



SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 East Grace Street

P. O. Box 933

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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 29, 2018

Mass Intention: Joe Ted Thill

TODAY'S MUSIC

ENTRANCE	#682
Praise and Thanksgiving	
PSALM	#914
The hand of the Lord feeds us; He answers all our needs.	
OFFERTORY	#727
Let Us Break Bread Together	
COMMUNION	#729
O Food of Exiles Lowly	
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.

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: Mary Grace
Tues.: Mass Intention: Shirley Keyes
Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
Wed.: Mass Intention: Gilberta L. Holloway
Thurs: Mass Intention: Anna Murphy
Fri.: Mass Intention: Roman Davis

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Saint Paul says in the second reading there is “one hope...one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.” One, one, one. Only one, he says.

On the contrary, have you ever heard someone say “there are many paths up the mountain.” Usually when people say this they usually say it in regards to someone who has taken an unconventional path. Usually when people say “there are many paths up the mountain” it is, at its best, a way to avoid the possibility of judging someone else in regards to that person's choice of religion or of behavior. At its worst, when it is said, it is a desire of the one who says it to simply avoid having to critically think about something and recognize that someone they know is going down a bad path.

The phrase “there are many paths up the mountain” emphasizes something different from what St. Paul says in the above passage from scripture; he doesn't much seem to have time for alternative paths. For him, there is only one path.

The question is how to reconcile what is commonly thought and said in regular parlance – there are many paths up the mountain – and what St. Paul is saying, which seems to suggest there is only one way.

Firstly, it can be said that while there may be multiple paths on the mountain, not all paths are equal and not all lead up. Some are better, some are worse, and some are completely useless.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL MINISTRY

Some have a nice and pleasant grade. On this nicer path, the brush has been stomped down by other people who have climbed the mountain. The best path has water stands and food stations all along the way up the mountain. It even has clinics in case you get hurt on the way up. This is the best way up the mountain because there are many helps along the way. It is better than other ways.

Then there are other paths on the mountain, but they are much worse. They are confusing ways. They will take you up a little ways then turn you left and take you off course. Some will even loop back over themselves thus wasting your time. Some paths even ultimately end up taking you completely back to the bottom of the mountain. There are big dangerous ledges that you can fall off and die all along these worse paths, as well as tall thorn bushes. It is even hotter on these lesser paths because of their orientation towards the sun and there is little or no water to be found.

In fact, these other ways are so confusing and dangerous and twisted, that the only hope of someone who is on one of these paths is to accidentally cross that nicer path and end up taking it to the top.

When St. Paul says there is only one hope, one faith, one baptism, one "way up the mountain," he is describing the nice path. This, as you may have guessed by now is the Catholic religion. The food and water stations are the Mass and the Holy Spirit, and the clinic is Confession. The people who beat down the brush and thorns are the Saints who have climbed it already. It is the best way to get to the top.

The other paths on the mountain are other religions or faith systems. The best hope for these paths is that they, at some point, connect and land you on the path of the Catholic religion that will take you to the top.

In that sense, it could be said there are many paths on the mountain, but ultimately there is only one that goes to the top, and the others are dangerous, confusing and even possibly dead paths.

Second, it should be clear that as with any mountain you climb, there is only one point on the top of the mountain. And that point at the top is one Triune God we worship in the Catholic religion. He is the God of the scriptures and His Son is Jesus Christ. If anyone gets to the top of the mountain, there is only one person they meet there and that is Christ. Maybe you took the nice and pleasant path your entire life or maybe you were on the dangerous paths for a while and happened to finally stumble onto the nice path, but either way, if you are fortunate enough to get to the top, He is the only one who gets to claim the peak.

Fr. Rossi

156 lunches were served on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. 126 dinners were served on Wednesday, July 25, 2018. Thank you for your generous help in serving God's people.

ST. PETER'S FOOD PANTRY – The food pantry is used to help feed the poor in our city. If you can help restock our food pantry, please consider bringing plastic bags, canned meats, vegetables, fruits, dried goods, and any non-perishable food.

Hygiene and Personal Items – Please consider these items when donating: sample size Shampoo, Chapstick, sample size Sunblock, Lotion, Hair Combs, Hair Ties, razors, cloth tote bags, hats, socks, underwear, women's pads, and sample size toothpaste.

Our heart-felt condolences to Fr. Ernest Bulinda – on the passing of his father, Gabriel Bulinda, on Wednesday, July 25, 2018. Please keep Fr. Ernest, his family and friends in your prayers.

Also, please remember Jack Vonderleher and his wife, Jean, in your prayers. Jean went to her heavenly reward this past week. She, along with Jack, served many years volunteering with the lunch program.

First Annual Open House – Saturday, Aug. 11th at 7:00 PM, St. John's Catholic Church, 811 W. Nine Mile Road, Highland Springs, VA – Open to all Knights, their families, parishioners, and friends. We encourage you to bring a guest. Refreshments will be provided. Our Guest Speaker will discuss, but is not limited to, the following topics:

- Family Financial Protection
- Long-Term Care
- Asset Protection and Retirement
- Knights of Columbus, Humble Beginnings to Today

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

Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda: livasia@gmail.com

Rev. Frank Wiggins: Padreop@verizon.net

Weddings – Kris Mednikov: krismednikov@yahoo.com

Office – Barbara Simons: stpeterchurch2@aol.com

Budgeted Weekly Income	\$ 3,288.00
Collection	2,144.43
Loss	\$ 1,143.57