calvary.

How will we grant mercy this week?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday: Mass at 6pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at 3pm

Veneration of the Cross at 6pm

Saturday, Easter Vigil: Mass at 8:30pm

Easter Sunday: Mass at 9:30am

Mass Attendance			Weekly Offering	Electronic Offering	Total	Goal	Over/Short Weekly	Over/Short Year to Date	School	Debt Reduction		
Sat	Sun	Total								Weekly	Electronic	Total
122	140	262	3842	0	3842	4231.00	-\$389.00	-\$3,683.75	110	2093	0	2093

Catholic Relief Services	135
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MASS INTENTIONS				
Day	Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
S	3/19/16	6:00 PM	Parishioners	
S	3/20/16	9:30 AM	†Lynn Hammond	Parish
M	3/21/16	8:00 AM	Harold Ellis	Joe and Carol Frame
T	3/22/16	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass
W	3/23/16	6:00 PM	†John Michael Ward	Luke and Jane White
T	3/24/16	6:00 PM	†Harry Hendricks	Family
F	3/25/16	6:00 PM	Liturgy of the Lords Passion	
S	3/26/16	8:30 AM	Catechumens and Candidates	
S	3/27/16	9:30 AM	Parishioners	
Holy Oil Presenters Holy Thursday Mass Jessi Cunningham Jenny Garton Stanley Marlow			Disciples participating in the foot washing at Holy Thursday Mass	
			From RCIA Amanda Blake Chris Cunningham Lynne Lynch Lisa Marlow	From the Confirmandi Blake Francis Matthew Linger Tyler Murray Michael Riley

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS

- ♦ Servers in the A position set the altar!
- ♦ Servers in B position ring the bells!

SPECIAL & SECOND COLLECTION:

MARCH 25: Holy Land Collection
MARCH 27: Education of Seminarians

RECONCILIATION

The sacrament of Reconciliation is offered before Mass on Wed. and Sat. from 5 - 5:45, and Sun. from 9 - 9:20.

Wednesday Rosary Leaders:

3/23 Gary Riley

Rosary begins at 5:35pm each Wednesday when Mass is celebrated, followed by the Miraculous Medal novena.

GIFT PRESENTERS

Please walk forward as a family or group when presenting the offertory, not in a single line! Walk at a normal pace. You do not have to wait for Fr. Steve to come forward, when the last collection basket has been emptied into the bowl, begin walking forward!

Ministry Schedules

DAY	DATE TIME	Greeters	Altar Servers		Readers		Gifts	Eucharistic Ministers		Cantor
SAT	3/19 6 PM	Rose Neal, Spring Franklin & Briana	A	Madison Hall	1	Mary Hendricks	Hall Family	1	Rock Garton	John Collins
			B	Kami Franklin	2	GL Shearer		2	Barbara King	
								3	Tom Ruppert	
SUN	3/20 9:30	Maddie and Emily Paugh, Meagan Walker and Anna Naim	A	Ethan Mehr	1	Michael Riley	PALM SUNDAY KIDS MASS	1	Mitchell Queen	Joe Derico
			B	Dylan O'Sullivan	2	Tyler Murray		2	Brooklyn Queen	
								3	Tyler Mehr	
Thu	3/24 6 PM	Karen and Deanna Pascasio	A	Madison Hall	1	Sandy Mick	Catechumens and Candidates	1	Jeremy Garton	
			B	Jayna Jerden	2	Joe Jerden		2	Jenny Garton	
								3	Mary Hendricks	
Fri	3/25 6 PM	Enter church quietly!	A	Patrick Mehr	1	Danielle Mick	N/A	1	Tyler Mehr	
			B	Ethan Mehr	2	Jim Mehr				
SAT	3/26 8:30	EASTER VIGIL, Enter Church Quietly	A	Hunter Blake	1	Jenny Garton	Catechumens and Candidates	1	Mary Hendricks	
			B	Joseph Blake	2	Jeremy Garton		2	Sandy Mick	
					3	Judy Jerden		3	John Weber	
SUN	3/27 9:30	Butch Caine and Judy Foster	A	Joe Derico	1	Mary Jane Parker	Linger and Edwards families	1	Paul Derico	
			B	Tom Derico	2	Danielle Mick		2	Julia Marsh	
								3	Betty Hill	
SAT	4/2 6 PM	Dave and Becky King	A	Briana Franklin	1	Barbara King	Mike and Rose Neal & Kami Franklin	1	Pam Thompson	
			B	Blake Francis	2	Brooklyn Queen		2	A. L. Determan	
								3	Mike Determan	
SUN	4/3 9:30	Sheila West, Ashley West and family	A	Payton Aman	1	Manny Robinson	Chad and Megan Westfall & family	1	Jim Mehr	
			B	Jordan Aman	2	Sara Robinson		2	Marissa Aman	
								3	Judy Foster	

PLEASE DO NOT CALL, EMAIL, FACEBOOK, TEXT, etc., SANDY, MARY, FR. STEVE or THE PARISH OFFICE—IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE WHEN SCHEDULED. Please find a substitute!

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

- ◆ **Those who are sick:** Ed Hubbs, Robert Fealy, Mike Shaver, Joe Boggs, Susan Bailey, Jim Arsenault, Rose Determan, Butch Dodson, Phoebe Herron, Sara Jane Huntz, Keith Marshall, Mary Ann Murray, Linda Reed (Brenda Reed's sister), Burke Riley, Jack Rollins, Lori Saltis, Bob Swiger, Clarence and Mary Lou Weber.
- ◆ **Those who are homebound or in nursing homes!**
- ◆ **Those who have died:** May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
- ◆ **Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life**
- ◆ **Those in RCIA:** Amanda Blake, Chris Cunningham, Brad Curtis, Jenny Delgado, Michelle Droppleman, Ray Jones, Lynn Lynch, Alex Romero, Tammy Stalnaker
- ◆ **RCIC:** Olivia Bleigh, Isaac Francis, Kiarra Weaver
- ◆ **All Military Personnel:** Eddie Burroughs, Ryan Faulkner
- ◆ **Our current and past principals:** Mrs. Gildein, Mr. Derico, and Sister Eileen—Thank you for your dedication to our school!

Pope Francis, March 17, 2016

"No one can be excluded from the mercy of God. The Church is the house where everyone is welcomed and no one is rejected."

HAPPY 93rd BIRTHDAY!

Happy belated birthday Pat Karp!!! Pat celebrated his 93rd birthday on March 17. Birthday cards and well wishes can be sent to 207 Stalnaker Addition, Weston, WV.

THE "GIFT" OF RECONCILIATION!

Learn about Reconciliation with your parish family at GIFT on Sunday, March 20. After a delicious meal, Fr. Steve will discuss all aspects of reconciliation—from estranged families to the Sacrament of Penance. Let's Grow In Faith Together!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Mon., March 21 - Wed., March 23:
regular schedule

Thurs., March 24:

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 6pm, church

Adoration - 7 until midnight, chapel

Fri., March 25:

Stations of the Cross, 3, church

The Passion of the Lord, 6, church

Sat., March 26: Vigil Mass, 8:30, church

Sun., March 27: Easter Sunday Mass - 9:30, church

THE NIGHTWATCH

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Holy Thursday in the Saint Joseph Chapel. Adoration will be immediately after Mass (approx. 7p.m.) and last until midnight. Those keeping vigil come and go in silence for the sake of those who remain in prayer.

A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule.

PRINCIPAL PAID IN 2015: \$84,452.36

Interest Paid in 2015: \$12591.12

Loan Balance: \$267,577.94

I'M IN! CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Goal: 345,000.00

119 Pledges to Date: \$232,018.00

12 Other gifts: \$1215.00

Total: \$233,233.00

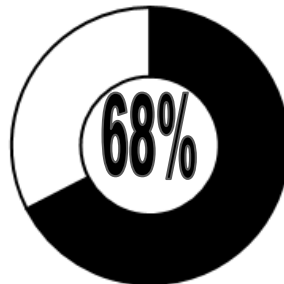
Needed: \$111,767

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

It's not too late to participate! You can make a one-time gift or pledge for any number of months, make a one time gift or give when you have a little extra. Whatever works best for your situation.

"For it is in giving that we receive."

— Francis of Assisi



NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

March – Laundry Supplies

LCFRN—Canned stew and meats

Linens - Kathy Boyle

Funeral Greeters - George Garton and Judy Foster

Stations of the Cross

Wed., March 23, 2pm, church

Fri., March 25, 3pm

Adoration

Holy Thursday (March 24)

7 - midnight, pmr

Bell Choir Practice: Sunday's following

After Mass Class or GIFT;

each Wednesday after 6pm Mass

19 & 20: Palm Sunday, bring your old palms to church and get new ones

20 Sun: 10:30, GIFT, cafeteria

24 - 29: No School

25 & 28: Parish Office Closed

24 Holy Thursday: 6pm, Mass, church

24 Holy Thursday: 7 - midnight, Adoration, chapel

25 Good Friday: NO MASS

25 Good Friday: 3pm, Stations of the Cross

25 Good Friday: 6pm, The Passion of our Lord

26 Sat: 8:30pm, Easter Vigil

27 Easter Sunday: 9:30, Mass, church

30 Wed: 6pm, Mass at St. Bernard

Church, Loveberry

31 Thu: 6:30, PTO mtg., cafeteria

April – Bath Soap

LCFRN—Canned stew and meats

Linens - Mary Wagoner

Funeral Greeters - George Garton and Judy Foster

After Mass Class -

Sat. 7pm & Sun. 10:30am, church

Bell Choir Practice: Sunday's following

After Mass Class or GIFT; each

Wednesday after 6pm Mass

5 Tue: 7:35 Knights of Columbus mtg., pmr

7 Thu: 6pm, Finance Council mtg., pmr

11 Mon: 7pm, CDA mtg., cafeteria

9 Sat: 5:30 Elimination Dinner, gym

17 Sun: Bishops Cross Dinner, Morgantown

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA - Tues., Thurs., & Sat., 8pm school basement.

Narcotics Anonymous

NA - Mon., 8pm school basement
Use the door on the side of the school building facing the rectory for AA and NA meetings.

ACCEPTING SCHOOL ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2016-2017

St Patrick School is accepting applications for Kindergarten-7th grade for 2016-2017 school year. You may access paperwork in the school office or on the school website at www.stpatswv.org.

TEACHERS NEEDED

St Patrick School is accepting applications for teaching positions for 2016-2017 school year. You may stop by the school office or call 269-5547

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The 6th grade class will present the Stations of the Cross on Wed., March 23 t 2 in the church.
EVERYONE is invited!

MAKE LIFELONG FRIENDS AT SUMMER CAMP

Two awesome camps to choose from!

Zip-line, swimming, horses, canoeing, a rock wall, arts and crafts, archery, fishing, camping and hiking for older ages, learning about nature and much more. Both camps are for Catholics and non-Catholics and both teach about the Catholic faith.

**Weston Vicariate C.A.M.P.
(Catholic Awareness Mid-summer Program)
Merciful Like the Father
July 31 - August 6!**

COST: \$200

**Families with more than one child attending will pay
\$100 for each additional child.**

THIS IS THE CAMP THAT SANDY ATTENDS!

**Registration forms are in the vestibule and church
office. Spots are filled on a first come, first serve basis!
REGISTER TODAY!**

Held at Camp Bosco in Huttonsville.

**Camp Bosco
Huttonsville
July 3-9, 10-16, 17-23, or 24-30**

This camp is open to students in grades 3rd-12th.
Cost is \$315.00 per child.

Register online at: www.campbosco.com.

Any questions, e-mail hbise@dwc.org or call 1-888-434-6237, ext. 311.

PRIESTLY UPDATES

As was announced at both Masses last weekend, Fr. Steve is being transferred to St. Mary Margaret in Parkersburg on June 15. Our new priest will be Fr. James DeViese from Oakhill, West Virginia. He is 32 and was ordained in 2009 (the year Fr. Steve came to St. Pat's) and was vested at his ordination by Fr. McSweeney. Fr. McSweeney is retiring in June and will be replaced by Fr. Joe Peterson, the priest Fr. Steve is replacing in Parkersburg.

Please prayer for vocations to the priesthood.

SCHOOL MASS COLLECTION

March 18 - \$94.95

Collections will be used to support the backpack food program.

RINGING FOR MERCY

The bell choir is taking orders for a cd made of their Year of Mercy Concert. Please see the order form in this bulletin.

REFRIGERTOR NEEDED BY TUESDAY

The Catholic Daughters are in need of a refrigerator to replace the one they have in the school kitchen. If you have one in very good condition please contact Kathy Boyle at 304 269-7957 or Lisa Marlow at 304 269-5777.

IT IS PALM SUNDAY

Exchange your old palms for brand new ones!

This weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Please bring your old palms to Mass and place them in the appropriate box. Mass will begin on the front steps. We will process into the church for the continuation of Mass.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual parish dinner. A very special thank you to Lisa Marlow for organizing the dinner and Joe Derico for singing for us!

SCRIP

Don't forget, some scrip cards are available at any time. So if you find yourself in need of last minute gift, call the parish office to see what is available! Scrip makes the perfect gift!

ELIMINATION DINNER

Saturday, April 9

Social hour 5:30

Dinner: 6:30

Drawing: 7pm

Meal provided by JAWS BBQ

\$25

Adults only

Tickets are available at the school and parish office.

BENEFACOR(S) NEEDED

Would you like to make a generous donation to pay for mileage and gas for Sr. Mary Irene, when she travels to our parish for Spiritual Direction? Please contact the parish office to find out more.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the condolences on the passing of my father J. R. Rowan on Feb. 19. Your kindness has helped me to cope during this difficult time. Even though my dad had a bad heart for over 30 years, he had overcome every obstacle that he was given, open heart surgery, heart attacks, a ruptured appendix, 4 defibrillators, staph infection and removal of wires and devices to clear the infection. Sounds crazy I know but I had never faced that someday there would be something he couldn't beat. Your kindness has helped more than you can ever know! Thank you for your love and concern. My St. Pat's family ROCKS!!!

Exploring our Irish Roots

THE BEST OF IRELAND

11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 12—22, 2016

Visiting

Dublin * Waterford * Blarney Castle * Killarney *
Galway * Ring of Kerry * Connemara * Knock * Hills of Donegal

\$2759 from Washington, D. C.

(Air/land tour price is only \$2419 plus \$336 government taxes/airline imposed surcharges)

Brochures are in the church vestibule and the parish office!

2016-2017 DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE PROCESS IS OPEN

For the 25th consecutive year, the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) is striving to keep Catholic school education affordable for Catholic families who desire it for their children but may need some financial assistance to make that dream a reality. Thanks to the ongoing and genuine commitment of Bishop Michael J. Bransfield to the Catholic schools in our Diocese, funds have, once again, been allocated for distribution to Catholic families in need of financial assistance.

Applying for TAP through FACTS is easy and affordable. You are encouraged to apply if your child is already enrolled or has been accepted by one of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston for the 2016-2017 school year.

Who is eligible? Any Catholic student accepted for the 2016-2017 school year in any Diocesan Catholic school (PK thru grade 12) and who belong to a parish included on the drop-down list on the application is eligible. Determinations are based upon a family's degree of need relative to all other applicants.

How do I apply? You may apply on-line. Go to www.factsmgt.com and log in.

Cost? The application fee is \$25. The Diocese will pay \$12.50 and families pay the other \$12.50.

Grants: Diocesan grants for families who have completed their applications and show financial need will receive up to 50% of the child's tuition.

Phase I: **Deadline is April 30, 2016**

In order to receive notification in late May, applications (including all required documentation and payment of the fee) are to be received by FACTS by April 30, 2016. Phase I is intended for families with children currently enrolled or already accepted for the 2016-2017 school year in any Diocesan Catholic school.

Phase II: **Deadline is August 15, 2016**

In order to receive notification in late August, all applications for 2016-2017 (including all required documentation and payment of the fee) **MUST** be RECEIVED by FACTS no later than August 15, 2016. This is a firm deadline. Phase II is intended for families new to the school or who have had a life-changing event (birth, death, loss of job) occur. If an application was submitted during Phase I, please contact the school.

Note 1: No assistance will be available from the Diocese or from any school unless: an application is completed in full (ALL questions answered) and submitted, all required documentation is provided, AND the family portion (\$12.50) of the application fee is paid by the deadline.

Note 2: ONLY ONE APPLICATION PER FAMILY should be submitted per school year. If you made an error or had a life event change, please do NOT submit a second application. Contact your principal and your application can be updated by FACTS.

Questions? If you have questions, please contact the principal of your school.

SAINT OF THE WEEK St. Nicholas Owen Feast day: March 22 Death: 1606

Nicholas, familiarly known as "Little John," was small in stature but big in the esteem of his fellow Jesuits.

Born at Oxford, this humble artisan saved the lives of many priests and laypersons in England during the penal times (1559-1829), when a series of statutes punished Catholics for the practice of their faith. Over a period of about 20 years he used his skills to build secret hiding places for priests throughout the country. His work, which he did completely by himself as both architect and builder, was so good that time and time again priests in hiding were undetected by raiding parties. He was a genius at finding, and creating, places of safety: subterranean passages, small spaces between walls, impenetrable recesses. At one point he was even able to mastermind the escape of two Jesuits from the Tower of London. Whenever Nicholas set out to design such hiding places, he began by receiving the Holy Eucharist, and he would turn to God in prayer throughout the long, dangerous construction process.

After many years at his unusual task, he entered the Society of Jesus and served as a lay brother, although—for very good reasons—his connection with the Jesuits was kept secret.

After a number of narrow escapes, he himself was finally caught in 1594. Despite protracted torture, he refused to disclose the names of other Catholics. After being released following the payment of a ransom, "Little John" went back to his work. He was arrested again in 1606. This time he was subjected to horrible tortures, suffering an agonizing death. The jailers tried suggesting that he had confessed and committed suicide, but his heroism and sufferings soon were widely known.

He was canonized in 1970 as one of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales.

Dear Padre

March 20, 2016

Did Jesus have to die in such a terrible manner?

Why did Jesus have to die such a horrible death? Wasn't there an easier way to redeem us?

Every Good Friday

we are brought face to face with the crucifixion. Many of us have seen violent and bloody depictions of Christ's death and found them difficult to watch. Since we serve an all-good, all-loving God, how could he allow this to happen to his Son? Couldn't God have forgiven us without the sacrifice?

God is indeed a God of mercy, but we often forget that he is also a God of justice. He can certainly forgive all our sins, but in the process he cannot (will not) deny the righteousness of justice. We all yearn for justice. We want to see good rewarded and evil punished. So God is very good, and the fact is, our sins are also very bad. We deserve punishment, even death, for denying God and for hurting others. If God were to condemn me, it would not be unfair. I would be getting exactly what my sins deserve. I am happy to say that is not where the story ends! Jesus came to take our just punishment so that we could receive mercy and justice in their fullness. Jesus reveals to us a God who is just, merciful, and ready to suffer because he loved sinners. Praise his name forever!

Monday

MARCH 21
Holy Week
Is 42:1-7
Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

MARCH 22
Holy Week
Is 49:1-6
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

MARCH 23
Holy Week
Is 50:4-9a
Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

MARCH 24
Holy Thursday
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
1 Cor 11:23-26
Jn 13:1-15

Friday

MARCH 25
Good Friday
Is 52:13-53:12
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

MARCH 26
Holy Saturday
Gn 1:1-2:2
or 1:1, 26-31a
Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Ex 14:15-15:1
Is 54:5-14
Is 55:1-11
Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28
Rom 6:3-11
Lk 24:1-12

Sunday

MARCH 27
Easter
Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8
Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

FR. MATTHEW BONK, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

ITEMS WE COLLECT TO HELP OTHERS

St. Pat's has many easy ways that every parishioner can help those in need. The following items are collected at all times.

- Box tops, Campbell's Soup labels, and Coke reward points for the school.
- Used ink cartridges and can tabs for Ronald McDonald House.
- Old towels, sheets, and blankets for animal rescues and vet offices.

LATIN MASS

Latin Mass is held at St. Patrick Church on the second Sunday of each month at 4pm. The celebrant is Fr. Timothy Grassi. Fr Grassi will also hear confessions beginning at 3:15pm.

SEE A NEW FACE, INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Have you ever gone to an event and you don't know anyone? Of course you have, everyone has at one time or another. How did you feel? While some people are absolutely fine in these situations, the majority of people are not. The same is true when going to a church other than your own. We are family at St. Pat's. so if you see someone new in church or a face you don't recognize, say hello, introduce yourself and welcome them to St. Pat's. Make their visit a pleasant one and one they will remember and share with others.

EASTER TRIDUUM

All of the Church's great feasts begin at dusk. While Triduum may seem like a four-day event, it's really three.

- Day 1 - Thursday evening to Friday evening
- Day 2 - Friday evening to Saturday evening
- Day 3 - Saturday evening to Sunday evening

The Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. The Mystery of Faith

By Deacon Keith Fournier
3/31/2010 (5 years ago)
Catholic Online (www.catholic.org)

"Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance. Gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy" (Catechism of the Catholic Church) .

CHESAPEAKE, VA (Catholic Online) - The Easter Triduum begins with the Vigil of Holy Thursday. It marks the end of the forty days of Lent and the beginning of the three-day celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday. The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council reminded us of the extraordinary significance of the Triduum : "Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through his paschal mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter Triduum of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, # 18)

These last Forty Days were a time of preparation for these great Three days, which is what Triduum means. These three days lead us to an empty tomb and an Octave, eight days, of celebrating the Resurrection. They also introduce an entire liturgical season, the Easter Season, which lasts for Fifty days until Pentecost.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church instructs us: "Beginning with the Easter Triduum as its source of light, the new age of the Resurrection fills the whole liturgical year with its brilliance. Gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy. It really is a "year of the Lord's favor." The economy of salvation is at work within the framework of time, but since its fulfillment in the Passover of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the culmination of history is anticipated "as a foretaste," and the kingdom of God enters into our time.

"Therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the "Feast of feasts," the "Solemnity of solemnities," just as the Eucharist is the "Sacrament of sacraments" (the Great Sacrament). St. Athanasius calls Easter "the Great Sunday" and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week "the Great Week." The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him." (CCC #1168, 1169)

There is no better book to assist Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and lay men and women charged with the task of preparing truly good liturgies in the Modern Roman Rite than Monsignor Peter J. Elliott's "Ceremonies of the Liturgical Year." Monsignor Elliott writes in his Introduction: "Christians understand time in a different way from other people because of the Liturgical Year. We are drawn into a cycle that can become such a part of our lives that it determines how we understand the structure of each passing year. In the mind of the Christian, each passing year takes shape, not so much around the cycle of natural seasons, the financial or sporting year or academic semesters, but around the feasts, fasts and seasons of the Catholic Church. Without thinking much about it, from early childhood, we gradually learn to see time itself, past, present and future, in a new way. All of the great moments of the Liturgical Year look back to the salvific events of Jesus Christ, the Lord of History.

The Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. The Mystery of Faith, continued

"Those events are made present here and now as offers of grace. This week is Holy not only because of what we remember but because of what it can accomplish within each one of us as we give our voluntary "Yes" to its' invitation. To put it another way, in Christ time takes on a sacramental dimension. The Liturgical Year bears this sacramental quality of memorial, actuation and prophecy.

Time becomes a re-enactment of Christ's saving events, His being born in our flesh, His dying and rising for us in that human flesh. Time thus becomes a pressing sign of salvation, the "day of the Lord", His ever present "hour of salvation", the kairos. Time on earth then becomes our pilgrimage through and beyond death toward the future Kingdom. The Liturgical Year is best understood both in its origins and current form in the way we experience time: in the light of the past, present and future.

"The Liturgical Year thus suggests the sovereignty of the grace of Christ. We say that we "follow" or "observe" the Liturgical Year, but this Year of Grace also carries us along. Once we enter it faithfully we must allow it to determine the shape of our daily lives. It sets up a series of "appointments" with the Lord. We know there are set days, moments, occasions when He expects us. Within this framework of obligation, duty and covenant, we are part of something greater than ourselves.

"We can detect a sense of being sustained or borne forward by the power and pace of a sacred cycle that is beyond our control. It will run its course whether we like it or not. This should give us an awareness of the divine dimension of the Liturgical Year as an expression the power and authority of Jesus who is the Lord of History. As the blessing of the Paschal Candle recalls: "...all time belongs to Him and all the ages". The sacred cycle thus becomes a sacrament of God's time. Salvation history is among us here and now... "my time" rests in God's hands (and) is a call to trust, to faith, to letting go of self."

The real question is not whether we will mark time but how we will do so? For the Christian time is not meant to be a tyrant ruling over us with impunity. Rather, it is a teacher, inviting and instructing us to choose to enter more fully into our relationship with the Lord and in Him with one another for the world. Time is not our enemy, but our friend. It is a part of the redemptive loving plan of a timeless God who, in His Son, the Timeless One, came into time to transform it from within.

The Lord gives us time as a gift and intends it to become a field of choice and a path to holiness in this life and the window into life eternal. Through time the Lord offers us the privilege of discovering His plan for our own life pilgrimage. Through time He invites us to participate in His ongoing redemptive plan, through His Son Jesus Christ who has been raised, by living in the full communion of His Church which is the seed of the kingdom. That redemptive plan will find its final fulfillment in the recreation of the entire cosmos in Christ. Time is the road along which this loving plan of redemption and re-creation proceeds.

At the very epicenter of our Liturgical Calendar is the great Three days we celebrate, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Resurrection of the Lord, the Sacred Triduum. Good Liturgy is not simply a re-enactment of something that happened over 2000 years ago but an actual participation in the events themselves through living faith. These events are outside of time and made present in our Liturgical celebrations and in our reception of the Sacraments. Just as every Mass/Divine Liturgy is an invitation to enter into the sacrifice of Calvary which occurred once and for all.

We will soon attend the Last Supper and receive the gift of the Holy Eucharist, the Body, Blood Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. We will enter into the deep meaning of the Holy Priesthood. We will be invited to pour ourselves out like the water in the basins used to wash feet on Holy Thursday. We will be asked with the disciples in the Gospel accounts we will hear proclaimed to watch with the Lord. We will be invited to enter with Him into his anguish by imitating His Holy surrender in his Sacred Humanity in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Through the stark and solemn Liturgy of the Friday we call "Good", we will stand at the Altar of the Cross where heaven is rejoined to earth and earth to heaven, along with the Mother of the Lord. We will enter into the moment that forever changed - and still changes - all human History, the great self gift of the Son of God who did for us what we could never do for ourselves by in the words of the ancient Exultet, "trampling on death by death". We will wait at the tomb and witness the Glory of the Resurrection and the beginning of the New Creation. The Liturgical year in the words of Monsignor Peter Elliott "... transforms our time into a sacrament of eternity." Let us enter fully into the Sacred Triduum Liturgies. The Great Three Days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Invite Us into Heart of the Mystery of Faith. Let it Begin!

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