



Father Paul's Weekly Email

March 3, 2024

Late one afternoon the composer Beethoven visited a shoemaker. Standing in the shop, waiting to have his shoes mended, Beethoven heard some music being played on a piano in the back room of the shop. Beethoven smiled, knowing that the music was one of his own compositions. "It's my daughter who's playing", said the shoemaker, "but she can't play very well because she is blind and has to play from memory."

"May I play the piano for your daughter? I am a musician myself," asked Beethoven. "Certainly", said the shoemaker, not knowing who his customer was. He slowly rehearsed the music with the girl, and they began to practice other pieces he had written. The time went quickly, and the composer didn't realize that hours had passed. Then he noticed the way that the moonlight had begun to stream its gentle light through the window of the room.

Beethoven returned home. He couldn't get to sleep but thought of how the girl was disabled by blindness, struggling to do her best, whilst others took sight and talents for granted. He thought of the great joy that music brought her, and he remembered the room in which they had played the music, and the way in which the moonlight streamed through the open window. He knew that whilst he could see the moonlight, she could not. Beethoven got out of bed and started to play the piano, expressing his feelings through music. What he produced is thought by many to be one of the most touching pieces of music. In memory of the girl, he called this new piece "The Moonlight Sonata". On this day in 1802, the music of Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" was published.

— Nicholas Hutchinson <http://www.prayingeachday.org/March03.pdf>

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Parish website <https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
Faith in West Virginia <https://faithinwv.org/latest-bulletin/>
This Sunday's Readings <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/030324-YearB.cfm>
Wednesday Bible Handout <https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>
This Sunday's Bulletin

Coming Soon

On Sunday March 10 at 10:15 - 11:15 am in the Parish Hall, Sue Barazi from the Islamic Center will give a presentation on **THE MEANING** of **RAMADAN** which this year is from March 10 - April 9. Ramadan is sometimes called "Islamic Lent."

On Sunday March 17 at 3:00 pm, there will be a **COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE** at 3pm. Five priests will be available to help individuals continue their spiritual preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

On Sunday March 24 at 10:15 - 11:15 am, there will be a showing of the thirty-minute **MOVIE *The Man Who Planted Trees***. It actually paints a true story and is sure to lead to interesting discussion. We will be using the big screen in the Parish Hall.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, as I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins. As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart. Give me rest in you. Help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment. Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you. Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving and come closer to you through prayer this Lent. Amen.

CARBONATED GRACE ***

The truth is that Father Smith finished last in his class and had very little common sense. Shortly after finally be in charge, the priest has the old windows in the school that were next to useless replaced with expensive double pane energy efficient kind. But this week, he got a call from the contractor complaining that his work had been completed a whole year, but he still had not been paid. The priest was both surprised and puzzled. “What you mean? I’m not gonna let you rip me off. Your salesman told me that in one year, the windows would pay for themselves.” There was silence on the other end of the line, so Father Smith hung up, and was pleased with himself.

*** Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*



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