



APRIL 16, 2023
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

**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

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

John 20:19-31

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	202-373-9571

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

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

Sacred Heart

Clara Arbogast, Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Lisa Dickson, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Arthur Headley, Robert Hoke, Marcella Jordan, Raphael Lopez, Alvina Nida, David Palance, Maria Perron, Paul Perron, Shaun Perron Michael Rybka, Cathy Savage, Maureen Stec, Thomas Wade, Bill Withrow

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Margaret Fields, Molly Sasser, John W. Smith, Clarissa Westenburger



WEEKLY DONATIONS BUDGETED NEEDS: \$1400.00

St. Joseph

Sunday Offertory	\$987.00
Flowers/Roof Fund	75.00

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$1,810.00
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Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$2,968.00
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CALENDAR

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday
Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday;
12NOON Friday (10:45AM Friday, Holy Hour with
Benediction at Sacred Heart)

First Friday Mass and Adoration: Mass will be
celebrated at 11:00AM followed by Adoration;
Benediction will be at 5:00PM

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.

NOTICES

The next Faith Formation Series: Symbolon, Act
IV, God Gives Life to the Full, begins this Tuesday,
April 18, at 6:30pm in the Sacred Heart parish
hall.

New seminar on May 9th beginning with a light
dinner at 5:00PM and the seminar at 5:30PM at
St. Joseph's Parish Hall.

This is for St. Joseph Church and Sacred Heart
parishioners.

Get Your Affairs in Order: 4 things your family
will thank you for, will provide you with
information about Wills and Trusts, Catholic
Advanced Medical Directives, Legacy Planning
and Catholic Funeral Planning. This is a free
informational seminar.

RSVP to the St. Joseph's parish office at 540-863-
5371.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Saint Faustina: Mankind's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on dire urgency in the 20th Century, when civilization began to experience an "eclipse of the sense of God" and, therefore to lose the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of human life. In the 1930s, Jesus chose a humble Polish nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, to receive private revelations concerning Divine Mercy that were recorded in her Diary. St. John Paul II explains:

This was precisely the time when those ideologies of evil, nazism and communism, were taking shape. Sister Faustina became the herald of the one message capable of off-setting the evil of those ideologies, that fact that God is mercy—the truth of the merciful Christ. And for this reason, when I was called to the See of Peter, I felt impelled to pass on those experiences of a fellow Pole that deserve a place in the treasury of the universal Church.

On May 5, 2000, five days after the canonization of St. Faustina, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy: The Chaplet was also given to St. Faustina with this promise: "Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you" (Diary, no. 1541). "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. ...**The Divine Mercy Novena:** Jesus gave St. Faustina nine intentions for which to pray the Chaplet beginning on Good Friday and ending on the Saturday before Divine Mercy Sunday.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, his love is everlasting.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. Apr. 16	Acts 2: 42-47; Psalms 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 29; John 20: 19-31
Mon. Apr. 17	Acts 4: 23-31; Psalms 2: 1-3, 4-6, 7-9; Colossians 3: 1; John 3: 1-8
Tues. Apr. 18	Acts 4: 32-37; Psalms 93: 1ab, 1cd-2, 5; John 3: 14-15; John 3: 7b-15
Wed. Apr. 19	Acts 5: 17-26; Psalms 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; John 3: 16; John 3: 16-21
Thurs. Apr. 20	Acts 5: 27-33; Psalms 34: 2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; John 20: 29; John 3: 31-36
Fri. Apr. 21	Acts 5: 34-42; Psalms 27: 1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 4: 4b; John 6: 1-15
Sat. Apr. 22	Acts 6: 1-7; Psalms 33: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19; John 6: 16-21
Sun. Apr. 23	Acts 2: 14, 22-33; Psalms 16: 1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Peter 1: 17-21; Luke 24: 32; Luke 24:13-35

VOCATIONS

“Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” Do you have an interest to share the Lord’s saving mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?

Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661
e-mail: vocations @richmonddiocese.org.



SEEK THE LORD

The Christian steward approaches life with an “Easter vision” rooted in gratitude for the salvation our Lord has won for us through His death and Resurrection. Today’s readings on this Divine Mercy Sunday teach us how this approach plays out in daily life and remind us that we can have complete trust in the mercy of God to lead us, step by step, to heaven.

Certainly, it is challenging to live for heaven when the things of the earth — job stress, family crises, health troubles, political strife — loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like the Apostle, Thomas, in our Gospel passage today — until he had an encounter with the merciful Savior. We all recall the famous line from Thomas, who was not present with the other Apostles during Jesus’ first appearance after the Resurrection. Beaten down by the events of the last several days, Thomas refuses to believe that the others had indeed “seen the Lord” as they claimed.

Thomas stubbornly declares he would not believe their story about the Lord unless he placed his finger into the nail marks and his hand into His side. Yet, these doubts did not repel our Lord. They actually drew Him to Thomas in an extraordinary way. Our merciful Lord saw that beneath the hubris in Thomas’ statement were pain and disappointment. Our Lord is mercy itself. And so He did not condemn Thomas, but calmed his doubts and fears, and allowed Thomas to actually touch those Sacred Wounds.

What amazing grace.

When we are tempted to give in to doubts about our faith for whatever reason, all we need to do is seek the Lord — in prayer, in the sacraments, through the encouragement of our Christian communities — and just as He did for Thomas, our Lord will mercifully restore our Easter vision and fill us with His joy and peace.