

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 24-25, 2015

Fourth 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:

Hello, my name is Fr. Rossi and I am pastor here at St. Patrick.

First let me say Merry Christmas to you and all your loved ones. This is a glorious day we celebrate where the life of God is once more offered to humanity through the gift of His Son.

I recognize that at Christmas time, we often have many guests who visit our parish. Thank you for coming.

There's a saying, 'once a Catholic, always a Catholic.'

I want everyone to know that no matter who you are or what your story is, I would like to have you come and worship with us on a regular basis.

If you are not Catholic, or have fallen away, I want you to know we have many ways to welcome you into Christ's Church here at St. Patrick. We have a dynamic and growing community here.

Please consider emailing myself or one of the priests if you would like more information on how to become more involved in Church life. Or just show up. I know God has a message for you and He would like to share it with you through His household of faith.

God Bless you. Have a wonderful celebration of this glorious embrace by God. - Fr. Rossi

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.

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: fmpjr2009@aol.com or Ryland Paxton: paxtonrl8229@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.

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.

Christmas Eve Music:

Gathering: 341 – O' Come All Ye Faithful

Psalm: Psalm 96 "Today is born our savior, Christ the Lord."

Gifts: 352 – Silent Night

Communion 1: 380 – What Child is This

Communion 2: 363 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

Communion 3: 353 – Away in a Manger

Sending Forth: 343 – Joy to the World

Christmas Day Music:

Gathering: 341 – O' Come All Ye Faithful

Psalm: Psalm 96 "Today is born our savior, Christ the Lord."

Gifts: 377 – The First Noel

Communion 1: 380 – What Child is This

Communion 2: 363 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

Communion 3: 353 – Away in a Manger

Sending Forth: 343 – Joy to the World

If you have been away from the Catholic Church or would like to become Catholic

If you have been away from the Catholic Church, the simplest way to come back into communion with the Church is to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). There are regular times when the Sacrament is offered each week and where you can discuss your situation with a priest regarding anything that may be stopping you from practicing the faith (i.e. separation, divorce, etc.) Please contact a priest for more detail (emails are on this bulletin). It is required of all Catholics that they be in full communion with the Church, including making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least annually, to receive Holy Communion at Mass. Please take these steps before presenting oneself for Holy Communion.

If you are not Catholic and would like to learn about the Catholic faith and how you might be invited to the Altar of God, we have a flexible program of instruction and dialogue that allows for you to learn about the faith and ask any questions you might have. If you would like to learn more about this program and how it might fit your needs, please email one of the priests and we will be sure to connect you with the right person. Please note that only actively practicing Catholics are permitted to receive Holy Communion in the Catholic Church.

Top 10 Reasons to Come Back to the Catholic Faith or to Become Catholic (in no particular order)

10. The Bible – the most read book in the world is the Bible. God’s holy word and message to every human. The bible was compiled by the Catholic Church and is faithfully interpreted within its storehouse. If you want to read God’s love letter to you, come and hear it proclaimed in the Catholic Church.

9. The Priesthood and consecrated life – God calls many men to be priests and many women to be religious sisters. These people are like magnifying-glasses for God in the world. They walk around and simply by their presence, by the funny clothes they wear, they remind us that God exists and is present in the world. They are here at the Catholic Church.

8. The Pope – God gave us a special intermediary to speak to us and guide us here on earth. He is the leader of the Catholic Church, the Pope. He is the successor to St. Peter to whom Jesus said “Upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of hell will never prevail against it.”

7. All the Sacraments – God gave us special privileged encounters where we can be assured, without a doubt, of His presence and power. These are called Sacraments. There are seven of them and they are all available only in the Catholic Church.

6. The Holy Family – family life is very important. It is often called the building block of society. But now-a-days it seems like the common understanding of the family is being eroded. Nevertheless, God still believes in the family and draws people to himself in the family. In the Catholic Church, we look to the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary and Joseph - of how family life can be a blessing even in the midst of difficulty.

5. Saints – is it hard to live a good Christian life? YES! Is it impossible to live a good Christian life? Absolutely NOT! Many many people have lived a good Christian life. They are called Saints (they are the people on the windows in the Church). We learn about and celebrate the birthdays of the Saints all year in the Catholic Church.

4. Morality – doesn’t it seem that just about every person on TV or with a degree thinks they can define and determine what is right and wrong, what is human and inhumane, good and evil? Instead of chaos, disagreement and ambiguity, God gave a place where we can always get the answer, where his truth can be known. It is in the teachings of the Catholic Church. They are a roadmap for life, for a joyful life...or you can just listen to Oprah ☺

3. Mary – did you know that you have a spiritual mother who loves you and who prays for you? Her name is Mary. She is the mother of Jesus and through his humanity and divinity has become our mother. She prays continually for the world, and Jesus is a good boy who listens to His mother ☺. We love and honor her in the Catholic Church.

2. Confession – every single person in the world, from the Pope to the homeless guy on the street, is a sinner and needs forgiveness. Nobody goes to heaven unless they receive Mercy from God. God forgives 10, 20, 30, 50 years of sins in a few moments in the confessional when someone confesses their sins to Christ in the presence of His minister the priest. But only in the Catholic Church.

1. The Eucharist – God did not abandon the world after He made it. Nor, did he leave it when His Son ascended to Heaven. God is here. Right in this Church in the gold box at the front of the Church; the tabernacle. Jesus Christ is fully present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist that Catholics genuflect to when they enter the pew and that they consume each week at Mass. You should see what it’s like to consume God and have Him inside of you. It’s the best thing in the world.

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 and you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.