

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

March 11-12, 2017
Second Sunday of Lent

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

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

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 Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton.

Baptisms: Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month during Mass. Baptism class is required prior to Baptizing your first child. Classes are held at 1:00 p.m. in the parish hall. The next class will be held on 6/4/17. If you are interested in attending a class & scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner.

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.

Message from our Pastor:

Hello all!!! I hope your Lent is progressing wonderfully.

For the pastoral message this week, I wanted to talk about the scripture account of Christ spending 40 days in the desert, all the while being tempted by the devil.

Christ was human and felt everything we would have felt had we spent 40 days in the desert. I could not imagine fasting for 4 days straight...one is long enough...but 40 days!!! That's a long time.

There are so many truths in that incident in Christ's life. Many different things God is teaching us.

One of them for sure has to do with from where we draw our strength.

The devil, in each of his temptations of Christ was using his (the devil's) same old tricks that usually trip us up. But to each of his usual temptations, Christ has a great response.

What are the usual tricks?

The first has to do with an OVER-RELIANCE on food or stuff. The devil tries to tempt Christ to turn stones into bread. Can

you imagine how hungry Christ was after all that time? He was probably dreaming about his mom's cooking!

And yet Christ rejects the temptation. 'Man does not live on bread alone'

The devil tries to tempt with an OVER-RELIANCE on self as well. All Christ has to do is bow down to the devil and the devil promises him unlimited power on the earth. Again very tempting. With that authority, Christ could have satisfied any need he ever had. He could have provided money and security to all his loved ones and they would have no more worries through that power the devil was offering.

But Christ says no. 'Worship God alone'

The devil also tries to tempt with an OVER-RELIANCE on the angels. The devil tells Christ that if he were to throw himself off the mountain, the angels would save him. Christ responds, 'you shall not put God to the test.'

In each of these temptations the devil throws at Christ, there is an underlying temptation running through them all. It has to do with the temptation to rely on anything and everything other than God. Temptations to rely on food/stuff, ourselves, or even others.

We similarly are tempted to find our security (and thus, our happiness) in these three things as well. We are tempted to rely too much on stuff (you name it...food, cloths, cars, homes, etc), on ourselves (our talents, our title, our physical strength), and even on others (but remember the bible says 'rely on God alone' and 'trust God alone').

Especially in our current era, when we are so successful with medicine, with science and technology, we can idolize humanity and what humanity can do. We can even make idols out of our children or spouses/girlfriends/boyfriends. But an overreliance on these things has a false bottom.

A big part of Lent is remembering who we rely on to provide for us and how we can fulfill the deepest longings within us. That which cares for us and fills us is not stuff, it's not ourselves and it's not even others. It is only the Almighty.

I am amazed at how quickly I am reminded of my weakness whenever I attempt fasting. Fasting is very difficult and as such, is very humbling and helps us to see how much we rely on God's provision. It's one of the best outcomes of fasting...and is why it's recommended during Lent.

Christ shows us the way. It's not always the easiest way in the short term, but it's the true way. And it is better to be in the truth, even if it's harder than to fall for the devil's temporary illusion of satisfaction. – Father Rossi

G I V I N G

St. Patrick's depends upon your generosity. These walls, built by generations past, now need you to nurture them. Give what you can. No amount is too small. E-Giving makes it easy. <http://saintpatrickchurchhill.org> and click on this button.



News & Announcements:

Irish Festival: It is almost here the oldest street festival in RVA! In a couple weeks, we will be celebrating our **32nd Irish Festival!** Join us after 10:45 mass for our festival meeting in the basement! However, **we need volunteers!** For those who haven't signed up yet, the **sign-up sheets are in the basement after each mass** as well you can **OR** you can also use the link <https://goo.gl/forms/k2NJZt8nmQjDO3Jw2> to sign up!

Irish Festival Baked Goods: Calling on all our bakers in the parish! Please consider baking and donating an item to our Bake sale at the Irish Festival. Popular items are: Cupcakes, cookies, bars, Irish Soda Bread, pie slices, and cake. Items can be dropped off on Thursday or Friday before the festival! Just come by the basement! Any questions contact Kathy Buttner!

Sharing Sunday: How exciting it is to see an outpouring of help from our community on our first Sharing Sunday last weekend! Thank you on making our new adventure a success on its first weekend. We will be collecting non-perishable food to be donated to a local food bank in our community. Suggested items – canned goods, cereal, tuna, peanut butter, etc. **Mark your calendars our next Sunday is April 2nd!** A table will be marked in basement to leave these donations.

Lighthouse CDs Available In Social Hall: A parishioner who is a huge fan of Lighthouse CDs has donated his collection of more than 100 CDs to St. Patrick. We hope you will take a look at the many and varied titles available for you to take and listen to at your leisure. When you have finished listening, you may return them to St. Patrick or pass them along to friends. Returned CDs should be placed in the library which is the cart on your left as you enter the social hall. Please do not put them in the kiosk in the church entry.

St. Patrick's Day: The Ancient Order of Hibernians will be having their annual St. Patrick's Day mass at 9:00am with a breakfast to follow. All are welcome!

Raffle Tickets: The Knights of Columbus are raffling off a chance to win tickets to the Nascar Cup race on 4/30/17 at the RIR. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. All proceeds benefit the good works & projects in our community of the Father James Scanlon Council of St. Patrick and St. John parishes. Drawing held on 4/23/17. Tickets available after mass each Sunday. For additional info please contact GK Eddie Baird at 804-986-2898

Lenten Dinner's at St. John's: Don't miss the delicious Lenten Dinners at our sister parish held every Friday during Lent from 5-7 PM. Fried and baked fish and a diverse seafood selection is on the menu; and for those non-fish lovers, delicious pastas will be served. There will be also Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM.

RICE BOWLS: They are available in the vestibule if you didn't get yours yet!

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!

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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.

Bulletin: All bulletin submissions must be emailed to Michelle Dawson the Tuesday prior by noon.

Church Support as of 3/5/17

Weekly

<i>Actual</i>	\$4,699.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	\$592.00

Year to Date

<i>Actual</i>	\$142,614.56
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$147,915.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$5,300.44)

Attendance for March 4 & 5th: 33/187

Ash Wednesday: 99