## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### **Beginning of the Catholic New Year**

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new Liturgical Year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not vesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob," is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'1

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

As Saint John Henry Newman reminded us in a homily for the Advent Season: "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This 'vigilance' means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living 'wait'. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today's reading to the Romans: 'Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed" (Rm 13:11).

We must start our journey to ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to be illuminated by His Words of peace and to allow Him to indicate the path to tread (cf. Is 2:1-5). Moreover, we must change our conduct abandoning the works of darkness and put on the 'armor of light' and so seek only to do God's work and to abandon the deeds of the flesh (cf. Rm 13:12-14). Jesus, through the story in the parable, outlines the Christian life style that must not be distracted and indifferent but must be vigilant and recognize even the smallest sign of the Lord's coming because we don't know the hour in which He will arrive (cf. Mt 24:39-44).

1 Pope Benedict XVI, Celebration of First Vespers of Advent, Vatican Basilica, December 2006

—Excerpted from the website of Congregation for the Clergy The First Sunday of Advent marks the new Liturgical Year, and the Church shifts into a new Lectionary Cycle for Sundays, with 2024-25 from Year C, the Gospel of St. Luke. In the Sunday Gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36) Jesus invites us to recognize the signs of the last days. This is a reminder that Advent is not just looking back at the first coming of Christ at Christmas, but our personal preparation for His Second Coming: "Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of

The traditional Collect (or Opening Prayer) of the last Sunday of the Church year began "Stir up the wills of Thy faithful people, we beseech Thee, O Lord..." With this request to God to "stir up" our wills, the last Sunday of the Church year was traditionally called Stir-Up Sunday. Because we now celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King on the last Sunday of the year, "Stir-Up Sunday" can now be the First Sunday of Advent. The traditional Collect of the First Sunday is asking God to stir up His might: "Stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come." Many families create a traditional plum pudding or fruit cake or some other recipe that all the family and guests can "stir-up." This activity of stirring-up the ingredients symbolizes our hearts that must be stirred in preparation for Christ's birth.



### WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH, WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

#### St. Patrick Catholic Church

www.spchurchweston.org/ www.facebook.com/StPatsChurchWestonWV

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

#### **Pastor**

#### Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

ondeck.douglas@gmail.com

#### Permanent Deacon Rev. Mr. Mike Brumley

brumleyma@gmail.com

#### Religious Ed. & Sacramental Prep

Megan White mwhite.stpats@gmail.com

#### Secretary

Sandra Mick secretary@spchurchweston.net

#### **Parish Office Hours**

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



## St. Patrick Catholic School

<u>https://stpatswv.org/</u> <u>www.facebook.com/StPatsSchoolWestonWV</u>

> 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

#### 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.

#### Sacrament of the Sick & Last Rites

The anointing of the sick is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness, especially near the time of death. It is most likely one of the last sacraments one will receive.

Please call the parish office to schedule or if you are in danger of death, please call 304-691-0537

#### **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**.

Thank you for your continued support in making the environment at St. Patrick Church and school safe for everyone.

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 of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Sr. Martha Gomez, ext. 264. Or you may call Rev. Don Higgs, 304.685.2367, the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504, or Victims Assistance Coordinator Erin McFarland at 304.559.6742. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

"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.

#### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 30, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, December 1, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for †Kenny Parker by Mary Jane Parker and family
Monday, December 2, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Irene and Rondel Curtis by David Curtis
Tuesday, December 3, 2024	5:50 PM	Celebrant's Intentions
Wednesday, December 4, 2024	5:50 PM	Mass for †Rev. Fr. Leo Lydon by Fred Butler and Deborah Garton
Thursday, December 5, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Robert Hamilton
Friday, December 6, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Janie Garton by family
Saturday, December 7, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, December 8, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for †Pete Pentasuglia by Brennon and Sherry O'Sullivan

The sanctuary lamp is burning in memory of Danny Clark, December 1 - 14, 2024.

#### **Prayer List**

Those who are sick: Jennifer Hubbs Morris (SJMH) Hernan Ayala, Jill Balser, Bill Bennett, Dan Brannon, Jamie Breen, Kelsea Butcher, Pam Campbell, Margaret Carr, Jody Craig, Ron Cullen, Brad Curtis, Bonnie Detamore, Libby Ferrell, Sara Ferrell, Katie Frazer, Marsha Garton, Andrea Heath, Coretta Jefferson, Ellen Ketron, Pat Kiddy, Dave King, David Lewis, Rochelle Long, Matt McCauley, James McClain, Robert McClain, Lisa Marlow, Susan Murray, Judy Nicholas, Sue Nutter, Amy Price, Michael Pugh, Raylee Rahming, Dee Ann Reichner, Brenda Riley, Chris Riley, Dan Rittenhouse, Mary Smith, Loretta Stitt, Marge Tierney, Helen Tomaro, Don True, Tia Tucci, Diane Walker

**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, and Bryan Tedeschi

Former priests and religious of and from our parish

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

All struggling with infertility.

Saturday	114	
Sunday	236	
Total	350	
Saturday	\$1527	
Sunday	\$1052	
Mail/Drop Box	\$2895	
Total	\$5474	
School	\$95	
Votives	\$182	
Maintenance	\$150	
Loan	\$40	
Organ	\$0	
Wesbanco Balance	\$45,761.38	
Organ Loan Balance	\$65,912.10	
Christmas Flowers	\$165	

## **FORMED**

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

#### **Please Update Your Address**

We know it is just the beginning of Advent, but January will before you know. This is your yearly reminder that if your address has changed in the past year, please let the parish office know.

Thank you!

#### **Special Collection**

There will be a special collection next weekend for the Religious Retirement Fund.



Scan to donate online





Christmas Flower Donations Needed

Please consider giving to the Christmas flower fund. We are blessed to have talented volunteers who always make the church look spectacular. The cost of flowers has increased along with everything else so we need to make sure they have the funds to continue to make the church look absolutely amazing.

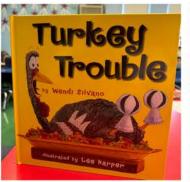
https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing

## **Thanksgiving-Themed Fun**

3rd grade and Kindergarten collaborated to listen to "Turkey Trouble" and create disguises for their turkeys so they wouldn't become Thanksgiving dinner. When finished, 3rd graders took some time to read to their kinder-buddies.















6th grade made Macy's Thanksgiving Parade Balloons!











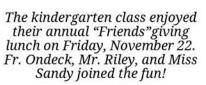






## "FRIENDS" GIVING

# FUN

















# THANKFUL











Our annual Christmas pageant will be Friday, December 20, The matinee performance will be at 1:00 p.m. and the evening performance will be at 6:35 p.m.







#### Calendar Cash Tickets are on Sale Now

Calendar Cash tickets are for sale now. They make great Christmas gifts. Tickets are available in the school and parish offices and from students.



#### Encountering Jesus as a Family this Advent

We're not meant to experience the love of Jesus all alone. Just as the Lord entered the world through a family, He can enter our hearts through our family.

Here are a few simple ways you and your family can encounter the love of Christ together this Advent and Christmas season.

Inviting the Lord into Your Home

One of the most familiar parts of the Christmas story is the humble "home" within which Jesus was born. There was no room for Mary and Joseph within the inn at Bethlehem, so the King of Kings was born in a simple stable and placed in a manger.

Over 2,000 years ago, Jesus entered our world through the meekness and humility of the Holy Family. This year, you have a beautiful opportunity to invite Jesus into your hearts with your family.

There is no better way, and no better place, to grow in your relationship with the Lord, than at home with your family. This holy season of Advent and Christmas is a special time you can encounter Jesus together, and invite him into your home and your hearts.

#### Little ways to invite Jesus into your home:

- Keep a journal of all the people your family is praying for Read the Mass readings together as a family before each Sunday Begin each morning, and end each evening, with prayer as a
- Setup a small prayer table in your house with your family Bible, rosaries, and devotionals
- Discuss as a family: What other ways can you invite Jesus into your home?

#### Please Return your Baby Bottle Update

Thank you to everyone who gave to the Change for Life baby bottle fundraiser. If you still have a bottle (even if it is empty) please return it. The Catholic Daughters will use them again next year.



December 3, 2024

#### \$10,845.00 needed to reach our parish goal!

Giving Tuesday is celebrated each year to encourage people to do good and give back. This year, our church family is gathering donations for the Catholic Sharing Appeal. We have reached 52% of our goal which means all donations made are returned in full to our parish, free from Cathedraticum and PHRA.

We thank you for your prayerful generosity and support this Giving Tuesday!

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2 Corinthians 9:6

#### **Pilgrimage**

Fr. Joseph of St. Boniface Church is collecting names and contact information for a pilgrimage to Lourdes or Fatima or other destination.

If you are interested in a pilgrimage, please contact St. Boniface Church at 304-269-1767, or write you name and phone number on the "Pilgrimage" form in the vestibule.

This is not a commitment, only an inquiry to see if enough people are interested to plan a trip.



#### 2025 Church Calendars are Here

Please take one home when you leave Mass this weekend.

#### **Prayer for the Advent Wreath**

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.

He is the Savior of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first (purple) candle of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay.

We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

#### Waiting

We light an advent candle today, a small dim light against a world that often seems forbidding and dark. But we light it because we are a people of hope, a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master. The joy and anticipation of this season is captured beautifully in the antiphons of hope from the monastic liturgies:

See! The ruler of the earth shall come, the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile

The Lord will come soon, will not delay.

The Lord will make the darkest places bright.

We must capture that urgency today in the small flame of our candle. We light the candle because we know that the coming of Christ is tied to our building of the kingdom. Lighting the flame, feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, reconciling the divided, praying for the repentant, greeting the lonely and forgotten - doing all these works hastens His coming.



#### Angel Present Drop Off

The parish office will be open after Mass this Sunday, December 1 for anyone who needs to drop off their angel tree presents. Please be sure to return your angel tag with your presents. If your angel has more than one bag or box, please write their number on each one.

#### Mass Schedule for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(A holy day of obligation.)

Monday, December 9

8:15 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

If you are attending the 8:15 Mass, please do not park in the fourteen spots closest to the preschool building. Those spots are reserved.



#### **Donut Sunday**

Join us on **Sunday**, **December 8** for our final Donut Sunday of the year. This donut social is sponsored by the Catholic Daughters.

#### Additional Advent Reconciliation Opportunities

Wednesday, December 18

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Fr. Maghsoudi will assist with the evening confessions.

#### **Advent Books**

Please take home a copy of the Advent Gospel Reflections by Bishop Robert Barron.

#### Food Drive

Collecting has begun for our annual food drive for our Christmas food baskets. The classes of St. Patrick's School collect various items to help with the drive. Each class is assigned a different food item or items. Items we need from the parish are: dinners (Homestyle bakes, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, etc.), canned vegetables (green beans, corn, peas, carrots, sweet potatoes, etc.), canned fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, etc.), applesauce, canned chili, Chef Boy-r-dee ravioli, beef stew, Chunky soups, stuffing, and gravy. The deadline for food donations is December 8. Any nonperishable food item will appreciated. Items can be placed in the vestibule of the church or brought to the drive through food drive.



## Drive Thru Food Drive Next Weekend

t Weekend a Driv

The Catholic Daughters will hold a Drive Through Food Drive before and after Masses on December 7 and 8. Please pull behind the school and a member of the Catholic Daughters will come to your car, unload your donation, and take in the school.

If you prefer, monetary donations for the food drive can be given to the Catholic Daughter. Please make checks payable to CDA.

#### Names for Christmas Food Baskets

If you know someone who could benefit from a food basket this Christmas, please call the St. Patrick Church parish office at 304-269-3048 or email secretary@spchurchweston.net. Please ask the person or family if it is okay before adding their name to the list. Please do not add someone who is already receiving a food basket from another church or organization. By doing this, we are able to help more people who otherwise might be overlooked.

When you add someone to the list, you are responsible for distributing the basket of food to them or for making sure they are able to pick up the basket themselves.

We need the following information when you add someone to the list.

Family name
Family size (broken down by the number of adults and number of children)
A contact number for the family.
Your name and phone number.

#### ON DECK

## Sunday, December 1 Advent Begins

Angel Tree presents must be turned in by this date. The parish office will be open after Mass for you to drop off your presents.

Tuesday, December 3

Giving Tuesday

#### December 7 & 8

Drive through food drive for our Christmas food baskets

Monday, December 9
Solemnity of the Immaculate
Conception

A holy day of obligation.

Mass will be offered at 8:15 a.m.. and 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18 Reconciliation Schedule

12 p.m. - 1p.m.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - continued during & after Mass

Fr. Maghsoudi will assist with the evening confessions.

#### Friday, December 20

St. Patrick School's Christmas pageant 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.

#### **Our Neighbor Collection**

**December:** Dental Supplies

Please Note: The items listed in the bulletin are not the only supplies you can donate during the month. If you are shopping and find a sale on other items such as toilet paper, paper towels, soap, etc. you may give those as well.

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

Our Director of Religious Education,
Megan, has a new email address. If you
have any questions about our religious
education programs or sacramental
preperation, please reach her at
mwhite.stpats@gmail.com

#### Brooks' Body Shop

20 Brookview Drive Weston, WV 26452 304-269-7257 Cell 304-266-2143



brooksbodyshop41@aol.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



Lewis County Senior Center

In-Home Care Department 304-269-5738

171 W. 2nd Street Weston, WV





Stonewallvethospital@gmail.com



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