

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 5-6, 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

Mass times:

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

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

WELCOME! To our newest member baptized this Sunday Aurelia Evelyn Opalak.

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: fmpr2009@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.

Today's Music:

Gathering: 318 – People Look East

Psalm: Psalm 123 “The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy.”

Gifts: 320 – The King Shall Come

Communion 1: 328 – My Soul in Stillness

Communion 2: 325 – Like a Shepherd

Sending Forth: 317 – O Come O Come Emmanuel

Message from our Pastor:

Happy Second Sunday of Advent! I am excited for Christmas and the coming of our Savior!

In addition to it being the Second Sunday of Advent, today is also the feast day of St. Nicholas (December 6).

That's right...Santa Claus!

Did you know that St Nicholas is actually a real person? He lived around 320 AD and was a Bishop. He was born a Catholic and had very wealthy parents. But his parents died when he was young, so he was raised by his uncle. He was very wealthy as he inherited his parent's wealth.

He was a very holy Bishop, extraordinarily generous and performed many miracles. One story about him was that he was at the Council of Nicaea in 325AD (which was an ecumenical council of the Church...Vatican II was the most recent ecumenical council ending in 1965), and actually slapped the leading opponent to the orthodox doctrine of the Church during the meeting! Oh the drama...

One thing St. Nicholas shows us by the witness of his life is the two-fold benefit of self-denial. St. Nicholas used to deny himself food on Wednesdays and Fridays, except for one meal. In exchange, he would give the money he would have spent to those in need. This has a two-fold effect. The first, the self-denial increased his love and zeal for God...he became more hungry for God. Second, he helped those in need and thus pleased God. All self-denial is able to accomplish these two goals, increase love for God and help those in need, thus pleasing God. It is very simple.

In today's terms, if you figure two meals cost about \$15, times twice per week (Wed and Fri), that's about \$30 extra we could give per week to whoever is in need, by adopting his habit. We receive the benefit of increasing our love for God and pleasing God. Also, as I have heard it said, we get to take anything we give away with us to Heaven.

So be sure to teach your loved ones about the real St. Nicholas. He might not come down your chimney, but he is Heaven showing you with the gift of his prayers, hoping we will follow his example and be with him there one day forever. - Father Rossi

Year to date budgeted: \$88,890.00

Year to date actual income: \$73,992.75

Current loss: \$14,897.25

November 28-29 attendance: 20-165

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

Feast of the Immaculate Conception:

Tuesday December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patron Saint of the USA, This is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will celebrate **Mass at 7 PM.**

Advent Reconciliation Service: Please join us Tuesday December 15, 2015 at 6:30 PM at St John's Parish for our Advent Reconciliation Service with individual confession.

2015 Christmas Concert: The concert will be on **December 18th at 7pm.** Contact music coordinator Bryce Miller at Pianoguy35@mac.com for more information.

Santa Breakfast: Our annual Santa Breakfast will be after mass on 12/13/15 in the church hall. Please join us in this annual tradition and bring a dessert to share during this great time of fellowship!

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: Are you seeking "knowledge and full insight to help you determine" your vocation in Christ as a priest, deacon or in consecrated life? Call Father Michael G. Boehling, Vicar for Vocations, (804) 359-5661, or write: mboehling@richmonddioocese.org.

Thank you to the Knight of Columbus: Members came & helped us by giving the church hall and kitchen a cleaning!

The Filipino Commission for the Diocese of Richmond & Filipino American community cordially invite you to the regularly scheduled Saturday Mass at 5:30pm, December 19, at St John's for Simbang Gabi (Mass at dusk) - a glimpse of a Philippine tradition 'to get ready for the most important historical event that affected humanity' as Father Rossi had noted... A reception at the Social Hall will follow the Mass for more Filipino fare.-

Church Cleaning Teams Needed: This past year we have had a wonderful response and a number of parishioners stepped forward to keep our Church clean and ready for Mass each week. We thank them all for their generous service to St. Patrick Church.

Now, it is time to get the schedule ready for 2016. With that, please consider volunteering to perform the weekly church cleaning for a month. It only takes an hour or so each week to sweep the floor, clean the pews and do some light dusting. You will be given a little training session and a key to the church. You can do the cleaning tasks according to your own availability, during the day or evenings.

When you come downstairs after Mass for our regular cake & coffee social please see the red covered folder providing a more detailed description of the cleaning tasks. It is located on the table by the left side of the hall along with the other notices, reading material, etc. Please contact me (John Lo Re) directly with any questions: johnjlore@gmail.com or by phone at 804-513-7173 (cell), 804-213-3620 (work) or 804-562-6645 (home).

Adult 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 – Commonwealth Catholic Charities:

We will be collecting food items for CCC Food Pantry now through Epiphany Sunday. Grab a bag with a food list on your way out of church today & bring it back with any of the items you are able donate.

Appalachian Giving Tree: The Knights of Columbus and St. Patricks will be collecting Christmas gifts for five Appalachian families in need. On the weekends of 11/29 & 12/6 there will be a tree set up in the vestibule please consider taking a tag to help provide for these families in need. **Gifts purchased need to be returned wrapped with the tag attached no later than 12/13/15.** Please consider helping out with this tradition of giving! Thank you.

Special THANK YOU from the Family Resource Center:

A special thank you to St. Patrick's for the generous donations & being able to provide families with meals for Thanksgiving. It was said that "A lot of folks are going to have a great Thanksgiving because of you guys at St. Patrick's!" Great job everyone!

Thank you from St. Francis Home: They wanted to thank us for providing the turkeys and food. The residents had a wonderful Thanksgiving because of it.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi: ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com

Father Danny Cogut: dcogut@richmonddioocese.org

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Mailing address:

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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.