

# Saint Patrick Catholic Church



December 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
**Feast of the Holy Family**

**Mass times:**

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

**Solemnity of Mary 1/1 at 10am**

**Nursery is available during 10:45 mass.**

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

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



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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.

## News & Announcements:

**Offertory Envelopes:** The 2019 sets of offering envelopes with your name in alphabetical order are and you wish to use envelopes, please call the office and they will gladly furnish you a set.

**Sharing Sunday:** Mark your calendars now for the next Sharing Sunday which is **January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Remember your non-perishable food items. Table in basement for drop off.

**Baptisms** - Baptisms are held during the Mass on the first Sunday of each month. Baptism class is required prior to baptizing your first child. Upcoming class dates are 1/6,3/31,7/7, and 10/6. If you are interested in attending a class or scheduling your child's Baptism, contact Kathy Buttner. Please note you may attend class prior to the birth of your baby.

**Diocesan News:** Following the listening sessions held throughout the diocese in October, Bishop Knestout renewed his commitment to leading the Diocese with transparency, faith and direct action. A webpage has been created to help the faithful stay informed of the diocese's response to the present crisis in the Church. A video interview with Bishop as he answers the faithful's most frequently asked questions, a timeline of actions taken within the diocese to address the crisis, and resources to learn how Bishop Knestout is answering the call for accountability is available at [www.richmonddiocese.org/dioceseresponse](http://www.richmonddiocese.org/dioceseresponse).

**THANK YOU** - I wanted to a huge and very sincere thank you to a few groups of folks who have really stepped up lately to sacrifice and work for our parish. First, I want to say a big thank you to Katie Goodloe and all the wonderful musicians who put in all the time and effort to make for a beautiful Christmas concert this year. It was lovely and their dedication to perform in spite of the bad weather was awesome. I really enjoyed the event. Thank you! Second, I want to say a big thank you to all the folks who came to St Patrick last Saturday to make our parish so clean and beautiful. I am always amazed to see the great level of dedication and personal care that our parishioners here show for the parish. Thank you for treating this parish like your own home. It is well cared for. Third, thank you to all who worked for making the Appalachia gift program work so well and who put in the work to organize our Christmas breakfast. These programs really set us up and help prepare the parish for the coming Christmas season. So, thank you for your sacrifice. Fourthly, thank you to all who make the environment so beautiful in our parish, with decorations, flowers and all the setup that goes into making the Church ready for the coming of our Savior. He is worthy of it and I grateful for your service to Him! Finally, to everyone else who helps make St Patrick a wonderful parish, lectors, greeters, volunteers, and many many others who I am unfortunately failing to mention, thank you very very much. God sees your efforts and I know He is pleased with all your hard work. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! Fr Rossi

## Message from our Pastor:

Today we celebrate the Feast Day of the Holy Family. The Holy Family, Joseph and Mary and Jesus, show us the proper way for a family to interact. There are four basic principles from the Bible in St Paul's letter. They are very counter cultural principles. But they are true regardless of their popularity now-a-days. If a family want to be happy, they would be wise to implement these 4 principles. YOU HAVE TO HAVE THEM ALL. IF YOU ONLY PICK ONE THEY IT WILL BE LOPSIDED, UNJUST AND NOT CHRISTIAN!!! THEY ARE A PACKAGE DEAL

1. *Husbands should love their wives like Christ loved the Church* – How much did Christ love the Church? He loved it enough to die for it. That is how husbands should be in regard to their wives and families. Husbands should sacrifice for their wives and lay their lives down for them as Christ did for the Church. This is not an easy thing to do. To be a married man is to be a man who dies every day for his family. He dies to his own wants and desires, so that his wife and children can have the possibility to grow closer to God and grow in holiness. Husbands should not seek their own preferences in regard to the decisions they make on behalf of their families. Husbands should always make decisions that are the best for their families, not for themselves. Husbands should not seek to serve themselves. When husbands act for themselves, they act as though they are still bachelors, and the results for their families are always detrimental.
2. *Wives be subordinate to your husbands* – At the top of any organization is a head who, at the end of the day, has to make the decision. This is the role of the husband. And the wife's role is to be subordinate to that. This is not an easy thing to do. This does not mean wives are not on an equal level as husbands. The Bible clearly teaches women are equal to men in dignity and honor. For example, the current marriage rite in the Church prays "may her husband entrust his heart to her...acknowledging her as his equal." Nevertheless, there must be a way to resolve disagreements rather than them ending in divorce and separation, which is unfortunately the too common answer these days. That way is for a wife to submit to her husband. The good news is that if a husband is acting as he is supposed to in a marriage (see number 1 above), the decision that he makes will be the thing that is best for the family and not something of personal or selfish preference. It should go without saying that submitting to your husband does not include abuse. Could you ever imagine Christ abusing the Church? Never. It is always a blessing for the Church to be subordinate to Christ.

3. *Children obey your parents in everything* – You parents are not to be the friends of your children. And your children have zero voting rights in your home. Your home is not a democracy. In regard to your children, it is an absolute monarchy with the parents as king and queen over the children. Children have to do what you say. You have all authority. You should use it without hesitation and without apology. You parents should present a united force of authority over your children. Never disagree in front of the children or they will 'divide and conquer.' If parents disagree, go to the room and come up with a solution together but always in front of the children present a united front. 'Have each other's backs,' to put it in colloquial terms. That means stand up for each other in front of the kids. And if your kids disobey you, do not feel helpless, rather discipline in a methodical manner. Take away everything they enjoy – cell phones, video game, desert, their favorite cloths, time with friends. They will break (give in) eventually. You parents have to be strong enough to stand your ground. You only have to provide them food and shelter until they are 18 years old. And it can be purposely bland food and boring shelter if they are disobeying you. Then when they are 18, they should not be permitted to live under your roof unless they live by your (God's) rules.
4. *Father's [parents] do no provoke your children, so they do not become discouraged* – Parents number one job is to get their children to heaven. That is it. Number one. The way you will do that is by helping establish the Catholic religion in your children, as well as helping build them into good and moral and virtuous people. It matters most of all. Whether they are good at sports, whether they get into your favorite school, whether they are successful in a worldly sense is much less important. They should always try their best, that is what matters. This requires parents to have a certain patient understanding of what your kids are capable of. The temptation in times of frustration (over the 18 years and more of formation that a parent is charged with) is to fly off the handle in an unconstructive way. That is not to say that raising your voice is not an effective parenting tool, it most certainly is. But it is to say there should be some thought and consideration put into your disciplining of your children so that it eventually leads to growth. I believe in most cases this principle is the least counter-cultural principle of the 4 principles.

God wants all people, husbands, wives, children to be equally and fully happy in family life as He loves husbands, wives and children all equally and fully. He has given us these principles which provide the best chance of attaining that happiness of family life. These are not easy but obtaining happiness is not easy. Anyone who says so is trying to sell you something.

- Fr Rossi.