



**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**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 4, 2016**

**Mass Intention: Paulette Topuz**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

**ENTRANCE** #356

On Jordan's Bank

**PSALM** #769

Justice shall flourish in His time and fullness of peace forever.

**OFFERTORY** #370

Comfort Comfort O My People

**COMMUNION** #358

The Voice of God Goes Out Through

All the World

**RECESSIONAL** #708

Immaculate Mary

**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:** Samantha Perez Extraordinary Ministers:

Adriane Henderson, Bill Lipchak, Cathy Lipchak

**FINANCE:** Bill & Cathy Lipchak, Gabi Wolz

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

Mimi Schoof, Nancy Gowen, Jim Martinelli

**FINANCE:** John Rogers, Steve Gerloff

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**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

**SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon.: Mass Intention: Aubrey Stutz

Tues.: Mass Intention: Margaret McCaffrey

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

Wed.: Mass Intention: Antoinette Davenport

Thurs: Mass Intention: Richard Gray

Fri.: Mass Intention: Stanley Rolan

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Happy Advent everyone!

I hope everyone had a great week as we speed along to welcome our Savior's coming to us this Christmas. That is what Advent is for.

Advent is a time to double-down on our love for God, to become excited for the most wonderful event that ever happened to us, to get ready to receive the greatest gift we will ever receive at Christmas, the birth of God in a man, the birth of Jesus.

Jesus is the reason for the season. All the joy and happiness we experience this season as we look forward to Christmas would all be shallow, empty and ultimately end in utter disappointment if it were not backed up by God's love for humanity as shown by Him taking on human flesh.

Jesus is the best gift, the gift that keeps on giving, the gift that will never be outdone.

But since it is his birthday, we should get him something. It is rude to go to a birthday party and be empty-handed.

But what do you get a guy who can do anything, who can make a planet from nothing, who has millions of angels at his every back and call, who rides on clouds, wears a diamond crown and lives in a mansion made of gold (as *Revelation* tells us)?

There is one thing God wants for Christmas from each of us. He can deal with the stinky manger he had to put up with when he was born. He can deal with the insects, the farm animals, and the hay he had to lay on. None of that would turn him off or stop him from coming.

But there is one thing that will hinder him coming this Christmas. There is one thing that will sow him in coming among us...and it has nothing to do with these physical, external discomforts...

The only thing that can hinder God coming among us this Christmas are unprepared hearts.

Unprepared hearts are unwelcoming...and they are the only thing God is slow to enter.

Alternatively, we can prepare our hearts with relative ease. God takes even our smallest efforts at trying to become ready and says "good enough, here I come!!!"

We can spend a little more time in prayer. We can read the daily readings from Mass. We can attend daily Mass occasionally. We can be a little more generous with our wealth. These are all good things that we can intentionally do to prepare for God's coming this Christmas, all of which He greatly delights in.

But the best thing I can think of to do, in order to prepare our hearts for Christmas, is go to Confession with a priest. Confession, like no other thing, makes our hearts a dwelling for God.

God understands our struggle in the world, after all, he lived it as well. That is why he gave us a way to start over, to calm our hearts from the stresses of this life by confessing our sins.

There are tons of places to confess this Advent. We have confessions every Saturday, 4:30 pm at St. Patrick and St. John, every day 11:45 am at St. Peter, as well as anytime, just ask a priest.

We are also having a penance service at St. John on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm with multiple priests to hear confessions.

I have never met a person who regretted going to confession. It is very good for us, for our hearts.

Get ready. He is coming.

Fr. Rossi

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| <b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b> | <b>\$3,288.00</b> |
| <b>Collection</b>             | <b>2,463.26</b>   |
| <b>Loss</b>                   | <b>\$ 824.74</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** – 145 lunches were served on Tuesday, Nov. 29. 75 dinners were served on Wednesday, Nov. 30. 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 Concert: Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Please join us for the 2017 Christmas Concert, which will be held at St. Patrick Church on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm. The concert will highlight a combined choir with vocalists and instrumentalists from St. John, St. Patrick, and St. Peter. Several solos and ensembles will also perform along with a children's choir. You and your families are invited to join us for a night of Christmas music as we prepare to welcome our infant Savior. For more information, please contact Angie Pometto at [apometto@gmail.com](mailto:apometto@gmail.com).

**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:** [ginpaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginpaulrossi@hotmail.com)

**Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda:** [livasia@gmail.com](mailto:livasia@gmail.com)

**Rev. Frank Wiggins:** [Padreop@verizon.net](mailto:Padreop@verizon.net)

**Office:** [stpeterchurch2@aol.com](mailto:stpeterchurch2@aol.com)