



DECEMBER 15, 2024
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**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 email: stjoseph@ntelos.net
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. Ernest Dugah, Administrator
804-914-4977

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.

MT CARMEL CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Low Moor, Virginia
Contact: Mr. Carl Withrow (540) 968-3267

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Joseph Parish 540-863-5371

Office Hours: Call for appointment

In Emergency	Fr. Dugah	804-914-4977
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. Dugah	804-914-4977
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. Dugah	804-914-4977
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
Organist	Dr. Leszek Fiutowski	304-456-5473



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, Katie Greenwood, Tom Greenwood, Ed and Sandra Haverlack, Rita Luther, Sally Putnam, Carol Turner, Terry Windsor.

Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Debbie Brokaw, Josephine Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Karen Cody, Wanda Dameron, Esther Ewing, Jay Ewing, Rev. David Hanks, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, April Headley, Arthur Headley, Raphael Lopez, Brooke Nogueira, David Palance, Paul Perron, Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Rayvi Veras, Bill Withrow, Becky Woodson

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Margo Oxendine, Molly Sasser, Clarissa Westenburger

Diocese of Richmond Seminarian

Mr. Avention Grimes



WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph	
Sunday Offertory	\$
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,800.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,033.00

CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph – Tuesday and Thursday at 12Noon
Sacred Heart - Wednesday at 11:30AM followed by the Rosary.
Friday - 10:45AM Adoration and Benediction; Mass at 12Noon
First Friday Mass at 11am followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction will be at 8PM; First Saturday Mass at 9AM beginning with the Rosary and Litany of Our Lady followed by Mass at 9:30AM.

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS, DECEMBER 24

Shrine of the Sacred Heart – 5:00PM
Sacred Heart – 5:00PM
St. Joseph – Carols & Readings at 9:30PM; Mass at 10PM;

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS, DECEMBER 25

Shrine of the Sacred Heart – 9:00AM
Sacred Heart – 11:00AM
No Mass at St. Joseph on Christmas Day

NOTICES

Sacred Heart will host a Tri-Parish Children's Christmas Pageant and potluck dinner today in the parish hall at 5PM. All parishioners from our clustered parishes are invited. Please bring a dish of your choice and join us. You are welcome to attend even if you cannot bring a dish. There will be a special appearance by Santa!

The next Adult Faith Formation is Lectio: Salvation, New Life in Christ. Sessions begin on Tuesday, January 28 @ 6:30 PM in Sacred Heart Parish Hall and continue each Tuesday until April 1 (10 sessions, each ~1 hour). If you would like a free Participant Guide (over 200 pages), contact Don Rogowski @ 540-962-7344 or formed@sacredheartcovington.org by Monday, January 13. View the trailer at <https://vimeo.com/386007441>

If you would like to subscribe to emails of late breaking news at Sacred Heart, email news@sacredheartcovington.org to be added to the Sacred Heart News email distribution list. News emails are blind copied for your privacy.

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY

Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressure and through the personal struggles that accompany family life. Despite these struggles — and partly as a result of conquering them — families have great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ. On Saturday, Dec. 28 & Sunday, Dec. 29, the Feast of the Holy Family, Fr. Ernest and Fr. Tom will lead a Consecration to the Holy Family at each Mass in the clustered parishes. This Consecration is being sponsored by Sacred Heart - St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council. A copy of the Prayer Card that will be distributed and a Trifold suggesting how to prepare for the Consecration are located under the Menu item "Consecration to Holy Family" on all three parish websites.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Pilgrims of hope - December 2024

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Dec. 15	Zephaniah 3: 14-18a; Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6; Philippians 4: 4-7; Isaiah 61: 1; Luke 3: 10-18
Mon. Dec. 16	Numbers 24: 2-7, 15-17; Psalms 25: 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Psalms 85: 8; Matthew 21: 23-27
Tues. Dec. 17	Genesis 49: 2, 8-10; Psalms 72: 1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Matthew 1: 1-17
Wed. Dec. 18	Jeremiah 23: 5-8; Psalms 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matthew 1: 18-25
Thurs. Dec. 19	Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25a; Psalms 71: 3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Luke 1: 5-25
Fri. Dec. 20	Isaiah 7: 10-14; Psalms 24: 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Luke 1: 26-38
Sat. Dec. 21	Songs 2: 8-14; Psalms 33: 2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Luke 1: 39-45
Sun. Dec. 22	Micah 5: 1-4a; Psalms 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Hebrews 10: 5-10; Luke 1: 38; Luke 1: 39-45

VOCATIONS

"All were questioning in their hearts." Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations@richmond diocese .org.



I Baptize With Water
But One Mightier
Is Coming

GAUDETE SUNDAY

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (Gaudete is the Latin word for "rejoice") this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth. Our Second Reading gives us cause for joy as St Paul reminds us, "The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all..." Then he gives us a prescription for maintaining this peace: "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Paul's instructions for obtaining peace come as an early Christmas gift. They remind us that we can and should go to God with all our needs and present them to Him along with our thanks. This guidance calls to mind a vital aspect of a stewardship way of life: gratitude to God in response to His great love and countless gifts to us.

The Gospel passage, from Luke, shows us how to live out this sense of thankfulness, making our lives a "Christmas gift" to Christ in joyful response to His love for us. When the crowds hear John the Baptist's message that their Savior is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same." He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God's gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him.