



**SAINT PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**800 East Grace Street**

**P. O. Box 933**

**Richmond, Virginia 23218-0933**

**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**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**January 24, 2016**

**Mass Intention: Elizabeth Pate**

**ENTRANCE #618**

O Christ the Great Foundation

**PSALM #873**

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life. nations.

**OFFERTORY #622**

Where Temple Offerings Are Made

**COMMUNION #732**

Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord

**RECESSIONAL #737**

Alleluia Sing to Jesus

**SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon.: Mass Intention: Special Intention

Tues.: Mass Intention: Barbara W. Reardon

Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Wed.: Mass Intention: Emily Conclin

Thurs.: Mass Intention: Susan Winter

Fri.: Mass Intention: Louise Jones

**HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED**

Manuel Alvarez, Anthony Arrighi, Rollo Brown, Steve Campbell, Stuart Cary, David Coffman, Martha Dewing (mother of Doug Dewing), Bill Holzgreffe, Shirley Hudson, Camilla Hull (mother of Doyle Hull), Connie Klyver, (friend of Ginnie & Marilyn), Maria Konwerska, Jim Melton, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor, Greg Stowers, Bob Webster. Thank you for your prayers.

**LECTOR & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**8:30 am:** Bill Lipchak Extraordinary Ministers: Carol Piatt, Linda Shisler, Maggie Wilkins

**FINANCE:** Doug Dewing, Chris Thomas & **Volunteer**

**10:45 am:** Leila Christenbury Extraordinary Ministers: Nancy Gowen, Margaret Hable, Jim Martinelli

**FINANCE:** Kathy Kelly, Nancy Gowen

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**8:30 am:** Maggie Wilkins Extraordinary Ministers: Robert Wilkins, Doug Dewing, Tom Fahed

**FINANCE:** Bill & Cathy Lipchak and Gabriella Wolz

**10:45 am:** Nancy Eckler Extraordinary Ministers: Marie Martinelli, Colin Schmidt, Mimi Schoof

**FINANCE:** Eileen Zorzi, Bill Conkle

**FROM OUR PASTOR:** This Sunday is Respect Life Sunday.

This Sunday is all about us as Catholics standing up for and defending life, from natural conception until natural death.

Let me be very, very clear about something – IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE CATHOLIC AND BE PRO-CHOICE. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE CATHOLIC AND BE PRO-ABORTION. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE CATHOLIC AND BE PRO-EUTHANASIA. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE CATHOLIC AND BE PRO-EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO BE CATHOLIC AND BE PRO-DEATH PENALTY (IN THE UNITED STATES).

What do I mean by this?

Being Catholic and Christian means that we recognize the primacy of God; the God who created the heavens and the earth, as the ultimate creator, ruler, judge, and Father over every single human being. He is first and foremost, the one who decided who comes into

existence, when we come into existence and when we enter out of it (die).

Whenever we enter into the role of God and make the decision about when life should begin or end, because we think we can use someone's life for the benefit of others (embryonic stem cell research) or because we want to determine a certain method of punishment for a criminal despite the availability of alternatives (the death penalty in the US)...whenever we do this, we make a serious, serious mistake.

Three thousand lives are ended every day because of abortion. Laws are being passed across the country that allow those who are too 'old' or 'sick' to be euthanized. Embryos are frozen, dissected, and manipulated in a misinformed attempt to cure; and people like Richard Masterson are sentenced to be brutally executed when alternative means of punishment are available.

Death is an ugly, ugly thing. I spend a considerable amount of time in hospitals with the sick and dying.

But God has redeemed death. Jesus, the Son of God, died on a tree and poured out His own blood to redeem mankind from any and every situation of sickness and evil.

Ultimately, when a person decides to support one of these horrendous offences against life, they are failing to recognize the potential for a situation that God can turn into a miracle. God turned the death of His Son into a miracle for every person (we can go to Heaven because of it). God can also turn every dark and evil situation of death into an occasion for joy and redemption; BUT IT CANNOT HAPPEN IF WE TRY TO TAKE GOD'S ROLE AND BE GOD.

Instead, it becomes death X2. It becomes not only the death of the person who is actually killed, but it becomes the spiritual death of the one who stepped in and decided to take God's job.

This is the Year of Mercy as declared by Pope Francis. Please pray that hearts will be opened to embrace life. Even when those hearts are afraid, or confused, or angry or whatever.

God will show the world how He can perform miracles in the face of the saddest thing in the world.

Fr. Rossi

**Sacramental Preparation:** Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, Confirmation, Marriage, Sacrament of the Sick or to **Register in the parish** – Please call the Parish Office.

**ATTENTION:** all who **CURRENTLY SERVE** or **WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER** to serve as lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers or altar servers. There will be a **MANDATORY TRAINING MEETING, SUN. JAN 24<sup>TH</sup>, 9:40** in the Church.

**Outreach & Social Ministry** – 155 lunches were served to the homeless on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Thank you to all who work so hard to make this possible

**The Virginia Catholic Conference** invites Catholics to come to Richmond to advocate for life and justice during this winter's General Assembly session on one of three newly introduced **Catholics in the Capital Days**. The dates are Tuesday, Jan. 26, Thursday, Feb. 4, and Wednesday, Feb. 17. (On Feb 17 the Conference and Virginia Bishops will also host Virginia Vespers at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond at 5 p.m. All are invited.) To attend Catholics in the Capital Days, call or email your senator and delegate to set up your appointments, and then register with the Conference at [office@vacatholic.org](mailto:office@vacatholic.org). We'll provide you with legislative updates, talking points and refreshments at our offices prior to your legislative visits. Learn more at [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org).

**Separated or Divorced Catholic Support Group** – The Cathedral will offer a Support Group for Separated or Divorced Catholics, meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month, beginning Jan. 25, at 7:00 pm in the Parish Office dining room. As a Catholic community we practice love and healing; love is a service to our community. There can be healing during and after a divorce. If you are interested in joining this group or have questions, please email Maria Thorsen.

<b>Budgeted Weekly Income:</b>	<b>\$3,461.00</b>
<b>Last Week's Collection:</b>	<b>3,664.00</b>
<b>Gain</b>	<b>\$ 203.00</b>
<b>Budgeted Income was determined during the spring budgeting process by Fr. Brownell and the Finance Council.</b>	

**Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi:** [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)

**Rev. Danny Cogut:** [dcogut@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:dcogut@richmonddiocese.org)

**Rev. Frank Wiggins:** [Padreop@verizon.net](mailto:Padreop@verizon.net)

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