



**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**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Jan. 28, 2018**

**Mass Intention: Audrey Lewis**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	#510
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	
<b>PSALM</b>	#875
If today you hear His voice O harden not your hearts.	
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	#513
Word of God Come Down on Earth	
<b>COMMUNION</b>	#729
O Food of Exiles Lowly	
<b>RECESSIONAL</b>	#607
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	

**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, Joseph Birchette, Steve Campbell, William Claiborne, Mary Davidson, Cathy Lipchak, Jim Melton, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor, Craig Trowbridge, Greg Stowers, Richard Williams. 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: Robert McDermott  
Tues.: Mass Intention: Frances Patterson  
Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Wed.: Mass Intention: Henry Miller  
Thurs: Mass Intention: Erskin Wallace  
Fri.: Mass Intention: Jacqueline Cosby

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

I am always amazed at how the conventional thinking of the world is the opposite of the truth. In fact, one of the things that drew me to wanting to go ‘all in’ as a young Catholic when entering seminary was how right I continually found the teachings of the Church, which were so often in direct opposition to conventional thinking. This ‘old’ and ‘outdated’ institution was full of the treasures of truth and I was continually amazed at that, having grown up as a typical young man that viewed the Church in those derogatory ways.

The letter to the Corinthians that was read today as the second reading is exactly one of those instances.

The reading is about celibacy. Celibacy is the voluntary forgoing of marriage in change for a life of dedication to God. Priests are celibate. Sisters are celibate as well as other consecrated individuals.

Now if you were to take a poll of regular folks and ask them what they thought of a life of celibacy, what would they say? Boring? Lonely? Sad? Restrictive? I bet you’d hear all those responses.

But that is the exact opposite of what Saint Paul says in the letter to the Corinthians and is in fact the exact opposite of the truth.

Saint Paul says a life of celibacy is one where you are LESS anxious. He says a life of celibacy is a life where you are LESS divided in your focus. He says it is a life of MORE freedom from the concerns of pleasing a wife. He says it is a life of MORE freedom from concerns of the world.

I guess women were difficult to please even then.

The point is that whereas the world would say a life of celibacy is restrictive, oppressive and binding, Saint Paul says the opposite. He says it frees a person up, takes away restrictions associated with married life and unbinds a person for total service to God (which is the most rewarding work there is).

Obviously marriage is a wonderful thing that we revere dearly in the Church. It is also a vocation and a godly way of sacrifice and service. And, obviously, there is a difference between being a bachelor and being celibate. Being a bachelor is being single but still pursuing the potential for matrimony. Unfortunately today, many people do not get married, not out of an embrace of celibacy, but out of a lack of commitment. These relationships are usually characterized by immoral and unchaste living...which is the farthest thing from the holiness of a married vocation or a celibate vocation. I digress...

But celibacy is a unique path and one filled with many blessings and benefits, even though the world would not suspect this. It is a life of dedication to the Lord God. And the Scriptures tell us 'where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is FREEDOM.'

Fr. Rossi

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$3,288.00</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<u>2,727.25</u>
<b>Loss</b>	<b>\$ 560.75</b>

**Outreach & Social Ministry – 123** lunches were served on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. **122** dinners were served on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. Thank you for your generous help in serving God's people.

**St. Peter's Pantry** is in need of restocking. Our pantry helps to feed the poor of the city. Please donate canned foods, pull-top cans preferred, cereals, canned tuna and chicken.

**VA bishops invite all to join them at liturgy for legislators, needs of Virginia** – Catholics are called to pray for our civic leaders as we engage in the public square. Join Arlington Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Richmond Bishop Barry C. Knestout, along with the Virginia Catholic Conference, their public policy agency, at a special liturgy for Virginia's elected officials and the needs of the state. The third annual **Virginia Vespers: Evening Prayer for the Commonwealth** will be held at the beautiful, historic Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Richmond, at 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018. The hour-long service draws on an ancient Christian liturgy and includes Scripture and sacred music provided by local Catholic school choirs. A wine and appetizers reception follows. Register at [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org).

**Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten Admissions and Assessment at Saint Benedict Catholic School:** Saint Benedict School is welcoming new students! We would like to invite families with rising Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten Students to contact us to schedule an appointment for assessment for the 2018-19 school year. Please contact Lisa Yost, Director of Admissions at [lyost@saintbenedictschool.org](mailto:lyost@saintbenedictschool.org) OR call the school at 804-254-8850 to have your question answered. We look forward to helping you in the admissions process.

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**WE NEED YOUR HELP** – We need lectors, extraordinary ministers, ushers and counters for both the 8:30 am and 10:45 am Masses. If you can give us some of your time, please email the office or call and sign up  
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**All Saints Catholic School celebrates Catholic Schools Week!** Please join us! Attend Mass on Thursday, Feb. 1 at 10:30 am. 3418 Noble Ave., Richmond, VA 23222.

Dine-in or take-out at our Annual Fish Fry Dinner on Friday, Feb. 2, 5-6:30 pm. Dinner includes fried fish, green beans, new potatoes, roll and drink for \$8. Pre-order by check payable to All Saints and send to 3418 Noble Ave., Richmond, VA 23222, or by credit card by calling 804-329-7524.

Visit our Open House: Monday, Feb. 6, 9am – 11 am. Tour the school, meet teachers, current parents and students and discover why All Saints is an invaluable investment in your child's future. To learn more, please call 804-329-7524 or [www.allsaintsric.org](http://www.allsaintsric.org).

**COFFEE** downstairs in the Parish Hall after each Mass on Sunday. Please join us and get to know your church family.

Emails:  
 Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi: [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)  
 Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda: [livasia@gmail.com](mailto:livasia@gmail.com)  
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