



JANUARY 5, 2025
SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD

**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, Esther Ewing, Jay Ewing, Rev. David Hanks, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, April Headley, Arthur Headley, Rosina 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	\$1,032.00
Catholic Charities	876.00
Roof Fund	500.00

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$946.00
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Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$3,528.10
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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.



MYRRH AND FRANKINCENSE

The gifts brought by the Magi were both appropriate and expensive. The value of gold is obvious but what of the other presents? Myrrh is an aromatic substance made from the sap of Myrtle balsam trees found in India, Africa and Saudi Arabia. It is a natural antiseptic and useful as a medicine. Egyptians used myrrh for embalming mummies. It is now used for toothpaste and mouthwash.

Incense is a hardened gum that also comes from trees found in the same areas. The word "Frank" comes from an old French word that means "marked." It is a stamp that the incense is "free" from contaminants or "pure". (Franking is still used for free mail rights given to members of Congress.) Incense was used primarily to cover up the smells caused by animal sacrifices. Hence it was connected with worship.

NOTICES

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.

The Church of the Transfiguration in Fincastle is seeking a piano player for 3 weekends a month. A small stipend per hour is available. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 540-473-2656 or email: office@churchofthetransfiguration.com

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING



The Holy Family welcomed the Magi on Epiphany. There is a beautiful tradition that has been inspired by this event. Take some chalk and either have it blessed by your pastor or say your own blessing over it with your family. Ask God to welcome strangers to your home during the coming year. Finally write these numbers and letters over the front door of your home:

20 + C + M + B + the last digits of the current year.

The letters represent the traditional names of the Wise Men--Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Jan. 5	Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2: 2; Matthew 2: 1-12
Mon. Jan. 6	1 John 3: 22 – 4: 6; Psalms 2: 7bc-8, 10-11; Matthew 4: 23; Matthew 4: 12-17, 23-25
Tues. Jan. 7	1 John 4: 7-10; Psalms 72: 1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Luke 4: 18; Mark 6: 34-44
Wed. Jan. 8	1 John 4: 11-18; Psalms 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; 1 Timothy 3: 16; Mark 6: 45-52
Thurs. Jan. 9	1 John 4: 19 – 5: 4; Psalms 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Luke 4: 18; Luke 4: 14-22
Fri. Jan. 10	1 John 5: 5-13; Psalms 147: 12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Matthew 4: 23; Luke 5: 12-16
Sat. Jan. 11	1 John 5: 14-21; Psalms 149: 1-2, 3-4, 5, 6a, 9b; Matthew 4: 16; John 3: 22-30
Sun. Jan. 12	Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; Psalms 104: 1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30; Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7; Luke 3: 16; Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

VOCATIONS

“Opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts.” Are you beginning to see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother? Contact Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



BE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. For centuries we as Catholics celebrated this Feast on Jan. 6, but the decision was made a number of years ago (at least in the United States) to celebrate the Epiphany on the Sunday which falls between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8.

“Epiphany” means “manifestation.” It is on this day that Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is revealed as the light of all nations. Officially Christmas is not over. In fact, the recommendation of the Church is that on this day those who display a crèche, a nativity or manger scene, should replace the shepherd and sheep with the Magi and their likely animals on which they traveled as well as their gifts. However, that is all secondary to the real meaning of this day.

At Christmas the Messiah Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, who were Jewish. But on this day the Lord is revealed to all nations and to the Gentiles (represented by the Magi). We are all familiar with the star the Magi followed, but we need to understand all that is happening and what it means. This all represents the Light of Christ, a Light which today we honor and commemorate. We are called to be the Light of Christ right now to those around us and those with whom we come in contact. That way we can be the disciples Christ wants us to be.

The poet William Cullen Bryant captures the significance of the star the Magi followed very well when he wrote, “O Father, may that Holy Star, Grow every year more bright, And send its glorious beams afar, To fill the world with light.”