



AUGUST 27, 2023  
TWENTY-FIRST 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**

*"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."*

**Matthew 16:13-20**

## 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	Don Rogowski	540-962-7344

### 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, Sophia Veras, 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	\$
<b>Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,725.00
COPE Food Pantry	338.00
<b>Shrine of the Sacred Heart</b>	
Sunday Offertory	\$1,610.63

## CALENDAR

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph - 12NOON Tuesday and Thursday  
Sacred Heart - 11:30AM Wednesday

First Friday Mass at Sacred Heart this Friday, September 1st, beginning with Mass at 11am followed by 8 hours of Adoration. Benediction will be at 8PM. There is a sign up sheet for Adoration as you enter the church.

First Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart this Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9AM beginning 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.

## CRITICAL HELP NEEDED

There is an immediate and urgent need for Volunteer Drivers to take Josephine Brown's husband, Mack, to his radiation treatments from Selma to Fairlea WV. He started radiation treatment on Thursday July 27. Radiation treatments are daily, 5 days a week for eight weeks. ALL treatments begin at 1:00 p.m. and last 1/2 hour. The treatments take place in Fairlea, WV at the Greenbrier Medical Center, just past the WV State Fair Grounds. **IF YOU CAN BE A DRIVER AT ALL, YOUR HELP IS MOST APPRECIATED AND NEEDED.** Please contact Josephine Brown at 540-958-9978. We have exhausted all other transportation options.

Thank you to all have helped so far and are continuing to help with this critical need. God Bless You!

## NOTICES

Do you think you may be called to serve the Church in a new role? The Office of the Permanent Diaconate is hosting three informational sessions this fall for men who might have a calling to ordained service to the Church and to the bishop as a permanent deacon and are interested in discerning their calling while learning about the commitment it involves. Qualifications for formation to the permanent diaconate include, but are not limited to the following:

- A Roman Catholic for a minimum of five years at time of application.
- Registered parishioner within the Diocese of Richmond for five years at the time of application, and active in the parish community.
- Between the ages of 30 and 59 at the time of application.
- Committed to and living out values of justice, charity and service.
- Demonstrates grateful fidelity to all that the Church teaches, openness to formation and has demonstrated leadership.

Following these sessions, a new cohort of permanent deacons will be formed in 2024. Our permanent deacons are assigned to a parish where they exercise liturgical and catechetical ministries within their parish communities. Deacons hold roles both in their church and in a variety secular professions, showing how unique this vocation is. Please prayerfully discern whether you may be called to join a thriving and essential vocation to serve the Church in a new way. For those interested, visit the Permanent Diaconate page on [richmonddiocese.org](http://richmonddiocese.org) or email [gmanuso@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:gmanuso@richmonddiocese.org). If you feel the call, talk to your pastor!

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

## DAILY READINGS

Sun. Aug. 27	Isaiah 22: 19-23; Psalms 138: 1-2a, 2bc-3, 6, 8; Romans 11: 33-36; Matthew 16: 18; Matthew 16: 13-20
Mon. Aug. 28	1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5, 8b-10; Psalms 149: 1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; John 10: 27; Matthew 23: 13-22
Tues. Aug. 29	1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Psalms 139: 1-3, 4-6; Matthew 5: 10; Mark 6: 17-29
Wed. Aug. 30	1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13; Psalms 139: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; 1 John 2: 5; Matthew 23: 27-32
Thurs. Aug. 31	1 Thessalonians 3: 7-13; Psalms 90: 3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17; Matthew 24: 42a, 44; Matthew 24: 42-51
Fri. Sept. 1	1 Thessalonians 4: 1-8; Psalms 97: 1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Luke 21: 36; Matthew 25: 1-13
Sat. Sept. 2	1 Thessalonians 4: 9-11; Psalms 98: 1, 7-8, 9; John 13: 34; Matthew 25: 14-30
Sun. Sept. 3	Jeremiah 20: 7-9; Psalms 63: 2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Romans 12: 1-2; Ephesians 1: 17-18; Matthew 16: 21-27

## VOCATIONS

**"Thou art Christ, the Son of the living God."**  
Is God calling you to serve His Son in the priesthood? Call Father Matthew Kiehle (804)359-5661 email: vocations @richmond diocese .org.



## WHO DO YOU SAY THE SON OF MAN IS?

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, leads us to take a serious look at whether our lives give God the glory He deserves. It comes in the form of a question that Jesus poses to the disciples. He leads up to it gently enough: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they offer varying responses. Then, Jesus gets personal with them. "But who do you say that I am?" Peter gets the answer right: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus is getting personal with us today. He poses the same question to each one of us who call ourselves His stewards and modern-day disciples. Surely we would not hesitate to answer just as Peter did, that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the living God.

But do our lives truly reflect this answer? If we really believe that Christ is the Son of God, sent to save us from our sins and lead us to Heaven, then we must say so, not just with words but with our actions. Do my ambitions and priorities in life say that Christ is my Savior and I am His disciple? Does my budget, my family life, my entertainment say so?

The gifts and blessings that God has given us — our time, our talents, our material possessions — are meant to be used in a manner that says "Christ is my Savior and I am His disciple." The most eloquent praise we can offer Him is a life lived in grateful response to His unfathomable love. This is the beauty and power of a stewardship way of life.