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St. Patrick Catholic Church

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Weston, West Virginia 26452
www.spchurchweston.net
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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:

See Weekly Schedule

St. Patrick Catholic School

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

Maureen Gildein, Principal
Regina Frazier, Secretary

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

March 05, 2017

1st Sunday of Lent

Volume II, Issue 10

The Lewis County Catholic Times

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

Established 1848

It's the most wonderful time of the year," or so goes the Christmas song. It's a message of joy and hopeful anticipation—sentiments that seem to be quite foreign to the ethos of Lent, which is often expressed in dour faces and sullen attitudes. Oddly enough, however, the phrase “the most wonderful time of the year” far better expresses the Season of Lent than perhaps even Christmas. It seems odd at first. But in reality, our Lenten observance should equally be met with joy and hopeful anticipation—not because any joys or comforts that we are currently experiencing, but because of what we hope to achieve at Easter through undertaking our Lenten journey with seriousness and solemnity.

The Fathers of the Church and our greatest Saints all were great devotees of the Season of Lent as a means of furthering their own devotion and reevaluating the means by which they would achieve the holiness that each and every one of us should be seeking. Pope St. Leo the Great commented in one of his Lenten homilies that what the Church asks of us during Lent really and truly is precisely what we *should* be doing all year round, just in a more intense fashion. How it is that we as a Catholic people have gotten to the point of neglecting the acts of penance the other 325 days of the year is hard to say. Perhaps we have grown lax as a culture in general. Perhaps we have grown so accustomed to comfort that we have simply forgotten

that our call is not to comfort but to holiness, and the two rarely work well in concert with one another.

Whatever the case may be, as our Lenten journey begins, there is much that we can learn from the Fathers of the Church and the Saints of old, who consistently strove to better themselves and to remove from their lives anything that stood between them and their goal of sainthood. Their goal should be our goal. And their example of prayer and penance should be our model for how to achieve the salvation being won for us by the Cross of the Redeemer.

Sometimes it can be very easy during Lent to forget exactly why we adopt the practices that we do. It never hurts to be reminded that fasting (or abstaining) without prayer is just a diet; almsgiving without prayer is just social work; and Lent without prayer is just useless! When we approach this season with the necessary disposition of seeking holiness, then we do more than draw closer to Christ and His Cross. We open our hearts to God's radically life-altering love and set ourselves squarely on the path to become the Saints that we are destined to be. Our Lenten journey is not an end in itself, but the means to Easter greatness, to Easter glory. And the more we put into it now, the greater the rewards we will reap in 40 days' time.

Lent truly is the most wonderful time of the year, because it is our time to do the work that God asks of us, to step

up and grasp the opportunity for greatness that He offers to us. It is a time in which we can join together with our brothers and sisters, united in a single effort to change the world by changing our hearts and uniting them to Christ who has conquered the world. Yes, this is a wonderful time indeed, because we know what awaits us at Easter—the joy of salvation, the joy of holiness!

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UpFront
with Mary Hendricks

1st Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017 Year A
Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

God cannot be trusted.
Do you believe that? That’s what the serpent told Adam and Eve, and Eve bought it—hook, line, and sinker.

The first man and woman on earth had no reason to think that God couldn’t be trusted. Look at them! They were living in the most perfect place on earth, the Garden of Eden. Their every need was provided for them. Every evening God walked with them in the garden, talking with them as beloved friends. They didn’t have to work. Gee whiz, they didn’t even have to do laundry. Why would they have any reason to mistrust God, to doubt his loving care, to think he would betray them?

The first reading from Genesis tells us that the serpent “was the most cunning of all the animals.” By twisting around God’s command not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, he convinced Adam and Eve that God did not have their best interests

in mind. “You won’t die,” he tells them. “But you will become like him.”

Can’t you just see the wheels turning in Eve’s head? (wait—was the wheel invented yet?) “Hey! I could be just like God. That fruit looks pretty good, really good, in fact. Plus, I’ll get wisdom, too. What do I have to lose?”

Everything, baby. You can lose everything. And you did.

Here’s the thing: they both were already like God. A few verses earlier God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness.” But the serpent tempted her with more. It’s the same tactic he took with Jesus after his 40 days in the desert—more power, more possessions. It’s the same tactic he uses with us. Whatever we have isn’t quite good enough, and the devil tempts us with having more.

When Adam and Eve were tempted, they could have reached for the fruit on the Tree of Life. Its fruit would have been perfectly fine to satisfy hunger. The problem was they were convinced there was better fruit on the other tree. They gave into temptation.

Ah, temptation. Father Murphy told me once, “The best way to avoid temptation is to

stay away from it.” I laughed and asked, “How?” He replied, “Run.”

Yeah, we can run from temptation, but it will always be there. Even St. Francis was tempted. Here’s how he dealt with it: he sometimes rolled around in the snow. When there was no snow and St. Francis was strongly tempted, he would throw himself into wild rose thorn bushes. This would tear his skin and cause him to bleed. Once, St. Bernard of Clairvaux was so overcome with temptation that he ran to a pond, into icy water up to his neck, and stayed there until the temptation left him.

What if, instead of thorny bushes or into the snow, we ran toward God? The closer we are to him, the further we will stay from what tempts us. How do we get closer? What about the way we talk to God: prayer?

One of the three Lenten disciplines is prayer. A Religion 6 student, when asked what he was doing for Lent, said, “I’m going to spend 15 minutes a day with God.” If an 11-year-old can do that, what’s stopping the rest of us?

What most concerns me is the matter of *interior* orientation. When we attend Mass, where are our hearts and minds directed? This is an especially pertinent and important question when considering the texts of the Mass, all of which should be given prayerful thought throughout the liturgy. It is of note that outside of the homily and a few acclamations (e.g., “The Lord be with you, etc.), the priest rarely addresses the people directly. When one begins to read through the prayers of the liturgy, all of which are contained in our missalettes, it becomes clear very quickly that the prayers of the Mass are directed at God—in particular God the Father, through the Son, in union with the Holy Spirit.

This, then, begs the question of why we have such an obsession with the priest looking at everyone all the time, making eye contact, pandering, and generally “playing to the crowd,” when he isn’t speaking to them! I, for one, have never understood it. When I speak to my parish secretary, I look at her. When I address the mailman or my neighbor, I look at them. And when they speak to me, they look at me. Yet, for some strange reason, when we speak to God, we are compelled to look around at everyone except God!

Part of the problem is that when addressing God there is not always a clear focal point. Prior to the liturgical reforms of 1969, the focal point was clear. The priest, in union with the people, all turned to face God together, and the point to which prayers were directed was almost always the Crucifix hanging on the back wall or enshrined in the high altar. Now, things are more complicated. Yes, the people have an excellent focal point in the crucifix hanging on the back wall of the sanctuary. But what about the priest, the one who is actually praying the prayers? Forced to

face toward the people, across the altar table and down the aisle, there is no focal point—no unifying feature to which priest and people can together fix their gaze and direct their minds and hearts.

Soon after his election, Pope Benedict XVI began to set an example for how one might solve the problem of divided focal points by centering on the altar a large crucifix. The Church has always mandated that the priest face a crucifix whilst celebrating Mass, principally—as noted above—because of the connection between the image of Christ crucified and the action of the Eucharistic sacrifice. Pope Benedict’s example, then, provided to the world a feasible solution in modeling what has become the Benedictine altar arrangement, which is prominently featured in our parish at all Masses. The logic behind this is, again, to bridge that gap between priest and people by giving each the same focal point, but without grasping the “third rail” of pastoral ministry by daring to celebrate Mass actually facing the same focal point as the people. So much ignorance and vitriol has been spewed in the past four decades about the priest celebrating Mass “with his back to the people,” that such practices—which permitted and encouraged by the Church—tend to cause more division (ironically enough) and accusations of clericalism than putting the priest on one side of the altar and the people on the other somehow manages to conjure up.

My own thoughts on the subject of liturgical posture aside, I broach this subject now, rather than two months ago, because I feel it to be especially necessary as we enter into the Season of Lent. It is during this time

Continued on page 4



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, March 20 at 6 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.



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.

Your AD here

Contact the parish office for details

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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.

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Liturgical Musings

Having entered into the Season of Lent, there is much that can be said about the sensual experience of the Season, most of which we discussed last week in anticipation of the Lenten austerity that is now visible in our sanctuary and perceptible in our music. Since the great Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord at Christmas, however, I have neglected to discuss the single most visible characteristic of our sanctuary—the arrangement of the altar—and Lent is an excellent time to have the discussion.

Much ink (and some proverbial blood) has been spilled over the issue of liturgical *orientation* in recent decades. Most of our older parishioners can remember Mass being celebrated at a glorious high altar, with the priest facing not toward the people for the celebration of the Eucharist, but towards the crucifix, the image of which is the visible reminder of the reality of what takes place in the Eucharistic sacrifice.

Discussions of which direction the priest faces during Mass often crop up as dividing lines between liberals and conservatives, progressives and traditionalists. They are useless arguments because the documents of the Church are abundantly clear, and I have no intention of even broaching the subject. Anyone interested in understanding better the arguments for or against the priest facing in either direction should refer to Fr. Uwe Michael Lang’s definitive work on the subject, *Turning Towards the Lord*.

Kids' Corner
Catechesis

How do we know that what
the Bible says is True?

The Bible is true because it is God's Word, and God always speaks the truth. When you read the Bible, you will see that it says it is the Word of God. The Bible also says that every word in it is true. But if that doesn't convince you, read the Bible and see for yourself that everything makes sense. When you read it, you will think. This sound right! This is true. The Bible has also proven to be true over the many hundreds of years since it was written. For example, many events predicted in the Bible have happened, just as it said they would.

Key Verse

The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God. It is useful to teach us what is true. It helps us to know what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and helps us do what is right. (2 Timothy 3:16)

Related Verses

John 10: 34-36; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 3: 15-16

Related Question

Did the Bible stories really happen or are they like fairy tales?

Note to parents

Children usually will not raise this question as a matter of curiosity until they are older. Most will only ask a question like this if they are

- 1) Mocked for believing the Bible, or
- 2) Don't want to do something God wants them to do. If your children ask it, you might want to probe further before or after answering.

Parish Prayer List

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- ◆ **Those who are sick:** Frank Lydon, Sharon Lowe, and Christine Marsh (SJM), Jim Kerrigan (Mon General), Victoria Radcliff, Anna Crim (Ruby), Sr. Theresa Metz, Nick Bakas, Anita Ballard, James Carni, Steve Colburn, 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, Clara Ann Moran, Mary Ann Murray, Julieta Rilling, Burke Riley, Mike Riley, Tim Rinehart, Jackie Robinson, 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:** Alan Hamilton

Please contact the parish office or use one of the envelopes in the vestibule to schedule your Mass Intentions.

CALENDAR CASH
WINNERS

2/24/2017: \$75, Michelle Posey sold by E. Lybarger
2/25/2017: \$75 Tim Brown sold by J. Cunningham
2/26: \$100 Mandy Bennett sold K. Bennett
2/27/17: \$75 Tim Monepenny sold by N. Haught
2/28/17: \$500 Wilbur Swisher sold by B. Jordan

Winners are updated daily on the schools website: www.stpatswv.org.

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

Every Sunday @ 6 pm
in the downstairs Parish Meeting Room

For updates & more info,
text @dts-weston to 81010



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.

For additional information, contact Rachel at rachelfweber@yahoo.com or go to www.soulcore.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.

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

Saturday—March 4
Saturday after Ash Wednesday
5:00p Confessions
6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for †John Wyllie III
RDGS: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:24-37

Sunday — March 5
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
8:45a Confessions
9:30a Mass for People of the Parish
RDGS: Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11
11:45 Confessions
12:00p Mass (Latin) for †Joseph & Pearl Arsenault by Jim & Tammy Arsenault
First Sunday of Lent

Monday — March 6
Monday of the First Week of Lent
8:15a Mass for †Rev. John Ralph
RDGS: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday — March 7
Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
8:15a Mass for by †Mary A. Hines by Junior and Veronica Brumley
RDGS: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday — March 8
Saint John of God, Religious
3-6:00p Eucharistic Adoration (Benediction at 5:45)
3-5:45p Confessions
6:00p Mass for †Clarence Weber by Tom Ruppert
RDGS: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday — March 9
Saint Francis of Rome, Religious
8:15a Mass for by †Charles Garton by Deborah K. Garton
RDGS: Est C 12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday — March 10
Friday of the First Week of Lent
8:15a Mass for by †Bettie Jo Newhouse by Family
RDGS: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday—March 11
Saturday of the First Week of Lent
5:00p Confessions
6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for †Margaret Shea by Joh and Jackie McLaughlin
RDGS: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2,4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday — March 12
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
8:45a Confessions
9:30a Mass for People of the Parish
RDGS: Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-19
11:45 Confessions
12:00p Mass (Latin) for †Marjorie Ruppert by Weber Family

Second Sunday of Lent

Weekly Attendance & Collection

Saturday: 111
Sunday: 190
Latin Mass: 19

General: \$4087
Loan: \$245
School: \$0
Latin Mass: \$201

(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 4 & 5: Catholic Missions among Black and Native Americans
March 19 & 20: Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund

Ministry Schedule for
March 11 & 12, 2017

Saturday, March 11, 2017
Greeters: Kelley Skinner
Servers: Zoe and Garrett Skinner, Joseph Blake
Reader: Diane Collins
Offertory: Tom and Margaret Blake
EMHC: Larry Bowers
Cantor: Brenda Reed

Sunday, March 12, 2017
Greeters: Payton and Jordyn Aman
Servers: Drew Bailey, Brayden Carder, Jacob Aman
Reader: Jayna Jerden
Offertory: Eric and Judy Jerden
EMHC: Marissa Aman
Cantor: Brenda Riley

March Linens: Kathy Boyle
March and April Funeral Greeters: George Garton and Judy Foster

“Liturgical Musings” continued
that our hearts and minds should be lifted to God, and our gaze fixed firmly on the crucifix. People may complain that they “can’t see Father” or “feel separated” from the Mass, but in reality, when we look past the physical, we see that the priest and his people are finally turned (at least spiritually) in the same direction, with both looking squarely at the Lord—instead of priest looking at the people who are looking at the Lord. Lent is a time in which we are called to look with the eyes of our hearts and to see beyond the physical to understand the great spiritual realities that are always there before us but rarely seem to be noticed. Our call in Lent is to turn toward the Lord in prayer, to seek Him in all our doings, and to see past the things of this world, opening our hearts instead to the life of the world to come, which awaits us at Easter.

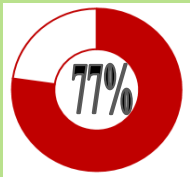
I’M IN! CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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



EVERYONE IS IRISH on St. Patrick's Day!

IRISH FEST

Friday, March 17, 2017

St. Pat's Gym

- ♣ Mass at 6pm, St. Patrick Church
- ♣ Catered Corned Beef or Chicken Dinner at 6:30pm
- ♣ Entertainment
- ♣ Games for the Kids—Gold Coin Scavenger Hunt & Leprechaun Relay, Paint Misbehavin' Face Painting
- ♣ 50/50 & Tips Raffles

TICKETS: \$15/adult \$6/children

Tickets available at 210 Center Ave. or 304-269-3048

Saint Joseph's Table & the 40 Cans for Lent Food Drive

This Lent, the Knights of Columbus Council 1415 will be conducting a canned food drive. The intent of this Knight of Columbus tradition is to fulfill the Council's obligation to charity by helping the needy during the Easter season. This year, the food drive will be open to the entire parish and will be coordinated with Saint Joseph's Table on the corresponding feast day of March 19. There is a history behind Saint Joseph's table that states in earlier centuries, there was a famine in Italy and the people prayed for the intercession of Saint Joseph to end the drought. After the prayers brought relief to the region, the practice of preparing a feast for the poor was started in memory of the

patron saint of workers and protector of families. The goal is for each of us to donate one can of food for each day of Lent to achieve a total of forty cans. We will amass the donations at the altar of Saint Joseph right here in church and all donations will then be distributed to a food bank at the conclusion of Lent. The donated cans can be any size or type of food, but please keep in mind that your contribution does need to be in a nonperishable canned item. Please prayerfully consider participating in this parish endeavor.

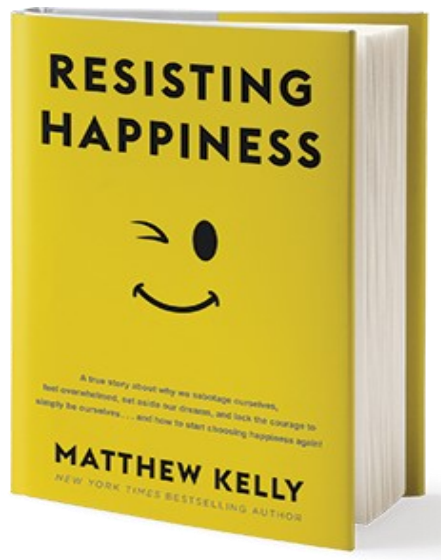


Various Goings-On During Lent

- **Stations of the Cross**, every Friday at 6:00 p.m. (except March 17)
- **Fish Fry**, every Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Carry-out available. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.
- **Eucharistic Adoration**, every Wednesday from 3:00 p.m., concluding with Benediction at 5:55. Rosary will be prayed at the normal time. (This takes the place of the previously scheduled Adoration period on Fridays.)
- **Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation**, every Wednesday, 3:00-5:45 p.m.; Saturday, 5:00-5:45 p.m.; Sunday, 8:45-9:15 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- **Lenten Penance Service**, Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 p.m.

St. Patrick School Now Enrolling!!!

St. Patrick School is accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year for students in Pre-School through 8th grade. For more information, visit our website at www.stpatswv.org or call the school office at 269-5547.



“Resisting Happiness” Study Group will have its first meeting on Monday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room. All are invited and welcome to attend. Bring your copy of “RH” and come join us!

Depriving Ourselves of Something Good.



Abstinence makes
the heart grow
fonder.

facebook: Adoremus in Aeternum, a Catholic Tradition

The Knights of Columbus invite you to a Fish Fry every Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the School Cafeteria. Fish, hush puppies, baked beans, coleslaw, and brownie: \$12 for adults, \$6 for children (mac & cheese available!).

**Pope Francis “Tweets”
@ Pontifex**

“Prayer is the key that opens God’s merciful heart.”



Commentary for the Readings in the Extraordinary Form:
Second Sunday of Lent

"Behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elias talking together with Him" (Gospel).



Last Sunday we beheld Jesus as Man, suffering and conquering the three temptations. Today a faint glimpse of Jesus as God is a further Lenten incentive against discouragement or failure.

We behold Moses, the lawgiver, pointing to the code of the Ten Commandments; Elias, the prophet, pointing to the creed of Divine Truth. "This is the will of God. . .walking" in the way of His Commandments (Epistle, applying your mind to Divine Truth, so that "you (may) learn how to possess (your) vessel in holiness."

"Your sanctification (Epistle) is an *interior* obligation in your own private *life*; also *exterior* (Prayer), to the extent of helping your neighbor, for "the Lord is the avenger" of deception in everyday business (Epistle).

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

Liturgical Calendar for the Traditional Latin Mass During the Week

03/06	Feria of Lent
03/07	St. Thomas Aquinas <i>Confessor & Doctor; Patron</i>
03/08	Ash Wednesday
03/09	Feria of Lent
03/10	Feria of Lent
03/11	Ember Saturday