

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Bushwood, Maryland – Founded 1755

Father James Oberle, P.S.S.

Deacon Joseph Lloyd

Rectory Phone: 301-769-3100

Parish Website: www.sacredheartbushwood.org

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

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.

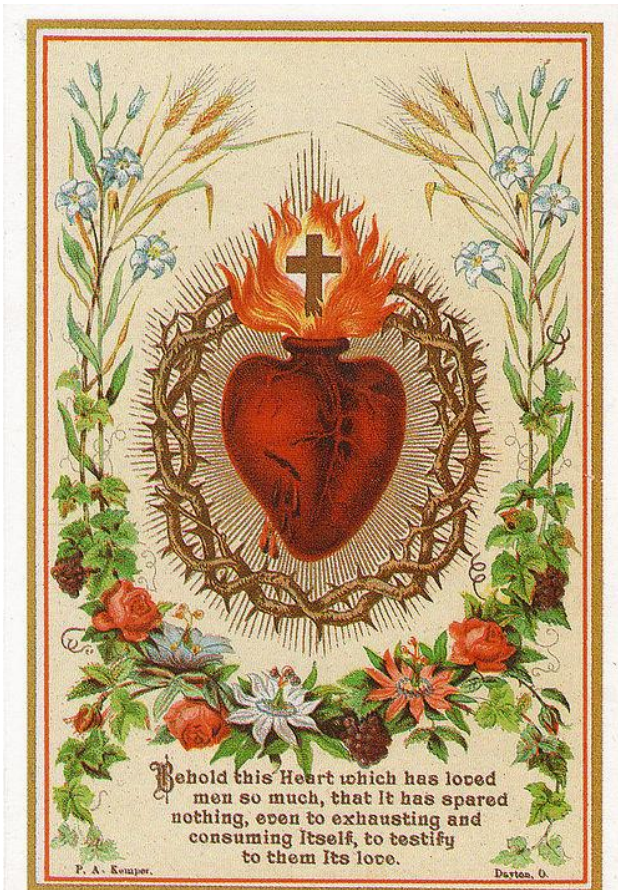
Confessions: Saturday 2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

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

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, FEBRUARY 22, 2026
1st SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Feb.	23	NO MASS	
Tues.	Feb.	24	8:00 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Wed.	Feb.	25	8:00 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Thurs.	Feb.	26	8:00 a.m.	Bernie Doepkens
Fri.	Feb.	27	8:00 a.m.	Hernando Moreno
			7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat.	Feb.	28	4:30 p.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>
Sun.	Mar.	1	6:30 a.m.	Parishioners of S.H. & H.A.
			8:00 a.m.	Matthew Quade
			10:30 a.m.	<i>Mass at Holy Angels</i>

FRIDAYS IN LENT: Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Lenten Fridays, at 3 PM at Holy Angels and 7 PM at Sacred Heart. On Fridays in Lent, Catholics from age 14 onwards are obligated to abstain from meat.

SECOND COLLECTION: The second collection this Sunday is the national collection for the Church in the Developing World: Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa.

2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: Thank you to all families who made their gift to the 2026 Annual Catholic Services Appeal. If your family has yet to do so, please complete a commitment envelope located on the tables at the entrance of the church after Mass or make your commitment at give.adw.org.

\$100 A MONTH CLUB WINNERS: The \$100 A Month Club winner for January is Becky Kyser and the winner for February is Bobby Arnold.

TALK ON THE SHROUD OF TURIN: Sacred Heart Parish welcomes back Jimmy Naulty for a talk on the Shroud of Turin, Sunday, March 15th, at 1 PM at Sacred Heart Hall. Jimmy is a husband, father of two young boys, kinesiologist, and parishioner of St. Andrew Apostle Parish in Silver Spring. He studied the Shroud under Brother Joseph Pounds at the Franciscan Monastery, who in turn studied under Monsignor Ricci, a renowned Shroud historian. To learn more about Jimmy's expertise, visit shroudpassionunveiled.com.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: Parents of children who are due to receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation this year are asked to please contact Kimmie Gibson, the Faith Formation Coordinator, as soon as possible at hashfaithformation@gmail.com. This will ensure that all necessary preparation and requirements are met in a timely manner. Thank you for your cooperation.

OPTIMIST FISH DINNERS: 7th District Optimist Club Drive-Thru Fish Dinner takes place Lenten Fridays, 5-7 PM, at 21804 Colton Point Road in Avenue. Feb. 20th, March 6th & March 20th dinner options include beer battered Atlantic cod and buttermilk fried shrimp or a combo platter. Feb. 27th & March 13 dinner options are beer battered Atlantic cod and oysters or a combo platter. Dinner also includes steak fries, coleslaw, tartar sauce, and roll. \$22 cash or credit. Steamed Shrimp also available: \$11 for half-pound or \$19 for full-pound. Proceeds to benefit Optimist Club Youth Outreach Programs.

HOLY ANGELS DRIVE-THRU SEAFOOD DINNER: Holy Angels Church will host their annual Drive-Thru Seafood Dinner on Sunday, March 22nd, from 11:00 a.m. until sold out. The menu includes fried oysters, steamed spiced shrimp, fried chicken, parsley potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, beets, and dinner roll. The cost is \$30 per dinner. There will be a delicious Cake Table with home-baked treats. For more information, call (301) 769-3332 or e-mail holy01angels@aol.com.

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Henry Friess, Jr., Amanda Koenig, Heather Hubenschmidt, Leroy Russell, Bernard Cullins, Melvin Armstrong, Wendy Onstead, Terry Abell Johnson, Paul Guy, Keith Polk, Joann Beavers, Barbara Hill, Diane Anderson, Buddy & Virgie Banagan, Barbara Lilly, Elaine Frederick and J.F. Williams.

FEBRUARY VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Altar – In memory of Billy Pilkerton. Given by Sarah Pingleton.

St. Joseph Altar – In memory of Johnny Pingleton. Given by Sarah Pingleton.

Sacred Heart Altar – In memory of Mary Agnes Plunkett. Given by Sarah Pingleton.



SUNDAY REFLECTION

Battling the tempter this Lent

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." Matthew 4:1–3

In His great humility and compassion for us, Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God, allowed Himself to endure something that we sinful human beings encounter every day—temptation. God's glorious plan from the beginning included the creation of both humans and pure spirits—angels—to form one glorious Kingdom of God. Original Sin, the fall of the angels, and our struggle against temptation were not part of God's original intention, but they became realities due to the misuse of free will, both by angels and by humans. Free will was necessary for both angels and humans to love God freely, which led to a third of the angels and many humans turning away from Him.

Theologians such as Saint Thomas Aquinas and Saint Augustine offer profound insights into God's original plan for His Kingdom. In that plan, angels were believed to have been tasked with assisting humans in their journey toward perfection through enlightenment and contemplation. Some choirs of angels were tasked with the governance of the cosmos, guiding the physical world in harmony with God's will.

Tragically, the fall of a third of the angels, along with the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, has resulted in a world filled with struggle and sin. The fallen angels—now demons—use their natural gifts to deceive, confuse, and tempt. Those who were once responsible for guiding the cosmos now seek to sow chaos, contributing to the existence of natural disasters, disease, and death. While Catholic angelology is speculative, based on a limited amount of biblical revelation, it is important to recognize the role of angels and demons as we enter this sacred season of Lent.

Today's Gospel focuses on the activity of the most powerful fallen angel—Satan, originally named Lucifer, meaning "Light-Bearer." Tradition holds that he was among the highest of the angels, possibly a Seraphim. According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, Lucifer's fall resulted from pride: He desired to be a god unto himself, to create and govern according to his own will, refusing to serve God. This cosmic reality, of which both Jesus and Satan were fully aware, sets the stage for and adds profound significance to their encounter in the desert.

In this dramatic confrontation, Jesus, by allowing Himself to be tempted, begins the ultimate defeat of Satan, a victory that will culminate in Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This is the only recorded instance in which Jesus permits Satan to tempt Him directly. While Satan remained active throughout Jesus' ministry, seeking to disrupt His mission, this moment in the desert addresses temptation specifically. By rejecting each temptation, Jesus not only demonstrates how to overcome the devil but also empowers humanity with the grace needed to resist temptation through His triumph on the Cross.

As we enter into the first full week of Lent, reflect today on the temptations you face in your own life. Though Satan is powerful and highly intelligent, he is no match for the grace of God. By uniting ourselves to Christ, we are strengthened to resist all that Satan and his demons throw at us. Victory over temptation is not achieved by our own strength but through Christ's grace, which He freely offers to all who turn to Him.

My victorious Lord, You faced Satan with courage, the once-beautiful angel who fell from grace through pride and envy. Now he seeks to destroy those whom You love. Give me Your strength and courage this Lent as I confront my own temptations, so that united with You, I may share in Your victory. Jesus, I trust in You.