



SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MARCH 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Lent

(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
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MRS. JULIE FERRERO, Coordinator Ministry to Hospital, Nursing Homes, and Homebound; Phone: (301) 752-2377

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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

Sacred Heart Young Adult Group: youngadults@sacredheartlaplata.org

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

MAILING ADDRESS

205 St. Mary's Avenue
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Parish Office Hours 9 AM-5 PM (closed 11:45 AM-1:00 PM)

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays: Vigil Mass at 5:00 PM (Rosary at 4:20 PM)
Sundays: 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM & 12:00 PM
8:00 AM (Carmelite Monastery)

DAILY MASSES:

Monday thru Friday - 12:00 Noon

7:15 AM (Carmelite Monastery)

Saturday - 8:00 AM (Carmelite Monastery), **9:00 AM** (Sacred Heart)

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION AND FEDERAL HOLIDAYS:

11:00 AM — 12:00 PM, Holy Hour
11:30 AM — 12:00 PM, Confessions
12:00 PM — 12:30 PM, Mass
12:30 PM — 1:00 PM, Confessions

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

(Before and After Most Masses)

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

- **Saturdays:** 4:00-4:45 PM

- **By appointment**

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

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

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

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 Christine Bowman 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 instruction 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, 10:30-11:40 AM at ANS, September thru May.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK:

To arrange for "at home Communion," call 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 9:00 AM Sat. Mass. Rosary on Sunday at 8:30 AM before 9:00 AM Mass and Saturday at 4:30 PM before 5:00 PM 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: We welcome new members to our parish family. Registration forms can be found on our website. For admission to our religious education program, reception of the sacraments, or to receive a letter for sponsorship outside the parish, an individual must be a registered, participating member of the parish, attend the sacraments, and support the ministries of the church.

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

SACRED HEART CHURCH, LA PLATA



SUNDAY, MARCH 17, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, ST. PATRICK'S DAY

7:00AM Sacred Heart Parishioners
8:00AM Repose of the soul of Ed Calior
9:00AM Repose of the souls of Kenneth E. A. Wirsing
and Ken Wirsing, Sr.
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Bob Rupp

MONDAY, MARCH 18, SAINT CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Charles Alexander
Klosek
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Rev. Roderick D. McKee

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Sister Margaret
Mary Cass
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Charles William Hicks

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Sheila Flynn Curly
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Jerry Barrett

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:15AM Intentions of Jeremiah Tompa
12:00PM Repose of the souls of Dr. Ignacio Garcia, and
Leticia and Leila Garcia

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:15AM Repose of the soul of Pat Howe
12:00PM Repose of the soul of Pat Howe
7:00PM Intentions of Phyllis Laidley

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, SAINT TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, BISHOP; VIGIL: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

8:00AM Intentions of Bobby Jacobs
9:00AM Repose of the souls of Beverly & Peter
Murphy
5:00PM Repose of the souls of Annabelle & John Mraz

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

Easter Memorial Flowers

Sacred Heart Church invites all parishioners to consider a memorial flower contribution for Easter. As is our custom, a listing will be included with the bulletin, and all will be remembered in the Easter Masses. If you would like to participate, please fill out the form that can be found at all entrances of the church. Please put it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket, mail it in, or return it to the parish office. An offering of \$30 will assist in decorating the sanctuary and the church for Easter. In order for the names to appear in the Easter bulletin, please return no later than **March 20, 2024.**



St. Patrick's Day Party! Save the Date!

At St. Mary's Newport Catholic Church,
St. Francis Hall, on March 17, 2024 from
4:00 PM—8:00 PM, Potluck Event, Live

Music-Traditional Irish Band, Irish Coffee & Spirits.
All are welcome!



2024 Lenten Schedule

Daily Adoration

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday

12:30 PM—8:30 PM

Friday

12:30 PM—5:30 PM

Mass Schedule, Stations of the Cross and Confessions

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

7:15 AM Mass, **Mt. Carmel Monastery**
12:00 Noon Mass, **Sacred Heart**—Confessions
before and after Mass

Fridays

7:15 AM Mass, **Mt. Carmel Monastery**
11:30 AM Stations of the Cross/Confessions
12:00 Noon Mass, **Sacred Heart**
6:30 PM Stations of the Cross/Confessions
7:00 PM Mass, **Sacred Heart**

Knights of Columbus—Fish Fry

March 22
4:00—6:00 PM



Annual church cleanup is scheduled from 10AM-3PM on 23 March. We are looking for volunteers to help us cleanup and mulch around the church. Also looking for volunteers to help wipe down all of the pews. If you plan to help, please RSVP with Deacon Matt Laidley at mlaidley@sacredheartlaplata.org or on his cell at 301-643-1683. Lunch will be provided.



Effective immediately, there will no longer be a different time for Mass on holidays or Holy Days of Obligation. The following schedule will take place on those days:

11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon, Holy Hour
11:30 a.m.—12:00 noon, Confessions
12:00 noon—12:30 p.m., Mass
12:30 p.m.—1:00 p.m. or after the last person, whichever is later, Confessions

PRIEST'S CORNER

Passiontide

Things may have looked a little strange this Sunday at church. The crucifix was covered in red and all the statues, save the stations of the cross, were covered in purple or removed completely. Even the processional cross was covered. Welcome to the short liturgical season of Passiontide. Everything in the prayers of the Mass and in the decor becomes graver, or more focused on our Lord's great sacrifice to come. We now fast from some of the beautiful artwork we are used to aiding us in our prayers and meditations.

Lent has a way of making this slow progression. Starting with Ash Wednesday we no longer sang or say the "Alleluia." The Gloria (the great song of praise) has disappeared from Sunday Masses only to be heard again this coming Tuesday for the Solemnity of the Feast of St Joseph where again you can relax some of your Lenten practices for the celebration of Saint Joseph's feast day. All the minor optional memorial of saints are suppressed, and except for Laetare Sunday, flowers have not been allowed in the church.

Now we enter the final two weeks of preparations for the High Holy Days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Mother of All Feasts, the Great Easter Vigil. This is normally a time to intensify our penances, almsgivings, and fasts. This can be done through abstaining from certain foods, social media, or tv and video games. It can be through increased times of prayer, devotions, meditations, or seeking to have more time for silence in the car and at home when possible. These are but some of the ways to intensify our preparations for Easter.

If Lent has been an invitation to join Jesus in the desert, not an exterior but an interior desert, of the heart and mind which is meant to help us moderate our appetites for exterior pleasures so that we may have more of an appetite for the interior encounter with the Lord in the sacraments and through daily prayer. Let us pray that the Good Lord may help us to continue to persevere in our Lenten commitments or begin anew if we have struggled or failed in these past five weeks. Please be assured of my prayers, and please include Fr. Coan and I in yours.

Your Brother and Father in Christ the Lord,

Fr Scott

RELEVANT RADIO PILGRIMAGE TO Poland and Prague with Fr. Scott Woods as the chaplain. Dates for this pilgrimage are **September 24-October 3, 2024**. Go to the following link for more details: <https://app.nativitypilgrimage.com/trip/?trip=73631>. Brochures are available at all entrances.



Please pray for our sick

Msgr. Oliver McGready, Fr. Rory Conley, Fr. Mike King, Fr. David Brault, Fr. Larry Swink, Fr. Ron Potts, Kazel R. Mutombo, Janet Proctor, Paul Eric Neal, Jr., Lorenzo Neal, Randolph Androsik, Anthony Pruett, Elroy Hemsley, Theodore Cooper, Mary Watts, Beverly Brown, Joycelynn Monica Androsik, Robert Jacobs, Marilyn Edelen, Brenda Monshower, Tyrone Mason, Mike Runfola, Hugh C. Gardiner, III, Joanne Doyle, Monique Lamoureux, Roy Tolson, Hamilton Mason, Kathy Greene, Agnes Theresa Proctor, Mary Krug, Bill Harker, Linda Welch, Dr. John Lucero, Sr. Caeli Glorae, Brian Wasko, Rick Cerza, Jean Lawrence, Joe Gardiner, George Jackson, David Hoffmaster, Wes Dintaman, Jimmy Richards, Jr., John Hoza, Pam Hanes, Mikey Raymond

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

Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's

Gala 2024 ~ April 13, 2024

St. John's Monsignor Harris Center

Dinner by Rita B's Catering/Open Bar/Dancing

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Website Information: <https://www.chestertonstmarys.org/2024-gala>

Tickets: <https://givebutter.com/c/jWpc5Z>

The Solemnity of St. Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the holiness in the midst of unpredictable fatherhood. We first meet Joseph when he discovers his betrothed is pregnant...and not by him! St. Joseph does not know who the father is (yet), but he knows the punishment for adultery is death. He decides to divorce Mary quietly, and thus save her life. When an angel appears to reveal that Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, St. Joseph trusts his dream and marries her. As a new foster father, Joseph must help his wife give birth in a stable. Later, he needs to escape the threats to his son's life by immigrating with his family to a foreign land. We know that St. Joseph is faithful, brave, and willing to sacrifice for those he loves. On the solemnity of St. Joseph, we don't merely celebrate a carpenter. We celebrate a hero!

Spring Oyster fest, Benedict on the Patuxent, **Saturday, March 23**, Saint Francis de Sales Hall, 7209 Benedict Ave. 12-3 PM. Local oysters fried, scalded and raw at outdoor bar, whole local BBQ pig, steamed shrimp, hush puppies, potato salad, green beans, cole slaw, candied yams, green beans, mac and cheese, and home made desserts. \$30 per adult, reserve a table for six and one person eats free. Family rates. Call for more info. 301-274-3416.

Cemetery News



• If you are interested in joining other volunteers in helping maintain the appearance of the cemetery (excluding lawn mowing) call the church office at 301-934-2261 to leave your contact information.

• ALL decorations on the gravesite grounds must be removed by April 14 for the lawn mowing season.

Thank you for your cooperation.



40 Days for Life stories

In one southeastern state, Mary and George watched as a couple arrived at the local abortion business arguing, presumably about whether to proceed with the abortion.

Finally, they approached campaign volunteers and asked, "So where is the free ultrasound? Mary and George directed them to the nearest pregnancy help center just a few blocks away. "The couple, still fussing, did indeed seek assistance," wrote the 40 Days for Life leader. They chose life!

What happened next lifted the local campaign team's spirit even more. An abortion worker came out and asked Mary and George whether they were able to help the couple. When they answered affirmatively, the above worker admitted, "We do refer certain clients to you."

While Chris stood vigil at a campaign site, a young, intimidating-looking man approached him and looked like he was about to unleash a verbal tirade in response to his pro-life sign. Chris invoked the Name of Jesus aloud, and the man simply muttered "Oh, okay," and moved along. If the man's intentions were to insult my efforts, and I suspect they were, the Name of our Lord and Savior sent him away and let me continue my prayers to end the scourge of abortion," Chris explained.

A Catholic high school pro-life group braved rainy weather to participate in one of the 40 Days for Life campaign. "These young men and women put their faith into action in many ways, including volunteering at local pregnancy resource centers, participating in the annual Walk for Life, and praying at the vigil to help bring an end to abortion," wrote Doug, who leads the campaign.

The youth infusion on the sidewalk also boosted the spirits of more seasoned vigil participants. "It was refreshing for all our volunteers to see the energy and commitment to the Culture of Life in this upcoming generation of leaders!," Doug said.

As we enter into the last week of the spring 40 Days for Life campaigns, never underestimate the power of prayer. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PAX Catholic Theology on Tap

Calling all young adults in Southern Maryland! Join us for the reboot of PAX Catholic at **6 pm on Thursday, March 21st**, at the Brass Tap in California. We'll hear from Deacon Kenneth Scheiber of St. John's on "Truth and Tolerance: Catholicism & Other World Religions". Email paxcatholicstmarys@gmail.com if you have any questions.

ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL OPENINGS & ENROLLMENT

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.

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.

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 (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.

Visit our social media pages:

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

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SAVE THE DATE! UPCOMING EVENTS

March 22, Fish Fry—4:00-6:00 PM

**May 3-5, Fr. Swink's Women's Retreat—
Registration opens Monday, March 18**

June 17-July 26—Summer Camp

September 28—Ride for Vocations



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, and 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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