



FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY  
TIME

CATHOLICS IN ALLEGHANY, BATH & HIGHLAND

**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**

*"He remained outside in deserted places,  
and people kept coming to him from everywhere."*

**Mark 1:40-45**

## 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
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**

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, 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

**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

**St. Joseph**

Sunday Offertory \$

**Sacred Heart**

Sunday Offertory \$5,226.00  
Various 2<sup>nd</sup> Collections 120.00

**Shrine of the Sacred Heart**

Sunday Offertory \$2,909.00



## **Statement and Call to Action by Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Knestout on Assisted Suicide Legislation**

February 5, 2024

Legislation to legalize physician assisted suicide is moving rapidly in this year's Virginia General Assembly session. The Senate and House have both taken steps to advance this lethal measure. Within the next week, floor debates in one or both chambers are likely to occur.

We are alarmed and deeply saddened by this development. Human life is sacred and must never be abandoned or discarded. At this critical moment, we implore the faithful across our two dioceses: Please contact your state Senator and Delegate. Urge them to reject assisted suicide legislation, using the alert provided by the Virginia Catholic Conference. To access the alert, [click here](#).

Every suicide is a tragedy. Assisted suicide facilitates tragedies and makes the most vulnerable even more vulnerable. Legalizing it would place the lives of people with disabilities, people with mental illnesses, the elderly, and those unable to afford healthcare – among others – at heightened risk of deadly harm.

In the few states where assisted suicide is legal, this troubling reality has already taken root. For example, insurance companies have denied coverage for cancer treatment and other life-saving procedures but offered to pay for cheaper suicide drugs instead. And in Oregon, only 3.3% of the patients who died by assisted suicide since its legalization in 1998 were referred for psychiatric evaluation.

People facing the end of life are in great need, and must be accompanied with great care and attentiveness. To address each of their needs and alleviate their suffering, patients deserve high quality medical, palliative, and hospice care – not suicide drugs.

Please tell the members of the Virginia General Assembly who represent you not to bring assisted suicide to our Commonwealth.

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## CALENDAR

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - Tuesday and Thursday at 12Noon  
Sacred Heart - Wednesday at 11:30AM. The Rosary will be prayed after Mass.  
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.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Mass schedule is as follows:

Sacred Heart at 12Noon;  
6:30PM - Ash Wednesday Service (not a Mass) for children and their families following religious education lessons in parish hall.  
Shrine of the Sacred Heart at 5:00pm.  
St. Joseph at 5:30PM with Stations of the Cross after Mass (~6PM).

Stations of the Cross: 5:00PM on Wednesdays at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart; 6:00PM on Wednesdays at St. Joseph; 5:30PM on Fridays at Sacred Heart followed by a meatless soup supper in the parish hall.

On Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays of Lent: Everyone of age 14 and up must abstain from consuming meat.

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: Everyone of age 18 to 59 must fast, unless exempt due to a medical reason. Children, adults with physical and mental illness, pregnant women and those nursing are all exempt. Common sense should prevail.

Fasting rules allow Catholics to eat only one full meal and two smaller meals which, combined, would not equal a single normal meal.

## NOTICES

If you are writing a check for the ComfortCare Baby Bottle Campaign, **PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #17457.** Don't forget to return your bottles by Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>.

CRS Rice Bowl is one way Catholics can enhance their Lenten fasting practice by giving up meals and donating the cost of those meals to Catholic Relief Services in order to help those who do not have enough to eat. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl at the back of the church.

Visit [crsricebowl.org/families](https://crsricebowl.org/families) to learn more.

On Shrove Tuesday, February 13th, there will be burning of the palms followed by a potluck dinner and dessert in the Sacred Heart parish hall at 5:30 PM. The Jesus and the Eucharist study will begin at 6:30 PM, following the potluck.

The theme of this year's Annual Lenten Appeal is "Sharing His Love With Others". Gifts to the Annual Diocesan Appeal help to build up the Church and answer the call to Share His Love with Others. Your gifts to the Appeal provide food and shelter for families throughout the diocese, and support for young men as they study to become our future priests. Your gifts enable elderly and disabled individuals to live with dignity. Your gifts support faith formation for youth and young adults, and so much more. When you support the Annual Diocesan Appeal, you help transform the lives of people who, like you, seek to be united in God's love and mercy.

Scan here to donate  
to the 2024 Annual  
Diocesan Appeal





## DAILY READINGS

Sun. Feb. 11	Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46; Psalms 32: 1-2, 5, 11; 1 Corinthians 10: 31 – 11: 1; Luke 7: 16; Mark 1: 40-45
Mon. Feb. 12	James 1: 1-11; Psalms 119: 67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76; John 14: 6; Mark 8: 11-13
Tues. Feb. 13	James 1: 12-18; Psalms 94: 12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; John 14: 23; Mark 8: 14-21
Wed. Feb. 14	Joel 2: 12-18; Psalms 51: 3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20 – 6:2; Psalms 95: 8; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18
Thurs. Feb. 15	Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Psalms 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Matthew 4: 17; Luke 9: 22-25
Fri. Feb. 16	Isaiah 58: 1-9a; Psalms 51: 3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Amos 5: 14; Matthew 9: 14-15
Sat. Feb. 17	Isaiah 58: 9b-14; Psalms 86: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Ezekiel 33: 11; Luke 5: 27-32
Sun. Feb. 18	Genesis 9: 8-15; Psalms 25: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Peter 3: 18-22; Matthew 4: 4b; Mark 1: 12-15

## VOCATIONS

“Do everything for the glory of God.” Your vocation is to give glory to God through your very being. Is He choosing you to be a priest or consecrated religious? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



## APPROACH LENT LIKE THE LEPER

Today's readings prepare us for the penitential season of Lent.

In our Gospel, a leper knelt before Jesus and said, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” Jesus reached out and touched this diseased man and healed him. He then encouraged the man to show himself to the priest and offer himself a cleansing, referencing what was commanded in the Law of Moses. By completing these rituals, this man might be reinstated into the community.

Let us approach this holy season of Lent like the leper. By our faults, we have distanced ourselves from God and His community. The leper reminds us Who to go to so that we might be healed. Let us approach the Lord this season on our knees asking for forgiveness and healing from our offenses, saying, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” There is no doubt that, if we have a contrite heart, Jesus will stretch out His hand in forgiveness and His mercy will touch our lives.

And like the leper, we too should go forth from being healed with a commitment to cleanse ourselves from the lasting effects of sin. Lent is a time to offer acts of reparation through Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving so that we might be purified in all areas of our life and walk with the Gracious Healer, Who sacrificed His life for our sake.

This holy season of Lent is an opportunity to be healed and cleansed on our journey as disciples of Christ. Let us consider what we can do to offer acts of reparation so that we might be purified and one day partake in the resurrection of Christ.