



JULY 16, 2023  
FIFTEENTH 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)  
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. 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**

*"But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit,  
a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.."*

**Matthew 13:1-23**

## 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

<b>St. Joseph</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$890.00
<b>Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,303.13
<b>Shrine of the Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$2,002.00

## 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 the first  
Friday of each month at Sacred Heart at 11:00AM  
followed by eight hours of Adoration; Benediction  
will be at 8:00PM.

First Saturday Mass will be celebrated on the first  
Saturday of each month 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.

## NOTICES

The Greenbrier Valley (WV) Knights of Columbus  
are inviting all practicing and non-practicing  
Catholics and their families to an area-wide  
Catholic picnic on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at the  
Picnic Shelter #1 at Greenbrier State Forest in  
West Virginia. The picnic begins at 2 PM.

Please bring a covered dish (vegetables, desserts,  
and sides). Hamburgers, hot dogs, all the fixings,  
all paper products, soft drinks, and bottled water  
will be provided by the Greenbrier Valley Knights  
of Columbus Council. Vespers will be held at 4  
PM. All priests are honored guests.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The 2023 Annual Clustered  
Parish Picnic, hosted by the Shrine of the Sacred  
Heart, will be on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>,  
beginning at 1pm at the Old Dairy Barn, 46 Old  
Dairy Road, Warm Springs, VA. Meat and drinks  
will be provided. St. Joseph parishioners are  
asked to bring a side dish and Sacred Heart  
parishioners should bring 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](mailto:formed@sacredheartcovington.org) or contact  
Don Rogowski at 540-962-7344 by August 15th.

Jesus and Mary, cut down the thorns around my  
heart, pry away the rocks and the pavement.  
Grant me understanding and perseverance.  
Make me good soil.

## THE ICON OF ST. JOSEPH

The schedule for viewing the Icon of St. Joseph is  
as follows:

Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph at 9:00AM Sunday  
Mass

Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart at 11:30AM  
Mass

Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, at St Joseph at 12Noon Mass  
Thursday evening at Sacred Heart at the Knights of  
Columbus

The Icon of St. Joseph will then remain at Sacred  
Heart until Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. July 16	Isaiah 55: 10-11; Psalms 65: 10, 11, 12-13 14; Romans 8: 18-23; Matthew 13: 1-23
Mon. July 17	Exodus 1: 8-14, 22; Psalms 124: 1b-3, 4-6, 7-8; Matthew 5: 10; Matthew 10: 34 – 11: 1
Tues. July 18	Exodus 2: 1-15a; Psalms 69: 3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Psalms 95: 8; Matthew 11: 20-24
Wed. July 19	Exodus 3: 1-6, 9-12; Psalms 103: 1b-2, 3-4, 6-7; Matthew 11: 25; Matthew 11: 25-27
Thurs. July 20	Exodus 3: 13-20; Psalms 105: 1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27; Matthew 11: 28; Matthew 11: 28-30
Fri. July 21	Exodus 11: 10 – 12: 14; Psalms 116: 12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18; John 10: 27; Matthew 12: 1-8
Sat. July 22	Songs 3: 1-4b; Psalms 63: 2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; John 20: 1-2, 11-18
Sun. July 23	Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Psalms 86: 5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Romans 8: 26-27; Matthew 11: 25; Matthew 13: 24-43

## VOCATIONS

“Let everyone heed what they hear.” Is the Lord inviting you to know, love and serve Him more closely in the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804) 359-5661 email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



## SOW YOUR SEEDS ON HEALTHY SOIL

In today's Gospel from Matthew, our Lord shares the Parable of the Sower who scatters seed on many different kinds of land. This is a wonderful analogy for the stewardship way of life, demonstrating the slow and steady, yet powerful effect this lifestyle will have on those who fully embrace it.

In this parable, some of the seeds land on a path where birds carry them off before they can begin to take root. Other seeds land on rocky ground with little soil. As soon as things begin to heat up, they get scorched and die. Then there are seeds that land on soil cluttered with thorns which choke the seeds just as they are beginning to grow strong.

Finally, there are seeds that land on deep and healthy soil. These seeds produce abundant fruit. This is where the stewardship way of life comes in. When we give the best of our time, talent and treasure to serve God and others, we create lives filled with that rare "good soil" needed for the Kingdom of God to thrive.

How does this happen? Stewardship living removes the "rocks" of mistrust from our lives as we develop an unshakeable faith that God will always provide for our needs. It clears away the "thorns" of worldly ambition that make us self-centered, fill us with needless anxiety and stifle our focus on God. Stewardship living requires a deep reliance on the Word of God and the sacraments which continuously nourish and fertilize the soil of our lives.

Let us deepen our commitment to this way of life, allowing the Sower to do His work in us, slowly and steadily. The Master Gardner will surely produce miraculous fruits through us.