SACRED HEART PARISH

Go and make disciples

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

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

Kent Street entrance to Sacred Heart Church **Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

BAPTISM OF THE LORD · JANUARY 9, 2022

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John A. Grasing, *Pastor*
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Cherylin Bennek, *Religious Ed. Admin.*
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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

THE 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: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
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 9th through January 16th

Sunday
Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11;
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7;
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday
1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday
1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday
1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday
1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
Friday
1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday
Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

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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 8th
4:00 p.m. Special Intention
Sunday, January 9th
8:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
10:00 a.m. Deceased Members of The Natoli Family
Monday January 10th
8:30 a.m. Polly Warrington
Tuesday, January 11th
8:30 a.m. Margaret Bauer
Wednesday, January 12th
8:30 a.m. Alicia Bourne
Thursday, January 13th
8:30 a.m. Frank Rotondo
Saturday, January 15th
4:00 p.m. Deceased Members of the Rowan Family
Sunday, January 16th
8:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
10:00 a.m. Keh Shiok Cheng

NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing 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.

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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, Jon Hanley, and Angela Willmer.

CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH IN HONOR OR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Reflection for Parents

Most parents know what it means to be pleased with our children. Even when they do things that annoy, challenge, or disappoint us, we love our children. Although we experience some notion of unconditional love with our own children, it is difficult for us to grasp the magnitude of God's love for us, even when we annoy, challenge, or disappoint Him. Through our Baptism, we are members of God's family and will know the unconditional love of a parent.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Bring out pictures and memoirs of each person's Baptism–even the parents'. Recall each baptism and share memories of the day with one another. Continue by sharing ways you have each continued to grow as members of God's family.

Discussion Starters

1. As a child of God, I know God is pleased with me because . . .
2. My own Baptism is important to me because . . .
3. One time I can recall that our family lived out our baptismal promises was when . . .

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 Cherylin Bennek, Religious Education Administrative Assistant at religioused@sacredparish.org or call 410-778-4650. Thank you!

JANUARY SAINTS

RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT

Raymond was born near Barcelona, Spain, in 1175. He was such a gifted student that he was already teaching philosophy at the university by the time he was 20. He went on to earn degrees in both Church and civil law. After hearing the homilies of a Dominican preacher, he decided to join the Dominican order and made his vows in 1222.

Pope Gregory IX gave him an important assignment in Rome. The pope asked him to organize all the Church laws from the popes and bishops. This had not been done in more than 80 years. He compiled all these laws into five books called the Decretals. It was such an excellent collection that another organization of Church law did not have to be done for almost 800 years.

The next writing project Raymond took on was a collection of guidelines for confessors—priests who celebrated the Sacrament of Penance. The book did more than just list sins and penances; it helped priests understand the laws of the Church and how to deal with the problems people shared with them while celebrating this Sacrament. He did such a good job that the pope named him an archbishop, but Raymond resigned the honor. He wanted to just be a Dominican priest.

Raymond was elected to be the head of his order. He took this responsibility seriously. He went on foot to every Dominican house to meet with each member of the order. He also reorganized the Dominican rule.

Although he was very interested in laws and how they work, he cared most about bringing Christ to people who had never heard his message of love and salvation. Raymond had always secretly dreamed of being a missionary, but was given other responsibilities in life. Still, he encouraged missionaries to learn the languages of the people they were working to convert. He prayed daily for the conversion of the Turks, pagan warriors who were very powerful in Raymond's time.

Raymond had a very full life and lived to be 100 years old. He died in 1275, and our Church has honored him as a saint since 1601. He is a patron saint of lawyers.

PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Weeks ending December 26th and January 2nd - Weeks 27 & 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 12/26 Wk. 27	**$2,686**	**$859**	**$6,346**	**-$2,801**
YTD Wk. 27	**$110,338**	**$52,650**	**$171,342**	**-$8,354**
Offertory 1/02 Wk. 28	**$7,633**	**$859**	**$6,346**	**$2,146**
YTD Wk. 28	**$117,971**	**$53,509**	**$177,698**	**-$6,218**

SEASONAL REMINDERS:

First, regarding the weather—

- Before venturing out, it is always prudent to call the parish office to check our open/closed status; personal safety is the main concern
- One is not put in a state of serious sin by missing Mass on a day when travel to/from church would be hazardous

Naturally, if there is an occasion that a State of Emergency is declared all parish offices will be closed and all activities cancelled.

And regarding Covid, flu and other illnesses—

- If you are not feeling well you should stay at home. The obligation to attend Mass does not mean coming to church when you are ill and at risk of infecting others.

  You may wish to consider receiving communion in the hand if you do not already do so.

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.

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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.

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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.

PARISH NEWS.....continued

From the desk of Deacon John:

Greetings:

As you know, we have made every effort since Covid began, to broadcast our Liturgies each week via Facebook Live. Many people - parishioners and visitors alike have benefited from and come to depend on this technology. We have been able to accomplish this with a very small group of people. But, since we want very much to continue this work indefinitely, the task has risen to the level of needing more help. We will add a new ministry named "Video Streamer"to our MSP schedule for your convenience..

You can help.

- The parish has purchased a camera system that is easy to use, and we are buying a small Ipad to integrate with the cameras - making this as simple as possible.
- We will Livestream each week from the 8 a.m. Liturgy in Rock Hall (the internet is the strongest there and that is vital to a good signal).
- We will provide UNLIMITED training until you are comfortable with the steps to (1) turn on the cameras, (2) start the feed, (3) switch the camera view at a few points in the Mass, and then (4) turn it off at the end. (it really is that simple).
- Because of the nature of this ministry, we will need 100% coverage - since an absence will result in no broadcast but, as you know, the ministry program has a simple process for getting a substitute.
- It would be great if we could assemble 6 to 12 volunteers so as to have good coverage and reasonable frequency for service.
- IMPORTANT - If you are already a Eucharistic Minister or a Lector, you can STILL be on this ministry team - EVEN IF you are serving that day in the other ministry. So, if you are a Lector on a particular day at St. John, you can STILL be the camera volunteer - it will not interfere.
- The only detail is you will need to sit in a spot near the front row that will be reserved for this ministry.
- Feel free to call me directly at 240-517-4186 if you have questions.

Thank you for your consideration. Thank you also for all that you have already done for our parish family. It does not go unnoticed. May God bless you and be assured of my prayers.

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.

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CARMELITES: If you have been experiencing a desire for a deeper relationship with God through a more intimate prayer life, God may be calling you to the spirituality of the Carmelite Saints and Doctors of the Church, Teresa of Jesus (Avila), John of the Cross and Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, among many others. You are invited to explore this call as a lay person with the Annunciation Community of the Discalced Secular Carmelite Order. Meetings are held the **third** Saturday of the month at Sacred Heart Parish Church and Hall in Chestertown, Md. You are cordially welcome to join us for a Communion Service and Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours at 8:30 a.m. For further information, please call or email prior to attendance: Carol Keyser 302-757-5973 or sistercarol@comcast.net.

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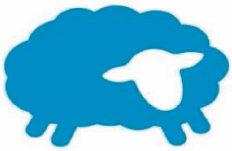
FLOCK NOTES: Do you want to know what's going on in our parish?? Sign up for Flocknotes. It's easy. You can choose what info you would like to receive – via email or text message and you can unsubscribe at any time. There are two easy ways to connect:



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