

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

Parish Email: 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.	Dec.	11	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Tues.	Dec.	12	7:00 a.m.	Lauri Gibson
Wed.	Dec.	13	Mass at Holy Angels – 7:30 a.m.	
Thurs.	Dec.	14	NO MASS	
Fri.	Dec.	15	7:00 a.m.	Sue Gibson
Sun.	Dec.	17	6:30 a.m.	Joseph Quade, Sr.
			8:00 a.m.	James T. Beavers

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

The next two Sundays of Advent focus on St. John the Baptist. He was the one sent to prepare the way of the Lord, and he appears in Advent to help us prepare for Jesus's coming. But as we rightly listen to him urge us to be prepared, we can also think about how we can urge others to be prepared for the coming of Christmas. St. John the Baptist urged people to repent and be baptized; in other words, to acknowledge their sins and to ask for forgiveness in humility. Part of our preparation for Christmas should also involve going to the Sacrament of Confession so that our hearts are ready to receive Jesus in a deeper way at Christmas.

As we approach this wonderful celebration, it is also a great time to invite our families to go to the Sacrament of Confession, too. Many of our sons and daughters and grandchildren and even spouses come to Mass on Christmas after being away from the Church for a while. The Church welcomes everyone to attend Mass on Christmas, no matter where they have been or what they have done. Jesus welcomes all of us! However, how much more special Jesus coming to them on Christmas would be if they were prepared by going to Confession! In fact, all of us should remember that while Jesus welcomes anyone to attend Mass, we should only receive Holy Communion if we are in a state of grace. This means that if we have committed any grave sins (missing Sunday Mass deliberately is one of these), we cannot receive Holy Communion unless we have been absolved in the Sacrament of Confession. To receive Our Lord while in a state of serious sin is a grave offense against Him. But Jesus gives us the way to be prepared! And how much Jesus desires to come to each of us in Holy Communion!

So this Advent, I invite each of us to go to Confession before Christmas – there are plenty of opportunities available at our parish and the surrounding parishes. But also to prayerfully consider inviting our family members to do the same. We can enlist the special intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast we celebrate this Tuesday, Dec. 12. She appeared to a working class man near Mexico City in 1531, and she caused her image to miraculously appear on his tilma, or cloak, an image that we can still see today. But after her appearance to him as a dark-skinned young woman, millions were baptized and became Catholic Christians. She can help us evangelize our families and prepare the way of the Lord to enter their hearts in a new way this Christmas.

May God bless you,
Fr. Anthony Lickteig

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Donations for Christmas flowers are now being accepted. There are envelopes located on the tables at the entrance of the church. Please put your name and the names of those you wish to be remembered at the Midnight Mass. Please return your envelopes by **December 17th**.

CHOIR PRACTICE: The choir will be practicing for Christmas on Mon., Dec. 11th, at 7 p.m. New members are welcome!

RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE: Our Religious Goods Store will be open after the Masses next weekend.

ADVENT ADORATION: During Advent, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be offered Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the church with an opportunity for Confession.

CONFESSION FOR CHRISTMAS: To prepare for the great feast of Christmas, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered 20 minutes before every Mass, as well as during Adoration at Sacred Heart Church on Wednesdays in Advent from 5:30-6:00pm and at Holy Angels Church on Tuesdays from 7:30-8:00pm. A special penance service with Fr. Lickteig and a guest priest also will be offered on Wednesday, December 20th from 5:30-6:30pm. Don't worry if it has been a long time – the love of God the Father awaits you!

CHILDREN'S TREE: Please return your gifts with the tag attached to Sacred Heart as soon as possible. Thank you.

THIS ADVENT PREPARE WITH MARY: What better way to prepare for Christmas and the coming of Jesus Christ than to journey with Mary! Join us for an Advent Journey with Mary: A Biblical Reflection, every Wednesday evening until Christmas, from 6:45-8:00pm at Holy Angels Sacred Heart School. We will meet on, December 13th and December 20th. Bring a friend!

MCA NEWS: MCA will host a Santa Family Bingo on Sunday, December 10th, doors open at 12 noon and bingo starts at 1 p.m. The MCA Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 17th at 2 p.m. MCA will also have a New Year's Eve Bingo starting at 6:30 p.m. with early bird games and regular bingo starting at 7 p.m. A jackpot of \$2018.00 is guaranteed.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: The 7th District Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is hosting Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 10th, from 8:00 am to 11:30 am. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, bacon, hash brown, scrambled eggs, baked apple dessert, coffee, milk & juice.

SENIORS' CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Seventh District Optimist Club will be sponsoring their annual Seniors' Christmas Party on Sunday, December 17th, beginning at 12 noon, at Holy Angels Hall.

BEAR HUGS FOR HEALING: Bear Hugs is a program that delivers stuffed bears to hospitalized children during the holidays. To participate, please drop off your bear donations at the Heavenly Presents store in Leonardtown, before December 12th. Store hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10am to 3pm and Wednesday and Friday, 10am to 6pm. An after-hour's drop box is also available 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. Please contact Patricia Disandro at 240-681-3606.

WOMEN'S EVENING OF REFLECTION: FIAT: Daughters of St. Regis, a women's ministry group of St. John's Parish, will be hosting an Advent Evening of Reflection for Women on Thursday, Dec. 21 from 6:30pm-8:30pm at St. John's in Hollywood. Participants can choose to follow a video-guided mini-retreat or simply enjoy some precious time of quiet prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Priests will also be available to hear confessions. All women and teen daughters are welcome to participate, and moms are welcome to bring nursing infants. For more information, please call the parish office at (301) 373-2281 or email Lacy at scheiberl@sjchollywood.org.

REQUEST FOR INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Sick: Joann Beavers, Johnny Williams, Roger Munday, Wendy Gibson, Matthew Quade, Leo Osborn, Larry Hill, Rholand & Mary Ann Hayden, Terry Johnson, Ken Cheseldine, Janet Farrell, David Hill, Mike Bailey, Elizabeth Graves, Virgie Banagan, Bill Finegan, Miles Mattingly, Ginny Guy, Ernest Armstrong, Aloysius Butler, Harrison Robrecht, Bert Dean, Bernie & Anne Marie Quade, Melanie Gibson, Elaine Frederick, and Jr. Farrell.

DECEMBER VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Blessed Mother Altar – Given by Bobby & Mary Jo Thompson in memory of Myrtle Thompson.

St. Joseph Altar – Given by Ruth Wise in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wise

Sacred Heart Altar – Given by John & Ann Hall in memory of Helen Hall.