

# SAINT PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

**August 5-6, 2017**

## **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord**

**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

**Congratulations to our newest  
members baptized Sunday –  
Raegan Mae and Matthew Adam.**

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## **MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:**

*Dialogue' is a popular word these days. It is a word very commonly used in intellectual and academic circles.*

*To put it very simply, consider the way we were educated (most of us). We usually went into a classroom and the teacher, who had advanced learning, had gone to college and received a degree that certified they had obtained a certain amount of knowledge, would teach us. The teacher would stand at the front and tell us, the younger people who were less knowledgeable about the subject, all they knew about the subject. They knew more and so what they had to say was important and we as the students would listen (or were at least expected to listen) and take notes. And then one day once we have studied enough then maybe we could get a certification of our own knowledge and maybe even be in a position where we could teach others who at that point had less knowledge than ourselves. And that's sort of the way education works. Teachers teach.*

*Now consider a different way of education. All the students file in the room and the topic for the day is brought up. But*

*instead of the teacher explaining everything they know about the topic, they actually do not. Instead they simply facilitate a 'dialogue' amongst the students. All the students get to tell their own perspective, share their own life experience of the matter. The hope (I guess) is that they will simply happen to stumble onto the correct answer.*

*This latter example is a dialogical approach to learning. Rather than just giving the answers, each is left to discover the answer for themselves. This is all the rage the days.*

*But this is a problem. While it sounds liberating and freeing, it in fact only leads to confusion, not to mention it is actually very inefficient.*

*Have you ever gone to a doctor and had your test results come back and, instead of the doctor just telling you what they are, you instead had a dialogue about all the possible things that could be wrong. The doctor invites the guy in the waiting room to come in and tell you what he thinks. The bus driver out front comes in to tell you what he thinks. The guy walking his dog next to the doctor's office comes in to tell you what he thinks. Kinda inefficient and confusing huh? Wouldn't it be a lot easier for the doctor just to tell you the results of the test "you have high blood pressure" or "you have an infection" or "you have cancer." It may not be what we want to hear but at least it's the truth. After all, the doctor went to school for 8 years and another 4-6 for a residency, he knows a little more than the bus driver, dog walker and guy in the lobby (at least about medicine).*

*The same confusing and inefficient way of communicating truth has sometimes crept into the Church. Sometimes, in the name of patience and humility (which are very good things), people in the Church embrace an improper "dialogical" approach to sharing the faith that only leads to confusion and is very inefficient.*

*The Church always has to, in the image of Christ, associate with the lowly, hang out with tax collectors and sinners, and go after the lost sheep. But it should NOT have a dialogue with the tax collectors and sinners that leads to the tax collectors and sinners instructing the Church on truth. It should NOT once it finds the lost sheep have a dialogue with the sheep on what it feels like to be dangling off a cliff as it is about to fall to its death. It should pick the sheep up!!! Put in on its shoulders!!! No time for discussion the sheep is about to fall!!!*

*The Church is the pure and spotless bride of Christ. It had been around for 2000 years (even longer than doctors spend in study) and is filled with the teachings of the Scripture and of the Saints. Patience, love and gentleness, yes. Dialogue, no. – Father Rossi*

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**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.

**Sharing Sunday:** Is this weekend, there is a table downstairs for donations to be dropped off. Please mark your calendars for **the next Sharing Sunday which will be September 3rd**. Please bring non-perishable food items. We donate those to our local food bank.

**THANK YOU:** Thanks so much to everyone who came out to our first "Women, Wine and the Word" gathering. Our next gathering will be Friday 8/25/17 from 6.30 - 8.30 pm in the social hall. This month's topic will be "The Women in the History of the Catholic Church" All ladies are invited, please and bring a light snack or wine to share for an evening of meaningful discussion and fellowship. Please feel free to invite friends! Please let Donna Baird know if you plan to attend [donnahbaird@yahoo.com](mailto:donnahbaird@yahoo.com)

**K of C Annual School Supply Drive:** The Knights of Columbus will be conducting a school Supply drive for the month of August benefitting the Boys and Girls Club here in Church Hill. Please consider donating paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons and other school supplies to help these neighborhood kids get a good start to the school year! There will be a box in the Social Hall for Donations.

**Financial update** - I wanted to give everyone an update on our increased offertory campaign we started about 6 months ago. I have to say it was a HUGE success. I am so amazed and grateful for everyone's sacrifice. We were projecting an over \$40k loss for the year ended June 30, 2016. Thanks very much to your increased giving, as well as some cost cutting by the office, we actually ended 'in the black'!!!! For those who don't know what that means, it means we actually brought in more than we spent... by \$7K!!! All I can say is thank you very much. I know you will receive 100 fold return in Heaven. That's a promise. Also, please, **please keep it up. We want to keep this going. GREAT WORK!!!** - Fr Rossi

**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 9/3/17 at 1pm in the parish hall.** If you are interested in attending a class & scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner.

## CHURCH SUPPORT AS OF 7/30/17

### Weekly

Actual	\$2,043.00
Budgeted	<u>\$4,221.00</u>
Difference	(\$2,177.70)

### Year to Date

Actual	\$13,070.03
Budgeted	<u>\$21,105.00</u>
Difference	(\$8,034.97)

Attendance for July 29/30 = 27/138

## CONTACT & FOLLOW US AT:

**Facebook:** SPChurchHill

### Emails:

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

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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.