



APRIL 28, 2024  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**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**

*"If you remain in me and my words remain in you,  
ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you."*

**John 15:1-8**

## 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 –Joshua Crawford, Andy Shepard

## PRAYER LIST

### St. Joseph

Mark Asma, Clair Dilley, Tom Greenwood, Rita Luther, Sally Putnam, Carol Turner, Bob Umstead, Terry Windsor.

### Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Nola Beach, Josephine Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Esther Ewing, Jay Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Mitchell Garcia, Paulino Gutierrez, Arthur Headley, Raphael Lopez, Heidi Mulcahy, David Palance, Maria Perron, Paul Perron, Shaun Perron, Pam Poole, Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Sophia Veras, Karen Wenke, Bill Withrow, Becky Woodson

### Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Margo Oxendine, Molly Sasser, John W. Smith, Clarissa Westenburger

### Diocese of Richmond Seminarian

Mr. Avention Grimes



## WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

<b>St. Joseph</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$798.00
<b>Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$984.00
<b>Shrine of the Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,171.63

## CALENDAR

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - Tuesday and Thursday at 12Noon  
Sacred Heart - Wednesday at 11:30AM followed by the Rosary.

Friday – First Friday Mass will be celebrated on Friday, May 3rd, at 11AM followed by 8 hours of Adoration and Benediction at 8PM.

First Saturday Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, beginning with the Rosary and Litany of Our Lady at 9AM followed by Mass at 9:30AM.

## THANK YOU

Sacred Heart thanks the Sacred Heart - St. Joseph Knights of Columbus for covering the cost to restore a matching chalice and paten set for Sacred Heart. The gold plate inside the chalice was so badly deteriorated that this chalice has not been used for Mass for many years."

## SAUL OF TARSAUS

Today's first reading mentions someone named Saul, who tries to meet the Apostles and is rebuffed. Without some background context this doesn't mean much. Saul is better known by his Roman name of Paul, the first great Christian missionary. The reason why the Apostles rejected him is that he had been a rabid fanatic against Christianity. Saul had lead what amounted to a one-man crusade against the followers of Jesus. He had caused the arrest of many of them and even participated in their executions! This all changed when he dramatically converted to the very faith he had hated. No wonder the Apostles were suspicious.

## NOTICES

The first Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart on May 4th will be 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.

There will be a Sacred Heart Liturgy Committee Meeting in the parish hall following the 11am Mass this morning.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance designated by the United States Congress and held on the first Thursday of May, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation". Sacred Heart parishioners are invited to a National Day of Prayer Luncheon on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 12noon at Good News Church on Main after the event.

Many of you in our clustered parishes have received your postcard invitations to Sacred Heart's Centennial Celebration Mass at 11 AM on Saturday, June 8th followed by a celebratory luncheon in the parish hall. We need to know if you are planning on attending by May 6th. If you did not receive your postcard invitation, it is possible that we do not have an address for you. In that case, please contact Zee Withrow, 703-244-0308, or Laura George, 540-962-1328, to provide your current address. You are still welcome to to come, just let us know. Bishop Knestout will join us in this milestone celebration and we hope you will too.

### *Lumen Christi Legacy Society*

Preparing an estate plan is good Christian stewardship - saying thanks to God, expressing your love and concern for family, and showing charity toward others.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. Apr. 28	Acts 9: 26-31; Psalms 22: 26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1 John 3: 18-24; John 15: 4a, 5b; John 15: 1-8
Mon. Apr. 29	Acts 14: 5-18; Psalms 115: 1-2, 3-4, 15-16; John 14: 26; John 14: 21-26
Tues. Apr. 30	Acts 14: 19-28; Psalms 145: 10-11, 12-13ab, 21; Luke 24: 46, 26; John 14: 27-31a
Wed. May 1	Acts 15: 1-6; Psalms 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; John 15: 4a, 5b; John 15: 1-8,
Thurs. May 2	Acts 15: 7-21; Psalms 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 10; John 10: 27; John 15: 9-11
Fri. May 3	1 Corinthians 15: 1-8; Psalms 19: 2-3, 4-5; John 14: 6b, 9c; John 14: 6-14
Sat. May 4	Acts 16: 1-10; Psalms 100: 2, 3, 5; Colossians 3: 1; John 15: 18-21
Sun. May 5	Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalms 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 John 4: 7-10; John 14: 23; John 15: 9-17

## VOCATIONS

"Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Love demands truth and action. Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.

**ANYONE WHO DOES NOT LIVE IN ME  
IS LIKE A WITHERED  
BRANCH**



## BEAR FRUIT AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives. In our first reading, we hear about disciples that were preaching the Good News and defending the faith. The work they were doing was "with the consolation of the Holy Spirit." It was not their work alone, but the work of God.

We must ask ourselves, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in me?' The more we try to produce good effects in our lives, the more we will become disappointed if all we are relying on is our own efforts. It is only by inviting the Holy Spirit into our everyday moments that we will see goodness poured out.

Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel. He says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments.

That could mean opening our day with a prayer of thanksgiving, smiling at those we see on the street, asking God for help as we begin our workday, praising God in moments of trial, taking time to listen to our spouse after a long day. To remain in Christ means, in all that we do, we do it with the Lord.

When we live a life like that — as a branch never separated from its vine — God will produce bountiful fruit in our lives.