

SACRED HEART PARISH



Sacred Heart Church

508 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Mass: 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 10:00 am

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 am

Kent Street entrance to Sacred Heart Church

*Go and make
disciples*

Phone: 410-778-3160

Fax: 410-810-0427

Web: www.sacredparish.org



St. John the Evangelist Church

Catholic Ave. & Main Street
Rock Hall, MD 21661

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: 8:00 am

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT › NOVEMBER 28, 2021

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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Cherylin Bennek, *Religious Ed. Admin.*

religioused@sacredparish.org / 410-778-4650

PARISH REGISTRATION

We welcome all to our parish community. Parish Registration Cards for new members are available at the doors of the Church. These can also be used for updates if there are changes to family information. Please return them to the Parish Office. Please note that registration is required for Baptism, Marriage, and participation in PREP.

Current Guidelines

- If you are feeling ill, please do not enter any parish facility
- You may use all doors to enter/exit church
- Worship aids may be left in the pew at the end of Mass
- Please limit restroom use
- In each of our churches there is a section set up with 3 foot social distancing for those who feel more comfortable with a bit of space; in Sacred Heart this is the section nearest the side door where the ramp is located and in St. John this is the first several pews on the left side of the church
- Sacred Heart Church is open for personal prayer from 8am – Noon, Monday through Friday (except holidays)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord tells of fulfilling the promise he had made to Israel. He will send a replacement for David, someone who "shall do what is right and just in the land," believed by most to mean Jesus.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be ready for the coming of the Lord. He explains that although they are conducting themselves in a way that would please God, they should always strive to do even better.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus warns his followers to be prepared for the end of the world. He reminds them not to be preoccupied with unimportant events, or they will be caught unaware rather than being on watch as they should.

For the Week of November 28th through December 5th

Sunday

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

First Friday

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

First Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—

10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

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, November 27th

4:00 p.m. Marie Gruber

Sunday, November 28th

8:00 a.m. Mildred Strong

10:00 a.m. Mass for Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Monday, November 29th

8:30 a.m. James Albrecht

Tuesday, November 30th

8:30 a.m. Josephine Herbst

Wednesday, December 1st

8:30 a.m. George Davis

Thursday, December 2nd

8:30 a.m. Andrew Marsini (living)

Saturday, December 3rd

4:00 p.m. Mass for Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Sunday, December 4th

8:00 a.m. Mildred Strong

10:00 a.m. Ed Tinucci

CRITICAL NEEDS UPDATE

Please see the visible progress of our HVAC/flat roof project at Sacred Heart.

Our Critical Needs Fund continues to grow.

Currently our parishioners have donated \$238,931.13. Many thanks and blessings to all.



**PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
PROGRAM**

PREP

BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Reflection for Parents

Yes, it is important to be ready for the Second Coming of Christ, but it is also important to be prepared for his arrival into every moment of every day. He may come to us through a conversation, in the form of a beggar on the streets, through the words or actions of our children, or through the kindness of a stranger. Are our hearts open to receiving him? Advent affords us the opportunity to prepare our hearts and lives for Christ's coming today, at Christmas, and at the end of all time. This Advent, open your eyes, your ears, and your heart to the coming of Christ in ordinary and extraordinary ways. The Preface for today's Mass describes the kingdom over which Jesus Christ is King.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

Take time today to make a family Advent plan. Create a family Advent calendar or Advent chain listing ways your family will spiritually and physically prepare for the celebration of Christ's coming at Christmas. Include on your calendar or chain parish Advent opportunities, such as an Advent Penance and Reconciliation service or shopping for and wrapping gifts for the parish Advent Giving Tree.

Discussion Starters

1. One way I have been lazy about my faith is . . .
2. One thing I can do to become more ready for Christ's coming at Christmas is . . .
3. One thing I am looking forward to doing with my family this Advent is . . .

Children's Religious Education

Volunteer help is needed for substitute catechists/aides. Two catechists are needed in every classroom at all times. We need volunteers to be present in the classroom when a catechist calls in sick or is on vacation. If you love children and can help in these situations, please contact Cheryl Bennek, Religious Education Administrative Assistant at religouised@sacredparish.org or call 410-778-4650.
Thank you!

NOVEMBER SAINTS

CATHERINE LABOURE

Tradition tells us that at the moment Zoe Laboure was born in France in 1806, church bells rang to remind everyone in the village to stop their work and pray the Angelus. The Angelus is a prayer to our Blessed Mother. It begins with the words, "The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary." The ringing of the Angelus bells was a sign of the special role Mary would play in Zoe's life.



Zoe felt called to the religious life when she was a very young girl. One day, while visiting a Catholic hospital run by the Daughters of Charity, she decided that she, too, wanted to be a Daughter of Charity and to care for the sick.

She joined the order and began her training in living as a nun. She was given the name Sister Catherine. One night, she woke up and heard a voice telling her to go to the chapel. To Catherine's surprise, the chapel was filled with light as if all the candles were lit! There, right before her eyes, was a woman. Catherine knew immediately that it was our Blessed Mother, Mary.

Mary spoke to Catherine. She asked her to have a special medal made. She described the medal to the young nun. Our Blessed Mother told Catherine that anyone who wore the medal would receive special graces, or gifts, from God.

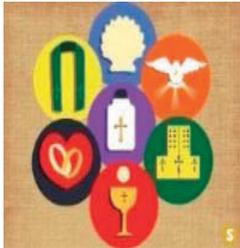
Catherine asked Mary what she would need to do to have the medal made. Jesus' mother told her to tell Father Aladel, Catherine's spiritual adviser, about her vision and that he would make sure that her request was granted.

Father Aladel did not believe Catherine at first, but after two years of questioning her and making sure that she had not imagined her visions of Mary, he was convinced. The priest went to the archbishop of Paris and told him what our Blessed Mother had asked of Catherine. The bishop ordered two thousand medals to be made. The medal was first called the "Medal of the Immaculate Conception" but today we call it the "Miraculous Medal" because the people who have worn it say that their lives have been blessed and their prayers answered. People still wear the medal today, nearly two hundred years later!

Catherine never told anyone else about her visits with our Blessed Mother until just before her death, when she received permission to tell her superior. She wanted only to be to a faithful Sister of Charity. For 40 years, she cared for the sick and the elderly. She died in 1876, and she was canonized in 1947.

PARISH NEWS

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.

NEW PARISHONERS: The following people have registered in our parish recently: Jose Hooker and April Johnson 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!

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Pat after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.



GIVING TREE: This year our parish will once again support our local community through donations to the "Giving Tree". **The Giving Tree is at**

the front of Sacred Heart. Please take an ornament from the tree, read it for information about the recipient, purchase and wrap the gifts and attach the ornament securely to the outside of the gifts. Place gifts under the tree the next time you come to church. **All packages must be received by Sunday, December 12, 2021.** Your generous giving allows us to bring Christmas cheer to many families! For questions or to volunteer to help with this project, please contact Ann Anderson at 410-778-4243 or wmandersonfamily@verizon.net.

FAITH ENVIRONMENT/SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Ever heard of For the Sake of God's Children? It is the safe environment program of the Diocese of Wilmington, designed to keep young people participating in ministry around the diocese free from harm. Participants include the Bishop, all priests, deacons, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters and all lay employees and volunteers. For more information visit www.cdow.org and click the FSGC logo.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS:

Give in gratitude. A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith."

Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to the **December 4/5** second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

PARISH NEWS continued...

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.

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: *Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, Eugenia Brooks, Alicia Bourne, Tom Blum, Betty Ann Strong, Joseph William, Millie Moseman, Benjamin Ellingsworth, Father Ted Tempel, Adam Voshell, Bob and Donna House, Virginia Ellingsworth, Helena Perry, and Angela Willmer.*

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.

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.

OFFERTORY TOTALS FOR THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 20/21ST WILL BE POSTED IN NEXT WEEKEND'S BULLETIN

Father John Grasing is on a medical leave of absence. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Father Grasing.

Bishop Koenig has named Father Patrick Bergquist as the temporary administrator of Sacred Heart Parish. We are grateful to Father Bergquist for assisting us in our time of need.

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.

REMINDER TO ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS AT SACRED HEART: Thank you to the ministers who volunteer to serve weekly at our liturgies. Please remember to "check in" before mass in the foyer of the church. Simply highlight your name on the schedule so that we know in advance if we need to fill positions or make changes. All ministers should check in - Lectors, Greeters, Cantors, and Eucharistic Ministers. Thank you for your attention to this request.



Happy Thanksgiving!

Because of you, the ministries and programs of our Diocese of Wilmington have been able to impact lives! Thanks to you — we have cared for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of so many — especially during the difficult times endured over these last 20 months.

We are grateful for your generosity.

Wishing you and your families abundant blessings this Thanksgiving season and always!

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON DEVELOPMENT OFFICE | THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

To further support the ministries of the Diocese of Wilmington, check out the QR code above or go to cdow.org/catholic-diocese-of-wilmington-offices-and-ministries/development-office/



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