

St. Patrick
CATHOLIC CHURCH

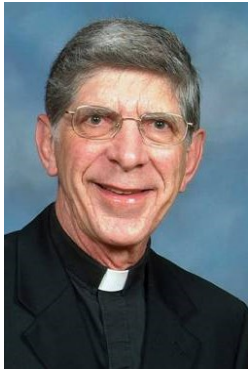
*Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit
Matthew 28:19*

Shamrock News

Spring 2017 Edition



A Letter From Our Pastor



Fr. Jim Angert, T.O.R.
Pastor

Christ Is Risen, He is truly Risen, Alleluia! As a universal church, on Easter Sunday, we just celebrated the central mystery of our faith which is the Resurrection of Christ. When Jesus rose from the dead, it was a total victory of Christ over sin, death and satan. Jesus as Lord lives forever. We all share in this victory of our Lord which began when we were first baptized and continues each day as we yield through faith to the power of the Holy Spirit that the Risen Lord pours out within us every day. St. Paul says in Philippians 3:10: "I want to know Christ and experience the power that flows from his Resurrection." As disciples, the driving force in our lives is knowing Christ and experiencing his power at work within us.

As we live our faith, our Risen Lord also empowers us with the gift of the Holy Spirit. In Acts 2:38, we read: "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." All of us are empowered by the Holy Spirit and we release this power as we use the gifts that God has given to us. The greatest of all these gifts is love as we recall these words of Jesus when he said that God is love and those who abide in love, abide in God and God in them.

All of you have many gifts and I am so delighted that you are using your gifts so that all of us can be growing disciples who want to grow other disciples by loving God and one another. We are blessed with fifty different ministries here at our parish home of St. Patrick's. Through these ministries, we express our faith in the Lord and allow the Lord to act through us as others are touched by the Lord through you. Everyone is encouraged to be a part of a ministry or ministries so that our parish can continue to grow in numbers, power and love. Please welcome others to become a part of our Parish family here at St. Patrick's. We have the greatest mission on earth as we live and share the Good News that Christ Is Risen, He is truly Risen, Alleluia!

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit"

- Matthew 28:19



THE WILD GOOSE

DISCOVERING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT



The Wild Goose is a work of the Holy Spirit, which is awakening in the hearts of all those participating God's love and transforming power. This is a love that has been revealed to us by Jesus Christ and that leads us to our heavenly Father. "The Holy Spirit has been given to us not as a possession to be tamed or controlled, but rather as a Person that will lead us to the Heart of God."

"The Wild Goose" is an ancient Celtic title for the Holy Spirit, and Fr. Dave Pivonka wants to use this title to teach Catholics about who the Holy Spirit is. He says, "From the first time I heard this it stirred something in my heart. Yes, there is a wildness to the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit desires to be present to us in a manner that brings light out of darkness, freedom out of bondage, order out of chaos and life out of death."

A relationship with the Holy Spirit can feel vague and intimidating to many Catholics. As Fr. Dave says, "I've long been convinced that too many people today have the same sentiment as the people St. Paul encountered. Sure, perhaps most have heard something of the Holy Spirit, but their experience of the Holy Spirit is very limited. The idea of God wanting us to encounter the Holy Spirit, to have a relationship with the Holy Spirit is a foreign concept for far too many people."

This humble, unafraid, and beautiful series reveals how simple and life-giving a relationship with the Holy Spirit can be. This series is a perfect study for small groups or individuals who are searching for an authentic relationship with God. Fr. Dave Pivonka's mission with the Wild Goose Project is "to invite Catholic Christians into a more profound life-giving relationship with the Holy Spirit. This is a relationship marked by the love of God which breathes life into our daily existence."

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Sweet Goodbyes In Faith Formation

Written by: Deacon Ben Hooks

This year we are losing two of our MacDill Families; the first is Jim and Chrissie Cook who have been great supporters of our Faith Formation program. Chrissie was a Catechist for a year and then a sub for the last year while she and Jim both readied themselves for greater responsibilities after new promotions and selection for unit command. They are leaving for new assignments in the end of April. Mary Alice Moore, Jim's mother and guardian of the children when Mom or Dad are deployed, has been a Catechist Assistant for two years and will bring the children to the new station in Missouri when school is out.

Another family, Martha Castro and Antonio Palma will be transferring to Norfolk in June (after a brief detour to visit relatives in Italy). The daughters, Elisa and Sophia, received their sacraments here this year and will be ready for their new home in Virginia. Like the Cook family, the Castro-Palma's were very active in our social projects at Metropolitan Ministries, Pinellas Hope, and our PB&J Outreach to the homeless. We will miss them all.

Our third loss remains closer to home as Dianna Portsche will be stepping back from being a Pre-K/K Catechist (although we will still have her help with VBS) after 24 years. Dianna began as a Catechist in 1993 for then DRE Marcia Seheult and then added being a teacher at St Patrick School as well in 1994. When the school closed, Dianna began teaching at West Shore Elementary in 2006 but continued here as a Catechist and VBS Staff.

Dianna has treasured working with the Pre-K/K classes and seeing the growth in the children from age three to five as they learn about Jesus. She reminds them often that in public schools they will not be able to talk about Jesus in the classrooms, but they can still do his work there every day, a very valuable reminder of our call to live as a disciple of Christ by all that we do. It is the greatest joy for her to see her former students involved in activities in Faith Formation, serving at the Altar or as Eucharistic Ministers, and some now raising children of their own. What a wonderful legacy and history of service!



EDGE– Middle School Youth Ministry



Edge is our Catholic middle school youth program at St. Patrick. It provides a safe fun place for youth in 6th to 8th grades to find solid Catholic community, get answers to their questions about their faith, and experience Jesus in a profound and personal way.

We started last September with the *Existence* series, when the youth plunged into the creation of our universe and the truth that we were created out of the love of God and to love God, along with the fall of man, original sin, and why evil exists.

We are currently exploring the mystery and wonder of the Sacraments of Initiation and their transformative power in the *Transformation* series. Our next series *Choices* will allow the youth to dive deep into decision making and morality.

The Edge youth have also participated in the life of St. Patrick by helping at the Fish Fry, Getting Ready for Jesus, and Vacation Bible School. During their Divine Mission night, the youth played a scavenger hunt service game which included creating thank you notes for Fr. Jim, a “thank you” poster for the Spanish Prayer Group, love cards for members of our parish who are homebound, singing cheers to the Fish Fry workers, and creating food bags for St Vincent de Paul.

Edge meets every other Friday at 7pm in Room 26. A typical Edge night starts with prayer and eating pizza, followed by games, a short teaching and small group discussions. We end the night with prayer and dessert. We will continue meeting through the summer. Come join us for fun, games and faith!





Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) 2017 Holy Week

A lot of planning by a number of people went into the celebration of the Triduum this year. This is the most sacred week of the entire liturgical year for all of Christianity. The celebration is a continuous rite beginning with the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and the institution of the Priesthood and the Eucharist. We take a break and on Good Friday we continue with the celebration of the Lord's Passion and the Veneration of the Cross. We take another break and just after sunset on Holy Saturday we begin the Easter Vigil with the lighting of the Sacred Fire, then the Paschal Candle. From there we light our own candles and process into a darkened church, flooding the church with the flames from our candles signifying the Light of Christ entering the darkness of our world.

The Easter Vigil is the culmination of the Rite of Christian Initiation. After months of preparation candidates for Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation are received as full members of the Catholic Church. Angel and his son Jaden, Heath, Ashley, and Elissa completed the RCIA program at that mass. Twelve middle school and high school people received the sacrament of Confirmation. What a tremendously glorious time for our parish.

A number of adults met me after mass and asked if they could be prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation. Fr. Stan will begin a confirmation preparation class shortly. If you are an adult who has not received the sacrament of Confirmation please contact Fr Stan in the parish office. If your spouse is Catholic and you would like to be part of next year's RCIA program, or if you would like to know more about what your spouse believes please join us. The most important element of the RCIA program is to be able to have a deeper and personal relationship with Jesus. The RCIA Team of Judy Taiclet, Cynthia Fernandez, Director Joe Brown and Fr Stan would love to accompany you on your journey of faith.

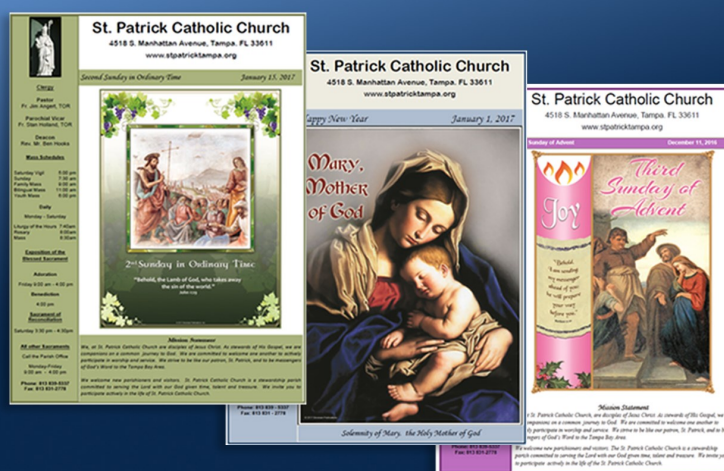


Thank you to all of our wonderful photographers and our smiling parish community.
Thank you for sharing your time, talent, love and joy with all of us!



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Sunday Bulletins & Parish News



St Patrick Catholic Church Tampa



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StPatrickTpaLifeTeen

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