



**SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**800 East Grace Street**

**P. O. Box 933**

**Richmond, Virginia 23219-0933**

**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**

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sept. 17, 2017**

**Mass Intention: Hope Tarry**

**TODAY’S MUSIC**

**ENTRANCE #752**

The Master Came to Bring Good News

**PSALM #934**

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger  
and rich in compassion.

**OFFERTORY #755**

Our Father We Have Wandered

**COMMUNION #736**

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**RECESSIONAL #530**

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

**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:** Maggie Wilkins Extraordinary Ministers:  
Kimberly Taylor, Maggie Wilkins, Robert Wilkins

**FINANCE:** Doug Dewing, Ron Hurst, Gabi Wolz

**10:45 am:** Steve Gerloff Extraordinary Ministers:  
Richard Williams, Steve Gerloff, Nancy Gowen

**FINANCE:** Kathy Kelly, John Rogers

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**8:30 am:** Will Rogers Extraordinary Ministers:  
Doug Dewing, Tom Fahed, Barbara Goode

**FINANCE:** Kathleen & Anthony Seal, Kris Mednikov

**10:45 am:** Jim Martinelli Extraordinary Ministers:  
Jim Martinelli, Marie Martinelli, Joe Naman

**FINANCE:** Chris Thomas, Steve Gerloff

**HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED**

David Adams, Joseph Birchette, Steve Campbell, William  
Claiborne, Larry Jones, Maria Konwerska, Cathy Lipchak,  
Emma Mednikov, Jim Melton, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson,  
Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor, Craig  
Trowbridge, Greg Stowers. 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: Genevieve Wells

Tues.: Mass Intention: Celia Barnett

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

Wed.: Mass Intention: Bernice Thompson

Thurs: Mass Intention: Jonathan Aguilar

Fri.: Mass Intention: Bobby Ferguson

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

It is easy to become frustrated with our economic system here in  
America. It is very expensive to live and is getting worse. If you  
have ever been to Los Angeles, you would probably see the ‘tent  
cities’ that border highways and back up to neighborhoods.  
There are literally ‘cities’ of people living in tents, homeless, all  
bundled together so many that it looks like a whole city of  
buildings (except instead of buildings, they are just rows and  
rows of tents with people living in them).

Los Angeles is a very expensive place to live. But we have our  
own share of homeless here in the city. I have personally never  
been to a city in the US with more corners occupied by someone  
with a sign asking for help than here in Richmond (I am sure  
there are some, but I’ve lived in Pittsburg, Washington D. C.,

Norfolk/VA Beach, and visited many other cities and nowhere was it as common as Richmond).

How people become homeless is for many reasons. From the conversations I have with folks at our weekly meals at St. Peter, the biggest cause is substance abuse (drugs and alcohol). Addiction is like these terrible hurricanes that have hit the US, it rips through an otherwise peaceful place, leaving nothing but destruction and disaster in its wake. There are other reasons for the poverty: sometimes it's parents who were absent and never provided for them as kids, sometimes its criminal records that make employers leery, some have disabilities or sicknesses, and some have just hit a tough patch in their life and need a hand. These last ones are the exception to the norm; most of the time it is one of the deeper problems mentioned before (that's why for the vast majority there's no quick or easy fix).

Most people want to do something about it or at least they want something done about it. For the most, the conscience is activated when they look upon someone in need or in pain. If the problem is fixed then the conscience is assuaged and they again experience interior peace.

Many believe the answer to this problem is in more intervention by the state. Many believe that more government aid can help people get appropriate housing, more government programs can help people get off drugs and more government involvement in supervising people can help make up for absent parents. By-in-large, these people are motivated by a sincere desire to help people who are in need and are looking to the government to fix the problem. This desire to help people is a godly sentiment.

Others disagree with this approach. They acknowledge that all that government will involve more taxes on citizens and/or greater government debt being carried by the nation (the burden of younger generations). They very reasonable feel that they should not be forced by the government to give up what they have earned and made to support people who are at least sometimes in the position they are in because of bad personal choices. Stealing (forcefully taking something that is not yours) is evil, even if it is the government that is doing it.

Where o' where is the answer? The answer is the Church. The Church is what God invented to address these problems.

Those who would have the government fix these problems fail to give proper faith to the institution that was properly created for correct and aid. It is no wonder that as atheism rises and people become overall less religious, they still subconsciously look for a supra-structure to which all people belong that can fix the problems of the world. In doing so, the government is effectively made a 'church.' Unfortunately, the government has no religious compass. In fact, in our country, it was designed that way. It can never inspire those who work for it and will be tasked with personally addressing these problems to do so through charity (which is what the Church does). It can only motivate with money, by paying people. And you are never going to pay someone enough to put up with all the burdens can come with walking a person out of addiction, or caring for a

parentless child, or the disabled. Only charity (inspired by the love of God) will do that.

Additionally, those who do not want to give up their own money because of the bad choices of others, in a church, would and should recognize the admonition to tithe their income, which is a gift to them from God, and which would provide for the Church's means to support its charitable works to address these issues. Additionally, they would hear in the Church St. Augustin's summation of Church theology 'but for the grace of God go I,' and recall that the only reason they are not in one of those destitute situations is because God's grace has given them two parents, physical and mental health and good friends that didn't lead them into drugs.

The answer is the Church. It is not in the government nor rugged individualism.

Fr. Rossi

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$3,288.00</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<b>4,187.42</b>
<b>Gain</b>	<b>\$ 899.42</b>

**Outreach & Social Ministry** – 124 lunches were served on Tuesday, September 12, 2017. 86 dinners were served on Wednesday, September 13, 2017. Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who serve God's people.

**St. Peter's Food Pantry** is in need of restocking. We are helping feed the poor of the city. On average we give out at least 5 bags of groceries per week. If you can help restock our food pantry, please consider bringing canned goods, dried goods & any non-perishable food.

**Walk for Life:** This walk is sponsored by The Pregnancy Center of the Tri-Cities. Last year, St. Peter's, St. Patrick's and St. John's were very generous in sponsoring me for the amount of \$2,000.00. I hope and pray that you will be as generous this year as you have been in the past. There will be someone at each mass who will collect your gift towards this project. All checks are written to The Pregnancy Support Center of the Tri-Cities. Their address is 700 South Sycamore St., Suite 12, Petersburg, VA 23803.

Thanks for your generosity,  
Fr. Frank

**Attention Men of All Ages** – The Legion of St. Michael, a local Catholic men's group invites you to join us as we begin a new study on Islam. The series will start on Sat., Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8 am at the home of one of the men in Chester. We will be studying the book "Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus: A Devout Muslim Encounters Christianity". If you would like to join us or have questions about the group please contact [legionofstmichael@gmail.com](mailto:legionofstmichael@gmail.com) or call 804-314-1681.

**If you are a practicing Catholic woman** age 21 or older, please join us for the Catholic Woman's Club Membership Tea on Monday, September 25 at 2 pm at the Columbian Center. The Catholic Woman's Club promotes Catholic ideals through

intellectual, cultural and spiritual development and philanthropic endeavors. For reservations, please contact Joan Walton 804-266-3612. We hope to see you on September 25<sup>th</sup>!

**Relics of St. John Neumann** – Visit Church of the Redeemer, Mechanicsville, VA, September 22 – 24. Schedule – **Friday:** Viewing and Veneration 9 am – 9 pm, with Healing Mass at 7 pm. **Saturday:** Viewing and Veneration 10 am – 7 pm with Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm. **Sunday:** 8 am – Noon with Sunday Mass at 8 am and 10 am. Book Store Open During Viewing and Veneration Except During Liturgy

**Medical Director and Nurse Manager Needed** – As God is moving at East End Pregnancy Center we have seen the need to provide more accurate and impactful pregnancy testing by using ultrasound technology. In order to be able to utilize this technology we must first have a medical director to approve our ultrasounds and a nurse manager to perform the ultrasounds and oversee volunteer nurses. If you are able to volunteer your time in either position, please contact Rachael Newmister or Ann Campbell at East End Pregnancy Center at 804-564-5852 or [eastendpregnancy@gmail.com](mailto:eastendpregnancy@gmail.com). Thank you for helping us to become a medical clinic which will use technology to help women see the beauty of life that God created!

**Spaghetti Dinner and Movie – Sept. 30, 2017** – The Bible Study Group at St. Patrick Church is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner and showing of the movie “The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima” on Saturday, September 30, starting at 6:00 p.m. We are celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> year since Our Lady appeared to the three children at Fatima. This is a great story we all will enjoy and need to see to understand the importance of Her message. If you have questions, you may contact Kathy Buttner at [kathybuttner@hotmail.com](mailto:kathybuttner@hotmail.com).

**Rosary Rally – October 14 at Noon** – Everyone is invited to gather outside St. Peter Church at Noon on October 14 to pray the rosary. At Fatima, Our Lady requested that we pray the rosary daily for peace. October 13 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Our Lady’s last apparition to the three children at Fatima. This will be a public praying of the rosary for peace. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Buttner at [kathybuttner@hotmail.com](mailto:kathybuttner@hotmail.com).

**COFFEE** – downstairs in the parish hall after each Mass on Sundays. All are welcome!!

**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)

**Weddings – Kris Mednikov:** [krismednikov@yahoo.com](mailto:krismednikov@yahoo.com)

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