



# The Trinity and The Shamrock

Educate

Inform

Entertain

## And The Trophy Goes To ...

### St. Patrick!



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In spite of the cold winter blast with snowflakes as big as quarters, St. Patrick managed to bring home the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy for its float entered in the 2009 Hinton Christmas Parade. Many members of the parish contributed their time, talent and gifts toward making the float, which was titled "The Greatest Gift Of All." The float fea-



ured a Christmas tree with one gift - the Christ Child in a manger. A gift tag on the manger read: "To You - With Love, From God."

The parish community would like to thank: Paula Rhodes and Dena Pivont for coordinating the CCD children who rode on the float; Wes Bennett, Art Sanda and Dennie Dotson for building the manger; Loretta Sanda for providing the Infant Jesus with halo; Joe Garcia for providing the trailer; Buck



Bauer for driving the float during the parade; Loaves and Fishes for lending our parish the Christmas tree used on the float, and everyone who worked to put things together. This was truly a parish community effort! Let's go for the GOLD next year?

- Dates of Interest**
- Fish Fry - 5 Mar
  - St. Patrick's Feast Day - 17 Mar
  - Fish Fry - 26 Mar
  - Palm Sunday - 28 Mar
  - Holy Thursday - 1 Apr
  - Good Friday - 2 Apr
  - Holy Saturday - 3 Apr
  - Easter Sunday - 4 Apr
  - Divine Mercy Sunday - 11 Apr
  - Ascension - 13 May

## ST. PATRICK'S FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Perhaps the giant snowflakes on that cold Saturday morning stirred the Christmas spirit in our small town. St. Patrick opened its doors to welcome cold onlookers with hot cocoa, coffee and fresh baked cookies as they shopped for handmade Christmas items, which were provided by the very talented ladies of our parish. The parish Christmas Festival was a huge success and will become an annual parish

fundraising event.

We thank Lynne Bauer for coordinating the Christmas Festival and everyone (too many to mention individually) who contributed their time, talent and gifts for this project. Zina Lilly *aka* St. Nicholas, deserves a very special acknowledgment for sharing his day with us. The children enjoyed having their pictures taken with our very own St. Nicholas (Zina).

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration at St. Patrick.**

Tune your fiddle, practice your favorite reel and brush up on your blarney for this year's St. Patrick's Day Bash. The celebration will be on Wednesday evening, March 17<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. Please bring an Irish theme covered dish (something green?) and your dancing shoes. The Women of St. Patrick will host this year's bash. Please see future Church bulletins for more information.

## Pastoral Council Update



An Irishman rang Aer Lingus and asked how long it took to fly from Dublin to London. "Just a minute sir," said the girl on the desk. "Thank you," said the Irishman and hung up.

The Council has been able to meet on a regular basis, in spite of the weather. However, the weather has caused problems with a few of our projects. We had hoped to commission the CCD teachers earlier in the year during Sunday Liturgy, but it seems impossible to get everyone together because of heavy snowstorms and treacherous road conditions.

Unfortunately, the Taizé Prayer Service scheduled on January 31, 2010 was also postponed due to inclement weather. Lynne Bauer has agreed to lead a Taizé Service in the near future. Check the Church bulletin for the date and time.

Gemma Leftwich has agreed to speak at the Faith-Sharing Breakfast scheduled on March 7, 2010, immediately following Eucharistic Liturgy. We look forward to hearing about her faith-journey as she courageously battled cancer during this past year. Please pray for good weather!

The Pastoral Council contacted the other organizations in the Church to see if they would agree to hosting a monthly coffee & donuts/pastry on a quarterly basis. Pastoral Council will host a Faith-Sharing Breakfast on the first Sunday in March, June, September and December. The Women of St. Patrick will host a

breakfast on the first Sunday in April, July and October. The Friars have agreed to host on the first Sunday in May, August and November. The goal is to provide an opportunity for the parish community to connect over breakfast once a month following Sunday Liturgy.

The new parish directory is finished! Please remember to pick-up your copy.

The Pastoral Council welcomes your comments, ideas and needs. Please contact a member of Council with your concerns: Pat Dotson - Chairperson, Lynne Bauer, Patti Crawford, Patty Jeffries, Andrea Pack and Joe Peplowski.

Oh, God . . .

when I have food,  
 help me to remember the hungry;  
 When I have work,  
 help me to remember the jobless;  
 When I have a warm home,  
 help me to remember the homeless;  
 When I am without pain,  
 help me to remember those who suffer;  
 And remembering, help me to destroy  
 my complacency and bestir my compassion.  
 Make me concerned enough to help,  
 by word and deed,  
 those who cry out  
 for what we take for granted. Amen.

## Women of St. Patrick News

Some projects the Women of St. Patrick have on their calendar include:

St. Patrick Feast Day Bash - March 17<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. Music and Prizes.

Receptions for all Catechumens - Palm Sunday and

Easter Vigil

Sunday Morning Breakfast - April 4, July 4, October 3

Friday Fish Fries during Lent - the Women of St. Patrick work with the Friars on this project. Please contact Donna Scott if you're inter-

ested in working on March 5 or March 26, and/or contact Katherine Holt if you can provide a cake on these dates.

Officers: Marge Woodrum - Chairperson, Patty Jeffries, Lynne Bauer, Katherine Holt.

## GIRL SCOUT NEWS

If you didn't order Girl Scout cookies this year see Katie, Kelly, or Pearl to buy some of your favorites - Thin Mints, Somoas, Do-Si-Dos, Tag-alongs, or Trefoils. Try a new kind, Thank You Berry Munch, Dulce De Leche, or Lemon Chalets.

These three girls will partici-

pate in a Baby Think It Over sleepover to become aware of childcare responsibilities in March.

Other news- Kelly Eagle will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on May 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis De Sales Church in Beckley



### St. Patrick Welcomes Kobe Kirkham Caldwell

The St. Patrick community joined with Kirkham family members and friends as little Kobe was baptized into the Catholic Faith and welcomed into our parish on November 29, 2009. Kobe is the son of Laura and Matthew Caldwell and grandson of Tona and Lowell Kirkham.

# St. Patrick Friars Club News

The weather in January-February got in everyone's way, including the Friars Club. At the last Friars Club breakfast before the snows cancelled just about everything, Joe Garcia headed up a survey of the Church and the Rectory to compile a list of "Things We Can Do Ourselves." The plan is to work on reducing the list (repairing kneelers, addressing peeling paint, unclogging drains) following



future breakfasts. Along with the Women of St. Patrick, the Friars Club lent a hand preparing the Lenten Fish Fries, actually quite an undertaking by a lot of folks. It's too soon to know, but hopes are the three Friday night Fish Fries (19 Feb, 5 Mar. & 26 Mar.) would total about 600 dinners served. That's a lot of Fish Friar Frying!

And a reminder, The Friars Club is open to all men of St. Patrick, including our extended families. With winter almost behind us, we'll be meeting on a regular basis once a month for Saturday breakfast, followed by those who can stick around to know one or two things off Joe's list. One-time initiation into the Friars Club is \$20.00 and breakfast is covered at \$5.00.

The welcome mat is out - come join the Friars!

Art Sanda, Friars Club Secretary-Treasurer

## PARISH RUMMAGE SALE

The snow is finally beginning to melt and thoughts of spring cleaning are creeping into the dusty corners of our minds. It's a tough job, but the end result is so rewarding - bright, sparkling windows, tidy closets, organized garages and basements. REMEMBER to save your "donate to charity"

items for the annual parish rummage sale.

Connie Newton will again coordinate this year's sale, which is set for Saturday, May 1, 2010. Please save all good, working household items, books, tools, toys, etc. All items should be clean and usable.

We are also looking for clean, quality clothing, which will sell extremely cheap!

Drop-off dates for the items will be in future Church bulletins. Please let Connie know if you're interested in helping with the sale in any way (pricing, sorting, pick-up items or the actual sale day).

## Tortellini Alfredo with Roasted Peppers

Start to Finish: 15 minutes

Here's a quick, delicious Lenten dinner idea for those Fridays when the St. Patrick Friars do not fry their wonderful fish dinners.

1 9-ounce package refrigerated cheese-filled tortellini (ravioli can also be used)

1 4-ounce jar roasted red sweet peppers, drained and cut into 1/2 -inch strips

1/3 cup refrigerated light Alfredo sauce

1/2 cup shredded fresh basil

Coarsely ground black pepper

Cook tortellini according to package directions. Drain and return pasta to pan. Stir in roasted peppers and Alfredo sauce. Cook and stir

over medium-low heat until heated through. Stir in half of the basil. Sprinkle with remaining basil and black pepper. Makes 2-3 servings @ 384 calories each. You can add steamed broccoli, carrots and/or peas prior to stirring in the Alfredo sauce for an even healthier version.

## CAN YOU GUESS WHO I AM?

These are members of St. Patrick Parish. They are older now, but still just as cute - don't you think so? Do you know who they are?



Please email an old photograph (age 6 years or younger) of yourself if you'd like to appear in the next issue of The Trinity and The Shamrock.

[ohn8ive@verizon.net](mailto:ohn8ive@verizon.net)



The late Bishop Sheen stated that the reason the Irish fight so often among themselves is that they're always assured of having a worthy opponent.

### YEAR FOR PRIESTS

June 19, 2009 - June 19, 2010

Please pray for Priests

Dear Lord,

We pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around Your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide Your priests to follow her own words,

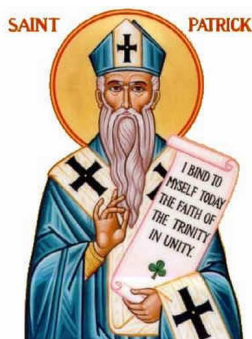
"Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5)

May Your priests have the heart of

St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse.

May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May Your priests be holy, filled with the fire of Your love seeking nothing but Your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.



## St. Patrick's Feast Day: Top 10 Facts

1. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, although he was born in Britain, around 385AD. His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.

2. As a boy of 14 he was captured and taken to Ireland where he spent six years in slavery herding sheep. He returned to Ireland in his 30s as a missionary among the Celtic pagans.

3. Legend has it that he used the native shamrock as a symbol of the Holy Trinity when preaching and brought the Latin alphabet to Ireland.

4. Miracles attributed to him include the driving of serpents out of Ireland.

5. Wearing green, eating green food and even drinking green beer, is said to commemorate St. Patrick's

use of the shamrock - although blue was the original color of his vestments.

6. St. Patrick was said to have proclaimed that everyone should have a drop of the "hard stuff" after chastising an innkeeper who served a short measure of whiskey. In the custom known as "drowning the shamrock", the shamrock that has been worn on a lapel or hat is put in the last drink of the evening.

7. Popular Irish toasts on St. Patrick's Day, include: may the roof above us never fall in, and may we friends beneath it never fall out.

8. St. Patrick's Day was first celebrated in America in Boston, around 1737.

9. It is believed that St. Patrick died on March 17 in 461 AD. It is a national holiday

in Ireland and on the island of Montserrat in the Caribbean, which was founded by Irish refugees. It is a bank holiday in Northern Ireland and a provincial holiday in the Canadian province of Newfoundland.

10. Dublin has a parade that attracts hundreds of thousand of people, while in Chicago the river is dyed green for a few hours.

An Irish Blessing:

May luck be our companion

May friends stand by your side

May history remind us all of Ireland's faith and pride.

May God bless us with happiness

May love and faith abide.

Go mbeannai Dia duit (May God Bless You)

## Divine Mercy Sunday

During the Mass of canonization of Sister Faustina on April 30, 2000, the year of the Great Jubilee, Pope John Paul II proclaimed, "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, will be called Divine Mercy Sunday." The readings on that Sunday are always about mercy, trust and the forgiveness of sin.

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on **Good Friday**. The different souls prayed for on each day of the novena are:

DAY 1 (Good Friday) - All

mankind, especially sinners

DAY 2 (Holy Saturday) - The souls of priests and religious

DAY 3 (Easter Sunday) - All devout and faithful souls

DAY 4 (Easter Monday) - Those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know Him.

DAY 5 (Easter Tuesday) - The souls of separated brethren

DAY 6 (Easter Wednesday) - The meek and humble souls and the souls of children

DAY 7 (Easter Thursday) - The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy

DAY 8 (Easter Friday) - The souls who are detained in

purgatory

DAY 9 (Easter Saturday) - The souls who have become lukewarm.

The promise of Divine Mercy Sunday - The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Sunday after Easter shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. The Church has issued a plenary indulgence for Divine Mercy Sunday devotion.

For more information about Divine Mercy Sunday, the Novena and how to recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet,

Continue on page 6 . . .

## Life In The Rearview Mirror

### *God Works in Mysterious Ways*

Have you ever noticed how everyday events go unnoticed until we have a chance to look back and reflect upon them, or connect them to an extraordinary event? The message etched in the rear-view mirror of our car isn't always true - objects do not always appear smaller as we look behind us - as we view our lives in retrospect. Hind-sight is 20/20.

There was a 76-year-old gentleman who had never been baptized. He was a good man, very hard working, a man of his word with a firm faith in God. His work required him to be away from his family on a weekly basis, so he never had the opportunity to regularly attend Sunday Mass with his wife and many children, who were baptized Catholic. After retirement, the gentleman and his wife attended Sunday Mass together, side by side. Their children had grown-up and left the nest by then.

The gentleman's wife and oldest daughter were members of their parish intercessory prayer group, which met in the family home every Friday evening. The parish priest attended the meetings on the first Friday of each month where he offered Mass for the members of the prayer group in the family living room. The 76-year-old gentleman usually stayed in the den and watched reruns of Gun-smoke while the group prayed, read Scripture and shared in the Holy Eucharist. One particular Friday evening following Liturgy, the priest began to share stories of his homeland. The middle-aged Fr. Romano, who still

spoke with a thick Italian accent, was born in Venafro, Italy and came to the United States as a young priest.

Soon after Fr. Romano began to share details of his homeland, the older gentleman left the TV reruns and appeared in the doorway of the living room. He listened as the priest spoke of his hometown and the nearby monastery. Eventually, the gentleman joined in the conversation and told the priest that he had marched through that same village in the winter of 1943-44. The gentleman, who had been a War-rant Officer/Paratrooper in

the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne during WWII (but rarely mentioned the War), described the night when his outfit marched through and stayed for a short time in Venafro, Italy on the way to battle with the enemy at Monte Cassino. The priest listened to the gentleman's recollection of his homeland and was amazed to learn that indeed, the gentleman was familiar with Venafro, Italy. The priest, who was a young child during the War, shared his memories of the War and the night the American GI's came to liberate his small town from the enemies, who were firmly planted in the surrounding mountainside. In hindsight, that Friday evening was the beginning of a wonderful friendship and faith journey.

The priest and the gentleman set a date to meet for breakfast so they could share their memories, stories and photographs of the War and Italy. The breakfast meetings became a weekly event. The friendship grew

and within a year, the gentleman completed RCIA, was baptized and welcomed into the Church by his beloved priest and friend. Fr. Romano smiled as he often mentioned that the Lord brought him across the world to finally baptize the gentleman. The priest invited the gentleman to travel with him to that little village in Italy, but the gentleman declined. Perhaps age kept him from going - or perhaps he didn't want to relive the past. Viewing WWII in the rear-view mirror might have been easier than traveling through its muddy footprints.

The gentleman lived another 10 years as a faithful Christian and baptized Catholic. He faced the news of being diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer with the same trust and faith in God that he probably had as he approached the doorway of the airplane preparing to jump into battle. It wasn't the parachute that he had relied upon, but his faith that God would see him through whatever was to be. Fr. Romano traveled to see his old friend one more time, to hear his last confession and to exchange bittersweet memories and a final goodbye. The gentleman passed from this life into his eternal life with absolute peace. I know, because I was with him as he left this world. The gentleman is my father. Fr. Romano, though older now, still shepherds a parish in the United States.

God does work in mysterious ways! And, yes - sometimes objects appear clearer, not necessarily smaller, when viewed through the rearview mirror.

Have you ever reacted terribly or over reacted in a negative way because you were stressed? We become very self centered when we are stressed - have you noticed? The next time you get frustrated in a checkout line because of a "price check on register 2" and your first thought is to get nasty with the cashier - STOP! HALT! Your negative response is usually because you are:

**H**ungry

**A**ngry

**L**onely

**T**ired

Take a deep breath, inhale and pray, "Jesus my peace." Exhale and pray, "Quiet my heart."

It works! Your blood pressure will thank you and the world will be a nicer place.

#### Finding Help in the Bible . . .

##### *Overcoming a grudge*

Leviticus 19.17-18; Matthew 5.12-26

Luke 6.27-36; Ephesians 4.25-32

##### *Overcoming addiction*

Psalms 40.1-5, 11-17; Psalm 116.1-7

Proverbs 23.29-35; Corinthians 5.16-21

Ephesians 4.22-24

##### *Controlling your tongue*

Psalm 12; Psalm 19.14;

2 Thessalonians 2.16-17; James 3.1-12

##### *Understanding your relationship with God*

Deuteronomy 5.1-22; Psalm 139

John 15.10-17; Romans 5.1011; Romans 8.1-17

##### *Sharing your gifts*

Exodus 35.20-29; Malachi 3.6-12; Luke 21.1-4

Acts 2.43-47; Acts 4.32-37; Romans 12.9-13

1 Corinthians 16.1-4; 2 Corinthians 8.1-15;

2 Corinthians 9.6-15

##### *Paul's Conversion*

Acts 9.1-32



## ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC PARISH

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We're on the web at  
[www.StPatrickHintonWV.org](http://www.StPatrickHintonWV.org)

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Archived Newsletters can be found on line. The link is found at the bottom of every page.



### A BRAND NEW DAWN

Big red ball of blazing  
flame arise  
In the east surrounded  
by thing gray  
Clouds of a cool spring  
dawn  
Appears as a lone ember  
in the midst of gray  
Ash as wisps of smoke  
doth arise  
Above thy head and heart,  
seen by you and I today  
As well as the white tailed  
doe and her just born fawn.

The fiery orb appears  
Upon Dawn's horizon  
A blaze of flames  
Upon  
This new day bright as  
everlasting light  
While ashy clouds cluster  
around  
This flaming bright  
Phoenix of a brand new dawn  
above the watery ground  
As the wind doth blow  
A most spectacular day to be born  
With not even a hint of snow  
On this chilly March morn!  
*-Zeke Keyes - March 3, 1996*

go to [www.circleofprayer.com/divine-mercy-novena.html](http://www.circleofprayer.com/divine-mercy-novena.html); [www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/novena.html](http://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/novena.html); [www.divinemercurysunday.com/how-to-celebrate.html](http://www.divinemercurysunday.com/how-to-celebrate.html).

Paul VI Pastoral Center

Do you need a good retreat? Are you aware that we have access to a wonderful place of prayer, renewal and education through our diocese at Paul VI Pastoral Center? It is a place for ordinary people seeking simple access to God.

### THE WAR IN IRAQ. THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

April 17, 2010

A day of prayerful support for families of service personnel in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, as well as returned veterans from recent international conflicts. Are you family to someone currently, or formerly, deployed in these wars? Are you a veteran of these war fronts? This day of prayer and conversation is designed for you.

### IN MEMORY OF HER

April 23-25, 2010

This retreat will take a prayerful look at some of the great women who show up in the pages of the Bible and are examples of tremendous faith, strong courage, and undying hope and love that comes from God.

### DATE YOUR MATE

May 11, 2010

A candle-lit table for two is just the beginning of this evening. Reflections on Christian living and time to spend alone with your spouse.

### FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS

May 16-21, 2010

Do you know about the courageous faith of Suzanna and Esther? The long-suffering of Rachel and Hagar? The generosity of the widow of Zarephath? The grace of Hannah? This retreat will tell their stories and explore the ways their faith can inform our lives today.

For more information, call the Center at 304-277-3300 or visit [www.paulvi.org](http://www.paulvi.org). The Paul VI Pastoral Center is located at 667 Stone and Shannon Rd, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003.

### A Wee Bit of Irish Humor

An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman were reading a newspaper article about which nationalities' brains were for sale for transplant purposes. An Irishman's or a Scotsman's brain could be bought for £500 but an Englishman's brain cost £10,000. 'That proves', said the Englishman, 'that Englishmen are much cleverer than Irishmen or Scotsmen.'

'No it doesn't', said the Irishman, 'It just means that an Englishman's brain has never been used.'

## SEND US YOUR STORY!

We will soon welcome new Candidates and Catechumens into the Church. Perhaps you have a distinct moment which brought about your journey into the Church - a particular person or event. We invite you to share your story with us - anonymously if you prefer. We also invite YOU, all members of St. Patrick, to

share your story. This is a new feature page, dedicated to sharing with others. Send us your favorite prayer, a personal story, a wee bit of humor or even a favorite recipe. Sometimes the keyboard or the point of a pen allows us to speak where our voice might fail us. If you want total anonymity, just drop your article in the collection basket

on Sunday morning. If you don't mind a byline, you can email your article to [ohn8ive@verizon.net](mailto:ohn8ive@verizon.net) with TRINITY AND SHAMROCK on the subject line. We look forward to hearing from you!