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To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880.

August 11, 2019

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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The Lewis County Catholic Times

*A Weekly Bulletin for the parishes of Saint Patrick Catholic Church, Weston,
Saint Boniface Catholic Church, Camden and Good Shepherd Mission, Glenville, West Virginia*
Established 1848

The Assumption

Now toward the end of the summer season, at a time when fruits are ripe in the gardens and fields, the Church celebrates the most glorious "harvest festival" in the Communion of Saints. Mary, the supremely blessed one among women, Mary, the most precious fruit which has ripened in the fields of God's kingdom, is today taken into the granary of heaven.

- Pius Parsch, The Church's Year of Grace

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated.

Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had leveled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it as Aelia Capitolina in honor of Jupiter.

For 200 years, every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by His life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples.

After the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored and memories of the life of Our Lord began to be celebrated by the people of Jerusalem.

One of the memories about his mother centered around the "Tomb of Mary," close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "Place of Dormition," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "Tomb of Mary" was where she was buried.

At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title of the "Falling Asleep" ("Dormitio") of the Mother of God.

Soon the name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven.

That belief was ancient, dating back to the apostles themselves. What was clear from the beginning was that there were no relics of Mary to be venerated, and that an empty tomb stood on the edge of Jerusalem near the site of her death. That location also soon became a place of pilgrimage. (Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of

Mary stands on the spot.)

At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, when bishops from throughout the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, Emperor Marcian asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople to be enshrined in the capitol. The patriarch explained to the emperor that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "Mary had died in the presence of the apostles; but her tomb, when opened later . . . was found empty and so the

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Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Time

(A Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, August 14

- 6:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Mission, Glenville
- 6:00 p.m., St. Patrick Parish, Weston

Thursday, August 15

- 8:15 a.m., St. Patrick Parish, Weston
- Noon, St. Patrick Parish, Weston
- 6:00 p.m., St. Boniface Parish, Camden
- 6: 00 p.m. (Latin Mass) St. Patrick Parish, Weston

Tickets Available for Bishop Brennan's Installation Mass

While the Mass is technically open to the public, there are a great number of invited guests and a large portion of the Cathedral will be designated as "reserved seating." This will greatly limit the amount of general seating available in the Cathedral. Additionally, each parish in the Diocese will receive two tickets for the Mass; however, it is VERY important to stress that the ticket does NOT guarantee a seat in the Cathedral for the Mass.

The Diocese has reserved WesBanco Arena as an overflow venue for those who cannot be seated in the Cathedral. The arena will also host the reception following the Mass (guests in the overflow space will not have to travel to the reception!) The pastor for each parish will be tasked with choosing the recipients for the two tickets allotted to each parish.

If you are interested in being our representative, which means you must go, contact the parish office to have your name put on the list. Selections will be made by a random draw.

