

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

August 13-14, 2016

Mass times: Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 10:45am

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Monday is a Holy Day of Obligation – Solemnity of the Assumption. Mass times are:

7pm at St. Patrick,

9am & 7pm at St. John's

12:05pm at St. Peter

Message from our Pastor:

Hello all!

I have been busy lately and have not had time to watch the Olympics. But I am hoping to catch some events soon...I like watching table tennis (ping pong).

Whenever I watch the Olympics, I cannot help but think of a special bible verse. It goes like this:

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever." 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Why do I think of this verse? If it is not obvious, allow me to explain.

I love competition. I think that it brings out the best in people. Although I realize it can also bring out the worst in people, I still think that competition among virtuous souls is a good thing that helps people to strive to achieve their

best...which helps them to be happy and when, during such efforts the person gives appropriate thanks and gratitude to God for their success, it is even a moment of growth in holiness.

So there is much good about the Olympics. It brings out the best in strength, agility, discipline, and perseverance among the human race. That is amazing.

But the reason I cannot help to think of the above mentioned scripture verse is because although there are great gains to be made when someone works, and sacrifices and suffers all the hardship that is experienced in connection with achieving the level of excellence of an Olympic athlete, in the end, they receive "a crown that will not last."

Olympic athletes - and for that matter even pro football, baseball, basketball athletes - receive notoriety, big muscles, and maybe even a big (or enormous) paycheck for their efforts. But how long do those prizes last? Do any of them last more than a few years or a few decades?

That is what the scripture says. Although commendable and honorable, those efforts will only get a prize that will eventually fade away.

But what happens when you practice spiritual discipline, as opposed to physical discipline. It is NOT likely to make your muscles big and it may NOT make you bank account grow and you will likely NOT receive recognition (actually the bible says you should try to AVOID recognition).

That said, spiritual discipline - such as living a virtuous lifestyle, practicing moderation with food and drink, practicing chastity, giving alms to the poor, going to confession, praying, avoiding gossip, slander and foul language - these things will result in gain THAT LASTS FOREVER!!!

Heaven lasts forever and this life lasts for 60, 70, 80 years or so. What we do to make gains through spiritual discipline will last forever, while every gain made physically will disappear.

Please don't get me wrong, I am not trying to be a poo-poo on the Olympics. I love the Olympics and the competition.

My only prayer and hope for our human race is that we as a human race will prize spiritual gains MORE THAN physical gains, because that is demonstrative of a humanity that is endowed with the mind of God.

Have a great week everyone!!!

Fr Rossi

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

Looking for Volunteers: Someone generously donated furniture for the rectory and we need manpower and trucks to be able to move it on September 10th. Contact person is Eddie Baird: donnahbaird@yahoo.com.

Welcome: Please welcome & say hello to our new cantor, Elisabeth Carlton Dowdy. Elisabeth graduated from VCU with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education. She was a member of the Richmond Symphony Choir and has been a cantor and professional chorus member in Richmond churches for many years included the Cathedral. Elisabeth currently sings for several Filipino & Asian American events, and with Capitol Opera Richmond.

Children's Religious Education - Donna Baird

Religious Education Registration: It's time to register your children for Religious Education 2016/2017. Classes will be held on Sunday mornings at St. Patrick's **from 9:45 AM to 10:30 AM** beginning in the fall. Please see Donna Baird after mass for the registration forms. Fees for this year are: First Reconciliation/First Communion classes - \$50 per child; general enrollment - \$30 per child. **Deadline for registration is August 27th/28th.** If your child is preparing for First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, full participation in St. Patrick's Religious Education is required including attendance at all scheduled classes and as well as weekly mass. Looking forward to another great year!

Faith Formation - Kathy Butner

RCIA: We would like to invite those who have expressed interest in starting the RCIA and anyone which may be interested in the RCIA to meet with the RCIA team after Mass on **August 14th**. We will be there to answer any questions and to setup the days we will meet for class. If there are any questions, feel free to contact Fred Powell at fmpjr2009@aol.com or Ryland Paxton at PaxtonRL8229@MBC.EDU.

Weekly Budget: \$4,615.00

Week of 8/7/16: \$4,604.99

Weekly Loss /Gain 8/7/16: (\$10.01)

Attendance for 7/31/2016: 24/141

Total Yearly Budget Income: \$239,995.00

Less Year to date Collections: \$19,218.24

Year to date Current Loss: (\$220,776.76)

Baptisms: Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month during Mass. Baptism class for new parents is held at 1 p.m. in the parish hall. The next class will be held on September 11 and the remaining class this year will be the second Sunday of November. If you are interested in attending a class and scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner. Baptism information is on our website under the Sacraments tab. If you have additional questions, please contact the office.

Visitation to the sick and homebound – If you or someone you know would like a visit and Holy Communion at their home. Please call the office at 737-8028. Office staff will ensure the information will be relayed to Visitation Ministry individuals.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi: ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com

Father Eugene Bulinda: livasia@gmail.com

Father Frank Wiggins: Padreop@verizon.net

Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Michelle Dawson: mjmvcu@aol.com

Donna Baird: donnahbaird@yahoo.com

Kathy Butner: kathybuttner@hotmail.com

Heather Coleman: heatherscoleman@yahoo.com

Bryce Miller: pianoguy35@mac.com

Dave Stull: dstull@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

Paulita Matheny: pmatheny@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

Mike Treadwell: Mikenme2@verizon.net

Billie Keating: billie.keating@capitalone.com

Mailing address:

St. Patrick's Church, 813 West Nine Mile Road,
Highland Springs, VA 23075

Office Phone number: 804-737-8028

SPC Emergency #: 804-402-1221 - If someone is dying or has died and you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.