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St. Patrick Catholic Church

210 Center Avenue  
Weston, West Virginia 26452  
www.spchurchweston.net  
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

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

Weekday Masses: M, T, Th, F, 8:15 a.m.  
Wed., 6:00 p.m.

Confessions: Wednesday, 5:00 p.m.,  
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 8:45 & 11:45 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday, 9 a.m. to Noon

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 22, 20173rd Sunday in Ordinary TimeVolume II, Issue 4

The Lewis County Catholic Times

A Weekly Bulletin for Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Weston, West Virginia  
Established 1848

A Savior by Any Other Name?

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. "In the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth" (Phil 2:10). Christ's name is chosen in heaven, and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation: "Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus". It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means "savior." The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us.

The name of Jesus is the sweetest of all names, and He who bears it is most worthy of all love. He who calls Jesus his friend can be assured that this friend is the most devoted and unselfish of all friends.

According to the ancient mind, a person's name was the expression of his nature, work, or mission. Early Christians accordingly used our Savior's Name to bring to mind His adorable Person; and in their art they gave it the following shortened or symbolic forms:

a) The Chi-Rho Symbol. The oldest monuments bearing this symbol date to the third century, the first being found on a burial inscription of a consul from the year

369. From the third century we have the following authentic forms: (1) the separate letters; (2) the superimposed letters; (3) the monogram cross.

After the triumph of Christianity, the Chi-Rho monogram spread into all countries and found manifold use. It no longer served as a mere abbreviation of the sacred Name, but stood as a symbol for Christ the King. Artists often surrounded it with a laurel wreath or a circle. This signified Christ's dominion over the world, or His triumph over all enemies of His kingdom.

b) The IHS Symbol. The familiar abbreviation IHS is a symbol of the Name Jesus which has retained its popularity down through the centuries. It owes its spread to St. Bernardine of Siena, who had it placed on his banner, surrounded with twelve rays of the sun and surmounted by a cross. It soon became the most popular monogram for the holy Name of Jesus. By his fervent words St. Bernardine persuaded many priests to place the letters on altars or on the interior and exterior walls of churches. Many Italian cities responded to his efforts and put the monogram in large letters on the outer walls of their town halls, as may still be seen in Siena.

What is its derivation? IHC is the abbreviation of the Greek IHΣΟΥΣ, i.e., Jesus (the first three letters of the word). The older form for the Greek sigma, S, resembled our capital C. In Christian antiquity

this monogram does not occur too frequently and may not be older than the fifth century. Another interpretation that is sometimes made is In Hoc Signo (vinces), and out of the added v (for vinces) three nails are formed.

c) Ichthys. The early Church loved another monogram for our Savior's name, the widely-used ICHTHYS. Christ's full title was

(in Greek): Iesous Christos Theou Yos Soter, Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior. The initial letters of these five words form the Greek word ICHTHYS, which means fish. For this reason Christ is often pictured as a fish. Thus both the abbreviation and the picture became for the early Christians a secret symbol for the Redeemer. Yes, they even call our Lord "the great and pure Fish" (Aberkios tomb inscription, about 180). Tertullian presupposed

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What's Inside...

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**UpFront**  
**with Mary Hendricks**

*3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, January  
22, 2017 Year A  
Matthew 4:12-17*

This Gospel passage is about Jesus calling the first disciples, the brothers Peter and Andrew. This story came up a lot in our household when the kids were growing up.

You see, we not only celebrate birthdays, we celebrate name days, too. A name day is a tradition during which a person named after a saint celebrates that saint's feast day. Name days are big in Italy. A friend of ours, Vito, could recall any date on the calendar and tell you which saint's feast day it was.

November 30 is St. Andrew's Day, and December 26 is St. Stephen's Day. On those days, we'd pull out the Bible, look up today's passage for Andrew and, then for Stephen, find the St. Stephen story in Acts 6 & 7. We would talk about what happened and how important each disciple was in Jesus' life. Then they would get a present, a superhero action figure when they were young, and cash when they got older. We still celebrate their name days, but they don't get their gift until they answer some questions about their saint.

Here was last year's conversation with my own St. Andrew's namesake: "Who was St. Andrew?"

"He was the first person to recognize that Jesus was the Messiah."

"Whose brother was he?"

Long pause. Again, I asked, "Whose brother was he?"

"Uh...Stephen's?"

"No, you're Stephen's brother. Peter was St. Andrew's brother."

Religion lesson...fail.

These brothers, Peter and Andrew, and later in the passage, James and John, were working when Jesus called them. He used a provocative statement: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." What could that possibly mean? Why on earth did the four of them drop their nets and follow this complete stranger to fish for men?? It is absolutely beyond my comprehension that these guys quit fishing in the middle of the day to become "sheep" to Jesus' "shepherd."

But, then again, it's beyond my comprehension that people run for political office these days, when they are constantly skewered by the press, the opposing party, and the public in general. It's beyond me that a kid will get up at 4am every day to practice swimming and that his parents will move across the country, just so he can get a chance to be in the Olympics...maybe. It's beyond me that people want to be soldiers or police officers when they could be killed in the line of duty.

You know what makes people risk everything like that? Passion. Passion is a powerful motivator, the fuel that consumes you, reason you get up in the morning. People are attracted to passion, the fire within another, because they sense that something exciting will happen in their lives. Their quality of life will be enhanced in some way. They may encounter more joy or peace, healing or fulfillment.

I think that's what these four men recognized in Jesus—his passion. They wanted to know what he was committed to, what fueled his fire, what he was talking about when he said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." I also think they saw a little of the supernatural in Jesus, his strength and authority, his

**MULLADY SCHOLARSHIP TIME  
AGAIN**

Applications are now being accepted for the Mullady Scholarship Award. This fund was started by Edwin and Mary Mullady to help Catholic students in Lewis County go to an accredited college. Applications are in the vestibule and can be emailed to you. Please contact the parish office to receive an application.

Applicants must be Lewis County residents and enrolled in college or graduate school (no high school students). **Application deadline is February 1, 2017.** Checks will be mailed to the student's address. Completed applications can be returned in the church collection basket or to the parish office. Funds will be distributed in February or March.

fearlessness, the power of his personality. They saw grace, and they saw truth. All this from one little statement: "I will make you fishers of men."

Jesus begins his mission in today's Gospel as he calls these first followers. But he's still calling people to follow him. Like you and me. He wants to share his passion for the kingdom of heaven. He won't give up on us; he will never stop calling us.

Will we drop our nets and follow?

**NOTEWORTHY EVENTS**

**January – Soup**

22 Sun: 10:30, Confirmation Class, Cafeteria  
10:30 RCIC Class, cafeteria  
DTS-6pm  
29 Sun: DTS-6pm

**February -**

3-5 Knights of Columbus retreat  
12 10:30, GIFT, cafeteria  
19 Sun: 10:30, Confirmation Class, Cafeteria  
10:30 RCIC Class, cafeteria

*Pastoral Notes & Ramblings*

Some years ago, Fr. John McCloskey, a priest of Opus Dei and a research fellow at the Faith and Reason Institute, compiled what her termed "A Catholic Lifetime Reading Plan." It is a list of essential Catholic books that, over the course of one's lifetime, every Catholic should read. The list consists of 100 Catholic works, divided into categories, including history, spirituality, theology, literary classics, etc.

I know it seems that lately I've been on a kick trying to get people not just to read more, but to read better—better content, that is. If we are the product of that with which we surround ourselves, then what we put into our minds will inevitably form our minds and transform them according to the pattern of the input. The more coarse analogy is: garbage in, garbage out.

It seems any more that there is so much garbage thrown at us, from poorly written books and newspapers to trashy TV shows and video games that would make Rambo blanche! And as a culture we have grown rather immune to the impact of all of these things. What is worse is that our children have gone numb even faster to the appalling lack of substantive content, and they often immediately balk when confronted with a concept or resource that demands they use their capacity to reason or think. I recognize this is a generalization and not everyone fits into this description, but the reality still exists.

What can we as Catholics do about this? Many would answer: Not much. But I disagree. Taking up the call of St. John Paul II to live our Catholic Faith in a radical way that dares to be different and counter-cultural, we are all presented with regular opportunities to reject those things which stand in opposition to our Faith. Each day there are multiple opportunities to stand in opposition to an increasingly secularized culture that extolls the virtues of moral ambiguity, that heralds as progress the degradation of reasoned public debate, and that continually lowers standards of acceptability in favor of an appalling degree of permissiveness.

As Catholics we are not called to be "prudes" or "puritans," but part of our vocation to "be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect," our vocation to be holy as we were created to be, means taking a step back and objectively analyzing

things in our lives according to a very simple litmus test: does this thing that I am watching/reading/engaging lead me closer to God or father from Him? Does this person make me a better Christian?

I readily admit that I am far from perfect in this regard. And I give this advice as much to myself as to you, because we

are all sinners and we all need that constant reminder of where our attentions should be focused: on getting to Heaven. The things of this world are good insofar as they lead us to our final destination.

When they don't, we must have the courage to ask God for the strength to say no to them and yes to Him alone!

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**Parish Prayer List**

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- ♦ **Those who are sick:** Clara Ann Moran, Rob Dodson (UHC), Bob Riley (VA), Sr. Theresa Metz (Wheeling Hospital), 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), 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



popular familiarity with the fish symbol when he wrote about 200: "We (Christians) are born as little fishes in water after the model of our Ichthys Jesus Christ" (On Baptism, ch. 1).

d) The **Cross** as a Symbol for the Divine Name. The similarity between the Chi-Rho symbol and the Cross is so apparent that it was not long before the two became related artistically. The Cross and the divine Name serve as symbols of redemption, and as a means of protection against the attacks of the demons. Thus it became customary to put the cruciform monogram on doors and houses. One of the more common methods for the cruciform arrangement involved the use of the two words Φως and ζωη (light and life), terms which Christ applied to Himself in John 8:12; 11:25. Jesus is our Light and Life, for He gives us divine faith and grace. The liturgy desires, prays for, and obtains light and life for the living and the dead. Here we have the reason why the combination of the two concepts, light and life, in the form of a cross became such a popular word symbol in the early Church and is frequently found on doors of houses (Syria), on tombs, and also on ampullas, terracotta lamps, and other articles.

As we seek this month to foster devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, let us offer up this prayer taken from the Votive Mass of the Most Holy Name of Jesus:

**“As we venerate the most Holy Name of Jesus, mercifully grant us, Lord, that, savoring its sweetness in this life, we may be filled with everlasting joy in our heavenly homeland. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.”**

Mass Intentions

Please contact the parish office or use one of the envelopes in the vestibule to schedule your Mass Intentions. Intentions are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

*SoulCORE*

SoulCore is on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. A free will donation is expected per session.

SoulCore is a contemporary core workout that pairs exercise with the prayers of the rosary. Feel free to check out the website: [www.soulcore.com](http://www.soulcore.com) for additional information, or contact Rachel at [rachelfweber@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelfweber@yahoo.com)!

RCIC Class

RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) will meet on **Sunday, January 22 at 10:30** in the parish meeting room in the back of the parish office building. These classes are for children 7—18 who want to become Catholic. The sessions are led Sheila West.

**Pope Francis “Tweets” @ Pontifex**

“From the intimacy of our faith in Jesus Christ comes our need to be united in Him.”



**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

**We are collecting NEW socks for the homeless.** Socks for men, women, and children can be taken to the parish office or left in the sock box in the church. Socks will be distributed to shelters who work with homeless people.

The next regular monthly meeting will be **Monday, February 20 in the parish meeting room.** ALL Catholic women 18 and older are invited to join the Catholic Daughters. Find out more by going to [catholicdaughters.org](http://catholicdaughters.org).

**Free copies of Matthew Kelly’s *Resisting Happiness* are still available in the vestibule of the church, as well as in the parish office. It’s never too late to start asking yourself how you can truly attain happiness. Do yourself a favor and read this accessible and informative work to help catapult you into some awesome spiritual habits for 2017!**

**RESISTING HAPPINESS**



A true story about why we sabotage ourselves, feel overwhelmed, set aside our dreams, & lack the courage to simply be ourselves... & how to start choosing happiness again!

**MATTHEW KELLY**

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



**Knights of Columbus**

*In service to One,  
In service to all*

**Monthly Meeting** is the first Tuesday of the each month @ 7 pm.

**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!**

**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.*

**This Week’s Liturgical Calendar**

**Saturday—January 21**

Saturday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr

5:00p Confessions

6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for †Harry Hendricks by family

RDGS: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47: 2-3, 6-9; Mk 3:20-21

**Sunday — January 22**

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:45a Confessions

9:30a Mass for People of the Parish

RDGS: Is 8:23—9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23

11:45 Confessions

12:30p Mass (Latin) for †Ray and Judy Stamper  
*3rd Sunday after Epiphany*

**Monday — January 23**

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

*St. Vincent, Deacon, Martyr*

8:15a Mass for †Kathryn Rowan by family

RDGS: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30

**Tuesday — January 24**

Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

8:15a Mass for Rev. J. Stephen Vallelonga

RDGS: Heb 1:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10-11; Mk 3:31-35

**Wednesday — January 25**

The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

5:00p Confessions

5:30p Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena

6:00p Mass for †Rue Thompson Sr. by Rue and Diana Thompson

RDGS: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1-2; Mk 16:15-15

**Thursday — January 26**

Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

8:15a Mass for †Charles Garton by Deborah K. Roberts

RDGS: 2 Tm 1:1-8; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10; Mk 4:21-25

**Friday — January 27**

Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

8:15a Mass for †Rita A. Lydon by family

RDGS: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

**Saturday—January 28**

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church

5:00p Confessions

6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for People of the Parish

RDGS: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Ps (Lk) 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41

**Sunday — January 29**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:45a Confessions

9:30a Mass for Catholic Schools Week

RDGS: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a

11:45 Confessions

12:30p Mass (Latin) for †Most Rev. Joseph H. Hodges, D. D.  
*4th Sunday after Epiphany*

**Weekly Attendance & Collection (01/15/2017)**

**Saturday:** 110  
**Sunday:** 200  
**Latin Mass:** 19

**General:** \$5166  
**Loan:** \$1010  
**School:** \$115  
**Latin Mass:** \$89

**Upcoming Collections and Appeals**

Jan 28/29: Church in Latin America

**Ministry Schedule for January 28 and 29, 2017**

**Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017**

**Greeters:** John Weber and Emma Pascasio  
**Servers:** Hunter and Joseph Blake  
**Reader:** Debbie Queen  
**Offertory:** Joe, Amanda, and Samantha Blake  
**EMHC:** Tom Ruppert, Margaret Blake, Mary Hendricks  
**Cantor:** Brenda Reed

**Sunday, Jan. 29, 2017**

**Greeters:** St. Patrick School Students  
**Servers:** Joey Aman and Tom Derico  
**Reader:** Morgan Turner  
**Offertory:** St. Patrick School Students  
**EMHC:** Tyler Mehr, Erin Turner and J.J. Jordan  
**Cantor:** St. Patrick School Students

**January Linens:** Barbara King

**January & February Funeral Greeters:** Gennette Casto, Barbara King

**February Linens:** Luanne Bowers



Kids' Corner  
Catechesis

Why Do Bad Things  
Happen to People?

Bad things happen in this world, and people suffer. Some people are hurt in accidents. Some are injured in sports. Some are born with physical problems. You can probably think of many ways that people can be harmed. Today there are many doctors, nurses, and other people who can help us when we are hurt or need special help. They can give us medicine and bandages, and they can operate if necessary. And scientists are always working on special tools to help. Glasses, wheels chairs, hearing aids, and artificial legs are just a few of their wonderful inventions. These doctors and scientist are gifts from God.

Key Verse

"Master," [Jesus'] disciples asked him, "Why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or those of his parents?" "Neither", Jesus answered. "He was born blind to show the power of God." (John 9: 2-3)

Note to parents

God planned for people to be healthy. Disease, death, and disasters are a result of sin in the world. Everyone living in this sinful world suffers the effects of sin, even Christians. God may allow us to go through difficult times to teach us to rely on him or other lessons. Whatever our struggles, God can be glorified in them. In fact, God delights in demonstrating his strength in weak people.

These catechesis points are to help you in your role as the primary formators of your children in the Faith. Use them to help start discussions with your children that will help them to grow in a healthy understanding of the Faith and the Church.

For more information, visit  
www.holyspiritinteractive.net

You're Invited!

Bernadette Law will be 90 on Sunday, January 22. The family is having an open house for her on that day at West Hall from 2 to 5. No gifts please, cards are welcome.

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.

The Next Meeting will take place on  
Sunday, January 22  
at 6:00 p.m.  
in the downstairs Parish Meeting 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

Calendar Cash Tickets  
Available Now

The annual February "Calendar Cash" fundraiser for the St. Patrick School PTO is under way. A winner will be chosen by random draw every day in February. If you win, your name will be put back in the bin so you are eligible for future drawings. The total prize money is \$3100 in cold, hard cash. The minimum amount you can win is \$75.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased through the church and school offices or through any student or staff member of the school.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will meet on Sunday, January 22 at 10:30 in the cafeteria. This class is for baptized Catholics in the 6th grade or older who have not been confirmed. The Confirmation instructor is Judy Jerden.

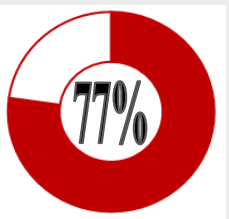
I'M IN! CAMPAIGN  
UPDATE

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."  
— Francis of Assisi



Liturgical Musings

Pulling Back the Veil (3)  
By Fr. J. DeViese

For many who remember how Catholic churches were appointed prior to the liturgical reforms of the late 1960s and early 1970s, almost ubiquitous in sanctuaries was a central tabernacle covered with a veil. In many respects, as the sanctuary represents the Holy of Holies of the New Covenant, so the tabernacle is the Ark of the New Covenant, the vessel in which is contained the physical presence of the living and true God in the Eucharistic bread. As the tablets of the 10 Commandments in the original Ark were the tangible substance of the Old Covenant, so the Blessed Sacrament is of the New.

If we were to see the present Catholic sanctuary through the lens of our own Roman liturgical tradition, as well as in light of its strong Old Testament lineage, the absence of a tabernacle veil seems, then, to be rather incongruous. The preponderance for removing tabernacle veils came into vogue in the late 1960s as part of the supposed "simplification" of liturgical rites. It was a movement with no basis in legislation, but was fueled by flawed, populist theological ideas, and has had some rather unintended consequences.

Most Catholics are largely under the impression that the True Presence of Christ in the tabernacle is indicated solely by the presence of a sanctuary lamp burning near the tabernacle. In point of fact, the lamp burns not as an indication that the Blessed Sacrament is present in the tabernacle so much as it burns as "a sign of honor paid to the Lord," a vigil lamp not unlike the candles burning in many churches as a pledge of one's continued spiritual presence. In other words, the sanctuary lamp stands in our place as a testimony to our desire to remain with the Lord in vigil when doing so is simply not possible.

The quoted phrase in the above paragraph is taken from a 1980 document promulgated by the Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship under the authority of Pope John Paul II. The full sentence states: "The presence of the Eucharist is to indicated by a tabernacle veil or some other suitable means laid down by the competent authority, and a lamp must perpetually burn before it, as a sign of

honor paid to the Lord" (Inaestimabile Donum, no. 25). This instruction echoes a 1967 instruction (note this is two years after the close of Vatican II) which states: "Care should be taken that the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle is indicated to the faithful by a tabernacle veil or some other suitable means prescribed by the competent authority" (Eucharisticum Mysterium, no. 57). Each of these documents represents formal legislation that not only requires the presence of a veil over the tabernacle, but they also make very clear its intended purpose.

Just like the veil in the Holy of Holies, a veil on the tabernacle in the Catholic sanctuary serves to give greater delineation between the human and the divine, between that which is mundane and that which is sublime. While some may see it as a barrier, a veiled tabernacle is far more an invitation to look past the physical attributes of a richly ornamented box, and to see with the eyes of Faith the Mystery that lies beyond it: the Presence of God Incarnate, His Flesh given for the life of the world.

Therein lies the great novelty and wisdom of the Church. Borrowing from our Jewish ancestors in Faith, we, too, are not so perfunctory in our worship that we put forth only the bare minimum in service to God. Rather, our love of God and our desire to sacrifice for love of Him leads us to give the very best that we have in service to Him: precious objects crafted out of love, given to the exclusive purpose of worshiping God, and—to top it all off—veiled from view, that we may not be led by hubris to contemplate our own generosity or the richness of our sacrifice! The veiled tabernacle is, in a certain respect, a sign of having given without counting the cost.

As to the question of why the tabernacle in our own sanctuary is not veiled, we, too, are the victims of a bygone age of populist theology that sought to level the playing field between God and man. Such folly has led us not to a deeper understanding of God but farther away from recognizing the immensity of our Divine Creator and the awesome grace that it is to be in His Presence. Perhaps one day a veil might return to our tabernacle. Until then, we can at least remind ourselves periodically of the need to see in the Faith opportunities to encounter God in His mystery and magnificence: the Creator of the Universe, humbling Himself to be among us.

Commentary for the Readings in the Extraordinary Form:

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

"Only say the word, and my seroant will be healed" (Gospel).



By a twofold display of His mercy Jesus first confirmed His Divinity before the Jewish priests when He cleansed the despised leper (picture in background), then before the Gentiles by curing the centurion's paralyzed servant. We, too, publicly profess faith in His Divinity by our mercy in taking "the words of grace" to leprous, paralyzed sinners (Communion Verse).

What kind of mercy? St. Paul outlines certain practices in the Epistle: refrain from rendering "evil for evil;" "provide good things" to "all men;" peace to our enemy, leaving "vengeance" to God Who know how to "repay."

— Excerpted from My Sunday Missal, Confraternity of the Precious Blood

Liturgical Calendar for the Traditional Latin Mass During the Week

1/23	St. Raymond of Penafort
1/24	St. Timothy, Bishop & Martyr
1/25	Conversion of St. Paul
1/26	St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr
1/27	St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor
1/28	St. Peter, Confessor