



SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 East Grace Street

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Richmond, Virginia 23219-0933

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

4th Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

Mass Intention: Mary Merkel

TODAY'S MUSIC

ENTRANCE	#618
O Christ the Great Foundation	
PSALM	#843
The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.	
OFFERTORY	#728
Shepherd of Souls	
COMMUNION	#636
I Danced in the Morning	
RECESSIONAL	#497
To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King	

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.

PRAYER LIST

David Adams, Joseph Birchette, Steve Campbell, William Claiborne, Mary Davidson, Cathy Lipchak, Jim Melton, Erin Moores, Jesse Oliver, Joel Rivera, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, John Rogers, Beulah Taylor, 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: Shirley Keyes (L)
- Tues.: Mass Intention: Andrew Chiocca
- Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Wed.: Mass Intention: Shirley Keyes (L)
- Thurs: Mass Intention: Elizabeth Summers
- Fri.: Mass Intention: Eleanor McGahey

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

The first reading today is a wonderful example of the clarity with which the Apostles spoke the truth of the gospel after receiving the Holy Spirit. Go back and read it again. But don't just read the selection from Mass but read what happened before this. Here you have these simple men standing in the face of all the powerful and more educated, after having been thrown in jail and warned not to talk about what had happened on the Easter weekend, and instead of listening to the demand to shut up, they rather stand boldly in front of the powerful and tell them, with crystal clarity, the truth of what happened. "If we are being examined today about a good deed done...then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified...There is no salvation through anyone else nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved." They spoke with utter clarity. There was absolutely no half-speak or mixing of words, no worrying about being politically correct. Peter is sure to point out that it was them who crucified Jesus and that the very one they crucified is the only one who can save them and the only one who can save anyone in the entire human race.

Peter is very clear.

Clarity is always a good thing. When you go to visit a doctor, you expect him to tell you clearly what is going on. If he is unclear in what he says, you start to worry. He probably doesn't know what he is talking about, is probably unconvinced himself and it's time to get a second opinion. Clarity is always good.

Clarity is good in math, 2+2=4. It's good in chemistry, H2O is the chemical makeup of water, exactly, the atomic mass of carbon is 12.011. It's clear. In technology too just think about your smartphone...there is a lot of clarity in the design and construction of it to make it work...they didn't just simply stick some stuff together. Clarity is even good in relationships. No one gets married because someone says "I sort of like you." You get married when someone says I love you and you are convinced of it. They have to state it clearly.

The opposite of clarity is vagueness. Vagueness is always bad. No one is happy in a vague relationship. Vague math doesn't work. No one would take vaguely concocted prescription medicine. No one wants vagueness in their medical recommendations. And no one wants to drive on what is vaguely a road...unless you have a truck with big tires.

Vagueness when it comes to religion and morals is similarly bad. We want to know what is right and wrong. We want to know the truth about God. We want to the best way to worship God. We want clarity, not vagueness when it comes to religion and morals.

Maybe this seems obvious but in fact, there is a temptation to not use clarity when speaking on these subjects. We can be afraid of offending or afraid of ostracizing. We can be unhappy with the possible ramifications of clearly defined moral maxims or of clearly stated religious truths.

But why? Is that rational?

If I am sick and go to a physician, and the doctor is vague when he speaks of my condition, it does not change the objective reality that I have a problem. It simply keeps it unknown.

And contrary to the slogan, ignorance is, in fact, not bliss. Ignorance as a result of vagueness is an unhappy situation. When it comes to religion and morals, it is a triumph of emotion over reason, a triumph of feelings over truth.

It is always better to have clarity, first, then deal with your options based on what you clearly know, rather than hiding in the disorienting fog of vagueness.

Fr. Rossi

Budgeted Weekly Income	\$ 3,288.00
Collection	<u>2,754.00</u>
Loss	\$ 534.00

Outreach & Social Ministry – 141 lunches were served on Tuesday, April 17, 2018. 130 dinners were served on Wednesday, April 18, 2018. Thank you for your generous help in serving God's people.

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

St. Patrick May Procession on Sunday 5-6-18. St. Patrick will continue with a long time tradition of having our annual children's May procession to honor our blessed mother. All children and adults are invited and encouraged to participate. We will process from Patrick Henry Park on Broad St. and up 25th Street and into the church right before the beginning of Mass. We will meet in the social hall at 10:20 am to prepare. All are encouraged to wear their Sunday best for this special day. There will be an ice cream social for all after mass to continue the celebration. Please let Donna Baird know at 804.888.3470 or at donnabaird@yahoo.com if you and your children plan to participate so enough flowers can be purchased.

Virginia Catholic Conference report tracks state legislators' 2018 votes – State legislators considered proposals involving unborn life, religious liberty, immigrants, public safety, and care for creation, among other issues, during this year's Virginia General Assembly session. Diocese of Richmond Bishop Barry Knestout and Diocese of Arlington Bishop Michael Burbidge encourage the faithful to stay informed about how our legislators voted on these issues. Find out by going to the link on the homepage of the Virginia Catholic Conference website at www.vacatholic.org. The Conference represents the public policy interests of the bishops and their dioceses.

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