



The Trinity and The Shamrock

Educate

Inform

Entertain

If God sends you down a stony path, may he give you strong shoes.

“CARRY-ON “ PROGRAM - HELPING CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

ST. PATRICK 2011 CONFIRMATION CLASS SERVICE PROJECT

The children of St. Patrick are demonstrating their faith through works of love and charity by reaching out to help children in the West Virginia foster care system. “Carry-On” is a program that hopes to ease a child’s immediate separation from their family home into the foster care system. Many children leave their home with few belongings packed into a garbage bag or plastic grocery bag. The “Carry-On” program hopes to eliminate the garbage bag and provide a small piece of luggage, filled

with items that will give the child something positive to think about during the trip from their home to the foster care home.

You can help by donating a new or *gently used* small piece of luggage or duffel bag with a zip or clasp closure.



Items also needed to include in the “Carry-On” luggage:

- tooth brush and paste
- stuffed animal
- hair brush

- books/ journal/ coloring books
- blanket/ socks
- disposable camera
- nonperishable snacks

The St. Patrick confirmation class will pack the “Carry-On” pieces and donate them to REACHH Family Resource Center in Hinton.

Please bring your donations to the church by March 27, 2011.

Thank you for helping “our” kids!

Katie, Evan, Robelle, Avery, Nancy & Joe

♣ An Irish Kiss for Our Homebound Parish Family Members ♣

Faye Gwinn ♣
Virginia Gwinn ♣
Margaret O’Farrell ♣
Sarah Smith ♣
Alice Ward ♣

Keep these wonderful people in your thoughts and prayers. Though they are unable to be with us during our Sunday Eucharistic Celebration, they are with us in thought. Call them or drop them a line!

ÉWaja Cobb’s new address:
Gardenvue Care Center
700 Garden Path
c/o Waja COBB
Room 208
O’Fallen, MO
63376

WHY DID ST. PATRICK USE SHAMROCKS?

To show the trinity the Christians believe that God is three people in one and a shamrock has three petals on it.



YOUTH MASS + FAITH SHARING BREAKFAST

The children of St. Patrick led the parish in the January 23, 2011 Sunday Eucharistic Celebration, which was followed by the quarterly Faith Sharing Breakfast. The children served as greeters, servers, readers, collection and gift bearers, in addition to leading the parish in wonderful songs of praise. The morning celebration continued with a Faith-Sharing Breakfast in the parish hall. The confirmation class gave a presentation on Saint

Elizabeth Ann Seton, whose feast day is on January 3rd.

The response to the Youth Mass was so overwhelmingly positive that the C.C.D. teachers and Fr. Tom have designated the third Sunday of each month to be a Youth Mass Sunday.

We would like to thank “our” children for the wonderful celebration of Mass, the C.C.D. teachers for preparing the children and the pastoral

council for providing the breakfast.



Ellie Rhodes, Gavin Pivont, Laney Jeffries, Sullivan Pivont

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 9 - Ash Wednesday - Beginning of Lent
 March 16 - Stations of the Cross & Mass
 March 17 - Feast of St. Patrick Mass & Parish Celebration
 March 18 - Fish Fry
 March 23 - Stations of the Cross & Mass, Open Pastoral Council Meeting
 March 26 - Confirmation Class Retreat
 March 27 - Deadline for Carry On donations
 March 29 - Stations of the Cross & Mass
 April 1 - Fish Fry
 April 6 - Stations of the Cross & Mass
 April 13 - Stations of the Cross & Mass
 April 15 - Fish Fry
 April 20 - Stations of the Cross & Mass
 April 21 - Holy Thursday
 April 22 - Good Friday
 April 24 - Easter Sunday
 May 1 - Divine Mercy
 May 8 - Mother's Day
 May 15 - Confirmation

LENTEN FISH FRIES UNDERWAY

The first of three Annual St. Patrick Lenten Fish Fries takes place Friday, March 18, to be followed by Fish Fry II April 1 and Fish Fry III April 15.

As with the last year, diners are given a choice of fried or the increasingly popular baked tilapia, cole slaw, au gratin potatoes, roll, drink, and dessert at \$9 for adults and \$5 for 12 and under.

While the annual event is co-sponsored and organized by the Women of St. Patrick and the men's group, The Friars Club, many parishioners not active in either organization traditionally pitch in as volunteers. The work is generously shared and new volunteers always are most welcome. Both men and women and young adults are needed for:

- *--Prepping the food, making it ready for the fryers and the ovens;
- *--Preparing coleslaw and sides, cooking potatoes in the Hall kitchen;
- *--Prepping fish for frying and bak-

ing in the Rectory kitchen;

- *--Putting up take-outs;
- *--Serving line;
- *--Serving drinks and desserts;
- *--Continuous hall bussing and cleaning;
- *--Continuous kitchen cleaning, washing;
- *--Final cleanup when the evenings are over;
- *--And, of course, for the perennial unexpected.

Too add your name to the kitchen-Parrish Hall volunteer list, contact.....of the Women of St. Patrick and for frying, baking and Rectory kitchen, Art Sanda at 466-3287/apsanda@gotsky.com, or any other member of the Friars Club.

Sure, it's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun as well, come join in.

FRIARS CLUB BREAKFAST BETWEEN BITES



The Friars Club broke bread Saturday morning, February 12, at the Church Hall with the first order of business being to welcome a new member: Mike Maxant, grandson of

Chuck Maxant.

Over a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon and sausage, home-fries, and biscuits and sausage gravy, the Friars developed their plans for the Annual Fish Frys co-sponsored with the Women of St. Patrick.

This year, three fish frys will be held March 18, April 1, and April 15; \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Again this year, the dinners will feature fried and backed tilapia, cole slaw, au

gratin potatoes, roll, drink, and dessert.

Friars, not surprisingly, will be manning the fryers, as well the prepping and the baking of the fish and generally helping where ever else they are needed. All men of the Parrish not actively involved in the Friars are encouraged to join in the fun, as well as to join the Friars.

The other major item on the meeting menu was the establishment of a St. Patrick Knights of Columbus Roundtable. K of C Roundtables typically are established in parishes where member Knights live, but not in sufficient numbers to qualify for their own Council.

Late last year, a group of Fourth Degree Knights from White Sulfur Springs participated at Sunday Mass and met with a small group of Friars to explain the Roundtable concept. From that, 11 Friars committed to joining the Roundtable and a delegation subsequently at-

tended the Knights of Columbus Council meeting in White Sulfur Springs Sunday afternoon, March 6. Further details will be forthcoming.

All men of St. Patrick in good standing with the Church and at least 18 years of age are eligible to become members of the Knights of Columbus and to join the St. Patrick KofC Roundtable, as are all current and past members of the Knights of Columbus living in the Parrish.

For additional information, contact Fr. Tom.

(The Friars Club is the men's group of St. Patrick Catholic Church and is open to all adult (post-Confirmation) men of the Parrish, including the Parrish's extended family members. Contact any Friar for details.)



WHY DID JESUS FOLD THE LINEN BURIAL CLOTH AFTER HIS RESURRECTION?

The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.

The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed separate from the grave clothes.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.

She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, 'They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!'

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in

and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.

Was that important? Absolutely!

Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition. When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the

master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, 'I'm done'.

But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....

The folded napkin meant, 'I'm coming back!'

He is Coming Back!

SPIRIT IN MY SOUL - RETREAT A DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Several parishioners from St. Patrick, St. Catherine of Siena and St. Mary of the Greenbrier braved the snow and cold weather on January 29, 2011 to gather at St. Mary of the Greenbrier for a faith-filled day of prayer, reflection, fellowship and spiritual growth. The retreat was led by Patti Crawford of St. Patrick parish and Tom Soper of St. Catherine of Siena parish in Ronceverte. Personal faith journey stories, a chance for private prayer and meditation, Scripture read-

ings, opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation were provided throughout the day, which concluded with Fr. Tom and Fr. Bonaventure celebrating Mass.

The day of prayer and reflection was a perfect opportunity to focus on the deep and abiding love that is ... the Spirit in our soul.



PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The pastoral council met on January 5, 2011 following Wednesday evening Mass. All members were present, with a guest, Tom Soper of St. Catherine of Siena parish who met with the council to finalize details for the January 29, 2011 retreat.



In addition to the multi-parish retreat, council discussed plans for the Youth Mass + Faith-Sharing Breakfast on January 23, 2011, an upcoming open council dinner and Lenten projects beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 9, 2011. It was also de-

cidated to post council meeting minutes on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

All members of the pastoral council would like to invite YOU to attend the open council meeting, which should take place in March. We will host a potluck dinner - meeting following a Wednesday evening Mass. Please bring your questions,

concerns, comments and ideas regarding our parish with you to the meeting, as well as a covered dish to share.

Always feel free to contact any council member with your concerns regarding our parish: Lynne Bauer, Patti Crawford, Pat Dotson, Patty Jeffries, Andre Pack and Joe Peplowski.



KUDOS

Avery Pivont - middle school basketball team won the Bluegrass Conference Tournament championship. Avery was selected for the all tournament team and all conference. Halle Gunnoe, Hannah Gunnoe, Keri Hudson - Summers County Girls H.S. Basketball team broke Parkersburg Catholic's win streak of 88 dating back to the 1970s.

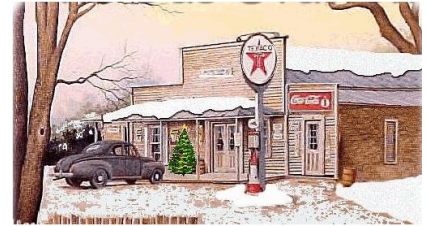
Robin Turner - recently selected as ARH employee of the year!

SISTER MARY ANN'S GASOLINE

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it, a Texaco Gasoline station was just a block away.

She walked to the station to borrow a gas can and buy some gas. The attendant told her that the only gas can he owned had been loaned out, but she could wait until it was returned. Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car.

She looked for something in her car that she could fill with gas and spotted the



bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried the full bedpan back to her car. As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said,

'If it starts, I'm turning Catholic!!'

++ Please keep the Confirmation Students from St. Patrick and Sacred Heart in your prayers as they participate in their retreat on March 26, 2011. Fr. Tom and Fr. Bonaventure will lead the retreat, which will focus on preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.+++

THE MONASTERY OF CHRIST ON THE MOUNTAIN *SIMPLIFY ... LIVE SIMPLY, LIVE WELL*



Bro. Gilbert, Fr. Anthony and Fr. Bonaventure

Yes, the presence of Christ can be found high on these beautiful West Virginia mountains, not very far from Hinton. If you travel just a few miles on Madam's Creek Road, you'll see a small, nondescript sign on the side of the

road that reads simply, "Carmelites." There is something about simplicity that speaks so eloquently - the simple black and white sign with one word, which leads to the simple monastic community with one purpose. That purpose is a life of intimate friendship with Christ. And as you look over the beauty that surrounds the small, simplistic community, you will definitely recognize the active presence of our Lord in the beauty of nature and in the hearts of the dear Brothers.

Bro. Gilbert, Fr. Anthony and Fr. Bonaventure are members of the Order of

the Discalced Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel. The Carmelite Brothers of the Washington Province (according to the mission statement) ... "is a religious community dwelling among the people of God in the Eastern/Mid Western United States. In response to God's gracious call, they support and encourage one another through affirmation and love. Committed to a life of intimate friendship with Christ, they proclaim the Gospel through prayer, common worship, simplicity of life and through sharing of the Word and ministry to all. They are

dedicated to serving the people of God according to the spirit of their Teresian Charism by fostering a deeper awareness of His active presence in their lives. They are brothers to all within the Discalced Carmel family, to all who seek God with a sincere heart and indeed to the whole human family..."

Be sure to tap into Fr. Bonaventure's teaching at St. Patrick on Saturday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, during the month of March. Let's remember to keep "our brothers" in our daily prayers, as well.

GRACE REPETTI

Are you ready? There are things in life that will happen and among them; one we cannot escape an earth death. Our shell starts to grow old from the moment we are born; no getting away from that. That's that in a nutshell. As my Dad explained to me when I was a child holding a walnut in his hand, he told me the outside shell was your body, but the important part was inside, the nut or, in this case, your soul.

My mother's last year was a hard year on her body (shell) but a beautiful year on her soul. She had a tough life, but a beautiful life because she loved her faith and God. Living on the river was a happy time for her seeing all His wonders in some of His creations. The birds, butterflies, dragonflies, flowers, gold fish, deer, chipmunks, hummingbirds, the cat (Princess) the dog (Duchess) and, of course, the beauty of the mountains and the New River.

My mother was a maker and a giver. She loved to make Irish knit sweaters, afghans, hats, mittens and bed slippers, then give them away. Sewing was her trade, and she loved every minute behind her sewing machine. Mom has given me wonderful, beautiful and funny memories and these I shall hold in a special place in my heart and share.

We all know that the day is coming, but when? I had to prepare, I even fearing I might go first. Arrangements needed to be made. So down I went to see my friend, Lee. We talked, and Lee thought of everything possible that would be needed, even transportation for my mother to join my Dad in Massachusetts. When talking to the airline representative, Lee had this strange look on his face and was very quiet and then said, "One way. Loretta she asked me if I wanted a round trip ticket!" We both just smiled at one another. "I don't think so." Then there was the casket. Now don't get upset. That is part of a

Christian burial. I love *The Book of Tobit*. If you have not read the book I highly recommend this book and then you will understand the connection made here.

I had the benefit of time and could match my mother's with my Dad's though one with a pink hue. My mother loved pink. It was ordered. When the time for approval came I knew this was going to be hard and I prayed for strength. Little Sullivan, the girly, girl (about 5 years old then) of the precious Pivont Family was there talking to me when Lee and Ray rolled in the casket, Sullivan walked over and said, "Is there anyone in there?" My prayers were answered. I had to laugh and fear was gone.

I spoke with Lee's mother, Donna, about flowers and making a flowered rosary, similar to the one that we had for our Dad; his went completely around his casket. But for our mother we couldn't do that so with the help of Donna a small version was made and placed around the statue of Our Blessed Mother. The church was done all in pink roses and in total the church looked absolutely beautiful.

Father Tom celebrated Mass, as he looked up, I looked up too thinking I was going to see God. He spoke beautiful words about my mother and reminded me how he had given my mother Communion and the Sacraments many times. "Grace, this is the Body of Christ". And, my mother answered, "Amen".

At the same time, I was so very pleased that Frank and Marie Seitz were there and participated in the Mass. For six years they both brought Jesus to my mother and me, and my mother just beamed when she saw them. As time passed; she still knew them, but was forgetting their names. But I took care of that. This one particular Friday morning mother was in the kitchen when they arrived. Marie gave her big



Grace Repetti enjoying one of her favorite pastimes.

hugs and kisses and my mother returned them and was just filled with joy. Marie asked her, "What's my name?" Mother just looked and was trying very hard. I pointed to the two new gold fish in the tank: Yes, their names are Marie and Frank! Marie and Frank were laughing and Marie said, "I have had a horse named after me but never a fish!"

My mother had been in the hospital for more than a month and though she was a fighter my sister and I knew that the time had come for her suffering to end and for her to go home.

We both were there with her, loving her and feeling the love back. No pain, just peace. I asked the Archangel Raphael to guard her soul to Heaven. Later, my sister told me she asked our Dad to be there waiting to greet and welcome our mother.

People, wanting to be loving and sympathetic, tell you they are sorry for your loss. I understand that, and I am so grateful, but my mother is not lost for I know where she is: My mother is in Heaven with God.

Do I miss her? Yes, but I am happy for her. St. Augustine said, "When you give someone you love to God, you have them forever".

Thank you all for all you have done, and for all your love and prayers. God Bless you all. Loretta



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Archived Newsletters can be found on our website. The link is found at the top of every page.

Send Us Your Story!!

Perhaps you have a distinct moment which brought your journey into the Church—a particular person or event. We invite you to share your story with us. We also invite YOU, all members of St. Patrick, to share your story. 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 articles in the collection basket on Sunday morning. If you don't mind a byline, you can email you article to trinity.shamrock3@gmail.com with Trinity and Shamrock in the subject line. We look forward to hearing from you!



Avery Pivont, Evan Pivont, Katie Peplowski

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 call 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, go to www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/novena.html.