

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 16-17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

Mass times:

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

Nursery: Available at 10:45 mass

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Confession:

Saturday at 4:30 pm or by appointment.

Christmas Masses

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

DECEMBER 24 at 6:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

DECEMBER 25 at 10:45 AM



Communion Meditation Song

“God with Us”

Verse 1: You are higher than all of our questions, you are deeper than all of our needs, wider than all that we can imagine; you are greater than anything.

Verse 2: You are stronger than all of our burdens, you are sweeter than all of our dreams, closer than all the air that surrounds us; you are greater than anything.

Refrain:

You are holy, Holy God Almighty, God with us.

You are holy, Holy God Almighty, God with us.

God with us.

Verse 3: You bring joy into all of our sadness, you bring peace into all of our pain, shining light into all of our darkness; you are greater than anything.

Bridge: Ever before us and ever beside us, ever above us and ever behind us, ever around us and ever within us, and always God



Message from our Pastor:

A few things today.

First, this is Guadete Sunday. It means ‘rejoice.’ You will see the priest wearing rose colored vestments as a sign of our subdued celebration and excitement for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We are still in the season of Advent. We are not in the Christmas season yet but we rejoice at what is coming to us on that great day. It is only a week or so away!!!

Second, a big thank you to all the staff and volunteers who have been doing so much to make our season so special. From the breakfasts with Santa, to the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations, to the decorating, to the Simbang Gabi celebration, to the Christmas concerts and all the other events that make this season so special. Thank you for your generous hearts!!

Finally, during Advent at each of the parishes, I have been preaching about one topic. I hope you remember what that topic is. It is CONFESSION. The sacrament of Reconciliation is the absolute best way to prepare spiritually for the grace that God is going to extend to us on Christmas day. If our hearts are hard because of sin (and remember, everyone sins), then the grace of Christmas will bounce off us like rubber against a stone. If we confess our sins it softens our hearts and makes room in them for God’s presence. Remember, every Catholic has to go to confession at least one time per year (at least) and when conscious of a mortal sin BEFORE they can receive Holy Communion. And Advent is a great time to go. So GO. Especially if you have been away, I can absolutely promise you will feel so much better after you go. You will feel like a giant weight has been lifted off your shoulders. The longer it’s been, the more it will feel like a weight has been removed. The bigger the sin you are afraid to confess, the more it will feel like a weight has been removed. Look in the bulletin for confession times or call any Catholic Church. No one can force you to go, it is your responsibility. Do you want to have a spiritually significant Christmas or just a material one?

Happy Advent. We have only a week left to prepare for Christmas.

- Fr Rossi



Church Support as of 12/10/17

Weekly

Actual	\$4,781.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,221.00</u>
Difference	\$560.00

Year to Date

Actual	\$82,029.00
Budgeted	<u>\$97,083.00</u>
Difference	(\$15,054.00)

Attendance for December 9 = 17/December 10th =186

News & Announcements:

St. Patrick Christmas Concert: All are invited to attend the annual Christmas Concert at St. Patrick on Sunday, December 17, at 4:00 pm. The concert will feature the combined choir from St. John, St. Patrick, and St. Peter; the children's Schola and St. Gregory Choir; as well as several soloists and ensembles. Along with music, the story of Christmas will be proclaimed. Come join us as we journey to the manger of Bethlehem with the kings, shepherds, angels, and, of course, Joseph and Mary. O Come, let us adore him! Jesus, who is Christ, the Lord!

Sharing Sunday: Mark your calendars **the next Sharing Sunday which will be January 7th.** Please bring non-perishable food items.

Thank you: The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all of those who took part in the Appalachian Giving Tree. Your generosity was overwhelming. It will help brighten the hearts of the four families we helped during the Christmas Season. Thank you.

HELP: Help is needed to transform our sanctuary on Christmas Eve from one of anticipation, preparation, and waiting during Advent to one of celebration, festivity and excitement for the much-awaited birth of our Savior on Christmas morning. There will be wreaths to hang, trees to decorate, flowers to arrange and the setup of our special nativity to complete this year, we must have all in place for the celebration of the 6:00 pm Mass. We will be tackling our task on **Sunday, 12/24 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm**, so if you have any time, no matter how short, we welcome all who would like to help. Thank you! Contact Enza McCauley at enzamccauley@gmail.com.

Church Envelopes are Ready for Pick up: Your envelopes are ready to be picked up in the basement. There are arranged in alphabetical order. If you can't find your set, please contact the office so we can update your information and mail the envelopes to you. Thank you.

Calendars: St. Patrick's calendars 2018 are ready to be picked up in the basement. Please take one per family.

Volunteer: Please consider volunteering one hour each week for a month to help keep St. Patrick Church clean for Saturday/Sunday Masses. It is easy to learn and fun to do. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Church Foyer. Please call me, John Lo Re 804-513-7173 with any questions and thank you.

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 contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton.

Baptisms: Baptisms are held the first Sunday during mass each month. Baptism class is required prior to Baptizing your first child. **The next class will be held on 1/7/18 at 1pm in the parish hall.** If you are interested in attending a class & scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner.



Contact & Follow us at:

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Office Phone number: 804-737-8028

SPC Emergency #: 804-402-1221 - If someone is dying or has died & you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.

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.

Bulletin: All bulletin submissions must be emailed to Michelle Dawson **the Tuesday prior by noon.**