



FEBRUARY 26, 2023  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

**CLUSTERED CATHOLIC PARISHES OF  
THE ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH**

255 W. Main St (office - 214 W. Locust St.) Covington, VA 24426  
540-962-6541 [sacredheartcovington.org](http://sacredheartcovington.org)  
Mass Schedule: Sunday 11:00 AM

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

620 Jefferson Ave. Clifton Forge, VA 24422  
540-863-5371 [stjosephcf.org](http://stjosephcf.org)  
Mass Schedule: Sunday 9:00 AM

**SHRINE OF THE SACRED HEART**

1499 Shady Ln. (P.O. Box 38) Hot Springs, VA 24445  
540-839-2603 [shrineofthesacredheartparish.org](http://shrineofthesacredheartparish.org)  
Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM

**Fr. Augustine Lukenge, Pastor**

434-755-1208

**Fr. Tom Collins, Retired Priest In-Residence**

540-588-8492

**Fr. Dan Kelly, Retired Priest In-Residence**

434-270-6037

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Confessions are available before each Mass at all churches.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:**

In order for a Catholic to enter a sacramentally valid marriage, he/she must respect and follow the Church's discipline regarding this sacrament. Call the parish office for specific information. Normally, about six months should be allowed to prepare for this sacred covenant. Parish registration is necessary.

**Sacrament of Confirmation:**

Students are required to be registered in the parish & be participating in the parish Rel. Ed. Program. Confirmation classes are separate and obligatory.

**Sacrament of Baptism:**

Parents are required to attend one Baptism preparation class (seminar). Baptism is celebrated within the weekend Mass. Call the parish offices for a seminar date.

**Today's Gospel**

*"The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve."*

**Matthew 4:1-11**

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

**St. Joseph Parish 540-863-5371**

Office Hours: Call for appointment

In Emergency	Fr. Lukenge	434-755-1208
Council Chair	Paul Cormier	540-968-6410
Vice Chair	Libby Burger	540-691-6618
Secretary	Mary Asma	540-965-5551
Worship	Paul Cormier	540-968-6410
Community Life	Kathy Smestad	540-862-5333
Justice & Peace	Mary Asma	540-965-5551
Grds & Maint.	Jimmy Withrow	540-494-3987

**Sacred Heart Parish 540-962-6541**

Office Hours: Call for appointment

In Emergency	Fr. Lukenge	434-755-1208
Council Chair	Laurie O'Doherty	703-282-9203
Vice Chair	Vacant	
Secretary	DeDe Rogowski	540-962-7344
Worship	Tom O'Doherty	540-962-6795
Community Life	Alvina Nida	540-747-2211
Justice & Peace	John Stec	540-862-1917
Grds & Maint.	Ron Brunetti	540-962-1565
Religious Educ.	Dianne Garcia	540-691-4896
K of C Contact	Tom O'Doherty	202-373-9571

**Shrine of the Sacred Heart Parish 540-839-2603**

Office Hours: Call for appointment

In Emergency	Fr. Lukenge	434-755-1208
Council Chair	Herb Godschalk	540-255-3690
Vice Chair	Beth Eley	646-842-1555
Secretary	Sue Godschalk	540-255-2499
Worship	Eileen Judah	540-968-6409
Community Life	Deborah Lambert	540- 468-3438
Justice & Peace	Tom Misiak	540-997-1478
Grds & Maint.	Louis Pokrywka	540-925-2413



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR  
MILITARY MEN & WOMEN:

Sacred Heart – Arthur Headley, Jessie (Jesus)  
Morals, Joel Moscoso  
St. Joseph – Michael Buchanan, Joshua  
Crawford, Andy Shepard

## PRAYER LIST

**St. Joseph**

Brian Albrecht, Kevin Albrecht, Clair Dilley, Bob Gardiner, Tom Greenwood, Larry Griffith, Rita Luther, Sally Putnam, Terry Windsor.

**Sacred Heart**

Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Lisa Dickson, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Arthur Headley, Robert Hoke, Marcella Jordan, David Palance, Maria and Bob Perron, Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Thomas Wade, Bill Withrow

**Shrine of the Sacred Heart**

Margaret Fields, Molly Sasser, John W. Smith, Clarissa Westenburger



## WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

**St. Joseph**  
Sunday Offertory \$2,240.00

**Sacred Heart**  
Sunday Offertory \$1,117.00  
COPE Food Pantry 344.00

**Shrine of the Sacred Heart**  
Sunday Offertory \$1,356.31



Office of the Bishop

## Diocese of Richmond

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First Week of Lent 2023

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to offer you my prayerful best wishes during your spiritual journey this Lent. I pray it will be a time of grace and an opportunity to grow in faith; to deepen your understanding of all God has done and continues to do for all of us.

Lent is also time of gathering together in parish communities to offer personal witness to our faith. It is a unique time for us to recognize and acclaim the faith of those who will enter into full communion in the Catholic Church, and a time of deep reflection and conversion. For some, it may be a time for the restoration of faith, that for various reasons has not been sustained. I pray it is a time of grace and blessing for you.

In the Diocese, we are making plans, particularly for Holy Week. I invite you to attend the **Annual Chrism Mass** which will take place on Monday of Holy Week – April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond. More information will be provided in the coming days regarding parking and other details.

The Chrism Mass is a unique moment in the life of the Church when priests from all across the Diocese gather with me to publicly witness and renew our commitment to our vocation to priesthood. It is also a sign of unity and communion between priests and their bishop. The Annual Chrism Mass offers an opportunity, in the blessing of the oils, for the lay faithful to deepen their understanding of the use and effects of the Holy Oils and Chrism in the Sacramental life of the Church. I hope you will make every effort to join me for this annual liturgy of Holy Week.

May Christ Our Hope lead you in this holy season of Lent to a renewed life of grace and reconciliation, as I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
Bishop of Richmond

## CALENDAR

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday

Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday

First Friday Mass and Adoration: Mass will be celebrated at 11:00AM followed by Adoration; Benediction will be at 5:00PM

First Saturday Mass will be celebrated this Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, at Sacred Heart in honor of the Blessed Mother. Service starts at 9:00AM with the Rosary and Litany of the Blessed Mother followed by Mass.

Contact Fr. Tom (540-588-8492) to schedule a time for weekday Mass at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart.

Stations of the Cross: 6PM on Thursday at St. Joseph; 5:30pm on Friday at Sacred Heart followed by a meatless soup supper in the parish hall. Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Stations of the Cross will be on Wednesday at 5PM beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup>.



## NOTICES

The Faith Formation Series, **Forgiven**, begins this Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The Knights of Columbus and Sacred Heart are hosting a St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day party on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in the Sacred Heart parish hall at 5PM. All clustered parishes are invited to attend. Bring a side dish or dessert of your choice and join in good food and fellowship. You do not have to bring a dish to attend.

The Knights of Columbus are raffling a Cheer Basket for charity. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased from any Knight. The Drawing will be on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day party in the parish hall. You must be 21 years of age or older to purchase a ticket.

### Lenten Luncheon Schedule

March 1 - McAllister Mem. Presbyterian

March 8 - First Christian Church

March 15 - Good News Christian Church

March 22 - Gospel Tabernacle COGC

March 29 - Mallow Presbyterian Church

All lunches begin at 12 Noon and end prior to 1pm.

A free will offering is collected each Wednesday to support a local mission or ministry.

Each week a different minister will bring us a message.

Join together with brothers and sisters of all denominations to worship and glorify God.

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. Feb. 26	Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7; Psalms 51: 3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Romans 5: 12-19 or 5: 12, 17-19; Matthew 4: 4b; Matthew 4:1-11
Mon. Feb. 27	Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18; Psalms 19: 8, 9, 10, 15; 2 Corinthians 6: 2b; Matthew 25: 31-46
Tues. Feb. 28	Isaiah 55: 10-11; Psalms 34: 4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Matthew 4: 4b; Matthew 6: 7-15
Wed. Mar. 1	Jonah 3: 1-10; Psalms 51: 3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Joel 2: 12-13; Luke 11: 29-32
Thurs. Mar. 2	Esther C: 12, 14-16, 23-25; Psalms 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Psalms 51: 12a,14a; Matthew 7: 7-12
Fri. Mar. 3	Ezekiel 18: 21-28; Psalms 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Ezekiel 18: 31; Matthew 5: 20-26
Sat. Mar. 4	Deuteronomy 26: 16-19; Psalms 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8; 2 Corinthians 6: 2b; Matthew 5: 43-48
Sun. Mar. 5	Genesis 12: 1-4a; Psalms 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Timothy 1: 8b-10; Matthew 17: 5; Matthew 17: 1-9

## VOCATIONS

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the state in life God has prepared for you? Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661 e-mail: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



## LENT – 40 DAY SPIRITUAL RESET

As we begin the beautiful and challenging season of Lent, our readings this week remind us why we need these 40 days so much. They also suggest a particular strategy we Christian stewards might take as we make the journey toward Easter.

Our first reading takes us all the way back to Genesis, reminding us of our Creator and the loving care and lavish gifts He gave to our ancestors, Adam and Eve. He created them out of pure love and provided abundantly for them.

Life was good in the Garden! Until the first couple allowed just a sliver of doubt in the goodness of God to enter their minds.

Swayed by the words of the serpent, they became ungrateful and distrustful despite God's great love for them and all the gifts of creation He had provided. Sound familiar? These are the same temptations that threaten to pull us away from God today.

Our Gospel passage from Matthew shows us by the example of Jesus Himself one way that we can attain spiritual strength and grow to become more effective disciples and stewards. In this passage, we find our Lord in the desert, fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. Like Adam and Eve, He is confronted by the evil one. But unlike our fallen parents, our Lord triumphs definitively over the devil's lies and sends him slithering away.

How did He do it? By knowing the Scriptures and by proclaiming them confidently. And by His perfect trust in the Father.

This Lent, let us embrace this 40-day spiritual reset. Let us prioritize our use of time by committing to prayerful study of the Scriptures and trusting more deeply in the Father's love. We will surely be better stewards by Easter.