

# Saint Patrick Catholic Church

**December 3-4, 2016**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

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

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

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

**Nursery:** Available at 10:45 mass

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome to our newest members being baptized this Sunday Cora-Ashley Lorraine Kaplan and Emmett Ignatius Braun.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ST PATRICK INCREASED OFFERTORY PROGRAM

### "Honor the Lord with your wealth." Proverbs 3:9

This week each parishioner should have received a letter discussing our increased offertory campaign here at St Patrick. We are encouraging folks to give God a raise by increasing their weekly giving by 20%, from \$10 a week to \$12 a week, from \$50 a week to \$60 a week, etc. In conjunction with this effort, **we request that you to consider utilizing an easier way to support our parish through Electronic Giving.**

Electronic giving is an easy automatic way to support our community by automatically giving your "first-fruits" right off the top. Once you setup your weekly amount online, it transfers weekly to the parish in a secure manner. It is a better and more efficient way of giving, saves our staff time and reduces costs. Plus it saves you from having to write a check or worry about carrying cash. Please visit [www.saintpatrickchurchhill.org](http://www.saintpatrickchurchhill.org) and click the link in the upper right corner to register. Also contact the parish office at 804-737-8028 if you would like help with signing up.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Message from our Pastor:

*Happy Advent everyone! I hope everyone had a great week as we speed along to welcome our Savior's coming to us this Christmas. That is what Advent is for.*

*Advent is a time to double-down on our love for God, to become excited for the most wonderful event that ever happened to us, to get ready to receive the greatest gift we will every receive at Christmas, the birth of God in a man, the birth of Jesus.*

*Jesus is the reason for the season. All the joy and happiness we experience this season as we look forward to Christmas would all be shallow, empty and ultimately end in utter disappointment if it were not backed up by the God's love for humanity as shown by Him taking on human flesh.*

*Jesus is the best gift, the gift that keeps on giving, the gift that will never be outdone.*

*But since it is his birthday, we should get him something. It is rude to go to a birthday party and be empty-handed.*

*But what do you get a guy who can do anything, who can make a planet from nothing, who has millions of angels at his every beck and call, who rides on clouds, wears a diamond crown and lives in a mansion made of gold (as Revelation tells us)?*

*There is one thing God wants for Christmas from each of us. He can deal with the stinky manger he had to put up with when he was born. He can deal with the insects, the farm animals, the hay he had to lay on. None of that would turn him off or stop him from coming.*

*But there is one thing that will hinder him coming this Christmas. There is one thing that will slow him in coming among us...and it has nothing to do with these physical, external discomforts...*

*The only thing that can hinder God coming among us this Christmas are unprepared hearts.*

*Unprepared hearts are unwelcoming...and they are the only thing God is slow to enter.*

*Alternatively, we can prepare our hearts with relative ease. God takes even our smallest efforts at trying to become ready and says "good enough, here I come!!!"*

*We can spend a little more time in prayer. We can read the daily readings from Mass. We can attend daily Mass occasionally. We can be a little more generous with our wealth. These are all good things that we can intentionally do to prepare for God's coming this Christmas, all of which He greatly delights in.*

*But the best thing I can think of to do, in order to prepare our hearts for Christmas, is go to Confession with a priest. Confession, like no other thing, makes our hearts a dwelling for God.*

*God understands our struggle in the world, after all, he lived it as well. That is why he gave us a way to start over, to calm our hearts from the stresses of this life by confessing our sins.*

*There are tons of places to confess this Advent. We have confessions every Saturday 4:30pm at St Patrick and St John, every day 11:45am at St Peter, as well as anytime, just ask a priest.*

***We also are having a penance service at St John on Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm with multiple priests to hear confessions.***

*I have never met a person who regretted going to confession. It is very good for us, for our hearts.*

*Get ready. He is coming.*

- Fr. Rossi

## **Community Life - Michelle Dawson**

**Santa Breakfast:** Will be on December 18<sup>th</sup> after 10:45 mass. Please join us for this long time tradition!

**2017 Christmas Concert:** Please join us for the 2017 Christmas Concert, which will be held at St. Patrick Church on Friday, December 9th, at 7:30 pm.

The concert will highlight a combined choir with vocalists and instrumentalists from St. John, St. Patrick, and St. Peter. Several solos and ensembles will also perform along with a children's choir. You and your families are invited to join us for a night of Christmas music as we prepare to welcome our infant Savior. For more information, please contact Angie Pometto at apometto@gmail.com.

**Calling our Parish Bakers:** We are going to host a dessert reception after the 12/9 Christmas Concert. Please consider donating a baked good to be enjoyed. Please let Michelle Dawson or Eddie Baird know what you are bringing.

**A Great Big THANKS:** Thanks to everyone who donated turkeys and hams to the St. Francis home. 13 turkeys and 2 hams were delivered the Sunday before Thanksgiving. They were truly appreciated.

**Christmas Time Tradition:** Gifts must be returned by 12/11 if you took a tag off the Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree for families of Appalachia.

**Neighborhood Holiday Happenings:** So many things happening in our community up in Church Hill for the holidays the Church Hill Association wanted us to share with our parish community so we could take part in and enjoy. The weekend of December 9-11<sup>th</sup> there will be a Candlelit Walk, Holiday Party, and Home Tour. More information can be found on their website at www.Churchill.org.

**Simbang Gabi - Mass at dusk:** The Filipino Commission for the Diocese of Richmond in coordination with the parish' Council of Women and Knights of Columbus cordially invite you to the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, December 17, at St John's second year Simbang Gabi (Mass at dusk). A reception at the Social Hall will follow for a light fare and featuring Sayaw Diversity Group to perform a collection of Philippine dances.

**Communal Advent Penance Service** will be at St. John's on 12/6/16 at 6:30pm.

**Seeking a Volunteer:** The parish is seeking someone to chair the flower and decorating ministry at St. Patrick. This is a very rewarding ministry. Please contact Eddie Baird at 804.986.2898 if you are interested and to learn more

**Senior Trip:** Trolley Light Tour Tuesday Dec. 13th leaving the church at 6:30 PM. If you would like to go on this trip please contact Heather Coleman by Sunday Dec 4th to reserve your seat. Thanks!

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

**THANK YOU!** To all who supported the children's religious education project last Sunday – Thank you! They raised 144.00 from their candy sales and will be donating to The Little Sisters of the Poor and the Poor Clare Sisters.

## **Contact & Follow Us at:**

### **Emails:**

**Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi:** ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com

**Father Ernest Bulinda:** livasia@gmail.com

**Father Frank Wiggins:** Padreop@verizon.net

**Office:** office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

**Angie Pometto:** apometto@gmail.com

**Michelle Dawson:** mjmvacu@aol.com

**Donna Baird:** donnahbaird@yahoo.com

**Kathy Buttner:** kathybuttner@hotmail.com

**Heather Coleman:** heatherscoleman@yahoo.com

**Dave Stull:** dstull@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

**Paulita Matheny:** pmatheny@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

**Mike Treadwell:** Mikenme2@verizon.net

**Billie Keating:** 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

**BULLETIN:** All bulletin submissions must be in to Michelle Dawson the Tuesday at noon before the bulletin goes out.

**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.

**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 1/8/17. 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@marybaldwin.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 11/27/2016:**

### **Weekly**

<i>Actual</i>	\$1,909.50
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$4,107.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$2,197.50)

### **Year to Date**

<i>Actual</i>	\$72,679.55
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$90,417.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$17,737.45)

Attendance for 11/26 & 27/2016: 28/156

\*\*\*\*\*

***Holy Communion - this is a reminder that Holy Communion in the Catholic Church is reserved to actively practicing Catholics. If you are not Catholic or have been actively practicing your faith, then please refrain from receiving Communion. If you would like to learn how to be welcomed to full Communion we would love to help. All you need to do is contact a priest. Our contact info is in this bulletin."***