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304-269-3048

Parish Staff:

Rev. James R. DeViese, Jr., J.C.L.
pastor@spchurchweston.net

Mary Mazza Hendricks, Pastoral Associate
pa@spchurchweston.net

Sandra Mick, Parish Secretary
secretary@spchurchweston.net

Sunday Masses: 6:00 p.m., Saturday; 9:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. (Latin), Sunday

Weekday Masses: 8:15 a.m., Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri; 6:00 p.m., Wed.

Confessions: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday & Saturday; 8:45 a.m. and 11:45, Sundays.

Eucharistic Adoration: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Noon, Friday.

St. Patrick Catholic School

Pre-School – 7th Grade
224 Center Ave.
Weston, WV 26452
www.stpatswv.org
304-269-5547

Maureen Gildein, Principal

Regina Frazier, Secretary
email: st.pats@stpatswv.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: 10:30 - 12:30
Monday: 9 - 4
Tuesday: 9 - 4
Wednesday: 9 - 1
Thursday: 1 - 8
Friday: 9 - 1

January 1, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Volume II, Issue 1

The Lewis County Catholic Times

A Weekly Bulletin for Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Weston, West Virginia

Established 1848



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“UpFront”

with Mary Hendricks

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1, 2017

Luke 2:16-21

When the boys were in high school, I found a pamphlet with the title, “The Most Important Thing You Can Do to Raise Happy, Successful Children.”

Immediately intrigued and relieved that the answer to all my parenting problems was now in my hands, I quickly opened it up. The pamphlet said, “Pray the rosary every day for your children.”

Well, for crying out loud. That’s it? That’s the solution? The rosary? It was too simple to be believable. But, then again, because it was so simple, it was impossible to ignore the advice.

So, I started praying the rosary for my kids. Not every day; I wasn’t that consistent. But I prayed when I was in the car alone. Before I went to sleep. When I was in a waiting room. If you don’t know already, nothing will force you to your knees in prayer faster than having two teenage boys.

And because I give all credit to God, this won’t be bragging: I have two happy, successful sons. Okay, I don’t give all credit to God. His Mother had a

lot to do with it.

Today we honor Mary, the Mother of God, the most powerful intercessor in heaven. Think about it. No one on earth was closer to Jesus than Mary. She gave birth to him, changed his diapers, fed, bathed, and dressed him. She taught him about the Torah, took him to synagogue, traveled with him on the family’s annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover. She was present for this first miracle, followed him throughout his three-year teaching and preaching journey, and watched him die on the cross. If she doesn’t have Christ’s ear, no one does.

In fact, Pope Benedict XVI says, “Jesus cannot refuse his mother what she asks.” Because Mary’s will is united to her son’s, what she asks of him is also what Jesus wants for us. No mother would ask for what is harmful to her child, and there is no denying that Mary is our mother, too. "Looking down from the Cross, from the throne of grace and salvation, Jesus gave us his mother Mary to be our mother," adds Pope Benedict. "At the moment of his self-offering for mankind, he makes Mary, as it were, the channel of the rivers of grace that flow from the Cross. At the foot of the Cross, Mary becomes our fellow traveler and protector on life's journey."

Because she travels with us, she knows our troubles and challenges, and they are not lost on her. She encourages

us because she suffered, too: being unwed and pregnant, escaping Herod by hiding in Egypt, losing Jesus in the Temple when he was ten years old, becoming a widow, witnessing the crucifixion. She understands sorrow and grief, how cruel life can be. So, Mary, who is in perfect harmony with her son, is also in perfect harmony with us.

She made our redemption possible when she said “Yes” to God and conceived his son. Mary is what the Catholic Church calls the Mediatrix of all graces. While Jesus is the source of all graces, he makes it possible for Mary to mediate those graces. She is the conduit for us.

When we pray to the Mother of God, she listens, just as any good mother listens to her children. And just as she presented her newborn son to his Father in the temple, she presents our petitions to the Father. She awaits his answer, just as we do, holding us close to her all the while. Her loving embrace isn’t just for her baby boy; it’s for us, too.

It’s a new year, folks. Let’s pull out those rosaries, brush up on our “Hail Mary’s,” and talk to our heavenly mother. She’s waiting to hear from us, just like our earthly mothers do, and is happy to intercede and pray for us, “now and at the hour of our death.”

Parish Prayer List

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- ◆ **Those who are sick:** Shelly Kraus, Larry Lowe, Shannon Kiro, George Kiro (Nick Kiro’s sister and father), Randy Campbell, Shawn Campbell, Sal Carmona, Rose Determan, Robert Fealy, Carl Ford (Lynne Shaver’s father), Sara Jane Huntz, Mary Ann Murray, Matt McCauley, Julieta Rilling, Burke Riley, Mike Riley, Jane Taylor, and Megan Westfall.
- ◆ **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**
- ◆ **All Military Personnel:** Ryan Faulkner, Fr Jeff Paveglio, Alan Hamilton

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

January – Soup

- 2 Mon: Parish office closed
- 3 Tue: School resumes
- 5 Thu: 6pm, SoulCore exercise, cafeteria
- 8 Sun: Dead Theologians Society
- 15 Sun: 10:30, GIFT, cafeteria DTS-6pm
- 19 Thu: 6pm, SoulCore exercise, cafeteria
- 22 Sun: DTS-6pm
- 29 Sun: DTS-6pm

Stewardship Thoughts

So far in this series, we’ve established that everything on the earth belongs to God. We show gratitude for those gifts by offering a portion back to him. This give and take thing—how tiresome it sounds. Is this some kind of game the Almighty is playing, some test? And the real, bottom-line question: What do we get out of it?

Four things:

- Joy
- Awareness
- Involvement
- A Christ-centered Life

Let’s start with Joy. Stewardship is meant to be a sacrifice, but joy and sacrifice are opposites. Sacrifices hurt. When you think of giving sacrificially, you assume it means to “give until it hurts.” It doesn’t. It means to give until it feels good. The moment we open our purse strings and give like we mean it,

we will feel joy. And it’s not just giving money. You can talk to any person who served at the Thanksgiving dinner. They’ll tell you that they had a great time volunteering and can’t wait until next year. Helping others made them feel so good.

Awareness is knowing that giving to God is painless, actually. You will never miss one penny or one second of time you donate. In fact, you will receive one -hundred fold in return. My kids have heard me say a million times: “You can’t out-give God.” But you have to give from the top, not from the leftover. That stained shirt or that rusty pan? Don’t put it in the bag you’re donating to Our Neighbor or the church yard sale. If you don’t want it, they don’t either.

Stewardship, giving the way God intends, is a lifestyle. You become involved with your Church family and your community, building relationships that are mutually good. We are meant to

live in community, and we begin to understand what it means to love our neighbor as ourselves.

St. Basil the Great said, “The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry. The cloak in your wardrobe belongs to the naked. The shoes you allow to rot belong to the barefoot. The money in your vaults belongs to the destitute. You do injustice to every man whom you could help but do not.” He is emphasizing living a Christ-centered life. Christ owned nothing on earth, except the clothes on his back. He was essentially homeless and depended on the generosity of others for his food and shelter. But he was rich in that he freely gave his time to others. Every interruption ended in a miracle. If we are true stewards, we will be living as Christ did.

But, enough about us and the benefits we gain from stewardship. How does stewardship help others? Stay tuned!

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TEC Time

North Central West Virginia Teens Encounter Christ invites everyone ages 16-24, to spend three days on a retreat that will change your life: January 14, 15 and 16, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church, Fairmont, WV. Cost: \$50, but don't let the expense keep you away; financial assistance is available. Come over and spend some time talking and learning about faith with people your age. Questions? Please contact Becky DeVito at 304-657-8357; John Yaquinta at 304-838-1987; or Marge McCawley at 304-376-4188. For registration information, email ncwvttec@gmail.com.

Sacrificial Giving Envelopes for 2017 were mailed directly to your home. If you do not receive a set of envelopes (for the First Quarter), please contact the parish office. If you have received envelopes and prefer not to (for example, if you use E-giving), please place the entire packet into the collection basket, and we will remove you from the list.



Knights of Columbus

In service to One, In service to all

Monthly Meeting is the first Tuesday of the each month @ 7 pm. (01/03/17)

Officers' Meeting (everyone is welcome!) is the last Tuesday of each month @ 7 pm. (01/31/17)

Join us for service, fellowship, and spiritual growth!



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) meet on the third Monday at 6pm in the parish meeting room

The next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, January 16. ALL Catholic women 18 and older are invited to join the Catholic Daughters. Find out more by going to catholicdaughters.org.

2017 CALENDARS

*The 2017 parish calendars are in the vestibule.
Please pick one up today.*

The Traditional Latin Mass at St. Patrick's

The Traditional Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite) is celebrated every Sunday at 12:30 p.m. here at St. Patrick's. All are welcome to attend.



Knights of Columbus Men's Retreat

Making Good Catholic Men Into GREAT Catholic Men
**This First Annual Retreat for the Knights is an opportunity to renew ourselves
PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY & SPIRITUALLY**

Consider taking advantage of this spiritual vacation with the Lord, and steering your life onto a path of greater spiritual development.

Who?

Members of Knights of Columbus Council #1415 who want to grow spiritually in their Faith.

When?

The retreat begins Friday evening, February 3, and ends after lunch on Sunday, February 5.

Where?

Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center, Huttonsville
Interested parties should contact Chris Todd **no later than January 3:** 304-488-8773 or christoddwv@yahoo.com

Weekly Attendance & Collection (12/25/2016)

Sat: 327 Sun (Midnight): 138 Sun (9:30): 109

General: \$4249
Loan: \$12510*
School: \$0
Latin Mass: \$247
Catholic Charities: \$1817.60

***Includes a payment of \$9985 from the Catholic Sharing Appeal**

Upcoming Collections and Appeals
Jan 28 and 29: Church in Latin America

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

Saturday—December 31st

THE SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

5:00p Confessions
6:00p †Anticipated Sunday Mass for Marjorie Ruppert by Bob and Arlene Pope
RDGS: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Sunday — January 1st

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:45a Confessions
9:30a Mass for People of the Parish
RDGS: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
11:45 Confessions
12:30p †Mino and Pauline D'Aurora by Robert D'Aurora
Octave of Christmas

Monday — January 2nd

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

6:00p †Mass for †Msgr. Franck Quoex by Fr. DeViese
RDGS: 1 Jn 2:22-28; PS 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday — January 3rd

Christmas Weekday; The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:15a †Mass for Joe and Mabel McLaughlin by Johna and Jackie McLaughlin
RDGS: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; PS 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday — January 4th

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

5:00p Confessions
5:30p Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena
6:00p †Mass for Rev. Donal O'Donovan
RDGS: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8PS 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday — January 5th

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

8:15a †Mass for Clarence Weber by Mary Ann McGann
RDGS: 1 Jn 3:11-21; PS 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51

Friday — January 6th

Christmas Weekday

8:15a †Mass for Msgr. Joseph Patrick McKernan
RDGS: 1 Jn 5:5-13; PS 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Saturday—January 7th

Christmas Weekday

5:00p Confessions
6:00p †Anticipated Sunday Mass for Anthony Kestel by Tom Ruppert
RDGS: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b; Jn 2:1-11

Sunday — January 8th

The Epiphany of the Lord

8:45a Confessions
9:30a Mass for People of the Parish
RDGS: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
11:45 Confessions
12:30p †Mass (Latin) for All priests, living and deceased by Cristina Crim
Feast of The Holy Family

Liturgical Calendar for the	1/5	Feria in Christmastide
Traditional Latin Mass	1/6	Epiphany of the Lord
During the Week	1/7	Saturday of Our Lady
1/2	Holy Name of Jesus	
1/3	Feria in Christmastide	
1/4	Feria in Christmastide	

Ministry Schedule for January 7 and 8, 2017

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017

Greeters: Ed and Anita Droppleman
Servers: Ian Droppleman, Ethan Mehr
Reader: Deanna Pascasio
Offertory: Mehr family
EMHC: Mike and Anna Lee Deteman, Margaret Blake
Cantor: Bob Thompson

Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017

Greeters: Leslie Butcher and Tanya Riley
Servers: Jayna Jerden, Chloe Richards
Reader: Joe Jerden
Offertory: Eric and Judy Jerden
EMHC: Butch Cain, Judy Foster, Steve Corley
Cantor: Jeremy Garton

January Linens: Barbara King
January Funeral Greeters: Gennette Casto, Barbara King

Pastoral Notes

People often ask me for recommendations of books that they can read to help them learn more about the Faith or to grow in their Faith. In 2,000 years the Church has accumulated and collected wisdom from some of the wisest, holiest people to walk the earth. As we approach the New Year and make “resolutions” to better ourselves, an excellent option is to attempt to read more. I saw recently that if one were to commit to reading just 10 pages per day, in the course of a year, that would amount to over 3,600 pages, which is 10 good sized books! At just 10 pages per day, that’s something that even the busiest person can manage!

To help you reach that goal, I have given everyone a

copy of “Resisting Happiness” by Matthew Kelly. It is an excellent catalyst for shaking us out of our complacency and reinvigorating our Faith lives. I strongly encourage everyone to start there and let Mr. Kelly’s words spur you on to more spiritually ambitious tasks.

For myself, I keep a long list of books on my reading table and slowly inch my way through them over the weeks. Right now, they include Benson’s dystopian masterpiece *Lord of the World*, Reggie Foster’s *Ossa Latinitatis Sola*, and Benedict XVI’s *Last Testament*.

Periodically I may take it upon myself to make recommendations here. One that I highly recommend is Scott Hahn’s *The Lamb’s Supper*. Read it, and you’ll never view Mass the same way again!

The Dead Theologians Society



The Dead Theologians Society is a Catholic apostolate for high school-aged teens. “Through the Saints of yesterday, the Dead Theologians Society inspires the youth of today to become the saints of tomorrow.” A chapter of the DTS has recently been chartered here at St. Patrick’s in order to provide a solid catechetical environment where our high school youth may gather to grow in holiness together through social activity, prayer and reflection, and deepening their understanding of the Faith.

An organizational meeting will take place on **Sunday, January 8, immediately after Mass in the Parish Office Conference Room.**

All high school teens from St. Patrick’s and the surrounding parishes are invited and encouraged to attend.

For more information, check out www.deadtheologianssociety.com

Need Help? Get Help!

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.

Pope Francis “Tweets” @ Pontifex

“Christmas has above all a taste of hope because, for all the darkness in our lives, God’s light shines forth.”

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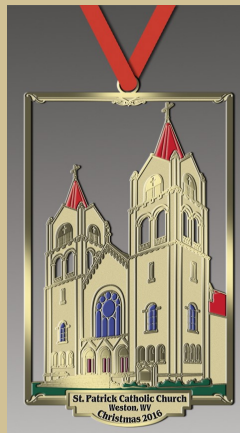
Peking Chinese Buffet
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304 269-6763

St. Patrick Catholic Church Christmas Ornaments

Decorate your Christmas tree this year with a little piece of St. Patrick’s. These Limited Edition, hand-etched brass and enameled ornaments are the first in our series of annual parish ornaments. Only 250 have been commissioned, so get yours today!

Ornaments are **\$25 each,**
or **3 for \$60.**

Available in the Parish Office.



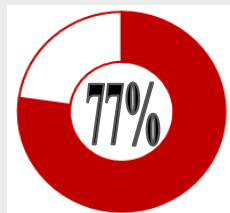
I’M IN! CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Goal: \$345,000.00

145 Pledges and gifts to Date: \$266,504.50

If you prefer not to make a pledge, please give through the diocese to the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Since we have reached the 50% mark of that goal, all donations given will be returned 100% to our parish throughout the coming months.

“For it is in giving that we receive.”



Liturgical Musings

Announcing the Feast

As some of the more liturgically adept of you may know, next Sunday is the external solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. [The term “external solemnity” refers to the fact that for the sake of convenience in this country, the Feast is transferred from its actual date of January 6—12 days after Christmas—to the nearest convenient Sunday.] On January 8, we commemorate the day on which the Magi encounter the newborn Lord and pay Him homage. Traditionally this day was the day on which Christmas was celebrated, because it was a day marked by the giving of gifts, and because it commemorates the revelation of God’s Son, our Newborn King, to the world. It is also the last major Feast of Our Lord prior to the Paschal Triduum (the Baptism of the Lord being of a lower rank as a liturgical feast).

Epiphany has lost some of its luster in the last century as more and more focus has been placed on the commercialized Christmas. There

are still some (including myself) who refuse to open gifts until January 6, however.

Moreover, Epiphany is the backdrop for one of the most ancient practices the Church has: **the Noveri-tis**, i.e., the announcement of the Moveable Feasts of the New Year. This tradition dates back to the ancient Church at Alexandria, where many astronomers resided. They were given the honor and task of every year accurately calculating the date of Easter and the various feasts of the year which rely upon that date (Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pentecost, et al.). It was then their mission to communicate these dates to the rest of the Christian world through the Patriarchs of the East and the Pope at Rome.

The Council of Nicaea (AD 325) is said to have formalized the practice, as a consequence of the that everyone, everywhere should celebrate it on one and the same day.

Although there is no mention of the fixing of the date of Easter in the canons of the Council of Nicaea which have been preserved, we know that the issue was discussed and decided by the council with three texts: a letter of Emperor Constantine, a synodal letter to the Church of Alexandria, and a letter written by St. Athanasius in 369 to bishops of Africa. In the fifth century, Cyril of Alexandria is said to have written in an Easter letter: “The Ecumenical Council voted unanimously that the Church of Alexandria, because of its illustrious astronomers, should report annually to the Church of Rome the date of Easter, and Rome would be communicated to other churches.” The Fourth Council of Orleans (AD 541) shows how this practice, already firmly established, had made its way to Catholic France.

Following the Gospel next Sunday, January 8, we will remain standing and hear chanted this ancient text which announces the dates of Ash Wednesday, Easter, the Ascension, Pentecost, and the First Sunday of Advent for 2017.



SoulCORE

SoulCore is coming to Saint Patrick’s beginning in January 2017. Rachel Weber from Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Buckhannon, daughter of George and Sandra Garton, will be offering SoulCore classes on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. She will also be offering classes at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Buckhannon. A \$10 donation is requested per session.

SoulCore is a contemporary core workout that pairs exercise with the prayers of the rosary. It is not yoga, nor are yoga poses referenced at any time. It is a new movement that consists of core strengthening and isometric exercises. It is a sensory experience that combines candlelight, music, reflection, and movement to nourish body, mind and soul and to encourage deeper meditation of the mysteries of the rosary.

The workouts are typically 55-60 minutes long and involves a combination of core exercises, stretching, and overall strengthening of the entire body. You do not need to know the rosary to participate, and it is a wonderful way to learn the rosary. During the workout, Rachel will announce each mystery, a scripture verse, and a reflection on the mystery. She will then recite the first part of each prayer aloud to guide you through the workout, and the second part of every prayer is said in silence. If you do not know the prayer, you can reflect on the mysteries until you learn the prayer. This structure allows participants to be reflective in the prayers and to go deeper in their meditation.

Since spiritual fitness through prayer is the main focus of the SoulCore workout, there is no specific fitness level required. All exercises are simply invitations and it is very important to honor your body. Rest and exercise modification are encouraged if the work is too intense. The prayers are the focus of this workout and the exercises are simply to enhance the prayer experience. The strength and endurance will come over time.

Feel free to check out the website: www.soulcore.com for additional information, or contact Rachel at rachelfweber@yahoo.com!