

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

April 29th & 30th 2023



Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Holy Hour - St. Patrick: After mass on
the 3rd Sunday of each month

Sharing Sunday

Mark your calendars - our next Sharing
Sunday is **NEXT** May 7th. Bring your nonperishable
goods to the table in the church hall

Message from our Pastor

Dearly beloved,

Every Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally called Good Shepherd Sunday and Vocations Sunday because Jesus the Shepherd who cares for his sheep leads them to pasture (Ps. 23:2) and lays down his life for them (Jn. 10:11). The image of the Good Shepherd refers to the leadership role of Jesus to his flock indiscriminately, as he leads them to experience the joys of heaven and to live in eternity, just like every shepherd wholeheartedly leads the sheep to pasture. What is important is for the sheep to **know, hear and follow** the voice of their master.

This shepherding role has been entrusted to other groups of people with leadership roles to lead the flock. One of such groups are bishops. You will notice that a shepherd leads the sheep to pasture with a rod as a defensive weapon against wild animals, and his voice is always noticed, heard and followed. In much the same way, at his episcopal ordination, the bishop is given a **pastoral staff** with a curved top to indicate his pastoral authority or his symbol of office, and he holds it whenever he celebrates mass with the faithful as a sign of his pastorship/leadership role. Since he needs the collaboration of others in his diocese to help in this shepherding role, priests are ordained and appointed to serve as pastors in various parishes in the diocese as shepherds of the flock.

Hence, on this occasion, let us all pray fervently for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life to fulfill the Lord's instruction to; "**pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest**" (Mt. 9:38; Lk. 10:2). Let us as well pray for the world Heads of States, Parents of Families and Managers of Institutions who assume leadership and shepherding roles.

Praised be Jesus Christ!

- Fr. Maxwell

News & Announcements

May Procession Please join us on Sunday, May 7th at St. Patrick Church for our annual May Procession. Everyone is invited to meet at Patrick Henry Park on 25th & Broad Street at 10.30 a.m. to process into the Church with flowers which will be placed on our Blessed Mother altar. Flowers will be provided. A Spring Ice Cream Social will be held in the church hall after 10:45 Mass. We hope you will join us for this special and beautiful celebration!

IT'S PICTURE TIME: St. Patrick's Family Directory SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY APRIL 30th after Mass.

Relationships are at the heart of St. Patrick's Church. To help make our church a more connected church family we are beginning a project which will provide a parish directory, or a sort of family album. It will put names with faces and be a historical record as well as put people in touch with each other. We invite you to be a part of our **new St. Patrick Directory**. Singles, couples or family photos will be taken at St. Patrick's Church Hall after Mass on Sunday, April 30, or you may email a preferred photo to Anne McMillan

at Annmcmln@yahoo.com before May 30. To be included in the St. Patrick Directory, it's necessary to complete a signup form which will be available on the day of the photo shoot. If you are emailing a photo, a signup form will be on the church website after April 30. In addition to photographs on April 30, you will have the opportunity to register - if you haven't already done so - to **become a member of St. Patrick Church**. Registration forms will be available at a separate table in the Church Hall.

Please reach out to Anne McMillan, who is leading this project, at Annmcmln@yahoo.com with any questions.

Saint Patrick Email Blasts Email blasts are occasionally sent to St. Patrick parishioners with updates on church events, funerals, reminders, etc. If you're **not** currently getting these emails and would like to be added to the distribution list, please send your email address to Billie Keating at bjk6269@comcast.net.

Annual Diocesan Appeal 2023 –

Sharing His Love with Others:

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes clear how different he is from other religious leaders: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

He is the good shepherd, and our Annual Diocesan Appeal exists so that more might find comfort in His fold. We, His sheep, have His voice to guide us. In moments of darkness, He guides us. He gives us clarity, peace, and confidence as His peace is more potent than any earthly trouble. Please consider supporting our Appeal so we can help other souls gain peace.

This parish has the privilege of guidance from the Good Shepherd. This year, help our Annual Diocesan Appeal spread the word about how good it is to be in His fold. He is a leader who we can trust, and He wants our happiness. Please help others find the inner rest we have experienced through reliance on Him through your Appeal gifts, prayers, and kindness.

Special Mass Intentions - Have you ever thought of having a Saturday or Sunday Mass said at St. Patrick's Church in honor of or in memory of a special person in your life? Please call St. Patrick's office at (804) 737-8028 with the person's name to be remembered and the requested date of the Mass. A small donation may be given at your discretion.

Volunteer Opportunity for Gift Bearers – Beginning this Sunday, April 23, you will have the opportunity to sign up each Sunday to bring bread and wine to the altar during Mass. Singles, couples and families are encouraged to sign up as Gift Bearers. Sacristans will help you identify when to leave your pew during Mass, walk to the back of the Church to get the bread and wine from the Sacristan, and when to take up the gifts to the celebrant. A clipboard with Sunday dates through 2023 and a space to sign your names can be found on the tables at the entrance to the Church.

WEEKLY COLLECTION – APRIL 22nd & 23rd, 2023

Weekly

Actual \$3,042.55

Budget \$4,139.00
(\$1,096.45)

Year to date

Actual \$149,705.05

Budget \$177,977.00
(\$28,271.95)

Note: Actual totals include weekly collection and E-giving

MASS ATTENDANCE:

Saturday: 32 Sunday: 147



SPC Emergency # 804-402-1221:

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

Mailing address:

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

Contact & follow us at:

Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Father Maxwell - Pastor:

frmaxwell@stpeterchurch1834.org

Father Nick – Parochial Vicar:

frnickredmond@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Katie Goodloe – Music Minister:

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Michelle Dawson – Wedding Coordinator:

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Donna Baird – Religious Education Coordinator:

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Mitzi Mead – Coordinator of Baptisms

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Eddie Baird – Social Ministry: donnahbaird@yahoo.com

Paulita Matheny – Pastoral Associate & Director of Religious Education:

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