Saint Patrick Catholic Church

March 23rd & 24th, 2019 Third Sunday of Lent

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

Nursery is available during 10:45 mass.

Rosary: Sunday at 10:10am

Confession during Lent will be made available 30 minutes prior to and after mass.

Message from our Pastor:

Don't forget to make your contribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal and support our retired priests, our seminarians, our campus ministry and the poor of our diocese. I know I sound like a broken record...

Also don't forget to make a good confession during Lent. Priests are available 30 minutes before and after every Mass!!!

These are some common reasons why people don't go to confession, and my corresponding response.

- "I don't have anything to confess" spend some time thinking about what your sins might be; read an examination of conscience to help you examine your conscience; ask the priest in the confessional to help you make sure you don't have any big sins and he will ask you some questions
- 2. "I don't have to go to a priest I can just confess to God" that is NOT what the bible says...it says you must confess your sins to one another and it also says Jesus directly gave the power to bind and forgive sins to the

- Apostles who in turn gave it to Bishops who in turn give it to priests in ordination
- 3. "It has been too long since I have been and I have too many sins or I cannot remember all of them" if it has been a long time then you are exactly the person God wants the MOST! Read the parable of the lost sheep or the parable of the prodigal son. He wants you more than someone who goes every week. He died so that He can forgive your sins...don't waste it! Also I promise it will be way faster than you think, it doesn't take long and you will feel sooooo much better that is a guarantee. Even if you forget some of your sins, just start with the big ones. It will come back to you in the confessional the Holy Spirit will remind you.
- 4. "I am embarrassed" good! You should be ashamed! That is what will make you humble and careful so as to not sin again or at least be less likely to. Only pagans are proud of their sins (per the Bible). You can still go behind the screen and maintain your privacy.
- 5. "I am just going to commit the same sin again" that is a terrible attitude; when you say that you are basically saying God is too weak to be able to help you stop committing this sin; that is ridiculous; God can free anybody from any sin; absolutely nothing is impossible for Him; don't be afraid of the fight but go at it head on...the fight against sin
- 6. "Priests are bad and sinful people so why confess to them" the priest is only an intermediary to bring Christ to the moment, you are in fact confessing to Christ; Christ is the one who will absolve your sins; priests go to confession too...
- 7. "I can go to heaven without confessing my sins" are you sure? Do you want make that gamble? It is very risky...

Am I missing anything? Whatever the reason it is not a good reason. Whatever the excuse it is simply an occasion to miss out on a gift God died to give you.

I hope to see you or hear you there. Enjoy Lent and all the graces God is giving us at this time!!!

Fr Rossi

Announcements:

SPC Social Outreach Committee: is looking for not so used items. Including walking canes, wheel chairs, and walkers. If you have any of these items that are not in need anymore, please contact Bernie Mann, Eddie Baird, or Heather Coleman.

Sharing Sunday: Thank you to everyone who participated in Sharing Sunday in March! It was our best Sunday since we have started! Let's do it again! Mark your calendars the next Sharing Sunday is April 7th. Remember your nonperishable food items. Table in basement for drop off.

Stations of the Cross: The Bible Study with hold Stations of the Cross every Thursday at noon during Lent.

40 Days for Life: Christians throughout Richmond are invited to take part in the international 40 Days for Life effort from 3/6 – 4/14. We will be dedicating 40 days of prayer & fasting for an end to abortion in America. A peaceful vigil of prayer will also be held outside of the Richmond Medical Center for Women at 118 N. Boulevard next to the Virginia Museum of Fine Art from 7 am to 7 pm each of these 40 Days. Please sign up to pray for an hour at the vigil any day. However, St. Patrick is especially trying to fill the 12 hrs. on Thursday, 3/28. See Jane Murphy to sign up or call her at 267-1935 for more details. (If you can't physically come sign up for an hour of prayer at home.)

Help me please! I need someone to please step up and volunteer to be our funeral coordinator at St Pats. It involves coordinating a sacristan, lining up volunteers to help with the funeral, and a few other details. Please consider being our funeral coordinator. Retired folks or folks with flexibility through the week is necessary. Please email me for more info or to volunteer. We will train you on the specifics. Thank you! - Father Rossi

The National March for Life is coming to Virginia on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 in

Richmond! This March is being co-sponsored by the Virginia Catholic Conference and we are encouraging all to participate. There will be mass celebrated by Bishop Knestout at St. Peters at 9:00am, then a Rally at the State Capitol in Richmond at 11am, and the March for Life begins at noon.

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 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.

Contact & Follow us at:

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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.