

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.

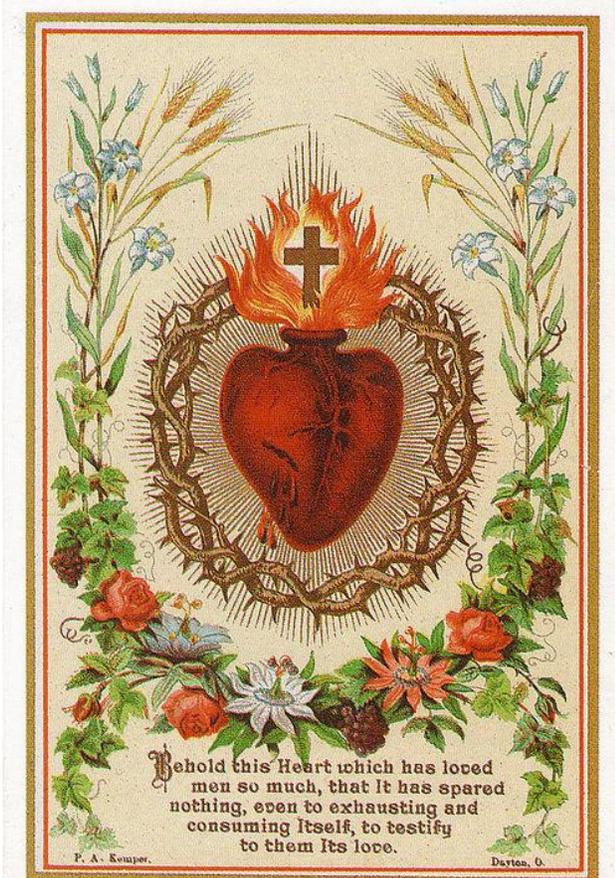
Confessions: Saturday 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

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, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
25RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Sept. 8	NO MASS	
Tues. Sept. 9	8:00 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Wed. Sept. 10	7:00 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Thurs. Sept. 11	8:00 a.m.	James & Elizabeth Mattingly
Fri. Sept. 12	8:00 a.m.	Mary Helen & Bert Dean
Sat. Sept. 13	4:30 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Sun. Sept. 14	6:30 a.m.	Eleanor Quade
	8:00 a.m.	Parishioners of S.H. & H.A.
	10:30 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>

FAITH FORMATION BEGINS TODAY: The 2025-2026 Faith Formation Program begins today, Sunday, September 7. Please keep the students, parents, and catechists in your prayers. If you have any questions, contact Kimmie Gibson at HASHfaithformation@gmail.com.

PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR PARENTS & CATECHISTS: With your fatherly blessing, Lord, strengthen these servants of yours in their resolve to dedicate themselves as catechists. Grant that they will strive to share with others what they themselves derive from pondering your word and studying the Church's teaching. Let them gladly join those they teach in honoring and serving your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION: Faith Formation Registration is currently open. You may register your child by going to the parish website, and selecting Faith Formation Registration, under the Faith Formation tab. Classes begin September 7 at 9:10am in the school building.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the Main Altar were given in memory of Frankie Bowles. The flowers on the Blessed Mother Altar were given in memory of Agnes Ridgell. The flowers on the St. Joseph Altar were given in memory of Edward Ridgell. The flowers on the Sacred Heart Altar were given in memory of Fran Granados. The flowers were donated by Mary Jane Bowles.

FAITH DIRECT PLATFORM CHANGE: Faith Direct online giving is upgrading their platform to ParishSoft Managed Giving. This change reflects Faith Directs commitment to making generosity easier, more secure and more impactful for every member of our faith community. Those already signed up for Faith Direct will be receiving direct communication of the upgrade and that their existing information will transfer automatically. New brochures for those signing up for ParishSoft Managed Giving will be available soon.

FIELD MASS – THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS: A special Field Mass and Rosary will commemorate the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on Monday, September 15, 2025, at the St. Mary's Queen of Peace Cemetery at 38888 Doctor Johnson Road in Mechanicsville (Helen), Maryland (located behind the Mother Catherine Academy School). Rosary and Mass are offered for the deceased members of our community, and the Church especially encourages those who have recently suffered a loss of joining us. Rosary and Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. with Father Chip Lockett from Our Lady of the Wayside as our celebrant. An enclosable tent will be erected for everyone's comfort in the cemetery rain or shine. For additional information, you may contact the office of the Catholic Cemeteries Southern MD Regional Office at (301) 475-5005 or (301) 932-1766.

SOMD CATHOLIC FAMILY FESTIVAL: Sunday, October 12th, from 2-7PM at Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Park in Ridge, MD. We are excited to announce this day of faith, fellowship and fun! Sponsored by Bread of Life Center for Peace, the day's events include a potluck meal, activities for all ages: children's games, kickball, cornhole, pickle ball, live music, etc., and ending the day with a Eucharistic procession and rosary. This is a family, community building event for all ages. Come celebrate our vibrant Faith! All are welcome!

GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE: If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and trying to learn how to cope, you are encouraged to attend a 6-week Catholic-based grief support workshop "Grieving with Great Hope" (GWGH). Guided by the Holy Spirit, GWGH is presented in a DVD format that offers prayerful reflection, practical learning, and personal fellowship. Sessions will be held at Immaculate Conception in the Parish Center (28299 Old Village Rd., Mechanicsville) beginning Tuesday, September 30th from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm and scheduled as follows: Tuesdays, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28 and the final session on Tuesday, November 4th (which will include a special candle ceremony in the church). All participants must register to ensure we have enough people to hold this workshop. Please register at (ImmaculateConception.MD@adw.org, NguyenP@adw.org or 301-884-3123).

ST. MARY'S COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE: Come support PRO-LIFE efforts and march with St. Mary's County Right to Life in the St. Mary's County Fair Parade on September 20. Meet at 10 AM in the parking lot of Dr. James A Forrest Career and Tech Center. Look for the St. Mary's County Right to Life Banner. Signs to carry will be available or bring your own. Gain free entrance to the fair. Contact Cookie Pontzer 301-672-0075 for more information.

MAXIMILIAN KOLBE MOVIE: SOMDCatholic and RC Theaters are partnering to bring the new Maximilian Kolbe movie, *Triumph of the Heart*, to the county. Mark your calendars (September 15th and 16th) to come out to RC Theaters and support this new Catholic movie! It is produced by skilled filmmakers who are trying to break the stigma of poorly made Catholic movies! Visit the home page of SOMDCatholic.org, scroll down, and click the button to secure your tickets today!

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Nancy Cortinovis, Terry Abell Johnson, Robin "Bertie" Guy, Daniel Quade, Paul Guy, Charles Beaver, Keith Polk, Joann Beavers, David & Barbara Hill, Robert & Diane Anderson, Virgie Banagan, Barbara Lilly and Elaine Frederick.

SEPTEMBER VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Altar – For the Intentions of our Teachers. Donated by Bernadette Combs

St. Joseph Altar – In memory of Bert Dean. Donated by Carol Dean

Sacred Heart Altar – In memory of John K. Armstrong. Donated by the Armstrong Family

SUNDAY REFLECTION

“Hating” So As To Love

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:25–26

Why would Jesus exhort the “great crowds” to hate their families? In fact, Jesus went even further than that. He said they must also hate their own lives. If they do not, then they cannot be His disciples. One thing that this shocking teaching did was to shake people out of their lukewarm faith. Sometimes we think of Jesus only as a kind and gentle soul Who always brightens people’s days. We see images painted of the smiling Jesus Who always made people feel welcomed and loved. And though these images have truth, it is also true that one way He brightened their days was by challenging them to the core of their being to convert. And that is what Jesus does today in our Gospel.

To hate your father, mother, children, siblings and even your very self is obviously not a reference to the sin of hate that flows from anger. In this case, the word “hate” refers to the best way to love others and to love even your own self. To begin, let’s look at the conclusion. Jesus said that this form of hate is a requirement of being His disciple. This is the key. Unless we are first and foremost a disciple of Christ, we cannot love others and we will not even love ourselves in the proper way. “Hate” in this context refers to selfish attachments. This means that people and things can easily get in the way of our love of God. When they do, we must see them as an obstacle to both the love of God, as well as to the authentic love of others and even ourselves. For example, if a family member were to demand in some way that you love them more than you love God, then this must be rejected with passion. This could be referred to as holy hatred of the temptation, not the person. Say a spouse criticizes you for attending Mass and tries to stop you from doing so. If you listen to them, then you are placing them before God. Or say someone hurts you and you choose to forgive them, only to have a family member challenge you and try to stir up anger in you toward that person. If you listen to them, then you are not listening to God. In these cases, we must “hate” in the sense that we reject the temptation.

What about yourself? How do you hate yourself? This is a reference to the many ways that our disordered appetites are drawn to sin. If we indulge in the disordered desires, or even worse, if we treat those disordered desires as normal and good for us, then we have chosen the disordered desire over God. In that case, we must learn to hate and reject the selfish and disordered desire, choosing God and His will alone.

When we are able to choose the love of God first and foremost in our lives, rejecting the temptations that come through others and even the temptations within our disordered desires, then, and only then, are we in a position to love others and ourselves, in the right way. Jesus obviously wants us to love others and ourselves. But this is only possible when our love is pure and holy and flows from the love of God. Any other form of “love” is not love at all. It is a selfish attachment that hinders our true mission as lovers of God and instruments of that love to others.

Reflect, today, upon the passion that you must have to reject all forms of sin. This includes sin that tempts you through the mediation of your family and friends. It also includes every form of temptation that arises within you on account of your disordered human nature. This holy hatred is an act of love in that it seeks to eliminate everything that keeps you from true love. Choose, today, to be a faithful disciple of Jesus and commit yourself to reject all that seeks to interfere with this choice. Doing so will not only increase your love for God, it will also increase your love for others, and even your love for your own soul.

My passionate Lord, You exhorted the crowds to reject every form of temptation that interfered with their love of You. Please fill my soul with a holy hatred for sin and all temptation so that I can reject them with passion. May I love You above all things and from that love, love others and even my own soul with Your Sacred Heart. Jesus, I trust in You.