



MAY 4, 2025  
Third Sunday of Easter

**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**  
540-620-9309

**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

Sacred Heart – St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council 17457

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 15 @ Sacred Heart Parish Hall

Rosary: 6:25 PM, Meal: 6:45, Meeting: 7:10 PM

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

### St. Joseph Parish 540-863-5371

Office Hours: Call for appointment

In Emergency	Fr. Dugah	540-620-9309
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	540-620-9309
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	202-373-9571
Community Life	Alvina Nida	540-747-2211
Justice & Peace	John Stec	540-862-1917
Grds & Maint.	Leo Mulcahy	540-862-3021
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	540-620-9309
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
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

## PRAYER LIST

### St. Joseph

Maria Amerio, Mark Asma, Clair Dilley, Katie Greenwood, Tom Greenwood, Ed and Sandra Haverlack, Jake Lekan, Rita Luther, Roy Putnam, Sally Putnam, Carol Turner, Terry Windsor, Elaina Wright, Katie Greenwood White

### Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Josephine Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callahan, Janice Campbell, 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

### Diocese of Richmond Seminarian

Mr. Aventon Grimes

## WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph	
Sunday Offertory	\$882.00
Operation Rice Bowl	
Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$890.75
Shrine of the Sacred Heart	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,104.93

## 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 is at 11AM followed by 8 hours of Adoration; Benediction is at 8PM.

First Saturday: Rosary and Litany of Our Lady are prayed at 9AM followed by Mass at 9:30AM



## THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN

The book of Revelation, or Apocalypse, is overwhelming for most casual readers of the Bible. It has bizarre visions and mysterious creatures. It was probably written in a style meant to confuse non-Christians and protect its message for believers.

In the 1st and 2nd centuries, the Roman government saw Christians as a great threat. The government partially based its authority on the claim that the emperor was a god. Since Christians refused this worship, they endangered imperial power. Examples had to be made to prevent erosion of authority. Followers of Jesus were arrested and executed with the flimsiest excuses.

One answer came from John, a Christian author. He was held on Patmos, a prison island off the coast of Turkey. He wrote a message of hope for believers, but couched it in symbolic terms drawn from the Old Testament. He could not openly write the Sacred Name of Jesus, so he referred to the Lord as the "Lamb [of God] who was slain [on the cross]". He describes a victory celebration for the faithful saints in heaven. The "four living creatures" may represent the writers of the four Gospels.

## NOTICES

The Knights of Columbus will have tickets for a drawing for a single prize of gift certificates to 5 local restaurants available after Masses at St. Joseph and Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 4th and Sunday, May 11th. The total value of the 5 gift certificates is \$275. Single tickets are available for a \$5 donation and three tickets are available for a \$10 donation.

May is the month dedicated to honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will pray the Rosary 20 minutes before Mass each Sunday in May.

Sign in to FORMED for the daily Mass readings and insightful reflections This is a great way to start your day!

St. Joseph's Bible Study continues to meet every Tuesday after noon Mass. The lessons are from The Word Among Us daily reading. Everyone is welcome. Those attending should bring a bag lunch. Coffee, tea and water are provided.

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 2130 lbs. or more than 69,000 cans have been recycled. Currently, the recycling rate is about 2320 pounds per year. The proceeds from recycling aluminum cans are used to fund Council initiatives. Be creative and ask your friends, neighbors, or a business to save aluminum cans that you can drop off at the Rectory garage.

Have you remembered the good works of the church in your Will? A bequest of part of your estate will ensure the works of the parish will continue.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. May 4	Acts 5: 27-32, 40b-41; Psalms 30: 2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Revelation 5: 11-14; John 21: 1-19
Mon. May 5	Acts 6: 8-15; Psalms 119: 23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Matthew 4: 4b; John 6: 22-29
Tues. May 6	Acts 7: 51-60; Psalms 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; John 6: 35ab; John 6: 30-35
Wed. May 7	Acts 8: 1b-8; Psalms 66: 1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; John 6: 40; John 6: 35-40
Thurs. May 8	Acts 8: 26-40; Psalms 66: 8-9, 16-17, 20; John 6: 51; John 6: 44-51
Fri. May 9	Acts 9: 1-20; Psalms 117: 1, 2; John 6: 56; John 6: 52-59
Sat. May 10	Acts 9: 31-42; Psalms 116: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17; John 6: 63c, 68c; John 6: 60-69
Sun. May 11	Acts 13: 14, 43-52; Psalms 100: 1-2, 3, 5; Revelation 7: 9, 14b-17; John 10: 14; John 10: 27-30

## VOCATIONS

"Feed My lambs, tend My sheep." If you think you may have a vocation to follow the Risen Lord as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, contact Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



## TURN BACK TO THE LORD

In today's Gospel, we find the Apostles dejected and discouraged following the death of our Lord. Poor Peter decides to throw in the towel on the whole disciple thing and go back to his old way of life, declaring, "I'm going fishing." Upon hearing this, the other disciples follow him.

How easy it is for all of us to backslide on changes we have made in our lives, especially when it comes to our spiritual lives. But look how Jesus treats the disciples during their "backslide." He is right there with them in the midst of it, already waiting for them on the shore when they come back from their unsuccessful return to the fishing business (after abandoning their mission as disciples). Our Lord greets them tenderly, gives them some fishing pointers, and then prepares their breakfast. How gracious He is to them!

He is just as gracious today. When we find ourselves "out at sea" — discouraged by our failures or for squandering the gifts God has given us, or simply by a lack of progress in our faith life, Jesus is with us! He is calling to us from the shore to come back to Him without shame or embarrassment, but with hope-filled trust in His steadfast love. He never tires of offering "do-overs" if we just keep returning to Him.

This constant process of turning back to the Lord, of reevaluating our goals and priorities as we aim for Heaven, is the essence of a stewardship way of life. Let us take heart as we continue our journey today, secure in the knowledge that Jesus is beside us every step of the way.