

# ***Saint Patrick Catholic Church***

## ***February 20-21, 2016***

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

**Confession:** Saturday at 4:30pm

**Rosary:** Sunday at 10:10am

### **Message from our Pastor:**

“Our citizenship is in Heaven” – Second Reading this weekend.

Do you ever get sick of the way politics are going? Then you are like everyone else. According to the polls, most people think the country is headed in a bad direction. If you are unsatisfied, then you are like everyone else.

I am not a big TV person. I catch a movie once in a while when I go to my parent’s house or watch a little HGTV to get ideas on what I can do at the rectory. And I watch news (sometimes).

People are much more “political” than they used to be. I figure it’s because there are literally dozens of 24-hour news stations. And with so much other ‘garbage’ on TV, many people who want something at least partially intellectually stimulating tune into these news stations.

As such, every word, wink, laugh, shave and jab of someone in government is blown up into a national story because if you are going to have 24-hour news...you need to make news out of what would otherwise not be as significant in order to fill the time. It used to just be 60-minutes of news (hence the name of the tv show)...now its 24/7. As an aside, I wonder why they haven’t changed the name of that tv program?

And with all that reporting, we are bound to become discouraged occasionally, sometimes, a good bit of the time, often, continually because I can promise you that anyone scrutinized to the nth degree is going to show a lot of flaws...after all, they’re all human.

Nevertheless, allow me to share with you what consoles me when I am sick and tired of the way things are or the direction things are going. I simply remember that “our citizenship is in Heaven.”

My heart breaks over political issues and choices that are made. I wish that everyone would continually choose the good (as given us by God and His Son) and that all men and women would be lifted up in their mind, body and souls through their own efforts, through the sacrifices of their brothers and sisters, and mostly by the grace of God. But this does not seem to be occurring. People do not help themselves, other people often do not give of themselves to sacrifice for the other, and while God’s grace is being poured out, people are often not open to it.

While this is sad and can really make us discouraged...I have met and counseled many people who are in emotional turmoil over the state of things in the world/country...“our citizenship is in Heaven.”

Christians/Believers/Catholics do not belong to this world. Yes we try to make it more humane and reflective of the face of Christ while we are here, but ultimately we are not in our native homeland. We are in a strange and unknown land. We are migrant workers trying to get by. Our rest, our retirement, our place when we will finally be united with our family and have the peace of a home is in Heaven with God. In Heaven. When I think about Heaven, it makes me happy. I knew someone who once said, I can do anything that a little painful, as long as there’s an end in sight.

That is Heaven.

Lent is a time of detachment. Detach from control of our time (pray more), detach from the body ordering us around (fast more), detach from our desire for earthly security (give alms more). Detach especially from thinking human beings can fix the results of the fall of Adam. Nope, not gonna happen. Only by God and only in heaven. Good thing I have a passport. It’s got my picture on the front, but Jesus’ name and social security number on the inside. - Fr. Rossi

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**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.

**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.

**Today’s Music:**

Psalm 27 “*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*”

## **Community Life - Michelle Dawson**

**Irish Festival: We will have meetings every Sunday after 10:45 mass.** Join us! If you want to sign up to volunteer for festival signup sheets are down in the basement after mass.

**Tuesday Evening Faith Formation Lenten Series:** Join Fr. Danny for video & discussion about Vatican II and the Year of Mercy Tuesday at 6pm at St. Peter. This week's topics will be the council documents about the Church, Divine Revelation, and the Universal Call to Holiness. Please bring a snack/refreshment to share!

## **Faith Formation - Kathy Buttner**

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

**Stations of the Cross:** Will be led by the Bible Study group throughout lent at St. Patrick on Thursdays at noon. Please join us.

**40 Days for Life:** During Lent a group of St. Patrick parishioners will be saying the rosary & prayers in front of the abortion clinic at the corner of N. Boulevard & Grove Ave. each Thursday at 4:00 p.m. All are invited to join in. Our hope is to change minds and save lives by just being present for an hour a week! Call Jane Murphy if interested - 267-1935

**Best Lent Ever** - Have you signed up to participate in The Best Lent Ever program from Dynamic Catholic? If you did, how is it going? If you didn't, you can still sign up go to [DynamicCatholic.com/Lent](http://DynamicCatholic.com/Lent). Rather than giving up something, you can add something to your Lenten practice. You can get the book, Rediscover Jesus, for free (you pay shipping). If you signed up and would like to be in a group of St Patrick, St John, and St Peter Church members who are doing this program, please e-mail me in the next week or two at [kathybuttner@hotmail.com](mailto:kathybuttner@hotmail.com). I will gather all e-mail addresses I receive and we can add our thoughts about the topics addressed to our group only. I hope that you will consider participating if you already haven't signed up.

## **Children's Religious Education - Donna Baird**

Children's religious education classes are held the first three Sundays of each month from 9:45 AM to 10:30 AM. If you have questions, contact Donna Baird [donnahbaird@yahoo.com](mailto:donnahbaird@yahoo.com) or at 804.888.3470

**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](mailto:fmpjr2009@aol.com) or Ryland Paxton: [paxtonrl8229@mbc.edu](mailto: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 parish hall. The next class is March 13. 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.

**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.

**Contact & Follow Us at:** Facebook: SPChurchHill

### **Emails:**

**Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi:** [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)

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### **Mailing address:**

**St. Patrick's Church,** 813 West Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs, VA 23075

**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:** \$141,647.00

**Year to date actual income:** \$107,494.82

**Current loss:** \$34,152.18

**February 13-14 attendance:** 43-171

**Ash Wednesday:** 112