SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAILING ADDRESS:
205 St. Mary's Ave.
La Plata, Maryland 20646
(301) 934-2261

PHYSICAL OFFICE LOCATION:
101 Charles St., Suite 204
La Plata, Maryland 20646
(301) 934-2261

PARISH SUMMER HOURS 9:00 AM-3:00 PM
Closed 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
Sacramental Emergencies—(301) 648-8783

August 16, 2026
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.sacredheartlaplata.org
www.facebook.com/SacredHeartLaPlata

CLERGY

REV. SCOTT WOODS, Pastor
REV. CHRISTOPHER FEIST, Parochial Vicar
REV. JESSIAH ROJAS, Parochial Vicar
REV. MR. WILLIAM CARTER, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. MATTHEW LAIDLEY, Permanent Deacon
REV. MR. ALBERT GRAHAM, JR., Permanent Deacon, Retired

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

ANNA ALBRITTAIN, Director Community Catholic Youth Ministry
(240) 901-2254 | aalbrittain@sacredheartlaplata.org
ELLEN BLUMHARDT, Fertility Awareness Coordinator
(301) 641-1377 | ellen.blumhardt@gmail.com
KATHY GREENE, Homebound Coordinator
(240) 416-1122 | kdgknitter@gmail.com
STEPHEN LEHMAN-DAVIS, Young Adult Group Coordinator
youngadults@sacredheartlaplata.org
SARAH GRACE MASON, Music Director
sgmason@sacredheartlaplata.org
WILLIAM WANNALL, Pastoral Associate
(240) 901-2252 | wwannall@sacredheartlaplata.org

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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DENEAN BUCKLEW, Secretary and Bulletin Editor
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STACY HOWARD, Secretary
(301) 934-2261 | office@sacredheartlaplata.org
MICHAEL KNECHT, Director Facilities and Maintenance
(301) 934-2261

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: We welcome YOU! Join our parish family by registering online.

ARCHBISHOP NEALE SCHOOL

104 Port Tobacco Rd, La Plata - (301) 934-9595 or (301) 870-3679
Grades Pre-K thru 8 & After School Care
TERESA SKINNER, Principal

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Monday thru Thursday, 12:30-8:30 PM
Friday 12:30-5:30 PM

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

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION & FEDERAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

11:00 AM-12:00 PM, Holy Hour | 12:00 PM-12:30 PM, Mass
11:30 AM-12:00 PM & 12:30 PM-1:00 PM, Confessions

HOLY MASS:

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
Saturday Vigil—5:00 PM, Sacred Heart
Sunday—7:00 AM (No Music), 9:00 AM,
& 12:00 PM, Sacred Heart
8:00 AM, Mt. Carmel Monastery

SACRAMENTS:

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Contact the parish office to make an appointment to receive this Sacrament.

BAPTISM: Fill out the Baptism Request Form on the parish website and contact the Pastoral Associate at least one month in advance of preferred date to attend a preparation class.

HOLY EUCHARIST: For the infirmed to receive Holy Communion at home, call the Homebound Coordinator or the parish office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGE: Couples must contact a priest or deacon at least 6 months before the anticipated date of marriage as a preparation program is required.

RECONCILIATION:
First Fridays: 6:30-7:30 PM | Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 PM
30 Minutes Before and After Most Masses | By Appointment

MARIAN DEVOTIONS: Weekly Miraculous Medal Novena and recitation of the Most Holy Rosary after 9:00 AM Saturday Mass. The Rosary is also prayed on Saturdays at 4:30 PM and on Sundays at 8:30 AM.

OCIA—ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS: Classes are held every Sunday September thru Easter from 10:30-11:30 AM on the church campus. Register on the parish website. For inquiries or those with schedule restrictions, contact the Pastoral Associate.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meets the 4th Sunday of the month at 11:00 AM in the Friendship Room.

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII FAMILY FAITH FORMATION: This family-based catechetical program teaches the entire family. Parents, guardians and children meet two Sundays a month for an hour from 10:30-11:30 AM on the church campus from September thru May. Register on the parish website; contact the Pastoral Associate with inquiries.

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

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES ARE NORMALLY 12 NOON ON MONDAYS.

Sacred Heart Church, La Plata

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, August 16, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 AM Intentions of Gertrude "Trudy" A. Lyles
8:00 AM Intentions of Mary Adelaide Coffin
9:00 AM Sacred Heart Parishioners
12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Joe Baciao

MONDAY, August 17, Weekday
7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Ray Penland
12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Brenda Carignan

TUESDAY, August 18, Weekday
7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Anna Bergmann
12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Carroll Clements

WEDNESDAY, August 19, Weekday; Saint John Eudes, Priest
7:15 AM Intentions of George and Maria Jackson
12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Carroll Clements

THURSDAY, August 20, Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Toni Hatsue Gagner
12:00 PM Deceased of Charles County

FRIDAY, August 21, Saint Pius X, Pope
7:15 AM Repose of the soul of Gideon Sazynski
12:00 PM Repose of the soul of Brenda Carignan

SATURDAY, August 22, The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Vigil: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Intentions of Billy Studds
9:00 AM Repose of the soul of Michael David Roberts
5:00 PM Repose of the soul of Carroll Clements

Feel free to come by the parish office to request a Mass intention! Note that the 8:00 AM Saturday and Sunday Masses, and the 7:15 AM daily Mass are celebrated at Mt. Carmel Monastery (MC), and all other Masses are celebrated at Sacred Heart (SH), unless otherwise noted.

Summer Office Hours

Please note that the Sacred Heart Office is currently operating on reduced summer hours. We are open 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday, closing for Mass/lunch daily from 11:45 AM—1:00 PM.

For Sacramental Emergencies outside of these hours, please contact (301) 648-8783.

Sacred Heart's 125th Anniversary Parish Cookbook

Our parish anniversary cookbook will be on sale **Today, August 16, 2026**. For questions or to purchase a cookbook on a different date, please contact Maureen Freeman at (954) 257-7530.

$20 Cookbook—Cash or Check Requested

Note—Due to a printing error, cookbooks purchased prior to June 1st omitted pages 117-118.
Plan to return your cookbook and receive a corrected copy during sales dates.

Join the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Sodality invites ladies age 18 or above to join! Our mission is to foster devotion to Jesus and His Blessed Mother, while supporting our parish life through spiritual, apostolic and community activities. We unite both the spirit of Martha and Mary in service of our parish. Initiatives include monthly rosary, Day of Reflection, May Procession, providing rosaries and miraculous medals, helping Community Sundays, social gatherings, and so much more! Please consider attending our next meeting on Sunday, August 30th, following the 9:00am Mass.

We would love to welcome you to the Sacred Heart Sodality.
For more information, contact Theresa Moran at (240) 210-2069 or Theresa4484@gmail.com.

Parish Ministry Fair and Community Sunday, Today!

Join us for the **Parish Ministry Fair today after the 7, 9, and 12 o'clock Masses, and for Community Sunday from 10:00–11:30 AM, in the Friendship Room**, to meet your Parish Ministry Leads and learn more about Sacred Heart ministry efforts. This is a great opportunity for parishioners and non-parishioners to meet future friends and learn more/get involved in your community.
Come join us!

FALL BIBLE STUDY
The Gospel Of LUKE: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled

Written and presented by
Jeff Cavins & Dr. Jeffery Morrow
This is an eight session study that walks through the key moments of Salvation History.

Monday Evenings, 7: 00 pm-8:30 pm Women Only
9/14/26—11/9/26
Tuesday Mornings, 10:00 am -11:30 am Everyone Welcome
9/15/26—11/10/26

Registration is available on the Parish Website
Fee is $35.00 which includes the workbook

Single and Young Adult Catholics
27th Annual Bethany Beach Retreat/Vacation
Delaware, Labor Day Weekend/Week September 5-12

Sponsored by the St. Catherine & St. Lawrence Societies for single Catholics. Only $410 for the Weekend or Week. All meals, beach chairs, tennis included. Space is limited. Mass Daily with Fr. T. Morrow. Holy Hour option available daily.
To reserve and pay on line visit:
http://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=AJLD5F4VY43NE

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRIEST'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

This Sunday's readings remind us that God's plan of salvation is bigger than we sometimes imagine. His grace is offered not merely to one nation, one family, or one kind of person. God desires to draw the whole world to Himself.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah speaks of foreigners who come to love and serve the Lord. God promises, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." Israel had been chosen by God, but that choice was never meant to end with Israel. Through His chosen people, God intended to bring His blessing to every nation on earth.

We see that plan beginning to unfold in a striking way in the Gospel. A Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and cries out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!" Her daughter is suffering terribly, and she begs Jesus to help her. She is an outsider—not a member of Israel—and at first Jesus seems almost to resist her request.

But she refuses to give up. Even when the disciples want to send her away, she remains. Even when Jesus challenges her, she responds with total humility and confidence: "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Jesus answers, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

There is something here for all of us to learn about prayer. Sometimes we pray and receive an answer quickly. At other times, we pray for months or even years without seeing the answer we desire. We pray for a child who has left the Faith, for healing from an illness, for reconciliation in a family, for freedom from a habitual sin, or simply for clarity about what God wants from us.

When God seems silent, it is easy to conclude that He is absent. Yet this woman teaches us otherwise. She keeps asking because she trusts the goodness of the One she is asking. Her perseverance is itself an act of faith. And notice whom Jesus praises. He does not praise someone who appears to have everything together. He praises an outsider who knows how desperately she needs Him.

That should give all of us hope. There are no outsiders when it comes to the invitation of Christ. The Church exists precisely to bring His saving grace to every person. That means we should never decide that someone is too far away, too sinful, too skeptical, or too different to be invited toward Jesus. Perhaps there is someone in your life who seems far from God. Pray for that person. And when your own prayers seem unanswered, imitate this courageous woman. Keep asking. Keep seeking. Keep trusting.

The Lord hears you, and His silence is never proof of His absence.

Blessings,
Father Feist

Please, Pray for our Sick

Marge Gardiner, Vicki Middleton, Joe Husick, Dennis Gilroy, Kenny Baird, Caryn Daniele, Daniel (Ryan) Millar, Julian "JC" Carroll, James E. Yates, Garrett Carson, Peggy Baggott, Adley Prator, Tess Franch, Dalton Prator, Marie Scott, Sandy Latimer, Linda Copsey, Jamie Klotz, Daniel O'Leary, Michael Scoggins, Bill Young, Bob Farncomb, Gideon Sazynski, Tiffany Bratton, Ann Rees, Heather Muth, Cindy McDonald, Tamaran Howell, Matthew Greene, Joyce Evans, Joey Simpson, Teresa Shutters, Jessica Williams, Leanne Beutler, Pam Chisley, Rosa Baciao, Belynda Miles, Lou Perry, Cynthia Gray, Brian Wasko, Zoila Montelongo, Samuel Paladino, F. Gary Swann, Sr., M. Samantha Swann, Diane Harmis, Fr. Ron Potts, Laura Farmer, Joyce Lee, Raymond Jones, Charles Scott, William Crouch, Mike Runfola, Reed Faasen, Charlotte Hemsley, Bill Deer, Lisa Deer, John Gagnon, Monique Lamoureux, Tina Cooksey, Linda Welch, Michael Dobry, Marily Edelen, Evelyn Farmer Brown, Travis Palmer, Rena Bland, Ellison Vanderyt, Zyyonna Warren, Catherine Posey, Brenda Monshower, Rose Radcliff, Dr. John Lucero, Joe Gardiner, George Jackson, Mikey Raymond

Names will remain on the above prayer list for 60 days from the time they are requested. You may renew your request.

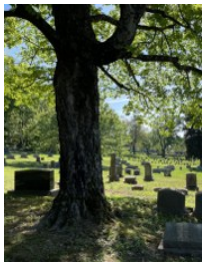
Have a Prayer Request?

Scan the QR code to submit your intentions. Share your prayer requests with us so we may pray for you!

SACRED HEART MEN'S GROUP (SHMG)

All men of the parish are invited to come to SHMG which meets in the Friendship Room on Saturday mornings. Contact Karl Prigge 301-653-6451 to get on the SHMG WhatsApp chat. Receive a morning prayer to start your day off right.

Saturday Mornings, Sacred Heart Friendship Room
7:00-7:30 AM, Coffee and Donuts
7:30-8:30 AM, Priest or Deacon led Discussion



CEMETERY NEWS

The cemetery team is looking for people who may be interested in helping maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery (no lawn mowing). Call the parish office and leave your contact information and someone will get in touch with you regarding how you can help.

Pro-Life Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary

1st Mystery-The Resurrection of Jesus
Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the third day after His passion and death, rose again in glory, victorious over death and never to die again.
Prayer Intention: For all who have lost loved ones, and especially for parents of a child who was miscarried, aborted, or stillborn, that they will find peace in the promise of the Resurrection.

2nd Mystery-The Ascension
Our Lord, Jesus Christ, 40 days after His resurrection, ascended into heaven with triumph and great glory, in the sight of His most holy mother and all His disciples.
Prayer Intention: For all who struggle with addictions, that through Christ's triumph, they may triumph over their temptations, and ascend into glory.

3rd Mystery-The Descent of the Holy Spirit
Our Lord, Jesus Christ, sitting at the right hand of the Father, sent the Holy Spirit into the upper room where the Apostles were gathered together with the most Holy Virgin Mary.
Prayer Intention: That the Holy Spirit will open the minds and hearts of those who now reject the Gospel of Life and allow them to be convinced of the truth and goodness of all that the Church professes concerning human life.

4th Mystery-The Assumption of Mary
The most Holy Virgin, twelve years after the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, passed from this life, and was assumed by the angels into heaven.
Prayer Intention: For mothers who have died at the hands of abortion providers, that they may experience reconciliation and together with their children know God's peace.

5th Mystery-Coronation of Mary
The most Holy Virgin was crowned in heaven by her divine Son as the saints rejoiced in glory around her throne.
Prayer Intention: For all mothers, that they might come to know the wonder of their vocation.

August 22nd is the memorial of our Lady's Queenship. As Queen of Heaven, Mary intercedes powerfully with her Son on behalf of those who pray to her.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death! Amen.

Sodality Sewing Bee

Sunday, August 16th,
2-4 PM in the Friendship Room

If you enjoy sewing or even just have an interest, please join us to make clothing for children in Africa. Everyone is welcome, no need to be a member of the Sodality to participate. There are tasks for every skill level, from sewing to cutting fabric to ironing. All items will be provided; however, you may bring your own sewing machine if you prefer. Please come spend a pleasant afternoon sharing your talent or learning new skills.

SCHOOL NEWS

Archbishop Neale School is currently accepting applications for Aftercare Workers for the 2026–2027 school year. For more information, please contact Mrs. Carolyn Bowman at anschildcarecenter@archbishopnealeschool.org or Ms. Pam Gavin at pgavin@archbishopnealeschool.org. You may also call the school office at (301) 934-9595.

Check out our Social Media Pages!

https://www.facebook.com/archbishopnealecatholicschool
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ALTAR FLOWERS

I would like to have flowers placed on the altar
*****In Honor of (H) / OR / In Memory of (M)*****

_____

Saturday Vigil or Sunday Mass Requested
(date not guaranteed):

_____

Given by _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Phone Number_____

Suggested Donation: $50

Altar flowers can be donated weekly (except during Advent and Lent) in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. If interested, drop this form and your donation into the collection basket or mail to Sacred Heart Parish Office, 205 St. Mary's Avenue, La Plata, MD 20646. God bless you!

125th Anniversary Museum

Sacred Heart's 125th Anniversary Museum is open in the Friendship Room on Saturdays and Sundays from now until the end of August (with the exception of August 15th). The museum will be open briefly on Saturdays after the 5 PM Mass, and on Sundays from 8 AM to 2 PM.

The Knights of Columbus

Answer the call to lead with faith!

Calling on all Catholic gentlemen of the Parishes of Sacred Heart, Mt. Carmel, St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Ignatius Loyola, Chapel Point and St. Ignatius Loyola, Hilltop. Are you seeking an opportunity to grow your faith, serve your parish and your priests, and become a beacon of hope and inspiration in your community? Joining the Knights of Columbus will fulfill your commitment to "make a difference in someone's life." Membership also provides you with access to top rated life insurance and vetted moral investment products to care for your loved ones for years to come.

For more information, please contact **John Lee, Grand Knight,** at (703) 915-6994 or email at **jlee1257@ gmail.com**. **Register online at: www.kofc.org/joinus using Local Council #2279 and Referral Code #5223191.**

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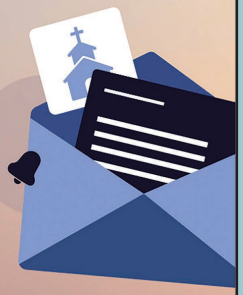

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