

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 <u>stjosephcf.org</u> 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

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

Sunday Offertory \$787.00 Jean Ann Manner Memorial 250.00

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory\$1,927.00Haitian Twin Parish654.00Various 2nd Collections40.00

Shrine of the Sacred Heart
Sunday Offertory \$2,036.50

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

The 2023 Annual Clustered Parish Picnic, hosted by the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, is today, 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. Please join in good food and fellowship.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are ready and eager to bring our families back together for another fun year of learning and fellowship. Our children's Wednesday Night Religious Education program will be starting back on Wednesday, September 20th with a pizza party, registration and a group lesson! Please plan to come. Looking forward to having everyone back together again!

SAVE THE DATE: The 2023 Fall Life Chain will be on Sunday, October 1, from 1:30pm to 2:45pm on the sidewalk at the entrance to Walmart Industrial Park. More Information to come.

The Retirement Fund for Religious collection will be on September 24th and 25th. Elderly religious who have dedicated their lives to serving others need your help. Religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation will make a difference. Please give to those who have given a lifetime usually for little or no pay. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you!

There will be a Sacred Heart Centennial Celebration meeting in the parish hall on Wednesday, October 4th at 12:30PM. Anyone interested in helping is welcome to attend.

Responsorial Psalm

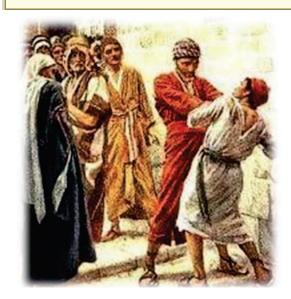


DAILY READINGS

Sun. Sept. 17 Mon. Sept. 18	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 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!