

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Bushwood, Maryland – Founded 1755

Rev. Anthony Lickteig, 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

Parish Website: www.sacredheartbushwood.org

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

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.

Eucharistic Adoration: After the Tuesday 7 a.m. Mass

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.	12	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Mon.	Dec.	12	6:00 p.m.	Donna Farrell
Tues.	Dec.	13	7:00 a.m.	Mary E. Trossbach
Wed.	Dec.	14	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Thurs.	Dec.	15	NO MASS	
Fri.	Dec.	16	7:00 a.m.	Laurie Gibson, Sr. & Sue Gibson
Sun.	Dec.	18	6:30 a.m.	Helen Seymour
			8:00 a.m.	Barbara McWilliams

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

This Monday we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe who appeared to St. Juan Diego near Mexico City in 1531. Most of the native population was not yet Christian, since the first Europeans has just arrived in 1519. Juan Diego was one of the few baptized Aztec Indians, and Our Lady asked him in his native language to tell the local bishop to have a church built in her honor. Juan Diego told the bishop but wasn't believed. Our Lady told him again to try, but again he had no success. Then Juan Diego's uncle became very sick and sent him on December 12 to get the priest. Juan Diego went and tried to bypass the hill where Our Lady appeared since he did not want to delay in getting the priest. But Our Lady met him on his path and told him: "*My dear little one, do not be distressed about your uncle's illness, because he will not die from it. I assure you that he will get well... Go to the top of the hill, pick the flowers that you will see there, and bring them to me.*" Juan Diego went and found roses blooming in the middle of winter. Our Lady told him to gather them in his tilma, his cloak, and take them to the bishop – this would be a sign for him. So Juan Diego went back to the bishop. When he opened his tilma to show him the roses, an image appeared of Our Lady who was half Indian half Spanish. This image was proof enough for the bishop who had a church built to "Our Lady of Guadalupe".

The Aztec Indians received the news of Our Lady with joy. Nine years after the appearance of Our Lady, 9 million Aztec Indians were baptized and became Christian. The tilma with her image is still in the cathedral in Mexico City over 400 years later still perfectly preserved and fresh – a miracle in itself. In 1936, an examination conducted on two fibers from the tilma, one red and the other yellow, led to an astounding finding—the fibers contained no known coloring agent. There is no explanation for how the image is on the tilma. The constellation of stars on the tilma matches exactly what was in the sky on December 12, 1531. The eyes of Our Lady include the retina, in which is reflected the image of a man with outstretched hands—Juan Diego. And the normal microscopic network of veins in the eyelids and the cornea of Our Lady's eyes is completely recognizable. No human painter would have been able to reproduce such details. Finally, the woman in the tilma is pregnant and on her dress at the very location of the embryo, a flower with four petals stands out—the Solar Flower, the most familiar of Aztec hieroglyphs, and which symbolized for them divinity, the center of the earth, heaven, time, and space.

Our Lady of Guadalupe really did appear in Mexico and through her millions were converted. May we ask her intercession for the deeper conversion of our families and our county this Christmas.

May God bless you,
Fr. Anthony Lickteig

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the Main Altar, Blessed Mother Altar and St. Joseph Altar were given by Kevin and Sherry Quade in memory of Joseph Quade, Sr. The flowers on the Sacred Heart Altar were given by Robert & Diane Anderson in memory of Robert & Lucy Anderson and Daniel & Melba Ellis.

MASS FOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: Mass will be celebrated for Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, December 12th at 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSION FOR CHRISTMAS: To prepare for the great feast of Christmas, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered after every weekend Mass in Advent, as well as during Adoration at Holy Angels Church on Tuesdays in Advent from 7:30-8:00 p.m. A special penance service with Fr. Lickteig and a guest priest also will be offered on Wednesday, December 21st from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Don't worry if it has been a long time – the love of God the Father awaits you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Donations for the Christmas flowers are due Sunday, December 18th. The Christmas Midnight Mass will be offered for all those listed on the flower offering envelopes.

ADVENT GIFT TREES REMINDER: Please return the gift tags with the gifts to Sacred Heart by December 18th. Please make sure that the gifts for the Seniors' Tree are in boxes. Thank you.

HELP NEEDED: Help is needed on Tuesday, Dec. 13th, at 9 a.m. in our parish hall to make lap blankets for the senior gifts and to help wrap gifts. Please bring scissors.

SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2017: We will be scheduling Mass intentions for 2017 beginning on December 12th; if you would like to schedule a Mass intention for a loved one please contact the parish office during normal business hours.

\$100 A MONTH CLUB WINNER: The \$100 A Month Club winner for December is Kathy Buckler of Chaptico.

RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE: Sacred Heart's religious goods store will be open after the Masses next weekend.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: The 7th district VFD Auxiliary will be having breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 11th from 9 a.m. until noon at the Firehouse. Menu will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, baked apple dessert, coffee, juice, milk and tea. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, children 4 to 12 \$3 and 3 and under free.

MOTHER CATHERINE ACADEMY NEWS: MCA will host a Santa Family Bingo on Sunday, December 11th, at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome. The school Christmas program will be on Thursday, December 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym. Please join them for an evening of Christmas spirit.

WARM PROGRAM MEETINGS: Sacred Heart and Holy Angels Parishes will host participants of the WARM program from January 22 – 29, 2017. The next coordinating meeting will be at Sacred Heart Parish Hall on December 19th at 7:00 p.m.

SENIORS' CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Seventh District Optimist Club will be sponsoring their Annual Seniors' Christmas Party Sunday, December 18th, beginning at 12 noon at Holy Angels Hall in Avenue.

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER Sick: Wendy Gibson, Janice Blackistone, Ken Cheseldine, Janet Farrell, Margaret Deal, Rholand Hayden, Matthew Quade, Roger Raley, Mike Bailey, Owen Deal, Elizabeth Graves, Virgie Banagan, Bill Finegan, Trudy Quade, Miles Mattingly, Ginny Guy, Ernest Armstrong, Aloysius Butler, Madeline Hutchins, Harrison Robrecht, Bert Dean, Bernie Quade, Melanie Gibson, Elaine Frederick, Jr. Farrell, & Nancy Rueckert.

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Altar – Given by the family of Joan & Ricky Farr in memory of Myrtle Thompson.
St. Joseph Altar – Given by John & Ann Hall in memory of Robert & Charlotte Cook and Paul & Aggie Hall.
Sacred Heart Altar – Given by Agnes Tyer in memory of Wanda Randalson.