SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

November 11-12, 2017

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass times: Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 10:45am

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Confession: Saturday: 4:30 pm or

by appointment.

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am



Happy 158th Anniversary of the dedication of St Patrick Church.



CHURCH SUPPORT AS OF 11/5/17

Weekly

Actual \$2,635.00 Budgeted \$4.221.00 Difference (\$1,586.00)

Year to Date

 Actual
 \$60,235.00

 Budgeted
 \$75,978.00

 Difference
 (\$15,743.00)

Attendance for November 4 = 26 / November 5th =121

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

Good day. I wanted to give everyone an update on the news of a new Bishop. As of the writing of this bulletin message (Monday), there has been no news. That said, the announcements are usually made on Tuesdays so maybe when you read this it will have been announced and my message will be out of date. There is no other information to share. Anything else is simply rumor.

There is one item I would like to mention in regards to the second reading this Sunday. St Paul says we Christians "do not grieve like the pagans do who have no hope." Basically, he is saying that for a pagan, dead is the end and then have no knowledge of heaven or living forever. As such, they grieve horribly at the death of others and because they fear their own death. Christians, on the other hand, know of heaven and eternal life and happiness for those whom God has brought into heaven, as so Christians are not saddened by the certainty of death.

The man or woman who walk by faith still feels pain. He or she still feels sadness at sickness, loss, or death. But the person of faith turns towards the hope held in store for us in heaven rather than look to the world and what it might offer for consolation.

This is sometimes easier to say than to do. That is to say, in the midst of trial it can be difficult to buck up and have faith. But God does a great thing in our life.

God prepares us for the times when great faith will be expected of us by giving us continual smaller opportunities to use our faith. We are given the chance to go through small challenges with faith, which builds up our faith and makes it strong, so that when the larger challenge confronts us, we can do it.

It's like a guy trying to bench 300 pounds. He has to work up to it, 150lbs, 200lbs, 250lbs, etc. They all seem to be nearly impossible at the time. But push, push, push little by little he gets stronger. Then when he gets ready for the big 300lb challenge, it does not seem like such a leap.

So trials in our life are not insignificant. They are actually serving a greater purpose. They are helping us prepare for something we all face, the certainty of death. But we, Christians, face it head on and "do not grieve like the pagans do who have no hope." - Father Rossi

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2018 Sunday St. Joseph Missals: are now available for a minimum donation of \$3.00.

Appalachian Giving Tree: The Knights of Columbus will be collecting Christmas gifts for Appalachian families living in the poorest part of Virginia where the need is great. We will be collecting gifts for four families this year. Please consider taking a tag off the tree that will be in the vestibule the next 3 Sundays and return the wrapped gift with tag attached no later than 12-3-17. Any questions please contact Eddie & Donna Baird at 804.346.9476 or at donnahbaird@yahoo.com, Many thanks

<u>Saint Peter's Food Pantry can use our help</u>: The food pantry at St. Peters is getting low. Please bring non-perishable items for the pantry and there will be a table in the basement for collection! Thank you!

St. Patrick Christmas Concert Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 17th, at 4:00 pm. Join us for an afternoon of music celebrating the upcoming birth of the Savior.

<u>Vocalists Needed – Christmas Concert</u> - All musical parishioners are invited to participate in a special Christmas concert choir. We will rehearse 3 times before the concert on December 17th. The first rehearsal will be on Tuesday, November 14th, at St. John at 7:00 pm. Anyone interested in singing or playing an instrument, please contact Angie Pometto at 703-772-6866 or apometto@gmail.com.

<u>Lectors Needed – Christmas Concert</u>: This year's Christmas Concert will incorporate several Scriptural readings to tell the story of Jesus' birth. We need 3-5 lectors to share their gifts at this concert. Anyone interested in helping should contact Angie Pometto at apometto@gmail.com.

<u>Sharing Sunday</u>: Mark your calendars <u>the next Sharing</u> <u>Sunday</u> which will be <u>December 3rd</u>. Please bring nonperishable food items.

<u>Communal Penance Service:</u> Mark your calendar for our Communal Penance Service, Tuesday, December 5th, 2017 at 6:30 PM at St John's.

CONTACT & FOLLOW US AT:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

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Mailing address:

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Highland Springs, VA 23075

Office Phone number: 804-737-8028

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

<u>Visitation to the sick and homebound</u> – 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.

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

<u>The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults</u> (RCIA): The RCIA is the process where the Catholic Church welcomes new adult members into the Church. Adults wishing to learn more should contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton.

<u>Baptisms</u>: Baptisms are held the first Sunday during mass each month. Baptism class is required prior to Baptizing your first child. <u>The next class will be held on 1/7/18 at 1pm in the parish hall</u>. If you are interested in attending a class & scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner.