

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

April 23-24, 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 downstairs.

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.

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.

Message from our Pastor:

Happy Easter Everyone!!!! (It's still Easter)

I have a question for you? Why does Paul say in the second reading "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships in order to enter the kingdom of heaven?"

Notice that he did NOT say "it is *likely* we will undergo many hardships" or "it is *certain* we will undergo many hardships" but said "it is **NECESSARY** that we undergo many hardships" When he uses the word **NECESSARY**, he changes the phrase about hardships. He makes it so that hardships are not just random things that happen sporadically or even often, but

that they are *necessary* and thus seem to be providential (directed by the hand of God). They **NEED** to happen. It's not that they just happen and we have to put up with it, but it is actually necessary that they happen.

WHY? Nobody likes to think God make bad things happen. And certainly He does not. God loves us like a good Father and no good Father wishes bad for his kids. But God is an opportunist. If you don't know what that means, look it up.

God uses the chaos of the world, the pain, the suffering, even the evil, for his own good and ours. He makes beauty out of ugliness, good out of evil, grace through weakness...to put it more figuratively, he makes cherry pie out of mug, chocolate candy bars out...you get my point.

When Paul says it is **NECESSARY** that we (all people) undergo hardships, he is recognizing a fundamental fact about us. We **NEED** hardship in our lives. We **NEED** to struggle. We **NEED** to toil. If we don't, we are worse off.

Why? Because when we have too much of anything, too much money, too much food, too much time, too much popularity, too much whatever, we can't handle it...and we get into trouble...with our emotions, with ourselves, with our family.

We are weak. And when given too much, we can't handle the temptation and it always gets the better of us.

So Paul says it is **NECESSARY** to undergo hardships to enter the kingdom of God because hardships keep us walking the straight and narrow. Hardships keep us focus and striving, while luxury, too much, gives us too much of what we cannot handle.

And when I say God is an opportunist, I mean that He uses the chaos that has been brought into the world by the effects of original sin to make us better. He makes us beautiful, good, graced...cherry pies and chocolate candy bars.

It's better to struggle. Someone holy once told me that. And that has been the case in my life.
Fr. Rossi

Year to date budgeted: \$185,441.00

Year to date actual income: \$142,051.35

Current loss: \$43,389.65

April 2-3 attendance: 24/197

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

Town Hall Meeting on Finances: on Sunday, May 1st Mass we will have a town hall meeting in the basement to discuss the budget for the upcoming year. All are invited to attend. Some have asked to understand more about how the parish is doing financially. **I invite all who consider this your home to attend.** If this is our home then we must find a way to come up with a plan for spending for the next year. The preliminary budget shows a deficit of approximately \$43k (i.e. we are in the hole \$43k). Copies of the budget will be provided at the meeting."

Children's May Procession:

On Sunday 5-1-16 St. Patrick will continue with a long time tradition of having our Children's May Procession to honor our blessed mother. All children in the parish are invited & encouraged to participate. We will process up 25th street and into the church right before the beginning of mass. We will meet in the social hall at 10.15 am. We encourage the children wear white (girls) or white and black (boys) or their Sunday best for this special day. Please let Donna Baird know at 804.888.3470 or at donnahbaird@yahoo.com if your children plan to participate so enough flowers for can be purchased. We will have refreshments after mass to continue the celebration.

May is almost here, the month of Mary, our Blessed

Mother: You are invited to honor her by placing flowers from your garden on St. Patrick's Mary altar throughout the month.

Mother's Day Bruch: Join us after mass on 5/8/16 for our annual Mother's Day Bruch.

LOST & FOUND: is flooding over. Please check it after mass in the hall if you have lost an umbrella, jacket, scarf etc. This Sunday after mass ALL items unclaimed will be donated!

Outreach & Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

Lord, when did I see you hungry? St Patrick's, St. Peter's and St. John's are teaming together to feed our neighbors in need. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please contact, John Glynn: john@leadminepond.com. John will be heading up the St. Patrick's team of volunteers. One Wednesday each month we will be preparing food at St. Patrick's, delivering that food to St. Peter's, serving our guests and cleaning up afterwards. In this way we will encourage each other to live our faith.

MCV Hospital Ministry: I am very excited to see that we have 15 parishioners signing up for this new Ministry at MCV. A few parishioners have talked to me about this new ministry and are very excited in helping out. We will gather for a workshop at St. Patrick's on Saturday May 21 at 11:00am. This meeting will be about an hour. I will introduce you to the following: The Communion Rite of the Sick, proper manners involving entering into a patient's room, introduction to MCV and questions and answers. Please let me know if you are planning to come or if you can't make it. My email is padreop@verizon.net or you can call the office at 1-804-8028. Thanks you for volunteering in this much needed Ministry.

St. Peter's Food Pantry Needs Our Help: The food pantry over at St. Peter's Church is in need of non-perishables for their food pantry. Please bring items to the parish hall a table will set up a table for collection.

Faith Formation - Kathy Buttner

Bible Study: Meets on Thursdays at 10:30 am in the Social Hall downstairs.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

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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.