



DECEMBER 25, 2022
THE NATIVITY 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
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. 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

*"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,
because he will save his people from their sins."*

Matthew 1:1-25

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	Vacant	
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	Tom O'Doherty	540-962-6795

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



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

Brian Albrecht, Kevin Albrecht, Clair Dilley Tom Greenwood, Larry Griffith, Rita Luther, Sally Putnam, Terry Windsor.

Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Tom Callaham, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Marcella Jordan, Rick Martin, David Palance, Maria and Bob Perron, Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Thomas Wade, Bill Withrow

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Margaret Fields, Dorothy Miller, Bill and Molly Sasser, John W. Smith, Clarissa Westenburger



WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph

Sunday Offertory	\$1,145.00
Christmas Flowers	83.00

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$1,670.00
COPE Food Pantry	401.00
Various 2 nd Collections	120.00

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$1,857.23
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CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday
Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday and
12NOON Friday (10:45AM Friday, Holy Hour
with Benediction at Sacred Heart)
First Saturday Mass will be celebrated at Sacred
Heart in honor of the Blessed Mother. Service
starts at 9:00AM with the Rosary and Litany of
the Blessed Mother followed by Mass.

Contact Fr. Tom (540-588-8492) to schedule a
time for weekday Mass at the Shrine of the
Sacred Heart.



SWADDLING CLOTHES

Until the end of the 19th century, many cultures had a custom of baby swaddling. The infant would be tightly wrapped in narrow strips of cloth most of time. The arms and legs would be bound, preventing movement. Parents did this in the belief that it protected the baby not only from injury but also disease. Some infants might be left in these wrappings for days. Usually, though, the wrappings were removed and changed regularly. The midnight Mass Gospel notes that Jesus was swaddled.

NOTICES

WINTER/SPRING 2023 FORMED

Adult Faith Formation at Sacred Heart Parish Hall on
Tuesdays @ 6:30 PM.

Symbolon: Living the Faith - Act III: God Transforms –
January 10, 17, 24, 31, & February 7

Forgiven – The Transforming Power of Confession –
February 28, March 7, 14, 21, & 28 (During Lent)

Symbolon: Living the Faith - Act IV: God Gives Life to
the Full – April 18, 25, May 2, 9, & 16

To request free Participant Guides for one or both
series email formed@sacredheartcovington.org or
call Don Rogowski @ 540-962-7344 by January 2.

Fr. Lukenge is leaving for a visit to Uganda on
December 29th. Sacred Heart will take up a free will
offering after Mass today. Fr. Lukenge will use any
funds collected to provide support to his village in
Uganda. Most individuals in his village live in extreme
poverty and lack basic human needs of food, clothing,
housing, shelter, healthcare and other necessities of
life. Please be as generous as you are able.

This Christmas we ask you to join Commonwealth
Catholic Charities in our mission to serve others. Your
gift will provide warmth for a neighbor living outside,
a home to a child who has been neglected, a support
system for a pregnant mom, a path towards
citizenship for a refugee family, and so much more.

HOW TO GIVE

- Online at www.ccofva.org/adventgiving
- Mail donation to: Commonwealth Catholic Charities
1601 Rolling Hills Drive Richmond, VA 23229

Prayer

The Hope of the World

Beloved Jesus, hope of the world, in these days
shrouded in darkness, help us to see your light and let
it shine, shedding light on the path that leads us to
enjoy your presence. Let the joy of Christmas remain
with us always. Amen

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Dec. 25	Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalms 89: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1: 1-25
Mon. Dec. 26	Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59; Psalms 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Psalms 118: 26a, 27a; Matthew 10: 17-22
Tues. Dec. 27	1 John 1: 1-4; Psalms 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12; John 20: 1a and 2-8
Wed. Dec. 28	1 John 1: 5 – 2: 2; Psalms 124: 2-3, 4-5, 7b-8; Matthew 2: 13-18
Thurs. Dec. 29	1 John 2: 3-11; Psalms 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Luke 2: 32; Luke 2: 22-35
Fri. Dec. 30	Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; Psalms 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5; Colossians 3: 15a, 16a; Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23
Sat. Dec. 31	1 John 2: 18-21; Psalms 96: 1-2, 11-12, 13; John 1: 14a, 12a; John 1: 1-18
Sun. Jan. 1	Numbers 6: 22-27; Psalms 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4: 4-7; Hebrews 1: 1-2; Luke 2: 16-21

VOCATIONS

“And the Word was made flesh...” If you think you may be called to share the good news of our Father’s love as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother, call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661
e-mail: vocations @richmonddiocese.org.



BE JOYFUL

It is Christmas! Our Gospel reading on this festive holy day is the opening words of the Gospel of John. St. John says, “The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him.” That is why we celebrate today. Pope Francis opened his sermon on Christmas day last year by saying this: “In the darkness, a light shines. An angel appears, the glory of the Lord shines around the shepherds and finally the message awaited for centuries is heard.”

At Mass on Christmas Eve we hear, “I proclaim to you good news of great joy; today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.” It is this joy we need to feel, this joy we need to carry to others. Many have expressed the joy of today. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI once said this about Christmas: “Joy is the true gift of Christmas. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us... Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives.”

The angel Gabriel greeted our Blessed Mother Mary with the Greek word, *Kaire!* That means “Be joyful.” God is near us today; He is so near that He became a child. Let us take that joy and share it with others; let us take that joy and change our lives and the lives of others. When we say “Merry Christmas” let us mean it with every fabric of our being.