



JULY 30, 2023
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

**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

*Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls.
When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.*

Matthew 13:44-52

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	Leo Mulcahy	540-862-3021
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, Rita Luther, Jean Manner, Sally Putnam, Bob Umstead, Terry Windsor.

Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Lisa Dickson, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Arthur Headley, 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	\$
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,730.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$2,054.63

CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday

Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday

First Friday Mass will be celebrated this Friday, August 4th at Sacred Heart beginning with Mass at 11am followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction will be at 8PM. There is a sign-up sheet for Adoration as you enter the church.

First Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart will be celebrated this Saturday August 5 at 9AM beginning with the Rosary and Litany of Our Lady followed by Mass at 9:30AM. This is a Knights of Columbus quarterly Mass. All Mass attendees are invited to a free breakfast of biscuits, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee, milk, and orange juice in the Parish Hall following Mass.

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

NOTICES

The Knights of Columbus thank all who are collecting aluminum cans and dropping them off in the orange bin located along the side of the Sacred Heart Rectory garage. Over 500 lbs. or roughly 15,500 cans have been recycled so far. The proceeds from recycling aluminum cans are used to fund KofC charitable efforts. Be creative and ask your friends, neighbors, or a business establishment to save aluminum cans for you to drop off at the Rectory garage.

NOTICES

When requesting a Mass for special intentions, the stipend for the priest is typically \$10, or more if desired. This payment should go directly to the priest and not to the parish. If writing a check, please make the check out to the priest.

Sacred Heart is responsible for delivering Meals on Wheels, August 14th – 18th. There is a sign-up sheet as you enter the church. Please consider volunteering for this important ministry.

SAVE THE DATE: The 2023 Annual Clustered Parish Picnic, hosted by the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, will be on Sunday, September 17th, beginning at 1pm at the Old Dairy Barn, 46 Old Dairy Road, Warm Springs, VA. Meat and drinks will be provided. St. Joseph parishioners are asked to bring a side dish and Sacred Heart parishioners should bring a dessert.

The next adult faith formation will be "Evangelization (and the Acts of the Apostles)" and will begin on Tuesday, September 5, in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. Check out this link for details on this series: <https://www.augustineinstitute.org/bible-studies/lectio-evangelization>. To request a free hardcopy of the participant guide, email formed@sacredheartcovington.org or contact Don Rogowski at 540-962-7344 by August 15th.

Through your will, you can designate a gift to our church that will bless the Christian witness forever. Including the church in your will costs you nothing now yet makes a wonderful faith witness for your family, friends and others. It is a gift anyone can make, and costs nothing during lifetime.

Lord, I love your commands.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. July 30	1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Psalms 119: 57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130; Romans 8: 28-30; Matthew 11: 25; Matthew 13: 44-52
Mon. July 31	Exodus 32: 15-24, 30-34; Psalms 106: 19-20, 21-22, 23; James 1: 18; Matthew 13: 31-35
Tues. Aug. 1	Exodus 33: 7-11; 34: 5b-9, 28; Psalms 103: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Matthew 13: 36-43
Wed. Aug. 2	Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalms 99: 5, 6, 7, 9; John 15: 15b; Matthew 13: 44-46
Thurs. Aug. 3	Exodus 40: 16-21, 34-38; Psalms 84: 3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11; Acts 16: 14b; Matthew 13: 47-53
Fri. Aug. 4	Leviticus 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Psalms 81: 3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; 1 Peter 1: 25; Matthew 13: 54-58
Sat. Aug. 5	Leviticus 25: 1, 8-17; Psalms 67: 2-3, 5, 7-8; Matthew 5: 10; Matthew 14: 1-12
Sun. Aug. 6	Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; Psalms 97: 1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Peter 1: 16-19; Matthew 17:5 Matthew 17: 1-9

VOCATIONS

"Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and it will be opened to you." Ask in prayer to know your vocation! Seek and find ways to serve! Knock on the doors of those who can help guide you! Do you think God may be offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



SEEK THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The stewardship way of life could be described as a daily pursuit of the kingdom of heaven. In our Gospel passage from Matthew today, Jesus employs three parables to describe this kingdom.

In the first of today's parables, our Lord reminds us that living for Him and for His kingdom will be costly. But the deep joy that comes in following Him makes the "price" entailed worth it. Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Next, He says the kingdom of heaven is "like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all he has and buys it."

In each of these stories, the kingdom of heaven is somewhat "hidden." We must intentionally search for it amidst the noise of the world that bombards us. Yet, our Lord reminds us that His Kingdom is meant for everyone and He wants us to find it! He says, "It is like a net thrown into the sea which collects fish of every kind."

But Jesus concludes His teaching with a rather ominous image, reminding us that every "fish" will also be judged as good or bad. "The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace." This is a description that is difficult to forget. Clearly Jesus wants to get our attention.

Let us pray for the wisdom to recognize the kingdom of heaven in our midst and intensify our efforts to pursue it starting right now. There is no time to lose, and we will obtain the immeasurable joy that only comes when we live as disciples of Jesus.