

JULY 2, 2023
THIRTEENTH 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
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

*Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.*

Matthew 10:37-42

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	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	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, Mark Asma, Clair Dilley, Bob Gardiner, Tom Greenwood, Rita Luther, Jean Manner, Sally Putnam, Bob Umstead, Terry Windsor.

Sacred Heart

Pam Austin, Josephine Brown, Kevin Brown, Mack Brown, Wanda Callaham, Robert Childs, Lisa Dickson, Esther Ewing, Tony Forbes, Roberta Frampton, Arthur Headley, 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 \$

Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory	\$1,936.00
Peter's Pence	483.00
COPE Food Pantry	190.00

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

Sunday Offertory \$937.63

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 will be celebrated on Friday, July 7th, at 11:00AM followed by eight hours of Adoration; Benediction will be at 8:00PM.

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 Our Lady followed by Mass at 9:30AM.

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

DISCIPLESHIP

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.

The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him.

Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

NOTICES

First Friday Mass will be celebrated on Friday, July 7th, at 11:00AM followed by eight hours of Adoration; Benediction will be at 8:00PM. There is a sign-up sheet for each hour of Adoration as you enter the church.

SAVE THE DATE: The 2023 Annual Clustered Parish Picnic, hosted by the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, will be on Sunday, September 17th, beginning at 1pm at the Old Dairy Barn, 46 Old Dairy Road, Warm Springs, VA. Meat and drinks will be provided. Parishioners are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert.

The next adult faith formation will be "Evangelization (and the Acts of the Apostles)" and will begin on Tuesday, September 7, in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. Check out this link for details on this series: <https://www.augustineinstitute.org/bible-studies/lectio-evangelization>. To request a free hardcopy of the participant guide, email formed@sacredheartcovington.org or contact Don Rogowski at 540-962-7344 by August 15th.



Catholics also can use their estates to demonstrate one final act of stewardship. Our possessions are gifts from God, and God has intended for us to use them wisely throughout our lifetimes. Through our estate plans, we can provide for our loved ones while also making a faithful distribution back to God to further God's work. We will be remembered by our giving.

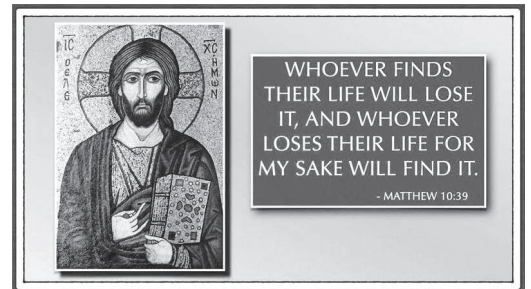
Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

DAILY READINGS

Sun. July 2	2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16a; Psalms 89: 2-3, 16-17, 18-19; Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11; 1 Peter 2: 9; Matthew 10: 37-42
Mon. July 3	Ephesians 2: 19-22; Psalms 117: 1bc, 2; John 20: 29; John 20: 24-29
Tues. July 4	Genesis 19: 15-29; Psalms 26: 2-3, 9-10, 11-12; Psalms 130: 5; Matthew 8: 23-27
Wed. July 5	Genesis 21: 5, 8-20a; Psalms 34: 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; James 1: 18; Matthew 8: 28-34
Thurs. July 6	Genesis 22: 1b-19; Psalms 115: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 5: 19; Matthew 9: 1-8
Fri. July 7	Genesis 23: 1-4, 19; 24: 1-8, 62-67; Psalms 106: 1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5; Matthew 11: 28; Matthew 9: 9-13
Sat. July 8	Genesis 27: 1-5, 15-29; Psalms 135: 1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; John 10: 27; Matthew 9: 14-17
Sun. July 9	Zechariah 9: 9-10; Psalms 145: 1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Romans 8: 9, 11-13; Matthew 11: 25; Matthew 11: 25-30

VOCATIONS

“Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”
Could God be calling you to follow Him in this life and into the next? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804) 359-5661 email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



BASICS OF STEWARDSHIP

Today's readings take us back to some basics of stewardship living and demonstrate the genius of this way of life. Our First Reading, from 2 Kings, shows us the necessity and power of hospitality. It recounts the story of a woman who showed loving hospitality to a visitor, inviting him to dinner with her family and arranging a room for him in their home so that he would have a comfortable place to stay during his travels through her town. She reached out to the man in a simple and practical manner to make him feel welcome and was rewarded in an extraordinary way.

In our Second Reading, from the Letter to the Romans, St. Paul reminds us of the power of our Baptism and how this sacrament makes us disciples. What does that mean for us here and now? St. Paul tells us very clearly: “You must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.” We must live for Christ! Nothing less will do.

Our Lord proclaims this same instruction in a rather shocking way in our Gospel passage from Matthew: “Whoever finds his life [by living for oneself] will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” But how do we lose our life? Precisely through loving actions towards others, loving them as if they were Christ. “Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple... he will surely not lose his reward.”

The simple brilliance of stewardship living — only our infinitely creative and compassionate God could conceive it!