

# The Lewis County Catholic Times

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

Established 1848

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, formerly referred to as "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

Today's Mass establishes the titles for Christ's royalty over men: 1) Christ is God, the Creator of the universe and hence wields a supreme power over all things; "All things were created by Him"; 2) Christ is our Redeemer, He purchased us by His precious Blood, and made us His property and possession; 3) Christ is Head of the Church, "holding in all things the primacy"; 4) God bestowed upon Christ the nations of the world as His special possession and dominion.

Today's Mass also describes the qualities of Christ's kingdom. This kingdom is: 1) supreme, extending not only to all people but also to their princes and kings; 2) universal, extending to all nations and to all places; 3) eternal, for "The Lord shall sit a King forever"; 4) spiritual, Christ's "kingdom is not of this world." — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Rudolph G. Gandas

Before the reform of the Roman Calendar in 1969, this feast was celebrated on the last Sunday of October.

The liturgy is an album in which every epoch of Church history immortalizes itself. Therein, accordingly, can

be found the various pictures of Christ beloved during succeeding centuries. In its pages we see pictures of Jesus suffering and in agony; we see pictures of His Sacred Heart; yet these pictures are not proper to the nature of the liturgy as such; they resemble baroque altars in a gothic church. Classic liturgy knows but one Christ: the King, radiant, majestic, and divine.

With an ever-growing desire, all Advent awaits the "coming King"; in the chants of the breviary we find repeated again and again the two expressions "King" and "is coming." On Christmas the Church would greet, not the Child of Bethlehem, but the Rex Pacificus — "the King of peace gloriously reigning." Within a fortnight, there follows a feast which belongs to the greatest of the feasts of the Church year -- the Epiphany. As in ancient times oriental monarchs visited their principalities (theophany), so the divine King appears in His city, the Church; from its sacred precincts He casts His glance over all the world...On the final feast of the Christmas cycle, the Presentation in the Temple, holy Church meets her royal Bridegroom with virginal love: "Adorn your bridal chamber, O Sion, and receive Christ your King!" The burden of the Christmas cycle may be summed up in these words: Christ the King establishes His Kingdom of light upon earth!

If we now consider the Easter cycle, the luster of Christ's royal dignity is indeed somewhat veiled by His sufferings; nevertheless, it is not the suffering Jesus who is present to the eyes of the Church as much as Christ the royal He-



ro and Warrior who upon the battlefield of Golgotha struggles with the mighty and dies in triumph. Even during Lent and Passiontide the Church acclaims her King. The act of homage on Palm Sunday is intensely stirring; singing psalms in festal procession we accompany our Savior singing: Gloria, laus et honor tibi sit, Rex Christe, "Glory, praise and honor be to Thee, Christ, O King!" It is true that on Good Friday the Church meditates upon the Man of Sorrows in agony upon the Cross, but at the same time, and perhaps more so, she beholds Him as King upon a royal throne. The hymn Vexilla Regis, "The royal banners forward go," is the more perfect expression of the spirit from which the Good Friday liturgy has arisen. Also characteristic is the verse from Psalm 95, Dicite in gentibus quia Dominus regnavit, to which the early Christians

Continued on pg. 2

## Commentary on the Readings for the Last Sunday after Pentecost

"...Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man, He will send forth His angels with a trumpet. They will gather His elect from the four winds" (Gospel).

The world coming to its end! Such an announcement would make "all tribes of the earth mourn," especially him who clings to earthly things and now realizes he must "not turn back to take his cloak." Let us be realists: the world will dissolve, disappear in ruin!



The liturgical year comes to an end today. It is the symbol of the final assumption of Jesus' Mystical Body into heaven, the last act in an eternal drama.

May we flee from the "false christs" who "lead astray... even the elect" (Gospel), enslaving, misleading, corrupting their minds, by the press, over the television and the movie screen.

Excerpted from My Sunday Missal, Confraternity of the Precious Blood

### What's Inside...

Liturgical Calendar	Pg. 3
Ministry Schedule	Pg. 2
Prayer List	Pg. 3
Upcoming Events	Pg. 2

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210 Center Avenue  
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[www.spchurchweston.net](http://www.spchurchweston.net)  
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**Secretary:**  
Sandra Mick, Parish Secretary  
secretary@spchurchweston.net

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

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

Wednesday, 5:00 to 5:45p.m.  
Friday, 9:00 to 9:30a.m.

CCD and Sacramental Prep  
Sunday, 8:30—9:15, school

Introduction to Catholicism/RCIA  
Sunday, 8:30—9:15, parish office

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

Micki Snyder, 304 269-3688  
or 304 476-8819

Announcements for the Lewis County Catholic Times must be submitted by 4pm on Tuesday. Email submissions to: [secretary@spchurchweston.net](mailto:secretary@spchurchweston.net).

Neither in the time after Pentecost is the picture of Christ as King wholly absent from the liturgy. Corpus Christi is a royal festival: "Christ the King who rules the nations, come, let us adore" (Invit.). In the Greek Church the feast of the Transfiguration is the principal solemnity in honor of Christ's kingship, *Summum Regem gloriae Christum adoremus* (Invit.). Finally at the sunset of the ecclesiastical year, the Church awaits with burning desire the return of the King of Maj-

Saturday:	91
Sunday:	190
Latin Mass:	24

- Dec. 9 & 10: National Appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious
- Dec. 25: Catholic Charities of West Virginia

**Dec. Funeral Greeters:** Mary Wagoner  
and Mary Ellen Rittenhouse

Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

Join us on Saturday, December 9, for a day of prayer and reflection to help prepare our hearts for Advent and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Day of Recollection begins at 9:00 a.m. in the School Cafeteria. Lunch will be provided.

Our annual Advent mailing was sent out this week. If you do not receive one, please contact the parish office so we can correct your address in or add it to our database.

27 Mon: food, toy, hat, gloves (mittens), scarves and coat drive begin  
28 Tue: 6pm, SoulCore, cafeteria

2 Sat: 7pm, Choir Practice, choir loft  
9 Sat: 9am, Day of Recollection, cafeteria  
9 Sat: 7pm, Choir Practice, choir loft  
11 Mon: 7pm, Advent Penance service  
12 Tue: Angel Tree gifts deadline  
12 Tue: 6pm, SoulCore, cafeteria  
14 & 15: St. Patrick parishioners ringing the  
Salvation Army Christmas Bell at  
CVS  
16 Sat: 7pm, Choir Practice, choir loft  
23 Sat: 7pm, Choir Practice, choir loft  
26 Tue: 6pm, SoulCore, cafeteria

◆ **All Military Personnel:** Alan Hamilton, Aaron Hamilton, Fred Turner

11/27	Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11/28	Feria
11/29	St. Saturninus, Martyr
11/30	St. Andrew, Apostle
12/1	Sacred Heart of Jesus
12/2	Saint Vivian, Virgin and Martyr

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19, 1 Cor  
1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

12:30p Mass (Latin) for Mass for People of the Parish  
*First Sunday of Advent*

5:00p	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
5:30p	Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena
5:45p	Benediction
<b>Friday (When school students are present.)</b>	
9:00a	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30a	Benediction

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