

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.

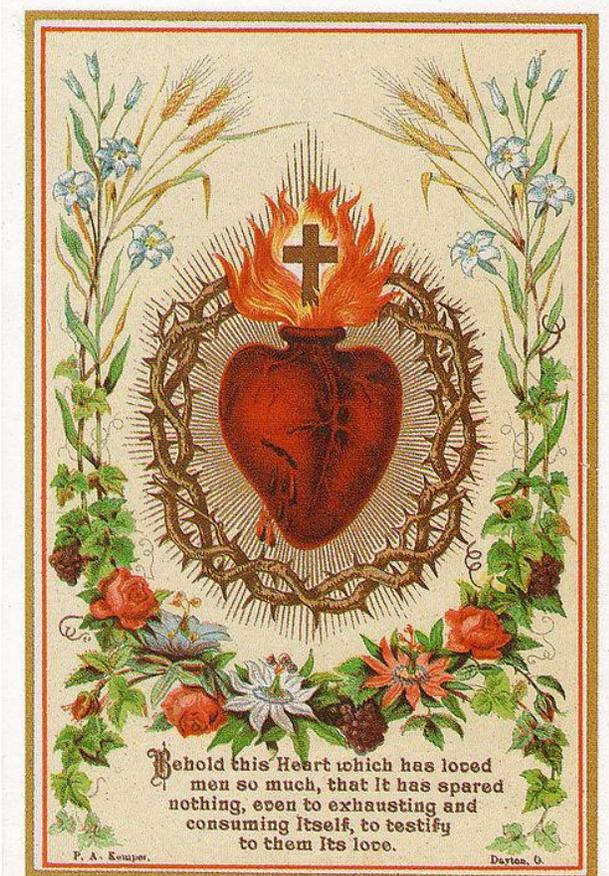
Confessions: Saturday 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

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, OCTOBER 5, 2025
21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Oct.	6	NO MASS	
Tues.	Oct.	7	8:00 a.m.	<i>Communion Service at Holy Angels</i>
Wed.	Oct.	8	8:00 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Thurs.	Oct.	9	8:00 a.m.	Garner Morgan
Fri.	Oct.	10	8:00 a.m.	Charlie Pilkerton
Sat.	Oct.	11	4:30 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Sun.	Oct.	12	6:30 a.m.	Parishioners of S.H. & H.A.
			8:00 a.m.	Frankie Lacey
			10:30 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>

SACRED HEART ANNUAL OCTOBER DINNER: Our Annual October Drive-Thru Dinner will be on Sunday, October 26th. Much help will be needed. There are flyers on the tables at the entrance of the church. Please take some and post them to help advertise our dinner. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the Main Altar were given in memory of Richard Pilkerton. Donated by Kevin & Sherry Quade. The flowers on the Blessed Mother Altar were given in memory of Frankie Bowles. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles. The flowers on the St. Joseph Altar were given in memory of David Simms. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles. The flowers on the Sacred Heart Altar were given in memory of Edward, Agnes, Louis & Daniel Ridgell. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles.

BOXES OF JOY: Knights of Columbus St. Mary's Council 1470 is once again hosting the Boxes of Joy program through Cross Catholic Outreach. Filled and collected boxes will be sent to underprivileged children in Central America and Africa. Boxes are available on the tables at the entrance of the church.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROOTS: The Southern Maryland Roots High School Pilgrimage to historic St. Clement's Island is scheduled to take place September 26th 2026! This one-day retreat is open to 8th-12th grade students to offer an extra ordinary opportunity to encounter Christ while growing in their Catholic faith, heritage, and new friendships, making lasting memories together on this special island! The coordinating parish for this retreat is St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Leonardtown. Please visit saintaloyiuschurch.org or email southernmarylandroots@gmail.com for more information on how to sign up. More information coming soon!

“WELCOME BACK WARM”: As you may know from our prior WARM Bulletin notices, we are once again opening our doors and hearts to those in need through the WARM (Wrapping Arms Round Many) Program at our parishes. We were not able to get our usual week in January/February and will be taking our turn during Thanksgiving Week. We know that this will take a special sacrifice on your part for you to volunteer during this holiday week. However, this ministry has been a beacon of hope for many for the 16 years here at Holy Angels and Sacred Heart. Your past support has been the key to a successful program. Your presence offers not just safety, but dignity and peace to our guests. In order for this program to be a success We'd really love to have you with us this year, especially since a number of our longtime volunteers are not able to join us any longer. Having monitors in place is a requirement for our Churches to be able to participate. A signup genius link will be posted on the Church website. In addition, a Flock note will be sent out next week which will have the available times to sign up. **Dates Needed: Sunday evening, November 23rd thru Sunday morning, November 30th.** If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact the Host Site Coordinator at (301) 606 6315/tandtventre@comcast.net

FALL DRIVE-THRU DINNER: Our Lady of the Wayside in Chaptico is hosting its annual Fall Drive-Thru Dinner (formerly Apple Festival) on Sunday, October 12th at 12:00 p.m. until all dinners are sold. Dinner Menu (\$30) - Fried oysters, fried chicken, baked ham, macaroni shrimp salad, red potatoes, green beans, applesauce, and a roll. There will be apple pies and apples for sale, plus a bake sale table. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase for a money raffle and a basket raffle. Cash, credit cards, and checks accepted. Our Lady of the Wayside is located at 37575 Chaptico Road, Chaptico, MD.

SDCAC: The Seventh District Catholic Aid Society (SDCAS) is composed of parishioners of Sacred Heart & Holy Angels. Members seek to provide financial aid for the basic needs of those who request help and reside within the Seventh District or are parishioners of either parish. For those in need of aid, call a representative of SDCAS at 240-256-4101. The poor box donations are used to help with this ministry.

QUO VADIS ST. CLEMENT'S ISLAND EXCURSION: High-school age young men are invited to a Quo Vadis Excursion on **Sunday, October 19, 2025, on St. Clement's Island**, St. Mary's County, Maryland. Our excursion will include a short ferry boat ride (ticket provided) to St. Clement's Island, Mass, a tour of the historic lighthouse, a picnic lunch, sports games and maybe even swimming! There is no charge for this excursion, but registration is required. **Please register no later than October 13.** Also, for participants younger than 18, please remember that you are not fully registered unless we have your parental permission slip. To register go to dcpriest.org, scroll to the bottom of page under events and click on Quo Vadis St. Clement's Island Excursion.

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Tammy Garner, Melvin Armstrong, Wendy Onstead, Nancy Cortinovic, Terry Abell Johnson, Robin "Bertie" Guy, Daniel Quade, Paul Guy, Charles Beaver, Keith Polk, Joann Beavers, Barbara Hill, Robert & Diane Anderson, Buddy & Virgie Banagan, Barbara Lilly and Elaine Frederick.

OCTOBER VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Altar – In memory of Frankie Bowles. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles.

St. Joseph Altar – In memory of Edward & Agnes Ridgell. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles.

Sacred Heart Altar – In memory of Louis & Daniel Ridgell. Donated by Mary Jane Bowles.

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Nourished by Faith

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." Luke 17:5-6

Is it possible to completely uproot a tree and plant it in the sea? It's certainly hard to imagine how. It is especially hard to imagine doing so with a simple command of faith. Uprooting a tree is hard enough to imagine, but it is even more difficult to imagine a tree being planted in the sea. Though water is necessary, one cannot plant a tree in the sea and expect it to grow. But that's partly the point. We often underestimate the power of true faith. Saint Matthew's Gospel says that faith can move mountains. Saint Luke's says it can uproot a tree and replant it in the sea. All it takes to do so is faith the size of a mustard seed.

How much faith is equal to a mustard seed? A mustard seed is small, very small. It measures only about one millimeter in length. People who worked the soil at that time would have known that it was among the smallest of seeds they planted. For that reason, Jesus uses this familiar image to teach the apostles that faith, even a little faith, is powerful.

Jesus' teaching comes in response to a prayer on the part of the apostles. "Increase our faith," they said. Jesus' response, inviting them to have only a little faith, implies that their faith was quite weak. To increase their faith to the size of a mustard seed suggests that they did not even have a little faith yet. Most likely they were aware of that fact, and that was the reason they asked Jesus to increase their faith. They perceived their lacking and turned to Him Who could help.

One of the first steps to increasing faith is to humbly admit our lack of faith. In our pride, we often want to convince ourselves and others that we are filled with faith. But if that were the case, God would be doing incredible things through us. He would be doing that which is otherwise humanly impossible.

Obviously, faith does not give us magical powers by which we can literally command a tree to uproot itself and plant itself in the sea. This imagery is meant to tell us that faith will work miracles of faith, not necessarily physical miracles. In fact, if God ever did use us and our faith to work a physical miracle, it would only happen because it was a motivation for the far more important gift of the increase of faith.

What, then, can a little faith do? It can uproot sin from your heart and from the hearts of those around you. It can nourish you and others in ways that seem impossible. Just as a tree cannot normally be planted in the sea and survive, the gift of faith, even a little faith, will enable the soul to be nourished and strengthened in ways that otherwise seem impossible. A martyr perfectly illustrates this fact. Normally, persecution and death are not considered to be nourishing to a person. But when a person has faith and suffers martyrdom on account of Christ, then their soul will be fed by the persecution itself. And that is among the greatest of miracles possible. Suffering, persecution, illness, poverty, and every other difficulty imaginable are transformed by God into a source of nourishment when we endure them with true faith.

Reflect, today, upon the prayer of the apostles: "Increase our faith." Some of the greatest mystics taught that faith darkens the intellect. By this darkening, they mean that, by faith, God will lead us into the unknown, on a path that He alone is aware of. We will become instruments of His transforming grace in ways that are completely beyond our natural abilities. Pray for an increase of faith. When our Lord hears your humble prayer, by which you also confess your lack of faith, He will increase that faith, uproot sin and evil, and plant your soul in places in which you become nourished in ways that you could have never imagined possible.

Most glorious Lord, Increase my faith. Give me a pure faith—a faith that enables You to lead me down the unknown path to Your glory. With this gift of faith, please use me to bring forth Your miraculous power by which sin is uprooted and souls are nourished by You alone. Jesus, I trust in You.