JENNY GARTON

' Home ~ Life ~ Health ~ Business State Farm 51 Circle Heights

Weston, WV 26452

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

The Physicians of St. Joseph's

304-473-2200

The Right Care is Right Here

Citizens Bank of Weston

GJ GARTON Chris & Amber Heater

400 US Hwy. 33 E.,Weston, WV 26452 304 269-3095 / 304 269-5523 fax www.gartoninsurance.com



202 Bland St.

304-269-7177 125 Main Ave.



FOSTER FEED

Weston, WV 26452 304-269-1333

201 Main Ave.

(304) 269-2862 (304) 884-7825 M-TH 8:30-3, FRI 8:30-5:30 M-F 8:30-5:30

304 672-1145



Veterinary O

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

Automotive LI-HAUL

518 N. Main Ave 304 269-3254 We don't want an arm & a leg—we just want your "tows"

City **Barber Shop** Main Ave. Weston

TED'S HEATING and COOLING Jane Lew, WV

Barber Shop 115 Bank Alley

JANE LEW BRANCH

Weston, WV 26452 Tom Fealy, owner

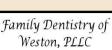
Charlie's

Hardman-Paletti **Funeral Home**

730 N. Main Avenue Weston, WV 26452 (304) 269-5005

C. David Hardman Owner /Licensee in Charge www.hardman-palettifuneralhome.com

John Paletti Owner



Member FDIC

304-269-6151

Hickory House Restaurant

Jackson's Mill Road/ **Hwy 19** 269-7373 11 am—9 pm Daily





Patrick D. Boyle, Licensee In Charge Jonathan Clutter, Don U. Wills Sicensed Funeral Directors

PO Box 569 144 Hackers Creek Rd. Jane Lew, WV 26378 (304) 884-2400



www.patboylefuneralhome.com

BHD VAIIIII S

304 269-4563 DINE IN-CARRYOUT-DELIVERY 451 us Hwy 33 E, Weston, WV



SJMH



DR. DANIEL D. FARNSWORTH IV

Optometrist 137 Main Ave. & G 269-2020

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

Real Estate Marketing

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



"Where Your Final Wishes Matter"

304 269-7700 Rusty Allison, Owner

JOHN E. LAW, CPA. A. C. 132 First St., Weston

269-3304 John E. Law- CPA, Betty Hill,-CPA, Tom Stark



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



Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insura

Interested in Advertising in The Lewis **County Catholic Times?** Call 304-269-3048

St. Patrick Catholic School

Pre-School - 8th Grade 224 Center Ave. Weston, WV 26452 www.stpatswv.org 304-269-5547 email: st.pats@stpatswv.org Maureen Gildein, Principal Regina Frazier, Secretary

March 4, 2018 Third Sunday of Lent

The Lewis County Catholic Times

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

spent almost all his public life and did all the majority of them. They had made up 2006 years since the birth of Christ. Who his preaching in Galilee and its their minds and "there are none so blind was he, why was he born, why does the neighborhood. St. John who wrote his as those who will not see." gospel several years later corrects this The reasons for their blindness were came, B.C., and after he came, A.D.? In false impression by mentioning visits the same as those that keep millions of every town and village of our once made by our Lord to Jerusalem, He gave the neo-pagans of today from accepting Christian western world there is a church the "leaders of the people" in Jerusalem and living the Christian faith. These, like or two with steeples pointing to the sky. plenty of opportunity of hearing his the priests and Pharisees of Jerusalem in Why? What do churches mean to men? message and his claims. He also worked the year 28, are so immersed in the Near every town there are cemeteries or

some astounding miracles in or near the city. For instance, the man crippled for thirtyeight years (Jn. 5); the man born blind (Jn. 9), the raising of Lazarus; who had been four days buried (Jn. 11). St. John makes it very clear that the leaders (the priests and Pharisees) in Jerusalem were given every opportunity to learn who Jesus was, and every help to believe in him, but they would not. The fault was theirs, therefore, and the loss.



death, for they asked Pilate to place a contemporaries' aims may not go so far, during our years on earth. guard on his tomb lest his disciples but worldly aims are important enough in had risen for: "we recall," they said, "that their minds the thought of anything O.F.M.

he Gospel is from St. John 2:13 this impostor said while he was still higher. Yet, they have more than enough -25. If we had only the Synoptic living, 'after three days I shall rise reminders whichever way they turn to gospels (Mt., Mk., Lk.) we again" (Mt. 27: 63). But even the recall their minds to the historical facts could easily conclude that Jesus miracle of his resurrection did not affect of Christianity. This is 2006 A.D., that is world divide its history into before he

Volume III, Issue 9

"sleeping places," according to the meaning of that Greek word. Are those buried there only sleeping and waiting to be called, if not already called, or are they finished forever just like the ox or the unthinking cow that may be buried in the next field.

The agnostics and freethinkers of our day should start to think about the real facts of life—the central ones of which are that Christ, who was the Son of God, took our human nature and lived for

On this particular visit he made it affairs of this world that they can give no some time on this earth, so that he would clear to them that he was someone thought to their own future. Their eyes raise us up to sonship with God. He special, someone close to God whose are so fixed on the earthly objectives that suffered crucifixion, because the world house they were descrating, and whom they have set themselves, that they can was full of sin when he came. But his he even called his Father. In hidden see nothing else. The priests and death made atonement to the heavenly language he told them that they would Pharisees wanted more than political Father for all the sins of the world. His put him to death but that that would not freedom from Rome. They had hopes resurrection from the dead was the be the end, for he would rise again. Some that their Messiah would give them a prelude and the guarantee that we shall of them seem to have remembered this great world empire, and with it wealth all rise to a life of glory in heaven, if saying of his after they had put him to and power without limit. Our only we have followed him faithfully

Excerpted from The Sunday should remove the body and pretend he their eyes to make them exclude from Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan,

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

"When (Jesus) cast out the devil, the dumb man spoke." But as indicated by the little whining group to the right, some complained: "By Beelzebub, the prince of devils, He casts out devils" (Gospel).

Formerly, on this day, candidates were examined in preparation for Baptism on Holy Saturday. The first effect of Baptism is to free the souls from the power of the devil. Excerpted from My The house of which Jesus speaks, is the human soul before His Sunday Missal, Concoming, degraded by idolatry, by sensuality, under the tyranny fraternity of the Preof the evil spirit.

Mary holding the Infant (pictured in the upper left corner) is a symbol of our Baptism. Mary gives birth to us as members

of the Mystical Body of her Christ. Moreover, like her, "blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it" (Gospel).

These baptismal duties of death to sin and life in God (Epistle are meant to gladden, not to oppress the human heart (Offertory), intended by God for Divine possession (Communion Verse),

safe from diabolical

cious Blood

What's Inside...

rottiled rick of the week	гg
Liturgical Calendar	Pg
Ministry Schedule	Pg
Prayer List	Pg
Scripture Readings	Pg

Formed Diels of the Week

St. Patrick Catholic Church

210 Center Avenue Weston, West Virginia 26452 www.spchurchweston.org 304-269-3048 304-269-1244 (fax)

Pastor:

Rev. James R. DeViese, Jr., J.C.L. pastor@spchurchweston.net

Secretary:

Sandra Mick, Parish Secretary secretary@spchurchweston.net

Weekend Masses:

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

Reconciliation: Wednesday and Saturday, 5:00pm Sunday, 8:45 & 11:45 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

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

Eucharistic Adoration:

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

(See Weekly Schedule for any changes to times or location!)

Religious Education

CCD and Sacramental Prep Sunday, 8:30—9:15, school Introduction to Catholicism/RCIA Sunday, 8:30—9:15, parish office

Parish Office Hours:

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

Prayer Chain:

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

Bulletin Deadline

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

Parish Prayer List

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- ◆ Those who are sick: Fr. Leo Lydon, Ed Hubbs, (UHC), Grace Turner (Fred Turner's mother), Frank Lydon, Sonny Walker, Susan Murray, Steve Colburn, Rose Determan, Anita Droppleman, Robert Fealy, Seth Fishbaugh (Laura Determan's cousin), Nathan Fisher, Carl Ford (Lynne Shaver's step-dad), Bobby Gill, Jeff Linger, Matt McCauley, Sam McLaughin (Matt's brother), Donna Moore, Mary Ann Murray, Emma Pascasio, Burke Riley, Mike Riley, Tim Rinehart, Shane Rowan (Sandy Mick's brother), Kinley Weaver, Jane White
- Those who have died: Pat Karp, 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, Aaron Hamilton, Bobby Summers

Mass Intentions

Having the Holy Sacrifice of Mass offered is more effective than flowers or memorial gifts for your deceased loved ones or as a special intention for a living person or special occasion. Mass Intentions can be placed in a "Mass Intention" envelope and placed in the collection basket or dropped off to the parish office. Please indicate if the person is living or deceased and the date you would like the Mass to be said. Mass dates are filled on a "first come, first serve" basis.

SECOND ANNUAL

IRISH FEST

Saturday, March 17, 2018

St. Pat's Gym

Mass at 4:30 p.m., St. Patrick Church

Catered Buffet Dinner Begins at 5:30 p.m.

Live Performance by LC Blue!

Adult Beverages

Family, Food, & Fun

Tickets available after Mass or by

Children (10 & under): \$6

Adults: \$15

**

calling 304-269-3048

Each ticket sold will be entered in

a chance to win an IrishFest Gift

Basket

Calendar Cash Winners

Feb 26- Winner: Ryan Boyle Seller: J. Radcliff Feb 27-Winner: Sharon Herrod Seller:S. Mick Feb 28-Winner: Brittany Griffith Seller: R. Griffith

Various Goings-On **During Lent**

- Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 6:00 p.m.
- Fish Fry, every Friday from 5:00 p.m to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Carry-out available. Sponsored by the Knights of Colum-
- **Eucharistic Adora**tion, every Wednesday from 5:00 p.m., concluding with Benediction at 5:55. Rosary will be prayed at the normal time.
- Sacrament of Confession/

Reconciliation, every Wednesday, 5:00-5:45 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, Monday, March 12, 7:00 p.m.

March 2018 - Overview for the Month

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. The entire month falls during the liturgical season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

Go to Joseph

"This patronage must be invoked as ever necessary for the Church, not only as a defense against all dangers, but also, and indeed primarily, as an impetus for her renewed commitment to evangelization in the world and to re-evangelization,' wrote St. John Paul I Redemptoris Custos (Guardian of the Redeemer).

John Paul II further said. 'Because St. Joseph is the protector of the Church, he is the guardian of the Eucharist and the Christian family. Therefore, we must turn to St. Joseph today to ward off attacks upon the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and upon the family. We must plead with St. Joseph to guard the Eucharistic Lord and the Christian family during this time of peril."

www.catholicculture.org

Lenten Penance Service

Our Lenten Penance Service in Monday, March 12 at 7pm. Visiting priests will assist Fr. DeViese with the service. Our Advent Penance Service was very well attended. Let's do even better at the Lenten Service!

If you are unable to attend here, Holy Rosary's service is March 5 and St. Brendan's in Elkins is March 6. Those services begin at 7.

Need Help? Get Help!

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA - Tues.. Thurs.. & Sat.. 8pm school basement.

Narcotics Anonymous NA - Mon., 7pm school

basement

Use the door on the side of the school building facing the rectory for AA and NA meetings.

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-todate.

Get Formed this Lent Go to: formed.org/register

-David, Chicago, IL

Confirmation

day, May 20 at 12:30. It is nec-

essary for all who are preparing

for this sacrament to attend the

Confirmation preparation clas-

ses and to attend CCD on Sun-

March 4 and 18, April 15 and 29

and May 6. Classes begin at 6

and are held in the cafeteria.

Classes are scheduled for

day mornings.

Confirmation will be Sun-

Enter the access code:

Just three easy steps!

Glimpses Along the

Way of the Cross

Enter your email and create a

WPVBMM

password

Saturday— March 3

Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

5:00p Confessions

6:00p Anticipated Sunday Mass for †James Blake by

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

family

Sunday — March 4

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:45a Confessions

9:30a Mass for Claire and Kevin Watson and family by Jeremy and Jenny Garton

11:45a Confessions

12:30p Mass for People of the Parish

Third Sunday of Lent

Monday — March 5

Monday of the 3rd Week of Lent

8:15a Mass for †Edna Brumley by Veronica and Junior

Brumley

Tuesday — March 6

Tuesday of the 3rd Week of Lent

8:15a Mass for †Pat Karp by Sandra Lehosit

Wednesday — March 7

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

5:05p Confessions

6:00p Mass for Jim Kerrigan by Jim and Betty Hill

Thursday — March 8

Saint John of God, Religious

8:15a Mass for †Rosalie Camigliano by Barbara Daugh-

Friday — March 9

Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

8:15a Mass for †Lee Corley by Rue and Diana Thomp-

Saturday—March 10

Saturday of the 3rd Week of Lent

5:00p Confessions

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

Sunday — March 11

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:45a Confessions

9:30a Mass for †Cathy Snuffer by the Scott, Darnell, and

Westfall families

11:45a Confessions

12:30p Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood

Third Sunday of Lent

Liturgical Calendar for the Traditional Latin Mass During the Week

3/5 Feria of Lent

Feria of Lent

Feria of Lent, Comm. St. Thomas Aquinas

Feria of Lent

3/9 Feria of Lent

3/10 Feria of Lent

Scripture Readings

March 5 - 11, 2018

Monday

2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4bc-5ab 6-7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday

Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/ Lk 11:14-23

Friday

Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday

Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b/ Lk 18:9-14

Sunday

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1 -6/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

Help Wanted

St. Patrick Catholic School is seeking an Assistant for the after school program. Interested individuals should call the school office @ 269-5547.

Weekly Devotions

Wednesday

4:55p Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:20p Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena 5:45p Benediction

Friday

(When students are present.)
9:00a Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament
9:30a Benediction

Ministry Schedule for Weekend Masses

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Servers: Hunter and Joseph Blake, Makenna West

Reader: Theresa Francis EMHC: Luanne Bowers Cantor: Rudy Pascasio

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Servers: Michael Riley, Morgam Turner, Macy

Franklin

Reader: Joe Derico EMHC: Butch Cain Cantor: Jeremy Garton

Please arrive at least 20 prior to the beginning of Mass if you are schedule for a ministry.

March Rosary Leaders:

Wednesday: Tom Ruppert Saturday: Rudy Pascasio Sunday: Turner family

March Linens: Kathy Boyle

March and April Funeral Greeters: George

Garton and Judy Foster

Weekly Attendance & Collection

Saturday: 93 Sunday: 198 Latin Mass: 32

General: \$35950.40 Loan: \$295 School: \$135 Latin Mass: \$581

Upcoming Special & Second Collections

March 3 & 4: Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund

- March 10 & 11: Catholic Relief Services
- March 30: Holy Land
- March 31 & April 1: Education of Seminarians

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

6 Tue: 7pm, Knights of Columbus meeting, cafeteria 12 Mon: 7pm, Lenten Penance Service 16 Mon: 6pm, Catholic Daughter meeting, parish

meeting room 17 Sat: 4:30pm, Mass 17 Sat: 5:30pm, Irish Fest

Knights' News



Saint Joseph's Table & the 40 Cans for Lent Food Drive is Going on NOW!

The Vocation Chalice Program

Families may inquire about signing up for a week with Jim Gildein: Jim.Gildein@kofc.org

Chalice Schedule

- Sunday, March 4—John Snyder Family
- Saturday, March 10— Rudy Pascasio Family
- Sunday, March 18—Chad Westfall Family

Fish Fry Fridays

The Knights of Columbus will have a Fish Fry on Friday evenings from 5:00 to 7:30 in the cafeteria. Dine In or Take Out order available. (Good Friday is not during Lent, it is part of the Sacred Triduum and is a day of fasting and abstinence.)

Concert CD Available

Saint Patrick Catholic Church Festival Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Chorus 12/29/17 Concert CD

As a result of several inquiries and requests regarding the December 29th Orchestra and Chorus Concert, **orders are being taken for CD recording of the concert through Wednesday, January 31st.** Please fill in the blanks with the proper information requested to obtain your personal copy(s) or special gifts for friends of St. Patrick Church. *Make checks payable to KOC Council 1415* and place your application and check in the offering basket. You will be notified by phone or email when CD's are ready for pickup. Order blanks may also be given to any KOC member after any Mass or given to Greg Walker, Jim Weber or John Collins. Order forms are in the church vestibule

The Knights of Columbus meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the cafeteria.

Homemade Vanilla for Sale

There are still a few bottles of the homemade vanilla available made by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas last fall. The cost is \$10 per bottle and are available in the parish office.



Join Us

The Catholic Daughters meet on the 3rd Monday of the month in the parish meeting room at 6pm. Yearly dues are \$30.

PRAY FOR TRANSFORMATION THIS LENT

Most people have never prayed a prayer of transformation. Too often when we pray, we pray for tweaking. We want God to tweak this and tweak that.

Let's be honest. We don't necessarily want our lives transformed. Transformation may seem attractive in a moment of blissfully holy idealistic exuberance or at a moment of crisis, but the everyday reality is we like to distance ourselves from the inner work required to bring about such a transformation.

Sure, we want some tweaking, but not transformation. This desire for tweaking is selective and selfish, while transformation is total and selfless.

We pray for tweaking—and then we wonder why God doesn't answer our prayers. The reason is simple: God is not interested in tweaking. God is in the business of transformation. He wants to turn your life upside down, which as it turns out is right side up. If you want to see something incredible, start praying for transformation. That's a prayer God will answer.

Lenten Prayer for Transformation

Loving Father, I invite you into my life today and make myself available to you.

Help me to become the-best-version-of-myself by seeking your will and becoming a living example of your love in the world.

Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change in order for me to carry out the mission and experience the joy you have imagined for my life.

Inspire me to live the Catholic faith in ways that are dynamic and engaging.

Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish. Make our community hungry for best practices and continuous learning.

Give me courage when I am afraid, hope when I am discouraged, and clarity in times of decision.

Teach me to enjoy uncertainty and lead your Church to become all you imagined it would be for the people of our times.

Amen.

Lenten Prayer for Sundays during Lent

Heavenly Father, As I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins.

As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Give me rest in you.

Help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment.

Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you.

Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent.

In your name I pray,

Amen.

https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/prayers-for-lent

Here are 7 good reasons never to gossip again

By Patti Armstrong, National Catholic Register

No one wants to be known as a gossip, yet who among us has never gossiped? It's tempting. It is so tempting in fact, that we can convince ourselves that we were not really gossiping.

Take the gossip test below to determine if you qualify as a gossip. If you answer yes to any of the 10 statements below, you have gossiped. Then read on for powerful reasons never to do it again.

- 1. As long as it's true, it's okay to repeat.
- 2. I needed to vent.
- 3. I told only one person.
- 4. I told people just to ask for prayers for his sorry soul.
- 5. I accidentally slipped so I was not intentionally gossiping.
- 6. I went a whole week without telling anyone, then had to tell just
- 7. I told someone in confidence and made them promise never to repeat it.
- 8. I needed advice on how I should handle it.
- 9. If she is going to act that way, then she deserves it.
- 10.I'm praying for him now, so it's all good.

Unless there is a serious need to know, it's the sin of detraction to share something bad about another. For instance, if you have a friend about to do business with someone who has a long history of swindling people, that might be important information to share for the good of another. But telling a friend about an acquaintance's spouse having an affair, it's not your job to spread that.

People are social creatures so communication with one another is instinctive and having big news to share can be fun or being appalled about someone's behavior can incite us to vent. But when it's hurting another person's reputation, then we are guilty of sin.

Here are 7 good reasons never to gossip again:

- 1. To hurt someone through talking about them behind their back, you have to strike Jesus first. "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of mine, even the least of them, you did it to me." —Matthews 25:40
- 2. In order for you to gossip, you have to hold a negative memory and share it with another person. Negative thoughts in your brain causes release of cortisol, the stress hormone, into your blood. This weakens your immune system and inhibits the actions of your white blood cells which increases the chances for infection and even promotes weight gain-- all from negative thinking you spread through gossiping.
- 3. What goes around comes around. In Matthew 7:12, Jesus told us to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. He also warned us: in Luke 6:38 that, "The measure with which you measure will be measured back to you."
- 4. Gossiping gives you a bad reputation. Have you ever heard someone described as a big gossip? That realization makes them unattractive to other as untrustworthy and mean-spirited. Consider the opposite: a trustworthy person who speaks kindly of others. Choose the image you want.
- 5. What you say about others is more of an indication of who you are than who they are. Some people speak kindly and compliment others while others seem never to be at a loss for a criticism of others. What you say about others is a reflection of who you are.
- 6. Risk of Embarrassment. Once you've said something, you cannot 100 percent trust that it will not be repeated and get back to the person that you were gossiping about. If you would not say something in front of them, then don't say it behind their backs.
- 7. It's a sin. It comes under the Fifth Commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Kill," because it kills the reputation of another.

The choice is ours. We can criticize or spread scandal about others and have our moment of venting or attention, or we can refrain for the sake of God, neighbor and our own souls.

To go one step further, rather than gossiping about a person, we can pray for them. Our hearts will grow in love and kindness and our souls will grow in holiness. Compare that with ruining our reputation, sinning and hurting others. It should be no contest.

4