



# SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

## MAILING ADDRESS

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

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

**March 9, 2025**  
**First Sunday of Lent**

(301) 648-8783 (Sacramental Emergencies)  
[www.sacredheartlaplata.org](http://www.sacredheartlaplata.org)  
[www.facebook.com/SacredHeartLaPlata](https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartLaPlata)  
**CLERGY**

**REV. SCOTT WOODS**, Pastor  
**REV. CHRISTOPHER FEIST**, Parochial Vicar  
**REV. GREG ZINGLER**, Parochial Vicar  
**REV. MR. WILLIAM CARTER**, Permanent Deacon  
**REV. MR. MATTHEW C. LAIDLEY**, Permanent Deacon  
First Friday Devotions & Adoration | Email: [mlaidley@sacredheartlaplata.org](mailto:mlaidley@sacredheartlaplata.org)  
**REV. MR. ALBERT E. GRAHAM, JR.**, Permanent Deacon, Retired

## PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

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**MR. STEPHEN LEHMAN-DAVIS**, Coordinator YOUNG ADULT GROUP  
Email: [youngadults@sacredheartlaplata.org](mailto:youngadults@sacredheartlaplata.org)

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## 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 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.

## DAILY MASSES:

**Monday thru Friday** - 7:15 AM (Mt. Carmel Monastery);  
12:00 Noon (Sacred Heart)  
**Saturday** - 8:00 AM (Mt. Carmel Monastery); 9:00 AM (Sacred Heart)

## WEEKEND MASSES:

**Saturdays:** Vigil at 5:00 PM with Rosary at 4:20 PM (Sacred Heart)  
**Sundays:** 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, & 12:00 PM (Sacred Heart)  
8:00 AM (Mt. Carmel Monastery)

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

M, Tu, W, & Th, 12:30-8:30 PM, and F 12:30-5:30 PM (Sacred Heart)

**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION:** Mass at 7:00 PM followed by devotional prayers to the Sacred Heart and All Night Adoration until 9 AM Mass on Saturday (Sacred Heart).

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION & FEDERAL HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE—SACRED HEART:

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

## SACRAMENTS

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

**BAPTISM:** For children younger than 7 years old, parents should fill out the online "Request Form" under Sacraments / Baptism on the parish webpage. For scheduling or questions, call the office manager at least one month in advance of preferred date to attend a preparation class.

**HOLY EUCHARIST:** To arrange for "at-home Communion," call the homebound coordinator or the parish office.

**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.

## RECONCILIATION:

- **30 Minutes Before and After Most Masses** (Sacred Heart)  
- **First Fridays:** 6:30-7:30 PM (Sacred Heart)  
- **Saturdays:** 4:00-4:45 PM (Sacred Heart)  
- **By appointment**

**CCD—RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:** We are an affiliate parish of the St. John Paul II Regional Faith Formation Program for K thru Grade 8 that meets Sundays, 10:30-11:40 AM at ANS, September thru May. Registration available on the parish website; questions, contact the Pastoral Associate.

## OCIA—ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:

Please contact the Pastoral Associate to arrange for instruction about our faith. Classes are held on Tuesdays (September thru May) from 7:00-8:30 PM.

**MARIAN DEVOTIONS:** Weekly Miraculous Medal Novena and Rosary after 9:00 AM Saturday 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 4th Sunday of the month at 12 Noon in the conference room of the Friendship Room.

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

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

## SACRED HEART CHURCH, LA PLATA

### *Mass Intentions for the Week*

**SUNDAY, March 9, First Sunday of Lent**

7:00 AM Sacred Heart Parishioners  
 8:00 AM Repose of the soul of James Connell  
 9:00 AM Repose of the soul of Connie Barnas  
 12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Rich Colburn

**MONDAY, March 10, Lenten Weekday**

7:15 AM Intentions of the Saint Teresa Assoc.  
 12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Ramona Dobry

**TUESDAY, March 11, Lenten Weekday**

7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Connie Barnas  
 12:00 PM Intentions of The Vaughan Family

**WEDNESDAY, March 12, Lenten Weekday**

7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Connie Barnas  
 12:00 PM Repose of the soul of David Ross

**THURSDAY, March 13, Lenten Weekday**

7:15 AM Vocations to Mt. Carmel Monastery  
 12:00 PM Repose of the soul of David Ross

**FRIDAY, March 14, Lenten Weekday**

7:15 AM Intentions of the Myers Family  
 12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Bella Teixeira

**SATURDAY, March 15, Lenten Weekday; Vigil: Second**

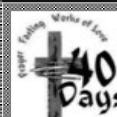
**Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Intentions of the Laidley Family  
 9:00 AM Repose of the soul of Connie Barnas  
 5:00 PM Repose of the soul of Helen Stone

Please note that the 8:00 AM Saturday and Sunday Masses, and the 7:15 AM daily Mass are celebrated at Mt. Carmel Monastery (MC). All other Masses are celebrated at Sacred Heart (SH) unless otherwise noted.

## LENT

Pray Fast Give



### LENTEN SCHEDULE

**ADORATION (SH)**

M, T, W & TH—12:30-8:30 PM  
 F—12:30-5:30 PM

**CONFESSION & WEEKDAY MASS**

7:15 AM Mass Daily (MC)  
 12:00 Noon Mass Daily (SH)  
 Confessions Daily Before & After Mass (SH)

**FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

11:00 AM (SIH)  
 11:30 AM & 6:30 PM (SH)  
 6:00 PM (SCA)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**FISH FRY (SH)**

March 21, March 28 and April 11  
 5:00-7:00 PM

SH—Sacred Heart, MC—Mt. Carmel Monastery,  
 SCA—St. Catherine's of Alexandria  
 & SIH—St. Ignatius Hilltop



**A LENTEN GIFT FOR YOU!**

**33 DAYS TO EUCHARISTIC GLORY**  
 A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Pick up your free copy of "33 days to Eucharistic Glory" in the narthex after all Masses this weekend. This book is a "do it yourself" spiritual pilgrimage to Eucharistic

Consecration containing daily reflections and a spiritual communion prayer. The preparation begins Wednesday, March 12th, with the parish-wide consecration scheduled on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025.

Looking for more? All men and women are welcome to attend small group discussions on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00 PM in the Friendship Room. Feel free to drop in once or join every Monday night!

To enhance your Lenten experience, watch the daily videos offered by Fr. Jonathan Meyers with All Saints Parish that accompany the 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory. The link can be found at: [https://youtu.be/UZ5rFP\\_aFIE](https://youtu.be/UZ5rFP_aFIE).

What is consecration? According to Catholic Answers, "The term 'Consecration' comes from the root 'holy' and fundamentally means that a person, place, or thing is sanctified, made holy to the Lord. When one makes an act of consecration, it is made ultimately to God with the understanding that our consecration is a serious commitment on our part to respond faithfully to God's grace at work in our lives." In this case, a commitment to Our Eucharistic Lord.

**SACRED HEART MEN'S GROUP (SHMG)**

Men, try something different this Lent and come to SHMG which meets in the Friendship Room on Saturday mornings. Contact Karl Prigge at 301-653-6451 to get on the SHMG WhatsApp chat. Receive a morning prayer to start your day off right!

7:00 AM-7:30 AM, Coffee and Donuts  
 7:30 AM-8:30 AM, Priest or Deacon led Discussion

**For Pondering....  
 Divine Mercy Matters!**

Words from Jesus to St. Faustina of His Divine Mercy: "My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls and especially for poor sinners. It is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as a fount of overflowing mercy." (Diary 367)



*From the Book  
 "Jesus Our Eucharistic Love"*

When St. Margaret Mary Alacoque left the world and consecrated herself to God in the cloister, she made a private vow and wrote it in her blood: "All for the Eucharist; nothing for me." It is useless to attempt to describe the Saint's burning love for the Eucharist. When she was not able to receive Holy Communion, she broke out in ardent expressions of love like these: "I have such a desire for Holy Communion that if I had to walk barefoot along a path of fire to obtain It, I would do so with unspeakable joy."

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### \*\*PRIEST'S CORNER\*\*

Dear Parishioners,

Recently I had the joy of blessing the new outside Stations of the Cross made and set up near the parish office at Sacred Heart church. One of our most active altar boys, created and supervised this Eagle Scout project. It involved him meeting with me and having separate meetings with our maintenance staff and our lawn care volunteer coordinator to make sure that the project would be in the best possible place and not hinder the lawnmowers. He then had to fundraise for the project and work with his fellow scouts to coordinate days to plan and implement the project.

I was very impressed by the number of Boy Scouts, parents, and friends who came out to support him and lend a hand. Now we are blessed to have a space where anyone can come and pray the Stations of the Cross regardless of what may be happening in the church. They can come anytime, day and night throughout the year. Have you ever wondered where the tradition of the Stations of the Cross came from?

It started around the time of the Crusades when men who came to fight for the Holy sites, or pilgrims who came on pilgrimage, would come and be led by local Christians to the places mentioned in the Bible where our Lord walked, suffered, fell, and was finally crucified. It made such an impact on them that they returned home by the thousands and told people about the power of their experience walking the stations and wrote about it in letters and books. Soon the Franciscan friars, who had the duty of serving and preserving these sites, began to encourage people in other parts of Europe who could not travel to these sites due to distance, expense, or danger, to journey there spiritually by praying this devotion.

Soon Catholic parishes throughout Europe began to put up Stations of the Cross, and it became standardized through much of the Catholic world. This would especially become a Lenten tradition and has been encouraged now for centuries. The beautiful thing about this tradition is that while it began in the Church, it did not necessarily stay in the Church, and those who cannot come on Fridays of Lent can also pray it wherever they are. Some will even now use YouTube videos that have beautiful background music and scenes from the Passion to make the stations while at work on break or at home. I would like to encourage all of you to try to come to the Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent for your Lenten practice so that together we might make this journey and experience even more deeply the mercy and love of Christ.

At Sacred Heart, we have noticed that even some of the Protestant ministers will bring their people to our Stations of the Cross. They desire to pray with us and make that spiritual journey to the Holy Land to meditate deeply on the Passion of our Lord and thereby come away even more appreciative of all that He has done for us. With a greater desire to do more ourselves to honor Him, and to live as He has lived, I especially want to encourage parents to bring their children, and grandparents to bring their grandchildren, even if just for one of the Fridays to experience it. Perhaps you can come early on one of those Fridays when we have our Lenten Fish Fry. This can provide a great time for family, friends and parishioners to fellowship over a wonderful meal of simple fish and then come up to the church to experience this walking together in pilgrimage by praying the Stations of the Cross. May this be a most blessed lent for us all!

Your brother and father in Christ the Lord,  
Fr. Scott



### Please Pray for Our Sick

Fr. Rory Conley, Fr. Ron Potts, Gabrielle Hoffmaster, Brenna Kelly, Debbie Boetker, Rosemary Perrier, Charles Scott, Ella Leighton, Carroll Clements, Brenda Monshower, Rusty Carson, Jean Latimer, Barbara Bowie, Tim Hicks, Laura Farmer, Michael Haste, Vernon Benson, Travis Rhoden, Gary and Darlene Valdisera, Beth Furman, Art and Dee Stoner, Robert Smoot, William Simms, Bernice Simms, Fernanda Graham, Ann Marlow, Kristina Wilk, Pam Gill, Michael Dobry, Linda Welch, Brian Wasko, Louise Lamoureux, Stephen Graham, Daniel Rodriguez, Haiden Holt, Amy Frances Scroggins, Elizabeth Swann, Rebecca Franch, Ann Bluey, Michael Haste, Cynthia Gray, Jeff Radosh, Reginald Zackery, Kathy Greene, Mike Scoggins, Linda Curry, John Norton, Rose Radcliff, Janet Proctor, Paul Eric Neal, Jr., Lorenzo Neal, Anthony Pruett, Elroy Hemsley, Mary Watts, Beverly Brown, Agnes Theresa Proctor, Dr. John Lucero, Caeli Glorise, Joe Gardiner, George Jackson, 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 may renew your request.*

**The Annual Church Clean-up** is scheduled from 10 AM to 3 PM on 29 March 2025. We are looking for volunteers to help us clean and mulch around the church and wipe down all of the pews. If you plan to help, please RSVP with **Dn Matt Laidley** by **27 March** at [mlaidley@sacredheartplata.org](mailto:mlaidley@sacredheartplata.org) or on his cell at **301 643-1683**. Lunch will be provided.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 7—Flame of Love Cenacle, 4:30-5:30 PM** with Our Eucharistic Lord in the Church



**March 7—Mass with Healing Prayers, 7 PM**

**March 10—Registration Opens for Women's Retreat at Loyola, May 2-4, 2025.** Talks on "The Book of Esther" given by Fr. Larry Swink

**March 12— 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory Begins!**

**March 18—Women's Book Club Meeting, 6:30-8:30 PM**

**March 29—Church Clean-up, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM**

**April 5—St. Joseph & Sacred Heart first joint Eucharistic Procession!** Register on either parish website!

### 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 and leave your contact information.

- ALL decorations on the gravesite ground must be removed by March 31 for the lawn mowing season. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Pro-Life Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

• **1st Sorrowful Mystery-The Agony in the Garden.** Prayer Intention-For all who are suffering from abandonment or neglect, that compassionate individuals will come forward to offer them comfort and aid. Jesus comes with His disciples to the garden of Gethsemane and prays to be delivered from His Passion, but most of all, to do the Father's will. Let us pray that Christ might hear the word of all who suffer from the culture of death, and that He might deliver them from the hands of their persecutors.

• **2nd Sorrowful Mystery-The Scourging at the Pillar.** Prayer Intention-That the victims of violence, torture, and slavery will be delivered from their suffering, find healing and know that God is close to them. Falsely accused before Pilate, Jesus is cruelly tied to a pillar and scourged, then clothed in a cloak of purple and mocked. Let us pray for all innocent victims, that by the merits of His most holy Passion, Christ might deliver them and grant them eternal life.

• **3rd Sorrowful Mystery-The Crowning with Thorns.** Prayer Intention-That the persecution of Christians will end in a new era of tolerance and respect for the religious freedom and conscience rights of all. Pilate mocks the Christ by asking Him if He is the King of the Jews. He is the King of all the world through whom all things were made. He is the one who will judge the living and the dead at the end of time. Yet He is crowned with suffering out of love for us, in reparation for our sins.

• **4th Sorrowful Mystery-The Carrying of the Cross.** Prayer Intention-For all who labor under burdens that seem too great to bear, due to illness, age, poverty, cruelty, or injustice, that our prayers and aid will lighten their crosses. Three times Christ falls under the weight of the Cross as He carries our sins to Calvary. Let us pray for all who struggle to live the Gospel of Life, that they might pick up their crosses and walk the way of sorrows with the Savior of the world.

• **5th Sorrowful Mystery-The Crucifixion.** Prayer Intention- For an end to the death penalty and for the release of all prisoners of conscience and all who have been wrongfully convicted. Innocent and without sin, Jesus opens His arms upon the cross out of love for us. Let us join our sufferings, and the sufferings of the whole world to His one sacrifice of praise.

**During this Lenten season, please pray for a Culture of Life.**

**Women's Weekend Retreat at Loyola on May 2-4, 2025 with Father Larry Swink:** "The Book of Esther."

**Registration OPENS Monday, March 10.** Join your sisters in Christ for another amazing Retreat at Loyola. Cost is \$275 per person. Registration Online ONLY. For more information and to register visit [www.thedeepdivepodcast.com](http://www.thedeepdivepodcast.com).

### ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL

Archbishop Neale School is currently accepting applications for substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. For more information please contact the school office at [office@archbishopnealeschool.org](mailto:office@archbishopnealeschool.org) or call (301) 934-9595.

Archbishop Neale School is currently accepting applications for aftercare workers for the 2025-2026 school year. For more information please contact Mrs. Margaret Morris [mmorris@archbishopnealeschool.org](mailto:mmorris@archbishopnealeschool.org) or call (301) 934-7005.

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### St. Joseph Pomfret & Sacred Heart La Plata



### 1st Joint Eucharistic Procession 5th Saturday in Lent—April 5, 2025

Bring a friend, bring a family member and Walk with Jesus! Come to St. Joseph Pomfret to kick off this procession! **The day begins with Confessions and Rosary at 7:30 AM and Opening Mass at 8 AM. The Procession begins at 9:30AM from the MD La Plata Readiness Center and ends at Sacred Heart parish (about 4.8 miles).** Walk the entire procession or join in at a rest stop. The last leg of the procession is about 0.75 mile and departs from the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) House. Parking is available next door at Archbishop Neale School. If walking is not an option, join us for Adoration of Thanksgiving at Sacred Heart and fellowship afterwards in the Friendship Room.

Use the QR Code or call one of the parish offices (SH) 301-934-2261 or (SJ) 301-539-3912 to register. Also visit Sacred Heart's website for more details.



### Knights of Columbus Answer the call to lead with faith!

The Knights of Columbus Archbishop Neale Council #2279 is looking for Catholic Gentlemen to join our council. 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 and others in need, access to top-rated life insurance, and vetted moral investment products. Join us today, and help us to "make a difference in someone's life!"

Contact Michael Mickey, Grand Knight, at (240) 210-9009 or email at [michaelmickey@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmickey@gmail.com). Register online for free at: [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) using Local Council #2279 and Referral Code #4913849.



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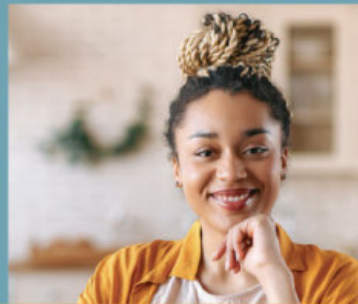
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