

# The Lewis County Catholic Times

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

Established 1848

Tree of Liberty, Tree of Life:  
Church, State, and the Blood of the Lamb

On Tuesday of this week, our nation will cease most of its activities and join together to celebrate our Independence Day, on which the members of the Continental Congress, pledging their Lives, their Freedoms, and their Sacred Honor in signing their names to the Declaration of Independence. Tensions within the British colonies of America had risen to a level that they could no longer be ignored nor contained, and the dream of separation from Great Britain began to spread, though not nearly as much as what our sanitized mythology may lead one to believe. In recent years, the bombshell Broadway production of “Hamilton” and the excellent AMC television series “Turn” have painted a far more realistic and somewhat gritty approach to American history that makes the audacity of independence and the sacrifice of those who fought in the American Revolution far more significant. As one who had family who fought in the Revolution (Lt. John C. Chapman, Battle of King’s Mountain, 1780), and who attended a school founded in the wake of the Revolution (1775)



and had its own regiment in Virginia during the war, I have always been particularly fascinated by that period in our nation’s history.

One of the enduring marks of war is undoubtedly the shedding of blood. In our modern, 24-hour-news-cycle world, stories about the scourge of war are sanitized. We do not see blood or suffering—just clouds of smoke in the distance. But the reality is far different, and it has always been so. In a letter in 1787, Thomas Jeffers wrote: “The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural manure.” And so, as we mark the beginning of our nation’s independence this year, we ought not forget the bloody sacrifice of those who have watered that Tree of Liberty throughout the past 241 years.

The month of July holds for us as Catholics a different focus on blood, for it is the month dedicated to the Precious Blood of Our Lord. And there is no shortage of parallels between our Faith and our Nation when it comes to a meditation on the Precious Blood. Consider the Tree of Liberty of which Jefferson wrote. Do we not kneel in homage of a greater tree, the Cross of Christ, in which is all our hope? And was not this tree watered with the blood of not any innocent, but the innocent victim, the spotless Lamb of God? And was that flow of blood not inflicted that we might gain not merely civil liberty, but the ultimate free-

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## Commentary for the Readings in the Extraordinary Form:

### Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



"Put out into the deep . . . lower your nets for a catch . . . Henceforth thou shalt catch men" (Gospel)

Simon Peter received the "call to action." How did he respond? "At Thy word I will lower the net." What was his reward? "All . . . were amazed at the catch." The call to Catholic Action has been repeated by the Popes in our day. "They (have) beckoned to their comrades . . . to come and help them" (Gospel).

More than ever in this age of global war, "all creation groans . . . in pain," waiting for "redemption" from life-killing sin; waiting for its "adoption" into Divine Life "as sons" of God (Epi9stle). For their sake we must act as members of a Church Militant, not of a Church "pacifist" or sleeping. "Enlighten my eyes, that I never sleep in death" (Offertory).

*Do not be afraid* to answer this call for Catholic Action; "put out into the deep!" "Lower your nets!" even though "armies in camp should stand together against" you (Introit).

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

### Liturgical Calendar for the Traditional Latin Mass During the Week

07/03	St. Irenaeus, <i>Bishop &amp; Martyr</i>
07/04	Commem. of All Holy Popes
07/05	St. Anthony Mary Zaccariah
07/06	Jesus Christ the High Priest
07/07	SS. Cyril & Methodius, <i>Bishops &amp; Confessors</i>
07/08	St. Elizabeth of Portugal, <i>Queen &amp; Widow</i>

### Parish Store

Don't forget to check out our parish store, located in the Parish Office Building! There are many religious articles, books, rosaries, statues, etc. available. Catalogs are available for ordering.

**OPEN** (When the parish office is open.)

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

## CAMP BOSCO

(4weeks to choose from!)

July 2 - 8

July 9 - 15

July 16 - 22

July 23 - 29

grades 3rd-12th.

Cost is \$315.00 per child  
(Scholarships are available)

Registrations for Camp Bosco are being accepted. All parish youth are encouraged to come spend a week of fun, adventure, and prayer.

Applications are available online at [campbosco.com](http://campbosco.com).



### Knights of Columbus

*In service to One, In service to all.*

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

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

**Join us for service, fellowship, and spiritual growth!**

### Parish Membership & Benefits:

To be considered an "active" member of the parish (and thus eligible for Sacraments, sponsor eligibility, and the "Catholic tuition" rate at St. Patrick's School), the parish takes into account family & individual involvement in parish life and ministries, and Mass attendance. Mass attendance is only able to be tracked accurately via collection envelopes. If you are not receiving envelopes currently, please contact the parish office. Parishioners over 18 are encouraged to register as their own household to help us keep records accurate and up-to-date.



### Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Join Fr. DeViese on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 2018. The trip will include visits to all major Biblical sites, including the holiest sites in Christianity in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and the Sea of Galilee. (Also, a possibility of an optional extension trip to Rome for a few days at the end.)

Stay updated on cost and final itinerary by signing up for information at:

[www.travelillum.com/trc/lpa](http://www.travelillum.com/trc/lpa)

Those who sign up through the website will be given first priority once registration opens.

### How Can I Help?

The following items are collected continually at our church.

- Snack food items for our backpack food program.
- Box tops, Coke reward points for the school.
- Can tabs for Ronald McDonald House.
- Old towels, sheets, and blankets for animal rescues, shelters, and vet offices.
- Used ink cartridges
- NEW socks collected by the Catholic Daughters to be donated to homeless shelters.

## Pastoral Notes & Ramblings

### Lost Members of the Body of Christ

Pastoral ministry often gives one a new and different perspective on the life of a parish as one sees the many difficulties that afflict the members of the Body of Christ at the local level. As many of our communities in West Virginia begin to age, the demographics of our parish communities follow suit. Here at St. Patrick's we have been very blessed to remain a relatively young and vibrant community, due in no small part to our thriving parish school. Yet, even we are not immune to the ageing process. As the years go on, many of our parishioners seem to vanish from our pews, as life begins to take its toll. For the majority of them, as our Lord said in the Garden of Gethsemane, "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak."

Ministry to our homebound parishioners is one of the most important things we can do as a parish community, as it fulfills many of the precepts given to us by Christ, not least among them the Corporal Work of Mercy "Visit the Sick." Even in the earliest days of the Church, members of the community were deputed as custodians of the Blessed Sacrament and would carry Holy Communion to those who were absent from the Mass due to illness or infirmity. Our own parish carries on that noble tradition in our many Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who faithfully seek out and

visit our homebound parishioners on a weekly basis.

Time and again I hear the same exclamations from our homebound parishioners about how

these visits make them feel connected to the parish and help them to remain a part of the community that has been their home for decades. But over the course of time, it can become difficult to keep tabs on everyone, and periodically it becomes necessary to revise our listing of homebound parishioners. My reason for writing this missive is precisely that: to inquire among our entire parish family as to those members of our community who are currently unable to attend weekend Mass due to illness or infirmity. **If you know of someone who is currently homebound—regardless of whether they are currently being visited by one of our ministers—please contact the parish office with their name and contact information.** It is a necessary part of who we are as Catholics that we look after our brothers and sisters, ensuring that they are never forgotten or overlooked. Together we can all contribute to building up the Body of Christ in our community by ensuring that all its members, no matter how unseen they might be, are able to participate fully in the life of the Church, who does not merely value them, but who puts them on a pedestal as examples of Faith, of dignity, and of perseverance to all who encounter them.

Let us all continue to pray for our sick and homebound parishioners, that God will grant them healing and strength, and that they will one day soon return to gather with us around the Altar of the Lord!



### 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**

Let us seek to always hold high the "tone" of our life, remembering the goal and glory for which we exist, work, struggle and suffer.

## Kids' Corner Catechesis

### Why Did God Create the World?

God created the world and everything in it because he enjoys making things, and he wanted to be with us. God created people because he wanted to have friends, men and women, boys and girls, with whom he could share his love. He created the world for them to live in and enjoy.

### Key Verses

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth ... Then God looked over all that he had made. It was excellent in every way. (Genesis 1:1, 31)

### Related Verse

Genesis 1:1-2:1; Psalm 19:1, Isaiah 45:7

### Note to Parents

This question is a good opportunity to tell your children that God's plan involves them. God created the world and everything in it - including your children - so that he could have people to love.

## Weston Vicariate C.A.M.P. (Catholic Awareness Mid-summer Program)

**July 30 - August 5!**

**COST: \$200**

Families with more than one child attending will pay \$100 for each additional child. Scholarships are available!

Registration forms are in the church office. Spots are filled on a first come, first serve basis!

**REGISTER TODAY!**

C.A.M.P. is staffed entirely by volunteers and is held at Camp Bosco in Huttonsville.