



## Weekly Email from *Father Paul Wharton*

December 6, 2022

There are times when preparing a homily or writing a letter that coming up with an idea is like pushing a rock up a steep hill following a week of rain. Other times it is as easy as turning on a faucet for a drink of water. Since today is the Feast of Saint Nicholas, my thoughts naturally turn to Father Leon Alexander who cherished the opportunities to portray the Saint we might call the Father of Christmas.

Fr. Leon was for me a mentor, inspiration, sounding board, and encourager who had a love of priesthood and a zest for life. An occasional question he asked of parishioners and friends was either, “Do you love me?” or “How much do you love me?” We all knee what was coming. He wanted or needed our help? He had something that we could do make his life a little easier or – most often – would make the parish or Church a better place.

Saint Nicholas is an example of generosity towards those less fortunate than we are. Fr. Leon knew well that we must express our faith by what we say and do. His requests gave us the chance to do just that and always brought a smile to my face. The Risen Lord still asks us the question he asked Peter at the Sea of Galilee, “Do you love me?”

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Next Sunday's Readings

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<https://www.blessedsacramentwv.org>  
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121122.cfm>

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### THIS WEEK at BSP

To see what's happening, consult our weekly bulletin at this link — <https://ec-prod-sites.s3.amazonaws.com/6381/documents/2022/12/221204-1.pdf>

*Advent Group Lectio  
Divina Experience*



Wednesdays 1pm December 7, 14, & 21  
in the church

December 8 is the **FEAST of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at noon and again at 6pm.

**LUNCH BUNCH** begins immediately after Mass. Please join us for food & fellowship.



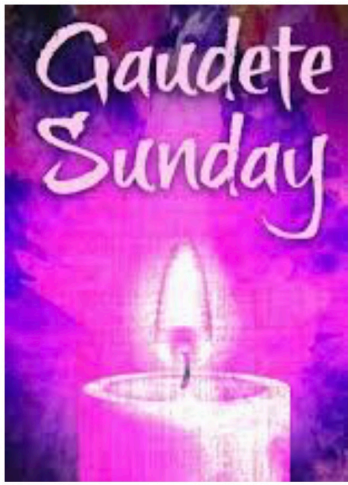
**YOUTH MUSIC ENSEMBLE** for grades 1-12 Everyone in first grade through youth group age is invited to join in preparing music for offerings during Mass and for concerts on Friday, December 9 and Friday, January 6. We sing and play instruments, and we hold rehearsals between Sunday morning Masses to make it easy on families who come from a distance. Next Rehearsal: Sunday Dec. 4 at 10:15am in the church.

### **MYSTICAL MUSINGS:**

It is while waiting for the coming of the reign of God, Advent after Advent, that we come to realize that its coming depends on us. What we do will either hasten or slow, sharpen or dim our own commitment to do our part to bring it. It is while waiting for the coming of the reign of God, Advent after Advent, that we come to realize that its coming depends on us.

Waiting—that cold, dry period of life when nothing seems to be enough and something else beckons within us—is the grace that Advent comes to bring. It stands before us, within us, pointing to the star for which the wise ones from the East are only icons of ourselves. We all want something more. Advent asks the question, what is it for which you are spending your life? What is the star you are following now? And where is that star in its present radiance in your life leading you? Is it a place that is really comprehensive enough to equal the breadth of the human soul?

— Sister Joan Chitister



The Liturgical Color for Sunday is rose. The priest's vestment and the third candle on the Advent Wreath are so colored as a sign of our joy that Christmas is closer than when we began preparing. Gaudete is a Latin command to REJOICE! You are encouraged to wear something pink or rose.

### CARBONATED GRACE \*\*\*

A woman complained to a friend that she could not remember anything from one day to the next. "Let me get this straight," he said. "You can't remember anything from one day to the next? How long is this been going on?" She replied, "How long has WHAT been going on?"

\*\*\* Anne Lamott calls laughter *carbonated grace*.



I will **NEVER** ask anyone to buy gift cards for me to give away.

I will **NEVER** be stuck in a foreign country since I have no Passport.

I will **ONLY** send you an email from [pjw424@gmail.com](mailto:pjw424@gmail.com) I will **ONLY** text you from my cell phone 304 433 7472

I gratefully accept invitations to breakfast, lunch, and dinner in people's homes or at restaurants By the way, I have no food allergies or special dietary needs.



Fr. Paul only uses one email address [pjw424@gmail.com](mailto:pjw424@gmail.com) Other email is not from me.