# **GAUDETE SUNDAY**

Commentary on the Mass Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent, Year C:

The First Reading is from Zephaniah 3:14-18. It is probable that neither Zephaniah nor his hearers saw the full meaning of the consoling words he uttered and that matters not. But we see their full meaning now in their fulfillment and we have every reason to do what the prophet said: "to shout for joy." God has come to dwell amongst us. He, Christ, is head of the new Israel, the Church. We are its members. "I am the vine, you are the branches" he said; while we remain united with him in grace and love we are producing fruit for eternal life, we are progressing daily towards our perfection.

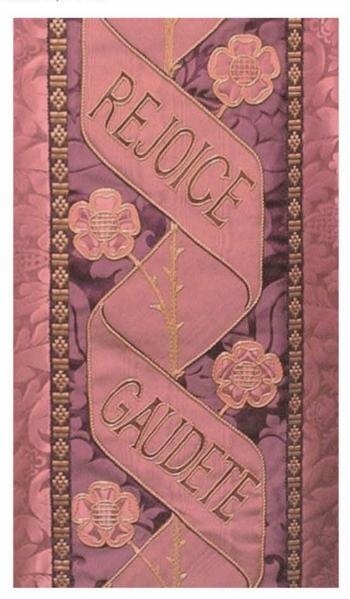
The Second Reading is from Philippians 4:4-7. St. Francis of Assisi tried in his daily life to follow Christ as closely as possible. He was one of the happiest and most joyful of men for this very reason. He was often ill, often hungry, often cold and often fatigued but he was but he was never known to have been sad. He had taken this exhortation of St. Paul to his heart. Whenever he saw one of his early followers gloomy and sad-there were some evidently who were as yet only following from afar—he told him go to confession as he must be in mortal sin. There seemed no other true explanation for sadness in a true Christian's life. Is there? We are really pilgrims, exiles on this earth, but every day we live is a day nearer to our true and lasting home which is heaven. Would an exile on his homejourney complain of the few hardships and discomforts he may meet with on his journey? Not if his heart is really set on coming

The Gospel is from Luke 3:10-18. The Baptist's words are still very much to the point for all of us. We are all to a greater or lesser degree tax collectors and sinners. They had the honesty to admit it and asked John what they should do in order to be ready to welcome the Messiah, Christ. Let me ask today too what I should do if I mean to welcome Christ sincerely at Christmas. And the answer is in the words I have just heard. Am I just and charitable to my fellow-men? If I am an employer am I paying a just wage to those who are producing my wealth for me? If I am an employee am I doing an honest day's work for the pay I am getting? And both employer and employee must in justice and charity think of the consumer—the third party, when fixing or causing the price of what they produce.

If the employers, through desire for excessive profit, or the employee through not earning his pay, cause prices to rise then the third party, the consumer, is treated unjustly. Our world today is full of such injustices and sad to say, the Christian countries whose citizens profess to be followers of Christ not

only do nothing to prevent this state of affairs but instead are even worse offenders than those who have not yet heard of Christ. I may shrug my shoulders and say what can I do about the injustice that abounds can I do about the injustice that abounds on all sides? But stop and think, there are things I can do. I can put my own conscience in order, I can put myself right with God and neighbor by acting justly, "giving every man his due" from this day forward. I can thus become an example to lead others to do likewise.

-Excerpt from The Sunday Readings, Cycle C by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.



## 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, December 14, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for the People of the Parish
Sunday, December 15, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for †Kathy Colcombe by Domnic Milinovich
Monday, December 16, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Janie Garton by family
Tuesday, December 17, 2024	6:00 PM	Communion Service
Wednesday, December 18, 2024	6:00 PM	Mass for †Charles Rowgh by family
Thursday, December 19, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Veronica Brumley
Friday, December 20, 2024	8:15 AM	Mass for †Joe and Theresa Boyle by family
Saturday, December 21, 2024	5:30 PM	Mass for †Connie Gregory
Sunday, December 22, 2024	10:30 AM	Mass for the People of the Parish

The sanctuary lamp is burning in memory memory of James Blake and Bryan Francis, December 15 - 28, 2024.

## Please help update the prayer list.

Please look over the prayer list below for accuracy. If you see something that needs changed, please contact the parish office via telephone or email. Thank you for your help to keep us up to date!

## **Prayer List**

Those who are sick: Micki Snyder (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, Dave Gissy, Kyle Hayhurst Sr., Mary Hall, Coretta Jefferson, Ellen Ketron, Pat Kiddy, Dave King, David Lewis, Catherine Lipps, Rochelle Long, Matt McCauley, James McClain, Robert McClain, Lisa Marlow, Joey Mick, Jennifer Hubbs Morris, Susan Murray, Judy Nicholas, Sue Nutter, Amy Price, Michael Pugh, Raylee Rahming, Dee Ann Reichner, Brenda Riley, Dan Rittenhouse, Mary Smith, Rob Snuffer, Loretta Stitt, Marge Tierney, Helen Tomaro, Don True, Tia Tucci, Diane Walker, Jane White

**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.



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Attendance & Collections			
Saturday	110		
Sunday	192		
Total	302		
Saturday	\$1967		
Sunday	\$656		
Mail/Drop Box	\$1151		
Total	\$3774		
School	\$140		
Votives	\$113		
Maintenance	\$165		
Loan	\$		
Organ	\$		
Wesbanco Balance	\$45,761.38		
Organ Loan Balance	\$65,912.10		
Christmas Flowers	\$20		
Giving Tuesday	150		

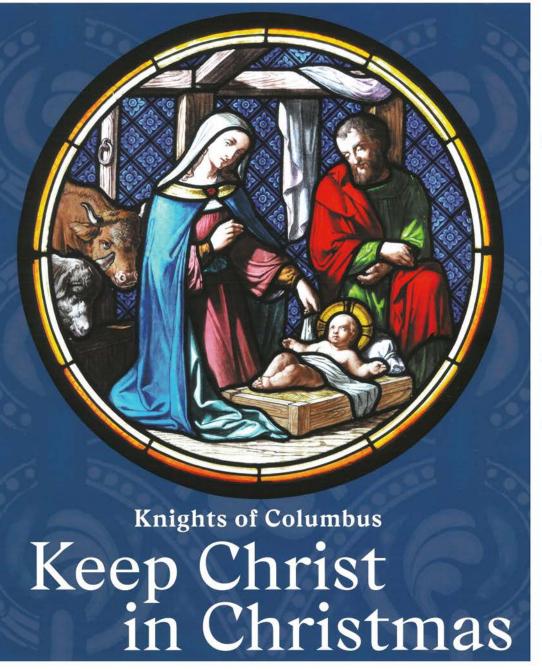


It's not too late to give to our Christmas Flower Fund! Help us make the church even more beautiful to celebrate the birth of our Lord!



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



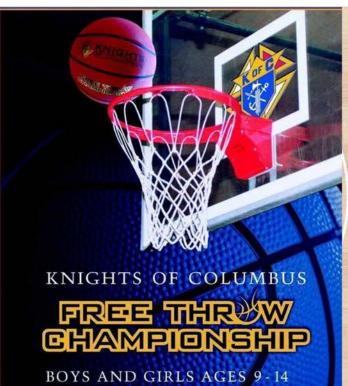
# Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest

It's time for the Knights of Columbus annual "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. The competition is for students in kindergarten through 8th grade.

### Rules

- Poster must reflect and include the "Keep Christ in Christmas" theme.
- Poster should be 11x17. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered in clear plastic. Posters may be in color or black and white.
- Each post should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of the entrant.
- The name and grade of the person entering the poster MUST be on the BACK of the poster.
- Each poster MUST be submitted with a "Keep Christ in Christmas entry form, signed by the entrants parent or guardian.
- The **deadline** is Friday, December 20.

Registration forms are in the vestibule!



Weston Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition

January 12, 2025
St Patrick School gymnasium
Starts at 12:00 pm
Free participation for all boys and girls
ages 9 – 14 as of Jan. 1, 2025

No prior registration needed.

For more information, please call or text Jim at 304-704-0865

## **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 two (purple) candles and the third (rose) 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.

## Rejoicing

"(The desert) will bloom with abundant flowers and rejoice with joyful song." "Rejoice in the Lord always!" "Shout for joy, 0 daughter Zion!"

The Scriptures for the Third Sunday of Advent proclaim their message in no uncertain terms: Rejoice! Joy is all around us and our celebration of Advent calls us to discover it. The joy that the Scripture passages speak about is not a joy that equates with hilarious laughter. It is a joy that comes from a security with our God, those around us, and our place in the world. It is the joy Isaiah describes when he writes, "I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul." It is a joy that cannot be bought or obtained from artificial highs. It is a joy that comes from our living faith in a living God.

It is the joy we feel as we approach the birth of our Savior and remember the awesome beauty of what happened on that cold Bethlehem night.

Rejoice!



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.

## Calendar Cash Tickets make GREAT Christmas Presents!

Calendar Cash tickets are on sale now. They make great Christmas gifts. Tickets are \$10 each and are available in the school and parish offices and from students.







## Organ Recital

On November 22, the Feast of Saint Cecilia (the patron Saint of music), our Music Director Steve Anisko presented an organ recital to the students of Saint Patrick School. The recital was presented to honor Saint Cecilia and to provide the students the opportunity to deepen and expand their appreciation and understanding of Sacred and Classical Music. Mr. Anisko performed works of Bach, Boellmann, Couperin, Tournemire and an improvisation on the Gregorian Hymn "Veni Creator."

All Sunday
Catechetical
programs will be on
a holiday break on
December 22nd &
29th. Programs will
resume as normal
on January 5th.

Please consider joining us come the new year!

# Santa! I Know Him!

















## SCHOOL NEWS

























































# Annual Christmas Dinner























## Catholic Charities West Virginia

Catholic Charities West Virginia is the largest private provider of social services in West Virginia. Every year we provide help to tens of thousands of vulnerable West Virginians.

"We serve all 55 counties in West Virginia and serve all people; regardless of faith, family or background."

# There will be a collection at ALL Christmas Masses for CCWV.

## The monthly newsletter from CCWV has advise on winter preparedness.

Hello parish friends and colleagues,

Oh! The weather outside may be frightening.....but when we are informed and prepared, we can tackle our WV winter seasons much better and safer. This month I'd like to share with you information that can help you stay one step ahead of the cold and take steps to protect yourself, your family, and your home from the unpredictable winter weather.

Below are some steps you can take to prepare:

Know Your Risk - Pay attention to weather reports and storm warnings to prevent cold weather casualties and to stop the spread of illnesses.

Create a Winter Emergency Kit - Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water and non-perishable snacks. Keep a full tank of gas.

Develop an Emergency Plan - Establish a clear and concise communication plan with your loved ones so you know how to get in touch in an emergency.

Pay Attention and Stay Informed - Sign up for your community's warning system.

Prepare Your Home - Winterize your home by insulating pipes, sealing drafts, and checking heating systems.

Prepare to Travel Safe - If you must travel in bad weather, exercise extra caution on the road. Slowing down and stopping on icy surfaces takes more time, so extend your following distance to 5-6 seconds instead of the usual 3-4.

Staying warm in winter weather:

Shelter and Warming Center Assistance: Direct individuals needing shelter or warming centers to <a href="https://www.wv211.org">wv211.org</a> or have them call 211 for assistance.

Reporting Open Warming Centers/Shelters:If your church, community group, faith-based organization, or nonprofit is opening a warming center or shelter, or if you know of any, please report them to 211 by e-mailing april@wv211.org.

CCWVA Emergency Shelter Morgantown

Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) has officially opened Grace Shelter, an overnight emergency shelter for adults experiencing homelessness in Morgantown. The shelter, located within Hazel's House of Hope on Scott Avenue, will now be operated by CCWVa after transitioning from Bartlett Housing Solutions.

#### NWS Detailed Weather Briefs:

While you can catch the weather reports on your local news stations, the (local) National Weather Service provides a briefing every Monday and Friday, and additional days if there is a significant event. The link is always the same and provides the most updated information: https://www.weather.gov/media/rlx/DSSBuilder/WxBriefing.pdf

I hope that all of you have a very blessed and Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!



Blessings, Lora

Lora Pierce
Disaster Services Specialist
Catholic Charities WEST VIRGINIA
1024 Quarrier St
Charleston WV 25304
304-559-1025
ccwva.org

## **Advent Reconciliation**

Wednesday, December 18

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

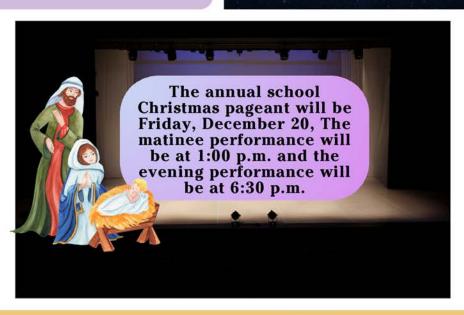
Fr. Maghsoudi will assist with the evening confessions.

# Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24: 4:30 p.m.

December 25: Midnight

December 25: 10:30 a.m.



## Welcome

Macy Smith. and Kian and Ainsley Hefner were baptized on Sunday, December 8.

Macy is the daughter of Sean and Rachel Smith. Her Godparents are Mike and Beth Brumley.

Kian and Ainsley are the children of Brian and Rachel Hefner. Their Godparents are Ethan Garton and Beth Brumley.





## ON DECK

## Tuesday, December 17

5:00 p.m. Adoration 6:00 p.m., Communion Service WE WILL NOT HAVE CONFESSIONS ON THIS DAY.

# 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

Deadline for the "Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest.

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

6:30 p.m.

## **Christmas Mass Schedule**

Tuesday, December 24

· 4:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, December 25

Midnight

10:30 a.m.

## **Our Neighbor Collection**

**December:** Dental Supplies

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

## Vanilla for Sale

Get your homemade vanilla before it's gone! Contact Donna Lake at 304-476-3426 to reserve your bottle today!

# Please help us Reach and Exceed Our Goal!

\$10,280 needed to reach our parish goal!

We have reached 54% of our CSA goal of \$22465.00! That means all donations made before the end of the year are returned in full to our parish, free from Cathedraticum and PHRA.

## Brooks' Body Shop

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



brooksbodyshop41@aol.com

mcflyoutdoors.com

Horner, WV Bridgeport, WV



## Foster Feed

202 Bland St Weston, WV 304-269-1333

Lewis County Senior Center

In-Home Care Department

304-269-5738

## Stonewall Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

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\$330 per year

\$975 per year

**\$1400** per year