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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.

November 3, 2019

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume IV, Issue 44

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 the Prophet Malachi 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10. This reading states that this is a people who had wandered from the way of belief in God. The prophet chastises and threatens the priests of the temple.

The second reading is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13. St. Paul is especially grateful that the Thessalonians received the word as from God, not men. The preacher of the word of God is well aware of his responsibility in proclaiming and preaching that word for he asks in the prayer before the gospel that the Lord will cleanse his heart and lips as he did Isaiah's for he is aware that it is God's word that is to be preached, not his own, or on his own terms. —Excerpted from A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary - A Cycle by Kevin W. Irwin

The Gospel is from the Gospel of Matthew 23:1-12. As this picture of the Pharisees is painted by none other than Christ himself, we can have no doubt but that the description given is the truth and nothing but the truth. In spite of their great knowledge of "the law and the prophets"—the divine revelation God had given to the Chosen People—and of their many strict observances of that law, they were not pleasing to God. All their good works and all their learning were spoiled by the vice of pride which made them seek earthly glory for themselves and prevented them from giving glory or thanks to God. Their religion was an empty external cloak which they used to attract



attention and honor to themselves. Internally, they were so full of their own importance that there was no room for God in their hearts.


Our divine Lord warned his disciples, and through them all of us, to avoid that pernicious vice of pride. It should not be hard for any true Christian to avoid this vice. We know that every material and spiritual talent we have has been given us by God, so we must give glory to God for any gifts we possess and not to ourselves. St. Paul reminds us of this fact when he asks us: "What have you that you have not received, and if you have received it why glory in it as if it were your own?" We owe everything we have to God and we should use all the gifts he has given us for his honor and glory, and for that purpose alone.

Do we always do this? Are we never tempted to look down on our less fortunate brothers? If we have got on well in our temporal

affairs do we attribute our success to our own skill and hard work or do we thank God for the opportunities he gave to us and not to others. If, aided by God's grace, we are keeping his commandments, do we show contempt for those who give in to temptations which we did not have to meet? The best of us can profit from an examination of conscience along these lines. If our external observance of the Christian rule of life is motivated solely by love and gratitude to God all is well. But if our hearts are far from God and our motives in our religious behavior is self-glorification, we are in a dangerous position. The sinners and harlots of Christ's day repented and were received into his kingdom; the Pharisees, unable to repent, were left outside.

~Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

“If a tiny spark of God’s love already burns within you, do not expose it to the wind, for it may get blown out... Stay quiet with God. Do not spend your time in useless chatter... Do not give yourself to others so completely that you have nothing left for yourself.”
— St. Charles Borromeo



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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 31, 2019

Like all my fellow Catholics and residents more broadly throughout the State of West Virginia, I am dismayed by the continued revelations concerning former Bishop Michael Bransfield’s misdeeds, as confirmed by the penalties which the Holy Father has imposed on him, and which continue to be chronicled by the media. It is my highest priority to restore trust in Church leadership and bring about the healing that so many in our Diocese need and desire.

I am currently working to have Bishop Bransfield fulfill Pope Francis’ mandate that he make amends for harm he caused during his tenure in the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese. I hope to communicate soon, both to the Holy Father and to the faithful of the Diocese, a plan for Bishop Bransfield’s amends. While it is not possible to undo all the hurt and disappointment his actions have caused, I believe it is necessary for Bishop Bransfield to accept his moral responsibility and make a fair restitution to the people of the Diocese, for whom he was responsible as their bishop.

As always, I am grateful for your prayers for a just resolution of this matter and for my new ministry among you as your shepherd. May God, who never fails us, bless and sustain you!

Sincerely in Christ,

Mark E. Brennan

Bishop Mark E. Brennan

Organ Renovation

Our organ at St. Patrick Church is in need of major repair. It was built in the early 1950’s and has withstood building renovations, dust, a fire and periodic dampness. After nearly 70 years of service, it requires quite a bit of attention.


In the process of an assessment, organ deterioration was more than what was expected. The console is worn out while the internal leathers of the mechanism are dried and deteriorating. Other parts are rusted and weak. This is leaving dead notes where air is not passing into the pipes. Repairing just the worn out parts is not possible as the M. P. Moller Company that built the organ ceased operation in 1992. Manufacturing individual components for the repair is financially impossible.

After several proposals were submitted and considered, a plan was chosen to give the organ a complete rebuild using modern technology. The leather valves will be replaced with electro-mechanical magnet valves that will prevent further deterioration in the organ’s wind chest. New stops (musical voices) will be added to increase the sounds to better compliment the music. When the project is completed, St. Patrick Church will then have one of the finest organs in West Virginia. This will give our parish a musical instrument that completes the renovation efforts of the parish and matches the beauty of the church.

The cost of the project will be \$150,000. Efforts are underway to raise money for the organ renovation. The goal cannot be reached without your support. The results will be worth the effort.

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.



The Angels have Arrived

Every year, Saint Boniface and Saint Patrick Churches host Angel Trees for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. Each church has 20 angels that need adopted. The angels on the St. Pats tree are stapled together in families with a total of 8 families.

Linda Schmidt is the contact person for Saint Boniface Church. Thank you, Linda, for once again leading this project.

At St. Pats, a binder is placed with the tree with the sign-up sheet inside. Once you have chosen your angels, please write your name and contact information in the binder. This way, if we need to contact you about your angel we know how to do so.

Presents need to be wrapped with the adoption tag attached. Presents must be returned to the church they were adopted from before Wednesday, December 11.

Thank You and Congratulations

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped to make the annual Elimination dinner for St. Patrick School a success.

Congratulations to James Putnam, winner of the \$1000 grand prize.

Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, November 10 11-2

St. Patrick School Cafeteria

\$10: adult, \$5: children
Veterans eat FREE!

Menu: spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert and drink. Take out will be available.

Profits will be used to purchase meats and other items needed for our Christmas food baskets. In 2018, 21 families received a food basket from St. Patrick Church. Names for food baskets are given to us by parishioners. We work very hard to ensure that those receiving baskets are not taking advantage of the generosity of the church.

Sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

News from Saint Boniface Church and Good Shepherd Mission

Altar Society Meeting

The Altar Society of St. Boniface will meet on Tuesday, November 12 in the church hall following the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

Directory Update


Good Shepherd Directory-Good Shepherd is updating its directory. Please review your information on the draft copy available on the guestbook podium in the church entryway and make any necessary changes or additions to your name, address, spouse, email, telephone and children information. If your name is not included, please add your information using the last page provided in the draft. If you do not want to be included in the directory, please mark out your information.

Volunteers Needed

Good Shepherd Church Cleaning-A monthly list for volunteers to sign up to clean the church is available on the bulletin board in the church entryway. Cleaning involves at least running the vacuum in the Sanctuary, Sacristy, Cry Room and over all door mats, dusting and removal of cobwebs in all areas, cleaning the Hall bathrooms, wiping down kitchen counters and Hall tables if needed and sweeping the Hall floor.

Thanksgiving Dinner at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Thanksgiving Dinner-Good Shepherd’s Covered Dish Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 10th after Mass. Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls and drinks will be provided. Parishioners may bring their favorite covered dish or dessert item. Members of St. Boniface are invited to attend.



Veteran’s Day Mass, Assembly and Breakfast

November 11
8:15 a.m., Mass
St. Patrick Church

9:00 a.m. (approx.) Assembly
St. Patrick School gym

9:30 a.m. (approx.)
St. Patrick School cafeteria

All veterans and their families are invited to join us at Mass on Monday, November 11 at 8:15 for our daily Mass at St. Patrick Church in Weston. The Mass intention will be for all veterans both living and deceased.

Following the Mass, we will have a brief assembly in the gym. At this time, the Lewis County Honor Guard will present the colors and the students of St. Patrick School will thank the veterans for their service to our country. We will then head to the school cafeteria for a delicious breakfast prepared by the Home School Association.

Please extend an invitation to any family or community member who is a veteran so that we might honor them for their service and dedication to our country.

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.

Knights of Columbus Meeting

The Knights of Columbus will meet on Tuesday, November 5at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Weekly Activities at St. Patrick Church

- Sunday, 8:00 - 9:15 a.m., CCD and Adult Religious Education
- Sundays, 8:45 - 9:15a.m., Choir practice
- Sunday, 6:00 p.m., DTS (Dead Theologians Society), for High School Students, parish meeting room
- Tuesdays, 1:00 p.m., Scripture study, parish meeting room
- Wednesday, RCIA, begins with Mass at 6:00 p.m., finishes in the parish meeting rom

Parishioners from all parishes are invited to theses activities.

**Vocations Awareness Week
November 3 - 9, 2019**



National Vocations Awareness Week

As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life. Some remain as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God’s call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one. Today begins National Vocation Awareness Week. During this week, please pray about how God is calling you to live your vocation more deeply. Encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, and friends—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or consecrated life.

Teach Your Children to Use GPS

After Mass today, have a conversation with your children, asking, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” After a few moments of discussion, ask, “Who do you think God wants you to be when you grow up?” Emphasize to your children that God has a specific plan in mind for them, and that following God’s plan is the surest way to happiness. Every life decision—which college to attend, whom to date, which job to pursue, whether to enter seminary, whom to marry—should be undertaken only after praying for God’s guidance. In other words, encourage kids to navigate life using GPS—God’s Positioning System.

How Parents Can Nurture Vocations

Set an example. Model discipleship and a loving marriage to your children. Seek role models. Befriend priests, sisters, and brothers and invite them to your home. Look to scripture. Read and discuss the Bible stories of Mary’s response to God (Luke 1:26-39), and Jesus calling the Apostles (Mt 4:18-22). Pray for the future. Pray aloud that your children will follow Jesus and remain open to holy marriage, priesthood, and religious life.

If your child does express interest in the priesthood or religious life, be supportive. The best thing you can say is, “Whatever God wants for you, I want for you, too. Just keep praying to discover His will for your life.”

**Novena
for Vocations**

What is a Novena?

A novena is a classic form of Catholic devotion, where on nine successive days, a prayer is said for some special occasion or intention. The practice of saying novenas is scripturally based, modeled after the nine days of consecutive prayer that the Apostles, our Blessed Mother, and other disciples of Christ prayed together in the Upper Room between Our Lord’s Ascension into heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Prayed in communion with the Saints, novenas often petition the intercession of specially selected Saints (our exemplary role models in the spiritual life). Let us pray together, with the Angels and Saints, for an increase in vocations to the sacred Priesthood and Religious life in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Let us also pray for all the vocations: for holy marriages in the Church, for Deacons, and those that dedicate their lives to Christ in the single life. May the Lord of the harvest send many to work in His vineyard!

**Day 1: Sunday
The Blessed Virgin Mary**

*With special focus on the virtues of
purity and chastity*

Our Lady, Queen of the Clergy, we ask your intercession today for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life. Blessed Mary, you are the Immaculate Conception, the Ark of the New Covenant, and the fairest of our race. You are an example to all Christians of a disciple who entrusted your life completely to the divine will. You lived a life of ardent charity in service to our Blessed Lord and your most chaste spouse, St. Joseph. May your example of lively faith, divine purity, and selfless devotion to Christ be a model for us for an ever deepening devotion to Christ and His Church. A Priest espouses himself wholly in body and soul to Christ, as a bridegroom does to his bride, like God’s relationship with Israel. Let us ask God our Heavenly Father that He send more workers into His vineyard. O Queen of Heaven, pray along with us today that all Priests and Religious may remain ever pure in body and heart, and that God may renew a steadfast spirit within them daily, as they are called to serve humbly, devoutly, and lovingly as ministers of God’s sacred Altar. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 2: Monday
St. John the Baptist**

*With special focus on the virtue of
humility*

St. John the Baptist, you inaugurated the Gospel as you leapt in your mother’s womb. As the Prophet surpassing all other prophets, in complete humility you heralded our Holy Redeemer. Baptizing by water and preaching repentance, you prepared the way of our Lord to a world waiting in darkness. Saint John the Baptist, holy martyr for the sanctity of Holy Matrimony, we ask for your most ardent intercession today for all Seminarians who will soon serve the Church by proclaiming the Word of God, preaching truth and repentance, and baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ. Pray that these men may always fully live out their baptismal promises and follow your holy example as a strong voice proclaiming Christ’s truth and mercy to our hurting and broken world. Intercede before our Lord for our Seminarians and ask that they be stirred with a bold faith, like you, to always remain faithful to the teachings of Christ’s Church, even when it involves suffering on their part for the sake of the kingdom. May your words be true of them as well: “He must increase, but I must decrease.” (John 3: 30) Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 3: Tuesday
St. John Vianney**

With special focus on the Priestly heart

St. John Vianney, patron saint of Parish Priests, on your journey to the sacred Priesthood, you encountered many obstacles, but you realized that to suffer was to suffer with Christ, so you lovingly embraced your cross. Your motto for life became “loving while suffering and suffering in order to love.” You were totally devoted to the service of God’s holy people, especially evidenced by your tireless dedication to the Confessional, in which you spent entire days. You transformed a struggling parish into a beacon of faith and holiness to all the world. You gave all that you had to the poor, and you stood firm in your priestly zeal for souls against the assaults of the devil. Your priestly life was a vivid image of the love of the Heart of Christ for His people. O holy Priest of Ars, you know the needs of God’s Church. Pray for an increase of priestly zeal for souls in our Diocese. Pray that our priests may, like you, be beacons of humility, chastity, diligence, selfsacrificial love, and holiness. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 4: Wednesday
The Most Holy Eucharist**

*With special focus on union and
intimacy with Christ*

Lord Jesus, at each Holy Mass we celebrate that You have become food for our souls, a hidden companion at all times. Bread and wine veil Your Presence. How can God humble himself so much so as not to be even seen as human? You, Jesus, wait for us patiently to unite with You, seeking, loving, desiring to impart Your graces upon us. Yes, Lord Jesus, You are a Victim and a Sacrifice for us. In Holy Communion especially we become part of You and You part of us. If we have the proper disposition, we become totally united with You. May all your faithful be united intimately to You in Holy Communion. Lord, we also pray for more vocations to the Priesthood. It is by your Priests that you feed your Church with the Holy Eucharist. The anointed hands of your Priests will consecrate the bread and wine to be your Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. May the people of our Diocese grow in love with the Holy Eucharist, and may all of your Priests be ever more drawn into the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 5: Thursday
St. Joseph**

*With special focus on the virtue of
obedience*

Holy St. Joseph, Patron of our Diocese, Carpenter of Nazareth, Guardian of the Redeemer, Protector of the Blessed Virgin, Patron Saint of the Universal Church and of workers, you were a holy and righteous man. Angels visited you, the Christ Child watched and learned from you, and our Blessed Mother depended upon you to provide for and protect the Holy Family. You were completely obedient to whatever God asked of you, without ever knowing where your obedient acts would take you or what the outcomes of your obedience would be. Your life was a witness to our Blessed Lord of the kind of self-sacrificial love that a father is called to exercise. O St. Joseph, we implore your fatherly intercession for all families. Guard them and pray that they follow your highest example of devoted obedience to the call of Our Father in Heaven to be holy. Implore our loving God to pour down upon married couples the special graces needed to firmly protect and defend their families from the many influences in the world today that lead our youth away from the truth of our Catholic Faith. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 6: Friday
St. Therese of Lisieux**

*With a special focus on the virtue of
charity*

O holy woman of great faith and charity, I call upon your blessed intercession today for young people. Holy St. Thérèse, one of your principal duties was to pray for the Church, and you did this throughout your days as a Carmelite nun with great fervor. May there be many women who respond generously to the call to Religious life. Most of all, please ask our Lord to form young people all in the way of Love. We pray that our youth learn from your simple words of wisdom and example. Ask Almighty God to gently guide them to be instruments for our Lord, to be, as Mother Teresa once said, “the little pencil in the hand of God who is sending a love letter to the world.” As servants of Christ’s Church, help them grow in love and zeal to fight against the greatest poverties in the modern world that Mother Teresa saw—loneliness, feeling unwanted, and deciding that an unborn child must die so that one can live as one wishes. Pray that our youth of the Diocese may desire holiness and purity, and may they grow in love and devotion to our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 7: Saturday
Pope St. John Paul II**

*With a special focus on the seven gifts
of the Holy Spirit*

Pope St. John Paul II, 264th successor to the Chair of St. Peter, you called your vocation an “inner fact of unquestionable and absolute clarity.” You defended the dignity of the human person no matter the cost. Your great devotion to the Mother of God is an example of the relationship a Priest should have to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pray to Almighty God that those who are being called to the sacred Priesthood will be given the clarity of their vocation. Pray that our youth may use their talents, like you did, to extend the Kingdom of Christ. May this next generation stand firmly for the sanctity of life, the dignity of the human person, encouraging all to open wide the doors of their hearts to Christ. St. John Paul II, pray for all the faithful of this Diocese that they always be found praying without ceasing, fighting the good fight, finishing the race, and exemplifying a life of love for Christ, love for the Blessed Virgin Mary, and love for the holy Church. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 8: Sunday
St. John the Evangelist**

With a special focus on Love for Mary

St. John the Evangelist, beloved disciple of the Lord, you knew and experienced Christ in a deeply personal way -- on the shores of Galilee, atop Mt. Tabor, in the Garden of Gethsemane, at the foot of the Cross, at the side of His Blessed Mother, and in the empty tomb. You were the beloved disciple of Christ, and to whom He entrusted the highest privilege, the care of His holy Mother. With intimate affection and relationship, your Gospel proclaims the good news in highly loving and richly symbolic ways, speaking of Christ as the light of the world, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the Bread of Life, and the narrow gate. Pray that our Bishop may also be a beloved disciple of Christ, boldly approaching the foot of the Cross and leading others to the Lamb of God. Pray that all our Priests be holy, faithful and filled with great sacrificial love. Pray that our Deacons follow the example of the holy Deacons of the Scriptures: holy, generous, and actively working to serve the poor. Pray that, like Mary, our love for God will grow as we recognize the great love that God has for each of us. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

**Day 9: Monday
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

*With a special focus on the gifts of faith,
hope, and charity*

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Your Heart beats every second with love for Your children. Place those whom you are calling to be Priests, Deacons, or Religious next to Your Heart. May they find refuge in Your Heart, and there, hear your invitation to love and serve. May their hope in Your Heart empower them to cast away all fears and worries in their lives. May this hope assist them to brighten lives of the faithful. May their love within Your Heart grow to serve You with great desire in every detail, and release this love with the open-hearted purpose of service for souls, seeing Christ in all, despite any sins or weaknesses. O Most Sacred Heart, increase their faith, hope, and love for Jesus and love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary, because without faith, hope, and love, there is no foundation on which to build heavenly virtues. O Lord of the harvest, send many faithful shepherds after Your own Heart into your vineyard. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.