



OUR LADY OF KNOCK THE SILENT AND MOTIONLESS APPARITION

It was evening and the persistent mist of the day started to turn to rain and the skies were becoming dark on August 21, 1879, in the poor village of Knock in western Ireland. That is how the significant day was described when a miraculous vision occurred between 7-9 pm- the Our Lady of Knock apparition.

On the southern gable wall of the Catholic church of Knock appeared the Blessed Virgin Mary, wearing a white garment and spectacular crown, with St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist behind her. Beside her was the Eucharistic Lamb, standing upon an altar. The lamb was whiter than the white altar and had a halo of gold stars. He stood at the foot of a cross and was surrounded by angels. Even as the sky grew dark and the rains became heavy, they remained dry and illuminated as if in the afternoon sun. The first to see this sight sporadically left to summon their family members, so they too could witness the extraordinary.

Men, women, and children as young as five were among the 15 villagers who were present.

Mary was breathtaking and “her hands were uplifted, and her eyes turned up toward heaven, as if in prayer, and she was dressed in a white cloak,” said Dominick Byrne, Sr., to Church representatives who were investigating the event. “To her right I saw St. Joseph, and on her left St. John.” He said St. John was wearing a short mitre-like hat, similar to what a bishop would wear, and looked like a statue of the apostle at Lecanvey chapel, another Catholic church in County Mayo, Ireland.

One of the 15 was 11-year-old Patrick Hill.

“I saw everything distinctly,” the young boy said. “The figures were full and round as if they had a body and were alive. They said nothing, but as we approached, they seemed to back a little towards the gable.”



According to the witnesses St. Joseph had “iron grey” hair and beard.

Church officials speculate that St. John the Evangelist was present, because he was the apostle that refers to Jesus as “The Lamb of God” in his Gospel. Witnesses said he appeared as if he were preaching with an opened book in his left hand and his right hand raised with his index and middle finger pointing as if to make important reference. For more than two hours the vision remained. This apparition investigation by the Church was deemed trustworthy.

“I was filled with wonder at the sight I saw;” said 20-year-old Dominick Bryne, Jr. “I was so affected that I shed tears.”

Moments of Regret

The parish rectory housekeeper, Mary McLoughlin, initially dismissed the “beautiful figures” as radiant statues the pastor may have received from Dublin. She was leaving the rectory in a hurry to get to her friend’s house.

“At the hour of seven or so, while it was yet a bright day, ... I saw a number of strange figures at the gable, ... yet I passed on and said nothing; I thought the whole thing strange.”

However, later when she was returning home with a friend, the friend cried out in sheer amazement at the “beautiful figures.”

The two were mesmerized for a while and then summoned for more people to come. McLoughlin said she went to the rectory and told the priest, Very Rev. B. Cavanagh about the apparition. However, she said he “appeared to make nothing of what I said, and consequently he did not go.”

The next day the others confirmed the story to Cavanagh, who then visibly regretted not taking McLoughlin seriously.

Additionally, Patrick Walsh, a business traveler, was about a half mile from the chapel around 9 pm, when he saw a very bright light on the southern gable of the church.

“It appeared to me to be a large globe of golden light; I never saw, I thought, so brilliant a light before.”

Walsh did not stop or go closer. The next day he heard others talking about an apparition they had seen in Knock.

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An Apparition of Hope and Prayer

The vision was quiet, seemingly motionless, but resulted in reverent prayer of thanksgiving and hope in a time of despair, hardships, and struggles.

Many began to pray when they came upon the scene, including Bridget Trench.

“I threw myself on my knees and exclaimed, ‘A hundred thousand thanks to God and to the glorious Virgin that has given us this manifestation,’” Trench said. “I went in immediately to kiss, as I thought, the feet of the Blessed Virgin, but I felt nothing in the embrace but the wall, and I wondered why I could not

feel with my hands the figures which I had so plainly and so distinctly seen.”

Trench was also astonished that even though the wind was blowing rain towards the southern gable no rain fell were the figures appeared. “I felt the ground carefully with my hands and it was perfectly dry.” She added, “I continued to repeat the rosary on my beads while there, and I felt great delight and pleasure in looking at the Blessed Virgin. I could think of nothing else while there but giving thanks to God, repeating my prayers.”

Today, pilgrims can go to the site where Knock Shrine has been constructed. The

Marian shrine helps facilitate that same personal encounter with God in a quiet sacred space for prayer and to deepen a relationship with the Lamb of God, as well as the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. John, and all the saints and angels.

For more information and testimonies from the witnesses go to: WWW.KNOCKSHRINE.IE

The art with this story is a giant mosaic at the Knock Shrine. It is based on an artistic representation of the Apparition by renowned Irish illustrator, PJ Lynch, and then created by Trvisanutto Mosaics in Spilimbergo, Italy.

TWO SAINTS TO HONOR THIS WEEK EXAMPLES OF OUR SUNDAY READINGS

Our readings this Sunday teach us that our attitudes and actions always matter to God. Like a loving father, He disciplines us. When we trust in God, He will restore us. Next week we will hear lessons on humility and serving others not for the limelight on earth, but the great rewards in Heaven.

Two saints honored by the Church this week illustrate those teachings.

On August 23, we celebrate the Memorial of St. Rose of Lima. Her beauty was breathtaking, but it was her heart that was magnificent.

She was born in Peru as Isabel Flores de Olivia in 1586, but was called Rose or Rosa because of her beauty. Writers note she was so pretty people would stop in their tracks in awe of her. As a toddler, her mother would place a crown of flowers on her head to compliment her radiance.

Throughout her childhood she declared she wanted to become a nun and devote herself to Jesus. She had her own retreat space that she would go to for solitude and prayer. At the age of 20, her parents, though reluctant, gave her their blessing for her to enter the Third Order of Saint Dominic. However, they did not want St. Rose to live at the convent. So as a compromise she secluded herself and resided in the space she had previously set aside for her retreats.

Saint Rose welcomed the poor and sick children and elderly into her humble residence, so she could care for them. She was known for her dedication to the lowly and admired by poor and wealthy alike for as she said, “When we serve the poor and the sick, we serve Jesus.”



On August 24, we honor the Feast Day of St. Bartholomew – a man of humble grace. Although, he was an apostle, biblical documentation of St. Bartholomew is scarce. He is someone who did not need the limelight. He shows us that to know Christ is to love Him and to want to serve Him.

In John 1:47-51 we learn Saint Bartholomew’s (also called Nathanael) character could be described as a faithful Jew, honest, innocent, a just man, who devotes much time to quiet reflection and prayer, awaiting the Messiah. It was Philip who took St. Bartholomew to see Jesus, said to him, “Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree.”

Pope Benedict XVI has said St. Bartholomew answers Jesus “with a clear and beautiful confession of faith: ‘Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!’ In this confession is conveyed a first important step in the journey of attachment to Jesus.”

“St Bartholomew stands before us to tell us that attachment to Jesus can also be lived and witnessed to without performing sensational deeds,” Pope Benedict said.

Let St. Bartholomew’s example influence your thoughts and deeds. Instead of overthinking and questioning, choose trust and peace, knowing God is present and He is always working for the greater good for all of the faithful.

Editor’s Note: The art complimenting this article is by Tracy Christianson, you can purchase these and more on her Etsy shop at: WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/PORTRAITSOFSAINTS

God Bless BISHOP MARK

ON THIS HIS THIRD ANNIVERSARY AS BISHOP
OF THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

AUGUST 22, 2022

“We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, in accord with the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ.”

(2Thessalonians 1:11-12 from the First Reading for 8-22-22, the Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary)



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21

Prophet Isaiah declares the Lord will gather and restore His people.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 117

“Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.”

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

St. Paul tells us when we are overwhelmed with challenges do not lose sight of Christ. Trust in Him, knowing that like our parents, God disciplines the ones He loves.

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Jesus teaches us where we come from – our motivation, attitude, and actions – defines who we are. Stay focused and centered on Christ.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT
BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/082122.CFM](http://BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/082122.CFM)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, as we receive the Eucharistic let it strengthen us to bring Christ out into the world not as a selfish people, but selfless - humble servants, bringing compassion, hope, and peace, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our seminarians and all discerning religious life, may they approach each day mindful of St. Joseph, who loved and served Jesus and our Blessed Mother Mary with grace, mercy, and courage, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our priests in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, let us pray the Holy Spirit powerfully works through them to light a fire in our hearts to enter into and strengthen our relationship Christ in the Holy Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all teachers, counselors, administration, and support staff, may they place all trust in Jesus, so they remain energized, optimistic, compassionate, resilient, and purposeful even in the face of adversity, challenge, and uncertainty, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

NEWS FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST VIRGINIA

MATTHEW 25 BAGS HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED



Catholic Charities West Virginia staff and volunteers coordinate a “pop-up” food distribution for those in need.

As the cost of nearly everything continues to rise across the country, food insecurity is plaguing more and more households. In an effort to alleviate some of this worry, the Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes Outreach Center in Hinton is hoping to provide more “pop-up” food distributions in southern West Virginia.

These distributions, typically held in parking lots, welcome anyone who needs help. Food is distributed as well as other items that may help struggling households extended their budgets.

Our first special distribution took place in a parking lot in Princeton with volunteers from Princeton Sacred Heart Parish. The event was held on a weekend to give those who typically work business hours the opportunity to come.

Items distributed included fresh bread, potatoes, onions, a bag of non-perishable foods, a bag of hygiene items, and clothing. A total of 84 families received help that day, with many families expressing how thankful they were to receive the help.

To learn more about Catholic Charities West Virginia and how to support your neighbors in need, please visit WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESWV.ORG.

The Mission of Catholic Charities West Virginia: *Guided by God’s love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change.*

JOIN US FOR MASS AND LEARN WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Sept. 18 • 4pm

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Wheeling
Father Jim Gretz

Sept. 25 • 4pm

St. Leo Parish, Inwood
Msgr. Rick Hilgartner

The Instructional Masses fulfill our Sunday obligation and teach why we do what we do as Catholics, so we can participate with purpose.

An informal reception will follow Mass.

These are the first in a series of Instructional Masses to be held throughout the state honoring the National Eucharistic Revival.

WV CATHOLIC RADIO BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU

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Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
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Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Montgomery - Beckley	FM	89.7
Purgitsville	FM	98.7
St. Marys - Parkersburg	FM	105.3
Star City -Morgantown	FM	89.7
Summersville	FM	91.3
Wheeling - Martins Ferry, OH	FM	90.7
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Liturgy of the Hours LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.