



**SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**800 East Grace Street**

**P. O. Box 933**

**Richmond, Virginia 23218-0933**

**Office: 804-643-4315**

[www.stpeterchurch1834.org](http://www.stpeterchurch1834.org)

**Emergency – If someone is dying or there has been a death, please call: 804-402-1221**

**Mass Schedule**

**Sunday: 8:30 & 10:45 am Weekday: 12:05 pm**

**Holy Day: Call the Parish Office or See Notices**

**Confession: Mon. thru Fri., 11:45 am**

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**July 3, 2016**

**Mass Intention: Imre Radvany**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

**ENTRANCE** #618

O Christ the Great Foundation

**PSALM** #906

Let all the earth cry out, cry out to God with joy.

**OFFERTORY** #470

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

**COMMUNION** #685

O Holy City, Seen of John

**RECESSIONAL** #704

Lift High the Cross

**HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED**

David Adams, Carolyn Alford, Anthony Arrighi, Rollo Brown, Steve Campbell, Stuart Cary, David Coffman, Bill Holzgreffe, Shirley Hudson, Camilla Hull (mother of Doyle Hull), Connie Klyver, (friend of Ginnie & Marilyn), Maria Konwerska, Emma Mednikov, Jim Melton, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor, Greg Stowers, Bob Webster, Flordeliza Ybanez. Thank you for your prayers.

**If you know of anyone who is sick, hospitalized, homebound, or dying and desires a visit from a priest, please call or email us. Without your help, we have no way of knowing.**

**LECTOR & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**8:30 am:** Bill Lipchak Extraordinary Ministers:

Doug Dewing, Tom Fahed, Barbara Goode

**FINANCE:** Ron Hurst, Doug Dewing, Kris Mednikov

**10:45 am:** Marie Martinelli Extraordinary Ministers:

Joe Naman, Kimberly Taylor, Mimi Schoof

**FINANCE:** John Rogers, Patty Talley

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**8:30 am:** Maggie Wilkins Extraordinary Ministers:

Adriane Allen-Henderson, Bill Lipchak, Cathy Lipchak

**FINANCE:** Kathleen & Anthony Seal, Tom Fahed

**10:45 am:** Joe Naman Extraordinary Ministers:

Nancy Gowen, Jim Martinelli, Marie Martinelli

**FINANCE:** Kathy Kelly, Richard Williams

**SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon.: Mass Intention: Thomas Swanson

Tues.: Mass Intention: John Simons

Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Wed.: Mass Intention: Donald Kiesler

Thurs: Mass Intention: Doris Conklin

Fri.: Mass Intention: Alfred Konwerski

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Good day everyone and Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!!!

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is an American holiday. We celebrate our birthday, our independence day as a country. Many people sacrificed their lives so that we could live in the country we live in and have the many blessings we are afforded by living in the United States.

As Christians, as Catholics, we love our country even though we obviously love our God and our faith first and foremost. We love especially those things about our country that enhance or encourage the functioning of our spiritual and religious life. To the extent that laws and cultures of the United States allow us and even encourage us to seek God and live good and virtuous lives, as God would have us do, then those laws and cultures are to be applauded. To the extent that laws and cultures of the United States inhibit our ability to pursue God through our religious practices, then we reject those laws and cultures. This is because God obviously takes precedence in our lives above all else. Obedience to divine laws, to God, is what pleases God...who has the keys to Heaven. Our allegiance is first and foremost to Him and His Church, which we are part of a baptized believers, as Catholic Christians. That is why I always tell young men and women who are excited to lay down their lives for their country in military service that, while although that is wonderfully honorable and laudable, they should consider laying down their lives for their Church as priests and consecrated religious, who are the special forces of God in the Church.

Unfortunately, although we enjoy many blessings and graces because of our ability to worship God and practice our religion in the United States, there are a number of very significant dangers that are growing and stealing our religious freedom.

Last week, the president of the United States' administration for health declared that Catholic Churches and Universities have to pay for abortions through their medical insurance. This ruling was made in regards to the state of California where the issue was being argued.

Abortion is the taking of innocent life. It is a terrible evil and we will never, never, never participate in it. This action by our government disallows us as Catholics to practice our religion. It is very, very wrong. The USCCB said "it is shocking...to force all employers – even churches – to fund and facilitate elective abortions.

This is only one instance of our rights being stripped away. There have been many, many such infringements in recent years on our rights as Catholics, on our Catholic churches, on our Catholic universities and our Catholic schools that are stopping us from living the truth that God has revealed in the areas of respect-life, in the areas of family planning vs artificial contraception, and in the area of marriage between a man and a woman. There are even affronts and attacks to our ability to say what a man is and what a woman is!!! "Male and female he created them..."!!!

I do not know where the madness will end. But I can tell you, that we as a Church have been through this before.

We have been around through many countries' rising and falling and while there may be a few who acquiesce to the mind-of-the-times from within the Church, there will always be the martyrs who lay down their lives for the sake of the truth. And they will always have the last laugh, they will always be the ones who wear a crown of righteousness in Heaven. Remember Jesus said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted because of me, for their reward will be great in Heaven."

I hope and pray for the United States on its birthday. I hope that leaders will open their hearts to conversion and the will of God. God's Spirit desires to help all leaders to guide them as they make decision for the common good. I hope and pray those leaders will be receptive to His divine guidance.

Happy birthday America. I hope you will be as good as God wants you to be.

Fr. Rossi

**Attention Alumni** of All Saints, St. Paul's, St. Elizabeth's, St. Patrick's, Van de Vyver Catholic Schools and all those who celebrate the tradition of Catholic education – the All Saints' sponsored "reunion" will be held again in the fall of 2018. To ensure you are on the invitation list for the next reunion, send your contact information (name, full address, e-mail address, phone number, school and year of graduation) to [allsaintsreunion@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsreunion@gmail.com) or mail to 3418 Noble Ave., Richmond, VA 23222, Attn: Alyssa McBride. Please visit the ALUMNI page at [www.allsaintsric.org](http://www.allsaintsric.org) for regular updates. Thank you!

**Outreach & Social Ministry – 178 lunches** were served to the homeless on Tuesday, June 28, 2016. **67 dinners** were served to the homeless on Wednesday, June 29, 2016. Thanks so much to all who help make this ministry possible.

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$3,461.00</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<b><u>2,723.00</u></b>
Loss	<b>\$ 738.00</b>
Budgeted income was determined during spring of 2015 budgeting process by Fr. Brownell and Finance Council.	

**Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi:** [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)  
**Rev. Danny Cogut:** [dcogut@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:dcogut@richmonddiocese.org)  
**Rev. Frank Wiggins:** [Padreop@verizon.net](mailto:Padreop@verizon.net)  
**Deacon Miguel Melendez:**  
[miguelmelendeztc@gmail.com](mailto:miguelmelendeztc@gmail.com)  
**Office:** [stpeterchurch2@aol.com](mailto:stpeterchurch2@aol.com)