

# SACRED HEART CHURCH

Bushwood, Maryland – Founded 1755

**Rev. Anthony Lickteig, Pastor**

**Deacon Joseph Lloyd**

Charlotte Morgan, Parish Secretary

William Gilligan, Organist

Margaret Williams, Assistant Organist

Tammy Pilkerton, Music & Choir Director

Sarah Pingleton, Choir Director

**Rectory Phone:** 301-769-3100

**Parish Website:** [www.sacredheartbushwood.org](http://www.sacredheartbushwood.org)

**Parish Email:** [sacredheart.bushwood.md@adwparish.org](mailto:sacredheart.bushwood.md@adwparish.org)

**Rectory Office Hours:** Monday - 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.

**Emergency Phone:** 301-904-7750

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	July	24	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Tues.	July	25	7:00 a.m.	Laurie Ann Chiamardas
Wed.	July	26	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Thurs.	July	27	NO MASS	
Fri.	July	28	7:00 a.m.	Steve Mattingly
Sun.	July	30	6:30 a.m.	Teresa Cook
			8:00 a.m.	James T. Beavers

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

This week the Church celebrates Natural Family Planning (NFP) Awareness week. Married couples express their love for each other in a unique way. Unlike other friendships, in a marriage, each spouse has promised to share themselves totally with each other – this giving of self includes one's future, one's past, one's talents, one's weaknesses, one's finances and most fundamentally, one's body. To share oneself totally through the body includes sharing one's fertility. To artificially hold back one's fertility only because one doesn't want to have children means one is no longer sharing oneself with one's spouse. Using contraception or being sterilized is potentially a very serious sin if the only reason is not to have children. This contradicts the promises made on one's wedding day to share everything in marriage, and it can point to a lack of trust in God's providence. However, NFP uses God's gift of reason to understand the female fertility cycle He created in order to intelligently make choices on when to express marital love. To express this love during periods of infertility is not contrary to the total giving of self and sharing of one's body with each other. Each spouse is still sharing everything.

NFP Awareness Week is an opportunity to open our hearts again to the beauty of God's gift of sexuality and His plan for marriage. Using NFP to delay pregnancy does require, however, periods of abstinence during the fertile part of the woman's cycle. And this is perhaps the most difficult concept to understand and practice. However, a wife who practiced NFP for several years with her husband made these observations:

*When my husband, Ariel and I took an NFP class, I have to admit that I was scared. Giving up control was frightening! It was one thing to be committed to an ideal, but something quite different to follow through on it. It definitely involved a leap of faith! Over time and with some experience, I began to appreciate the gift and beauty of NFP. In using NFP over the years both my husband and I now see that we give ourselves to each other fully in the marital act. For us, the idea of contraception has become almost vulgar. It cheapens the marital act. Contraception seems to say: "I love you, honey, but I don't love you THAT much." NFP also guards against the objectification of the woman in the relationship. Contraception often keeps the woman in a defensive position because it allows "intimacy on demand." NFP does not allow this because of the practice of periodic abstinence when not seeking a pregnancy. A deeper equality between husband and wife can be nurtured with NFP. NFP begins the process of this awareness. Today, I am confident that had I not been open to life in*

*the practice of NFP, I would not have needed to depend on God, and not have grown as a person. This growth benefits my family and the people I meet in everyday life.*

If you are interested in more information on NFP, please contact local instructors Wayne and Kelly Van Ryswick at [wkvanryswick@md.metrocast.net](mailto:wkvanryswick@md.metrocast.net)

May God bless you,  
Fr. Anthony Lickteig

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flowers on the Main Altar were given by Kitty Swann in memory of Francis Swann. The flowers on the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph Altar were given by Daniello Lacey in memory of Cody Lacey.

**WOMEN'S GROUP:** *"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."* (Proverbs 31: 25-27). If you are looking for strength to help get you through the mundane tasks of life, look no further. Be a part of our Women's group where we will strive to be closer to Jesus and relish in the friendships made along the journey! Our first meeting is on Saturday, August 5th at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Angels Sacred Heart School. All ages welcome!

**HELP 'EM SMILE!** Interested in helping those less fortunate? Especially those who have dental problems and cannot afford dental care? By joining the Mid-Maryland Dental Mission of Mercy and Health Equity Festival, sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, you can help 2,000 uninsured people experiencing dental calamity obtain \$2M work of emergency treatments. Dental and medical professionals (including our own Dr. Garner Morgan) and general volunteers, at least 18 years old, are helping these men and women and children in need. If you would like to volunteer, please register at the site below. Shifts are half a day: serve one or more shifts. Volunteers get an amazing experience (and a T-shirt). The event is September 7, 8, and 10 at the University of Maryland Xfinity Center in College Park, MD. Get more information and register at [www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/MOM](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/MOM).

**MOTHER'S WITH YOUNG CHILDREN GROUP:** Please join us this summer for some fun with your children, ages 0-8. We will have music time for 30 minutes to sing, dance, play with instruments, and play games. We will also read a Bible story and complete a craft. We will be meeting in a new location this year, Little Sprouts Daycare in Avenue, MD. We will meet at 9:30am on July 28, August 11, & August 23. Please call or text Renee Gruber at 240-925-5350 or Christine Hayden at 609-529-0448 for more information. We hope to see you!!

**WANT TO HOST A SMALL GROUP STUDY?** Imagine dozens of small groups gathering throughout St. Mary's County for six weeks to grow in holiness and to learn about the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in our spiritual lives. The parishes of St. Mary's county are organizing a small group study entitled 33 Days to Morning Glory at locations throughout the County beginning September 10, leading up to a county-wide Marian consecration on October 13, the 100th anniversary of the final apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. If you're interested in leading or hosting a small group, you're invited to a planning meeting at St. Aloysius Church on Sunday, August 13 at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Leonard Wathen at [lwathen@saintaloychurch.org](mailto:lwathen@saintaloychurch.org).

**ANNUAL ST. MARY'S COUNTY NATIONAL LAWN MOWER RACES:** The races will be held at Bowles Farm in Clements on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup> with gates opening at 5 pm & Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> with gates opening at 2 pm. The cost is \$10.00 per person and children 8 and under are free. All proceeds benefit the Seventh District Rescue Squad & Seventh District Optimist Club. For detailed information visit [www.bowlesfarms.com](http://www.bowlesfarms.com) or call 301-475-2139.

**CHILDREN'S DAY AT ST. CLEMENT'S MUSEUM:** St. Clement's Island Museum will be holding their annual Children's Day on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Museum grounds. There will be games, crafts, entertainment and more! The 7<sup>th</sup> District Optimist will be serving burgers and hot dogs. There will also be water taxi rides to St. Clement's Island where you can explore St. Clement's Island State Park and Blackistone Lighthouse. For more information please call the St. Clement's Island Museum at 301-769-2222.

**REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick:** Matthew Quade, Janice Blackistone, Leo Osborn, Carol Ann Hall, Larry Hill, Rholand & Mary Ann Hayden, Terry Johnson, Wendy Gibson, Ken Cheseldine, Janet Farrell, David Hill, Roger & Barbara Raley, Mike Bailey, Elizabeth Graves, Virgie Banagan, Bill Finegan, Miles Mattingly, Ginny Guy, Ernest Armstrong, Aloysius Butler, Harrison Robrecht, Bert Dean, Bernie Quade, Melanie Gibson, Elaine Frederick, and Jr. Farrell.

#### **JULY VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS**

Blessed Mother Altar – Given by Ruth Wise in memory of Paul & Ruth Wise

St. Joseph Altar – Given by Steve & Donna Gibson in memory of Francis & Eloise Gibson

Sacred Heart Altar – Given by Lou & Rose Marie Billard in memory of John, Ray & Helen Billard