

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

November 4 ~ 5th, 2023



Thirty First 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 ~ November 5th.

Message from Our Pastor

These last few weeks have been a trial for us as we daily receive reports of terrible unrest in the Holy Land. From the first moments of the news breaking, I have noticed a new personal awareness as I approach the psalms in the daily recitation of the Divine Office (Morning and Evening Prayer, etc.), and the texts of the daily readings.

Consider the last stanza of today's Psalm: "O Israel, hope in the Lord, both now and forever." Amid the news of horrible atrocities and the response of the Israeli government, it is incumbent upon us as Christians, as members of the New Israel, to pray for swift peace and an end to the violence that has torn apart the region of the world that was sanctified by the footsteps of the Lord.

Christ is our Hope. Our Faith leads us to substantial Hope and the realization of Love.

The way to root our faith is to take up the posture of the Psalmist: "I busy **not** myself with great things, nor with things too sublime for me. Nay rather, I have stilled and quieted my soul like a weaned child. Like a weaned child on its mother's lap, so is my soul within me."

This past week, I heard a report of a Palestinian Christian whose home is in Gaza. He was reduced to hiding in his parish church, one of the few places in his town that is safe. He heard that his home had been destroyed and he emphasized that his only hope now is the Resurrection of Christ and the glory promised to those who follow Him. That faith is what we aim for – a faith that will allow us

the rest of child nestled in the tender embrace of Holy Mother Church.

Let us pray for the people of the Holy Land, that peace may reign. Our Lady of Palestine, pray for us. Please be assured of my prayers this week. - Fr. Capuano

News & Announcements



Donate a Turkey: In the spirit of Thanksgiving and as in years past, please consider donating a frozen turkey to the St. Francis Home where they will provide Thanksgiving dinner to the residents and their visiting families. Turkey donations may be dropped off in St. Patrick's Church Hall in back freezer on Sundays 11/5, 11/12 & 11/19/23 before or after Mass. Contact Eddie Baird 804-986-2898.

The 2024 Sunday Missals: Now available in the vestibule with a suggested \$5.00 donation

CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST: The Knights of Columbus will be holding the Real Meaning of Christmas Poster Contest beginning on Sunday 11/19 with judging on Sunday 12/3. This is open to all children & teens between the ages of 3-17. Please see Donna Baird for details.

JESSIE TREE BOOKS: The K of C will be selling Jessie Tree books as well as books and ornament sets beginning on Saturday, 11/12 until Sun. 11/26. The books are \$10.00 each & are ideal if you would like to make your own ornaments. A limited number of ornament & book sets are available for \$25.00 each in the church hall.

Love and Mercy – A Women's Retreat,
Saturday, November 11th, at St. John: In collaboration with the lay missionary community, Missioners of Christ, and their women's ministry, *Cor Christi*, the women in the parish are invited to register to attend a day-long retreat on Saturday, November 11th at St. John from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM. Fr. Capuano will be presenting a series of talks, there will be time for Mass, adoration, confession, fellowship, and opportunities to grow in your faith. **Who:** All women (aged 10 and up, all youth should be accompanied by adult relatives) **Where:** St. John, Highland Springs **When:** Saturday, November 11; 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM (the retreat begins with Mass in the Church, with registration and fellowship to follow. **How to register:** https://www.flipcause.com/secure/cause_pde tails/MTg5NzQ2 or scan the QR Code Please contact Fr. Capuano for more info

Pastoral Council: On Thursday, October 19th we had our fall installment of the Pastoral Council. After reflection, and offers from multiple parishioners throughout the cluster, I asked that Linda Shisler (St. Peter), Nancy Heltman (St. John), and Kathryn Gaines (St. Patrick) to serve the parishes on Pastoral Council as additional members. Eddie Baird has agreed to serve as Chair and Nancy Heltman has agreed to serve as Secretary. **Our next meeting is set for November 29th at 5:00 PM at St. Patrick.**

I have tasked the Council to think about how we are presenting the Gospel in the parishes and how we can shift the focus of our parish communities to focus on Sunday as the preeminent day of the week. What are your needs, how can we be more intentional in our communities to serve the needs of those who come to church and those who *could* come? Feel free to send reflections and considerations for the Council to bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org.

Liturgical ministry workshop: Thank you to everyone who was able to be present for the workshop. For those unable to attend, please see one of the priests or other ministers who benefited from the time to learn about Fr. Capuano's perspectives on the liturgy and how we will be adjusting our celebrations to draw more closely to the Lord and one another and to ensure we are all growing in our liturgical understanding of the Sacred Liturgy.

You may have noticed that we have added 6 candles to the altars at St. John and St. Patrick. Why? Additionally, through some dedicated gifts, we are hoping to add more candles to the various altars at St. Peter. Traditionally, "high" or "solemn" Masses required a minimum of four or six candles, with a seventh added when the bishop is present, it adds a bit of solemnity and focus to fix the eye on the altar that represents Christ. Traditionally, two candles are also lit on an altar where the Blessed Sacrament is present, and used, during a particular celebration... more to come.

EMAIL BLASTS: Occasionally, email blasts are sent to St. Patrick parishioners with church event details or other items of note. If you haven't been receiving emails and would like to be on the St. Patrick distribution list, please email Billie Keating at bjk6269@comcast.net.

The 2024 Catholic Art Calendars have arrived at St. Pat's & may be picked up in vestibule.

State of the Parish: Thanks very much for your kind attention to the "State of the Parish" conversation. As mentioned in previous bulletins and in general conversation, please see some basic facts about the duplex property that will help fill out some of the details that may or may not have been conveyed in the past:

1. Fr. Maxwell sent a letter to the parish inviting feedback around the time that

the property was up for purchase. Information was subsequently conveyed to the parish-at-large about the purchase, after the project was considered by the Bishop, diocesan offices, and parish finance council.

2. Purchase price: \$535,000
 - a. \$358,000 from General Savings
 - b. \$178,000 financed 10-year note, to be paid over the course of time by regular payments by the Irish Festival proceeds.
3. The property is currently managed by *Real Property Management*. We have 2 tenants (the 3rd floor lease expires on 31 July 2024. The 2nd floor lease expires on 30 September 2024. Both units comprise independently accessed units for separate tenants and include 1 or 2 bedrooms, other living spaces, kitchens, and appliances. The roof is in "good" condition currently. There is parking available for the unit, behind the building.
4. As communicated previously, the Irish Festival Committee is renting out the "English Basement" for storage.
5. We will need to let the current tenants know of our intentions regarding the units by the spring.
6. Immediate possible options:
 - a. Continue to rent out the 3rd and 2nd floors as income and to pay the parish/ Irish Festival back for the investment.
 - b. Flip one or both units for new tenants for investment.
 - c. Flip one or both units for a collaboration with the Office of the Vicar for Clergy for priest housing.

- d. Flip one or both units for the establishment of a parish office and auxiliary needs of the parish.
- e. *All of these ideas are presently being considered by a committee of individuals in consultation with the Finance Council and collaboration with the Office of Finance.*

As always, don't hesitate to reach out with concerns, questions, and ideas - Fr. Capuano



WEEKLY COLLECTION October 28 & 29th, 2023

	<u>Weekly</u>
Actual	\$2,160.55
Budget	<u>\$3,747.00</u> (\$986.45)
	<u>Year to date</u>
Actual	\$60,828.24
Budget	<u>\$67,446.00</u> (\$6,617.76)

Mass Attendance: 10/28: 31 10/29: 117

Note: Actual totals include weekly collection and E-giving



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
Office Phone # 804-737-8028

Contact & follow us at:

Office: office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org

Father Capuano - Pastor:
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Father Nick – Parochial Vicar:
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Katie Goodloe – Music Minister:
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