



**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**

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**July 1, 2018**

**Mass Intention: Adelaide Thurman**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	#547
Praise to the Lord the Almighty	
<b>PSALM</b>	#902
I will praise you Lord for you have rescued me.	
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	#630
Lord Whose Love in Humble Service	
<b>COMMUNION</b>	#609
The King of Love My Shepherd Is	
<b>RECESSIONAL</b>	#763
O Beautiful for Spacious Skies	

**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, Marta Fritzne (Gabi Wolz's Mother), Cathy Lipchak, Jim Melton, Erin Moores, Jesse Oliver, Sarah Riegel, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, 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: Lawrence Binns  
Tues.: Mass Intention: Ellen Lyons  
Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Wed.: Mass Intention: Alfreda Fin  
Thurs: Mass Intention: John Simons  
Fri.: Mass Intention: Marie Ross

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

Happy Independence Day!

Today we commemorate the declaration of independence by the founders of the United States from the British Empire. Who would have ever thought that what began as a revolution of principles and ideas would lead to the creation of a nation that, after many years, would grow to become the most significant and influential nation in the entire world. When you stop to consider the courage those men must have had, knowing their actions were treasonous against the king and punishable by death, they become all the more admirable.

There is one idea that underpinned their thinking and motivated their desire for revolution. This is the idea that each and every individual is a sovereign person. This is clearly stated in the preamble to the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." It has been said that this is one of the best known sentences in the English language.

It cannot be overstated how radical an idea this was at that time. For the majority of human history, people were ruled by kings and emperors. Think of the great empires of antiquity, the Egyptian Empire, the Roman Empire, the empires of the East, the British empire, etc. They were ruled by a king with absolute power. He was not equal to everyone else. He was above them. He had no interest in securing the rights of those he ruled beyond what might individually make his life more comfortable. The

idea that poor people had the same rights as those with power or privileged blood-lines was preposterous.

But this is the exact declaration those men made to the king of the British Empire. How they eventually reached this conclusion is due entirely to the principles delineated in the Gospel which, over 1500 years, influenced and eroded away contrary ways of thinking. All men are created equal – no one is worth more or less than another. The founder's Christian worldview clearly influenced their decision to write this, and to go to war over it and die for it.

Today we embrace this worldview whole-heartedly. We recognize that a poor child in India is equal to the son of a wealthy family in Brazil, a child in Gilpin Court is equal to a child on River Road, and a man working construction is equal to the governor of Virginia. They all possess unalienable rights, which means they have rights that cannot be taken away because they are given by their Creator.

But today also have two problems. The first is a problem we will always have to a more or less degree. This is the problem of being sure that although we may recognize that all these people are equal in theory, they may not be treated as such in practice. The implementation of this ideal will always be something every generation has to work at to ensure. Unborn babies, for example are not treated equally to those that are born, the disabled are often not treated equally to those who are abled, etc. We will never have this perfect, but will have to keep vigil about it continuously.

But the second problem is more of a recent problem and has the potential to undermine the entire ideal. This problem is associated with our deteriorating belief that these rights come to us from our Creator, from God. More and more people today declare themselves agnostic (not convinced of a belief in God) or even atheistic (seemingly convinced that there is no God). But as more and more make this declaration, then where will those people say these rights come from?

We as Christians say these rights come from God But where does the agnostic or the atheist say these rights come from? If they are to be unalienable (meaning they cannot be taken away), they must come from 'above'. If they come from the government can arbitrarily take the away. If they come from a king or governor, then they can take them away. We Christians say they come from God. The founders say they come from God.

This second problem is even more significant than the first. The first problem deals with improving something that is already good in its foundation. The second problem deals with destroying the foundation. If the foundation is destroyed because of a lack of belief in a Creator, so will the equality between all people that has come to be the predominate belief and assumption in the United States and everywhere else in the world that has followed this example.

Fr. Rossi

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,288.00</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<b>2,909.00</b>
<b>Loss</b>	<b>\$ 379.00</b>

## OUTREACH & SOCIAL MINISTRY

**192** lunches were served on Tuesday, June 26, 2018. **102** dinners were served on Wednesday, June 27, 2018. Thank you for your generous help in serving God's people.

**Soles2Share** – On June 26, 2018, in partnership with Soles2Share, we were able to give 134 pairs of shoes to the homeless community. Our thanks to Robin Telfian and all the other volunteers who made this yet another great day in our quest to help the poor of the city.

**Food Pantry** – at present we need canned vegetables, fruit, and marinara sauce, peanut butter & jelly, beans, and oatmeal/cereals.

**Hygiene and Personal Items** – sample size Shampoo, Chapstick, sample size Sunblock, Lotion, Hair Combs, Hair Ties, cloth tote bags, hats, socks underwear, women's pads, and sample size toothpaste.

**Cybercrime** is hitting dioceses nationwide. If/when you receive an email that shows the parish's pastor or a parish priest as the sender requesting you to purchase a gift card, rest assured it is a scam. Parishioners can and should contact the parish to verify the legitimacy of any suspicious request received through email. All cybercrime should be reported to the FBI at <https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>. It is up to the victim of cybercrimes to file complaints.

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



**FR. FRANK**, we wish you a very happy day. May God bestow all His blessings on you and may you enjoy many, many more happy and healthy years.

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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