Saint Patrick Catholic Church

April 9 & 10th 2022 - Palm Sunday Mass Times: Saturdays at 5:30pm & Sundays at 10:45am



Palm Sunday, Holy Week, & Easter Sunday Schedule

PALM SUNDAY & DISTRIBUTION OF PALMS April 9th at 5:30 PM & April 10th at 10:45 AM

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper April 14th at 7:00 PM The church will remain open until 10:00 PM for Adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion April 15 at 7pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil April 16th at 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY Sunday April 17th at 10:45 AM

Message from the Administrator's Desk:

Message: Accompanying Jesus from the Garden of prayer to the hill of crucifixion in Holy week

We have begun the Holy week also known as the Passion week of the Lord, leading to His suffering and excruciating death on the cross. Everyone must kindly stare at the crucifix for a while (at least 1-2 mins). Imagine is you or family member on the cross, how would you have felt?

With the words of the composition of Fanny Crosby in the Universal Methodist hymn # 301, *Jesus, keep me near the cross: There a precious fountain; Free to all, a healing stream, Flows from Calv'ry's mountain,* let us deeply reflect on Jesus' journey with the cross to Calvary in this holy week.

Catholics are often accused of holding up Jesus to shame by constantly displaying Him on the Cross, denying that he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. Other times also they have been falsely judged as being worshippers to a "dead" God, rather than worshippers to a Risen God. Is that true? Of course, No, because Catholics worship both the Jesus who died for their sins as well as the Jesus who rose from His sacrificial death for their sins. At Mass Catholics profess: "Christ has died, Christ is risen and Christ will come again." (the mystery of faith)

According to some non-Catholic Christians, Jesus' Crucifixion is a past event only, and displaying Him on a Cross supposedly suggests Catholics want to keep Jesus dead or continually dying as if they want to deny His Resurrection. Catholics do not deny Jesus' Resurrection, if they did, there wouldn't be church on Sundays (the day of the Lord) to commemorate Jesus' Resurrection, nor the celebration of Easter. It's sad that a Crucifix to some non-Catholic professing Christians is a "dead" God and an "idolatrous image." But what is a Crucifix to a Catholic? Why do Catholics still have Jesus on the Cross and hold on to it so strongly? Let us see a few scriptural references.

- The Cross is a picture of radical love showing Jesus' unconditional & passionate love and infinite mercy (John 15:13)
- 2. The Cross is a Picture of Christ in Glory (Jn. 12:23-27)
- 3. **The Crucifixion** of Jesus atoned for our sins, because for the Resurrection to have happened it had to begin with the Crucifixion *on the cross* (1Corinthians 15:17)
- 4. The repentant thief is saved on the cross when he believes in Jesus and professes him as savior. (Lk.23:42-43)

- 5. As Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, so must the son of man be lifted up and when lifted up, will draw all men to himself (Jn. 3:14)
- 6. The Cross is the picture of God's wisdom and Power since Christ is the picture of God's power and His wisdom. (1Corinthians 1:18; 23-24)
- 7. The Cross is an act of obedience and humility of Jesus:
 i)Becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross (Phil.2:8); ii) His own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree (1 Pt. 2:24), iii) He endures the cross despising the shame (Heb. 12:2).

Very close at the foot of the cross at Calvary were 4 people out of which 3 were women (Mary, Jesus' mother, her sister, Mary, wife of Clopas and Mary Magdalene). The only male was John the beloved disciple. (Jn. 19:25).

However, on the way of the cross these personalities are identified, so close to Jesus and accompanying him on his journey: Mary his mother and the other women, John the disciple, Veronica, Simon of Cyrene, the repentant thief and Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodamous who brought a mixture of myrrh & aloes weighing hundred pounds after they have taken the body from the cross. Each of them had a peculiar role to play, for instance.

- Mary his mother (Jn.19:26): a woman of faith who heard God's word better than anyone (Lk. 1) and who according to St. Augustine first conceived Jesus in the heart before conceiving him in the womb. Her presence is not so surprising because at Jesus' presentation in the temple, Simeon had already predicted that sword will pierce her heart (Lk.2:35). She therefore shares in the son's suffering. Look at the PIETA, the most painful moment of receiving the tortured and dead body of her son.
- John, the beloved disciple (Jn. 19:27): representing all believers and followers of Christ and the dimension of community life and association in the perspective of caretaking. The intention of Jesus was to break every barrier of isolation by supporting each other in our burden.

Have a fruitful Holy week, journeying with Jesus from Gethsemane to Calvary/Golgotha.

News & Announcements:

Easter Flowers Memorialize & Honor Loved Ones

Don't forget to contribute to the Easter Flowers Fund. This fund allows donors to honor the memory of a deceased loved one or to pay tribute to someone living. Easter Flowers envelopes are in your set or at the entrance of the church. You can also contribute through E-giving

After Mass Luncheon

Join us **after 10:45 mass** on **Sunday April 10**th for a Lenten Luncheon! We will be having baked potatoes with topping!

EASTER EGG HUNT!

All parishioners, young and not so young, are invited to the Murphy's for an Easter Egg Hunt and Hot Dog Lunch!
When: Saturday April 16th at 11am (mark your calendars!)
Please RSVP if you can come, to Jane and Bill. Call or text to 804-441-4075 or email to jhmurphy1953@yahoo.com

THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone who donated to KOVAR to help those with intellectual disabilities

Bulletin

If you are a registered parishioner or a regular attendee at St. Patrick Church and aren't already on the church distribution list (sent by Billie Keating), and wish to receive **details on parish activities**, funerals, etc. that sometimes aren't in the weekend bulletin, please submit your email address to Billie at bjk6269@comcast.net. Also, if you'd like to receive our **Weekend Bulletins** electronically each week (and aren't already receiving it), please send your email address to our St. Patrick Church office at office@StPatrickChurchHill.org

Baby Bottle Campaign for East End Pregnancy Center

Thank you to all those parishioners who picked up a baby bottle for the Baby Bottle Campaign for East End Pregnancy Center.

Sick and Homebound Parishioners

Fr. Maxwell and Fr. Redmond want to make sure that ALL parishioners, including those who might be sick or homebound, are being cared for spiritually. If you are aware of any parishioners of St. Patrick's who are sick/homebound, even if it has been many years since they have been able to attend, please let us know so that we can make sure we reach out to them. Please email either Fr. Redmond at frnickredmond@ saintpatrickchurchhill.org or the Office at office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org. Thank you!



WEEKLY COLLECTION April 2 & 3rd

<u>Weekly</u> Actual \$3,423.55 Budget <u>\$3,750.00</u> <u>\$326.45</u> <u>Year to date</u> Actual \$148,377.33

Actual \$148,377.33 Budget <u>\$150,000.00</u> \$1,622.67

Note: Actual totals include weekly collection and E-giving

MASS ATTENDENCE: 4/2 at 5:30: 36 4/3 at 10:45: 120



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Mailing address: St. Patrick's Church, 813 West Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs, VA 23075

SPC Emergency # 804-402-1221:

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