



SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 East Grace Street

P. O. Box 933

Richmond, Virginia 23218-0933

Office: 804-643-4315

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

1st Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2017

Mass Intention: Louise Jones

TODAY'S MUSIC

ENTRANCE	#422
The Glory of These Forty Days	
PSALM	#787
Be merciful O Lord for we have sinned.	
OFFERTORY	#755
Our Father We Have Wandered	
COMMUNION	#636
I Danced in the Morning	
RECESSIONAL	#420
Again We Keep This Solemn Fast	

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.*

LECTOR & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

TODAY'S MASS

8:30 am: Bill Lipchak Extraordinary Ministers: Doug Dewing, Tom Fahed, Adriane Allen-Henderson

FINANCE: Rose & Roger Mayer, Tom Fahed

10:45 am: Nancy Eckler Extraordinary Ministers: Mimi Schoof, Nancy Gowen, Jim Martinelli

FINANCE: John Rogers, Patty Talley

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30 am: Samantha Perez Extraordinary Ministers: Barbara Goode, Bill Lipchak, Samantha Perez

FINANCE: Gabi Wolz, Bill Lipchak

10:45 am: Steve Gerloff Extraordinary Ministers: Marie Martinelli, Joe Naman, Mimi Schoof

FINANCE: Chris Thomas, Cathy Kelly

HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED

David Adams, Rollo Brown, Steve Campbell, David Coffman, Bill Holzgreffe, Shirley Hudson, Camilla Hull (mother of Doyle Hull), Connie Klyver, (friend of Ginnie & Marilyn), Maria Konwerska, Cathy Lipchak, Emma Mednikov, Jim Melton, Nancy Naman, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor. 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.

SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS

- Mon.: Mass Intention: Special Intention
- Tues.: Mass Intention: Elizabeth M. Beall
- Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Wed.: Mass Intention: Chrissy Bottcher
- Thurs: Mass Intention: John Simons
- Fri.: Mass Intention: Steven Iannotta

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy Lent everyone!!!!

I hope you are feeling the graces!!!!

These times are when God gives us a little extra help in our lives to feel His presence. Just because we are blessed enough to be part of His family as Catholics, as Christians, He gives us this time or a little extra outpouring of Himself. He is very, very, very generous to us. He spoils us!!!

So for the next 40 days we have the opportunity to be a little more spiritual and a little less stressed about the world, to have our heads a little more in the clouds and out of the mud, a little more care free from the problems of the world and a little more focused on the time when we won't have any problems ever again (Heaven!!!!)

Has anyone ever wondered why Lent is 40 days? Why not 45? Why not 30...like a month? Why is Lent 40 days?

Well, there are a few reasons.

40 is a very important number in the bible. Here's a few times when '40' was important.

When God destroyed the earth in the days of Noah, He caused it to rain for 40 days. God was cleansing the earth for 40 days. Sort of like the spiritual cleansing we experience during Lent.

The people of Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years after they escaped from pharaoh, until God brought them into the promised land...which is sort of like us wandering through the desert of this life until we reach our promised land...the desert was not too much fun for the Jewish people...although God provided just enough for them to get through it...again sort of like us Christians now...

Moses, as he was leading the people through the desert, spent 40 days on the mountain with God. He removed himself from regular life in order to listen and commune with God. Sort of like how we strive to focus more on spiritual things during Lent, and escape regular life a little more.

Elijah was in the desert 40 days before he went to Mount Horeb, where he encountered the presence of God in the tiny whisper. This was a very important time of spiritual renewal after completing very exhaustive work. Anyone who has ever done Christian ministry will testify that without a solid prayer life to be renewed through after doing God's work, it's impossible to persevere long-term and not get burnt out.

In the New Testament, Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting and praying, resisting the temptations of the devil, before he began his ministry. This was similarly a time of focus and of contemplation of what awaited Him in the days ahead. He followed the example of those prophets who went before Him and demonstrates an example for those who would follow after.

I am sure there are other examples as well.

Have a great Lent! It's only 40 days and it will be gone before we know it. Enjoy the extra grace. It cost God everything but He gives it to us...free!!!!!!!!!!!!

Fr. Rossi

FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION, a *Rachel's Vineyard Retreat*, sponsored by Church of the Epiphany, will be held March 24-26, 2017. This retreat is for women and men who have known regret, sorrow, guilt, or shame from abortion. The weekend combines living scripture meditations, spiritual exercises, and discussions in a guided process that leads to the heart of God's love and compassion. If you would like to learn more about this retreat you can contact Marty Montgomery-Jennings at 804-704-0429 or email: RV4hope@gmail.com.

Outreach & Social Ministry – 128 lunches were served on Tuesday, Feb. 28. **65 dinners** were served on Wednesday, Mar. 1. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who serve God's people.

Our presentation of Bishop Barron's DVD continues with *Untold Blessings* – This is the last of this series. On March 12, we will begin a new series on some of the pivotal players in our Church. The first is about Francis of Assisi. Each in this series is approximately one hour and there are six.

Give it up. Pay it Forward – Are you thinking of giving something up for Lent? This year, give it up and pay it forward at the same time! Giving up your morning coffee or pastry? Donate the money to support Commonwealth Catholic Charities' food pantries instead!

2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal: *Building Our Family of Faith*
The 2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal is now underway. Many of you have received a letter from Bishop DiLorenzo asking for your support. For those of you who did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond to it, we will conduct our In-Pew pledge process at all Masses during the weekends of March 11-12 and 18-19. It is very important for all of us to make a gift to the 2017 Appeal.

Each gift that is contributed to the Appeal makes a real difference because the gifts of many enable our Diocese to deliver needed ministries and services such as heating and grocery assistance to families, health insurance for our retired priests and tuition for our future priests to attend the seminary.

In addition, all parishes receive back a portion of their funds collected to be used for important local priorities. All pledges can be paid in 10 convenient monthly installments. Please answer Bishop DiLorenzo's request and make a generous gift. Thank you in advance for your support.

St. John's Lenten Dinners – Don't miss the delicious Lenten Dinners at our sister parish, St. John's, located at 813 West Nine Mile Rd., Highland Springs, VA 23075, every Friday during Lent from 5-7 PM. Fried and baked fish and a diverse seafood selection are on the menu; and for those non-fish lovers, delicious pastas will be served. There will also be Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM.

Coffee – downstairs in the Parish Hall after each Mass on Sunday. Join us and get to know your church family.

Emails:

- Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi:** ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com
- Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda:** livasia@gmail.com
- Rev. Frank Wiggins:** Padreop@verizon.net
- Office:** stpeterchurch2@aol.com

Budgeted Weekly Income	\$3,288.00
Collection	<u>3,640.97</u>
Gain	\$ 352.97