



SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

201 St. Mary's Avenue
La Plata, Maryland 20646-1390
(301) 934-2261

JANUARY 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(301) 648-8783 (sacramental emergencies)
www.sacredheartlaplata.org
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CLERGY

REV. SCOTT WOODS, Pastor
REV. GREGORY S. COAN, Parochial Vicar
REV. MR. WILLIAM CARTER, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. MATTHEW C. LAIDLEY, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. ALBERT E. GRAHAM, JR., Permanent Deacon, Retired

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

MR. WILLIAM WANNALL, Pastoral Associate
Communications, CCD, RCIA, Digital & Social Media, and Evangelization
Phone: (240) 901-2252 | Email: wwannall@sacredheartlaplata.org
MS. ANNA ALBRITAIN, Director
Community Catholic Youth Ministry
Phone: (240) 901-2254 | Email: aalbritain@sacredheartlaplata.org
MRS. JULIE FERRERO, Coordinator
Ministry to Hospital, Nursing Homes, and Homebound
(301) 752-2377

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

MRS. CONCETTA SCHMITZ, Office Manager
Phone: (240) 901-2255 | Email: cschmitz@sacredheartlaplata.org
MRS. CHRISTINE KNECHT, Finance & Human Resources
Phone: (240) 901-2249 | Email: cknecht@sacredheartlaplata.org
MRS. CAITLIN MILBY, Secretary
Phone: (301) 934-2261 | Email: cmilby@sacredheartlaplata.org

MR. MICHAEL KNECHT, Director
Facilities and Maintenance
Phone: (301) 934-2261

SARAH GRACE MASON, Music Director
confitebortibiincitharaDeus@gmail.com

MRS. ELLEN BLUMHARDT, Coordinator
Fertility Awareness
Phone: (301) 641-1377

ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL

104 Port Tobacco Road - (301) 934-9595 or (301) 870-3679
Grades Pre-K thru 8. After school day care.
MRS. TERESA SKINNER, Principal

Parish Office Mailing Address
205 St. Mary's Avenue
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Parish Office Hours 9am-5pm (closed 11:45-1:00pm)

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays: Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm (Rosary at 4:20pm)

Sundays: 7:00am, 9:00am & 12:00pm

8:00am (Carmelite Monastery)

DAILY MASSES:

Monday thru Friday - 12:00pm

7:15am (Carmelite Monastery)

Saturday - 8:00am (Carmelite Monastery), 9:00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (before and after most Masses)

- **First Fridays:** 6:30-8:00pm

- **Saturdays:** 4:00-4:45pm

- **By appointment**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

M, Tu, Th, 12:30-8:30pm, and F 12:30-5:30pm

FIRST FRIDAY: Confessions 6:30-8:00PM

Mass & Devotions to the Sacred Heart at 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: For children (children younger than 7), parents should fill out the online Request for Baptism form and then contact Concetta Schmitz at (240) 901-2255 at least one month in advance to schedule a date and attend a preparation class.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Couples must contact a priest or deacon at least 6 months before the anticipated date. The bride or groom must be a parishioner of Sacred Heart. Marriage preparation program is required.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Please call Mr. William Wannall at (240) 901-2252 to arrange for the instructions about our faith. Classes are held on Tuesdays (September thru May) from 7:00-8:30 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (CCD): We are an affiliate parish of the St. John Paul II Regional Faith Formation Program. K thru Grade 8, meets Sundays, 10:30--11:40am at ANS, September thru May.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: To arrange for a home "Communion" call please contact Julie Ferrero at (301) 752-2377 or call the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: To arrange for the Sacrament, please contact the parish office.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS: Weekly during May & October. Miraculous Medal Novena/Rosary after 9:00am Sat. Mass. Rosary on Sunday at 8:30am before 9:00am and Saturday at 4:30pm before 5:00pm Vigil Mass.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM in the Friendship Room.

YOUTH GROUP: For students in grades 6-12, see website for calendar events.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Welcome new members to our parish family. Please register as soon as possible. The registration form can be found on our website. To be eligible for admission to our Religious Education program, reception of the Sacraments or to receive testimonial letters for sponsorship outside the Parish, an individual must be a registered participating member of the parish, known to the pastor, attend the sacraments and supporting the ministries of the church.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING BULLETIN DUE TO PARISH OFFICE BY 12 NOON MONDAY

SACRED HEART CHURCH, LA PLATA

Mass for the Intentions the Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME

7:00AM	Sacred Heart Parishioners
8:00AM	Intentions of Carmelite Nuns
9:00AM	Repose of the soul of Phyllis Hayden
12:00PM	Repose of the soul of Joseph Mlinac

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, WEEKDAY

7:15AM	Repose of the soul of Francis Patrick O'Connor
12:00PM	Repose of the soul of Kevin Smith

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, WEEKDAY

7:15AM	Vocations for the Monastery
12:00PM	Intentions of Jack Popik

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, SAINT JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST

7:15AM	Repose of the souls of Candido Morrobel and Julio Morrobel
12:00PM	Intentions of Mark and Donna Long

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, WEEKDAY

7:15AM	For Mr. and Mrs. Mendez-Hernandez and Children
12:00PM	Repose of the soul of Mary Wolfram

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7:15AM	Intentions of Carmelite Nuns
12:00PM	Intentions of John Dunleavy
7:00PM	Intentions of Noelle Reilly

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, SAINT BLAISE, BISHOP AND MARTYR; 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00AM	For Miss Evelyn Hernandez and children
9:00AM	Repose of the soul of Alice Sebenaler
5:00PM	Repose of the soul of Rosauero Capulong

Please note that the 8AM Saturday and Sunday Masses, and the 7:15AM daily Mass take place at Mt. Carmel Monastery. All other Masses are celebrated at Sacred Heart.



THIS FRIDAY IS FIRST FRIDAY.

Devotions will take place here at Sacred Heart on **Friday, February 2**, beginning with confessions at **6:30-7:30 PM** and Mass is celebrated at **7:00PM** with all night-adoration. All parishioners are encouraged to spend an hour with our Lord.

Also, today is known as Candlemas, we commemorate the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. Candles that will be used for the year will be blessed at the 12 Noon and 7:00 PM Mass. If you would like to have any of your candles blessed, that you will use throughout the year, bring them to the Candlemas on First Friday.

Second collection TODAY is for Church in Latin America to help strengthen families, fund Catholic education, and foster priestly and religious vocations by giving to the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Thank you for your support and generosity.

St. Blaise | February 3

You may be familiar with the annual "blessing of throats" that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. ©LPi

The Feast of Saint Blaise is celebrated on February 3. We invoke the intercession of Saint Blaise to heal all ailments of the throat.

The annual blessing of the throats will take place after all weekend Masses on February 3-4, 2024.

Retreats at Loyola

Charles County Women Retreat—April 5-7, 2024
Spanish Coed Retreat—April 26-28, 2024

The cost is \$245. Deposit fee \$115 due with registration (deposits non-refundable but are transferable.) Make checks payable to "Loyola Retreat House", P.O. Box 9, Faulkner, MD 20632
For more information, call 301-392-0800 and/or check the web site (www.loyolaonthepotomac.com)

In case of Inclement Weather



If Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) are delayed or closed, Sacred Heart 12 Noon Daily Mass will be held as scheduled. If schools are delayed by two hours, then the parish office will at 10:00 AM. If Charles County Public Schools are closed, the parish office will be closed. If you have a sacramental emergency and need to contact a priest, please call 301-648-8783. Please be sure to check flocknote and our homepage on the website for further information regarding delays or cancellations.

****PRIEST'S CORNER****

The 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal

This weekend we have been asked prayerfully to consider making a gift to the 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal. Please complete or take a commitment form at Mass this weekend, or make your gift at give.adw.org. Visit appeal.adw.org to learn more about how the Annual Catholic Services Appeal benefits our parish and serves people in need throughout our community. It is our goal that every parish family will participate this year. All gifts will be credited towards our parish goal. Thank you in advance for your generous response to the 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal.

The Annual Catholic Services Appeal is a call to stewardship. It is not mandatory. This means that the many vibrant ministries we have in the archdiocese are the result of families such as your own who have responded generously each year with your free will offering. I am particularly grateful, as a priest of the archdiocese, for your contribution which helps to inspire new vocations and form our new generation of priests.

I am also asked to remind you that, as in every year, 100% of your gift to the Appeal is restricted to the ministries that are a part of the Appeal and cannot be used for any other purpose. You can read more about the United in Purpose: 2024 Annual Catholic Services Appeal at appeal.adw.org

Next weekend will be our commitment weekend. Thank you in advance for your prayerful commitment to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal. Your steadfast generosity not only is a source of inspiration for me but a force for good in our Church today.

Your brother and father in Christ the Risen Lord,

Fr Scott

SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2- First Friday—Candlemas—7 PM
Blessing of candles at 12 Noon and 7 PM

February 13—Shrove Tuesday—Pancake Supper

February 14—Ash Wednesday—Masses 12 Noon and 7 PM

February 24—Saint Mother Teresa Vocation Society
Morning of Recollection—9:00 AM—More details soon.



Please pray for our sick

Fr. Mike King, Joycelynn Monica Androsik, Robert Jacobs, Marilyn Edelen, Brenda Monshower, Tyrone Mason, Mike Runfola, Hugh C. Gardiner III, Joanne Doyle, Fr. David Brault, Monique Lamoureux, Roy Tolson, Hamilton Mason, Kathy Greene, Agnes Theresa Proctor, Mary Krug, Bill Harker, Linda Welch, Dr. John Lucero, Sr. Caeli Gloriam, Fr. Larry Swink, Fr. Ron Potts, Brian Wasko, Rick Cerza, Jean Lawrence, Joe Gardiner, George Jackson, David Hoffmaster, Wes Dintaman, Jimmy Richards, Jr., Mikey Raymond, John Hoza, Pam Hanes

Names will remain on the above prayer list for 60 days from the time they are requested. At the end of that time, you may renew your request.

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

Retreat for Men: Abortion Hurts Men Too!

Are you suffering the loss of a child from abortion? You are not alone! Come and experience the Mercy of God, you are invited to attend an *Entering Canaan Men's Day of Prayer and Healing on Saturday, March 16, 2024.*

Retreat for Women in English: Are you having unresolved feelings about your abortion?

You are not alone! Any woman, who has gone through an abortion, is invited to attend an *Entering Canaan Day of Prayer and Healing on Saturday, April 13, 2024.*

At these retreats: you will find the Sacraments, a caring retreat team, a witness talk, and a non-judgmental atmosphere. Exact location and participation are confidential, due to the personal nature of this experience. For more information, contact Project Rachel Ministry, sponsored by The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington: Helpline 301-982-2008. You are also welcome to send an email to:

For women: hope@adw.org

For men: prmwashington@adw.org

Cemetery News



The fence has been ordered and will be installed soon. Thank you to all who donated money for this project.

Reminder: Christmas decorations should be removed by January 31, 2024

Direct any comments to the church office.

Thank you for your cooperation.



An Excerpt from Rep. Chris Smith at the National March for Life

There are more than 2700 pregnancy resource centers throughout the United States—each and every one of them is an oasis of love, compassion, empathy, respect, and care for both

mothers and their precious children. Americans agree. The new Marist national poll released on January 18, 2024, found that 83% of all Americans including 75% of Democrats support pregnancy resource centers.

Our resource centers, like all of us in this great human rights movement, stand with every woman and for every child. We reject the violence of abortion, dismemberment, child beheadings, and abortion pills that literally starve the baby to death.

Today, lawmakers at the federal, state, and local levels have the authority to regulate or prohibit abortion. We are greatly encouraged and filled with hope and resolve. Lives are being saved. Despite serious challenges in some states, twenty five states have one or more strong gestational limits on abortion that are either in effect or are being litigated in the courts. We are making progress!

Recently under the leadership of Speaker Mike Johnson, two new important pro-life bills authored by two courageous lawmakers, Rep. Michelle Fischbach and Rep. Ashley Hinson, passed in the U. S. House.

Rep. Fischbach's legislation prohibits Biden's new policy proposal that discriminates against pregnancy resource centers. The bill - H.R. 6918, Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act, ensures that pregnancy resource centers cannot be excluded or restricted from receiving TANF funding, temporary assistance for needy families.

H.R. 6914, the Pregnant Students' Rights Act authored by Rep. Hinson, requires colleges and universities to communicate and distribute information informing pregnant students of their rights, accommodations, and resources available to them.

The current administration and some lawmakers continue to misrepresent the noble work of pregnancy resource centers. We can't allow this to happen. Women and children deserve better care than abortion.

Thank you from the Knights of Columbus and The Catherine Foundation

Thank you for all of the prayers, donations, and support for the Ultrasound Initiative for the Catherine Foundation.

There were over 200 people in attendance at our spaghetti dinner, and those in attendance were very generous and helped us to meet our funding goal. Thank you!

Justin Meeder, Grand Knight

ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL

ANS is looking for a nurse to work in our clinic. The position can be full or part time. Please contact the school office—office@archbishopnealeschool.org or (301) 934-9595.

Here are our social media pages if the parishioners are interested in following.

<https://www.facebook.com/archbishopnealecatholicschool>

[https://instagram.com/archbishopneale?](https://instagram.com/archbishopneale?igshid=NGVhN2U2NjQ0Yg%3D%3D&utm_source=qr)

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Archbishop Neale School is currently accepting applications for aftercare workers for the 2023-2024 school year. For more information please contact Mrs. Margaret Morris—mmorris@archbishopnealeschool.org or call (301) 934-7005.

Archbishop Neale School is currently accepting applications for substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. For more information please contact the school office—office@archbishopnealeschool.org or call (301) 934-9595.

ANS is currently enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year. Please contact the admissions director, Mrs. Elaine Cadrette at admissions@archbishopnealeschool.org for more information and to schedule a tour.

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

2023 OFFERTORY STATEMENTS

Sacred Heart will acknowledge contributions of \$250 + by mailing statements to you post-marked by January 31st. If you would like a copy of your 2023 donations (less than \$250) for tax purposes, you must call the parish office at 301-934-2261 and ask for Concetta Schmitz.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity to our parish.

Safe Nights 2024

Life Styles has announced limited resources available to serve those with housing crisis. Look for information soon on how Sacred Heart parishioners can help.



Knights of Columbus Answer the call to lead with faith!

The Knights of Columbus Archbishop Neale Council #2279 held a recruitment drive & we might have missed you. If you become a member of our council you will find that KofC membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. KofC offers growth in faith, service to one's church & others in need, access to top-rated life insurance & vetted moral investment products.

Contact Grand Knight, Justin Meeder at meeder17@gmail.com or 301-539-9002.

Join for Free online: www.kofc.org/joinus (Local Council: 2279, Referral Code: 4712383)



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