

CALENDAR

- Through June 21, Vacation Bible School, 6-8:30, St. Patrick School cafeteria
- July 18, parish office closed for staff development meeting
- August 1, RCIA Open House, 6pm, pmr
- August 2-3, Mission Possible Yard Sale, Center Avenue parking lot (gym, if rain), proceeds benefit Clarksburg Mission
- August 18, 2-4pm, Open House for Pre-School/Pre-K, St. Patrick School
- August 20, 3-6pm, Open House for K-6, St. Patrick School
- After Mass Class, every Saturday night in the church after Mass. After Mass Class is the beginning of inquiry for those interested in learning more about the Catholic Church.
- Small Faith Community Scripture study are on hiatus for the summer. Watch this calendar for start-up dates in the fall.
- August 21, 6:30pm, the RCIA journey begins in the PMR*. Call Valerie Corley at 304-476-6009 or Mary Hendricks at 304-269-1244 for details.

***PMR =Parish Meeting Room**

St. Patrick Church**Weston, WV**

Volume VIII Issue XII

Parish Yard Sale August 2-3 for Mission Possible

Start cleaning out your garage, basement, and closets!

St. Pat's Mission Possible will join West Virginia's Largest Yard Sale on August 2-3 with a yard sale on the Second Street parking lot.

All proceeds will benefit the parish's adopted social justice project—the Clarksburg Mission.

The yard sale will be from 8am to 4pm each day. Donations of good used merchandise is being accepted at the parish office, 210 Center Ave.

Volunteers to set up or work at the sale can contact Kim Derico, Mission Possible chairman, at 304-884-6984 or hshcrafts1@yahoo.com.

If it rains, the sale will be held in the St. Patrick School gymnasium.

The yard sale is the second project this year that benefits the Clarksburg Mission. A clothing drive this spring netted 1,249 pounds of clothes. The mission uses the clothing in their retail store, sends it to other countries, or sells it to a fabric recycling center. This provides \$250,000 in income for the Clarksburg Mission.

During the school year, Mission Possible provided backpack snacks for 31 children each week. The snacks are supplemental

nutrition for needy children. Please keep sending in snacks for the children over the summer months. Non-perishable snacks are being stockpiled over the summer months for the next school year. Send donations of food or money to the church office

or leave them in the church vestibule. Remember these guidelines for donations:

- ◆ snacks must be packaged individually (not large boxes)
- ◆ no glass, peanuts, or red dye
- ◆ healthy snacks, please
- ◆ no soft drinks

At St. Pat's, We Are Family!

The summer season means fewer chances to connect at St. Patrick Church. School is out. The small faith communities are on hiatus for the summer. No GIFT. No sacramental preparation classes. No RCIA. Even the committee meetings are fewer.

Just about the only time you see your parish family is during Mass on the weekends.

You can change that by keeping communication open with fellow parishioners. Many are single and widowed and would love to have a conversation with you. Lonely people don't expect you to be there for them 24/7, but they do need some kindness. Here are some ways to make that happen:

- Invite them to a regular get-together you might be having with a friend.
- Ask them if they want to come with you to run an errand. You can chat and get to know each other as you both grocery shop or run the kids to their appointments.
- Ask them over when you have a family dinner. Your family has to eat, and so does your friend. Combine the two.
- Help them make a connection by introducing them to your other friends.
- Feel like chilling out in front of the TV? Ask a friend over to join you.
- Call to check in on them occasionally.

RCIA Open House Set for August 1

Take the first step to learning more about the Catholic Church by attending an Open House on Wednesday, August 1.

The informal open house will begin at 6:30pm in the parish meeting room (210 Center Ave., Weston).

Have you been worshipping with us, but never officially took the step to become Catholic?

Have you been away from the church ... and have now returned, but want to know more?

Have you been a Catholic all your life, but never celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist)?

Have you joined us from a different background and would now like to find out more about the Catholic Church?

If any of the above questions apply to you, St. Patrick Church's RCIA Team would love to help you in your journey!

Or, if you know of anyone who could answer YES to any of the above questions, perhaps you should extend an invitation to them! We welcome people into the Church through the RCIA.

RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, is a process through which non-baptized men and women enter the Catholic Church. It includes several stages:

Inquiry: the initial period before you decide to enter the Catholic Church. You're asking questions and checking it out, but aren't yet ready to commit.

Catechumenate: those who decide to enter the Church and are being trained for a life in Christ are called catechumens, an ancient name from the early Church. In this stage, you're developing your faith and are being "catechized" — learning catechism, or the basic

points about Catholic faith and life.

Purification and preparation: The Church will help you focus and intensify your faith as you prepare you to commit your life to Christ and be received into the Church at Easter. If you're following the RCIA process, you'll go through a beautiful series of Gospel-based meditations during Lent, which is the time frame of this period.

Initiation itself, the culmination of the whole process! You're received into the Church during the Easter Vigil Mass, where you'll receive the sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. (If you've already been baptized, you won't be baptized again.)

Mystagogy: after reception into the Church at Easter, this period lets you reflect and learn more about the mysteries of the Mass and the Sacraments that you now participate in fully.

At St. Patrick Church, we will conduct year-round inquiry through the After Mass Inquiry classes with Fr. Steve, going on now after the Saturday evening Mass.

The Catechumenate stage will begin at 6:30pm on Wednesday, August 21, in the parish meeting room.

Sponsors for our RCIA candidates participate in the Church's ministry of welcoming new members. To be a sponsor means to serve as a companion for the journey of faith, offering guidance and sharing life's experiences. Sponsors find their own faith life enriched by the RCIA process. If you want to know more about being an RCIA Sponsor, or if you are willing to serve as a Sponsor for candidates preparing to be initiated into our faith, please call the church office at 304-269-3048.

Little Bits...

- ◆ Dish towels are the June outreach project for Our Neighbor Outreach Center. Oral hygiene items will be collected in July. Place your donation in the collection box in the church or church office.
- ◆ Licensed professional counselor Valerie Corley is available to speak with anyone with marital problems, addiction, or child-parent challenges. Call 304-476-6009 for an appointment.
- ◆ Summer yoga will be held July 8-11 and August 5-8 from 6-7pm in the St. Patrick School cafeteria. Cost is \$10 per session.
- ◆ Zumba is held on Monday 5:30-6:30 (regular) & 7-8 (beginner class); Wednesday 5:30-6:30 (toning) at the Weston Moose Lodge. Cost is \$5. Call Mary Jane Parker at 304-517-2718.
- ◆ Find your way spiritually! Fr. Bill Anderson is the parish's spiritual director. The next session is in August. There is no cost for spiritual direction, but a donation of \$35 is suggested. *If you cannot afford payment, Fr. Anderson will work with any parishioner who desires spiritual direction.* Call 304-269-3048 for an appointment.

Who Is Thy Neighbor?

Justin Frazier is the first winner of the newly initiated Spirit of St. Patrick Award at St. Patrick School.

The sixth grader's name will appear on a perpetual plaque that will be displayed at the school. Additional sixth grader winners will be added annually.

Justin, the son of Joe and Regina Frazier of Jane Lew, plays basketball for the St. Pat's Irish Little League team, the first place team this year. He is a pitcher and shortstop for the Cubs in the Lewis County Pony Baseball League.

He is an altar server and enjoys X-Box video games.

Justin Frazier won the West Virginia Free Throw contest two years in a row, at the 10- and 11-year-

old levels. The state contest is sponsored by the West Virginia Knights of Columbus. Justin represented Weston Council 1415.

He will attend Robert L. Bland Middle School in the fall.

Marlene Reed, fourth grade teacher at the school, said she presented the idea for the award to Principal Paul Derico who approved it. "I thought we should honor our school's patron saint and our school," she said.

The Spirit of St. Patrick Award is presented to a student who, in the manner of St Patrick, best exemplifies catholic character through courage, forgiveness, and humility.

Pictured below at the school awards ceremony are Principal Derico, Justin, and Mrs. Reed.



Parish Picnic

