

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

April 6th – 7th, 2019
Fifth 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:

Today in the Gospel reading you heard about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. You may have heard another reading depending on if your parish had the 'scrutiny' rite after the homily. But for most of you it was the Gospel reading where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

Can you imagine? Have you ever been to a funeral? Have you ever been in the presence of a dead body? Take yourself back to that time. Now think about while you are standing there looking at a dead body, imagine what you would do if all of a sudden that body sat up and said, 'hey there, what are you crying about.'

I think you would pass out. That is what happened when Christ raised Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus was dead...dead as a doornail as the saying goes. In fact, he was dead three days.

Now you have to remember back then there was no modern-day embalming process to make the body nice. It just decayed naturally and immediately. And it is hot in Jerusalem. So after three days his body would have been a good bit decayed. In fact, the Gospel says they were even worried about the smell.

So think about it this way. Not only did Christ raise him from the dead, but he also restored his flesh to him that was decayed, made his veins start pumping blood again, brain cells start firing again.

Most of the time when the brain is deprived of oxygen for even a short period of time, the brain suffers terrible brain damage and effects on the person are awful. His brain did not have any oxygen for 3 days!!!

And yet when he woke up, he was just fine. Brain totally restored, regenerated, and fully alive.

It is an absolutely amazing miracle that Christ performed. He really knows how to make a statement!!!

But you know what is also very true and I guess unfortunate is that Lazarus died. Even though he was raised from the dead and Christ did an amazing thing, he still died.

Don't get me wrong, it was not right away. I reckon he lived a good while after Christ raised him from the dead. But he did eventually die. You can be sure of that. It is the only thing in life that is certain, in addition to taxes (just a reminder your taxes are due in a week).

So when I put it that way, doesn't it seem sort of less impressive? Doesn't the fact that Christ couldn't stop death from happening all together sort of undermine the grandness of the miracle?

My point in bringing this up is by no means to disparage the amazing miracle that Christ performed when He raised Lazarus from the dead.

But I do intend to compare this miracle in all its grandeur with an even greater miracle that Christ performs. There is an even greater miracle that Christ performs than the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. The reason this other miracle is even greater than

the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead is because this other miracle has eternal consequences. This other miracle lasts forever, and ever, and ever and ever. It raises from death something that lives forever and ever and ever. It heals something that, unlike that old body of Lazarus, will live forever.

This miracle is what happens every time a soul walks into the confessional and is forgiven of their sins. This greater miracle is when a person dead in sin, mortal sin, which kills the life of the soul, is rejuvenated and resuscitated in the Sacrament of Confession.

How amazing that miracle is!!! When Christ raises that the soul to life, He gives it the chance to live forever! He gives it the opportunity to live and never ever die!!! If you have the option of being raised from the dead after you die (bodily) or having your soul raised from the death of sin, CHOOSE THE LATER OF THE TWO!

These old bodies ain't going to make it, no matter how good your doctor or how good your miracle worker. But your soul is capable of eternal life. So when you're given the chance for Christ to perform a miracle for you, ask...BEG Him to restore life to your SOUL!

Fr Rossi

Church Support as of 3/30/19

	<u>Weekly</u>
<i>Actual</i>	\$2,612.95
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$3,981.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	-\$1,368.05

	<u>Year to Date</u>
<i>Actual</i>	\$114,100.46
<i>Budgeted</i>	<u>\$159,240.00</u>
<i>Difference</i>	-\$45,139.54

Attendance: 3/30=40 3/31 = 153

News & Announcements:

Join us for a Special Palm Sunday: Tre Ore - The Seven Last Words of Christ by Bishop Robert Barron on Sunday April 14th from 12:30-3pm in the Parish Hall. For more information contact Kathy Buttner.

Easter Visit to St. Francis Home: Join St. Patrick's Social Ministry for an Easter visit to the residents of St. Francis Home on Saturday, 4/20/19 at 10:00 a.m. We will meet at: St. Francis home at 65 W. Clopton Street Richmond, VA 23225. Treats will be provided to distribute to the residents however please consider bringing homemade or traditional Easter cards for the residents. This is a great opportunity to start the celebration of Easter with your family RSVPs & questions should be directed to Eddie & Donna Baird.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Sunday April 28th in the St. Patrick Parish Hall. Will start at 1:15pm with a welcome & a movie (Divine Mercy 101). Confessions will be available at 2:30 and at pm will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. A reception is to follow. For additional information contact Kathy Buttner.

Stations of the Cross: The Bible Study will hold Stations of the Cross every Thursday at noon during Lent. Please join them.

FOR SALE - 4 burial plots at Washington Memorial Park - we recently came into possession of 4 burial plots at Washington Memorial Park. They are in a beautiful location within the cemetery. The cost of the burial plots is approximately \$20k (or \$5k each) but we are planning to sell them at a discount of 20% to anyone interested in \$16k. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the office. They will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.

Sharing Sunday: Mark your calendars the next Sharing Sunday is May 5th. Remember your non-perishable food items. Table in basement for drop off.

Please Volunteer: The Bible Study Group will spearhead another deep cleaning of the sanctuary on Saturday, April 13. We try to do this twice a year (polishing the brass, cleaning the pews, cleaning the balcony, scrubbing the floors, etc.) and we would like it spic and span for Holy Week! Many hands will make light work - we will begin at 9 a.m. and provide lunch. For questions, contact Jane Murphy, 267-1935.

On Tuesday, April 16, we will have Stations of the Cross and Holy Hour starting at 6:30 p.m. As we end Lent and go into the Easter Triduum spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Matthew 26:40: Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. *"Couldn't you keep watch with me for one hour?"*

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 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.

Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday
4/18 at 7pm

Good Friday
4/19 at 7pm

Saturday Vigil
4/20 at 8pm

Easter Sunday
4/21 at 10:45am

There will be no refreshments after Easter Sunday Mass.

Contact & Follow us at:

Facebook: SPChurchHill

Emails:

Pastor Fr. Gino Rossi: ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com

Father Ernest Bulinda: livasia@gmail.com

Father Frank Wiggins: Padreop@verizon.net

Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

John Lo Re: johnjllore@gmail.com

Katie Goodloe: musicministerkate@gmail.com

Michelle Dawson: mjmvcu@aol.com

Donna & Eddie Baird: donnahbaird@yahoo.com

Kathy Buttner: kathybuttner@hotmail.com

Heather Coleman: heatherscoleman@yahoo.com

Book Keeper: bookkeeper@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

Paulita Matheny: pmatheny@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

Tobie Treadwell: Mikenme2@verizon.net

Billie Keating: bjk6269@comcast.net

Fred Powell: fmpjr2009@aol.com

Ryland Paxton: Paxtonrl8229@marybaldwin.edu

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 & you would like to talk with a priest, please call the emergency number at any time.