

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25th, 2024

Freedom to Let Go

I came across a sentence in a book I was reading recently which struck me very forcibly: 'all love relationships flourish only when there is freedom to let go of what is precious, so as to receive it back as a gift'. It is not easy to let go of what is precious. The more precious someone is to us, the harder it is to let go of that person. The more attractive someone is to us, the more we feel inclined to possess that person. Yet, in the effort to possess someone we can easily lose them. At the heart of all loving relationships is the freedom to let go of the other, and in letting go to receive the other back as a gift. Parents know that there comes a time when they have to let go of their sons or daughters, even though they are more precious to them than anything else. They may have to let them go to another country or to the person whom they have chosen as their future spouse. Yet, in letting go of their children, parents invariably discover that they receive them back as a gift. Single people too have to learn the freedom of letting go what is precious so as to receive it back as a gift. In any good and healthy friendship, people need to give each other plenty of space.

In today's reading Abraham is portrayed as being willing to let go of what was most precious to him, the only son of his old age. In being willing to let his son go to God, he went on to receive him back as a gift. Many people find it a very disturbing story, because it portrays God as asking Abraham to sacrifice his only beloved son as a burnt offering to God. We are rightly shocked by the image of God asking a father to sacrifice his son in this way. Abraham lived about a thousand years before Christ. In the religious culture of that time it was not uncommon for people to sacrifice their children to various gods. The point of the story seems to be that the God of Israel is not like the pagan gods. If Abraham thought that God was asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac like the people who worshipped other gods, he was wrong. God was not asking this of Abraham. Yet, the willingness of Abraham to let go of what was most precious to him if that was what God was asking remained an inspiration to the people of Israel. He had already shown a willingness to let go of his family and his homeland as he set out towards an unknown land in response to God's call.

The early church came to understand the relationship between Abraham and Isaac as pointing ahead to the relationship between God the Father and Jesus. Like Abraham, God was prepared to let go of what was most precious to him, his one and only Son, out of love for humanity. God was prepared to let his Son go to humanity, with all the dangers that entailed for his Son. Saint Paul was very struck by this extraordinary generosity of God on our behalf, as he says in the 2nd Reading, 'God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all'. God let his precious Son go to humanity even though the consequences of that were the rejection of his Son and, ultimately, his crucifixion. Even after Jesus was crucified, God continued to give him to us as risen Lord. When Paul contemplates this self-emptying love of God for us, he asks aloud, in the opening line of that 2nd Reading, 'With God on our side who can be against us?' Paul is declaring that if God's love for us is this complete, then we have nothing to fear from anyone. Here is a love that has no trace of possessiveness, a love that makes us lovable.

In today's gospel reading, Peter, James and John are taken up a high mountain by Jesus, and there they have an experience of Jesus which took their breath away. It was an experience that was so precious that Peter could not let it go. He wanted to prolong it indefinitely and so he says to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. He and the other two disciples had a fleeting glimpse of the heavenly beauty of Christ, and did not want to let go of it. Beauty always attracts; it calls out to us. Yet, Peter and the others had to let go of this precious experience; it was only ever intended to be momentary. They would receive it back in the next life as a gift. For now, their task was to listen to Jesus, 'This is my beloved Son. Listen to him'. That is our task too. We spend our lives listening to the Lord as he speaks to us in his word and in and through the circumstances of our lives; we listen to him as a preparation for that wonderful moment when we see him face to face in eternity and we can finally say, 'it is wonderful to be here'. (Association of Catholic Priests)



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/StPatsChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StPatsChurchWestonWv)

[WestonWv](#)

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/StPatsSchoolW](https://www.facebook.com/StPatsSchoolWestonWv)

[estonWv](#)

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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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.

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 24, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, February 25, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for †Mary Catherine Fallon by St. Pat's Class of 1956
Monday, February 26, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Mildred Droppleman by Ed and Anita Droppleman
Tuesday, February 27, 2024	5:50 PM	Celebrant's Intentions
Wednesday, February 28, 2024	5:50 PM	Mass for †James Henry Stichweh
Thursday, February 29, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Marcia Lee Tucci by Linda Kennedy
Friday, March 1, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Sarah Rowgh
Saturday, March 2, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, March 3, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for †Hernan Ayala by Alex and Fiona Ayala

The sanctuary lamp is burning in memory of Paul Derico by Mariann and David Jack, February 25 - March 9, 2024.

Prayer List

Those who are sick: Reagan and Harper Ayers, Violet Angotti, Heman Ayala, Jill Balser, Bill Bennett, Dan Brannon, Jamie Breen, Dorothy Butcher, John Butcher, Courtney Clevenger, Brad Curtis, Rose Determan, Bonnie Detamore, Amy Dillon, Josiah Eagle, Libby Ferrell, Sara Ferrell, Greg Garton, Holly Garton, Marsha Garton, Andrea Heath, Coretta Jefferson, Ellen Ketron, Alesha Lehman, David Lewis, Rochelle Long, Polly Lutz, Shirley Murchland, Susan Murray, Judy Nicholas, Sue Nutter, Mary Oldaker, Michael Pugh, Raylee Rahming, Brenda Riley, Dan Rittenhouse, Helen Tomaro, Dorothy Valdez, Diane Walker, Kathy Watson, Audrey Westfall

• **Those who have died:** Violet Angotti, Sarah Ellen Sweeney, May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

• **All Veterans, and Military Personnel:** Bobby Summers

• **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.**

• **Those preparing for First Communion:** Especially, Claire Cid, Grayson Clevenger, Zeke Deaton, Brody Donaldson, Bailey Farnsworth, Christian Greathouse, Mason Karp, Isaiah Messer, Marcileen Queen, Kaedalyne Riley, and Ricky Walsh

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!

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.

January myEoffering Donations, Utilities and Other Expenses

Income	Expenses
General Fund: \$2703.11	Utilities \$8005.71
School: \$671.41	(All buildings)
Maintenance: \$151	Copier Lease and
Loan: \$70.92	copies \$574.51
CSA: \$150.30	Pest Control \$140

Ash Wednesday Attendance

8:15 a.m.: 203 6:00 p.m.: 163

Weekend Collections

Saturday	113
Sunday	202
Total	315
Saturday	\$1467
Sunday	\$1326
Mail/Drop Box	\$50
Total	\$2843
School	\$
Votives	\$68
Maintenance	\$115
Loan	\$50
Organ	\$
Wesbanco Balance	\$47,795.23
Organ Loan Bal.	\$67,859.98

Special Collection March 2 & 3

Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund

Our retired priests dedicated themselves over many years to the service of God's people, and we are grateful for the service they have rendered to our community. They were there for us. Let's be there for them now. **Please prayerfully consider a gift for our retired priests.**

Lent Schedule

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 12:30 school

Friday 6:00 p.m.

Confession

In addition to our regular times for Confession, Father Ondeck will hear confession Wednesday and Friday after Stations of the Cross.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

This is in addition to our regular times of Adoration on Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

OCIA Church Tour

Nearly everything that you see in a Catholic Church has profound symbolism. Last Sunday, Father Ondeck led our OCIA participants, who are only weeks away from entering into full communion with the Church, on a tour around our parish to unpack some of this important symbolism. Here were some highlights from our tour:



Father explains that Churches, especially those with Romanesque architecture, look almost like fortresses from the outside. This seemingly harsh design is to impress on believers and nonbelievers alike the importance of our mission as Christians- we are in a spiritual battle on this Earth against Satan and his temptations that seek to lead us away from our creator.



On or in every altar within the Catholic Church lies sacred relics. Relics are in some way, the “remains” of saints. There are different classes of relics, 1st Class being actual parts of a saint’s body (bone, heart tissue, lock of hair), where a 2nd Class relic is something that was owned by a saint (Their habit, religious items, or in the case of the millennial Blessed Carlo Acutis, a video game controller). 3rd class relics are items which have touched 1st or 2nd class relics. The practice of relics in/on altars stems from the earliest periods in the Church when Christianity was illegal and Christians were forced underground to celebrate Mass in the catacombs, often on top of the tombs of saints. Relics are also a way for us to remember the faithful who have gone before us as examples and loving friends who intercede on our behalf. In order to be placed in or on an altar, relics must be approved by the Vatican. On our altar we have a piece of the True Cross and a 2nd Class relic of Margaret Mary Alcoque.



Upon entering our church the harshness of the outer walls seems to cease immediately. The beauty on the inside of our walls lifts our minds to Heaven as we worship God through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Here, Father is explaining that baptismal fonts are typically located near the entrance of churches to symbolize the fact that we enter into the Church through the waters of baptism.



Father explains the different stained glass windows in our church (here we are observing the image of St. Cecilia located above the choir loft). Widespread literacy and access to the scriptures was limited until the invention of the printing press. Thus, churches would have stained glass windows to depict the life of Christ so that ordinary people could engross themselves in the beauty of the story of salvation.



One of our last stops was in the sacristy where Father explained the symbolism of each part of the priestly vestments. We were also shown up close some important materials used in Mass and adoration such as a chalice and the monstrance.

Pray for our OCIA participants during their final weeks of preparation!

**YEE
HAW**

Square Dance

March 23
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.



Saturday, March 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in St. Patrick's gym! Please join us for wholesome family fun, with live music, and a caller who will guide even beginners through the steps of square dancing!

No need to bring a partner, and all are welcome, ages 14 and older.

St. Patrick's Students For Life Hosts Guest Speakers



Our St. Patrick's Students for Life group hosted three very special guests at their meeting last Sunday: Riley, Sadie, and Margaret Keaton, who work tirelessly at the state capital during the legislative session to pass life-affirming laws. Sadie works with West Virginian's for Life as a lobbyist while Margaret wins hearts for life by showing people the joy and preciousness of children.

Sadie and Riley discussed with the students the Pro-Life legislation that they are working to get passed, particularly "The Women's Right to Know Act." As is stated on the West Virginian's for Life Website, "The Act would aid the small percentage of women who qualify for abortion exceptions, by requiring that they be informed about the risks of, and alternatives to, abortion. It would educate patients regarding the dangers of the abortion pill, along with the fact that the effects of such a chemical abortion can be reversed. The Act would also ensure that information on disabilities (including support networks) is given to parents when they are told that their unborn child has special needs."

Join the fight by asking your legislators to support this bill.

For more information, visit wvforlife.org

Camp Carlo Dates 2024

Week #1 June 30th - July 6th
(Rising Freshman to HS Seniors)

Week #2 July 7th - July 13th

Week #3 July 14th - July 20th

Week #4 July 21st - July 27th

For a week of adventure, register campers at:

<https://campcarlowv.org/>

Help campers fall in love with
Jesus and His Church while
enriching your own spiritual life
with other young Catholics!

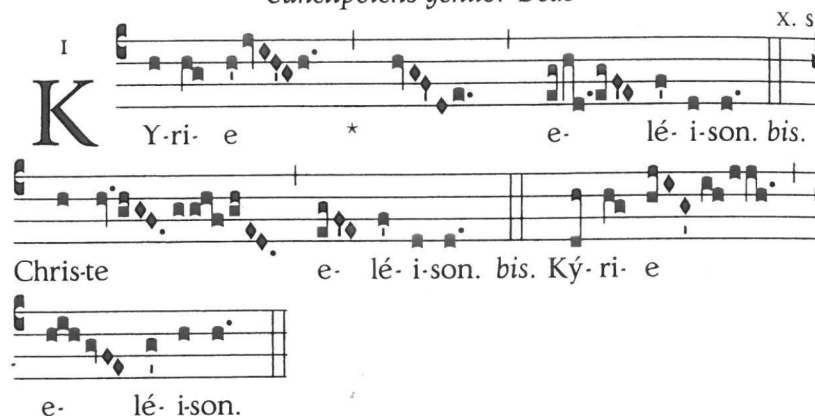
To apply to be a summer counselor
or activity staff, email: Director of
Youth and Young Adult
Discipleship, Nick Chancey:
nchancey@dwc.org



Lent Mass Music

Kyrie

Cunctipotens genitor Deus



Saint Michael Hymnal

Sanctus #101

Memorial Acclamation #102

Amen #103

Agnes Dei #104

Love of Jesus in the Monstrance



Preschool loved learning about Jesus in the monstrance so much that teachers coordinated this adorable craft project!

School Stations of the Cross



Upstairs students participate in Stations of the Cross led by Mr. Mike Brumley.

Pre-K Prepares for the Weekend with Prayers and Pictures



Admission Open for the 24-25 School Year!

Rigorous Curriculum

- Christ-centered
- 21st century technology
- Virtues in Practice

After-School Activities

- Math Club
- Choir
- Golf
- GAP (Daily)

HOPE Scholarship?

The scholarship allows K-12 students to receive financial assistance that can be used for tuition and other qualifying expenses. More info at <https://hopescholarshipwv.com/>

To schedule a visit of our campus give us a call at 304-269-5547

APPLY AT - www.stpatwv.org

Calendar Cash Winners

Day	Amount	Winner	Sold By
16	\$ 75.00	Clifford Helmick	J. McCartney
17	\$ 75.00	Debbie Myers	E. Gum
18	\$100.00	Gary Porter	B. Rogers
19	\$100.00	Charles V. Wine Jr	J. McCartney
20	\$ 75.00	Amy Grethouse	B. Farnsworth
21	\$ 75.00	Rosalee Jordan	C. Jordan
22	\$ 75.00	Debbie Blatt	A. Gillespie

Easter Flower Fund

Donations are now being accepted for our Easter Flower Fund.

If you use contribution envelopes, an envelope is in your packet. For those who do not use envelopes please specify EASTER FLOWERS when you make your donation.



Parish Dinner

When: Sunday, March 17

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Where: gymnasium

Helpers needed! Please contact the parish office to volunteer!

This is a covered dish dinner with meats, hot rolls, drinks and paper goods provided.



Jerusalem Carvings

Beautiful olive wood carvings from Bethlehem and the Holy Land will be on sale at our parish dinner on Sunday, March 17.

Profits from these sales are a major source of income for Christians in the Holy Land.



Please Join us in Eucharistic Adoration

Now that all of the time slots are covered for Eucharistic each Wednesday of Lent, we invite those of you who were unable to make such a commitment to join us whenever you can. **THANK YOU** to everyone who committed to spend an hour praying before the blessed sacrament each Wednesday of Lent!



During the holy season of Lent, we will leave Mass in silence.

Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for Him. (Psalm 37:7)



Congratulations to our newest parishioner Simon Daniel Smith!

Simon is the fourth child of Andrew & Ashley Smith.

Simon is pictured with his parents and siblings, Hayden, MacyKay, and Vincent, Godparents Jesse and Chris Cunningham, and Fr. Ondeck.

ON DECK

Sunday, March 10

Donut Sunday

Sunday, March 17

1:00 p.m., Parish Dinner

Saturday, March 23

6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Square Dance, gym

Sunday, March 24

- Palm Sunday
- Donut Sunday

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

Saturday, April 6

Spring Bash, gym

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Daughters

Our Neighbor Collection

March: Paper Towels and Cleaning Supplies

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

Save THE Date

Spring Bash

Fun, Food, Entertainment and MORE

Saturday, April 6
Gymnasium

Sponsors Needed for Donut Sunday Gatherings

Sponsors are needed for our Donut Sunday gatherings. To volunteer, please contact the parish office. Our next Donut Sunday will be Sunday, March 10 and will be sponsored by Mike and Beth Brumley.



Brooks' Body Shop

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



John White, parishioner
95 US-19S
304-269-2952 - 304-931-9379
jmgrfix2gmail.com

Foster Feed

202 Bland St
Weston, WV
304-269-1333

Stonewall Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

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



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Kate Garton
2774 Old Route 33
Horner, WV 26372
(304) 871-0165
kate@llrgp.com



Lewis County Senior Center

In-Home Care Department
304-269-5738

171 W. 2nd Street Weston, WV



354 US HWY 33 E
WESTON
304-997-3228

JOHN LAW CPA, A.C.
132 FIRST ST., WESTON
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\$1400 per year

\$330 per year

\$650 per year



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