

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

November 28-29, 2015

First Sunday of Advent

Mass times:

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

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Message from our Pastor:

Happy Advent!!! It's NOT Christmas yet (although I fully encourage you to say Merry Christmas to every person you meet – even if you happen to see Bill Maher on the street somewhere).

What is Advent? In Advent we have two things to focus on: one, that we get ready for the most important historical event that ever affected humanity, namely that God became a man and was born of woman; two, that we expect and excitedly await for God to come back into the world at some future date.

Get ready! How do we get ready? While many will shop, listen to Christmas music, wear reindeer antlers, etcetera, Christians will do these things (at least some of them) but through a different motivation. Christians might shop, but they will do so because they are spurred on by the generosity of God who *gave* his Son to us...so therefore we give to others. Christians will listen to Christmas music, not simply as the common background tune of the season, but with a prayerful consideration of the words of those songs that say "Oh come, oh come Emmanuel." Christians might wear reindeer antlers but that's just because they are goofy – no spiritual meaning. ☺

Keep Christ in Christmas. Keep Christ in Advent. Everything the Christian does during the pre-Christmas season (Advent) is preparation for the great day of our salvation. We ask God to make our hearts a fitting place for the presence of His Son.

One of the most important ways we can make our heart a worthy place for this Infant is to go to Confession. Every single person in our pews has to go to confession this Advent...actually, you do not "have to," but it would be very good for you if you did. This is a special time of grace. We need the grace. Everyone needs the grace. Do not let Christmas come without having gone to receive the Sacrament of Confession.

We have an Advent reconciliation Service on December 15th at 6:30pm at St John where you can confess. We have confessions every Saturday before the Vigil Mass at St Pats and St John. We have confessions Monday-Friday at St Peter at 11:45am. There are confessions at every Catholic Church in Richmond. Google it. **Every Catholic does have to go to confession at least once per year in order to receive Holy Communion or if they have committed a mortal sin...but it is also good to go very often...the Pope goes every week or two and so does pastor ☺ Remember, everybody sins but only some confess.**

Have a great Advent!!! Please let us know what we can do for you. Remember, we three priests exist for you and to help you in need. We are very imperfect, but we nonetheless have become priests to offer ourselves in your service for God. Do not hesitate to demand our attention when you or your loved ones has a need. You may have to be a little pushy because we sometimes have a thick skull.

God Bless you! - Fr. Rossi

Today's Music:

Gathering: 317 – O Come O Come Emmanuel

Psalm: Psalm 25 "To you, O Lord, I Lift up my Soul"

Gifts: 337 – Creator of the Stars of Night

Communion 1: 328 – My Soul in Stillness

Communion 2: 320 – The King Shall Come

Sending Forth: 318 – People Look East

Year to date budgeted: \$84,793.00

Year to date actual income: \$71,266.00

Current loss: \$13,526.25

November 21-22 attendance: 74-179

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: "Strengthen your hearts in holiness." Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Call Father Michael G. Boehling, Vicar for Vocations, (804) 359-5661, or write: mboehling@richmonddiocese.org.

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: fmprj2009@aol.com or Ryland Paxton: paxtonr18229@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. Please take a moment to read about the examination of conscience at the website below. <http://www.ewtn.com/library/prayer/examconscience.htm>

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

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

Adult Faith Formation - Kathy Buttner

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

Outreach & Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

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 and 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.

SENIOR TRIP—Christmas Town at Busch Gardens Wednesday, Dec 16th. We will make the most of Christmas Town by seeing the lights and shows at Busch Gardens. Handicapped accessibility and assistance is available. **Need confirmed commitments no later than Sunday Nov 29th in order to purchase tickets.** Please contact Heather Coleman if interested heatherscoleman@yahoo.com or 804-310-9538.

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!

Contact & Follow Us at:
Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:
Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi: ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com
Father Danny Cogut: dcogut@richmonddiocese.org
Father Frank Wiggins: Padreop@verizon.net
Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org
Michelle: mjmvcu@aol.com
Donna: donnahbaird@yahoo.com
Kathy: kathybuttner@hotmail.com
Heather: heatherscoleman@yahoo.com
Bryce: pianoguy35@mac.com
Dave: dstull@stjohnscatholicchurch.org
Paulita: pmatheny@stjohnscatholicchurch.org
Mike: Mikenme2@verizon.net
Billie: billie.keating@capitalone.com

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.