

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

February 18-19, 2017
Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Increased Offertory Program:

UPDATE - Hello everyone. I wanted to give you all a little update on the status and results of our increased offertory campaign. It is too early to know if it will be a total success but initial indications are positive. You have likely seen in the bulletin the past few weeks that we have been close to or even slightly exceeding our budget, which is excellent! And I will tell you, this week the bank statement for St Pats came in the mail and for the first time since I have been here the balance went up! That's great! The real test will be whether we can keep it going and don't pull back in a month, 6 months or a year. We just have to stay strong. We off to a good start. And also, if you haven't made a commitment yet or turned in your commitment card, please do so by dropping it in the collection basket or mailing to the office. I am thankful to God that He has inspired so much generosity. We are 'honoring the LORD with our wealth.' Praise the Lord!!! Fr Rossi"

Church Support as of 2/5/17

Weekly

Actual	\$4,490.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
Difference	\$383.00

Year to Date

Actual	\$126,277.31
Budgeted	<u>\$131,487.00</u>
Difference	(\$5,209.69)

Attendance for 2/4 & 5/2017: 35/204

Message from our Pastor:

"The times they are a-changin'!" That is definitely the case today. Allow me to give you an example.

In 1943, the movie "The Song of Bernadette" won 4 Academy Awards and 3 Golden Globes. Have you seen that movie? Do you know what it is about?

It is about Our Lady of Lourdes, a feast day just celebrated recently in the Church. The movie is the retelling of the apparition of the Blessed Virgin that occurred in 1858 in Lourdes, France. You have no doubt heard that Lourdes is still currently a pilgrimage place where people go to be bathed in the waters which has resulted in many, many miracles. "The Song of Bernadette" is about (now Saint) Bernadette and the apparition of Mary and the founding of the grotto in Lourdes, France. As I said, it won 4 Academy Awards.

In 1944, the movie "Going My Way" was released. It is about a priest working in a parish to reform and minister to the local youth. It won 7 Academy Awards, including best picture.

And there are others, "The Keys of the Kingdom" in 1944, "The Bells of St Mary's" in 1945, and many others.

My point is more of a question.

How is it possible, that in only 75 years, Hollywood has gone from a place that embraced Catholic culture to a place that is almost entirely hostile to the Catholic Church? When Hollywood makes a movie about the Catholic Church now, it is about something ridiculous, like that Jesus was really married and all along we've just been fooling everyone (the DaVinci Code) or about something that was unfortunately true and terrible that happened in the Church (Spotlight).

Does the Catholic Church do good anymore? Why doesn't Hollywood (or culture) see that?

Why did they make those movies then and why do they make such different movies now? Can you imagine big time actors like Tom Cruise or Angelina Jolie starring in a movie about an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary?

What has changed? I do not think the Church was in control of Hollywood in the 1940's or that they somehow made Bing Crosby make those movies. For some reason or reasons, people then enjoyed stories that were more wholesome, and they looked to the Catholic Church as the provider of that wholesomeness, of that hope. Where do people look now for hope? Do they want hope? - Fr. Rossi

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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.

News & Announcements:

Office Closed 2/20/17: The office will be closed Monday 2/20 in observance of President's Day.

Irish Festival: Please join us after 10:45 mass in the basement for Irish Festival meeting! The festival will be celebrated March 25 & 26th. We need volunteers to help us throw the oldest street festival in the City. For more information, you can contact Stokes McCune at stokesmccune@aol.com. **How to sign up to Volunteer for the festival:** Signup sheets for volunteering are downstairs after mass, you can also use the link <https://goo.gl/forms/k2NJZt8nmQjDO3Jw2> to sign up! Thank you!

Saint Francis Home: It has come to our parish's attention that there is a need at the St. Francis home for food. That is that they are in need of proteins. Please for the next two Sundays (2/18 & 2/25) bring a donation. (Protein's can include – ground beef, turkeys, ham, canned tuna, etc.) Please clearly mark your donation with a tag for St. Francis home and bring to the kitchen to be put in the freezer. Ask John Glynn if you have any questions john@leadminepond.com. Thank you

Sharing Sunday: We will be starting something new at St. Pat's the **first Sunday of each month** we are asking parishioners bring in a donation of non-perishable food to be donated to a local food bank in our community. Suggested items – canned goods, cereal, tuna, peanut butter, etc. We will be starting this on Sunday March 4th there will be a marked table in the basement to leave these donations.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Encourage the Holy Spirit to perfect your marriage. The next encounter weekend is 3/31-4/2 in Herndon, VA. To learn more go to <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/>

Lighthouse CDs and Booklets – Do you drive to work or to other activities and listen to the radio? How about a change – select a CD from the kiosk in the entrance and listen to it instead. There are many good titles of interest for Catholic learning and reflection. Then, when you have listened to the CD, pass it along to a family member or friend. It's a very easy way to evangelize. The CDs are inexpensive – we are asking for a \$4.00 donation to cover the cost.

Divine Mercy Image – The beautiful picture you have seen recently is the Divine Mercy Image. There is so much to learn about the beautiful devotion of Divine Mercy! This image was described by St Faustina to an artist after Jesus appeared to her and asked her to have it painted. Faustina lived in Poland and Jesus appeared to her many times over a several year period. Sister Faustina died in 1938 and was canonized by Pope St John Paul II in 2000. Divine Mercy in My Soul, which is the diary of St Faustina, and 7 Secrets of Divine Mercy are two great resources to learn more about the life of this saint and devotion to Divine Mercy. On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23, we will have a celebration here at St. Patrick. More info to come so stay tuned!

Irish Festival Baked Goods: Baked goods are needed for sale at the Festival. Popular items are: Cupcakes, cookies, bars, Irish Soda Bread, pie slices, and cake. There is no sign up for bake sale donations but if you have questions, please attend the Irish Festival Meetings after the 10:45 Mass or contact Kathy Buttner.

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER: St John's Catholic Church (Council of Women) is having a pancake supper on 2/28/17- Fat Tuesday from 5 -7pm. Pancakes, sausage or bacon, baked apples, juice, coffee, & hot chocolate. Prices adults \$6, children 2 to 10 \$4 & under 2 free. Held at St John's Catholic Church 813 Nine Mile Rd. Highland Springs VA 23075

Have you considered becoming a foster parent?

Did you know that there are more than 5,000 children and youth in foster care in Virginia right now? If you're considering fostering, let CCC help. We know there are a lot of questions that go into the decision, and we're here to help. CCC offers free, no-obligation information meetings for foster parenting and adopting. Call (804)545-5949 to learn more.

2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal -Building Our Family of Faith: Last week, many of you received a letter from Bishop DiLorenzo asking for your support of the 2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to this request.

An important aspect of the Appeal is that all parishes receive back a portion of their funds collected to be used for important local priorities. This year, the funds returned to our parish will be used for Capital Projects at the Parish.

The Appeal not only provides an opportunity for you to support important ministries that impact many programs outside of our parish boundaries, it also supports the services the Diocese provides directly to our parish. In complement to the funds returned to our parish through the parish sharing formula, the Appeal also benefits us through the following ministries and programs such as retired priests and seminarian. All pledges can be paid in ten monthly installments which makes it easy to support the important ministries of our Diocesan Church while also supporting our parish needs. Thank you in advance for your partnership in the 2017 Appeal.

FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION -Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Held by Church of the Epiphany will be 3/24-26, 2017. The retreat is for women and men who have known regret, sorrow, guilt, & shame from abortion. The weekend combines living scripture meditations, spiritual exercises, and discussions in a guided process that leads to the heart of God's love & compassion. If you would like to learn more about this retreat you can contact Marty Montgomery-Jennings at 804-704-0429, or Maggie Carlson at 804-432-2589 or email: RV4hope@gmail.com.

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The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): The RCIA is the process where the Catholic Church welcomes new adult members into the Church. Adults wishing to learn more should please contact the SPC office or email Fred Powell: fmpjr2009@aol.com or Ryland Paxton: paxtonrl8229@mbc.edu.

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 July 10 and remaining classes this year will be the second Sunday of September and 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.