

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

December 16 & 17th, 2023



Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Times:

Saturdays at 5:30pm &

Sundays at 10:45am

Holy Hour: After mass on the 3rd

Sunday of each

Sharing Sunday - January 7th



SANTA BREAKFAST:

Join us Sunday after 10:45 Mass for breakfast with a special guest!

Message from Our Pastor

“Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.” This is a tough invitation from St. Paul in the second reading. It is a reminder that as we await the Lord’s Second Coming, we take a break from the season of penitence, and on this day, rejoice that He is already present among us, uniquely in the sacraments.

Today, Gaudate Sunday, “gaudate,” comes from the opening Introit, “Rejoice, in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.”

The Lord is near. we take a break from the more austere nature of the season to decorate the Church and provide a more elevated tone to our music, recognizing that the Lord is here!

It is an invitation to “rejoice” that He is among us and that we can draw close to Him in prayer daily with great confidence.

Consider this week how you might rejoice in the midst of difficulties and find ways of deliberately renewing your devotion to the Lord throughout this most blessed of seasons in the life of the Church.

Please be assured of my prayers.

Fr. Capuano

News & Announcements

CHURCH HILL HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR:

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Church Hill Holiday House Tour last weekend.

Thanks to those who made those delicious cookie treats, setup, cleaned up, gave church tours to our guests, as well as provided hospitality. The event was a success and gave us an opportunity for our community to see our parish.



2024 IRISH FESTIVAL:

The Board of Directors of the Church Hill Irish Festival voted to move the festival from its regular weekend to the weekend of March 16 & 17th. We are looking forward to getting things rolling in the new year with planning meetings and getting our fantastic volunteers set up!

FreeWill & Catholic Community Foundation

The diocese has partnered with FreeWill to offer a **free, comprehensive estate planning tool**. This will allow you to prepare your “estate” & consider supporting our parishes through a unique contribution. St. Peter & St. Patrick have both benefited from significant gifts over the last year that have enabled the parishes to maintain & develop programming for the communities due to individual end-of-life contributions that called each of the parishes “home.” Visit: <https://www.freewill.com/richmondcatholicfoundation> for more information

Finances: You may or may not have noticed the weekly deficit to the budget. All three parishes rely on one another to ensure that we can manage costs, support staff, and keep doors open. **St. Patrick is lagging behind and not pulling its weight.** Without your generosity, we are not in a place to be able to keep the Church accessible to the faithful.

Moving forward, we cannot assume that the Irish Festival contributions will continue. While the Festival is not going anywhere anytime soon, we cannot assume they will always have funding to support the parish and our various needs. **We need to support ourselves.** Recently the ice machine broke down, I do not have funding to fix it or replace it and we have had additional maintenance costs in other areas of the building. Without consistent commitments to the parish general offertory, we will be forced to pull funds from our endowments – this is not sustainable long-term. Please consider making a regular contribution to the general offertory through E-Giving. If you are already doing so, thank you for your generosity. Without our combined sacrifices, I will have to consider cutting efforts to grow the parish and will be forced to slow efforts to support needed restoration and maintenance of the buildings. For those not contributing anything, why not? For those who have made a commitment to E-Giving, have you reviewed your contribution? At one point in the past, I didn't review my own contributions to the Church for ten years, I could have been making adjustments for change in pay and inflation. If you don't regularly attend St. Patrick, but consider it home, please consider making a regular contribution to ensure we can keep this little parish open in the city. Thank you in advance for your prayerful generosity and continued support of the parish. - Fr. Capuano

Holy Day Schedule for Saint Patrick for December and January

As you are aware, the celebration of Advent and Christmas poses some unique challenges for us this year, since the fourth Sunday of Advent is on Sunday, December 24th. To that end and given the limitation of our priests and guest celebrants, we have a modified liturgical schedule for the 4th Sunday of Advent. Please note that Catholics are obligated to attend Holy Mass on Sunday and all Holy Days. So don't plan on coming on Christmas only to the exclusion of the 4th Sunday of Advent!

Tuesday, December 19

7:00 PM Confession
(St. Paul, 909 Rennie Avenue, Richmond)

Wednesday, December 20

7:00 PM Confession
(Cathedral, 823 Cathedral Place, Richmond)

Saturday, December 23 – 4th Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Confession (St. Patrick)
4:30 PM Confession (St. Patrick, St. John)
5:30 PM Mass (St. Patrick, St. John)

Sunday, December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Mass (St. Peter)
10:45 AM Mass (St. Patrick)
10:45 AM Mass (St. John – Bilingual)
*The 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Mass
are cancelled for this day only.*

Sunday, December 24 – Christmas

4:00 PM Mass (St. Peter, St. Patrick)
6:00 PM Mass (St. John, English)
8:00 PM Mass (St. John, Spanish)

Monday, December 25 – Christmas

MIDNIGHT Mass (St. Patrick)
8:30 AM Mass (St. Peter)
10:45 AM Mass (St. Patrick)
10:45 AM Mass (St. John, Bilingual)
*Daily confession and 12:05 PM Mass is
cancelled for this day only.*

Wednesday, December 27 – Patronal Feast of St. John 9AM Mass (St. John)

Saturday-Sunday, December 30-31 – Feast of the Holy Family *Regular Weekend Mass Schedule*

Monday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary Mother of God *Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year* 9:15 AM Confession (St. Peter) 10:00 AM Mass (St. Peter, St. Patrick, St. John)



Weekly Collection December 9th & 10th 2023

| | <u>Weekly</u> |
|--------|-------------------|
| Actual | \$5,269.55 |
| Budget | <u>\$4,963.55</u> |
| | \$306.00 |

| | <u>Year to date</u> |
|--------|---------------------|
| Actual | \$86,079.54 |
| Budget | <u>\$89,928.00</u> |
| | (\$3,848.46) |

Mass Attendance: 12/9: 40 12/10: 129

**Note: Actual totals include weekly
collection and E-giving**

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:
mjmvcu@aol.com

Donna Baird – Religious Education Coordinator:
donnaibaird@yahoo.com

Mitzi Mead – Coordinator of Baptisms
mmead@acelaconsulting.com

Eddie Baird – Social Ministry:
donnaibaird@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
Office Phone # 804-737-8028