



**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**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Dec. 17, 2017**

**Mass Intention: Jamie Harley**

**TODAY'S MUSIC**

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	#357
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	
<b>PSALM</b>	#773
My soul rejoices, my soul rejoices in my God.	
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	#404
Sing of Mary Pure and Lowly	
<b>COMMUNION</b>	#368
Creator of the Stars of Night	
<b>RECESSIONAL</b>	#363
Lift Up Your Heads O Mighty Gates	

**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.*

**HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED**

David Adams, Joseph Birchette, Steve Campbell, William Claiborne, Mary Davidson, Cathy Lipchak, Jim Melton, Jesse Oliver, Rachel Robinson, Marilyn Reilly, Nancy Severns, Beulah Taylor, Craig Trowbridge, Greg Stowers, Maggie Wilkins. 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: Walter Ragan
- Tues.: Mass Intention: Catherine Wallace
- Tues.: Social Ministry: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Wed.: Mass Intention: Carrie Johnson
- Thurs: Mass Intention: William Dickerson
- Fri.: Mass Intention: Anna Graff

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

A few things today.

First, this is Gaudete Sunday. It means ‘rejoice.’ You will see the priest wearing rose colored vestments as a sign of our subdued celebration and excitement for the coming of Christ at Christmas. We are still in the season of advent. We are not in the Christmas season yet but we rejoice at what is coming to us on that great day. It is only a week or so away!!!

Second, a big thank you to all the staff and volunteers who have been doing so much to make our season so special. From the breakfasts with Santa, to the Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations, to the decorating, to the Simbang Gabi celebration, to the Christmas concerts and all the other events that make this season so special. Thank you for your generous hearts!!

Finally, during Advent at each of the parishes, I have been preaching about one topic. I hope you remember what that topic is. It is **CONFESSION**. The sacrament of Reconciliation is the absolute best way to prepare spiritually for the grace that God is going to extend to us on Christmas day. If our hearts are hard because of sin (and remember, everyone sins), then the grace of Christmas will bounce off us like rubber against a stone. If we confess our sins it softens our hearts and makes room in them for God’s presence. Remember, every Catholic has to go to confession at least one time per year (at least) and when conscious of a mortal sin **BEFORE** they can receive Holy Communion. And Advent is a great time to go. So **GO**. Especially if you have been away, I can absolutely promise you will feel so much better after you go. You will feel like a giant weight has been lifted off your shoulders. The longer it’s been, the more it will feel like a weight has been removed. The bigger the sin you are afraid to confess, the more it will feel like a

weight has been removed. Look in the bulletin for confession times or call any Catholic Church. No one can force you to go, it is your responsibility. Do you want to have a spiritually significant Christmas or just a material one?

Happy Advent. We have only a week left to prepare for Christmas.

Fr. Rossi

Budgeted Weekly Income	\$3,288.00
Collection	<u>2,949.36</u>
Loss	\$ 338.64

**Outreach & Social Ministry** – 132 lunches were served on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. 115 dinners were served on Wednesday, December 13, 2017. Thank you for your generous help in serving God’s people.

**St. Peter’s Pantry** is in need of restocking. Our pantry helps to feed the poor of the city. Please donate canned foods, pull-top cans preferred, cereals, canned tuna and chicken.

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Concert – St. Patrick – Sun., Dec. 17, 4:00 pm**

**Mass – Sunday Obligation – Dec. 24, 9:00 am**  
**Christmas Eve – Sun, Dec. 24, 5:00 pm**  
 (Carols start at 4:30 pm)  
**Christmas Day – Mon., Dec. 25, 9:00 am**

**New Year’s Day – Mon., Jan. 1, 12:05 pm**  
 (This is not a Holy Day of Obligation)

**Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CCC)** – Every year at Christmas, the diocese asks each parish to take up a collection to sustain the valuable mission of Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CCC). This year, an anonymous donor is making a very generous challenge to the parishioners of St. Peter. From now through Christmas, this donor will match everyone’s contribution, dollar for dollar, up to a \$500 match! So, the first \$500 in contributions from the parish will be matched by another \$500, for a total \$1,000 gift to CCC. Please make checks payable to St. Peter Church. On the memo line put CCC. Write CCC on an envelope if you contribute cash. Thank you for your generosity to those in need during this Christmas Season!

**ST. PATRICK CHRISTMAS CONCERT**- All are invited to attend the annual Christmas Concert at St. Patrick on Sunday, December 17, at 4:00 pm. The concert will feature the combined choir from St. John, St. Patrick, and St. Peter; the children’s Schola and St. Gregory Choir; as well as several soloists and ensembles. Along with music, the story of Christmas will be proclaimed. Come join us as we journey to the manger of Bethlehem with the kings, shepherds, angels, and of course, Joseph and Mary. O Come, let us adore Him! Jesus, who is Christ, the Lord!

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES** – Please return your Christmas Flower Donation Envelopes to the office no later than Thursday, December 21, 2014. That will be the deadline for names to be printed in the bulletin.



**Emails:**  
**Pastor, Rev. Gino Rossi:** [ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com](mailto:ginopaulrossi@hotmail.com)  
**Rev. Ernest Livasia Bulinda:** [livasia@gmail.com](mailto:livasia@gmail.com)  
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