

SACRED HEART PARISH



*Disciples
In Mission*



Sacred Heart Church

508 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 10:00 am

Phone: 410-778-3160

Fax: 410-810-0427

Web: www.sacredparish.org

Kent Street entrance to Sacred Heart Church

Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. John Church

Catholic & Main Streets
Rock Hall, MD 21661

Sunday Mass: 8:00 am

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John A. Grasing, Pastor
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John L. Davis, Deacon
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Becky Davis, Administrative Assistant / Bulletin Editor
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Mary Jo Frohlich, Business Office
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PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome all of our parish community. At this time we have been asked to suspend having hand-out materials in the bins at the doors of the Church. If you are new member, or if you need to make a change to your current registration, please visit or contact the Church office to obtain a registration form. Please return the forms to the Parish Office. Please note that registration is required for Baptism, Marriage, and participation in PREP.

As the CDC, Kent County Health Office and the Diocese of Wilmington remind us there is a risk to entering public buildings at this time. Individuals are the primary protectors of their own health (CDOW: "Restoring Public Celebration of Mass").

To help reduce the risk of illness, please be mindful of the following:

- The Bishop's dispensation from Sunday Mass remains in effect
- If you feel ill do not enter any parish facilities
- At risk persons/those caring for at risk persons should refrain from attending liturgy
- We are limited to one-third building capacity per order of the Bishop
- Use High Street entrance (Sacred Heart) and Main Street (St. John)
- You may leave through any door, maintaining social distance
- Masks/face coverings (those over 2 years of age) must be worn while in church
- Social distancing must be maintained at all times
- Limit restroom use

SCRIPTURE READINGS

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Isaiah tells of the Lord's Servant, who will be inconspicuous, but will not rest until justice is established. The Lord then tells his servant that he was formed to be "a light for the nations."

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Peter speaks to a group of pagans for the first time. He explains to them that any person who follows God's will is acceptable to God, regardless of nationality.

Gospel: Mark 1:7-11

John the Baptist had claimed one would come far more powerful than himself, one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit rather than water. When Jesus came to John and was baptized, the Spirit descended on him and a voice said, "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests."



For the Week of January 10th through
January 17th

Sunday

Is 55:1-11; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

Monday

Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday

Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday

Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday

Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45

Friday

Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday

Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday

1 Sm 3:3B-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 9th

4:00 p.m. Betty and George Glenn

Sunday, January 10th

8:00 a.m. Fr. Ted Tempel (living)

10:00 a.m. Thomas C. Swiss

Saturday, January 16th

4:00 p.m. Marie Gruber

Sunday, December 17th

8:00 a.m. Our Parishioners,
Living and Deceased

10:00 a.m. Mary Herman

Mass will also be offered for Joan Marie Harding and Mary Vukich Shearer and Peter Vukich, and our parishioners, living and deceased during the week. At this time these are private masses. We will let you know when public weekday masses resume.

REMEMBERING THE

SICK OF THE PARISH:

Remember in your prayers

the sick of the parish: John

Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg,

Patricia Dana, Angela

Wilmer, Faith King, Eugenia

Brooks, Alicia Bourne, Tom

Blum, Betty Ann Strong,

Joseph William, Judy Hagerty, Millie Moseman, Father

Ted Tempel and all those whose names appear in the

PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.

PRIVATE PRAYER: Sacred Heart Church is open for private prayer from 9:00 a.m. until noon Monday through Friday. The Chapel will not be available.

NEW PARISHONERS: The following family has registered in our parish recently: William and Jeanne Cotter of Chestertown. We pray that you will become closer to God through your participation in our Faith Community. We look forward to getting to know you. Welcome!



PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD **Matthew 1:7-11**

Reflection for Parents

The final words of today's Gospel are wonderful words for us to bestow upon our children. Who is not encouraged by the reminder that they are a beloved son or daughter? What child, at any age, does not long to hear from a parent, "With you I am well pleased?" Today is a good day to think about how often you take the time to lavish words of love and praise upon your child. Take time to be still and let your heavenly Father lavish those same words of love and praise upon you.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Set out pictures, candles, white garments, and other reminders of the Baptisms of family members. Recall the celebrations. Remind your family that the promises made at Baptism include: being taught to practice our faith, keeping God's Commandments, and loving God and neighbor. Talk about how family members are living out these baptismal promises today.

Discussion Starters

1. My favorite part of the celebration of Baptism is . . . because . . .
2. One of the baptismal promises I need to work harder at is . . .
3. Someone who makes me feel special and loved is . . . ****

FLOCKNOTES: Do you want to know what's going on in our parish?? Sign up for Flocknotes. It's easy. You can choose what info you would like to receive – via email or text message and you can unsubscribe at any time. There are two easy ways to connect:

*Visit flocknote.com/SHPARISH on your computer
OR

*Text **SHPARISH508** to **84576** from your phone to subscribe to updates.

Text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy and conditions at www.flocknote.com/txt.

JANUARY SAINTS

ANDRÉ BESETTE

André Bessette was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1845. By the time he was 12 he was an orphan who had to take care of himself. He traveled to the United States and worked for a time in a textile mill in New England. But he soon returned home to Canada with a dream of entering religious life.



In 1870, he went to the Holy Cross Brothers in Montreal with a note from his pastor. The note read, "I am sending you a saint."

André suffered from stomach problems, and soon the Holy Cross Brothers leaned how little André could work because of this. But André was very devoted to God and St. Joseph. So, André took his vows and became Brother André. Then Brother André went to work at Notre Dame College in Montreal as a doorman. He did whatever was asked. He cleaned and ran errands, cut people's hair, and welcomed visitors to the college.

In 1904, Brother André asked the Archbishop of Montreal if he could build a chapel to St. Joseph. The archbishop told Brother André that he could build the chapel, but Brother André had to pay for it.

Over many years, Brother André built a small chapel atop Montreal's Mont Royal with any little money people gave him or which he earned giving haircuts to students. At first the little structure was made of wood. People came to see Brother André and the statue of St. Joseph there. The chapel grew as more and more people came to visit.

Brother André was very kind to the people, and some of the visitors were healed. Brother André thanked St. Joseph for healing the people.

Brother André's devotion to St. Joseph continued. He decided to build a basilica. The basilica was not finished when Brother André died in 1937 at age 90, but it was completed later. When he died, more than a million people came to honor him.

Pope Benedict XVI canonized Brother André in 2010. Saint André Bessette shows us that the humblest of people can do mighty things for God.

PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Weeks Ending December 27th and January 3rd - Weeks 27 and 28

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 12/27 Wk. 27	\$1,851	\$874	\$5,769	-\$3,044
YTD Wk. 27	\$94,810	\$53,550	\$155,763	-\$7,403
Offertory 1/03 Wk. 28	\$9,157	\$6,881	\$5,769	\$10,269
YTD Wk. 28	\$103,967	\$60,431	\$161,532	\$2,866



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM While baptisms are generally celebrated at a weekend liturgy at either of our churches, this is not possible due to restrictions related to COVID-19. Baptisms are now celebrated outside of Mass and may be scheduled by calling the parish office. Parents are required to attend a formation session prior to the baptism; Godparents are welcome to attend as well. Please call the parish office for more information and to schedule your child's baptism.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Please contact the parish office to make an appointment to celebrate the sacrament.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Anyone seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of matrimony in either of our churches must contact the parish office at least one year in advance of the proposed date. No date may be held until the bride and groom meet with the pastor (or his designate).

COMMUNION TO THE SICK, HOMEBOUND AND HOSPITALIZED At this time in accordance with directives from the Diocese of Wilmington, we are unable to schedule visits in health care or home settings. Only those in danger of death may be visited until further notice. We will return to our regular practice of sending Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the sick as soon as possible.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are being sent directly to your home, bi-monthly. If you are not receiving envelopes and wish to do so, please contact Becky Davis at 410-778-3160.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Mary Jo Frohlich with any questions at 410-778-3160, or mfrohlich@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

CHESTERTOWN FOOD PANTRY: The Chestertown Food Pantry would like to thank Sacred Heart for their generous weekly donations. They would like to remind us to please check the expiration date on all donated foods because they cannot use anything past the date on the label.

DIALOG: In addition to the newspaper edition of The Dialog that's available in church every two weeks, the newspaper's website, www.thedialog.org, is updated every weekday with stories from the diocese and around the world, including many that don't appear in the newspaper due to space considerations. Stay on top of national and international issues of concern to Catholics, each Sunday's Scripture reading commentaries by Dialog columnists and the work of the church in the nation and world by visiting www.thedialog.org.

You can worry about the priest shortage in our Church today – or you can do something about it – join the Diocesan Vocations Guild. The Guild is open to Catholics from within or with ties to the Diocese of Wilmington who pray for, encourage and support the bishop, priests, religious, deacons and seminarians of the diocese. The objectives of the Guild are achieved through prayer, service and the affirmation of the importance of the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life to the mission of the diocese. For more membership information, contact Mary Ann Peirson at 302-573-3113 or mpeirson@cdow.org.

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER GRASING

The Christmas Season Concludes

Service was very evident in the number of volunteers who worked tirelessly to prepare and maintain our churches for the celebration of Christmas and its season! Thanks to Ann Anderson and Millie Strong for coordinating at each of our churches. Although it was ‘a different kind of Christmas’ there was work to be done. Our parish expresses thanks to: Lou and Dave Shearer, Joan and Richard Updike (also Tyler -- their grandson), Karen O'Connor and her friend, Kat, Dick Swanson, Mike Willey, Kate Benarick and Bill Muller, Betsi Rowan, Mary Broadhurst, Bill Anderson, Anne Scott, Butch Clarke, Joe and MaryAnn Hickman and all who provided fresh cut greenery.

Thanks also to all those helped with the Giving Tree, both at Sacred Heart and St. John. Between the two churches that comprise our parish, a total of 31 families had their Christmas brightened, receiving over 100 gifts. The Elks Club, via the Samaritan Group, provided 23 boxes chock-full of food. Thank you for making such a powerful witness.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord serves as a transitional moment in the liturgical year. It is the last feast (in fact the last day) of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord redirects us from the babe in the manger to the adult Jesus. It is only after the baptism that Jesus begins his public ministry. Just as Jesus’ baptism marks the commencement of his public mission and ministry of proclaiming the Good News, so too does our baptism set us on a journey of faith and a life devoted to the service of God, the community and the world. Where is your church of baptism? Have you visited there lately? Have you had a child, grandchild or other family member baptized recently? To what is God calling you through these holy waters of rebirth? How is God calling you to deepen your sense of service to others?

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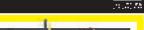


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