



DECEMBER 1, 2024
FIRST 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



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
MILITARY MEN & WOMEN:

Sacred Heart – Arthur Headley, Jessie (Jesus) Morals, Joel Moscoso
St. Joseph –Joshua Crawford, Andy Shepard



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, Pam Poole, Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Bill Withrow, Becky Woodson

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Molly Sasser, JClarissa Westenburger

Diocese of Richmond Seminarian

Mr. Avention Grimes

WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph

Sunday Offertory **\$886.00**

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory **\$964.00**
Campaign for Human Dev. **107.00**

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory **\$1,824.88**

CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

First Friday Mass is Friday, December 6, beginning with Mass at 11am followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction will be at 8PM; There is a signup sheet for Adoration as you enter the church. First Saturday Mass is Saturday, December 7, at 9AM beginning with the Rosary and Litany of Our Lady followed by Mass at 9:30AM.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is Monday, December 9th. **THIS IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.** Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart at 9AM and 5PM; at Sacred Heart at 6:30PM and at St. Joseph at 12NOON.

NOTICES

Fisher David Noel, infant son of Ross and Claire Noel, will be baptized this morning at Sacred Heart. There will be a reception to celebrate this joyous occasion at a later date.

Sacred Heart will host a Tri-Parish Children's Christmas Pageant and potluck dinner on December 15th 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!

ADVENT SEASON

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar (linked below) can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-orship/liturgical-year/advent>

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.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Dec. 1	Jeremiah 33: 14-16; Psalms 25: 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3: 12 – 4: 2; Psalms 85: 8; Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36
Mon. Dec. 2	Isaiah 2: 1-5; Psalms 122: 1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Psalms 80: 4; Matthew 8: 5-11
Tues. Dec. 3	Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Luke 10: 21-24
Wed. Dec. 4	Isaiah 25: 6-10a; Psalms 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Matthew 15: 29-37
Thurs. Dec. 5	Isaiah 26: 1-6; Psalms 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Isaiah 55: 6; Matthew 7: 21, 24-27
Fri. Dec. 6	Isaiah 29: 17-24; Psalms 27: 1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9: 27-31
Sat. Dec. 7	Isaiah 30: 19-21, 23-26; Psalms 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Isaiah 33: 22; Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 1, 5a, 6-8
Sun. Dec. 8	Baruch 5: 1-9; Psalms 126: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11; Luke 3: 4, 6; Luke 3: 1-6

VOCATIONS

“Strengthen your hearts in holiness.” Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Contact Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations@richmond diocese .org.



I will raise up for David a just shoot, he shall do what is right and just in the land.

Jeremiah 33:14-16

WAKE UP! GET READY!

We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and wonder for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus — born to us as Savior and Brother. It is a season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, too, when we will be called to give an account for all that God has given to us during our lifetimes. In other words, Advent is a steward’s season!

Our readings for the first week of Advent waste no time in calling our urgent attention to these themes of reflection and preparation. They seem to shout, “Wake up! Get ready!” and offer us some practical advice as we enter into this season.

The Gospel, from Luke, warns, “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life.” How easy it is to lose focus on our Lord either by too much indulgence in our lives or by too much worry about our lives. During Advent, we Christian stewards must ask ourselves some hard questions. Am I staying faithful to my prayer life? Am I using my energy and skills to serve others? Am I overly concerned about material gain? Am I relying on my “stuff” or my investments as my source of comfort or security? Am I living for the moment or for the coming of the Lord?