

# Saint Patrick Catholic Church

**August 6-7, 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

Welcome to our community  
Emilia Jade Lowry baptized Sunday!

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## Message from our Pastor:

*Good day everyone! I hope everyone had a great week! Mine was very good. I'm slowly getting over the disappointment of the rectory fire and am moving on. Focusing on other tasks, challenges and the future in general is the way to ward off negativity. That and drinking in the grace from God of course!!!*

*A couple announcements this week.*

*First, this weekend we say goodbye to Deacon Miguel. He heads back to seminary to finish his last year of studies. I know he hasn't been here long but it's better he go, so that he can return as our parochial vicar. Just kidding...I have no control over whether we get him back after ordination...but who knows???*

*Please continue to pray for him. Don't think that he has reached the finish line and has thus 'made it' simply because he is so close to priestly ordination. He still has many things to accomplish before he can be ordained to the priesthood. Please pray for him and for all the seminarians.*

*Second, this weekend Fr Ernest began with our cluster as previously announced. He is a wonderful man and priest of God. Please introduce yourself to him and take care of him. He will be a great blessing to all of us.*

*Third, this is of special importance to St Patrick folks, but I will include it in the pastor message for all three parishes as I know*

*sometimes we have folks who bounce between the three parishes.*

*At St Pats, we have decided to transition the Saturday evening Mass, currently each week at 5:30pm, into a simpler Mass. Mass will still be at the same time, with confessions at 4:30pm, each week (have you been to confession lately?)*

*The Mass was begun about 1.5 years ago. Previously, St Patrick had only the 10:45am Mass. The Saturday evening Mass was added to provide another convenient Mass time for folks who could not make it on Sunday morning.*

*Attendance at the Mass fluctuates. There is always a group of people who attend the Mass, sometimes it's a large group, but sometimes it is a very light group.*

*As such, in discussion with the St Patrick Finance Council as well as other parishioners and staff members, we have decided to transition the Mass to a simpler Mass.*

*What does this mean? Basically all it means is that there will not be singing at the Saturday evening Mass. There will, on occasion, still be organ music and melodies, but there will not be singing from the choir. Thus, it will be a simpler Mass (back in the day we used to call it a 'low' Mass).*

*By making this change, we can save approximately \$18,000 per year of the parish's money...of YOUR money. This will go a long way in bridging the gap of our \$50,000 deficit that we are projecting this year.*

*But do not worry, even though there is no singing at the Mass, it still 'counts' as Sunday Mass and everything else will be the same. Most importantly, you will still be able to receive the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of the God of the Universe at the 'low' Mass, and receiving Holy Communion is the number one reason for Mass and the central moment of all Masses.*

*Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, please do not think that because of this, we at St Patrick do not prize quality and beautiful music. That is not accurate. We very highly prize beautiful music to glorify God. But we also cannot allocate resources that we do not have. Thank you for your patience and your love for St Pats. We are doing great and have a bright future. In fact, sometimes I have seen Mass attendance higher at a Mass that does not have music because sometimes folks like a more quiet and peaceful environment which is afforded by more silence at Mass. Also, the Mass is a little shorter usually without music, but I KNOW that NOBODY would ever go to a Mass because it was shorter. Right!?!?!?*

*Have a good week. Drink in the grace. It makes life good.*

*-Father Rossi*

## Community Life - Michelle Dawson

**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 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>.** 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.

**Bible Study:** For the summer Bible Study meets every other Thursday during the summer at 10:30 am in the Social Hall. We are discussing Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on Love in The Family. The books are available for \$12.00. The dates are August 11th and 25th.

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**Weekly Budget:** \$4,615.00

**Week of 7/31/2016:** \$2,303.00

**Weekly Loss /Gain 7/31/2016:** (\$2,312.00)

**Attendance for 7/31/2016:** 26/172

**Total Yearly Budget Income:** \$239,995.00

**Less Year to date Collections:** \$14,638.25

**Year to date Current Loss:** (\$225,356.75)

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**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.

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## Contact & Follow Us at:

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### Mailing address:

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**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.