

Interested in Advertising in The Lewis County Catholic News?  
Contact Mary Hendricks:  
304-269-3048



FOSTER FEED

202 Bland St.  
Weston, WV 26452  
304-269-1333

Charlie's Barber Shop

115 Bank Alley  
Weston, WV 26452  
Tom Fealy, owner

The Hickory House

Jackson's Mill Road/  
Hwy 19  
269-7373  
Winter Hours: Sun-Tue 11-7  
Wed-Sat 11-9

Peking Chinese Buffet

#3 Marketplace Plaza,  
Weston, WV  
304 269-6763



The Physicians of St. Joseph's

304-473-2200

The Right Care is Right Here

Real Estate Marketing

Sales & Appraisals  
372 US Hwy 33 E  
304-269-5975

Hardman-Paletti Funeral Home

730 N. Main Avenue  
Weston, WV 26452  
(304) 269-5005  
www.hardman-palettifuneralhome.com  
"Where Your Final Wishes Matter"



Citizens Bank of Weston

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

201 Main Ave.  
(304) 269-2862  
M-TH 8:30-3, FRI 8:30-5:30

JANE LEW BRANCH  
(304) 884-7825  
M-F 8:30-5:30

Custom Signs and Graphix

304 269-7700  
Rusty Allison, Owner

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

February 12, 20176th Sunday in Ordinary TimeVolume II, Issue 7

The Lewis County Catholic Times

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

UpFront  
with Mary Hendricks

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 12, 2017 Year A  
Matthew 5:17-37

Oh, no. Here comes another TED Talk story. You know me and those TED Talks.

So, this researcher did an experiment on what he called “Choice Blindness.” Subjects looked at two pictures of people and selected the one they considered more attractive. Then they explained why. Reasons included, “I liked his smile,” and, “She looks approachable,” and, “He seems a little more innocent than the other guy.” Most of the pictures were similar—same hair color, gender, and race—but not always.

Okay, here comes the ruse. Participants chose from 15 sets of cards. Each card had another card under it. In three of the 15 times a person picked a card, the cards were swapped. Even though the subject selected the card on the left, he or she received the card on the right, the opposite of the card they picked, a completely different person. They were able to make up a detailed explanation of why they chose the face they originally rejected. BUT, they were looking at the wrong card.

When asked if they would notice if the cards were switched, 84 percent of them insisted they definitely would know. Yet, 87 percent of the respondents didn’t notice that the cards had been switched. They were shocked and expressed disbelief after they were informed that the face they

chose wasn’t the face they were presented with.

What did the experiment prove? Petter Johansson, one of the researchers, said, “It shows that self-knowledge may really be self-interpretation. We make a choice and then make as much sense of it as possible when asked for an explanation. We do it with such ease that we think we actually know the answer when asked why. We create an attitude that wasn’t there before.” In other words, justification: “I chose this; I publicly said so; therefore, I must like it.”

Johansson added, “We know that we don’t know ourselves, at least not as well as we think we do.”

I think Jesus was telling his listeners today that they didn’t know themselves as well as they thought they did. They were following the law, for sure, but they were only scratching the surface.

He uses the fifth commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” as an example. None had committed murder, but Jesus tells them there is more to that commandment. Anger, slander, and lack of forgiveness. These actions don’t kill the body, but they kill the spirit.

When I teach the commandments to Religion 6, I use the seventh commandment as my example: “Thou shalt not steal.” Sure, none of my 11- and 12-year-olds is committing armed robbery, but are they cheating? That’s “stealing” answers from a classmate. Are they defacing property with graffiti? That’s devaluating another’s property, a form of stealing. Not paying a debt, not returning

a video game, fishing or hunting on another’s land without permission, keeping an item they’ve found without trying to find the true owner—all forms of stealing.

What Jesus is saying is that there is more to the commandments than the words written on the tablets. He wants them to look deeper into their hearts. Obeying the law is commendable, but what’s the motive? To look good in the eyes of others? To judge others as “less than” because they aren’t as righteous? To do the minimum because of fear of going to hell?

What if we obeyed the law because we wanted to live loving lives, unselfishly giving to others, respecting our neighbor, and wanting the best for everyone we meet? Jesus wants love to govern our choices, not the law.

Let’s study the cards, or in this case, look deeper into the intent of the law—love—and not be fooled by the switch when it comes.

What’s Inside...

Pastoral Notes & Ramblings Pg. 2

Weekly Liturgical Schedule Pg. 3

2017 St. Thomas Aquinas Winner Pg. 4

Liturgical Musings Pg. 5

Kid’s Corner Catechesis Pg. 6

CDA Education Contest Pg. 7



## Pastoral Notes & Ramblings

It goes without saying that there are some really nasty bugs going around town these days. Every morning I look over the students at daily Mass, and it's shocking to see how the numbers ebb and flow, as more and more of them get the "disease du jour". And none of us is completely immune to it. And the cold/snowy weekends have not been helpful in the realm of attendance either. Even I have found myself these past few days battling a dreadful sinus infection, which I can't really blame on anybody in particular, but given that I've been sicker this year than I've been in the past 10 years, I think it's accurate to say that no one is safe!

In an effort to help stifle the spread of disease in our parish community, especially in light of the many older parishioners who are particularly susceptible to illness, we all need to be more mindful of what we can do as individuals.

Please make a habit of washing your hands, and avoid touching your face as much as possible. If you are sick, or if you have been tending to sick people, be aware that you could be carrying an illness that could be transmitted to others.

Be mindful (and this is a sound liturgical note anyway) that the Sign of Peace is not an opportunity to greet our neighbors, socialize, catch up, etc. The GIRM specifies that a sign of peace should be given in "a sober manner" to those "immediately" beside us. It is a symbolic gesture, not a free-for-all. As we consider the public health risks associated with physical touch, reining in the

manner in which we give the Sign of Peace can be helpful in preventing the transmission of disease by limiting physical contact. If you are sick or have been attending to sick people, again be mindful of this and give a bow of the head or other indication of the Peace rather than shaking hands.

Finally, in an effort to curtail the spread of illness through the common chalices on the weekends, the practice of distributing Holy Communion under the species of wine will be suspended for the remainder of cold & flu season. Please note that this is not a permanent change, but a precaution (perhaps too little, too late) to help curtail the spread of illness among our parishioners. It is not a decision I relish or have made without careful consideration.

Please be aware that I will be away from the parish from February 8-17. Some of you

know that my brother and sister-in-law both serve in the US Air Force, and they are set to relocate their family to Okinawa, Japan, on February 23, for a 3-year deployment. As this is the last opportunity I will have to see them for a while (I have no immediate plans to travel to Japan!). This weekend, Msgr. Jeremiah McSweeney, former pastor of St. Patrick's has agreed to celebrate the 6:00 and 9:30 Masses. Fr. Timothy Grassi, pastor of the parishes in Thomas and Parsons, has agreed to celebrate the Latin Mass, which will be at 4:00 p.m. this Saturday. Please note that daily Masses will not be held this week. If you have an emergency and require the presence of a priest, please contact the parish office during business hours or Fr. Joe McLaughlin at Holy Rosary Parish in Buckhannon at 304-472-3414.

Please keep me and my brother's family in prayer.

### RCIC Class

RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) will meet on **Sunday, February 19 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



Take action! Live life to the full! And when others see the witness you give, they may ask: why do you live this way?

### Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will meet on **Sunday, February 19** 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.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### February -

- 12 Sun: GIFT, cafeteria, 10:30 DTS-6pm
- 19 Sun: 10:30, Confirmation Class, Cafeteria  
10:30 RCIC Class, cafeteria DTS-6pm
- 25 Sat: "Pursuit-" Youth Retreat, cafeteria, after 6pm Mass
- 26 Sun: DTS-6pm

#### March -

- 17 Fri: 6pm, Mass, followed by St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest

### Parish Prayer List

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- ◆ **Those who are sick:** Shirley Mason (SJM), Clara Ann Moran, (UHC), Sr. Theresa Metz (Wheeling Hospital), Anita Ballard, Geneva Glover, Jackie Robinson, James Carni, John Collins, Betty Reed, Virgil Gregory, Steve Colborn, Rose Determan, Robert Fealy, Carl Ford (Lynne Shaver's father), Rob Dodson, Larry Lowe, Shannon & George Kiro (Nick Kiro's sister and father), Shelly Kraus, Mary Ann Murray, Matt McCauley, Julieta Rilling, Burke Riley, Mike Riley, Jane Taylor, and Megan Westfall.
- ◆ **Those who have died:** William "Red" Aman (Dave Aman's father) 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:** Alan Hamilton



## 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.

### 2017 Catholic Daughters of the Americas Education Contest

Themes (Choose One)  
"Whatever you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me" (Mt. 25:40).

#### "Helping the Needy Where I Live"

- **Division 1** - Grades 4-5: Essay, Poetry, Art, Computer Art
- **Division 2** - Grades 6-7-8: Essay, Poetry, Art, Computer Art, Music, Photography
- **Division 3** - Grades 9-12 Essay, Poetry, Art, Computer Art, Music, Photography
- **Division 4** - Adult CDA members: Poetry, Art, Computer Art, Photography

Rules: Open to all students. All entries must be of contestant's own imagination and creation. Entry forms and contest rules are in the vestibule.

Entries must be received on or before February 15, 2017.

Your AD here

Contact the parish office  
for details

Family Dentistry of  
Weston, PLLC



304-269-6151



## 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.

(02/28/17)

[www.kofc1415.org](http://www.kofc1415.org)

Join us for service, fellowship,  
and spiritual growth!

### Thyme Bistro

Tue — Fri 11am-3pm / 5pm-9pm  
Sat: 5pm-9pm  
5 1/2 East Second St., Weston WV  
304-269-7177



**Jim Gildein, LUTCF**  
304-269-1487  
jim.gildein@kofc.org



Protecting Catholic families since 1882.  
Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance  
Retirement Annuities • Disability Insurance

### TED'S HEATING and COOLING

Jane Lew, WV

304 672-1145

### Garton Real Estate REALTORS

Charles G. Garton, Broker

465 Main Ave. 269-7676

Rudy Pascasio 517-7577

Derrick Love 269-2281

Veronica Brumley 269-3037

### Wilson's Flooring & Carpet Center

250 W. 2nd St.  
Weston, WV 26452  
304-269-4799  
[www.wilsonsfcc.com](http://www.wilsonsfcc.com)  
lwilson806@aol.com

### Pickens Automotive Service

518 N. Main Ave  
304 269-3254

We don't want an arm & a leg—we just want your "tows"!

### DC's Barber Shop

1 East Second St.  
Weston, WV 26452

### DR. DANIEL D. FARNSWORTH IV

Optometrist  
137 Main Ave.  
Weston  
269-2020



JENNY GARTON

Car ~ Home ~ Life ~ Health ~ Business

269-1414

51 Circle Heights  
Weston, WV 26452



Providing Insurance and Financial Services

### Weston Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Bill Moodispaw, DVM  
Sunset Acres—US 33 W  
269-3288

### JOHN E. LAW, CPA, A. C.

132 First St., Weston  
269-3304  
John E. Law- CPA, Betty  
Hill, CPA, Tom Stark



### J.R. Dodson

NORTH CENTRAL  
INSURANCE LLC  
100 MARKET PLACE  
MALL  
SUITE 13  
WESTON, WV 26452  
Phone: (304) 269-5330



Chris & Amber Heater

400 US Hwy. 33 E., Weston, WV 26452

304 269-3095 / 304 269-5523 fax

[www.gartoninsurance.com](http://www.gartoninsurance.com)

### Giovanni's

304 269-4563

DINE IN-CARRYOUT-DELIVERY

451 us Hwy 33 E, Weston, WV



A Tradition of Excellence



Don U. Wills  
Funeral Director

Patrick D. Boyle  
Owner, L I C

PO Box 569 144 Hackers Creek Rd.  
Jane Lew WV 26378

304-884-2400



[www.patboylefuneralhome.com](http://www.patboylefuneralhome.com)



Kids' Corner  
Catechesis

What Do Angels Really  
Look Like?

The word *angel* means "messenger." Angels are God's messengers. They can also be God's warriors. In the Bible we read about people who saw angels. Sometime the people knew they were angels, and sometimes they didn't. Some angels described in the Bible have wings. Those angels are called cherubim. But most of the angels in the Bible stories looked like regular people. We don't know what angels look like in heaven.

Key Verse

I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. Worship God!" (Revelation 22:8-9)

Related Verses

Genesis 19:1; Hebrews 13:2

Related Questions


Are angels boys or girls? Do angels eat?

Note to parents

You may want to ask if you child has seen a picture of an angel, perhaps in a children's Bible, in a painting, in the cartoons, etc. Those pictures often leave mental impressions about an angel's appearance.

CALENDAR CASH  
WINNERS

2/6 - \$75: Sabrina Hinkle sold by Carter Flesher  
2/7 - \$75: Jacque Henese by Kiersten Ammons  
2/8 - \$75: Martin Lloyd sold by Mia Parks  
2/9 - \$75: April Gettings sold by Reagan Smith



SoulCore class is held on the first and third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. If you would like to increase your SoulCore exercise experience, classes are offered on the third and fourth Thursday of each month at Marist Hall located at Holy Rosary Church in Buckhannon. If school is cancelled or there is an early dismissal due to weather, the classes are also cancelled.

Everyone is welcome to attend, men, women, and youth. Those under 18 will need a parent to sign a waiver.

There is a free-will offering for the class, but not required to attend! Bring an exercise mat and light hand weights if you have them! 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)!



St. Brendan Catholic Church in Elkins, West Virginia and Father Mark Gallipeau present

**Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes with Barcelona August 6-15, 2017**

2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions. In celebration, Fr. Mark Gallipeau will lead a special pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes. Departure date is August 6, 2017 and highlights of the trip include: Fatima, Aljustrel, Valinhos, Santarem, Cathedral of Burgos, Monastery of Santa Maria Real de las Huelgas, Lourdes, Grooto of Massabielle, Carcassone, Barcelona, La Sagrada Familia. Cost of trip is \$3,499 Double; \$3,899 Single; \$3,469 Triple and includes: Roundtrip Airfare from Pittsburgh; Pick-up (location to be determined); lodging; motor coach transportation; professional tour manager; taxes and service charges; baggage handling; hotel transfers; 8 breakfasts; 1 lunch and 7 dinners. Above prices guaranteed if deposit received by March 7, 2017. Brochures available in the church vestibule.

For more info, call Anita Petrella at 304-481-3222 or [ampetrella@yahoo.com](mailto:ampetrella@yahoo.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.*



**The Dead Theologians Society**

"Through the Saints of yesterday, the Dead Theologians Society inspires the youth of today to become the saints of tomorrow."

**The Next Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs Parish Meeting Room**

For updates and more information, text [@dts-weston](tel:30481010) to 81010

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

**Saturday—February 11**  
*Our Lady of Lores*  
5:00p Confessions  
6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for †John Gallagher by Barbara Daugherty  
RDGS: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6; 12-13; Mk 8:1-10

**Sunday — February 12**  
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
8:45a Confessions  
9:30a Mass for People of the Parish  
RDGS: Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34: 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

**3:15** Confessions  
**4:00p** Mass (Latin) for †Joe and Theresa Boyle by Family  
*Septuagesima Sunday*

**Monday — February 13**  
Monday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
**No Mass today!**  
RDGS: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13

**Tuesday — February 14**  
Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop  
**No Mass today!**  
RDGS: Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Ps 129:1a, 2,3ac-4; Mk 8:14-21

**Wednesday — February 15**  
Wednesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
**No Mass today!**  
RDGS: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 166: 12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-2

**Thursday — February 16**  
Thursday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
**No Mass today!**  
RDGS: Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-18, 19-23, 29; Mk 8:27-33

**Friday — February 17**  
The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order  
**No Mass today!**  
RDGS: Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34—9:1

**Saturday—February 18**  
Saturday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
5:00p Confessions  
6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for People of the Parish  
RDGS: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5; 10-11; Mk 9:2-13

**Sunday — February 19**  
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
8:45a Confessions  
9:30a Mass for William Rowan by family  
RDGS: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

**3:15** Confessions  
**4:00p** Mass (Latin) for †Pauline D'Aurora by Family  
*Sexagesima Sunday*

**Weekly Attendance & Collection**

<b>Saturday:</b>	110
<b>Sunday:</b>	173
<b>Latin Mass:</b>	15

<b>General:</b>	<b>\$3920.5</b>
<b>Loan:</b>	\$645
<b>School:</b>	\$580
<b>Latin Mass:</b>	\$194

(Tax statements for those giving more than \$200 in 2017 were mailed on January 31, if you did not receive one, please call the parish office at 304 269-3048.)

**Upcoming Collections and Appeals**  
March 1 (Ash Wednesday): Church in Central and Eastern Europe  
March 4 & 5: Catholic Missions among Black and Native Americans

**Ministry Schedule for February 18 and 19, 2017**

**Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017**  
Greeters: T. J. and Mindi Hall  
Servers: Logan and Hayden Barnette  
Reader: Tom Ruppert  
Offertory: Joe and Amanda Blake and family  
EMHC: Larry Bowers  
Cantor: Bob Thompson

**Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017**  
Greeters: Leslie Butcher and Tanya Riley  
Servers: Ethan Mehr, Jayna Jerden  
Reader: Michael Riley  
Offertory: Sandra and Danielle Mick  
EMHC: Jim Mehr  
**Cantor:** Jeremy Garton

**February Linens:** Luanne Bowers  
**February Funeral Greeters:** Gennette Casto, Barbara King



The St. Patrick Parish Store

Be sure to check out the Parish Store after Mass on Sundays, or whenever the Parish Office is open. Stock up on all the essentials, including Crucifixes, religious art, Catholic books, rosaries, etc. All proceeds go to support the parish.

Ordering catalogues are available for your convenience if there's something we don't have that you want.



Congratulations Jayna Jerden, the 2017 St. Thomas Aquinas Medal Winner.



Jayna is a sixth grade student at St. Patrick School. She will receive her medal at the Bishop's Cross dinner in April. She is pictured above with her parents, Eric and Judy Jerden.



GIFT

Growing In Faith Together  
"Healing the Wounds "

Our next inter-generational faith formation session will be Sunday, February 12 at 10:30 in the cafeteria. We will begin the session with a scrumptious meal provided by Sheila McCartney and her Girl Scout troop. Msgr. McSweeney will be the speaker.

COLLECTING OLD PALMS

Please bring your old palms to the church or church office this month. The palms will be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.



Middle & High School Rally & Confirmation Gathering  
Sunday, March 19

St. Joseph Cathedral, Wheeling, WV

This is an opportunity for ALL middle and high school students and teens preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation to gather. Small parishes and large parishes will be represented. Participants will have fun, meet new friends, pray, learn, laugh and have the opportunity to grow in their faith. The day is high energy, just like the participants, with lots of music and movement.

Contact Mary Hendricks or Judy Jerden for more information.

Tuition Assistance Program

For the 26th 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 who 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. More info

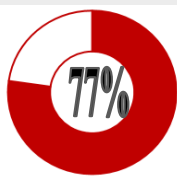
Alumni Pictures Needed

St. Patrick School is collecting Alumni pictures for our Alumni Wall. Please bring any photos to the school or church office. We will copy and return your pictures. Please turn in photos by March 1, 2017.

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

How does your family pursue Christ?

Join us for a Family Night for middle and high school families!

INSERT YOUR FAMILY HERE!

Join our Diocesan Missionaries from Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center for a family-oriented evening of prayer, song, and inspiration. Open to all middle school and high school students and their families.

Saturday, February 25  
Beginning with Mass at 6:00 and then moving into the School Cafeteria. All are welcome!

Liturgical Musings  
Pulling Back the Veil (6)

By Fr. J. DeViese

This last installment in our series on the history, usage, and importance of veils within our Catholic tradition focuses on an issue that has recently come back into vogue, namely the issue of women covering their heads in the Church. Prior to the 1983 Code of Canon Law, it was required that women wear a head covering whilst in the Church building (yes, even after the reform of the liturgy in 1969, this was the law until 1983, despite the fact that nobody observed it). The practice of covering one's head in a holy place is of the most ancient origin, as a sign of humility, reverence and respect. Coming from the teaching of St. Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians, women were instructed to cover their heads in worship that the glory of their beauty might be subordinated to the glory of God (cf. 1 Cor 11:2-16).

Obviously the question of women wearing veils in Church is one that stirs a great deal of debate, as many of Paul's reasons for a woman to wear a veil are rooted in what some consider to be out-moded interpretations of the respective roles of the genders. However, there is something to be said for the dignity and beauty of the female gender, especially when looked at through the lens of the Faith. Women are, in no small measure, a visible symbol of the Church, the Bride of Christ, and the veil is meant to be a visible reminder of the perfect submission of the Church to the loving will of Christ. Put another way, a head covering may be seen as a public proclamation that one is willing to submit to Christ out of love and serve without question.

For a similar reason, St. Paul forbids men to cover their heads. To cover one's baldness, a mark of shame, would be to hide one's humility with vanity and pride before God. At the heart of the issue for either gender—and a lesson that can be learned by all—is the fact that we all must seek to humble ourselves in the Divine Presence as a reminder that we are truly dependent upon God for all that we need, and that our devotion to Him must always begin with a recognition of our own sinfulness and His mercy.

So, all that having been said, there is no requirement that a woman keep her head covered. It is merely an option that some choose to exercise as a visible sign of their own private devotion. Lest we commit a grave uncharity toward one of our neighbors, we ought never to judge one way or the other. Private devotion is just that: private. And the diversity that we can see visibly in how people choose to express their devotion to God should be a comforting sign to us of the greatness of God and His love for all people.

A small liturgical curiosity: you may notice that in the Latin Mass, they have now entered into a season called Septuagesima (meaning 70th). The next three weekends are a countdown (Septuagesima-70, Sexagesima-60, Quinquagesima-50) to the Great Fast of Lent (Quadragesima, meaning 40). It is a pre-Lenten season of moderate penance meant to signify the 70-year Babylonian Captivity. It is a brief season that is observed in both Eastern Catholicism and Orthodoxy, as well as some strains of Lutheranism. Its significance will be more clear when we talk about Lent in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, it's a good reminder that it's never too early to start planning for Lent.

Commentary for the Readings in the Extraordinary Form:  
Septuagesima Sunday

"Why do you stand here all day idle?... Go you also into the vineyard" (Gospel).



As athletes of Christ we are called to a competitive "race" (Epistle). As workers with Christ we are ordered into the "vineyard" (Gospel).

It is a "race" with death for the "prize" of life eternal. Only "one receives the prize" by His own right, Christ! But, remember, He still runs in us if we do not lag in this "race," as did Israel under "Moses" (Epistle).

God comes to us "early" in life. Until the last "hour" He repeats, "Why . . . stand . . . idle?" Each "hour" brings us nearer to the "evening" of reward, not due to the excellence of our work in itself but mercifully given by God as a recompense (Gospel).

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

Liturgical Calendar for the Traditional Latin Mass During the Week	
02/13	Feria
02/14	St. Valentine, Priest & Martyr
02/15	SS Faustina & Jovita, Martyr
02/16	Feria
02/17	Feria
02/18	Saturday of Our Lady