



MAY 21, 2023
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**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

"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Matthew 28:16-20

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, Mark Asma, Clair Dilley, Bob Gardiner, Tom Greenwood, Larry Griffith, Rita Luther, Jean Manner, 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 Perron, Paul Perron, Shaun 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	\$1,026.00
Roof Fund	100.00
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,378.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,057.00

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 Friday Mass will be celebrated at 11:00AM
followed by eight hours of Adoration; Benediction
will be at 8:00PM.

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 at 9:30AM.

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

A MOUNTAIN IN GALILEE

The book of Acts tells us that the Ascension of Jesus into heaven took place near Jerusalem. Jesus told them "not to leave Jerusalem". Why then, does Matthew say that the event happened at a mountain in Galilee? The answer may be that there were two different traditions of where Jesus' departure took place. Another possibility is that Matthew interprets the mission of the Apostles as beginning at their homes in Galilee, from where they went forth. Finally, there is a distinct tradition in Jerusalem that the Mount of Olives was home to Galileans while on pilgrimage to the holy city. It would have been a convenient stopping point on the way from Galilee. Hence it might have been a "little Galilee" just as some cities have immigrant sections like "little Italy", etc.

NOTICES

Just wanted to remind our clustered parishes that Home Mission Grant Applications are due no later than May 31, 2023. You can access the Home Mission Grant by going to www.richmond-diocese.org – Directory – Propagation of the Faith – Documents – Home Mission Grant Application 2023. We have both PDF and Word formats.

HELP US DELIVER CLEAN WATER

The Foundation for Human Civilization invites you to support the Uganda Water Project. The goal is to raise \$30,000 to drill a centralized well in Uganda. It will service the remote villages of Bugolo-Kireku. These two villages are home to about 2,000 people across 220 households and children make up more than half of the population. There is no indoor plumbing in these villages, no running water. Each household must collect rainwater into a cistern to service their needs. For extra water, the villagers must carry jugs to the closest natural spring. It is up to three miles away from the two villages.

The Uganda Water Project will contract with Living Water Technologies to drill the well. This is a trusted company in the region and has successfully drilled a well for a neighboring village.

For more information on the project, please see our site at <https://f4hc.org>. We accept online donations through a secured form on the "Support" tab of the site. We also accept checks made to Foundation for Human Civilization, P.O. Box 82, Covington, VA 24426.

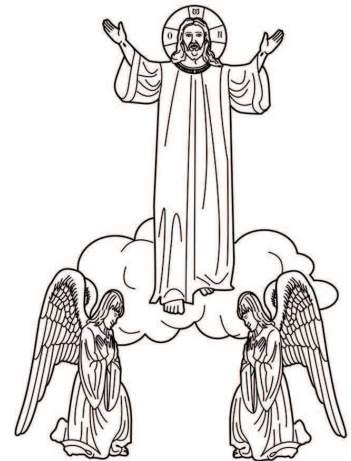
God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. May 21	Acts 1: 1-11; Psalms 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Ephesians 1: 17-23; Matthew 28: 19a, 20b; Matthew 28: 16-20
Mon. May 22	Acts 19: 1-8; Psalms 68: 2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Colossians 3: 1; John 16: 29-33
Tues. May 23	Acts 20: 17-27; Psalms 68: 10-11, 20-21; John 14: 16; John 17: 1-11a
Wed. May 24	Acts 20: 28-38; Psalms 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; John 17: 17b, 17a; John 17: 11b-19
Thurs. May 25	Acts 22: 30; 23: 6-11; Psalms 16: 1-2a, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; John 17: 21; John 17: 20-26
Fri. May 26	Acts 25: 13b-21; Psalms 103: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; John 14: 26; John 21: 15-19
Sat. May 27	Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31; Psalms 11: 4, 5 and 7; John 16: 7, 13; John 21: 20-25
Sun. May 28	Acts 2: 1-11; Psalms 104: 1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13; John 20: 19-23

VOCATIONS

"They received the Holy Spirit." The Blessed Virgin Mary intercedes for your faithfulness to the vocation to which the Spirit is leading you. Do you think God may be offering you the grace of serving Him and His people as a priest or in the consecrated life? Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661 e-mail: vocations @richmonddiocese.org.



DO SOMETHING IN GRATITUDE TO GOD

Today, we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord, that glorious moment when Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection, was lifted up — quite literally— into heaven, as the apostles watched in stunned amazement. It is recounted in both our first reading, from Acts, as well as the Gospel passage, from Matthew. It must have been an extraordinary thing to witness.

But the first reading tells us that the apostles were not permitted to simply bask in the moment for very long. "While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?'"

In other words, "Don't just stand there, do something!"

This verse is a call to each one of us Christian stewards this very day. We have been given every grace and blessing through the Mass and all of the sacraments, through the Word of God, the rich teachings of our faith, and even our talents and our material possessions.

And like those first apostles, we are not meant to just stand here but to do something with these gifts — in love and gratitude to the One Who gave them to us. We are called, just as much as the first apostles "to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth," not with our own power, but through the power of the Holy Spirit in us.