

Saint Patrick  
Catholic Church  
July 22 & 23rd, 2023  
Sixteenth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time



Mass Times:

Saturdays at 5:30pm  
& Sundays at 10:45am

Holy Hour: After mass on  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month

Sharing Sunday – Our next  
Sharing Sunday will be August 6<sup>th</sup>

Message from Our Pastor

**\*I am interested in expanding the members of the pastoral council over the next few months, if you have an interest in representing the parish in the area of pastoral action, please contact me directly: [bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:bcapuano@richmonddiocese.org). Maybe a gathering over a meal might facilitate some conversation and reflection, as I take time to get to know the communities.\***

As we grow as disciples, from time-to-time we can notice that there are certain “weeds” that are evident in our life that need uprooting. In the normal course of the spiritual life, this can be accomplished by a daily examination of conscience, easily undertaken in a simple review of one’s life in the morning and the evening, before the Lord in a place of peace, concluding the time of reflection with a period where one determines a set of resolutions to embrace for the day, or the day that follows.

One may reflect: “I was very hasty in my responses to ‘X.’ I rushed to judgment, Lord forgive me for my impertinence. Today (Tomorrow) I will strive to focus on the person before me and try to take my time, so that I might respond in a cheerful and measured way.”

At other times, we might find that “weeds” are not so easily uprooted: habitual sins that seem to constantly arise, or “problem people” or sinful situations (think: toxic workplace culture) that cause stress and anxiety. In some ways, these are like the “weeds” evidenced in the parable in the Gospel of Matthew this weekend.

To allow the “weeds” to remain is not to condone sinful behavior, rather it is a recognition that sometimes more is needed to address the weeds. We recognize here that the authority to root out sin and to heal the wounds of the world, comes not from our own strength but from the Author Himself. *Sometimes* the way to address the weeds is to focus on the “wheat.” Maybe there is a sinful habit that you are struggling to root out. You might prayerfully bring to the Lord how much energy you are expending thinking about the sin versus the amount of time you are thinking about growing in a virtue that might actually help to combat it. It may take time to learn how to hear the Lord, how He wants to communicate with you.

For instance, if I constantly rush to judgment and I don’t take the person in front of me seriously on a regular basis, maybe I develop the habit of the following exchange, if time permits: Dignify their concern by letting them know you hear them, maybe even repeat in your own words what you heard, then simply indicate you should take time to reflect and indicate when you will get back to them. Here we see that I am intentionally cultivating the virtue of patience and not directly addressing my impertinence. Over time, we might see that the “wheat” of patience grows stronger and the “weed” of impertinence has less space in the “field” of the soul.

What are some areas of your life that you begin, or continue, to work on this week? Might you consider bringing those areas to confession, even if those sins are not mortal? The grace of the sacrament is powerful to aid you in your pursuit of a deeper union with Our Lord.

- - Fr. Capuano

# News & Announcements

## Seeking Donations for Veterans

For the weekends of July 15, 22, & 29<sup>th</sup> we will be collecting some items for inpatient Polytrauma Unit at the Central VA Veterans Healthcare System. This unit provides rehabilitation for patients with brain injuries, strokes, amputees and polytrauma (meaning multiple injuries). Both active-duty military and veteran population are seen on this unit. Patients on this unit enjoy having coffee and could use the following items. K cups- both regular and decaf and a few teas or hot chocolate, sugar packets (are better to control the amount), creamer (powder), Coffee cups (with and without lids in 12oz and 16 oz). A donation box will be downstairs in the church hall for all donations. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Dawson at [mjmvacu@aol.com](mailto:mjmvacu@aol.com). Thank you in advance.

## Religious Education for 2023/2024

It's time to register your children for Religious Education for 2023/2024. Classes are for students from kindergarten through high school. If your child is preparing for **First Reconciliation/First Eucharist or Confirmation**, full participation in St. Patrick's Religious Education is required including attendance at all scheduled classes and as well as weekly mass. Classes will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 on Sunday mornings before 10:45 mass. Please contact Donna at [donnabaird@yahoo.com](mailto:donnabaird@yahoo.com) or speak with her after Sunday mass. If you are interested in teaching, please contact Donna as well. Looking forward to another great year!

## The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey for Welcoming Adult newcomers (inquires) into the Roman Catholic Church. RCIA is for adults who, after having their hearts opened to conversion and faith by the Holy Spirit, seek to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. The RCIA process assists them in becoming full, conscious, active, and ongoing participants in a life with Christ and His Church. RCIA welcomes those who are not baptized, those who are baptized in another Christian tradition and those who are baptized Catholic but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. An RCIA class will be starting at SPC on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested is welcome to join the class. Adults wishing to learn more should contact Fred Powell or Ryland Paxton before September 10<sup>th</sup>.



## WEEKLY COLLECTION – July 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

	<u>Weekly</u>
Actual	\$3,063.00
Budget	<u>\$3,747.00</u> (\$684.00)
	<u>Year to date</u>
Actual	\$11,250.60
Budget	<u>\$11,241.00</u> \$9.60

Note: Actual totals include weekly collection and E-giving

**MASS ATTENDANCE: 7/15: 28 7/16: 92**

## Contact & follow us at:

**Office:** [office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org](mailto:office@saintpatrickchurchhill.org)

**Father Capuano - Pastor:**

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**Father Nick – Parochial Vicar:**

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**Katie Goodloe – Music Minister:**

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**Eddie Baird – Social Ministry:**

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**Paulita Matheny – Pastoral Associate & Director of Religious Education:**

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**Fred Powell – RCIA Catechist:**

[fmpjr2009@aol.com](mailto:fmpjr2009@aol.com)

**Ryland Paxton – RCIA Coordinator:**

[Paxtonrl8229@marybaldwin.edu](mailto:Paxtonrl8229@marybaldwin.edu)

**Paul Mazur – K of C:** [prmazur@gmail.com](mailto:prmazur@gmail.com)

**SPC Emergency # 804-402-1221:**

If someone is dying or has died & you would like to talk to a Priest, please call.

**Mailing address: St. Patrick's Church**

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