

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

May 5-6, 2018
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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.



Please welcome our newest member
William Tice Murphy



Message from our Pastor:

“When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up saying, ‘Get up. I myself am also a human being.’”

These are the first words from the first reading this Sunday.

It is an exchange between Cornelius and Peter. When Peter enters the room, Cornelius wants to bow down to him. After all, he has likely heard some pretty amazing things about what Peter has been doing and saying. The same thing happened when Paul went to Greece. Paul and Barnabas healed a man in Greece and pretty soon all the people wanted to start offering sacrifice and burning incense to Paul and Barnabas because they thought they were gods.

Both Peter and Paul have the same response to these acts of near worship – they effectively say ‘give the praise to God.’

You may think, ‘how ridiculous those foolish people of that time...wanting to make Paul and Peter into gods.’ It was pretty foolish of those people. I guess they were sort of caught up in the excitement. I guess all those people were looking for something and when Peter and Paul started to show them the answers, they wanted to make them gods, even though they were just the messengers.

What they should have been worshiping is the God behind the words of Peter and Paul. They should have

been hungering and seeking the God behind the miracles that Peter and Paul were performing.

I think people have the tendency to do the same thing today. I think people today do the same thing the foolish people did back then. I think people tend to make gods out of people.

They may not offer incense to them, as they tried to do back then, but they certainly make sacrifice to them. They sacrifice their most prized possessions to them. They sacrifice their time, their money, their loyalty, their allegiance – they even make them hope.

Who am I talking about? Who are these people who other people try to make gods of today?

Politicians. People today try to make gods out of politicians.

You may say, ‘I don’t try to make gods out of politicians, I hate politicians.’ To which I would respond, you hate them because you want them to be gods but, in fact, they act as mere humans.

People make gods out of politicians because they want them to have all the answers.

Don’t get me wrong, there are abominable politicians. Many are spineless and badly formed, intellectually.

But one of the reasons people dislike politicians is because they expect too much from them. The reason they expect too much from them is because they think they are, or at least want them to be, godlike. And they are not. They are human. And as such, they have a tendency to be selfish, cowardly, egotistical, and money-seeking, just like everyone else. If you don’t have any of those tendencies or any other bad tendencies, then you are already a saint and I ask that you pray for us mere mortals.

People, of which politicians are drawn from, are very limited in their ability to fix complex things, and most big problems are very complex and have been around since Adam. Although someone (a politician) might stand up and say that they have figured out the solution, and articulate it in a catchy phrase, they are simply making promises that are impossible for them to accomplish. The answers are way too complex. But people want there to be an answer to the suffering in their lives and in the world. People want there to be a fix. And so when someone says they got the answer, people are continually, unfortunately, fooled into believing it.

If it seems as though this problem is getting worse, the hatred for politicians who fail to live up to the godlike expectations placed upon them, then I would attribute that to a culture that is more and more devoid of the one who can actually fix the problems, God.

People want gods, because they want their problems to be fixed, but they don’t want God, who can actually fix their problems. It was the same back in the day with Peter and Paul, it’s the same now.

- Fr Rossi

News & Announcements:

The Knights of Columbus Thank you!

Thanks for your generosity during last Sunday's collection in supporting children with intellectual disabilities.

Mother's Day Brunch: Please join us in celebrating this special day for all our mothers with brunch after 10:45 mass in our social hall.

Congratulations: Congratulations to our children's religious education classes that have finished for the year. Thanks to all the parents & teachers for their support to our students as they continue to grow in their faith, see you next year.

Volunteers: Please consider volunteering to help with assisting with set-up & clean-up following our Sunday after mass refreshments. If interested in this volunteer opportunity please contact Eddie Baird at 986.2898.

Sharing Sunday: Mark your calendars.....the next Sharing Sunday is June 3rd. Please bring non-perishable food items. A table will be in the basement for collection.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): An RCIA class will be starting at SPC. Anyone interested is welcome to join the class. Adults wishing to learn more should contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton

Baptisms - Baptisms are held during the Mass on the first Sunday of each month. Baptism class is required prior to baptizing your first child. **Two more classes will be held during 2018.** The dates are as follows: July 1 and October 7. If you are interested in attending a class and scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner. Please note you may attend class prior to the birth of your baby.

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.

Men: Are You Ready to Accept the Challenge?

Our communities need strong Catholic men to answer the call to lead with faith, protection of families, service to others and to defend our values. For over one hundred years, Knights of Columbus have done exactly that, standing up for the Church, serving the least among us, and strengthening our parishes and families. Eligible Catholic men can now join the Knights of Columbus online in a simple, streamlined process. As a member, you join a worldwide community of nearly two million men, including tens of thousands here in Virginia, who stand together. Men have a duty to lead, protect, serve and defend. The world needs more committed, unified Catholic men to answer the call. Will you answer? Visit **kofc.org/joinus** to learn more about the many benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus, Council 6936.



As always please join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship after 10:45 mass!



Church Support as of 4/29/18

	<u>Weekly</u>
<i>Actual</i>	\$2,688.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$4,221.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	-\$1,533.00

	<u>Year to Date</u>
<i>Actual</i>	\$164,464.00
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$185,724.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	(\$21,260.00)

Attendance for 4/28/18 = 36 and 4/29/18 = 153



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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.