

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

July 20 – 21, 2019

Sixteenth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time



Mass Times:

Saturdays at 5:30pm
& Sundays at 10:45am

Nursery is available during
10:45 mass.

Rosary:

Sunday at 10:10am

Confession:

Saturdays at 4:30 pm
or by appointment.

Message from our Pastor:

Have you ever heard someone say “offer it up?” If you had some good nuns who taught you in grade school then you almost certainly heard it, multiple times.

“Offer it up”

At the time it was maybe not what you wanted to heard. Maybe you even thought to yourself “golly, this nun is not very nice.”

Usually when someone says “offer it up,” it is in response to our experiencing some pain in our life, and then someone around us says “offer it up.”

Thus, it can seem kind of cold, or a little lacking in compassion for someone to say, “offer it up.”

But, in fact, ‘offering it up’ is a very biblical thing to do as we heard in the second reading today.

Saint Paul says, “I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church.”

When Saint Paul says he rejoices in his sufferings, he is saying that he is doing the opposite of complaining or reacting poorly. Often when people suffer, they are tempted to complain, ‘why me,’ or blame everyone else for their suffering, ‘it’s your fault...’ or to react in some other way that makes the situation worse. But NOT Saint Paul. Saint Paul does not complain when he suffers but he ‘offers it up’ and unites it with the sufferings of Christ.

Christ suffered more than we will ever comprehend. And one tiny drop of His Precious Blood is enough to atone for all the sins of all the world and every soul until infinity. ONE DROP!!!

Nevertheless, the merits of His suffering have not been fully communicated to all people, and as such, we all have the opportunity to participate in that salvific suffering “on behalf of his body, which is the church.”

I know it’s not easy to understand. But let me make it simple for you. “Offer it up”

Next time you feel pain or suffer, don’t complain. Just think on Christ, open your heart to Him at that moment and let Him enter into your heart at that time. Then react with the renewed strength He gives you to persevere, to turn the other cheek, to smile!

Then instead of bringing more pain and darkness into the world, you bring God into that moment and help to communicate the merits of His suffering into that moment. You can help ‘fill up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church.’

It is the mark of a mature Christian. If we react to pain like everyone else, then we are just like everyone else. But if we offer it up, like the good nuns used to say, then we are truly participating in the salvation of the world!!! And that gives great meaning to all suffering!!! Participating in the salvation of the world is the most important thing you can do with your life.

Fr Rossi

News and Announcements:

Sharing Sunday: Mark your calendars the next Sharing Sunday is August 4th. Remember your non-perishable food items. Table in basement for drop off.

Adult volunteers are needed to make Religious Education a success at St. Patrick! Please consider giving of your time & talent to the children of our Parish. No experience is necessary. See Donna Baird for more information or you can contact her at 804-888-3470 or donnahbaird@yahoo.com. Classes will begin in the fall.

SPC Social Outreach: Please bring bath towels and twin sheet sets for St. Francis Home as our outreach committee will be collecting them the next two Sundays. Donations can be left in the social hall.

Knights of Columbus: The K of C has begun a new fraternal year and invite all Catholic Men to be part of the World's largest Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization. For more information contact Past Grand Night Eddie Baird.

Catholic Graduate students, WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU! Are you looking for us?? Graduate school can be very challenging especially if you're committed to your faith and feel like you're the only one in your program. The Catholic Graduate Student Organization (CGSO) aims to link Catholic graduate students from all parts of VCU/MCV together for mutual support and fellowship. If you would like more information, please contact Mario Dance at medance@vcu.edu or 804-314-1681.

Baptisms - Baptisms are held during the Mass on the first Sunday of each month. Baptism class is required prior to baptizing your first child. The next class is 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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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.

Church Support as of July 14th, 2019

Weekly

Actual	\$1,538.83
Budgeted	<u>\$3,748.00</u>
Difference	\$2,209.17

Year to Date

Actual	\$4,715.39
Budgeted	<u>\$7,495.00</u>
Difference	-\$2,779.61

Attendance:

7/13/19 = 24 7/14/19 = 97