



AUGUST 20, 2023
TWENTIETH 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

"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Matthew 15:21-28

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	Don Rogowski	540-962-7344

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	\$2,097.20
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,910.86
COPE Food Pantry	100.00
Votive	18.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$2,348.25

CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday

Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday

Friday – 10:45 Adoration and Benediction, Mass at 12 Noon

First Friday Mass at Sacred Heart beginning with Mass at 11am followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction will be at 8PM.

First Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart at 9AM beginning with the Rosary and Litany of Our Lady 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.

CRITICAL HELP NEEDED

There is an immediate and urgent need for Volunteer Drivers to take Josephine Brown's husband, Mack, to his radiation treatments from Selma to Fairlea WV. He started radiation treatment on Thursday July 27. Radiation treatments are daily, 5 days a week for eight weeks. ALL treatments begin at 1:00 p.m. and last 1/2 hour. The treatments take place in Fairlea, WV at the Greenbrier Medical Center, just past the WV State Fair Grounds. **IF YOU CAN BE A DRIVER AT ALL, YOUR HELP IS MOST APPRECIATED AND NEEDED.** Please contact Josephine Brown at 540-958-9978. We have exhausted all other transportation options.

Thank you to all have helped so far and are continuing to help with this critical need. God Bless You!

NOTICES

Thank you to our Sacred Heart volunteers who delivered Meals on Wheels last week. We could not participate in this important ministry without you.

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.

CURSILLO GREATER HAMPTON ROADS

The next Cursillo Women's weekend is scheduled for September 21 – 24, 2023 and the next Cursillo Men's weekend is scheduled for October 12 – 15, 2023 at the Saint Clare of Assisi Retreat Center. Consider participating on a Cursillo weekend. Cursillo is a three-day weekend that is fully sanctioned by the Catholic Church and Diocese of Richmond. The weekends are sponsored by lay Catholics with the assistance of ordained priest and deacons. Check out our website: <https://philippians2foundation.org/cursillo/>

O God, let all the nations praise you!

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Aug. 20	Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7; Psalms 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8; Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32; Matthew 4: 23; Matthew 15: 21-28
Mon. Aug. 21	Judges 2: 11-19; Psalms 106: 34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44; Matthew 5: 3; Matthew 19: 16-22
Tues. Aug. 22	Judges 6: 11-24a; Psalms 85: 9, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Corinthians 8: 9; Matthew 19: 23-30
Wed. Aug. 23	Judges 9: 6-15; Psalms 21: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Hebrews 4: 12; Matthew 20: 1-16
Thurs. Aug. 24	Revelation 21: 9b-14; Psalms 145: 10-11, 12-13, 17-18; John 1: 49b; John 1: 45-51
Fri. Aug. 25	Ruth 1: 1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22;; Psalms 146: 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 Psalms 25: 4b, 5a; Matthew 22: 34-40
Sat. Aug. 26	Ruth 2: 1-3, 8-11; 4: 13-17; Psalms 128: 1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Matthew 23: 9b, 10b; Matthew 23: 1-12
Sun. Aug. 27	Isaiah 22: 19-23; Psalms 138: 1-2a, 2bc-3, 6, 8; Romans 11: 33-36; Matthew 16: 18; Matthew 16: 13-20

VOCATIONS

“Woman, you have great faith.” It takes faith to hear God’s call in our lives. And His call takes us on unexpected paths of deeper trust and love. Is God calling you to life as sister, brother, deacon or priest? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



TRUST IN GOD

Our Gospel today from Matthew reminds us to trust in Him even when it seems He is not answering our prayers.

God wants to lead us to the joy of heaven to spend eternity with Him. For that, we must be strong in faith and live our lives as an act of love and gratitude to Him. In other words, we must allow Him to transform us into saints. This is what the stewardship way of life is meant to do. Sometimes, that will feel painful to us. Often, it will be challenging.

Jesus certainly challenged the Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel passage from Matthew. She called out to Him on behalf of her daughter, who was being tormented by a demon. What did Jesus do in reply to this mother’s desperate plea? Nothing. He “did not say a word in answer to her.” Undeterred, the woman continues to call out to Him, yet He still does not give her what she asks for. Instead, He continues to challenge her faith.

And she rises to the challenge to such an impressive degree that Jesus exclaims, “O woman [a term of deep respect in that day], great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” Imagine hearing those words proclaimed over us by God. Truly there could be no higher honor than hearing our Lord say that to us.

So we must accept the difficulties that come with the stewardship way of life. Some days will be a true challenge to our trust in God. But those are the days when God is making saints of us. Let embrace the hard days during these difficult times. The deep joy that eventually comes, the eternal reward He promises, will be so worth it.

But when we embrace the stewardship way of life, letting go of a tight hold over our money, time, and talents, our lives become a grand adventure, rooted firmly and gratefully in the God Who always cares for us.