

March 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Thírd Sunday of Lent



Mass Times:

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

<u>Holy Week Schedule</u> <u>The Easter Tríduum</u>

> Holy Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm

Good Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm

Easter Vígíl Apríl  $3^{rd}$  at 8pm.

Easter Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am

### Message from our Pastor:

Before I get into the spiritual thought of the day, I would like to remind everyone to please, please, please be sure to make a gift to the Annual Appeal. The Annual Appeal is how as a diocese all the parishes chip in to pay for things that we all benefit from, such as seminarian education, the care of retired priests, supplying chaplains to our universities and taking care of the needs of the poor around us. You can make a gift very easily by going to

https://richmondcatholicfoundation .org/appeal/. We are hoping that everyone does at least something. If you had a good year then you can do more. If you are struggling, well everyone can do at least something, no matter how small. The important thing is that everyone does what they can, and does at least something. Almsgiving is part of Lent.

Today I want to talk about how to 'offer things up' to God. Most of you have heard the phrase 'offer it up.' Maybe a Nun or Sister said it to you once. And it is good advice. But how we 'offer it up' may not be easily understandable by all. To 'offer something up' means to entrust it to God, to give it over to Him, to lay it at His feet. So for example, maybe you have a difficulty with a certain situation or a person and no matter what it always causes you pain and you are absolutely tired of it. In this circumstance, you can 'offer it up' to God. You can give the situation, all the pain, all the trouble and all the worry over to Him and let Him be in control. It may sound simple or maybe it sounds like a shirking of duty, but in fact it is the smart thing to do. Most likely, in that situation, you do not possess the ability to

'fix' the problem. You are too weak, finite and incapable. And that is ok. God is strong, infinite and incomprehensibly capable. When you offer it up you give over the burden to Him and He is glad to take it.

So, where does that leave you? What does God expect of us once we have 'offered something up' to Him? He expects (demands) that we be a peace. He expects us to be more calm and trusting about the whole thing that we just offered up to Him. This calmness and peace should come through in our interactions and our response to the difficult situation/person in the future. The way we know we have truly 'offered it up' is if we approach the situation with a new mentality and disposition. When we find ourselves falling back into our former frustrated and ineffective way of dealing with the situation or person or whatever the thing is that we offered up, it is a sign we have not fully offered it; we are being stingy with our offering. When we offer, we have to offer without any holding back. – Father Rossi



#### Confessions:

We as Catholics must go to confession at least once per year to receive Holy Communion. We have confession 30 minutes before and after every weekend Mass at each parish and at 11:45am daily at St Peter.

# <u>News &</u> <u>Announcements</u>:

Sharing Sunday! It is this weekend March 6<sup>th</sup>! Please give if you can the need has increased during these times. Drop non-perishable food items at the table in basement. Next sharing Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

#### Lenten Dinners:

Lenten Dinners at St. John's are back! \$8.00 a plate you can pick between breaded whiting filet or baked tilapia filet. Curbside only on Fridays from 5-7pm.

#### Stations of The Cross:

St. John's will also be hosting Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6pm during Lent.

#### **CRS Rice Bowl**

Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl at the entrance of the church. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the challenge of global hunger and how it affects our human family. Hunger in Our World When Jesus fed the 5,000, he said, "Give them some food yourselves." Reflect on the challenge of global hunger. How can you contribute to support the hungry in your community? Visit crsricebowl.org for more information. What would you do if your source of nutrition were threatened? How can we support those whose livelihoods are vulnerable to weather?

#### 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Coffee Table Book: Shine Like Starts – 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary if the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Get your copy today in the vestibule or parish hall. Books are \$40 each and checks can be made payable to St. Patrick Church. <u>40 Days for Life</u>: *Ash* Wednesday began our Lenten season, the **40 Days for Life** campaign begins as well. It is a time for praying and fasting for an end to abortion in the world. Many people gather on the sidewalk at **201 N. Hamilton Street** in Richmond's near West End to peacefully pray for those men and women entering the building that they may change their minds and for the workers, too, to have a change of heart. We also pray and grieve for the little souls killed there every day.

#### Local churches have been signing up to support this effort and St. Patrick has selected Tuesday, March 23rd from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fr. Rossi plans to be there at 3:00 p.m. and Bill and I will be there several hours during the day. We try to go at least once a week during the 40 Days. If you would like to come & be sure some others are there for that hour, please contact Jane at **804-267-1925** or ibmurphy1952@yaboo.com

**1935** or jhmurphy1953@yahoo.com. St. John has selected March 8 St. Peter has selected March 11

You are asked to wear your mask and social distance on the sidewalk.

Thanks so much for remembering this very important mission of our Catholic church. Please continue to pray and fast at home each day for the most vulnerable in our society. Peace and Love, Jane

#### **Bishop's Annual Appeal**

Please be generous in the giving to the Annual Appeal. The Annual Appeal supports our seminarians, retired priests, university chaplains, and especially the poor & those in need throughout the Diocese. It is a wonderful cause and an important thing to do during Lent. Almsgiving is a must! To give, please go to richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal



## Contact & follow us at:

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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.