

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

September 24-25, 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

Message from our Pastor:

Good day everyone! I hope everyone had a great week!

A couple things. First, last weekend our religious education program began for the current school year. We had a blessing for catechists and parents, and kids went forth to be educated in the principles and teachings of the faith.

I cannot say how important it is that we take seriously the education of our youth (and even of ourselves) in the principles of the faith. For youth, it is fundamental that the principles and central teachings of the faith (salvation only through Christ, the real presence of the Eucharist, the role of prayer and Mary and Saints, Heaven Hell and Purgatory, the Sacraments, the Trinity and so many of teachings...) be communicated into the minds and hearts of our kids. They provide the nutrients and fertilizer the grace they received at Baptism and will help them immensely as they go through life and face the challenge of becoming a virtuous Christian. It is no small task becoming a good person in any age, and especially within the current culture.

Additionally, we as adults should never feel that education is for the youth only. Bible studies, reading good Catholic books, praying with the scriptures, listening to podcasts or the daily readings and so many other things should always infiltrate the day of adult believers. If we don't stoke the fires of our faith, they will diminish and go out. And we will become lukewarm.

That is part of what Amos said in the first reading today. He is complaining about complacency. He says the people are "lying upon beds of ivory and stretched comfortably on their couches." And because of all these luxuries, they are "not made ill by the collapse of Joseph." Basically he is saying the world around them is going to heck, and they don't seem to mind since their lives are very comfortable. Ouch! That stings.

I like a nice fluffy pillow as much as the next person, but we always have to be careful that all the things God embellishes up with because of His love for us do NOT become a means to becoming complacent. We have to stay sharp! We have to stay alert to sins in the world, temptations in the culture, evil around us, and all the other things that God wants us to help eliminate from the world. If we get too comfortable, we won't feel much like doing anything about it. It's sort of like when we eat a half of pizza, all we want to do is lay around and not move because we are in a carb coma. God says to us, "don't do that!"

Have a great week everyone. Stay sharp. Stay focused on our mission as Christians. A good disciple is always ready to jump on an opportunity to serve God and the Church.

Peace!

- Fr. Rossi

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 November 13. 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.

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.

Community Life - Michelle Dawson

BLESSING OF THE PETS: If interested in having your pet blessed we are invited to join St. John's Catholic Church in Highland Springs on October 9 at 2 PM (rain or shine) on the front lawn. All animals welcome!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! To help at the St Patrick's Irish Coffee stand at **The Central VA Celtic Festival and Highland Games Saturday and Sunday Oct 22 & 23**. Must be 21 to make Irish coffee. A sign-up sheet will be downstairs in the church hall. This is a great way to get to know your fellow parishioners outside church and have fun doing it! See Michelle Dawson or Heather Coleman.

40 Days for Life: From 9/28 through 11/6, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and to pray peacefully during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside the Planned Parenthood at 201 N. Hamilton Street, Richmond, VA, 23221, for one or more hours during the 40-day prayer vigil, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Ann Niermeyer, 804-714-5170, atniermeyer@aol.com. All are welcome! To learn more visit www.40daysforlife.com

Faith Formation - Kathy Butner

Works of Mercy Bible Study – Registration Form Available: 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. Please email Kathy Buttner at kathybuttner@hotmail.com with questions.

Outreach/Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

Coat Drive: The Knight of Columbus will be collecting Coats for Kids the first two Sundays in October. (10/ & 10/9) Please consider a donation of a new or like new child's coat. Coats collected will benefit local children in need. There will be a box in the social hall for collection.

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.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

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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.

Church Support as of 9/18/2016:

Weekly

Actual \$1,746.91

Budgeted \$4,107.00

Difference (\$2,360.09)

Year to Date

Actual \$39,687.54

Budgeted \$49,284.00

Difference (\$9,596.46)

Attendance for 9/17 & 18/2016: 33/113