



MARCH 19, 2023
FOURTH 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
Mass Schedule: Sunday 11:00 AM

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

620 Jefferson Ave. Clifton Forge, VA 24422
540-863-5371 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
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

*"If you were blind, you would have no sin;
but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.*

John 9:1-41

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

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

Sacred Heart

Clara Arbogast, Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Lisa Dickson, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Arthur Headley, Robert Hoke, Marcella Jordan, Raphael Lopez, Alvina Nida, 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	\$617.00
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$511.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,107.31

CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday
Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday;
12NOON Friday (10:45AM Friday, Holy Hour with Benediction at Sacred Heart)
First Saturday Mass will be celebrated 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: 5PM on Wednesday at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart; 6PM on Wednesday at St. Joseph; 5:30PM on Friday at Sacred Heart followed by a meatless soup supper in the parish hall.

SAVE THE DATE: April 2nd, Palm Sunday, is the day of this year's annual Spring Life Chain, sponsored by our local Knights of Columbus Council #17457. A significant change is that the Life Chain will begin one hour earlier than in previous Life Chains. That means it will start at 1:15 in the afternoon on April 2nd. Additional details will be forthcoming.

New seminar on May 9th beginning with a light dinner at 5:00PM and the seminar at 5:30PM at St. Joseph's Parish Hall.

This is for St. Joseph Church and Sacred Heart parishioners.

Get Your Affairs in Order: 4 things your family will thank you for, will provide you with information about Wills and Trusts, Catholic Advanced Medical Directives, Legacy Planning and Catholic Funeral Planning. This is a free informational seminar.

RSVP to the St. Joseph's parish office at 540-863-5371.

NOTICES

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is Saturday, March 25th. Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart at 9AM.

Lenten Luncheon Schedule

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.

Mike Pietrzyk will share a presentation on the Shroud Of Turin on Thursday, March 30th at 5:30pm in the Sacred Heart Covington Parish Hall. The Shroud is one of the most intriguing, amazing, controversial, and mysterious artifacts in the world. Saint John Paul II called it a "distinguished relic linked to the mystery of our redemption". As we continue through Lent, we contemplate this "icon written in blood" (Pope Benedict XVI). "This image, impressed upon the cloth, speaks to our heart and moves us to climb the hill of Calvary, to look upon the wood of the Cross, and to immerse ourselves in the eloquent silence of Love." (Pope Francis). The presentation is a wonderful lead into Holy Week. All parishes are encouraged to attend.

The next session in Our Adult Faith Formation series, Forgiven, will be held this MONDAY, March 20th at Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. Note the change of day for this week only.

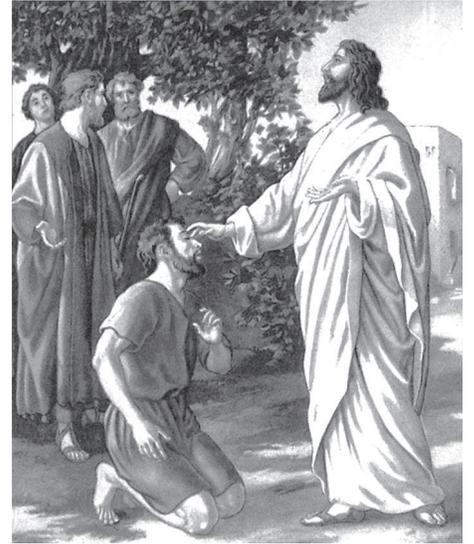
WARNING: If you receive any text messages from Fr. Lukenge asking for a favor or for money, please report as spam and delete. This is a scam.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Mar. 19	1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13; Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Ephesians 5: 8-14; John 8: 12; John 9: 1-41
Mon. Mar. 20	2 Samuel 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Psalms 89: 2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Romans 4: 13, 16-18, 22; Psalms 84: 5; Matthew 1: 16, 18-21, 24
Tues. Mar. 21	Ezekiel 47: 1-9, 12; Psalms 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Psalms 51: 12a, 14a; John 5: 1-16
Wed. Mar. 22	Isaiah 49: 8-15; Psalms 145: 8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; John 11: 25a, 26; John 5: 17-30
Thurs. Mar. 23	Exodus 32: 7-14; Psalms 106: 19-20, 21-22, 23; John 3: 16; John 5: 31-47
Fri. Mar. 24	Wisdom 2: 1a, 12-22; Psalms 34: 17-18, 19-20, 21, 23; Matthew 4: 4b; John 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30
Sat. Mar. 25	Isaiah 7: 10-14; 8: 10; Psalms 40: 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10: 4-10; John 1: 14ab; Luke 1: 26-38
Sun. Mar. 26	Ezekiel 37: 12-14; Psalms 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Romans 8: 8-11; John 11: 25a, 26; John 11: 1-45

VOCATIONS

"The Lord looks on the heart." Are you called to bring the Light of Christ to the world through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661



THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Lent are filled with contrasting images — God's vision versus human vision, the light of Christ versus the darkness of sin, spiritual blindness versus spiritual sightedness. Embracing a stewardship way of life can free us from spiritual blindness, allow us to see as God sees, and help us to reflect the light of Christ's love in the way we live our daily lives.

Our Second Reading, from Ephesians, begins, "... You were once in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." Because of our Baptism, we have the "light" of the Blessed Trinity dwelling within us. In the difficulties and messiness of daily life, it's easy to forget this glorious truth about ourselves. It can also be difficult to determine whether we truly are living in a way that reflects Christ's light. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the rightly ordered use of the gifts of time, talent, and treasure, gives us a guide we can consult on a daily basis to help ensure that we really are living as "children of the light."

In our Gospel passage from John, Christ restores sight to a man born blind. The man says that Christ "opened my eyes." These Lenten days are an excellent time for us to ask Jesus to open our eyes, too. Let us ask Him to show us where we may be suffering from spiritual blindness, perhaps even in subtle ways in our use — or misuse — of time, talent, and treasure.

As we continue on our Lenten journey, let's intensify our efforts in any of these areas where we have become a little blinded so that by Easter, we are truly living as children of the light.