



**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**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 11, 2016**

**Mass Intention: Delorious Burrell**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

**ENTRANCE** #363

Lift Up Your Heads O Mighty Gates

**PSALM** #772

O Lord come and save us.

**OFFERTORY** #367

O Come Divine Messiah

**COMMUNION** #357

O Come O Come Emmanuel

**RECESSIONAL** #373

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

**Holy Communion** – *This is a reminder that Holy Communion, in the Catholic Church, is reserved to actively practicing Catholics. If you are not Catholic or have not been actively practicing your faith, then please refrain from receiving Communion. If you would like to learn how to be welcomed to full Communion, we would love to help. All you need to do is contact a priest. Our contact info is in this bulletin.*

**HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED**

David Adams, Carolyn Alford, Anthony Arrighi, Rollo Brown, Steve Campbell, 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, Craig Trowbridge, Greg Stowers, Bob Webster. 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:** Will Rogers Extraordinary Ministers: Samantha Perez, Maggie Wilkins, Robert Wilkins

**FINANCE:** Rose & Roger Mayer, Rosemary McDowell

**10:45 am:** Richard Williams Extraordinary Ministers:

Marie Martinelli, Joe Naman, Mimi Schoof

**FINANCE:** Eileen Zorzi, Chris Thomas

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**8:30 am:** Samantha Perez Extraordinary Ministers:

Doug Dewing, Tom Fahed, Barbara Goode

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

**10:45 am:** Kim Taylor Extraordinary Ministers:

Kim Taylor, Nancy Gowen, Jim Martinelli

**FINANCE:** Kathy Kelly, Mary Wayte

**SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon.: Mass Intention: Audrey Lewis

Tues.: Mass Intention: Anthony Gambardella, Jr.

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

Wed.: Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Members of the Makhlof Family

Thurs: Mass Intention: Frances Patterson

Fri.: Mass Intention: Henry Miller

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Good day to all!

Happy Gaudete Sunday!

If you know Latin, you know ‘Gaudete’ means ‘rejoice’.

The word “Gaudete” is taken from the first word of the introit of the Mass today. You might be asking, what’s an ‘introit?’ The introit is the introductory phrase of the Mass that you will hear if you go to a Mass without music, in which case the priest will recite the introit before saying ‘in the name of the Father...’

Or some Churches chant the introit before the opening hymn, which is preferable. We are going to work towards doing that.

In any respect, it is 'rejoice' or 'joy' Sunday. I love this Sunday.

Why? Because if we're going to be joyful at least one day of the year, we've got to be joyful this Sunday. We 'rejoice' this Sunday because we are soooooo clooooooosoooo to the greatest day in the history of humanity. We are soooooo clooooooosoooo to Christmas, so we rejoice and are joyful, as the introit says.

Did you know the Christian life is a life of joy? I am a Christian because I want to be happy in life. The Christian life is a life of J - O - Y. Did you know that?

J - O - Y stands for Jesus, Others, Yourself. The Christian life is for Jesus first, Others second, and Yourself last.

But wait a minute. I thought the Christian life was about joy. How can it be about joy if all I am focused on is Jesus and others and I don't have any time to focus on myself?

Exactly!!!

The reason the Christian life is a life of joy is precisely because the Christian life is about focusing on Jesus first (God), and others second...before focusing on ourselves.

We are happy when we are not focused on ourselves and worrying about ourselves. When we spend ourselves in service to God and in service to others, we experience joy and happiness. Alternatively, when we focus on ourselves, we are not. Plain and simple.

Human experience bears witness to this.

I think of children in third world countries, who have nothing but their faith in God and the other children they live with in very close quarters (they don't have separate homes to keep them apart) and all I see are smiles on their faces. They have nothing but God and each other, and they are happy.

Then I think of children with every toy and game system and cell phone known to man, and I see sadness, depression, loneliness, and anxiety. It seems backwards.

But it makes perfect sense. The more we have time to focus on ourselves, the more toys we have that cause us to be self-absorbed, the less fulfilled we will be.

Alternatively, the less we have to worry about personally, the more we can be consumed with what is going on with others, with the needs of others, and most importantly, the will of God.

That's what Jesus meant when He said, he who loses his life will find it, and he who tries to save his life will lose it.

Giving our lives away gives us joy. And the order we give them away is J - O - Y. Jesus first. Others second. Yourself last.

I'm not crazy. I just want to be happy. And I promise, it works.

I hope you are having a wonderful Advent! Fr. Rossi

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$3,288.00</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<b>7,425.89</b>
<b>Gain</b>	<b>\$4,137.89</b>

**ATTENTION: Envelopes for 2017 will be mailed in a few weeks. All registered families will be receiving a box. Your envelope number may change for the 2017 envelopes. Please DO NOT use 2016 envelopes in 2017. BE SURE TO put your name, check number and amount on your Sunday Collection Envelopes.**

**Outreach & Social Ministry – 112 lunches were served on Tuesday, Dec. 6. 72 dinners were served on Wednesday, Dec. 7. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who serve God's people.**

**FUNERAL MASS – There will be a funeral Mass for Jason Haskins on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 12:05 pm. Interment will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery.**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – To donate toward Christmas flowers, please return your envelope by Sunday, December 18, 2016. Envelopes are on the table at the back of the church.**

#### **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**December 24, Carols start at 5:00 pm, Mass starts at 5:30 pm.**

**December 25, Masses are at 8:30 and 10:45 am.**

**THE MYSTERY OF GOD – a DVD produced by Bishop Robert Baron – the video runs approximately 25 minutes, after which we can discuss the topic. This will be an opportunity for us to grow in our faith and interact with members of St. Peter. The first session will be on January 8, 2017, after the 8:30 Mass. We can grab a cup of coffee and a goody and watch a thought provoking video together.**

**THE FILIPINO COMMISSION FOR THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND, in coordination with the parish Council of Women and Knights of Columbus, cordially invite you to the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm, December 17, at St. John's second year Simbang Gabi (Mass at dusk). A reception at the Social Hall will follow for a light fare and featuring Sayaw Diversity Group to perform a collection of Philippine dances.**

**COFFEE – downstairs in the Parish Hall after each Mass on Sunday. Come down, join in and get to know your parish family.**

**Emails:**  
**Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi:** [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)  
**Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda:** [livasia@gmail.com](mailto:livasia@gmail.com)  
**Rev. Frank Wiggins:** [Padreop@verizon.net](mailto:Padreop@verizon.net)  
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