

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 26-27, 2015

Feast of the Holy Family

Mass times: Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 10:45am

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Message from our Pastor: *Today is the feast day of the Holy Family. The Holy Family is Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They were a family just like a regular family...except for the fact that the only child of the family was divine and the mother was perfect and the step-father was a saint...but otherwise they were just like any other regular old family. They are an example to us about what it means to be a family, how we are supposed to relate to one another in our family and what is our responsibility when it comes to family. They show us the respect that is due to parents by their children (if even Jesus was respectful and obeyed his parents they certainly all other kids should listen and obey their parents as well!). They show us how a mother should respect and honor her husband (I never heard Mary quoted in the bible criticizing Joseph :). They show us how a husband should lay down his life in sacrifice and protection and support for his wife (Joseph stayed off the recliner and did the honey-do list for his family).*

I love the holy family.

But if you are like 100% of other people, you probably have a, at least at times, an un-holy family...or maybe even a dysfunctional family. Family life today is more dysfunctional than it has been in a long time. All sorts of dysfunction have become so routine in their occurrence that it almost seems beyond redemption...almost.

But fear not. God has not abandoned the family. God loves the family. God comes to us through our family and we learn about God through the love we receive from our family.

Now I have to recognize that not everyone has had a good family life. Some had bad family lives just because they were given a bigger share of the cross, some have had bad family life because things just turned out that way, and some have had bad family life because they made it that way. Sometimes chaos comes even though we didn't invite it but sometimes it comes because we did.

I had a very very good home-life and have very very sacrificing parents, but life in the Rossi household was far from perfect. I can tell you that if you think I have problems now, if I would not have had the parents God generously gave me I would be way worse!!!

Nevertheless, no person, no matter how bad the home life, is beyond God's redemption. Many, many saints in the Church's history came from broken and dysfunctional families. Very often, these saints were motivated to overcome their unholy families and start new.

Thank God for your family today. Even if they were not perfect. Even if some were downright nothing but a pain. At some point, He provided you with some good. After all, He lead you to His Church where He dwells. You likely received Him in Holy Communion this very day. That just goes to show you that even in the midst of whatever chaos we may have come from, God works through it, regardless.

—Father Rossi

THANKS FOR 2015

Many thanks to all those involved in ministries, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, ushers, music ministers. To those that volunteer to clean the church, wash the altar linens, decorate and beautify the church for all the seasons inside and outside, count our offerings each week and all other "little" jobs for St. Patrick. To all the families of the parish that furnish food and time for the funeral lunches, to those who provide for all receptions and special occasions, to the Knights of Columbus, and all those that help during St Patrick Festival. To all the committed catechists who made the classes so wonderful for our kids. All these projects could not have been done without all of you. May we be granted the strength and will to do more in 2016! Fr. Rossi.

Today's Music:

Gathering: 572 – For the Beauty of the Earth

Psalm 84: "Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord"

Gifts: 783 – Sing of Mary

Communion 1: 629 – God is Love

Communion 2: 380 – What Child is This

Sending Forth: 343 – Joy to the World

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 the second Sunday every other month at 1 p.m. in the basement. The next class is January 10. Please contact Kathy Buttner if you are interested in attending the class and for scheduling your child's Baptism. Baptism information is on our website under the Sacraments tab. If you have additional questions, please contact the office.

Nursery: is available at our Sunday 10:45am mass every week downstairs in the social hall.

Rosary: Please join in saying the rosary each Sunday at 10:10am. There is also a need for more rosary leaders if interested. Contact Kathy Butner.

Confessions: Are offered each Saturday at 4:30pm in the confessional located at the front of the Church to the left...just come on in.

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.

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

PRAYER REQUEST: Please pray for the health of Father Alistair McKay who has been diagnosed with liver and lung cancer. Fr. McKay appreciates your prayers on his behalf. Cards may be sent to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at 314 Turner Road Salem Virginia 24153

From the Office of Vocations: "He gave power to become children of God." If you think you may be called to share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, call Father Michael G. Boehling, Vicar for Vocations, (804) 359-5661, or write: mboehling@richmonddiocese.org.

Epiphany Brunch: As we continue the celebration of the Christmas Season please join us next Sunday after mass for our annual Epiphany Bruch.

Faith Formation - Kathy Buttner

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

Outreach & Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

FOOD DRIVE: We will be collecting food items for Commonwealth Catholic Charities Food Pantry now through Epiphany Sunday. Donations can be left down in hall.

St. Francis Home Project - During January, we will be collecting linen items for St. Francis Home residents. Items needed are: comforters, twin bed sheets, pillow cases (white cotton preferred but not necessary), bath towels, hand towels, and washcloths. Check out the after-Christmas sales for these items. Contact Kathy Buttner for more information

Contact & Follow Us at:

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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.

Year to date budgeted: \$102,719.00

Year to date actual income: \$83702.75

Current loss: \$19,016.25

December 12-13 attendance: 37-184