



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
Twenty-Fourth 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

*Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,
as I had pity on you?'*

Matthew 18:21-35

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 |

Shrine of the Sacred Heart Parish 540-839-2603

Office Hours: Call for appointment

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|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 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 |
| 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 – Michael Buchanan, Joshua Crawford, Andy Shepard

PRAYER LIST

St. Joseph

Kevin Albrecht, Mark Asma, Clair Dilley, Bob Gardiner, Tom Greenwood, Rita Luther, 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, Sophia Veras, 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

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| Sunday Offertory | \$787.00 |
| Jean Ann Manner Memorial | 250.00 |

Sacred Heart

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| Sunday Offertory | \$1,927.00 |
| Haitian Twin Parish | 654.00 |
| Various 2 nd Collections | 40.00 |

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

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| Sunday Offertory | \$2,036.50 |
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DAILY READINGS

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| Sun. Sept. 17 | Sirach 27: 30 – 28: 7; Psalms 103: 1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Romans 14: 7-9; John 13: 34; Matthew 18: 21-35 |
| Mon. Sept. 18 | 1 Timothy 2: 1-8; Psalms 28: 2, 7, 8-9; John 3: 16; Luke 7: 1-10 |
| Tues. Sept. 19 | 1 Timothy 3: 1-13; Psalms 101: 1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6; Luke 7: 16; Luke 7: 11-17 |
| Wed. Sept. 20 | 1 Timothy 3: 14-16; Psalms 111: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; John 6: 63c, 68c; Luke 7: 31-35 |
| Thurs. Sept. 21 | Ephesians 4: 1-7, 11-13; Psalms 19: 2-3, 4-5; Matthew 9: 9-13 |
| Fri. Sept. 22 | 1 Timothy 6: 2c-12; Psalms 49: 6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20; Matthew 11: 25; Luke 8: 1-3 |
| Sat. Sept. 23 | 1 Timothy 6: 13-16; Psalms 100: 1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Luke 8: 15; Luke 8: 4-15 |
| Sun. Sept. 24 | Isaiah 55: 6-9; Psalms 145: 2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Philippians 1: 20c-24, 27a; Acts 16: 14b; Matthew 20: 1-16a |

VOCATIONS

“None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.” Is God calling you to live for others as a priest, sister or brother? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE

Today's readings call us to look inward to the state of our hearts, our thoughts and emotions.

Our first reading, from Sirach, addresses the complicated emotion of anger. “Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?” We have all been wounded by others at some point, some perhaps quite deeply. Our emotions are gifts from God. But we must steward them well, rather than allowing them to overcome us.

How do we do this? Sirach tells us. “Remember your last days, set enmity aside... Remember the Most High's covenant and overlook faults.” We embrace the stewardship mindset — not brooding over hurts but recalling all the gifts our good God has given us, all the love He continually pours out upon us, and we put our focus and trust in Him.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus reminds us of the true position we have before Him in light of all that He has done for us, comparing the kingdom of heaven to a “king who decided to settle accounts with his servants.” In the parable, a debtor is brought before the king, owing such an overwhelming debt that it could not possibly be repaid. Yet, the king is filled with compassion for the servant, forgives the debt and lets him go free.

Doesn't that sound like each of us in relation to the King of Kings? The Father has given us life, and then sent His only Son to die for us to free us from our sin “debts” and make eternal life with Him possible for us. It is impossible for us to repay this debt. All we can do is thank God by giving Him our whole selves — inside and out. What joy and freedom we find in the stewardship way of life!