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September 8, 2019

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume IV, Issue 36

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 first reading is taken from the Book of Wisdom 9:13-18a. In today's extract the author is stressing man's incapability of understanding the divine plans and decrees. Because we are finite, limited beings, our knowledge is finite and limited. There are many limited, finite problems all around us, which we cannot solve. How could we hope to solve the infinite ones?

The second reading is from St. Paul to Philemon 9b-10, 12-17. This letter is the shortest of St. Paul's letters and at the same time the most personal and touching. During his first imprisonment in Rome (61-63), a slave called Onesimus, who had run away from his Christian master Philemon, a native of Colossae, came to Paul in Rome and was converted to Christianity. Paul sent him back to his master bearing this letter, in which Paul touchingly appeals to Philemon to deal kindly with the runaway.

The Gospel is from St. Luke 14:25-33 and teaches us that the essential condition for true discipleship, demanded by Christ, was, and still is, total dedication, total commitment of oneself to Him. There can be no such person as a half-Christian. "He that is not with me is against me," He said on

another occasion. We cannot be for Christ on Sunday and against Him for the remainder of the week. To be His true disciples, His true followers, we must live our Christian life every day and all day.

Following Christ means making our way to heaven. It is a life-journey. We have a limited time in which to complete this journey. Therefore, we must travel a certain distance each day. This does not mean that we must spend every day in prayer and meditation. There are other tasks to be done, but we must Christianize these other tasks. Even the members of religious orders who "leave the world," that is, who are set free from the family and financial cares of this world by their vows of chastity and poverty, have to busy themselves with other cares like teaching, nursing, tilling the soil perhaps, house-keeping, writing and many such activities. They cannot and do not spend all their day and every day in prayer and meditation. Nor does Christ demand this of them.

Much less, therefore, does He demand this of the ninety-nine percent of His followers who have to take on themselves financial and family cares. It is by fulfilling these worldly duties in a Christian way that they are dedicating themselves to His service. This is their

total commitment to Christ. The married man or woman who is loyal to his or her life-partner and to the family, if there is one, and who provides diligently and honestly for his own and the family's spiritual and temporal welfare, and who always does this with the intention of pleasing God, is following Christ and is moving steadily day by day towards heaven.

— Excerpted from The Sunday Readings Cycle C, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

Commentary for the Readings in the Extraordinary Form: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Were not the ten (lepers) made clean? Where are the (other) nine" (Gospel)?

Leprosy, dread disease, meant exile "afar off" as a cast out from home and city. Mankind, rejecting Divine Life, became leprous, cast out from Eden here, from heaven hereafter.

How amazing, then, that God should make a "covenant" with man as though he were His equal (Epistle)! What is this "covenant?" By it God bestows on all "those who believe" in Jesus the right to inherit His Life, promised to Abraham; not to those who look merely to "the Law" of Moses.

Be not content, as were "the nine," with mere health of body but with the "increase of faith, hope and charity" (PRAYER). As with the lepers, so our prayer is: "Have regard, O Lord, to Thy covenant, and forsake not . . . Thy poor . . . (do not) cast us off" (Introit). Excerpted from My Sunday Missal, Confraternity of the Precious Blood

Join Us!

The Annual Homecoming Mass and Picnic at St. Bernard Church in Loveberry will be Sunday, October 6. Mass will begin at 3:00 p.m. followed by the picnic at 4:00 p.m. Meat, drinks, and paper products will be provided. Please bring a covered dish and enjoy the afternoon. While it is called a homecoming, **EVERYONE** is invited! If you have never visited St. Bernard Church—here is your chance. You won't be disappointed!

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration Beginning at St. Boniface Church

Beginning on Tuesday, September 17, St. Boniface Church will have Eucharistic Adoration each week beginning at 5:00 p.m. with the opportunity for confession. Mass will follow at 6:00 p.m. As of that day, there will no longer be a 9:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesdays.

A Moment Has Come to "Pass the Torch"

(from the Table of the Organ Committee)

In the early 1950's--when many of us reading this now did not yet exist, and the oldest among us were quite young--our Pipe Organ was installed here in St. Patrick Catholic Church. A pipe organ--an instrument long recognized as superior for Divine Worship--is nonetheless beyond many churches' resources. Here, though, this fine instrument did become a fitting addition to an already beautiful church.

But, as many of us already know personally (and we all will soon enough), time takes its inevitable toll. Even with appropriate maintenance and repairs over these last 65 years, it became apparent to our Music Ministers that "patches" are no longer adequate. Reasonable foresight says that the time has come for major work and improvements on the organ. So steps were taken to assess the needs and to launch Project Organ Renovation.

It soon was found to be a more challenging and extensive project than anticipated. Various factors further complicated this already major undertaking. M.P. Moller Company, the manufacturer of the organ, went out of business in 1992; finding replacement parts for a 65+-year-old instrument looms as practically impossible, and fabricating custom parts--if feasible at all--becomes exorbitantly costly. Additionally, there are technological advances and capability enhancements that should wisely be incorporated into a fore-sightful present-day renovation project.

Now even while dutifully overseeing the outlay of pennies, it also remains wise not to be "pound foolish". Various proposals were subsequently weighed, both for the comparative benefits to be gained and for common-sense financial considerations. The approach finally deemed best carries a price tag of close to \$180,000--of which \$30,000 already has been defrayed by funds previously contributed for organ renovation. This cost includes a new console (the keyboard portion of the organ) and upgrading of our current pipes and valves.

This paper you're reading came from a tree, but we all are painfully aware that money does not grow there. Otherwise more of us might be inclined to forestry. And so comes this plea for the cooperation of the whole parish in raising funds for the expenses entailed in this most worthwhile undertaking. We are certainly not all musicians; but, with equal certainty, we all have enjoyed and have been uplifted by excellent music in worship. A first-rate organ is a rich component in achieving that excellence. Let us help pass on that same uplifting benefit to those who come after us. We have been blessed both with a particularly strong and active Faith here at St. Patrick Church, and with a remarkable musical heritage to inspire, reinforce, and express that belief.

In our small parish we have progressed from Mass in the homes of our immigrant ancestors, to our first church on High Street, to our second church now known to us as "the old Columbia Club", and at last on to our spired and inspiring third church here on Center Avenue. We have progressed along a path marked by the faithful footprints of now-nearly-forgotten people: Buchheit; Ward; and a nearly innumerable line of organists, musicians, and choir members. These were our family members, our friends--our fellow parishioners all.

Please consider giving generous support to this organ project according to your means. No contribution should jeopardize "keeping body and soul together". But don't forget the well-known observation that cathedrals have been built with the cumulative "pennies" of the faithful.

We have received a notably bright torch of Faith here in Weston, and a bright tradition of Sacred Music to support it. In gratitude let us meet this moment, joining together to pass an undimmed torch to the next generation--to light their path onwards for another 65 years and beyond.

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Ministry Scheduling

Ministry schedules for October and November will be prepared in mid September. If you know of a date that you will not be able to serve in your ministry, or if you have not been on the schedule but would like to return let me know. We will have ministry training for readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in November.

We still need rosary leaders for before Mass on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays as well as greeters for funeral Masses.

Please email Sandy at secretary@spchurchweston.net or call 304-269-3048 to be added to the schedule, volunteer and/or give the dates you are not available.

We will have another altar serving training this fall. This will be for those who could not make the boot camp as well as those who just want another training session. Please let Sandy know who you are so she can put your name on the training list.

Parish Membership & Benefits:

To be considered an "active" member of any parish (and thus eligible for Sacraments, sponsor eligibility, and the "Active Parishioner Rate of tuition" at a Catholic school), the parish takes into account the following things. First, to receive a discount at a Catholic School or to receive a sacrament, the children MUST attend weekend Mass. Second, family & individual involvement in parish life and ministries are taken into consideration. Mass attendance is only able to be tracked accurately via collection envelopes. If you are not receiving envelopes currently, please contact the appropriate person at your parish. Parishioners over 18 should register as a household to help us keep records accurate and up-to-date.

Parking

Just a gentle reminder, for parishioners and visitors of St. Patrick Church and School, not park in the lot of the Danser Hardware Building. That lot is private property and we do not have permission to park there. Thank you for respecting the wishes of the property owner.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas



The Catholic Daughters are participating in the Fall Festival Harvest Gathering in Weston on Saturday, September 14 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Daughters are selling greeting cards that were hand made by members for the group. Cards are \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10. There is a large assortment to choose from: birthday, soccer, fall, Halloween, Christmas and much more.



The next meeting of the Catholic Daughters will be Monday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Patrick Church parish meeting room. All Catholic women are invited to join this organization.

Fr. DeViese's 10th Anniversary Mass CD for Sale

The CD from Fr. DeViese's anniversary mass is available for \$25.00. Music by Giovanni Palestrina was sung under the direction of Maestro J. Melvin Collins during the Latin Mass. The CD was made thanks to the technological efforts of Leszek J. Fiutowski, MD. Dr. Fiutowski is the organist for Latin Masses at St. Patrick Church in Weston. Proceeds from the sale of the CD go to the organ rebuilding fund for St. Patrick Church. CD's will be sold in the vestibule after weekend Masses.

Introduction to Catholicism (RCIA) Classes

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith, If so, Introduction to Catholicism classes are every Wednesday at St. Patrick Church in Weston. We attend Mass at 6:00 p.m. and then meet in the parish meeting room located in the back of the parish office at 210 Center Ave. Please call 304-269-3048 or email secretary@spchurchweston.net for more info.

Traditional Latin Mass

The Traditional Latin Mass (the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite) is offered weekly at St. Patrick Church in Weston. Confessions begin at 11:45 followed by Mass at 12:30. The second Sunday of each month is the traditional "High" Mass with music and the choir. Everyone is invited. This Mass does fulfill as your weekend Mass obligation.



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 given to the priest or the appropriate person at your parish. 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.

Public Square Rosary Rally

**Saturday, October 12, Noon,
St. Patrick Church**



Each year, America Needs Fatima holds the Public Square Rosary Crusade, with thousands of rosary rallies in cities all across the country. In 2015, there were 14,108 rallies and in 2014, there were 12,629 groups simultaneously praying for our country and the world all across America! These Public Square Rosary Rallies take place on the closest Saturday to October 13, feast of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima and the Miracle of the Sun. For more information, contact Judy Woodruff at 304-269-3455.

In *The Secret of the Rosary*, Saint Louis de Montfort said: "Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Ghost, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering."

Scripture Group

The St. Patrick Church weekly scripture study group will resume meeting on Tuesday, October 1 at 1:00 p.m. in the parish meeting room of the St. Patrick Church Office. Parishioners from all churches are welcome.

Book Club

The Catholic Women's Bookclub recently read and discussed Mother Angelica's Biography. Raymond Arroyo provided a clear picture of Mother Angelica's life mission, through his fascinating account of the details of her remarkable life. Beginning with her miserable childhood in an Ohio slum, to the miraculous encounter with a stigmatic, which inexplicably healed her from a severe medical condition and led to her vocation. She then lived an intensely dedicated religious life, amidst an ongoing series of seeming miracles – all of which eventually led to founding the 'world's largest religious media empire', Eternal Word Television Network or EWTN.

Our group discussed key factors of what is faith, the benefits of not only spiritual suffering but all suffering, (no matter how great or small), that we may encounter in our lives. We talked about St. John of the Cross and his 'Dark Night of the Soul', which Mother Angelica referenced numerous times in her biography. Our group concluded that through Mother Angelica's example and her teachings, many have come to know their faith. Furthermore, she led many back to the Church and promoted fervently the Sacraments and devotions such as the Rosary. She was a champion for Jesus and His Holy Church. Out of a 5-star rating, we gave this book 4 stars! Our Next Meeting will be on September 29th at 2 pm in the Parish Office Meeting Room. "My Sisters the Saints" by Colleen Carroll Campbell is the book we are currently reading and will be discussing. The book discusses the author's trials and heartbreaks and begins her journey of spiritually seeking. She stumbles upon the writings and lives of 6 saints: Teresa of Avila, Therese of Lisieux, Faustina, Edith Stein, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and Mary of the Nazarene. A copy is available for loan at St. Patrick's office or you can order your copy on amazon.com.

Meetings are only ONE HOUR long; UNLESS WE HAVE A GUEST SPEAKER OR SPECIAL EVENT. All Catholic women are invited. A Study guide is provided to help engage discussion and for faith formation. Our meeting is only an hour-long (unless we have a guest speaker). Please join us for good books, good fellowship, and good discussions about the faith! Email christinacrim@yahoo.com if you want further information.