



February 16, 2025  
SIXTH 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](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) email: [stjoseph@ntelos.net](mailto: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](http://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, Elaina Wright.

**Sacred Heart**

Pam Austin, Debbie Brokaw, Josephine Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Esther 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, Patricia Whitlow, Bill Withrow, Becky Woodson, Francine Young

**Shrine of the Sacred Heart**

Margo Oxendine, Molly Sasser, Clarissa Westenburger

**Diocese of Richmond Seminarian**

Mr. Aventon Grimes

### WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph	
Sunday Offertory	\$668.00
Roof Fund	300.00
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,630.00
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,438.00

## CALENDAR

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph – Tuesday and Thursday at 12Noon  
Sacred Heart - Wednesday at 11:30AM followed by the Rosary.  
Friday – Adoration and Benediction at 10:45AM followed by Mass at 12Noon.  
First Friday Mass at 11AM, followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction at 8PM.  
First Saturday Mass – Rosary and Litany of Our Lady at 9:00AM followed by Mass at 9:30AM

## YOUR FAITH IS VAIN

When we read the pious words of Paul's first letter to the Christians of Corinth we miss the reality. The Greek city was a battleground between two very different ideas. Greek philosophy was concerned with the mind. It considered the body relatively unimportant. The physical world was only a poor copy of a spiritual reality. The spiritual world--what we might call heaven--existed beyond this one and could only be reached by the mind.

Biblical philosophy was exactly the opposite. The physical world was the only reality. There was little belief in a spiritual world. A person was not so much a combination of body and soul but of body and breath.

The real point of contention between the two views centered on the resurrection of the body. Greek philosophers saw it as unnecessary, since the body was not important. Biblical philosophy insisted on a physical resurrection. Paul argues for this philosophy. He says that if there is no rising of the body after death, Christian faith is in vain. Eventually St. Augustine would strike a harmony between the two beliefs.

## NOTICES

### COMFORTCARE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Please remember to return your baby bottles before Mass next Sunday, February 23, 2025. If writing a check, please make your check out to KofC COUNCIL #17457 (write Baby Bottle or Comfort Care on the check memo line). This will allow for supplemental funds to be procured from a Supreme Council pro-life program, \$100 for each \$500 collected, up to an additional \$400 total for the clinics.

Sacred Heart - St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council thanks all who are collecting aluminum cans and dropping them off in the orange bin located along the side of the Sacred Heart Rectory garage. Over 1650 lbs. or more than 54,000 cans have been recycled. Currently, the recycling rate is about 915 pounds per year. The proceeds from recycling aluminum cans are used to fund Council initiatives.

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From a stretch of level ground, Jesus reveals that sanctity is attainable by all. Rather than an esoteric doctrine for a spiritual elite, Jesus declares blessed the poor, the hungry, the weeping, the hated—all whose hearts cry out in longing and expectation for what can only be satisfied by God. Blessed are those who trust not in themselves but in the Lord, refusing to be discouraged by their own fragility, limitations, and needs. Because our hope rests on a fact—“Christ has been raised from the dead”—we need not fear the heat, distress, or droughts that afflict us. In Christ, we will bear unfading fruit and share in his Resurrection.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. Feb. 16	Jeremiah 17: 5-8; Psalms 1: 1-2, 3, 4, 6; 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20; Luke 6: 23ab; Luke 6: 17, 20-26
Mon. Feb. 17	Genesis 4: 1-15, 25; Psalms 50: 1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; John 14: 6; Mark 8: 11-13
Tues. Feb. 18	Genesis 6: 5-8; 7: 1-5, 10; Psalms 29: 1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10; John 14: 23; Mark 8: 14-21
Wed. Feb. 19	Genesis 8: 6-13, 20-22; Psalms 116: 12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Ephesians 1: 17-18; Mark 8: 22-26
Thurs. Feb. 20	Genesis 9: 1-13; Psalms 102: 16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23; John 6: 63c, 68c; Mark 8: 27-33
Fri. Feb. 21	Genesis 11: 1-9; Psalms 33: 10-11, 12-13, 14-15; John 15: 15b; Mark 8: 34 – 9:1
Sat. Feb. 22	1 Peter 5: 1-4; Psalms 23: 1-3a, 4, 5, 6; Matthew 16: 18; Matthew 16: 13-19
Sun. Feb. 23	1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Psalms 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49; John 13: 34; Luke 6: 27-38

## VOCATIONS

“Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.” Are you being called to deepen your trust in the love of the Lord by serving Him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



## LIVE AS HOPE-FILLED DISCIPLES

Today’s readings speak of an essential quality for the Christian steward — hope. This is especially fitting this year, as Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year with the theme, “Pilgrims of Hope.” According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1817).”

In many ways, this is the very definition of a stewardship way of life — focusing on eternity as we live our daily lives and relying on God to provide for our needs and satisfy our deepest longings for meaning and happiness right now.

In today’s Gospel from Luke, Jesus describes the true richness of life that is possible for those of us who are willing to live as his hope-filled disciples. We are all familiar with this passage in which Jesus reveals the Beatitudes: blessed are the poor; they have the kingdom of God. Blessed are those now hungry because they will be satisfied. Blessed are those who weep because they will laugh. Blessed are those who are hated, excluded, and insulted because they are disciples of Jesus; they will be greatly rewarded in heaven. Jesus is describing here the character of one who is living a life of hope – the life of a Christian steward whose trust is firmly rooted in God and who is focused on others and eternity. It is not always an easy life, but it is a deeply meaningful life and one that leads to eternal reward.