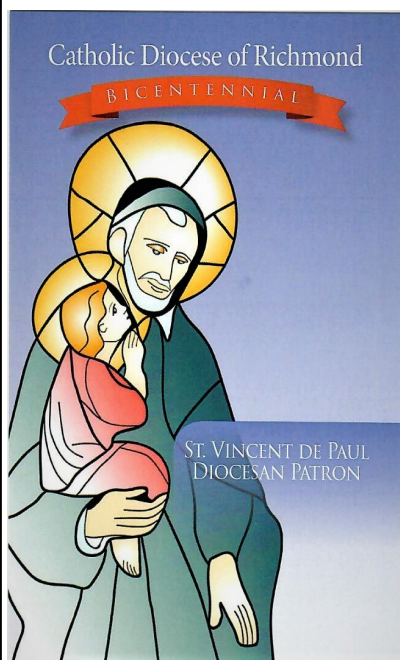


Holy Infant Catholic Church



101 West Marshall Ave., Elkton Virginia 22827



Special Mass Conclusion of the Bicentennial Celebration of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond

Saturday, Jan 16, 2021 at 5:00 PM
Livestreamed from Holy Infant Catholic Church

&

Sunday, Jan 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM
Livestreamed from Holy Infant Catholic Church

01/17/2021 BICENTENNIAL MASS READINGS

First Reading	Gen	3: 9-15, 20
Second Reading	Ac	1: 12-14
Gospel	Jn	19: 25-34

Jan 16/17



Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Richmond

January 17, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Two hundred years ago, on July 11, 1820, Pope Pius VII established our local Church with a statement of hope. The diocese's founding document focused its word of hope on the first bishop of Richmond, the Right Reverend Patrick Kelly, declaring that, "We set you over it as Bishop and Pastor... trusting in Him, who gives grace and bestows gifts, that as the Lord guides your actions, the... Church of Richmond... will experience pleasing increases in spiritual and temporal matters."

The same document states that our diocese was created in an effort to overcome a schism, meaning a formal division among believers, that had arisen in Norfolk over the ownership of Church property and the right to appoint pastors. Like the parable of the wheat and weeds growing together (cf. Matt 13:24-30), the apostolic brief establishing the Richmond Diocese seemed to foreshadow both the triumphs and struggles of Catholics in Virginia.

Similarly, our bicentennial jubilee, which ends today, has included both accomplishments and challenges. The past year saw much suffering and hardship owing to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, along with civil unrest during the summer and the reprehensible violence that took place last week at the United States Capitol in Washington, DC.

Gaudium et spes, the Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, begins by proclaiming that, "The joys and hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ." Immersed as we are in these common experiences, we have persevered as a Church in proclaiming the Gospel to society, administering the sacraments, and helping people in need.

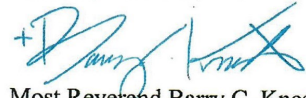
In this way, the difficulties of the past year have brought us to a deeper understanding of the themes of the bicentennial jubilee: the communion and mission of the Church. Communion refers to the bonds that unite us to God and to one another; mission is our common endeavor to proclaim Christ's death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins. We have marked the anniversary of our diocese to honor those who gave witness to the Catholic faith in Virginia before us, and to inspire those who will come after us.

On the Church's voyage through history, the Blessed Virgin Mary shines as the star of holiness and a model of discipleship for us. Mary embodies the Church on this journey to heaven because she cooperated generously with God in the work of salvation, which brought about new life for believers. Therefore, the Mother of God is also the Mother of believers—the Mother of the Church (cf. Jn 19:26-27).

Since Mary is the Church at its very best, I have asked that the readings and prayers from the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church be used at all Masses in the diocese this weekend, as a fitting conclusion to the bicentennial jubilee. As we gather either in person or virtually through live streaming, I ask that prayers be offered at every Mass not only for our local Church, but also for our nation and all national leaders, that all those responsible for the common good may act with wisdom, and may be strengthened by the cardinal virtues of prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice.

May the intercession of Mary guide our diocese as it embarks upon its third century, and help believers to fulfill the motto of our bicentennial and the mission of the Church: "Shine like stars in the world, as you hold fast to the word of life" (Phil 2:15-16).

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout
Bishop of Richmond

Prayer of the Faithful

For the Diocese of Richmond, in thanksgiving for our 200 years as a Diocese and community of faith, may this celebration continue to be a time for us to ask for God's blessings on all our efforts, and too, guided by the Holy Spirit, may we continue to be a sign and instrument in the world of Christ's presence

Upcoming Mass & Event Announcements

Saturday, January 23, 2021– 5 PM Mass & Sunday, January 24, 2021—11 AM Mass
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 30, 2021– 5 PM Mass & Sunday, January 31, 2021– 11 AM Mass
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<u>Weekly Contributions</u>	Budgeted Target	Actual Collected	Difference
Jan 9 & Jan 10	\$ 1,523.23	\$ 1,613.00	\$ 89.77
July 1st, 2020 to Date	\$42,650.44	\$ 44,417.06	\$ 1,766.62

Other collections-- Jan 9, 2021 & Jan 10, - 2021

Parish Improvements \$80—Justice & Peace \$140—Respect Life \$70

BICENTENNIAL PRAYER OF THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND 1820– 2020.

Father of lights ,

The radiance of your Son has guided the advance of the Gospel across the Diocese of Richmond for two centuries, strengthening our Church from the Eastern Shore to the Cumberland Gap.

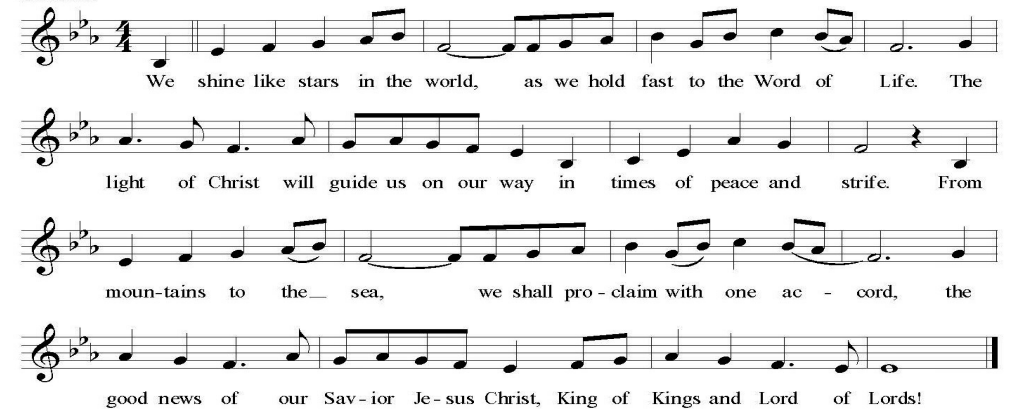
Grant that the nearness of your Son may dispel the darkness of our sins, so that as our love increases more and more, we may dare more than ever to fearlessly proclaim the word.

Holding fast to the word of life, may we shine like stars in the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit , one God for ever and ever.

We Shine Like Stars in the World

*In Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the
Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Virginia
1820 - 2020*

Refrain



We shine like stars in the world, as we hold fast to the Word of Life. The
light of Christ will guide us on our way in times of peace and strife. From
moun-tains to the sea, we shall pro-claim with one ac-cord, the
good news of our Sav-ior Je-sus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Verses



1. We gath-er as one bo-dy, to hear your Word pro-claimed. We
2. Through-out all ge-ner-a-tions, your peo-ple ga-ther in prayer. Our
3. For all who've gone be-fore us, through sick-ness, war and fear, we
4. Christ calls his sheep to fol-low, to serve all those we meet. You

share in Christ's Com-mun-ion, sent forth with faith sus-tained.
faith in Christ re-news us, His ri-sen life we share.
car-ry on the miss-ion our loved ones held so dear.
send us with your bless-ing, to be your hands and feet.