



Jerusalem, take off your robe  
of mourning and misery;  
put on forever the splendor  
of glory from God.

BARUCH 5:1



## Coming Home

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**C**oming home can take place in many varied ways. Sometimes it's at the end of a long day when we come home to where we can be ourselves without any pretensions. Sometimes it's going back to the neighborhood we grew up in, to the old haunts that remind us of the dreams we had and how they now seem tucked in every niche. Sometimes coming home is what happens after many wanderings, after we've sown our oats and harvested little and now have nowhere else to go. That too is a coming home, back to where it all began, back to where we dare to hope that life might begin again.

All of this is how the Hebrew people found themselves coming home to Jerusalem after eighty years of exile, coming back to start anew with the hope that their God would once again be proud of them, back to where they could be as God intended them to be. All of that is what we do when we decide we will try to be the sort of person we'd always hoped to become. It's when we attempt a second effort at making a marriage work, or a job productive, or maybe simply putting the pieces of our lives back in some sort of order. It's all about coming back home to God's dream for us, a kind of second Advent, when God comes into our lives and is born once again. ●

### Reflect

*Have you wandered too far from the values of your true home? Can you find your way back?*

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

DECEMBER 7 & 8, 2024



## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 7 - 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. Leo Lyden by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

### Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 AM

✠ Frank McClendon by Louie & Vickie Bolyard

### Tuesday, December 10 - Noon

NO MASS ~Fr. Out of Town

### Wednesday, December 11 - 9:00 AM

✠ Elizabeth & Thomas Linkous by Family

### Saturday, December 14 - 6:00 PM

✠ Fr. Greg Lyttle by Deborah Garton & Fred Butler

### Sunday, December 15 - 9:00 AM

✠ People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

**Office Hours:** 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

#### **Confession:**

Before Weekend Masses

During Eucharistic Adoration

First Saturday's of Month

By Appointment

#### **Food Pantry Hours:**

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 8:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

**December 8:** Cocoa & Cookies with St. Nick 10 am

**December 9:** Immaculate Conception of Mary Mass  
Noon/Princeton, 6 PM/Bluefield

**December 9:** Knights of Columbus Mtg after 6pm Mass

**December 15:** Third Sunday of Advent

**December 22:** Fourth Sunday of Advent

**December 24:** Children's Christmas Eve Mass 4 pm

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Mass 7 pm

**December 25:** Christmas Day Mass 9 am

**December 26-27:** Offices Closed for Holiday

**December 31:** Fr. Sebastian's 30th Anniversary of  
Ordination

**January 1:** Solemnity of Mary Mass 12 Noon

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday's from 6:00-7:00 PM

December 13: Princeton

December 27: Princeton

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E.  
sdevasya@dwc.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.  
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

**YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:** Wendi Aiello  
w.aiello@yahoo.com 304-320-2150

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Lucy Brinegar  
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

**PARISH BOOKKEEPER:** Kim Hickman  
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

**NEWMAN CENTER:** 304-534-8093

*To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion. Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest,*

# Second Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the second week of Advent, we anticipate the coming of Christ, a time filled with anticipation as we reflect on the theme of preparation. The readings for the second Sunday of Advent are a beautiful tapestry woven with the common thread of spiritual readiness and the promise of redemption, filling us with peace.

The first reading from Baruch 5:1-9 invites us to cast off the garments of mourning and embrace the radiant splendor of God's glory. This symbolizes our profound transformation from despair to hope, a powerful testament to the redemptive promise of Christ's coming that inspires and uplifts us, filling our hearts with a renewed sense of purpose.

The second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11) resonates with the comforting assurance that God, who initiated a good work within us, will bring it to fruition. This fills our hearts with confidence and security, directing us to be filled with righteousness through Christ Jesus, instilling in us a sense of peace and trust in God's plan.

The Gospel reading from Luke 3:1-6 amplifies the call to prepare the way for the Lord by repenting and turning our hearts towards righteousness, thus resonating with the message of spiritual readiness and anticipation for the coming of Christ.

The lighting of the second candle of Advent, often called the Bethlehem Candle, symbolizes the anticipation surrounding the prophets' prophecies and the preparations for the arrival of the Christ

Let us conclude with a prayer:

*Heavenly Father,  
as we light the second candle of Advent,  
may our hearts be filled with the love and  
anticipation that surrounded the prophets  
who foretold the coming of Christ.  
Grant us the grace to prepare our hearts for his arrival.  
May we be vigilant and ready for his coming.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

In joyful anticipation,  
Father Sebastian

## FAITH FORMATION



### *Faith Formation 2024-2025*

*Theme – “Lord, When Did We See You Hungry”  
Matthew 25:37b*

#### **The schedule through January 2025:**

December 8 ~ Faith Formation in the parish lounge - lesson on St. Nicholas  
 December 15 and 22 ~ Practice for Christmas Eve Children’s Mass in the Church  
 December 24 ~ Children to participate at 4pm Christmas Eve Mass  
 December 29 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday  
 January 5, 12 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday  
 January 19, 26 ~ Faith Formation Regular Sessions

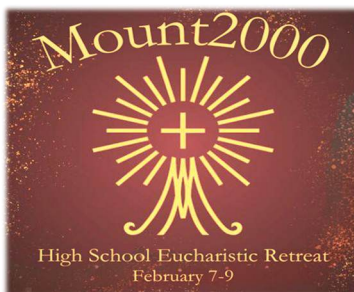
## OCIA

### Formerly known as RCIA



*If you are interested in the OCIA process please contact, Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11th at 4:30pm in the School Building.*

## YOUTH MINISTRY



### **MOUNT 2000 HIGH SCHOOL EUCHARISTIC RETREAT**

**Who:** Beckley Vicariate High School Youth

**What:** Mount2000 Eucharistic Retreat **When:** February 7-9, 2025

**Where:** Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland

For More Info: Lorin Albin, Youth Ministry Coordinator at Sacred Heart, Pctn  
 540.529.6495 or lorinjalbin@gmail.com

### *Second Sunday of Advent*

On this Second Sunday of Advent,  
 light two violet candles on your  
 advent wreath and ask God for the  
 strength to be like John the Baptist,  
 preparing the way of the Lord.



### **Immaculate Conception of Mary Mass Schedule**

**Monday, December 9:**  
 12 Noon ~ Princeton  
 6pm ~ Bluefield



### **Church Directory Pictures**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Family Pictures  
Sunday, December 8  
After the 9am Mass**

Please let Courtney know before Mass  
 that you will need your picture made



### SACRED HEART ORNAMENTS

Perfect for Christmas to hang on the tree! Buy one for yourself or as a gift to family members and friends! These beautiful ornaments are an exact replica of our Sacred Heart Church Building!

The ornaments will be selling for \$20.00 each.



We will be selling them at Mass or you may call Ann Robinson at (304) 887-2421 or the parish office to place your order.

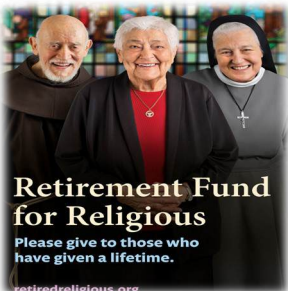
## Congratulations!

*Congratulations and Welcome to Joshua, April, and Addison Christ, the newest members of Sacred Heart! April and Addison received the sacrament of First Communion and April was Confirmed. Joshua is already one with us in Catholicism. You are truly a blessing to the Sacred Heart Parish.*

*Father Sebastian Devasya*  
**Holy Year Italy Pilgrimage**  
 September 2 – 11, 2025  
 (10 days)  
 \$5,999 from Charlotte

View a video with helpful information about traveling with Unitours at [www.Unitours.com/traveler](http://www.Unitours.com/traveler)

**THIS PILGRIMAGE INCLUDES:**  
 Round trip airfare on United Airlines  
 Breakfast and dinner per itinerary  
 Specially selected hotel accommodations  
 Air-conditioned motor coach  
 Full-time tour manager  
 Departure tax and current fuel charge



### Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

### 2nd Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious December 7-8

This collection is especially important because it goes towards providing financial help towards our retired religious who need extra assistance with medical needs, groceries, rent etc.

## Christmas Flower Offerings

Thank you to all who donated:    In Memory/Honor of.....

Randy & Cynthia Albert

Don & Carol Asbury

Frank & Lilian Brady

Deborah Garton & Fred Butler

Bob & Cathy Buzzo

Vearl & Betty Clayton

James & Donella Crigger

John & Debbie Crist

Julia Harrison

Tom Harrison

Carol Havens

Terry & Claire Lampert

Carl & Linda Mariotti

Jimmie & Marilyn McCoy

Steven & Patty Peebles

Patty Peretti

Monty & Deborah Ramella

Greg & Callie Winfree

John J. Crist, Sr., Elizabeth Crist, Ann Crist Byrd,  
Mary Ann Franklin, Mary Williams

Robert L. and Frances L. Harrison

Frances A. Harrison

Turner & Lampert Families, Katherine Nelson,  
Harold Bright, O.E. Clemins

Ray & Mary Shumate

Anthony P. Peretti

Calvin Ray Doss, Letha Doss, Jean Price,  
Mary Hawkins

## Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24th - Children's Christmas Mass 4 pm

December 24th - Christmas Eve Mass 7 pm

December 25th - Christmas Day Mass 9 am



## *Help Those In Need.*

Give to the second  
collection at  
Christmas Mass to  
support Catholic  
Charities.



**"Whoever sows sparingly will also  
reap sparingly, and whoever sows  
generously will also reap generously.**

**Each of you should give what you  
have decided in your heart to give,  
not reluctantly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver".**

**-2 Corinthians 9:6-8**



**Donate online at  
[www.ccwva.org](http://www.ccwva.org)**

December Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
12/7 Sat. 6 pm	J. McCloud	T. Lowery	M. Copolo	Maria Zaldondo	1.J. McCloud 2.D. Garton 3.F. Moran	Pascasio's	R. Albert
			S. Copolo				
12/8 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	L. Ajulo	H. Wills	B. Buzzo	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kirk 3.K. Kidd	R. Albert	C. Albert
			K. Wills	C. Ott			
12/9 6pm Immaculate Mary	M. Malamisura	No Rosary	M. Copolo	V. Hager	1.P. Peretti 2.J. McCloud 3.T. Hager	TBA	Hickman
			S. Copolo	C. Saunders			
12/14 Sat. 6 pm	P. Peretti	D. Garton	A. Peretti	Tom Behrmann	1.L. Mariotti 2.P. Peretti 3.TBA	John Monaco	D. Duritza
			E. Peretti				
12/15 Sun. 9 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	A. Froy	C. Lampert	1.T. Lampert 2.M. Romeo 3.A. Robinson	R. Malamisura	R. Malamisura
			E. Husband	T. Bales			
12/21 Sat. 6 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	Dave Kelley	Valerie Hager	1.T. Behrmann 2.T. Hager 3.A. Peretti	Pascasio's	D. Shumate
12/22 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	T. Lampert	R. West	R. Albert	1.S. Copolo 2.C. Havens 3.K. Kirk	B. Buzzo	M. Mccoy
			K. Oakes	R. Cicoliini			

Christmas Week Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
12/24 4 pm Children's		No Rosary			1.		Counted after Christmas
					2.		
					3.		
12/24 7 pm Christmas Eve		No Rosary		B. Buzzo	1.		Counted After Christmas
					2.		
					3.		
12/25 9am Christmas Day		No Rosary			1.		Counted After Christmas
					2.		
					3.		
12/28 Sat. 6pm		V. Hager			1.L. Mariotti 2.T. Hager 3.		
12/29 Sun. 9 AM					1.		
					2.		
					3.		



## Sacred Heart Prayer List

**Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Stephanie Blevins, George Bowling, Mary Bruch, Loretta Carrigan, Ron Ciccolini, Carl Cook, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Valerie Hager, Daniel Kirk, Claire & Terry Lampert, Tommie Jo Longworth, Mary Malamisura, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen, Carolina Ferrare

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Alex Ercoline, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Rosalie Rochetti, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

**Friends & Family:** Cherie Beck, Yvonne Blevins, Donald Bowles, Shelby Bowles, Teddy Bradshaw, Mark Burnette, Patrick Clark, Chuck Comer, Carolyn Crigger, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Jason Fortney, Beth George, Dolly Hager, Steve Hamm, Skip Harless, Larry Hicks, Yael Issacs, Natalie Jackson, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Stan Lawson, Bill Lester, Bob Mahood, Robert Martin, Connor McKenzie, Ken Mulkey, Angelo Perri, Walt "Buddy" Pierce, Dr. Amanda Hale Reese, Brian Richards, Leanna Smith, Larry Sarever, Abby Taylor, Judy Tolbert, Kay Trimble, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Steve Vaught, Alma Wheeler

If there is anyone you would like to add to our prayer list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at [lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org](mailto:lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org)



Weekly Collection	weekend Nov 30- Dec 1	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	4,186.00	240,986.20	221,000.00
Loose Offertory	541.00	22,124.20	22,600.00
Holiday Flowers	486.00	1,772.00	2,500.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$5,213.00</b>	<b>\$ 264,882.40</b>	<b>\$246,100.00</b>
Food Pantry	1,370.00	25,516.00	0.00
Attendance:	6pm: 55	9am: 75	

**Order Your Sacred Heart T-Shirt Today**

**DEADLINE EXTENDED**

Last day to place orders will be  
Sunday, December 8

**Order forms are located in the  
back of the church or call the  
church office by  
Friday, December 6**

White t-shirt with this  
logo on the front

**Sacred Heart  
Catholic Church**  
Bluefield, West Virginia

**CATHOLIC  
SHARING APPEAL**

We have raised **\$36,486** for the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Which has surpassed our goal of \$24,620!

Thank you everyone for your generous donations. Please continue to donate if you can!

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:**

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

**In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying:** {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

**In case of illness:** Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

**Nursing homes & Hospitals:** are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

# Dear Padre,

## *If Christmas is on December 25, why is the Immaculate Conception on December 8, rather than sometime in March?*

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception asserts that Mary was free of the stain of original sin from the time she was conceived in her mother's womb. Jesus was also free of the stain of original sin and his conception by Mary is referred to as the Incarnation of Christ. Mary's Immaculate Conception is often confused for Christ's Incarnation.

In the Church's liturgical calendar, Mary's conception is celebrated on December 8; her birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on September 8. Likewise, Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; his birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on December 25.

Mary's Immaculate Conception was celebrated many centuries before Pope Pius IX defined it as dogma on December 8, 1854: "The doctrine that maintains that the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a unique grace and privilege granted to her by Almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful" (*Ineffabilis Deus*). In fact, eight years before, in 1846, the bishops of the United States had already adopted the Immaculate Conception as the patronal feast for Catholics in this country.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BY PHILLIP VEIT (1830) RENATA SEMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
December 9 <i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 Eph 1:3–6, 11–12 Lk 1:26–38	December 10 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:1–11 Mt 18:12–14	December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:25–31 Mt 11:28–30	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Is 48:17–19 Mt 11:16–19	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 Mt 17:9a, 10–13	December 15 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Zep 3:14–18a Phil 4:4–7 Lk 3:10–18



### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

*By calling us to conversion, John urges us to go “beyond” where we presently are; to go beyond what our instincts tell us.... Let us ask for the grace to believe that with God things really do change, that he will banish our fears, heal our wounds.... Let us ask for the grace of hope....*

**HOMILY, ATHENS, DECEMBER 5, 2021**