

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

Welcome to our new members who joined our parish in August: Stephen & Julie Diegelmann, Niall & Jennie Duffy, Miss, Elizabeth Winslow, Ms. Barbara Lake, Kymberly Girard, & Robert Blanchard. If you are interested in joining the parish or need to check on your registration, please contact the office.

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 September 11 and the remaining class this year will be the second Sunday of 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.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (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.

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.

Church Support as of 9/4/2016

Weekly

<i>Actual</i>	\$5095.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	\$988.00

Year to Date

<i>Actual</i>	\$33,847.24
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$41070.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$7,222.76)

Attendance for 9/3 & 4/2016: 37/181

September 10-11, 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

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi: 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.

Message from our Pastor:

Hello all! I hope everyone had a great week this week. Last week in my pastor message I talked a lot of work, about labor.

This week I want to talk about vacation. Why? Because all of life is not supposed to be work...and plus I had a few days off this past week. I visited with my family and even got to go to the Outer Banks for a few days. It is very peaceful and relaxing there. I'm not big into sand and salt water...unless I am fishing in it (water)...but I enjoy watching the beauty of the ocean.

One thing that is amazing to think about is the beauty of God. There is a famous phrase in Christian history, "nemo dat quod non habet." That is latin for, "you cannot give what you do not have."

This is a fundamental maxim of the way things work. I cannot give you \$5 bucks if I don't have it. I cannot give you a cup of water if I don't have it. I cannot give you knowledge if I don't have it. I cannot give you wisdom if I don't have it. I cannot give you hope if I don't have it. This is an obvious statement of the way things are.

But what is amazing is when we apply this in a special way to God. God cannot give what He does not have. He couldn't give us life if He didn't have it to give...thus He must have tons of it since there's all these babies continually being born around the world. He couldn't give us wisdom unless He is already full of it...thus He must be pretty wise since He is continually giving us the right answer when we go to Him in prayer.

And very amazingly, He could not give us all the beautiful things that we continually see around us, if He did not already possess that beauty, firstly, inside Himself.

What I mean to say is: how did God design the ocean? How did He design the stars? How did He design the multitude of fish in the sea, or the tides, or the breaking of waves, etc? How did He create so much order and beauty if He didn't already have that beauty in Himself? He therefore, in order to create all that beauty, must have that beauty to give...since He, like everyone else, cannot give what He doesn't have.

God cannot give all that beauty that we see around us unless He Himself first possesses all that beauty within Himself.

So do me a favor: consider all the beauty in the world, and add it up, and then consider how beautiful that is...and that will give you some indication of just how beautiful God is!!!!

Just to clarify, when I say beauty, I'm not talking about being handsome (guy) or pretty (girl). I am talking about something more akin to when someone says of another person "he/she has a beautiful soul."

All the beauty in the whole world, better yet, the whole universe, is a dim intimation of the beauty that is contained in

God. Halleluiah! And heaven is where we stare into that beauty all day...it's way better than watching the ocean!

Now remember, I said I wanted to talk about vacation. What I want to say about vacation is that it is a supreme time to contemplate and consider things such as this. Everyone is busy and when rushing through the normal routine, it's hard to stop and think about things such as 'the beauty of God.' But those are the more important things to consider in life, thus vacation time is important.

But also important is a daily prayer routine. 30 minutes a day for all people, and 60 minutes a day when busy. Prayer time in the daily routine is absolutely essential for making space in the day to continually contemplate these higher things. And it is NOT a burden. Contemplating these higher things gives perspective, increases joy and separates a person from the stress of regular life.

Anybody ever stressed? Try vacation. Try prayer.

Have a great week everyone. Enjoy the graces!!! -Fr. Rossi

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

FAREWELL: Please join us after 10:45 mass for a reception to say good bye to Bryce Miller our music director of 11 years and wish him well on his new adventure in Virginia Beach at Star of the Sea Catholic Church. Congratulations Bryce we will miss you here at St. Patrick's!

Outreach & Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

Box Tops for Education: As school is about to start just a reminder that SPC along with the Knights of Columbus will collect "Box Tops for Education" for All Saints Catholic School. Every label collected the school receives 10 cents. That can really add up over time! Please collect and put in the small box downstairs by the mailboxes.

Faith Formation - Kathy Butner

Works of Mercy Bible Study: This blessed Year of Mercy will end in November, but, it is still timely to learn more about God's mercy and how we can be more merciful. How have you celebrated this year of Mercy? Are you ready to learn how you can incorporate the spiritual and corporal works of mercy in the rest your life? St. Patrick will be sponsoring a 6-week study for St. Patrick, St. Johns, and St. Peter based on the book, You Did It to Me, by Fr. Michael Gaitley. Studies will be held at St. Patrick on Wednesday night starting October 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the social hall. Classes will also be held at St. Johns in Highland Springs on Tuesday night starting Tuesday, September 27 at 6:30 p.m. The study is open to St Patrick, St John, and St Peter Churches. Please email Kathy Buttner at kathybuttner@hotmail.com. Registration forms will be available in all three churches in a couple of weeks.