

# Saint Patrick Catholic Church

May 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 2021

Sixth Sunday  
of Easter

Mass Times:

Saturdays at 5:30pm

&

Sundays at 10:45am



Upcoming Events:

**Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**– at 10:45 mass**

the Celebration of First Communion

**Congratulations to Ruby & Alexis  
on making your first Communion!**

**Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup> – Sharing Sunday**

Please drop nonperishable food items  
at the Giving Sunday table in the basement.

**Sunday June 20<sup>th</sup> –**

Knights of Columbus  
Brunswick Stew Sale

## Message from our Pastor:

*Did you figure out what the themes of the readings were for this weekend? It is pretty clear.*

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER!!!**

*Especially the second reading and the Gospel, the command is clear – love one another.*

*This is commonly understood to be a central tenet of Christianity. Love one another.*

*That we are to love one another is not surprising. It may even seem simple. But do not be fooled, it is not as simple as we may think. And the reason why it is not so simple is because sometimes it is not clear what it means to ‘love one another.’*

*Let me give a few examples when what it means to love may not be clear.*

*A soldier who protects his country by going to war with his country’s enemies – is that love?*

*A married couple who loves one another and is having trouble conceiving a child decides to seek medical assistance in conceiving – is that love?*

*Two single adult women or men have a close and exclusive relationship – is that love?*

*These are just a few examples where people may be acting in love or may not be.*

*A soldier who fights in a just war and is laying his life down to protect innocent life, that is love. But a soldier who inspires fear in his enemies by attacking the innocent lives of women and children, that is not love, even though they may feel like they are doing the right thing.*

*A couple who wants to have a child and seeks medical help to conceive, using means that aid the natural reproductive process, that is love. But a couple who uses in-vitro fertilization to become pregnant, that is not love, because in-vitro fertilization aborts innocent human life in the process of making a child for the couple. Even though the couple may feel it is the right thing to do, it is in fact not loving.*

*Two women or two men can have a good and pure friendship that can be considered love. But if that relationship involves any type of physical or romantic interaction, then it is not love, it is something*

*immoral. Even though they may feel like they are operating in love, they are incorrect.*

*We are human, and our emotions can cloud our ability to make decisions that are truly loving. These emotions can cause someone with what seem to be good intentions, such as a soldier in battle, a couple who wants to conceive, or two women or two men, to do things that are not love.*

*Love is always ordered toward God. It must always be according to His moral law. Otherwise, it will eventually lead to more unhappiness, sadness, sickness and death in the world.*

*We as Catholics are very blessed to be part of Christ's Body, the Church which helps humanity discern what is love. Our Church helps us sort through emotions, embracing those that lead us to love and avoiding those that lead us to what is not. When we act in love, we will always be led to more freedom and happiness, so we should be grateful to God and the Church for not only encouraging us to love, but also helping us discern what love is, especially in situations that may not be clear. - Fr Rossi*

## News & Announcements:

**Knight of Columbus:** The Knights of Columbus are planning on their annual Brunswick Stew Sale on June 19th-20th. Additionally, we are continuing our recruitment drive. Joining the K of C is a great opportunity for fellowship and charity as well as to meet your insurance needs with a faithful organization. Please contact Josh Lowry (joshl@jamesriverac.com), Eddie Baird (Donnahbaird@yahoo.com), or Charles Opalak (charles.opalak@vcuhealth.org) if you're interested.

**New Catholic Virtual Academy:** Saint Vincent de Paul Virtual Academy (SVVA) is opening this fall for students in grades 8-12 throughout the Diocese of Richmond. It will be administered by the faculty and staff at Peninsula Catholic High School who have experience delivering their curriculum virtually since 2016. Applications are being accepted for high school students seeking a dynamic virtual learning experience built on Catholic values. Join us for our Virtual Open House on Monday, May 10th at 6pm via Zoom. Contact [Alyson LeMaster](#), Director of Enrollment, at 757-596-7247 ext. 106 to register or visit our [website](#) to learn more about SVVA.

## Contact & follow us at:

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If someone is dying or has died & you would like to talk with a priest, please call.