November 14, 2021 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time St. Patrick Catholic Church



Reception of Holy Communion Mr. Joseph D. Derico, Seminarian

n the last piece of Catechesis that I wrote for this bulletin, I explored the relationship between sin and confession and then briefly touched on how these things related to the reception of Holy Communion. I wish however to further discuss that topic here. I shall explore what exactly Holy Communion is, proper disposition to receive our Lord, and how to receive Communion in a reverent manner.

Over the years, the waters of authentic catechesis have been muddied in regards to teaching on Holy Communion. It is no surprise then, that a 2019 survey conducted by Pew Research Center found that only 31% of "Catholics" believe that the Eucharist is indeed the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ. The other 69% believed that the Eucharist was only a sign. Let me assure you here, that in the view of the church, the Eucharist is not a symbol, it is Christ himself.

How do I know this is true? That question, while valid, would take another article to address in full, but the simple answer, is that the church, which Christ teaches cannot error in matters of faith or morals, teaches that the Eucharist is Christ himself with the appearance of bread and wine. This is indeed a complex idea, but I assure you, it is of the utmost importance to your spiritual life and health, that you hold this teaching in its fullness.

So, now that we know that Holy Communion is in fact, Jesus himself, we can discuss what proper disposition means. If you are aware of any mortal sin which you have committed since your last confession, then you should avoid receiving Holy Communion. St. Paul outlines this idea in his First Letter to the Corinthians, where he says, "Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord." (11:27 NABRE) The church teaches that receiving Holy Communion in a state of mortal sin constitutes sacrilege, and thusly another mortal sin. To make this even graver, the church teaches that those who die with a mortal sin on their conscience, are damned to hell. So it is of great importance that we make every effort to receive our Lord worthily

In addition to these things, the church asks those who wish to receive Holy Communion at mass, to fast for an hour beforehand. There are obvious exceptions; however, water is permitted, and so too, is medication. In addition, if someone were to have diabetes or a similar condition, they would be permitted to eat if it were necessary for them to keep their sugar in check, but these occasions should be rare and the exception, not the norm.

Now let us discuss the proper reception of Holy Communion; each person receives communion a little differently, and that makes discussing this subject incredibly difficult. It is best then to start with the absolute norm for reception of holy communion, and then work out from there.

The norm for the roman rite then, is to receive Holy Communion both kneeling and on the tongue. This is how Communion has been traditionally been distributed in Rome. In recent years however, the church has allowed her faithful to receive Holy Communion standing, and this is now the norm in the US, however, the practice of receiving Holy Communion kneeling is still a commendable practice, and is preferable when possible. In addition, they have permitted an indult allowing faithful in some places, to receive Holy Communion on the hand. The norm, if possible, however, should be preserved, as is expressed in Memoriale Domini а document on the reception of Holy Communion, published following the Second Vatican Council, by the Congregation for Divine Worship.

In my view, I would contend that a great deal of the reason that so many "Catholics" do not believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, is because of a lack of reverence surrounding order to show gratitude for that gift.

the reception of His body. If we do in fact, believe that the Eucharist is our lord, then doing our best to receive Him reverently is a no-brainer. The Eucharist is the closest encounter which we may have with Christ in this life. This is why I receive Holy Communion kneeling and on the tongue. It isn't me trying to be holier than those others, or more devout, but rather, for me, it is simply a sign of reverence and gratefulness for the sacrament which the Lord is offering. It is an act of humility towards our Lord as well, in that it is a recognition of my unworthiness to receive him.

Even the Blessed Mother, could only hold our Lord near her bosom, but we get to have a far more intimate experience with Him, by receiving Him as our food and nourishment. We should desire then, to treat Him with respect, dignity, and reverence.

In addition, allowing the priest to place the host on our tongue, is in fact, allowing Christ to feed us his own body, since, during the mass, the priest is acting in persona Christi-that is in the person of Christ. When receiving Holy Communion on the tongue, the communicant, after responding amen, should open their mouth wide, and extend their tongue all the way.

This is not to say however, that receiving Holy Communion in the hand is wrong. There is a risk however, of profaning our Lord in a couple ways. First, reception of Holy Communion in the hand allows a greater risk of the host being dropped on the floor. Also, whenever the priest places the sacred host in your hands, there is great risk that a particle of our Lord may remain there. That small particle, no matter how insignificant it may seem, is still our Lord.

When receiving Holy Communion in the hands, there are specific guidelines from the church which are to be observed. Firstly, the hands should be extended with the right under the left. The top hand should be held flat, allowing the priest to place the sacred host in the hands. Using the right hand, Holy Communion should be placed into the mouth. Then, the communicant should inspect their hands with great care, ensuring that there is not a single particle of our Lord left on their hands.

In closing, each person may receive Holy Communion according to their own preference, but there must be a sense of reverence surrounding it. It isn't about the show, the tradition, or the ceremony, but rather it is about our lord, giving himself to us-and we must show reverence in

St. Patrick Catholic Church

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

Pastor:

Rev. Douglas A. Ondeck ondeck.douglas@gmail.com 304-269-3048

Secretary:

Sandra Mick, Parish Secretary secretary@spchurchweston.net

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, 9 - 4 Tuesday, 9 - 4 Wednesday, 12 - 5 Thursday, 9 - 1 Friday, 9 - 1

Prayer Chain:

Micki Snyder, 304 269-3688

For last rites and anointing of the sick, please call 304-691-0537 to speak to Fr. Ondeck.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Mon., Thurs., & Fri., 8:15 a.m.
Wed., Immediately following benediction at 5:45 p.m.
(See Weekly Schedule for any changes to times or location!)

Reconciliation:

Wednesday, 5:00—5:40 p.m. Friday, Immediately following Mass Saturday, 5:00—5:20 p.m. Sunday, 10:00—10:20 a.m. Or by appointment.

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday, 5:00 to 5:45p.m.

Religious Education and Sacramental Prep Coordinator

Megan White mwhite@stpatricks.school

St. Patrick Catholic School

Pre-School – 8th Grade 224 Center Ave. Weston, WV 26452 www.stpatswv.org 304-269-5547

Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck Acting Principal

Regina Frazier, Secretary RFrazier@saintpatricks.school

| Saturday: Sunday (10:30): | 81 171 | \$1685 (21 envelope/ch \$972 (24 envelope/ch |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Sunday (Latin): Mail and Lockbox Donati | N/A ons: Total | \$0 \$575 (4 donors) \$3232 |
| School Votive Candles Loan | \$350 \$191 \$50 | Maintenance Organ |

Attendance & Collections

\$0

\$0

velope/check donors) Restoration loan balance: \$70,517.22 elope/check donors)

Special and Second Collection

- December 11 & 12: Religious Retirement Fund
- All Christmas Masses: Catholic Charities West Virginia

Please write separate checks for the different collections. Thank you!

When Should Catholics Not Receive Holy Communion?

- If you have a mortal sin on your soul. Some serious sins include (but are not limited to) being married outside the church, being unmarried but living together or purposely not attending Sunday Mass or holy days of obligation. For more info on what constitutes a mortal sin, refer to the Catechism of the Catholic Church 1857 1859.
- If you have not observed the Eucharistic Fast one hour before receiving. Plan to eat your breakfast after Mass!
- If you have not yet received First Communion.

Why Can't Non-Catholics Receive Holy Communion?

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are not admitted to Holy Communion.

For those who cannot receive Eucharist at this time, we welcome you to join in our liturgy, to pray and sing with us. Please remain in the pew during the Communion Procession, offering your heartfelt prayers to our God of love and mercy. We eagerly await the time when you will join us at the Eucharistic table!

Mass Intentions & Sanctuary Lamp

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 mailed 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. If you would like to memorialize the sanctuary lamp in honor/ memory of someone for a two-week period, please contact the parish office. The donation is \$20.

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 parish office. Parishioners over 18 should register as a household to help us keep records accurate and up-to-date.

Parish Creates 'Ransom' Fund That Pays Parents To Take Their Kids Out Of Public School

By Luke Rosiak • Nov 11, 2021 • DailyWire.com

A church in Virginia will pay parishioners \$2,000 to move their child from public school to any Catholic school, with the pastor saying "I think right now the schooling of our children is the issue. We'll lose them to the culture of death if we don't."

The effort by Saint Raymond of Penafort Church in Springfield is made possible for what it calls the Our Lady of Ransom Fund, recalling how in the year 1218, Saint Raymond founded a religious order that organized the ransom of Christians kidnapped by Moorish raiders, the Arlington Catholic Herald reported.

Father John C. De Celles, the church's pastor, "sees the fund as a way to ransom his school-age parishioners from the prevailing secular culture at public schools," the Herald wrote.

The parish has raised \$140,000 for the fund this year, which has gone to 113 students. The diocese also has its own Catholic school tuition assistance program.

De Celles noted that the northern Virginia area is expensive, making it hard for parents to afford private school, particularly if they have large families.

Nick and Karen Popp didn't think they could afford Catholic school for their four children, but with the tuition assistance program, they now attend Angelus Academy, the Herald reported.

"God has done wonderful things through Father De Celles," Nick Popp said. "When Catholic parishes are able to show generosity to families to allow their kids to get a Catholic education, it really is invaluable to many parents."

Catholic schools continued to serve students even as public school ones shut down for more than a year because of the novel coronavirus. Parent Sarah Foote said her son "Looked at us in the summer of 2020 and said, 'I can't do virtual learning anymore." Another concluded that public schools were literally phoning it in when he "walked in on his child's Zoom class being conducted from the teacher's bathroom," the Herald reported.

Arlington diocese schools saw an increase in enrollment of nearly 8% for the 2021-22 school year, suggesting that, instead of people who fled returning to public schools now that they have in-person classes, the flight has continued.

Parent Heather Howard's move to a Catholic school called Holy Spirit was "driven by the pandemic, but we really found that Holy Spirit was the silver lining to it all." Maureen Ashby, the principal at that school, said "parents are looking for a return to basics."

Saint Raymond's is in Fairfax County, where the school board recently attempted to silence a parent for revealing that there were books depicting gay pornography in the school library. Next door to Fairfax is Loudoun County, which misled the community about a rape committed by a boy wearing a skirt, as it sought to pass far-reaching transgender policies.

The Catholic church has fought back, with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge saying although transgender advocates "want us to be silent," the situation has "reached an extreme" and "we really have to speak out clearly and compassionately, but in bold truth."

Spaghetti Dinner

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas would like to thank those of you who supported our annual Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner and the 50/50 drawing cleared around \$1500 which is less than last year. Congratulations to J. J. Jordan who won the 50/50 prize of \$150. The money will be used to purchase hams and other supplies not donated for the Christmas food baskets.

Drive through food Drive

Speaking of our Christmas food baskets, The Catholic Daughter will once again hole a drive through Food drive to receive donations for the baskets. Last year was the first time we had a drive through drive and it was very successful. The drive will be held on Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12. The times for the drive will be determined at the Catholic Daughter meeting. You may also bring



donations to the church's "Social Sunday" event on Sunday, December 5.



Homemade Vanilla for Sale

The Catholic Daughters are selling homemade vanilla for \$10 a bottle. The vanilla was made by members of Court Victory #379 and is delicious.

Baby Bottle Fundraiser—*Change for Life* \$4580.04

Thank you to EVERYONE who donated to the "Change for Life" baby bottle fundraiser! If you still have one of the bottles that were

given out, please return it. (Even if it is empty.) We will use them again in the future. If you have not had a chance to donate yet, please do so soon. Checks can be made payable to CDA 379.

| St. Patrick Church | \$ 2197.42 |
|--------------------|---------------|
| St. Patrick School | \$ 1882.04 |
| St. Boniface | \$ 361.78 |
| Good Shepherd | \$ 138.80 |
| | \$ 4580.04 |

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The integration of spirituality and service is the foundation of the Catholic Daughters. CDA helps women develop their spirituality and provides avenues of service to live out that spirituality. The CDA gives members a unique opportunity to share their faith with other



Catholic women. Helping others through charitable acts in the spirit of Jesus Christ is the heart of our organization.

The next for the Catholic Daughters, Court Victory #379 will be Monday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Catholic women 18 and older are invited to join this worthwhile organization.

"Forward, always forward, everywhere forward! We must not be held back by debts, bad years or by difficulties of the times. Man's adversity is God's opportunity."

School News

Veterans Day

For the past few years, St. Pat's has had school on Veterans Day. The reason for this change was so our students could actually learn that the day is meant for something special. That it actually means something. It was great seeing all the smiling faces of our veterans. Next year, we hope to have an even larger turn out for Mass and brunch. Thank you to all veterans. We owe you a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.



Images from the Veterans Day Parade



Gifts from the Holy Land, December 4 & 5

Christians in the Holy Land have suffered and continue to live in difficult economical situations. Olive wood carvings are part of a tradition handed down from one generation to another. Christian families have worked over 2000 years to protect the Holy sites in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and to spread the word of Jesus. For about 1000 years they used carvings to keep the Bible alive in

dimensions. Our mission is to support our fellow Christians in the Holy Land by selling some of their wood carvings which are one major source of income. Proceeds from the sale will benefit Christian families in Bethlehem/Holy Land.. Last century, the Christians were about 37% but today they are about 5%.



By your support through purchasing of these carvings, 200 families will be helped to remain in the Holy Land.

Two More Angels Need Adopted

We have received a couple more angels that need adopted. They are on the tree in the church vestibule. Write your name and phone number in the adoption folder. Angel tree presents must be returned to the parish office before December 8.

It's Almost Time for Advent

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28. Advent, like Lent is a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus. While it is easy to get caught up and distracted by all the holiday festivities that will go on in the coming weeks, it is important to remember that as Christians, we should be spending more time in prayer, alms giving, and penance to prepare our hearts and lives for the arrival of our savior. Decide now what changes you will make this Advent season. Write them down. Share them with your friends and family. Make yourself accountable.



Veterans Day Parade Marshall

St. Pat's parishioner, Bob Swiger served as the Veterans Day Parade Marshall. Bob served 25 years in the Air Force. He served in Korea as well as the special forces. He is a 40 year, active



lifetime member of the American Legion and VFW.

Winter Clothing Drive

The church and school are once again participating in our annual winter clothing drive. We are collecting new or like new coats, hats, gloves and scarves to be donated to Our Neighbor.



Donations can be dropped off at the parish office or the school. If donating gently used items, please have them laundered first.



Giving Tuesday Donations will go to St. Patrick's **Maintenance Fund**

November 30, 2021

Giving Tuesday will be held on November 30, 2021. Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as an idea to encourage people to give back and do good. Giving Tuesday is always the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

Donations made for Giving Tuesday will go into our maintenance fund. Bishop Brennan has approved our maintenance fund to be exempt of the cathedraticum assessment. You may give directly to the church by writing maintenance in the memo of your check or by placing your donation in an envelope marked maintenance. You can also give online through myeoffering.

Another Opportunity to go to Confession

Fr. Ondeck has added an additional opportunity for Catholics to go to confession. He is now hearing confessions after Mass on Friday morning. If Mass is canceled, confession is canceled for that day.

More times will be added for the season of Advent. Check the bulletin for more info.

Weekly Bulletin E-mail

If you are not receiving our church bulletin each week through email, please contact the parish office to have your email address added to our files.

Bishop Brennan asks that all those in attendance at Mass wear a mask, other than those under the age of 2.

Schedule and Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 13, 2021

5:00 p.m.Confessions5:30 p.m.Mass for †Roger Lundell by Tom Blake and family

Sunday, November 14, 2021,

10:00 a.m.Confessions10:30 a.m.Mass for the People of the Parish

- Monday, November 15, 2021 8:15 a.m. Mass for †Tom Fealy by Helen Hines Tomaro
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021 6:00 p.m. Mass for †Lola Jerden
- Thursday, November 18, 20218:15 a.m.Mass for †Members of the Spray and White Families

Friday, November 19, 2021

8:15 a.m.Mass for †Tosha Hubbs by family8:45 a.m.Confessions

Saturday, November 20, 2021

5:00 p.m.Confessions5:30 p.m.Mass for the People of the Parish

Sunday, November 21, 2021,

10:00 a.m.Confessions10:30 a.m.Mass for †Jim and Jane Myers

The Sanctuary Lamp is burning November 7-20, in memory of Tosha Hubbs by Rich, Kathy, Jessica, & Jacob Hubbs.

Prayer List

Of your charity, please offer prayers for...

- Those who are sick: Nick Bakas, Jill Balser, Mike Blanchard, John Butcher, Jean Scott Chase, Courtney Clevenger, Rose Determan, Sheila Folio, Lynne Fultineer, Marsha Garton, Robert Hamilton, Coretta Jefferson, Emyle Johnston, Ellen Ketron, Bernadette Law, Ed Murray, Sarah Murray, Susan Murray, Heather Haddix Nicholas, Delores Paugh, Raylee Rahming, Brenda Riley, John Riley, Mike Riley, Frank Rogucki, Sheila Sayre, Dale & Micki Snyder, Special Intentions, Mary Taylor
- **Those who have died**: May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
- All Veterans, and Military Personnel:
- Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life
- Former priests and religious of and from our parish
- Those who are homebound, in assisted living or nursing homes.
- All police officers, health care workers, first responders, and mail carriers
- All RCIA participants

Social Sunday

We are excited to hear the positive feedback we have received about "Social Sunday." All parishioners are invited to join us in the cafeteria after Mass for a snack and a chance to interact with your parish family.

Our first "Social Sunday" is Sunday December 5. This is the same weekend that Gifts from the Holy Land will visit our church. We are hope one event will enhance the other. Discover your faith with the Best Catholic media at home or on the go at formed.org.

- Go to formed.org/signup
- Enter Weston's zip code—26452 Register with your name and
- email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, November 15 No SoulCore 6:00 p.m., Catholic Daughter meeting, cafeteria

Thursday, November 25 Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 30 Giving Tuesday, more details will be announced soon

December 4 & 5 Gifts from the Holy Land

Sunday, December 5 Social Sunday, 11:30, cafeteria

Our Neighbor Collection

November

Dental care

Items can be placed in the plastic tote on the back porch of the parish office.

Commandments Are Not Suggestions

We human beings seem to have forgotten that God is God. We also have forgotten that His Ten Commandments were not mere suggestions, but His commands.

The Fifth Commandment states 'Thou shalt not kill,' which means the innocent babies in the womb, the elderly and infirm, and all people in between should be protected.

No one has the right to kill the babies in the womb, not surgically, nor by abortion-inducing pills dispensed personally or by telemedicine. No earthly being, whether he or she is a doctor, a lawyer, a politician or judge in a courtroom can change God's laws!

One day, we will each stand before God to answer for our actions here on earth.

Ruth Weber Davenport, Iowa





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. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.