

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Bushwood, Maryland – Founded 1755

Rev. Charles A. Cortinovis, Pastor

Charlotte Morgan, Parish Secretary

Margaret Williams, Organist
William Gilligan, Assistant Organist

Tammy Pilkerton, Music & Choir Director
Sarah Pingleton, Choir Director

Rectory Phone 301-769-3100

Emergency Phone 301-904-7750

Rectory Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Masses: Tuesday & Friday 7:00 a.m., Sunday 6:30 and 8:00 a.m.

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

Baptisms: By appointment.

Weddings: Six months advance notice.

CCD Classes: Sunday, 9:05 a.m., Holy Angels Sacred Heart School.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Dec.	1	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Tues.	Dec.	2	7:00 a.m.	Mary Cecilia Nelson
Wed.	Dec.	3	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Thurs.	Dec.	4	NO MASS	
Fri.	Dec.	5	7:00 a.m.	Kathy Goldy
Fri.	Dec.	5	11:00 a.m.	Barbara McWilliams
Sat.	Dec.	6	Mass at Holy Angels – 9:00 a.m.	
Sun.	Dec.	7	6:30 a.m.	Elmer Ruschman
			8:00 a.m.	William Herbert

Dear Sacred Heart parishioners,

This weekend we begin the liturgical season of Advent, which is the time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Advent was once known as a “little Lent” because like Lent, it is a preparatory season. Purple vestments (which are signs of penance) are worn and we do not recite the Gloria during Mass. The Advent wreath is used, with symbolism of the candles being Christ, the light of the world, the greens being a sign of Christ, who lives forever, and the circular notion of the wreath as a sign of God, who has no beginning and no end.

In the first three weeks of Advent, the Church focuses not on Christmas, but on preparing for the second coming of Christ at the end of time. Like the world waiting for the Messiah, we do not know when Christ will come again. Yet we are called to prepare nonetheless, and to not grow sleepy, since all of us will meet Christ at the end of our lives. Jesus tells us this weekend, “Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

It is so easy in December, which has become perhaps the most stressful time of year for so many people due to the expectation of purchasing gifts, baking cookies, hosting holiday parties, decorating for Christmas, etc., to lose sight of the importance of the Advent season and to fall asleep spiritually, focusing instead on the secular celebrations of the season. I encourage you to make a conscious decision to do something this Advent which will help to prepare you and your family spiritually for Christmas. If you get to Christmas and want to say “thank goodness it’s over!” then something isn’t right. Christmas should be something that we all look forward to, rather than something that we are happy because it is finished. The joy of the presence of the Christ Child at Christmas comes most profoundly to hearts that are prepared to receive him and his love. Consider during Advent coming to daily Mass once a week if you do not come now, or spending time with Jesus in Adoration after daily Mass on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or on Tuesday evenings. Come to the sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent to prepare your soul to receive God’s grace. Consider coming to the Advent celebration this Sunday and making an Advent wreath to light for yourselves and your children, or come to the Advent Morning of Recollection at Holy Angels next Saturday. Time spent with the Savior of the world during Advent will prepare your hearts for his second coming, as well as to celebrate with great joy his birth on Christmas day.

Your servant in the Lord,
Father Charles Cortinovis

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Donations for the Christmas flowers are now being accepted. There is a Christmas flower envelope in your bulletin today. Please list the names of those you wish to be remembered and drop the envelope in any of the collections between now and Sunday, December 14th. The Christmas Midnight Mass will be offered for all those listed on the flower offering envelopes.

FIRST FRIDAY: Friday is the First Friday of December. Masses will be at 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. Confessions will be held during Exposition.

SECOND COLLECTION: The second collection next weekend is our monthly School Support collection.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 8th, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule is as follows: 7:30 a.m. at Holy Angels, 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart, 4:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart and 7:00 p.m. at Holy Angels.

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION: There will be a Morning of Recollection on **Saturday, December 6th** at Holy Angels. The theme will be *Preparing for Christmas with Mary*. The talks will focus on walking with Mary as she prepared to give birth to Jesus, and the writings of the mystical saints who were shown various portions of Mary's life. Take a moment from the busy season to prepare well spiritually for Christmas. The morning will begin at 8:30 with the Rosary. First Saturday Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am, followed by breakfast, two talks by Fr. Cortinovic in the school, and Adoration and confessions. All are welcome.

ADVENT CELEBRATION: Sacred Heart will host an Advent Celebration on Sunday, November 30th from 12 noon until 3:00 pm at Sacred Heart Hall. Bring your children to make Advent wreaths and Christmas cookies, and to listen to Christmas stories. There will be other fun activities too! The event is open to parishioners of both Sacred Heart and Holy Angels and is primarily for families with children. Families with high school aged students are also welcome. All materials will be provided, and a donation of \$10 is suggested to help defray costs.

ADVENT GIFT TREE: Tags should be returned with the un-wrapped gift so that they can be delivered to the proper child. Gifts need to be returned to the church by December 14th so they can be delivered by Christmas.

PRAYER GROUP: Sacred Heart Prayer Group will be meeting in the Chapel every Tuesday at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

WARM MEETINGS: There will be a meeting on Tuesday, December 9th, at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart hall. For additional information on how you can help please contact the following coordinators. Holy Angels Church Coordinators, Cindy & Howie Guy (301-904-8167), Sacred Heart Church Coordinators, Pinky & Butch Morgan (301-481-3023), Monitoring, Tammy Pilkerton (301-475-5105), Meals, Kim Oliver (301-769-2834), Kitchen, coordinator needed, Cleaning Linens, Margie Boyers (301-848-0585) & Carol Ann Hall (301-247-3283), Set up & Breakdown of Hall, coordinator needed.

BEAR HUGS FOR HEALING: Bear Hugs for Healing is a program that delivers stuffed bears to hospitalized children during the holidays. To give a sick child a "bear hug" this Christmas, please drop off your donated bears at Heavenly Presents Catholic store at 22697 Washington Street (on the Square), Leonardtown, Maryland before December 10. Store hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 3pm and Wednesday and Friday, 10am to 6pm; the store is also open most Monday's through Christmas, call 301-475-9770 for store information! A Bear Hugs drop box is available, after hours on our front porch. Your tax-deductible donations, to purchase bears at a discounted price, can be made through our website at www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org or make checks payable to the Bread of Life Center for Peace and mail them to: PO Box 338, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be newly purchased and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached. Sorry, used stuffed bears are not accepted by the hospitals. Please contact Patricia Disandro a 240-681-3606 for more details about how you can participate in this special outreach. Bear Hugs was an inspiration received in thanksgiving for favors granted through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Jude. Thank you for your continued support of Bear Hugs.

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Mike Bailey, Bert Dean, Elizabeth Graves, Bernie Quade, Agnes Pilkerton, Melanie Gibson, Elaine Frederick, Lisa Quade, Billy Pilkerton, Madeline Hutchins, Jr. Farrell, Barbara Raley & Nancy Rueckert.

NOVEMBER VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sacred Heart Altar – Given by Satch & Carol Ann Hall in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Hall.

Blessed Mother Altar – Given by Satch & Carol Ann Hall in memory of Bernie Doepkens.

Saint Joseph Altar – Given by Satch & Carol Ann Hall in memory of Joe Farr.

If you would like to dedicate a candle, please call the rectory during office hours.