

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

August 12 & 13th 2023

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time



Mass Times:

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

Holy Hour: After mass on
the 3rd Sunday of each month

Sharing Sunday – Our next
Sharing Sunday is September 3rd.

Message from Our Pastor

“Why don’t you pray about it?” Is that not a line we hear often as Christians? What does it mean to take something to prayer?

We are children of God; He has made us to be in communication with Him. We can hear Him, and He consistently tries to communicate with us. How should we communicate with Him?

Be direct: Examples: “I thank you for ‘x’ *because of* ‘y’ that I realized is connected to why ‘x’ is in my life, or ‘why am I suffering because of ‘x’”; “Give me peace today, *because* I am very anxious about “z”.

Take time with the Lord and the issue you need to pray about. It can’t simply be throwing a line, like the examples above, up to heaven. If someone tells me I am impatient, or indecisive, I should take it to the Lord at a time of prayer. Maybe I start my morning or evening offering with the accusation, “Lord, I was told today that I need to be more decisive in my decision making. I bring this to you during this time of prayer, speak to my heart, show me how to grow.” Maybe He begins to speak to your heart through the Divine Office, reading of Sacred Scripture, or any number of other pious devotions. Maybe you keep bringing up the issue until He responds in a way that is clearly according to His purposes.

For years I had been praying that the Lord would free me from a feeling of “being stuck.” My prayer seemed to be “help me to let go.” Then, one day, I was eating lunch and found myself talking to the Lord and I simply said: “OK, I’m done running, free me from this.” In that moment, without expecting anything, it was clear that this internal bondage was *gone*. Three days later we were closing churches because of the health crisis. The Lord

worked in my heart during that time according to his purposes. What about you?

Please be assured of my prayers this week.
Fr. Capuano



Masses for The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Tuesday August 15th.

**St. Patrick – 6pm, St. Peter- 12:05pm,
and St. John 9am & 7pm (bilingual)**

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a holy day of obligation. When I was last a pastor, I regularly emphasized that holy days of *obligation* are holy days of *opportunity*. The Church sees in these days, doorways of grace, moments when we can separate ourselves from the “usual” and “remember” the central tenants of our faith and how the faith is meant to inform the rest of our lives, not the other way around. Let’s ensure that we all come out to a Mass somewhere in the city, maybe take a risk and find a church you don’t usually go to, if the Mass times in the cluster don’t quite work with the strictness of your Tuesday schedule this year. In the Assumption, we see in Our Lady what we ourselves are meant for – the glorification of humanity *in Christ*.

She anticipates in her body, based on received *Prevenient Grace*, what we receive in the sanctifying grace of Baptism, Confirmation, and the regular reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation – directing us toward that blessed life that is anticipated in our daily efforts to remain close to our Lord.

News & Announcements

Religious Education for 2023/2024

Deadline to Sign up is August 20th.

It's time to register your children for Religious Education for 2023/2024. Classes are for students from kindergarten through high school.

If your child is preparing for **First Reconciliation/First Eucharist or Confirmation**, full participation in St. Patrick's Religious Education is required including attendance at all scheduled classes and as well as weekly mass.

Classes will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 on Sunday mornings before 10:45 mass. Please contact Donna at donnabaird@yahoo.com or speak with her after Sunday mass. If you are interested in teaching, please contact Donna as well. Looking forward to another great year!

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey for Welcoming Adult newcomers (inquires) into the Roman Catholic Church. RCIA is for adults who, after having their hearts opened to conversion and faith by the Holy Spirit, seek to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. The RCIA process assists them in becoming full, conscious, active, and ongoing participants in a life with Christ and His Church. RCIA welcomes those who are not baptized, those who are baptized in another Christian tradition and those who are baptized Catholic but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. An RCIA class will be starting at SPC on September 10th. Anyone interested is welcome to join the class. Adults wishing to learn more should contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton before September 10th.

SHARING SUNDAY

Our next Sharing Sunday will be September 3rd. Please drop off your non-perishable food donations at the parish hall before or after mass on Saturday or Sunday. Thank you!

Donations for Veterans

Thank you from the Inpatient Polytrauma Unit at the Central VA Veterans Healthcare System for your generous donations. We brought many boxes of coffees, teas, hot chocolates, cups, sugars, and some other treats. They were so thankful to all of you who took the time to donate. Thankyou!

WEEKLY COLLECTION – August 5 & 6th, 2023

	<u>Weekly</u>
Actual	\$3,283.00
Budget	<u>\$3,747.00</u> (\$464.00)
	<u>Year to date</u>
Actual	\$20,112.70
Budget	<u>\$22,482.00</u> (\$2,369.30)

Note: Actual totals include weekly collection and E-giving

MASS ATTENDANCE:

8/5: 34 8/6: 86

Contact & follow us at:

Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Father Capuano - Pastor:

bcapuano@richmonddioocese.org.

Father Nick – Parochial Vicar:

frnickredmond@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Katie Goodloe – Music Minister:

musicministerkate@gmail.com

Michelle Dawson – Wedding Coordinator:

mjmvacu@aol.com

Donna Baird – Religious Education Coordinator:

donnabaird@yahoo.com

Mitzi Mead – Coordinator of Baptisms

mmead@acelaconsulting.com

Eddie Baird – Social Ministry:

donnabaird@yahoo.com

Paulita Matheny – Pastoral Associate & Director of Religious Education:

Pmatheny@stjohnscatholicchurch.org

Fred Powell – RCIA Catechist:

fmpjr2009@aol.com

Ryland Paxton – RCIA Coordinator:

Paxtonrl8229@marybaldwin.edu

Paul Mazur – K of C: prmazur@gmail.com

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

From Our Pastor

Pastoral Council: Much gratitude goes out to those who have expressed interest in serving on pastoral council for the upcoming year. If there is still interest, please reach out to me in the next week or two, via email: bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org. In the meantime, I will take the names submitted so far to prayer and chat with some of the staff and make a determination how to expand or not moving forward. Whether or not we expand the pastoral council, please know you can always share your views and desires and I want to be receptive to how individuals and groups in our parishes would like to see things grow and develop.

Internal Updating: As mentioned previously, we have acquired the domain names “richmondcluster.org” and “richmondcluster.com”. We will be migrating our email, websites, and calendaring to a new platform in the coming weeks. If you can share photos with me, that would be a big aid toward preparing for renewed communication in the cluster. We’re also considering updating the bulletins and finding ways to provide consistent messaging on the weekend, as well as email communication, through platforms like FlockNotes and similar digital media. If you would like to lend a hand, please be in touch with me: bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org

Schedules, Devotions, etc.: While I’m not quite ready to make adjustments to the liturgical schedule in the cluster, and **at this stage, I am not really looking to make**

changes, I am open to ideas and concerns that you may have within each of the three parishes. What do you need, or want? Are you open to, do you want, alternate daily Mass, confession, adoration times? Is there something about the current schedule that works, or does not work? What about formation opportunities for youth and adults? What are we missing in the community? How can we reconnect with folks who have not come back from the health crisis? These are all concerns to be addressed in pastoral council, but I also want to address broadly with you in the parish. Feel free to send me a note: bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org.

Community Garden: The success of the community garden at St. John has been really impressive, please stay tuned for an opportunity for a blessing and social time for the cluster parishes in the coming weeks.

St. Peter Block Party: Keep an eye on the bulletin for a Saturday in September/October for an opportunity to gather for fun & games at St. Peter.

Duplex next to the Church: As you probably know, through coordination with the St. Patrick Festival and through a lot of hard work from parishioners, and in consultation with the Bishop, the parish was able to purchase one half of the duplex next to the Church (building on the left of the church as you face the front doors). Currently, we have neighbors residing in the top two floors, who will continue to provide rent payment to assist in the debt service, for at least the next year, based on current rental agreements. This will give us

time to discern how the building will be utilized and how we will cover costs into the future. The basement is currently accessible to the parish and is being rented as storage space for the St. Patrick’s Festival. **At present, we are anticipating forming a small group to assist in discerning how the house will be used moving forward. If this is of interest to you, please reach out to me directly, via email: bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org.**

Painting and other projects: As you know, there are a couple painting projects that we need to finish up (the basement back wall, exterior of windows at the rectory). Hopefully we can finish these projects this summer, bids were coming in this week. Many thanks to our parishioners who are quietly working behind the scenes.

Fr. Redmond has been busy finding options for security measures around the Church. With the newly acquired duplex, I felt it was important to have “eyes on” the building, *within reason*. In the next couple of weeks, we’ll be installing a couple cameras around the Church that will include the basement door access to the festival supplies, the side alley where there HVAC units are located, and the back alley near the handicap ramp.

I have a contact to provide some updates to the estimates to continue the restoration process for some of our stained-glass windows. From what I can tell, the windows are in good shape, but the frames and screens on some of the windows need to be addressed. More to come when we get some price quotes and can get a professional opinion on the condition of the windows themselves.