

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 22, 2023

Nobody likes taxes. That is definitely not a new thing. In the Roman empire, taxes were sort of like a protection racket, "Pay Rome a tribute, and we will make sure nothing bad happens to your nice little country. But, if you don't, we can't guarantee something terrible won't happen." Some of the Jews looked at paying Roman taxes as a necessary evil. Everyone knew Rome had no problem crushing any state that rebelled. Better to keep the peace. Plus, at least the Romans kept other would-be conquerors away. No, don't rock the boat. Just make the best of a bad situation. Let's call these people the Herodians. Others, like the Pharisees, thought it was a sacrilege. Every Jew already paid a tithe to the Lord; paying taxes to a man who claimed to be a God was blasphemy. What the Jews should be doing is running the Romans out of town. After all, weren't they God's chosen people? As you can imagine, the Pharisees and Herodians did not get along. But, there was one thing they did agree on. Jesus was getting to be a problem for both. He was too popular. In the eyes of the Pharisees, he was a threat to their authority. To the Herodians, he was a threat to stability. The crowds he was drawing couldn't help but draw Roman attention. Both had reason to want to get rid of Jesus. So, the Pharisees came up with a plan to trap Jesus. They were going to ask him an impossible question, one where he would have to offend the Religious Jews, or the Herodians. Either he would make himself out to be a heretic or a rebel. It was a win-win. Problem solved.

The Pharisees sent their disciples with the Herodians to ask Jesus a question, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" They must have thought they had Jesus. A perfect binary choice. You can almost hear them snickering to themselves maliciously, as they rubbed their hands together, "Hehe. We've got him now! There is no way he can get out of this one." Jesus, not surprisingly, immediately saw through this ridiculous ploy and replied, "Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." This was not at all what they were expecting. But, somebody fished out a denarius and handed it to him anyway. Then, Jesus proceeded to take them to school. He asked, "who's picture is on this coin?" To which the crowd replied, "Caesar." Then, Jesus replied, "repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." Scripture says they heard what Jesus said and were amazed.

Big lesson: Don't try to pull one over on God. It is NEVER going to work. But there is a big question for us that needs to be answered. What belongs to Caesar, and what belongs to God? Well, for starters, you belong to God. Just like the denarius had the image of Caesar stamped on it, you have the image of Christ in you. You are literally made in his image and likeness. So if the denarius belongs to Caesar, you belong to Christ. Jesus makes that clear just a couple verses later, in Matthew 22:37. He tells us to Love the Lord with our hearts, minds, and souls. What he is saying is love the Lord with the totality of your being. Everything you are. We are called to give ourselves to the Lord. This includes our work. That includes our families. That includes our entertainment. That includes our bodies and what we do with our bodies. I would say it even includes our votes. There is not a part of our being that is not called to glorify the Lord.

But what about giving to Caesar. What does that mean today? We do not have Caesars, but what in our world is made to glorify the world? What is meant to put the individual at the center of the universe, rather than the Lord? Any ideology, any media, any action, or political party that declares that "my life, my body, my choices solely belong to me" belongs to the world. Our lives are not our own. They were paid for with the blood of Jesus Christ. Anything or anyone who says differently is speaking the wisdom of the world and not that of Christ. Let the world have such things. A Christian can not. Any ideology or philosophy that denies the sacredness of human life, every human life, is of the world.

Truthfully, too many Catholics give to the world what belongs to God. Our lives are far too often lived to glorify us. We declare ourselves the master of our heart, mind, and soul. We refuse to see Christ's image in others. We live like pagans who go to Church. Pornography, human trafficking, promiscuity, abortion, euthanasia, unjust war, all of these profane the sacredness of the human person. None of these have any place in the life of a Christian. None of these should be supported by Christians.

What if Catholics actually gave to Christ what belonged to Him. What if we lived our lives led by Christ's revelation through the Church? What if we voted based on the sanctity of every human life? What if we gave Christ Lordship over our families, worrying more about our children's holiness than we do about where they will go to college? The world would be different. Our communities would be different.

This week take a look at your life. Ask where you have put yourself or your will above God's. Where have you put political affiliation before God? Where have you put personal freedom above the freedom we are called to in Christ? As I have been speaking, I am pretty sure God has been highlighting things on your heart. Maybe something made you angry. Maybe, you even felt accused. Start with those things. Ask the Lord to move in you and give you the strength and grace to return to him with your whole being. Come Holy Spirit. Renew our faith, and take Lordship over our lives. ("THEN REPAY TO CAESAR WHAT BELONGS TO CAESAR AND TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD," Everyday Catholic)

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

210 CENTER AVE.
WESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 26452
304-269-3048

WEEKLY BULLETINS VIA 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.**

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck
ondeck.douglas@gmail.com

"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." - Archbishop Boniface Wimmer, O. S. B.

St. Patrick Catholic Church

- www.spchurchweston.org/
- www.facebook.com/StPatsChurchWestonWv

210 Center Ave.
Weston, West Virginia 26452
304-269-3048

Religious Ed. & Sacramental Prep
Megan White
mwhite@saintpatricks.school

Secretary
Sandra Mick
secretary@spchurchweston.net

Parish Office Hours

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

Mass Schedule

Monday - 8:15 p.m.
Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday - 8:15 a.m.
Friday - 8:15 a.m.
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.

*(See the Weekly Schedule for
changes to Mass times or location!)*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday & Wednesday 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.
Saturday 5:00 - 5:20 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 - 10:20 a.m.

Adoration

Tuesday & Wednesday - 5 - 5:45 p.m.

For **anointing of the sick**, please see
Fr. Ondeck after Mass.
For last rites, please call **304-691-0537**

St. Patrick Catholic School

- <https://stpatswv.org/>
- www.facebook.com/StPatsSchoolWestonWv

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

Pastor
Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

Principal
Mr. John Riley IV
jriley@saintpatricks.school

Secretary
Mrs. Regina Frazier
RFrazier@saintpatricks.school

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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. Mints and gum break your fast.
- 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!

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 21, 2023	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, October 22, 2023	10:30 AM	Mass for †Sr. Theresa Metz by St. Patrick's Class of 1956
	12:15 PM	Mass at St. Bernard Church, Loveberry
Monday, October 16, 2023	8:15 AM	Mass for †Margaret "Peg" Shea by John and Jackie McLaughlin
Tuesday, October 17, 2023	5:50 PM	Celebrant's Intentions
Wednesday, October 18, 2023	5:50 PM	Mass for †Mary A Hines by family
Thursday, October 19, 2023	8:15 AM	Mass for †Lisa Ann Thoms by David Curtis
Friday, October 20, 2023	8:15 AM	Mass for †Beth Nichols by Luke and Benjamin Milinovich
Saturday, October 21, 2023	5:30 PM	Mass for †Dr. and Mrs Pascasio by Rudy and Karen Pascasio and family
Sunday, October 22, 2023	10:30 AM	Mass for the People of the Parish
October 22 - November 4, the sanctuary lamp is burning in memory of Sam Aman by family		

Prayer List

Those who are sick: Emily Johnston (UPMC), Mary Oldaker (Ruby), Carol Bean (DM), Violet Angotti, Jill Balser, Vince Baker, Debbie Bailey, Dorothy Butcher, John Butcher, Courtney Clevenger, John Collins, Rose Determan, Bonnie Detamore, Libby Ferrell, Greg Garton, Marsha Garton, Sandy Gill, Tim Hicks, Coretta Jefferson, Ellen Ketron, Rochelle Long, Shirley Murchland, Susan Murray, Judy Nicholas, Sue Nutter, Raylee Rahming, Brenda Riley, Jim Riley, Mike Tierney, Helen Tomaro, Dorthy Valdez, Audrey Westfall

• **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**

• **All seminarians:** Especially, Joe Derico.

• **All studying for the diaconate program:** Especially, Mike Brumley.

• **Former priests and religious of and from our parish**

• **Those who are homebound, in assisted living or nursing homes.**

• **All struggling with infertility.**

Mass Attendance

Saturday	111
Sunday	189
Total	300

Collections

Saturday	\$1509
Sunday	\$2037
Mail/Drop Box	\$90
Total	\$3636
School	\$65
Votives	\$46
Maintenance	\$175
Loan	\$50
Organ	\$
Wesbanco Balance	\$54,127.97

Protecting God's Children

St. Patrick Church takes seriously this 'VIRTUS' pursuit of excellence in our community. With the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, we are committed to making every environment – a safe environment. All employees and volunteers are required to complete VIRTUS Training. Participants of this training complete short video modules to learn how to best protect the vulnerable in our community. These short sessions empower participants to accurately identify and correctly report all instances of suspected child abuse. To create or update your account, please go to virtusonline.org.

We thank all of the employees and volunteers for their continued support in making the environment at St. Patrick Church safe for all.

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.

<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>

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Catholic Sharing Appeal Update

We have reached 50% of our goal for the Catholic Sharing Appeal, **ALL** money donated from this point forward, will be returned to the church and not assessable to the Cathedralricum and PHRA annual assessment.

~Goal \$22490 ~Raised \$12459 ~55%

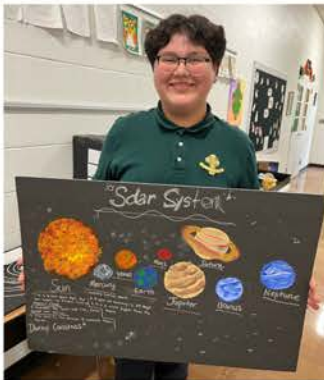


Playground Demolition Begins

Out with the old and in with the new. We are excited to upgrade our playground for our school children to have a fun and safe play experience.



3D Model Solar Systems



ELIMINATION DINNER

Our annual Elimination Dinner was once again a success! 500 tickets were sold and a good time was had by all. Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers and congratulations to our winner, Mrs. Tonya Pickens!



Secondary Students stand with their created 3D Solar System Models

"MONDAY 31ST MISTY AND VERY SLOPPY--70 DEGREES. IT GREW WINDY BUT NOT COLD TOWARD EVENING. MUD IS DEEP NOW. IT IS CLOUDED AND WARM AS I WRITE--ALMOST 12 A.M. AND NOW THE OLD YEAR IS GONE AND NOW THE OLD 19TH CENTURY IS ENDED--GOOD-BYE! GOOD-BYE! A NEW YEAR AND A NEW AGE OPENS. I NAME THIS XXTH CENTRY THE CENTURY OF MAGNIFICENT PROMISE. MY NATAL CENTURY WAS RICH IN MANY THINGS, BUT BOASTED MUCH BEYOND ITS PERFORMANCE. IT BROUGHT BACK POPULAR LIBERTY AND WITH THAT, AS EVER A REJUVENESENCE OF CATHOLICISM. THE CENTURY JUST OPENED MUST WITNESS MANY, MANY REVOLUTIONS, NOW A GREAT DESIDERATUM. COURAGE YOU XXTH CENTURY MEN! WE HAVE PREPARED THE ARENA FOR YOU AND WHEN WE ARE SLEEPING IN THE COLD CLAY ALL ALONE AND ALL FORGOTTEN, YOUR BATTLE WILL BE RAGING AND YOUR SHOUTS OF VICTORY RINGING JOYOUSLY.

WELCOME, 1901 A.D."

- THOMAS QUIRK

Annual Mass and Homecoming at St. Bernard Church, Loveberry

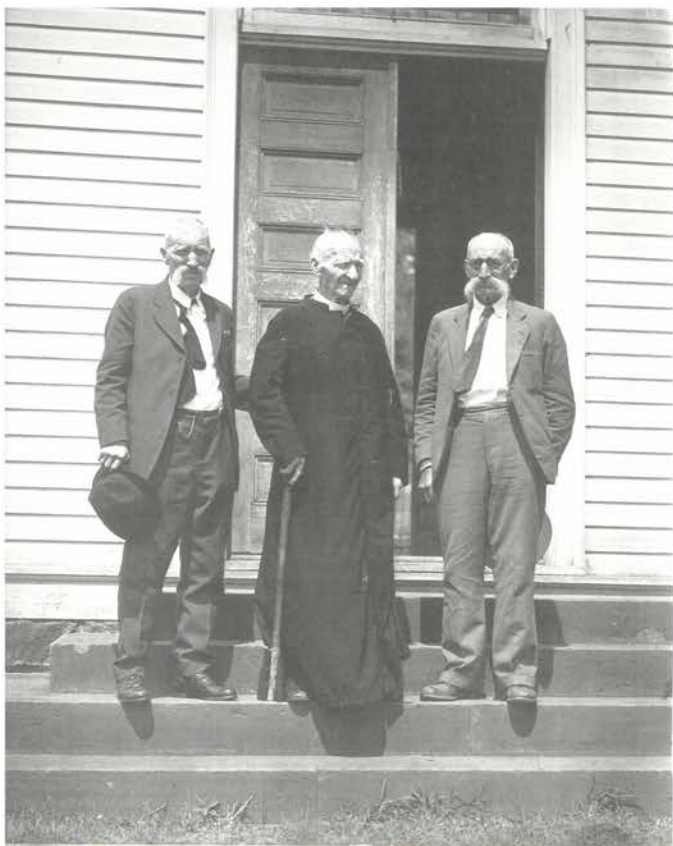
October 22, 2022

Mass - 12:15 p.m.



"We have prepared the arena for you and when we are sleeping in the cold clay all alone and all forgotten, your battle will be raging and your shouts of victory ringing joyously."

-Monsignor Thomas Aquinas Quirk



Respect Life Month

Rights of Personhood

It is unjust and inaccurate to classify certain human beings as “non-persons.”

There are essentially two questions to ask in regard to embryos and fetuses. The first is, “Are they human beings?” The second is, “Should they be recognized as persons under the law?” We’ve already established that there is no debate on the first question. It is a matter of plain objective science. Embryos and fetuses are fully and individually human from fertilization on. If this were not true, there would be no need to even talk about rights of personhood. “Removing a fetus” would be the moral equivalent of pulling a tooth. This, however, is not the case, and so the debate must enter the political arena.

Should humans be recognized as persons under the law? Yes, because humans are persons. Something is a person if it has a personal nature. In other words, something is a person if, by nature, it has the capacity to develop the ability to think rationally, express emotion, make decisions, etc. This capacity is something that a person has as soon as he or she begins to exist, since it is part of his or her nature. Because humans have a personal nature, humans are persons. As for the fetus, since it is a human (something with a personal nature), it is a person. Just as a cat qualifies as a feline simply by being a cat, a fetus qualifies as a person simply by being a human. It is impossible for a fetus to not be a person.

This fact should be enough. The intrinsic humanity of unborn children qualifies them as persons and should guarantee their protection under the law. Since 1973, however, this has not been the case in America. The situation we are left with is this. There is a huge and singular group of living human beings who have [in some states] no protection under the law and are being killed en masse every day. Is that not astounding?! It is astounding, but not wholly unprecedented.

There have been at least two other instances in American history in which specific groups of human beings were stripped of their rights of personhood as a means of justifying horrific mistreatment. African-Americans and Native-Americans both felt the brunt of a system which tried to create the artificial classification: human, non-person. This distinction wasn’t based on an honest evaluation of the evidence. It was made with an eye towards justifying a specific action. In the case of Native-Americans, they had land. In the case of African-Americans, they had labor. Classifying them as non-persons (even property) provided a moral framework for those in power to forcefully take what they wanted without compensation. Today, “unwanted,” unborn children don’t hold anything as tangible as land or labor, but their claims on those who would eliminate them are no less significant. They stand in the way of an unencumbered life. Once again, this notion that human beings can be classified as “non-persons” is not built on an objective assessment of the facts. It is built on the utilitarian attempt to justify abortion.

At this point, some people define the term “person” according to function. Call this view the functional view of persons. They argue that something qualifies as a person only if it can do certain things, like think rationally. But this definition of personhood fails. First, there are clear cases in which something qualifies as a person but cannot do the things required of the functional view of persons. For example, a human person under a general anesthesia does not qualify as a person under the functional view of persons, since a person in this situation does not have the ability to think rationally. Two, the functional view of persons does not fit certain intuitions about persons. For example, if you had a cat that couldn’t purr, couldn’t chase mice, and couldn’t climb trees, you wouldn’t say that your cat isn’t a feline—though you should if you define “feline” in terms of function. Instead, you would say that your cat is a cat that can’t purr, chase mice, or climb trees. In the same way, if a human being can’t think rationally, there is no reason to say that this human is not a person.

Even though we do not qualify or disqualify something as a person on the basis of what it can or can’t do, it’s still worth noting that fetuses display aspects of their personal nature while still in the womb. That is, fetuses can do things that you would only expect of more fully developed persons. For example, National Geographic, in their video, In the Womb: Multiples, goes so far as to say, “As identical twins grow bigger, they’re almost always in contact, touching hands, faces, feet and gradually becoming more aware of themselves and each other.” Did you catch that? They’re becoming more and more aware of themselves and each other. Developing human beings begin responding to and interacting with their environment long before they are born. Dr Bernard Nathanson once stated, “I have put Mozart in a tape player and held it against a womb at, say, seven months, and the baby moved a little, but when I put Van Halen on, the baby was jumping all over the place.” (“Rights of Personhood,” Abort 73.com)



How can someone survive an abortion
if they are not a person?

Listen to the testimony of Melissa Ohden, abortion survivor, by
scanning the QR code with your phone.



CDA Baby Bottle Fundraiser Update

This far, the church collected \$801.94 and the school collected \$424.18 for the CDA "Change for Life" fundraiser.

The class that collects the most money will receive a pizza lunch with Fr. Ondeck!

Kindergarten and second grade swapped spots on the leaderboard while 7/8 jumped from 6th place to third and Pre-K moved up one spot to 4th place.

1	K
2	2nd
3	7&8
4	PK
5	3rd
6	4th
7	1st
8	5&6
9	PS



Safe Environment Training

For students involved in parish activities (CGS, First Communion Prep & Confirmation Prep) and those who do NOT attend St. Patrick's School, we are offering a safe environment training on **Sunday, October 29th.**

The Safe Environment training is for children to recognize acceptable and unacceptable behaviors and how to deal with them.

Parents may choose to **opt out** or **teach this information at home.** Opt out forms can be picked up in the vestibule or the church office.

If you choose for your child to attend, please RSVP by emailing mwhite@saintpatricks.school for more information.

Diaper Drive October 15 - 29

St. Patrick's Student's for Life will be having a diaper drive the next two Sundays. Please bring diapers to drop off in the vestibule before or after Mass.



Register for

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation
Registration is
Happening Now



Children in sixth grade and up **NEED** to register now for our upcoming Confirmation classes. Classes begin November 5.

FOR 6TH GRADERS AND UP

ON DECK

Sunday, October 22

12:15 p.m.: Mass and Covered Dish Dinner at St. Bernard Church in Loveberry

October 31

CDA Baby Bottles to be returned

Wednesday, November 1, All Saints Day - A Holy Day of Obligation

- 8:15 a.m. Mass with the school students (Be sure to arrive prior to 8:15, as the church doors are locked at the start of Mass)
- 6:00 p.m., Mass

Thursday, November 2, All Souls Day

- 8:15 a.m. Rosary with St. Patrick School
- 6:00 p.m., Mass (This is the only Mass this day.)

Sunday, November 5th, 9:00 AM Confirmation Classes Begin

November 5th-11th National Vocations Awareness Week

Sunday, November 12 Donut Sunday, sponsored by McFly Outdoors

Our Neighbor Collection

October: Soap, Cleaning Supplies, feminine products

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

HELP US KEEP GOD'S HOUSE CLEAN

Please tidy up
your pew before
leaving.

Thank you!

Stonewall Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

Tonya Pickens, DVM
(304) 997-8059
3080 Old Route 33
Horner, WV 26372
Stonewallvethospital@gmail.com



John White, parishioner
95 US-19S
304-269-2952 - 304-931-9379
jmgrfix2@gmail.com



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(304) 871-0165
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Kate Garton, Broker

Brooks' Body Shop

20 Brookview Drive
Weston, WV 26452
304-269-7257
Cell 304-266-2143
brooksbodyshop41@aol.com



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304-269-3304

JOHN E. LAW, CPA
BETTY HILL, CPA
TOM STARK



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Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Court Victory 379

Third Monday (Sept—May).
6:00 p.m., Cafeteria



Knights of Columbus Council 1415

First Tuesday of each month.
7:00 p.m., Cafeteria