

# SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

**September 1 - 2, 2017**

**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

**Confession:** Saturday: 4:30 pm or  
by appointment.

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

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

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

*Monday was the feast day of St Augustine. St Augustine was one of the most (if not the most) influential theologians in the Church's history. He was prolific in his work.*

*The world needs St Augustine today. Why?*

*Because the world, especially western culture, is entirely caught up in the same terrible thing that ruled St. Augustine during most of his younger life, lust.*

*Lust is an 'inordinate indulgence in the carnal pleasure experienced through human organs of generation.' Lust is not what married couples participate in. Lust is inordinate, excessive, misdirected, uncontrolled.*

*Allow me to share some terrifying statistics about lust today and what it leads to.*

*The average age when a person first views pornography during their life is 11 years old. Parents tend to be naïve to this fact, but most children lose their innocence very early. By the time they become adults, they are addicted. 70% of men 18-24 visit pornography sites regularly. 47% of Christian families say pornography is a problem in their home. And over 50% of marriages that fail say pornography was a significant factor.*

*Pornography aids and encourages excessive and misdirected carnal desire. I have read studies that liken its addictive affects (and how it 'rewires the brain') to that of heroin. It creates images in the brain that cannot be forgotten, destroys creative ability, obliterates intimacy with God impossible (blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God) and supports a perverse industry larger than pro-baseball, pro-football, and pro-basketball combined.*

*This 'inordinate' desiring (excessive, misdirected) from such a young age results in other inordinate behavior.*

*Most youth have intercourse when they are only 16 or 17, with many much earlier. Many public schools encourage this by providing contraceptives free from the school nurse. Many parents encourage it by providing birth control to their children, which encourages more bad behavior, more promiscuity, more lust and ultimately other deviant behavior affecting them and the babies with whom they eventually become impregnated. 50% of people who have abortions say they are having one because their artificial birth control failed. Abstinence, God's way, is the only method of birth control that is 100% effective and completely maintains a person's purity.*

*In regards to the consequences of this lust, those who do not abort but keep the child (the godly decision) still have a very hard road ahead. Approximately 40% of babies born today are to a single parent household (single mothers). Men who have not committed to marriage abandon these women who are left, usually in poverty, to care for their child. I recently read a study that the single most important thing a person can do to break the cycle of poverty is to not have children out of wedlock...to wait until they are married. Single parent families have a poverty rate 6 times higher than married two-parent families. Said otherwise, marriage drops the probability of child poverty by 82%. Single parent statistics are even worse in minority communities (70% in black, 53% in Hispanic communities). We cannot end poverty until we restore the family. And lust destroys the family.*

*TV, internet, Hollywood, social media, cloths, advertisements, moral laxity, permissiveness, fear of being labeled 'old-fashioned', fear of being a social outcast, all allow lust to dominate the culture. And people follow culture. We need St. Augustine. St Augustine was a man who was entirely caught up in the addictions and slaveries of lust. But through a soul-searching heart and a glorious outpouring of grace from God he was converted and eventually became a fierce champion of chastity and purity.*

*We need more like him. – Fr. Rossi*

## CHURCH SUPPORT AS OF 8/20/17

### Weekly

Actual	\$2,211.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,221.00</u>
Difference	(\$2,010.00)

### Year to Date

Actual	\$24,736.93
Budgeted	<u>\$33,768.00</u>
Difference	(\$9,031.07)

**Attendance for August 19 (no report) August 20 = 130**

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### Special Collection for the victims of Hurricane

Harvey in Texas: We will be taking a collection on September 10<sup>th</sup> for the victims of Hurricane Harvey. The special collection will support the humanitarian efforts of the Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted Catholic dioceses. Cash is always accepted however if you want to write a check make it out to St. Patrick Church with a notation in the memo Catholic Charities USA/Texas. Then we will send one check to them. You can also donate directly to at catholiccharitiesusa.org.

Religious Education Registration: It's time to register your children for Religious Education 2017/2018. Classes will be held on Sunday mornings at St. Patrick's from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM beginning in the fall. Please see Donna Baird after mass for the registration forms or send her an email at donnahbaird@gmail.com. Fees for this year are: First Reconciliation/First Communion classes - \$50 per child; general enrollment - \$30 per child. Deadline for registration is September 2nd/3rd. If your child is preparing for First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, full participation in St. Patrick's Religious Education is required including attendance at all scheduled classes and as well as weekly mass. Looking forward to another great year!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: There is a need for volunteers to help with religious education for this upcoming year. No experience is necessary but VIRTUS training is required & will be provided. Please contact Donna Baird for more information at [donnahbaird@yahoo.com](mailto:donnahbaird@yahoo.com).

Bible Study: Please join the St. Patrick Bible Study that will be starting up again on September 7. The group meets every week at 10:30 am downstairs in the church hall. This is a great group who are interested in learning more about the Bible story and our faith. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Buttner.

Church Cleaning: We have a team covering every month except December. Please consider contacting John Lore at 804-513-7173 or johnjlore@gmail.com with any questions about it and to volunteer.

Walk for Life: Again I am walking for life on Saturday 9/23/17. The walk is sponsored by The Pregnancy Center of the Tri-Cities. I will again walk for 2 miles. Last year, St. John's, St. Patrick's and St. Peter's were very generous in sponsoring me for the amount of 2,000.00 dollars. I hope and pray that you will be as generous this year as you have been in the past. Next week there will be someone at each mass that will collect your gift towards this project. Thanks, for your generosity. - Fr. Wiggins

Sharing Sunday: Mark your calendars for **the next Sharing Sunday which will be October 1st.** Please bring non-perishable food items. We donate those to our local food bank.

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 Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton.

Baptisms: Baptisms are held at mass the first Sunday of the month. Baptism class is required prior to Baptizing your first child. **The next class will be held on 11/5/17 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:

**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.

**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.

**Follow the Richmond Diocese:** Because our Faith keeps us strong and filled with JOY, we want to share it with you every day. Like us on **Facebook** and Follow us on **Twitter** for inspirational daily messages and the latest happenings with our Pope, Bishop, priests, seminarians, lay ministers, youth, events and general news about the Diocese. Join us in prayer and service. **Facebook** @RichmondDiocese and **Twitter** @RichmondDiocese