

**We Are Family!**

**Most Holy Trinity, May 22, 2016 2016**

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

# St. Patrick Church

**Website: [www.spchurchweston.net](http://www.spchurchweston.net)**

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

**Church Office Hours:**  
**Mon. – Fri. 9am – 4pm**

**Pastoral Associate:** Mary Mazza Hendricks  
(304) 269-1244  
[Mash111@aol.com](mailto:Mash111@aol.com)  
**Parish Office Manager:** Sandra R. Mick  
(304) 269-3048  
[spchurchweston@gmail.com](mailto:spchurchweston@gmail.com)

**Mass Schedule:**

Monday: 8am (St. Joseph Chapel)  
Tuesday: NO MASS  
Wednesday: 6pm (church)  
Thursday: 8am (St. Joseph Chapel)  
Friday: 8:15am (church)  
Saturday: 6pm (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  
**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 Anointing of the Sick.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):**  
Wed, 6:30 in the parish meeting room.  
**RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children):** See schedule inside.

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

**Rosary:** Weekly: Wed 5:35pm & Thurs: 7:35am  
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

**St. Patrick School**  
**"An Excellent Beginning"**

Pre-School – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (2016-17)  
224 Center Ave., Weston, WV 26452  
304-269-5547

**Principal:** Maureen Gildein  
**Secretary:** Regina Frazier  
email: [st.pats@stpatswv.org](mailto:st.pats@stpatswv.org)  
website: [stpatswv.org](http://stpatswv.org)

## Up Front *with Mary Hendricks*

Once, when I was praying with a group of Christians, a lady said, "Why do you Catholics wave your hand around your head? Are you swatting flies?" No, I'm making the sign of the cross.

Did you make the sign of the cross with holy water when you entered the church? Maybe you made the sign of the cross while you genuflected before going into your pew today. Or maybe you made the sign of the cross when you knelt down to pray. Did you make the little sign of the cross on your forehead, lips, and heart before you heard the Gospel proclaimed today. Did you make the sign of the cross after you received communion? You will make the sign of the cross when Father blesses you at the end of Mass.

If you were keeping count, that's six times you may have made the sign of the cross. Did you think about what you were doing? When you said, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," you were professing your belief in the Holy Trinity, the feast day we celebrate this Sunday. It's a simple gesture that we do thousands of times, but it has deep meaning and significance.

From Church history, we know that early Christians being baptized were signed with the cross and claimed for Christ. St. Francis de Sales wrote that early Christians used the sign of the cross as "a public profession of their Christianity or as a confession of it either in public or in private. For when the persecutions were widespread and severe, the Christians...recognized one another by this sign when they crossed themselves."

Blessed Maria Restituta Kafka was the only nun condemned to death in Nazi Germany. She had refused to take down the crucifixes she had placed on the walls of the hospital where she worked. She knew if she did so, it would be a betrayal of everything she believed and stood for. Blessed Maria Restituta understood the power and significance of the sign of the cross. Before her execution, she asked the prison chaplain to make the sign of the cross on her forehead. At her beatification on June 21, 1998, St John Paul II stated, "Many things can be taken from us Christians, but the Cross as a sign of salvation will not be taken from us."

I've seen basketball players make the sign of the cross before shooting a foul shot. My mother used to make the sign of the cross after saying a not-so-nice comment, adding, "God, forgive me." It's used by Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, and Presbyterians. The sign is a statement of knowledge that One greater than we exists.

Bert Ghezzi says, "The sign of the cross is: a confession of faith, a renewal of baptism, a mark of discipleship, an acceptance of suffering, a defense against the devil, and a victory over self-indulgence." Ghezzi, who wrote a book on the topic, adds, "The sign of the cross has enormous power as a sacramental; it does not cause the spiritual thing it signifies but draws on the prayer of the Church to affect us in our lives. The sign of the cross is the supreme sacramental."

The next time we make the sign of the cross, let's think about it's significance, especially today. We are saying that anything we do after that, we do in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!



### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

**Learn the "Titles of Mary" at GIFT today, March 22. St. Pat's students in kindergarten through second grade will explain who the Mother of God is through her many titles: Mother of God, Our Lady of Fatima, and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Knights of Columbus are preparing breakfast before the session. Let's eat and learn together in the cafeteria at 10:30am!**

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
111	199	310	4,586.00	70	4,656.00	4231.00	\$425.00	-\$6,206.81	70	893	0	893

### DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Join us each Friday at 11:30am in the church for the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Pamphlets are in the vestibule.

### Mass Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Intention	Requested By
S	5/21/16	6:00 PM	Parishioners	
S	5/22/16	9:30 AM	†Lynn Hammond	Family
M	5/23/16	8:00 AM	†Robert Stark	Family
T	5/24/16	No Mass	No Mass	No Mass
W	5/25/16	6:00 PM	Julie Garton	Jeremy and Jenny Garton
T	5/26/16	8:00 AM	†Gene Faris	Neighbors
F	5/27/16	8:15 AM	Staff and Students of St. Patrick School	
S	5/28/16	6:00 PM	Parishioners	
S	5/29/16	9:30 AM	†Charles Garton	Deborah Garton

### PRAYER GROUPS Please join us!

Tues., 11 am - Scripture study of the Mass readings, Tierney house, 2319 Gee Lick Rd

Tues., 1pm - Scripture study of the Mass readings, Parish Meeting Room

Thurs., 6pm - Scripture Study and prayer service, Criss Manor

### Rosary Leaders for weekends and Wednesdays in May.

The Rosary will be prayed 30 minutes prior to every weekend Mass in May and 25 minutes prior to Wed. Mass.

5/21/2016	Valerie Corley
5/22/2016	Brooklyn Queen
5/25/2016	Micki Snyder
5/28/2016	Daniel Pascasio
5/29/2016	Micki Snyder

### Ministry Schedules

DAY	DATE TIME	Greeters	Altar Servers		Readers		Gifts	Eucharistic Ministers		Cantor
SAT	5/21 6 PM	T. J. and Mindy Hall	A	Zoe Skinner	1	GL Shearer	Kelley Skinner and family	1	John Weber	Brenda Reed
			B	Garrett Skinner	2	Teresa Angotti		2	Micki Snyder	
								3	Pam Thompson	
SUN	5/22 9:30	M. and E. Paugh, M. Walker and A. Naim	A	Kami Franklin	1	Katie Clem	Kids	1	Mitchell Queen	Kids
			B	Jolee Snyder	2	Moragn Turner		2	Brooklyn Queen	
								3	Tyler Mehr	
SAT	5/28 6 PM	Lynne and Allia Shaver	A	Drew Bailey	1	Nancy Law	Gary and Donna Lake	1	Luanne Bowers	Donna Lake
			B	Lucas Mullooly	2	Daniel Pascasio		2	Larry Bowers	
								3	Rock Garton	
SUN	5/29 9:30	Butch Cain and Judy Foster	A	M. Empoules	1	Judy Jerden	Brannon Garton and family	1	Betty Hill	Lisa Marlow
			B	Lily Davis	2	Sandy Mick		2	Marissa Aman	
								3	Paul Derico	
SAT	6/4 6 PM	Ed and Anita Droppleman	A	Ian Droppleman	1	Deanna Pascasio	Blake family	1	Valerie Corley	Gracie Marsh
			B	Hunter Blake	2	Rudy Pascasio		2	John Weber	
								3	Margaret Blake	
SUN	6/5 9:30	Sheila West, Ashley West and family	A	Christian Mullins	1	Mary Jane Parker	Mullins family	1	Steve Corley	Kelley Skinner
			B	Jacqueline Mullins	2	Brenda Riley		2	Jeremy Garton	
								3	Jenny Garton	
	2 PM	Families of Confirmandi	A		1	Confirmandi	Confirmandi	1		Joe Derico
			B		2	Confirmandi		2		
								3		
SAT	6/11 6 PM	Junior and Veronica Brumley	A	Briana Franklin	1	Theresa Francis	Tom and Margaret Blake	1	Pam Thompson	Bob Thompson
			B	Blake Francis	2	Barbara King		2	John Weber	
								3	Micki Snyder	
SUN	6/12 9:30	Children's Mass	A	Dylan O'Sullivan	1	Tyler Murray	Children's Mass	1	Mitchell Queen	Gracie Marsh
			B	Joe Derico	2	Erin Turner		2	Tyler Mehr	
								3	Brooklyn Queen	
SAT	6/18 6 PM	John and Nancy Riley	A	Hunter Blake	1	Mitchell Queen	T. J. and Mindy Hall & family	1	Mike Determan	Rudy Pascasio
			B	Joseph Blake	2	Jim Myers		2	A. L. Determan	
								3	Mary Hendricks	
SUN	6/19 9:30	Fred and Michele Turner & family	A	Tom Derico	1	Jenny Garton	Butch Cain and Judy Foster	1	Jim Mehr	Joe Derico
			B	Jacob Aman	2	Jeremy Garton		2	Danielle Mick	
								3	Sandy Mick	

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:** Emma Pascasio (UHC), Jane Taylor (SJM), Betty Reed (Davis Memorial), Carol Taylor (Josh Garton's mother-in-law), Alyvia Lynn Hammond (Patty Moody's great-granddaughter), Jim Arsenault, Susan Bailey, Joe Boggs, Rose Determan, Robert Fealy, Ed Hubbs, Sarah Jane Huntz, Keith Marshall, Shirley Mason, Mary Ann Murray, Jane Myers, Burke Riley, Jack Rollins, Tom Ruppert, Lori Saltis, Mike Shaver, and Clarence 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:** Brad Curtis, Jenny Delgado, Michelle Droppleman, Tammy Stalnaker
- ◆ **All Military Personnel:** Ryan Faulkner

## Pope Francis, May 19, 2016

"Loving and forgiving are tangible and visible signs that faith has transformed our hearts."



### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations on your upcoming graduation: Allison Atchison, Connor Avington, Ian Fealy and Hannah Linger.

### A GRADUATE'S PRAYER

Father, I have knowledge,  
so will You show me now,  
How to use it wisely  
and find a way somehow  
to make the world I live in  
a little better place,  
And make life with its problems  
a little bit easier to face.

Grant me faith and courage  
and put purpose in my days,  
And show me how to serve Thee  
in effective ways.

So my education,  
my knowledge and my skill  
May find their true fulfillment  
as I learn to do Thy will.

And may I ever be aware  
in everything I do,  
That knowledge comes from learning,  
and wisdom comes from You. Amen.

## WELCOME TO THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY BRODY DONALDSON!

Brody Hunter Donaldson was baptized on Sun., May 15. He is the son of Wesley and Rebecca (Stewart) Donaldson!

### MAY PROCESSION

Joins us at the back entrance to the school this Sunday, May 22 for our annual May procession. The procession will be led by the First Communicants. The May queen this year is Lily Gregory and the crown Bearer is Lucas Clem.

Flowers will be provided if you need them.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

There will be a meeting before, during or after preparing the GIFT meal on Sunday, May 22 to discuss important issues before our June 7 meeting! We need to hear from you!

## NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

### May – Dish Soap

LCFRN— Cereal (hot or cold)

Linens -

Funeral Greeters - Shirley Hubbs and Jim Bohan

Adoration: May 27

9am til noon, church

Bell Choir Practice: Sundays after Mass or after GIFT; each Wednesday after 6pm Mass

22 Sun: May Procession and honoring high school graduates at 9:30am Mass  
22 Sun: GIFT, 10:30am, cafeteria

26 Thu: School picnic

27 Fri: Last day of school

29 Sun: Parish Picnic, noon, Lewis County Park, volunteers needed

30 Mon: 9:30, Mass at St. Bridget Church, Goosepen



### June – Dish Towels

LCFRN— Jams and Jellies

Linens - Melissa Allison

Funeral Greeters - Shirley Hubbs and Jim Bohan

Adoration: June 3, 10, 17, 24

9am til noon, church

3 Fri: 8am, Mass time changes while school is not in session

4 Sat: 11am, Priesthood Ordination, Wheeling

5 Sun: 2pm, Confirmation

5 Sun: 3pm, Confirmation reception, cafeteria

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

20 -24: Vacation Bible School, cafeteria

## I'M IN! CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Goal: 345,000.00

124 Pledges to Date: \$246,018.00

17 Other gifts: \$1385.00

Total: \$247,403.00

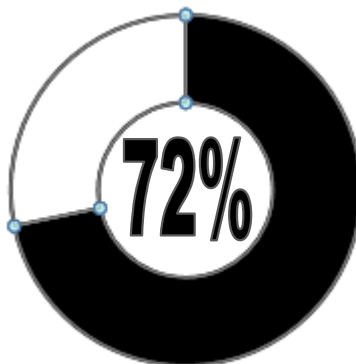
Needed: \$97,597

### 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 cash, whatever works best for your situation.

"For it is in giving that we receive."

— Francis of Assisi



## MASS AT ST. BRIDGET CHURCH

We will have our annual Memorial Day Mass at St. Bridget Church in Goospen on Mon., May 30 at 9:30. Everyone is invited!

### 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.

## SAYING FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO FATHER STEVE

**When:** Sun., May 29

**Where:** Lewis County Park, big pavilion

**Time:** Noon

Our going away celebration for Fr. Steve will be combined with our annual parish picnic. This is the only time we can do it because June 5 is Confirmation and on June 12 he moves to Parkersburg. The picnic is a covered dish event with hamburgers and hotdogs provided by the parish. Since it is Memorial Day Weekend, please let us know if you plan to attend. We don't want to buy food for 100 and only have 50 people attend.

We need volunteers to help with organizing games, set up, clean up, and anything else that might need taken care. We will be there to assist, but we need our wonderful parishioners to get the ball rolling! Call the parish office to volunteer, 304 269-3048.

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns will be provided by the parish.

### ACCEPTING SCHOOL ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2016-2017 & 2017-2018

St Patrick School is accepting applications for Pre-School -7th grade for 2016-2017 school year and Pre-School through 8th grade 2017-2018 school year. You may access paperwork in the school office or on the school website at [www.stpatswv.org](http://www.stpatswv.org).

Not all grades have openings for the upcoming school year, but most do!

### CALLING ALL TEACHERS

St Patrick School is accepting applications for teaching positions for 2016-2017 school year for the following positions, 7th grade Math and English and Spanish and Latin. You may stop by the school office or call 304-269-5547.

### BENEFACTOR(S) NEEDED

Would you like to make a donation to pay for mileage and gas for Sr. Mary Irene, when she travels to our parish for Spiritual Direction? This month we split the cost with Holy Rosary so it only 55.13 for our half. Make check payable to: WV Institute for Spirituality. Any amount is welcome. Please contact the parish office to find out more.

### RCIC, GOING ON NOW

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC) is ON! If you are over the age of 7 and under 18, are unbaptized, and want to know more, tell your parents to call 304-269-3048.

RCIC sessions are held in the parish meeting room, unless otherwise noted. (Interested adults can join RCIA any time on any Wednesday, 6:30pm in the parish meeting room!)

Sessions are:  
May 22,  
10:30am (GIFT, cafeteria)  
June 1, 6:30pm  
June 12,  
10:30am  
July 6, 6:30pm  
July 17, 10:30am

### GIFT

Learn the "Titles of Mary" at GIFT next weekend. St. Pat's students in kindergarten through second grade will explain who the Mary is through some of her many titles: Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Mother of God.

GIFT or Growing In Faith Together, is our multi-generational faith formation program for EVERYONE in the parish.

Each session begins with a delicious meal. The meal for this session will be provided by The Knights of Columbus!

### TOUCHING SAFETY

Our spring Touching Safety session will be held at 12:15 on Sun., May 22 in the cafeteria. This session is for all students who DO NOT attend Catholic school. If you wish for your child to not participate, opt-out forms are available. Call Mary Hendricks at 304 269-1244 for more info!

### CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CONFIRMATION LITURGY

The Adult Choir will be singing for the Confirmation service on Sunday, June 5, at 2:00 PM. In preparation for this sacramental event, the choir will have a one time practice on Saturday, May 21, following the evening mass. Please join us for the practice and the mass so we can demonstrate our Catholic faith and show our support to the young people from the parish.

### BELL CONCERT CDs ON SALE NOW!

Half of the initial order of the St. Patrick Bell Ensemble's concert CDs has been sold. Get yours now! CDs are available before and after the weekend Masses or by contacting Jim Weber at 304-269-4307 or by seeing John Collins or Marilyn Bean for your copy. The price of the CD is \$12 per disc. The Year of Mercy Concert CD includes Fr. Steve's inspirational words about God's mercy as we mark a special opportunity for grace.

### MEAL PROVIDERS NEEDED FOR RCIA NEEDED

If you would like to provide an RCIA meal, a sign-up sheet is in the vestibule or you may call Danielle at 304 517-0269. You do not have to cook to provide the meal— take-out is always an option! We need enough food for 12 - 14 people. Thank you for your generosity and kindness!

#### RCIA MEAL PROVIDERS

5/25	Judy Jerden
6/01	Call to volunteer!

### SCHOOL MASS COLLECTIONS

May - 13 \$101

Collections will be to used to support the backpack food program.

Please remember that we collect supplies for this program over the summer to be ready for the new school year.

All items must be individually wrapped. Crackers, Soup, Pasta, Pudding, gelatin, Breakfast bars, Cereal, Oatmeal, Applesauce (canned fruits), Juice.

### ADORATION

We offer adoration of the Blessed Sacrament EVERY Friday from 9 til noon. Don't let your prayer life go on summer vacation! We are in need of a person or persons for adoration from 10:30 - 11 each Friday! If you can help, please call and let Sandy know, 304 269-3048. THANK YOU!

**Get Your Tickets Now for Msgr. McSweeney's  
Retirement Party  
"A Hundred Thousand Thanks"**

St. Michael Parish located in Wheeling, WV will honor our dear pastor with a retirement dinner at the Angelus Center at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 31st, 2016. All donations for this special occasion will go towards the parish CONNECTIONS Campaign, which will help with maintenance, repairs and necessary upgrades to parish properties.

Tickets are available now in the parish office for the McSweeney Retirement Dinner! Tickets are **FREE**, but donations are accepted. Please make plans to attend this special event—let's show our love and gratitude to Father for his 44 years of service to the Church!

The Parish Office contact number is (304)242-1560. Please ask for Courtney, the secretary for tickets. Tickets can be mailed.

**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.

Registration forms are in the vestibule and church office.

Spots are filled on a first come, first serve basis!

**REGISTER TODAY!**

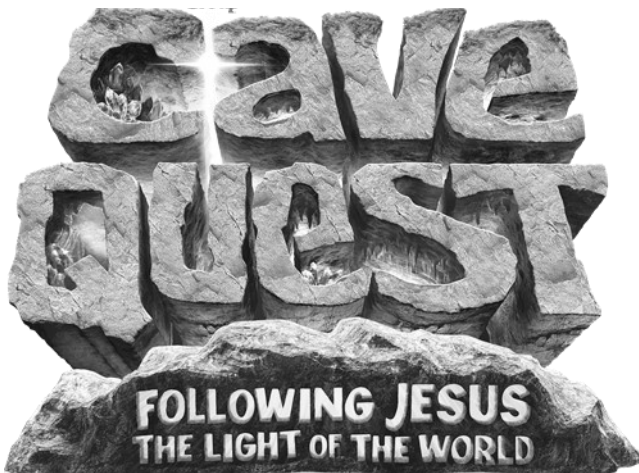
Held at Camp Bosco in Huttonsville.

**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 per child.

**Register online at: [www.campbosco.com](http://www.campbosco.com).**

Any questions, e-mail [hbise@dwc.org](mailto:hbise@dwc.org) or call 1-888-434-6237, ext. 311.



**Wisdom of Pope Francis: "The Church must step outside herself. To go where? To the outskirts of existence..."**

**Our Mission:** This past Sunday, we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost - the 50th day of Easter!

Can you imagine being in the Upper Room? Terrified that you, too, would meet the same fate as Jesus. Confused because you thought that Jesus was the Messiah. Angry, perhaps, because some friends had been spreading rumors that they had seen Jesus walking and talking and eating. It must have been a time of emotional turmoil to say the least!

And then Jesus offers peace. He shows them the signs of his suffering - and offers peace. He sends them on a mission of epic proportions - and offers peace.

What is the message here? Perhaps it is that, at times, our fear, confusion, and anger are justified, but the peace of Jesus is always available. And despite our fear, confusion, and anger, we are sent forth on mission!

**Call to Action:** In his letter, the Joy of the Gospel (on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World), Pope Francis writes, "Evangelization is the task of the Church."

That means us! The word "evangelism" comes from a Greek word that means "to bring good news". This is our mission every day: to bring the Good News to the world!

**NEW TO THE PARISH?**

If you are new to our parish please pick up a census/registration form from the vestibule. Being a registered member of the parish helps the staff to get to know you. It adds you to our newsletter mailing list and is essential if you are asked to be a godparent, or sponsor for someone in another church. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the parish office at 210 Center Ave. or placed in the collection plate at Mass. If you would like to become more involved in the church, there is a place on the form for you to circle areas in which you are interested. You can also list any talents you have that we may utilize in the parish.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
THEME: CAVE QUEST  
Following Jesus, The Light of the World  
June 20 - 24  
6-8:30  
Pre-K-6th Grade Graduates  
Please Pre-Register**

Pre-registration is not required but helps make sure there are enough supplies for each child. **EVERYONE** who registers is guaranteed a song cd, t-shirt, crafts and take home items related to this year's theme.

Pre-registration forms were sent home with St. Patrick School students and are in the church vestibule and office.

## KEEPING STUDENTS CONNECTED TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Newman Connection's High School Outreach Program keeps high school and college students connected to Catholic campus ministry.

When students sign-up with Newman Connection, their information will be automatically sent to the Campus minister at the colleges of their choice. The Campus Minister can then reach out to the student prior their arrival on campus. This effort has show great success.

We are keeping students connected to the Catholic Church using technology and social media.

To find out more, please go to [newmanconnection.com](http://newmanconnection.com). Or contact Cassie Campton at (866) 815.2034 ext. 708, [ccampton@newmanconnection.com](mailto:ccampton@newmanconnection.com).

### **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, online, and in the parish office!

#### **COMMIT BY MAY 30!**

In early June, NAWAS International Travel, has to release the hold they placed on airline seats. Please get your reservation form in this week.

Currently, we have 17 people signed up, not including church staff.

NAWAS has been planning Christian tours for 66 years. They have gained an international reputation for reliability.

Brochures are in the vestibule and church office! Please don't let this opportunity pass you by.

Those who went on the trip to Italy met people from their church and community that had never met before. We became friends with people we just met. There were some struggles but, all in all, it was a great trip. It was made great by the awesome people who went, not just by where we were and what we were doing!

## FEELING STRESSED?

Handle stress like a saint, use their 5 spiritual weapons:

1. The saints gave up control.
2. The saints practiced self-control.
3. The saints were humble.
4. The saints sat in silence.
5. The saints were more focused on the suffering of others than their own.

To read a more go to <http://blog.holyheroes.com/were-the-saints-stressed/>

# dearPadre

May 22, 2016

## Why an annulment is needed

I'm not Catholic and already divorced. Why do I need an annulment to remarry?

### **You need an annulment**

because the Church presumes that your marriage is valid. If two baptized Methodists marry before a Methodist minister, the Church presumes that the marriage is valid and sacramental. The Catholic Church recognizes Protestant baptisms in the same way. For this reason we do not rebaptize Protestant converts or remarry a couple when one or both enter the Catholic Church. The annulment process is not a "Catholic divorce"; it is an investigation of a relationship to see if at the point of the wedding, a true (valid) marriage was effected. If a marriage is valid according to Christ, it cannot be annulled. If, however, something was lacking from the very beginning, the marriage was not valid and can be annulled, freeing the parties to remarry.

**For a marriage to be valid,** the spouses must:

1. be free to marry and freely exchange their consent;
2. in consenting to marry, intend to be together for life, to be faithful to each other, and to be open to children;
3. intend the good of each other; and give their consent in the presence of two witnesses and before a properly authorized minister.

Through the annulment process the Church tribunal determines whether a marriage was valid. This is the same for all marriages, whether between Catholics, Christians, or nonbaptized adults.

FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

Monday  
MAY 23  
Weekday  
1 Pt 1:3-9  
Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday  
MAY 24  
Weekday  
1 Pt 1:10-16  
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday  
MAY 25  
Weekday  
1 Pt 1:18-25  
Mk 10:32-45

Thursday  
MAY 26  
St. Philip Neri,  
Priest  
1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12  
Mk 10:46-52

Friday  
MAY 27  
Weekday  
1 Pt 4:7-13  
Mk 11:11-26

Saturday  
MAY 28  
Weekday  
Jude 17, 20b-25  
Mk 11:27-33

Sunday  
MAY 29  
Most Holy Body  
and Blood of  
Christ  
Gn 14:18-20  
1 Cor 11:23-26  
Lk 9:11b-17



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

**Saint Rita of Cascia**

**Feast Day: May 22**

Birth: 1381, Death: 1472

Beatified By: by Pope Urban VII in 1627,

Canonized By: by Pope Leo XIII on May 24, 1900

Patron of: abuse victims, against infertility, against loneliness, against sickness, against sterility, against wounds, bodily ills, Cascia, Italy, Dalayap, Igbaras, and Iloilo, Philippines, desperate causes, difficult marriages, forgotten causes, impossible causes, lost causes, parenthood, sick people, sterile people, victims of physical spouse abuse, widows, wounded people

Saint Rita was born Margherita Lotti in Roccaporena, Italy in 1381. The day after her baptism, Rita was surrounded by a swarm of white bees, which went in and out of her infant mouth without hurting her. Rather than being alarmed, her family believed she was marked to be virtuous and devoted to God.

At an early age, she begged her parents to allow her to enter a convent but was instead arranged to be married to a cruel man named Paolo Mancini. Young Rita became a wife and mother at only twelve years of age and her husband was a man of violent temper. In anger, he often mistreated Rita verbally and physically. He was also known to pursue other women and he had many enemies.

Paolo had many enemies in Cascia, but Rita's influence over him eventually led him to be a better man. He even renounced a family feud between the Mancinis and Chiquis. Unfortunately, the feud between the Mancini and Cascia family grew turbulent and one of Paolo's allies betrayed and killed him.

Following her husband's death, Rita gave his murderers a public pardon, but Paolo's brother, Bernardo, was still angry and encouraged Rita's two sons, Giovanni Antonio and Paulo Maria, to join the feud. Under their uncle's leadership, each boy became more and more like their father had been before Rita married him, and they wanted to avenge their father's murder.

Rita attempted to stop them, but both of her sons were determined to revenge their slain father. Rita prayed to God, asking Him to take her sons before they lost their souls to the mortal sin of murder. One year later, her prayers were answered when both of her sons fell prey to dysentery and died.

Following the deaths of her sons, Rita attempted to enter the monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene in Cascia, but she was not allowed to join. Though Rita's character and piety were recognized, her husband's association with the family feud was greatly feared.

When Rita persisted, the convent told her she could join if she could find a way to mend the wound between the Chiquis and Mancinis.

After asking Saint John the Baptist, Saint Augustine of Hippo, and Saint Nicholas of Tolentino to help her in her task, she attempted to end the feud. The bubonic plague had been spreading through Italy at that time, and when Bernardo Mancini became infected, he finally abolished the feud with the Chiqui family.

Once the conflict was resolved, Rita was allowed to enter the monastery at the age of thirty-six. It is said that she was transported into the monastery of Saint Magdalene through levitation at night by the three patron saints she appealed to.

While at the monastery, Rita performed her duties faithfully and received the sacraments frequently. Rita had a great devotion to the Passion of Christ, and one day, when she was sixty-year-old, she asked, "Please let me suffer like you, Divine Saviour."

After her request, a wound appeared on her forehead, as if a thorn from Christ's crown had pierced her. It left a deep wound, which did not heal, and it caused her to suffer until the day she died.

It is said that as she neared the end of her life, Rita was bedridden from tuberculosis. It was then that she asked a cousin who had come to visit for a rose from the garden in her old home. As it was January, her cousin did not expect to find any roses, but there was a single rose in bloom, which was brought back to Rita at the convent.

She passed away four months later, on May 22, 1457.

Following her death, she was buried at the basilica of Cascia, and was later discovered to be incorrupt. Her body can be found today in the Saint Rita shrine at Cascia.

Saint Rita is often portrayed in a black habit, which is historically inaccurate as the sisters at the Saint Magdalene monastery wore beige or brown. She is also often shown to hold a thorn, a large Crucifix, or a palm leaf with three thorns to represent her husband and two sons. In some images, Saint Rita is shown to have a wound on her forehead, holding a rose, or to be surrounded by bees.

### Oration to the Saint of the Impossible

O excellent St. Rita, worker of miracles, from thy sanctuary in Cascia, where in all thy beauty thou sleepest in peace, where thy relics exhale breaths of paradise, turn thy merciful eyes on me who suffer and weep!

Thou seest my poor bleeding heart surrounded by thorns Thou seest, O dear Saint, that my eyes have no more tears to shed, so much have I wept! Weary and discouraged as I am, I feel the very prayers dying on my lips.

Must I thus despair in this crisis of my life? O come, St. Rita, come to my aid and help me. Art thou not called the Saint of the Impossible, Advocate to those in despair? Then honor thy name, procuring for me from God the favor that I ask.

[Here ask the favor you wish to obtain.]

Everyone praises thy glories, everyone tells of the most amazing miracles performed through thee, must I alone be disappointed because thou hast not heard me? Ah no! Pray then pray for me to thy sweet Lord Jesus that He be moved to pity by my troubles and that, through thee, O good St. Rita, I may obtain what my heart so fervently desires.

(Pray the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, three times.)

Those wishing to offer a novena should repeat this prayer for nine days

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