

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Bushwood, Maryland – Founded 1755

Father Robert Golas

Deacon Joseph Lloyd

Rectory Phone: 301-769-3100

Parish Website: www.sacredheartbushwood.org

Parish Email: sacredheart.bushwood.md@adw.org

Fr. Golas Email – fathergolas.pastor@gmail.com

Charlotte Morgan – Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Kimmie Gibson - Faith Formation Coord. - Email: HASHfaithformation@gmail.com

Masses: Sunday 6:30 & 8:00 a.m. and Thurs. & Fri. 8:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

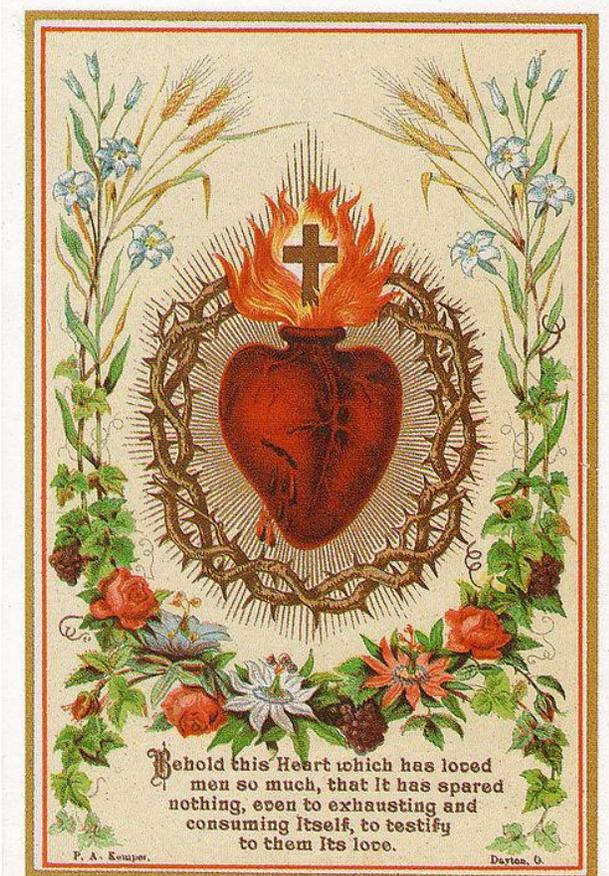
Confessions: Saturday 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 – 7:50 a.m. and Friday 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Seventh Baptisms: By appointment. **Weddings:** Contact Father six months in advance.

Rectory Office Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Seventh District Catholic Aid Society: 240-256-4101



Welcome to the Parish Community of Sacred Heart Church! To become a registered parishioner, complete either the online parish registration or the pink registration forms located on the tables at the entrance of the church. If you are interested in participating in any of the ministries available here, beginning new ones, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the rectory. We are glad you have joined us, and may God bless you!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025
20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Aug.	18	NO MASS	
Tues.	Aug.	19	8:00 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Wed.	Aug.	20	7:00 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Thurs.	Aug.	21	8:00 a.m.	Malcolm Goode, Jr.
Fri.	Aug.	22	8:00 a.m.	Francis Lee Quade
Sat.	Aug.	23	4:30 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Sun.	Aug.	14	6:30 a.m.	Anne Ridgell
			8:00 a.m.	Joyce Spence
			10:30 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION: Information on registration for 2025-2026 Faith Formation will be in next week's bulletin. If you have any questions, contact Kimmie Gibson at HASHfaithformation@gmail.com.

FAITH FORMATION SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS: Our Faith Formation program is in need of substitute teachers. Please consider whether the Lord may be calling you to be a part of this very important ministry for our church.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the Main Altar were given in memory of William Pilkerton. Donated by Kevin and Sherry Quade. The flowers on the Blessed Mother Altar, St. Joseph Altar and Sacred Heart Altar were given in memory of Margie Boyers. Donated by Maggie Hammett.

A SUCCESSFUL & SPIRITUAL UPLIFTING VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: The Holy Angels Sacred Heart Vacation Bible School was a spiritual uplifting success. Adventure awaited each day for the children during their trek through Alaska and the True North camp, as they explored the ability to Trust Jesus in all of life's adventures. Thank you to the middle school counselors, high school counselors, and adult leaders for their outstanding service before, during, and after VBS. Thank you to Amy Williams for her faith-filled dedication in stupendously coordinating another elevating VBS

PRAYER FOR STUDENTS: Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your Spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. Through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

PRAYER FOR TEACHERS: Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us your ways. Look upon these teachers. Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds. Grant that they may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life, forever and ever. AMEN.

PRE-LABOR DAY FESTIVAL: St. Peter Claver Catholic Church in St. Inigoes invites you to its Annual Pre-Labor Day Festival on its historic grounds on Sunday, August 31, 2025, from 12:00Noon to 6:00pm. Come and enjoy a day of “fun, fellowship and food!” Dinners with crab balls, fried chicken, and baked ham will be for sale, and free entertainment will be provided including a car show, Gospel and R&B entertainment, face painting, and Bubble Balooza. To purchase your pre-paid discounted dinner tickets for only \$32.00, call the Parish Office (301-872 5460) before August 17, 2025, or go to the website (<https://www.stpeterclaverchurch.org/>) to the “Donate” dropdown menu. Discounted dinner tickets are available to EMT, Fire and Rescue workers with identification now through the day of the festival.

MCA BINGO: MCA is hosting Bingo on Saturday evenings. Doors open at 5:00pm, Early Birds start at 6:30pm, and regular games start at 7:00pm.

SAVE THE DATE: CATHOLIC FAMILY FESTIVAL – Sunday, October 12, 3-8 PM, at Cardinal Gibbons Park, (across from St. Peter Claver Church). An open invitation to all, our 15 Catholic parishes of St. Mary’s County are coming together for a day of faith, fellowship and fun! Potluck Picnic, family and children activities and games, youth and young adult yard games and cornhole, music and sitting areas for the young and old alike. Outside candlelit Eucharistic Procession and rosary! Mark your calendar – more details to come.

YOUTH PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS SHOWCASE AT SMR: *Early Bird Discount Until September 1, 2025!* Students in grades 5–8 are invited to take part in the *Youth Arts Showcase* at St. Mary’s Ryken—a fun and inspiring opportunity to grow in the performing and visual arts with guidance from our award-winning faculty and student mentors. 3 options to participate: **Youth Honors Chorus** – Build vocal skills and perform in a Christmas concert on the SMR stage! **Knights Music Mentors** – Play with SMR student musicians in a final group Christmas concert on the SMR stage. **Visual Arts Showcase** – Submit artwork based on the theme “*Snowflakes and Sleighbells.*” Open to public, private, and homeschool students. Visit <https://www.smrhs.org/arts/youth-honors-chorus> for rehearsal dates, other details, and to register today!

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Robin “Bertie” Guy, Daniel Quade, Paul Guy, Charles Beaver, Keith Polk, Joann Beavers, David Hill, Mike Bailey, Virgie Banagan, Carole Dean, Barbara Lilly and Elaine Frederick.

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Spiritual Unity

“Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.” [Luke 12:51–53](#)

Jesus introduces this passage by saying, “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!” The “fire” of which He speaks is His purifying fire of mercy that He poured forth from the Cross as He offered His life for the salvation of the world. His mercy is given to free us from our sins and to cleanse our souls so that God Himself can come to dwell within us. This is why we exist. God wants to dwell within us, and He wants us to be in perfect union with Him.

One of the glorious effects of uniting yourself to God is that this union also brings about a spiritual bond with others who are united to God. We are made for communion with God, but also for communion with each other. God especially invites family members to share in this unity. Though there are many levels of friendship and unity we can have with each other, the deepest bonds come from two souls each being united to God. For example, two people may both like the same sports team or have the same interests, resulting in a bond or form of friendship. This is good. But when each of those friends also is deeply united to God, the unity comes from God and not from something more superficial.

The challenging Gospel passage above reveals to us what happens when one or more members of a household fail to open themselves to the cleansing fire of God’s love and, therefore, fail to live in union with God. The result is disunity, at least on the deepest and truest level. God is not the cause of disunity; sin is. When one person is united to God and another is immersed in a life of sin, true spiritual unity is not possible. Of course, the two might still share some common interests and might even superficially get along each day, but there will never be an experience of authentic spiritual friendship and communion if God is absent from one or both hearts.

When Jesus says that He has come to establish division within a household, He is simply pointing out that there will indeed be a division within a household when all are not united to God. Additionally, Jesus is warning us that if someone within our household tries to draw us into a life of sin with them, that person’s invitation must be rejected. And when that happens, that rejection is often experienced as a rejection of the person and results in even greater disunity. The bottom line is that it is not possible to be authentically united in sin or any form of lie.

Reflect, today, upon the deepest spiritual desire you have. If you are honest with yourself, you will discover that this deepest desire in your heart is the desire for love. We are made to give and receive love. First, this desire is fulfilled by opening ourselves to the love of God. When that happens, we will be able to share God’s love with others and receive God’s love from them. Nothing in life could be more fulfilling than this.

Most merciful Lord, You came to unite all people in Your love, but when Your love is rejected, we live in disunity. Please come to me and dwell more fully within me so that Your presence in my life will not only bring about a spiritual communion with You, but also with those who share this same love. Jesus, I trust in You. AMEN