



### Dear Parishioners,

In the Christian liturgical calendar, there are several different Feasts of the Holy Cross, all of which commemorate the cross used in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.



While Good Friday is dedicated to the Passion of Christ and the Crucifixion, these days celebrate the cross itself as the instrument of salvation. Last Monday, Sept. 14, we quietly celebrated the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, also titled the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. It is most popular in Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy.

In brief, this feast recalls three events:

- 1. The finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena,
- 2. The dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulcher and Mount Calvary, and
- 3. The restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem in AD by the Byzantine emperor Heraclius.

In these trying and difficult times coping with the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), may you turn to Jesus Christ himself and pray for the cessation of the virus as well as for the hundreds of people who have also been impacted by wildfires and hurricanes. Lift high the Cross! Let us empathize and support them wholeheartedly.

Sincerely in Christ, *Fr. Joe*Fr. Joseph A. D'Aurora Pastor



ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC: The picnic will be held Sunday, October 4 at the upper pavilion at Glen Maury Park in Buena Vista at 12:30 p.m. Mass will be held at St. Patrick's at

**8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** At the picnic, masks will be required and social distancing guidelines will be followed. A catered, individually boxed chicken dinner from Kenney's will be provided. *The parish will cover the cost of the lunches*. There will be no pot-luck dishes and no buffet. Attendance is limited to 50. Registration is required at <a href="Eventbrite.com">Eventbrite.com</a> or call the St. Patrick's office at 463-3533.

Scripture Readings for this weekend: Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a.



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in honor of the People of St. Patrick.

Friday, September 18

12:15 PM Michael Sexton by Family

Saturday, September 19

5:00 PM †Margie and Charlie Komelasky by Mary Stuart & Russ Harlow

Sunday, September 20

8:00 AM Rebecca Greywall by Mike and Sandra Yoemans

10:30 AM †John J. Ruffing, Jr. by Kathleen Nowacki-Correia

5:00 PM The People of St. Patrick

Monday, September 21

12:15 PM Gustavo Alexander Perez Villaneva for his 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

Tuesday, September 22

7:30 AM †Andrew Steele by Rita Poranski

Wednesday, September 23

7:30 AM †Al Tucker, III by James C. Kostelni and Family

Thursday, September 24 – No Mass Friday, September 25

12:15 PM †Daniel Dillon by Phil O'Mara

Saturday, September 26

5:00 PM †Antonia Peach by Daughter

Sunday, September 27

8:00 AM Albert and †Matilde Tinsler

10:30 AM †Thomas Meehan by Raymond and Helen MacDermott

5:00 PM The People of St. Patrick

Day of Prayer and Fasting: The apostolate Acts XXIX has put together resources for a National Day of Prayer and Fasting on Thursday, Sept. 24. This originates from the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The goals of this day are mercy and healing for our country as well as the conversion of our own hearts. Many dioceses across the nation are joining in this effort. I encourage you to support this day in your own homes and families. To learn more about the day visit <a href="mailto:actsxxix.org/national-day-prayer-fasting">actsxxix.org/national-day-prayer-fasting</a>.





**Prayer Net:** Pat Hennis; Ted DeLaney; Marilyn Rom; Linda Burke; Trish Lyons;

Mary Ann DeLuca; Coen Deschambault; G. John D'Aurora; Patricia Browning; Barry McDonald; Virginia Mitchell; Amanda Soutar; Patricia Burch; Knox Thomas; Mary Lou Olszewski; Ryen Frost; Rachel, Sean & baby Duffy; Antoinette Warzinski; Tom Greenwood; Matt Hemp; Terry Early; Jerry Beckley; Lou Ramsey; Antonietta Scire; Dean Batterman; Carol Leninger; Kathy Crawford; Deborah Soutar; Carol Melvin; Nicolette Kurtz; our parishioners in nursing homes and those who are homebound; those addicted to alcohol & drugs; the underemployed and unemployed; our military and their families; families affected by the coronavirus; those struggling financially because of this crisis; and first responders, medical personal and all (For Prayer Net requests, government leaders. Cher McCoy 540-570-2111 contact at chergrindlemccoy@gmail.com.)

Holy Father's Prayer Intention: For the planet's resources, that they will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

RCIA Confirmation – Sept. 13, 2020



# Weekly Schedule

### Friday, September 18

Rosary with the Association of Marian Helpers 11:45 AM

12:15 PM Mass

### Saturday, September 19

4:00 PM Reconciliation

4:15 PM Cantor Rehearsal

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

### Sunday, September 20

7:15 AM Cantor Rehearsal

8:00 AM Mass

"Kindle My Fire" Radio Program on 96.7-3WZ 8:30 AM

9:45 AM Cantor Rehearsal

10:00 AM Catholic Radio Program on 96.7-3WZ

10:30 AM

### Monday, September 21

11:45 AM Rosary with the Association of Marian Helpers

12:15 PM

1:00 PM Respect Life Committee – Parish House

### Tuesday, September 22 - First Day of Autumn

7:30 AM

8:05 AM Rosary with the Association of Marian Helpers

10:30 AM Staff Meeting – Parish House

### Wednesday, September 23

7:30 AM Mass

8:00 AM Adoration

8:05 AM Rosarv with the Association of Marian Helpers

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study - Parish House

7:00 PM RCIA - Parish House

### Thursday, September 24 - Fr. Joe's Day Off

7:00 PM Knights of Columbus - Church Hall

### Friday, September 25

11:45 AM Rosary with the Association of Marian Helpers

12:15 PM Mass

### Saturday, September 26

4:00 PM Reconciliation

4:15 PM Cantor Rehearsal

5:00 PM Vigil Mass

### Sunday, September 27

Cantor Rehearsal 7:15 AM

8:00 AM Mass

"Kindle My Fire" Radio Program on 96.7-3WZ 8:30 AM

9:45 AM Cantor Rehearsal

Catholic Radio Program on 96.7-3WZ 10:00 AM

10:30 AM Mass - Confirmation

**Retirement Fund for Religious:** Your gift to next week's collection for the COLLECTION Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders! Thank you in advance for your support.





# From the Director of Religious Education, Kathleen Nowacki-Correia:

"As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways, says the Lord" (Isaiah 55:8)

This Sunday's Old Testament reading from the Prophet Isaiah, in which we are told that the Lord's ways are not our ways, prepares us well for Sunday's Gospel on divine justice, when St. Matthew recounts Christ's parable of the rich landowner's generous payment of his laborers, who worked for different amounts of time, but received the same wage. Jesus teaches His disciples that God's gift of salvation is one of generous mercy, extended to all who come to Him at different stages of their faith journey. This so-called "same payment" may not seem fair to those, who believe that they are more worthy of salvation, having embraced the Cross of Christ for their entire lives, while others will be admitted to the Kingdom, after death-bed confessions made in the final hour. Yet, as Sunday's Letter from St. Paul to the Philippians tells us, "Conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ," meaning that, if we truly profess to live for Christ, then we must manifest the Lord's love for others. May we accept that the Lord's ways are not our ways, as we ponder the question posed by the landowner in the parable: "Are you envious, because I am generous?" And, may we, who accept Our Lord's invitation to work in His vineyard, embrace with faith in His divine justice that, at the end of the day, "the last will be first, and the first will be last." ~K.N-C.



## **Liturgy Notes by Justin Soutar:**

On this Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, our Scripture readings encourage us to earnestly seek and faithfully serve the Lord, who is gracious and merciful. The prophet Isaiah urges sinners to repent and receive the Lord's mercy, for God's thoughts and ways are far above their own. In his Letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul observes that the power of Christ is at work in him whether he lives or dies. And in the Gospel, Jesus uses the parable of the landowner to teach his disciples that God welcomes everyone who agrees to serve in the heavenly kingdom regardless of their background or age.

"With this parable Jesus wants to open our hearts to the logic of the Father's love, which is free and generous. It's about allowing ourselves to be amazed and fascinated by God's 'thoughts' and 'ways,' as the prophet Isaiah reminds [us]... Human thoughts are often marked by egoism and personal gain, and our anxieties and torturous ways are not comparable to the wide and straight ways of the Lord. He uses mercy - don't forget this: He uses mercy - He forgives widely, is full of generosity and goodness, which He sheds on each one of us, opens to all the boundless territories of His love and His grace, which alone can give to the human heart the fullness of joy" (Pope Francis, Angelus, 9/24/17). May each of us experience the joy of serving our merciful Lord through the particular mission he has entrusted to us.

\*\*\* Musical Notes: 1) Thanks to W&L student Emma Duerstock for volunteering as a substitute cantor for weekend Masses. 2) We still need more cantors. Please contact Justin Soutar at 463-3533 or <a href="music@stpatrickslexington.com">music@stpatrickslexington.com</a> if you would like to serve in this way. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Liturgical Notes: 1) Thanks to Dr. Paul Faucher for volunteering as a Lector for 8 AM Sunday Masses. 2) We need someone to clean and maintain our church baptismal font. Please contact Justin Soutar if interested. \*\*\*

Please continue to check the parish website at stpatrickslexington.com for updates.





### **Parish Finances:**

Collection for 9/13/2020	\$	8,816
Weekly Budgeted Need	\$	7,461
Operating Income YTD	\$	71,696
Budgeted Operating Income YTD	\$	82,071
Under YTD Budgeted Income	\$ (	-10,375)
Collections not included above:		
Maintenance Reserve	\$	2,905

**Giving Options:** Thank you for your continued financial stewardship during this difficult time. For your convenience, please consider giving online at <u>offertory.richmonddiocese.org</u> or through our direct debit program at <u>Direct Debit</u>. Alternatively, you can mail checks (no cash please) to P.O. Box 725, Lexington, VA 24450.



**RCIA** is the acronym for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults in the Roman Catholic Church. If you are

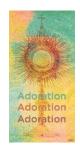
interested in being baptized, receiving the Eucharist and Confirmation, this is the program for you. If you are already baptized in another Christian denomination but desire entrance into the Catholic Church, this experience will lead you to Profession of Faith, Eucharist and Confirmation. The first class is Wed., Sept. 23, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Currently, we will be using the Parish House living and dining rooms. Please telephone Fr. Joe at 540-463-3533.

Virtual Host Families Needed: St. Patrick's Campus Support Ministry is looking for families (couples, young families, senior parishioners, etc.) to welcome new Catholic students/cadets in September. Little efforts might include saying a rosary for your Rat(s), sending an encouraging card along with a small goody bag of pre-packaged snacks/candy. Be a source of light to a new student or two far from home. Even with the unusual circumstances surrounding the pandemic, we can help them feel like they are a vital part of our Parish. To volunteer, please contact Mary Stuart Harlow msharlow502@gmail.com, 540-460-7353, or Mona Hazera at rbhazera@gmail.com. Rewards are everlasting!

The RARA Item of the Month is cooking oil. The basket for non-perishable food donations is in the narthex.

Welcome back to Mass! We are very fortunate to return to our regular schedule of Masses at St. Patrick. However, many of our regular Liturgical Ministers are not available to help at this time. Perhaps now is the time for you to step out of your comfort zone and step forward to volunteer your services! We especially need ushers and crucifers for the 8 a.m. Mass. Training is provided, and if we can get enough people to volunteer, you might serve only twice per month. Please prayerfully consider which of these positions would help you to help us serve God. To volunteer, call Cindy Bither or Justin Soutar at 463-3533.

**Adoration:** We have resumed our weekly adoration on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. You are welcome to join us at any time that is convenient for you, but we especially need coverage from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-1:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Maggie Davies at 540-819-6426.



We are seeking volunteers with a technical background who can operate computer software linked to Facebook and YouTube and who can operate a simple camera system used in livestreaming Mass on Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. It is really not all that complicated and training will be provided. It will involve about 90 minutes of your time perhaps once a month. You can do this concurrent with your participation in the Mass.

**FORMED:** Take advantage of our free parish subscription to FORMED for the best Catholic movies, e-books, study series, webinars, and top speakers! Go to <u>formed.org</u>, scroll down, click Register, enter parish code T2WDQ3, your email, click Submit, and fill in your information for free access





# Hymns for this weekend's Masses:

Entrance Chant: God, We Praise You #567 Offertory Chant: O God, You Search Me #678 Communion Chant: You Are Mine *by David Haas* Recessional Hymn: Blessed By Your Sacrifice #572

# God, We Praise You







# O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME



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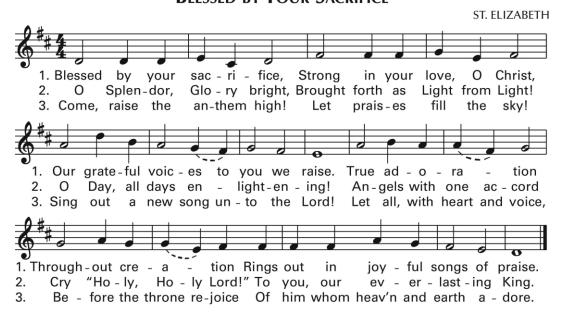


Text: David Haas, b.1957 Tune: David Haas, b.1957 © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.





# **BLESSED BY YOUR SACRIFICE**



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