Saint Patrick Catholic Church October 31-November 1, 2015 Solemnity of All Saints

Mass times:

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

Confession: Saturday at 4:30pm **Rosary:** Sunday at 10:10am

Message from our Pastor:

Next week is an election week. In anticipation of the coming elections, our Bishop has given us **very important guidance**. I include a summary below:

When Pope Francis spoke to Congress in September he told members, "You are called to defend and preserve the dignity of your fellow citizens in the tireless and demanding pursuit of the common good, for this is the chief aim of all politics."

He further encouraged legislators and "the entire people of the United States" to use "the Golden Rule" (MT 7:12) as their guide..."Let us treat others with the same passion and compassion with which we want to be treated" The Holy Father continues "The Golden Rule also reminds us of our responsibility to protect and defend human life at every stage of its development."

There are three responsibilities of every Catholic: staying educated about important issues, engaging in year-round advocacy by communicating what is important with public officials, and voting.

On Tuesday, November 3, Virginia voters will elect all state Senators and Delegates in the Virginia General Assembly.

But before voting, we must form our consciences, guided by the consistent social doctrine of our Faith.

Three points should guide our conscience formation.

 Respect and defend the sanctity and dignity of every human life, marriage and family and God's creation. "Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible, and a right to access to those things required for human decency – food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, freedom of religion and family life." Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, para. 49. 2. Recognize that not all issues have equal moral weight. Some issues involve questions of intrinsic evil, actions that are always wrong and always incompatible with love of God and neighbor and natural law. "[T]he moral obligation to oppose intrinsically evil acts has a special claim on our

consciences and our actions." Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, para. 37. Intrinsically evil actions include abortion, euthanasia, research that destroys human embryos, genocide, racism, torture and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, and offenses against natural law, including redefining marriage, an institution founded as the union of one man and one woman. Issues involving other human rights, such as the right to food, shelter, health care and the right to migrate, for instance, require us to act and call for us to apply our prudential judgment to determine how best to resolve them.

3. Give highest priority to the fundamental right to life. The direct and intentional destruction of innocent human life from the moment of conception until natural death is always wrong and is not just one issue among many. This right to life must have first claim on our consciences. The clearest example is abortion. Each year, abortion claims more than a million lives in the U.S. and tens of thousands of lives in Virginia alone.

We pray that all of us will embrace our heritage as faithful Catholics and Americans and let our Church's consistent moral principles guide us in the voting booth on November 3 and as we encounter the world in the public square. -*Father Rossi*

Today's Music:

Gathering: 474 – Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord, God Almighty

Psalm: Psalm 24 "Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face."

Baptismal Acclamation: 245 – You Have Put on Christ

Gifts: 582 - Song Over the Waters

Communion 1: 504 – I Have Loved You

Communion 2: Child of Wonder by Marty Haugen

Sending Forth: 442 – Sing With All the Saints

October Monthly Budget Goal: \$12,916.66 **Collection thru 10/25:** \$10,533.28 **October 24 - 25 Attendance:** 40 /145 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: <u>fmpjr2009@aol.com</u> or Ryland Paxton: <u>paxtonrl8229@mbc.edu</u>.

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 November 8. 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.

<u>Nursery</u>: is available at our Sunday 10:45am mass every week downstairs in the social hall.

<u>Rosary:</u> Please join in saying the rosary each Sunday at 10:10am. There is also a need for more rosary leaders if interested.

Confessions: Will be offered each Saturday at 4:30pm in the confessional located at the front of the Church to the left...just come on in. Please take a moment to read about the examination of conscience at the website below. http://www.ewtn.com/library/prayer/examconscience.htm

<u>Visitation to the sick and homebound</u> – 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

Celtic Games: Huge thank you for those who came out last weekend and worked the Irish Coffee Booth! It was a great success & proceeds will come back to SPC!

Young Adults: St. John's Episcopal invites you to a Young Adult Community Sunday 11/8/15 at 5-7pm. Free – although donations are welcome!

Veteran's Day Lunch: Please join us after 10:45 mass for lunch honoring all our veterans.

2015 Christmas Concert: The concert will be at St. Patrick's on Friday, December 11 at 7pm. Contact music coordinator Bryce Miller at Pianoguy35@mac.com for more information.

Adult Faith Formation - Kathy Buttner

Bible Study: Meets on Thursdays at 10:30 am in the Social Hall downstairs.

Outreach & Social Ministry - Heather Coleman

<u>CARITAS</u>: This year St. John has committed to hosting 35-40 men starting November 7 thru November 14st. We will need MANY VOLUNTEERS to help ensure that this event will be a success. We will be need, cooks, transport guests to the Y, stay overnight, load and unload cots. Think about it! What can you do to help with this great outreach program? Do you have any talents you can offer these men? For more information or questions please contact the office.

Walk for Life – Father Wiggins will be taking part in the Walk for Life in support of the Tri-Cities Pregnancy Center on 11/14. He is asking for sponsors for this event. There will be someone at each mass this weekend & next collecting donations. Checks can be made payable to Pregnancy Support Center. He thanks everyone for their support.

Contact & Follow Us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

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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.