

# Saint Patrick Catholic Church

**December 31, 2016 & January 1, 2017**  
**Solemnity of Mary**

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

**Confession:** Saturday at 4:30pm

**Rosary:** Sunday at 10:10am

**Nursery:** Available at 10:45 mass

Sunday, we welcome to our community August James Barten and Elijah Naess Moore receiving the Sacrament of Baptism.

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## Saint Patrick Increased Offertory Program:

During the season of giving, we are challenged to evaluate our lives and give back a just portion of our blessings to God.

In spite of the difficult times, we are fortunate people. Our thanks for these and many other blessings should be reflected in what we give to God

Remember, giving opportunities come in many forms, not just financial. Give of yourself as a volunteer and donate your time to worthwhile causes. "What you give will be returned tenfold."

Wisdom 3:9 "Honor the Lord with your wealth."

## Message from our Pastor:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! "Should old acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should old acquaintance be forgot, and old lang syne?..."

Is that song just stuck in your head or what?!!?!?! It sure gets stuck in mine this time of year.

Well, it's a new year. 2017. It's so amazing to look out over a year coming up and think, "I wonder what's going to happen this year???" Will the stock market go up 10,000 points? Will it bust? Will there be a new World War? Will there finally be peace? Will we discover a cure for cancer? Will there be a new disease that no one ever saw coming? Most importantly, will Jesus return?!?!?!?!?

I hope He does. But we will see. I have no inside information.

It can be scary to look out towards a new year and wonder what will happen. It can also be very exciting. If you are a pessimist you are probably a little scared and if you are an optimist you are probably a little excited. I am probably a little of both...

Anyway, we as Catholics already (hopefully) made our spiritual new year's resolutions at the end of November 2016 at the beginning of advent...since that's our new year. If you didn't, you need to get on the ball :)

But now is the time for all those other resolutions. I think the biggest resolution most people make is to lose weight. Then it's usually something like, live more for each day, save more and spend less, and spend more time with loved ones. Those are pretty common.

I will give you one little piece of advice, a little secret to making your resolutions stick. And this is whether you make a spiritual resolution to start praying more each day (I highly recommend) or a more natural resolution such as saving money (which is also sort of spiritual because it has to do with cultivating the virtues of self-control, moderation and self-denial).

The little secret to getting a resolution to stick is to continually remind yourself how weak you are and ask God for help.

We usually fail at our plans to make our lives better because we think we are strong and if just simply buck-up then we can get it done. Well how far has that gotten us? Probably not very far...since we make the same resolutions over and over and...

Being strong is not just about tapping into our own strength. Because if we look hard enough, it doesn't take long to discover that we don't usually have too much...

Being strong and having the fortitude to make a resolution stick is all about relying upon the power of God. God's power, asking Him for help, after admitting how weak we are, is the way to overcome things we never thought possible or things we have failed to overcome despite past attempts.

What is very hard or even impossible for us is quite easy for God. But His power only comes through us when we sort of yield to it...which is sort of the opposite of bucking-up.

Don't get me wrong, it's still going to be hard work and will test you physically and emotionally to a great degree, but the challenge will sort of melt away like an ice cube in the sun, rather than when we try of our own strength to get rid of an ice cube by hammering it with a mallet. Does that make any sense???

I hope you have a great new year and all your dreams come true (so long as they are in accordance with the will of God of course).

We are always here for you at the parishes. And I expect you to be here for us!!! That's the way family works.

See you at the altar. And don't forget, we are one year closer to Heaven!!! - Fr Rossi

**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 1/8/17. 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.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (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@marybaldwin.edu.

**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:

### Emails:

**Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi:** ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com  
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### Mailing address:

**St. Patrick's Church**  
813 West Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs, VA 23075  
**Office Phone number:** 804-737-8028

**BULLETIN:** All bulletin submissions must be in to Michelle Dawson the Tuesday at noon before the bulletin goes out.

**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.

## Church Support as of 12/18/2016

### Weekly

Actual	\$3,833.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
Difference	(\$274.00)

### Year to Date

*This information was not available at the time of printing*

**Attendance for 12/24 & 25/2016:** 280/72

## News & Announcements:

**Thank you:** Thanks to everyone who helped make Christmas and Christmas Eve extra special from those who decorated the church, those who served mass, and our talented musicians!

**Looking for Volunteers:** We are looking for volunteers to help with helping with our hospitality for after 10:45 masses on Sundays. Please contact Eddie Baird for more information and if your interested.

**Weekly Church Cleaning for 2017:** Please consider volunteering an hour of your time each week to help us keep the church clean for services. It is very easy and quick to learn; light dusting, floor sweeping, and checking the holy water dishes. Please fill out the form located downstairs over on the left side in a bright red jacket. You can also contact me directly at johnjlore@gmail.com or 804-513-7173. Thank you.

**MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY IN WASHINGTON DC; Friday, January 27, 2017:** For the 34th consecutive year, the Knights of Columbus will provide FREE bus transportation for people in the Richmond metropolitan area to attend the 44th annual March For Life Rally in Washington DC, on **Friday, January 27, 2017. Seating on the buses is limited and will be by RESERVATION only.** A Registration fee may be required; however, the Registration fee will be returned when you take your seat on the bus. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a Parent, Guardian, or Approved Temporary Guardian with written permission. Charter bus is scheduled for the following locations:  
**Church of the Redeemer**, 8275 Meadowbridge Road, Mechanicsville, bus arrives at 7:30 am for pick-up and departs by 8:00 am; contact Ed Gillikin, Sr at 804-737-7628 or EdGilli@msn.com. Bus Captain: Steve Gerloff.  
**Church of the Redeemer bus** will also stop at the **Diocese of Richmond Pastoral Center**, 7800 Carousel Lane, Henrico, (just off of Parham and Shrader Roads) at 8:15 am for additional pick-up and a brief prayer service. Marchers must check-in at the pick-up location at least 30 minutes prior to the specific departure time and **must bring a lunch, soft drinks, cell phone, hat, gloves and suitable clothing for weather conditions.** Bus will normally return by 6:00 pm.

**2017 BOXED SETS OF ENVELOPES:** If you did not get church envelopes please call the office, we will be happy to send you a set and updated our records.