Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 25<sup>h</sup> & 26th 2021

## CHRISTMAS

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

See Second Page for Mass Times for Christmas

Join us after 10:45 mass for refreshments and fellowship



Holy Hour - St. Patrick Hosted at SPC on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month with 6pm Holy Hour and 7pm Mass.

# <u>Message from the</u> <u>Administrator's Desk</u>:

Mary and Joseph prepared to receive the child Jesus on the eve of Christmas at Bethlehem (Lk. 2:1-6), despite the challenges they went through, and when the baby arrived, they laid him on the hay in the manger among animals (Lk. 2:7). This is seen clearly in St. Francis of Assis's tradition of erecting a Christmas crèche, pointing to the nativity scene. That explains why sets are now manger commonplace at Christmas time in our family homes.

Then the angels appeared to the shepherds who were "keeping watch over their flock by night" (Lk. 2:8) and gave them the good news of the savior's birth at Bethlehem (David's city, Lk. 2:10 ff), and immediately they went to see rejoicing. It is therefore in order that the church celebrates "midnight mass" to showcase its joy, which coincides with that of the shepherds, revealing that heaven has touched down to earth in Christ, since he has come to us and continuously comes to us when we receive him in the Eucharistic liturgy always. Again, on Seeing the Holy Family with the baby in the manger (cf. Lk. 2:16), the shepherds recalled what they have been told by the angel, as they glorified and praised God.

Such is the Scenario of the celebration of the church each

year for Christmas eve, Christmas day and the Feast of the Holy Family, as we celebrate them consecutively, and especially for this year, from Friday (24<sup>th</sup> Dec) to Sunday (26<sup>th</sup> Dec.).

In the midst of the celebration of these festivities, let's not forget the true meaning, understanding deeply and enjoying every bit of it with joy, as we attend the eucharistic liturgy of every celebration with its unique readings, so as to receive abundant blessings in our homes and in our families from the infant Jesus our deliverer, who has come to ransom us from our quilt.

Merry Christmas. Afehyia pa (afi-shi-a pa \*in Ghanaian Language)

- Fr. Maxwell





### **Christmas Concert**

Special Thanks to our Music Minster Katie Goodloe who put on a fantastic Christmas Concert. If you missed it.... **Good news!** You can go to tinyurl.com/SJCC2021 to see it! We appreciate all who were able to attend as well as those who brought donations. We hope you all have a joyous holiday season!

#### THANK YOU

What a great weekend at SPC last weekend we had the return of Santa Breakfast. Want to take a special moment to thank all the elves in the kitchen for making such a yummy breakfast. Thanks also to the elf who came and decorated our hall so beautiful and fun! Special thanks to the man of the season for taking time to visit with us!

## Sharing Sunday: Our next Sharing Sunday is January 2nd.

Remember to bring your nonperishable items. Remember those items as well that are easy for the homeless population to heat and eat! Also, there is a need for bottled water. There is a table in the parish hall for collection.



### **MASS SCHEDULE**

## NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Holy Day of Obligation

CHRISTMAS EVE Thursday, December 24: 4:00 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY Saturday, December 25: 10:45 a.m. No 5:30 p.m. Mass

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH

Sunday, December 26 at 10:45 a.m.

#### MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Not a Holy Day of Obligation Saturday, January 1: 5:30 p.m. Sunday, January 2: 10:45 a.m.

#### <u>Thank You</u>

Thank you to everyone who participated and donated comfy and warm socks for residents of the St. Francis Home. We had quite a collection and will be a nice surprise for the residents

### Annual 2nd Collection for Commonwealth Catholic Charities

Each Christmas Season, parishes across the Diocese of Richmond host a 2nd collection for the benefit of Catholic Charities. Despite the ongoing challenges and growing community need resulting from the pandemic, CCC has never wavered from serving our most vulnerable neighbors. Whether that is responding to the Afghan refugee crisis, providing groceries to families without food, ensuring mothers and their babies have a safe place to live, and beyond – CCC is there to help. CCC now needs your help in supporting these critical ministries through the Christmas Second Collection.





St. Patrick Catholic Church Scan and Give. Thank you for your Generosity.



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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.