



Mass  for the Intentions  for the Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES

7:00 AM Priests of the Sacred Heart
 8:00 AM Ray Smith
 9:00 AM Camillo Vaccaro, Jr.
 11:30 AM George Thompson

MONDAY, JUNE 30, PROTOMARTYRS OF ROME

7:15 AM Edward Gaither
 12:00 PM Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, JULY 1, BL. JUNIPERO SERRA

7:15 AM Rev. Aloysius T. Newman
 12:00 PM Anne Causin Matthews

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, WEEKDAY

7:15 AM John Lee
 12:00 PM Barrett Nuckols

THURSDAY, JULY 3, ST. THOMAS, APOSTLE

7:15 AM Madison "Buzz" Nutter
 12:00 PM Intentions of Seminarian Charlie Cortinovis

FRIDAY, JULY 4, ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL

INDEPENDENCE DAY

7:15 AM Anna Berens
 10:00 AM Robert Leon Clements

SATURDAY, JULY 5, ST. ANTHONY ZACCARIA, PRIEST

VIGIL: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM (Mount Carmel) Intentions of Alex Bryan
 8:00 AM (Sacred Heart) Tom Mitchell
 5:00 PM Intentions of Maria Cipriano

Please note that a Sat. & Sun. 8:00 AM Mass as well as the 7:15 AM daily Mass take place at Mt. Carmel Monastery. All other Masses are celebrated here at Sacred Heart.

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SAINTS PETER & PAUL

Pilgrims canter to Canterbury, saunter to the terra sancta (the Holy Land), and roam to Rome. These terms for different kinds of paces have entered English, not just as words for speed but as part of an ancestral memory of these important destinations linked to change and holiness. The tombs of Peter and Paul, the first apostolic witnesses to the Church, bring us close not only to history but also to the one who sent them. Rome is not heaven, but it is the diocese of the successor of Peter and Paul. We

receive the message of the apostles: "Repent, the reign of God is at hand." Do we hear the message? Do we act on it?



*He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father."
 Mt 16:15-17*

Readings for the Week of June 29, 2008

Sunday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Gal 1:11-20/
 Jn 21:15-19
 Day: Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/
 Mt 16:13-19
 Monday: Am 2:6-10, 13-16/Mt 8:18-22
 Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Mt 8:23-27
 Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Mt 8:28-34
 Thursday: Eph 2:19-22/Jn 20:24-29
 Friday: Am 8:4-6, 9-12/Mt 9:9-13
 Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Mt 9:14-17
 Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

Financial Blessings

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION amounted to \$13,121.00. The 402 identifiable contributors using envelopes or checks (approximately 29% of the parish) gave \$12,170.00 (93% of the total collection). The unidentifiable loose collection was \$957.00. Many, many thanks for your continued generosity!

OUR SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND is the annual Peter's Pence Collection in support of the works of the Holy Father. The proceeds from this collection fund emergency relief assistance to those who suffer from war, oppression, disease and natural disasters. Through works of charity we join with other Catholics throughout the world to stand in solidarity with the weak, the defenseless and the voiceless and sustain those who suffer. Please be as generous as possible.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rev. Luke Caimi, Jimmy Gainey, Anne Phillips, Thelma Houck, Vera Maguire, Thomas Birmingham, Rachael Wilson, Mark Brown, Bonita Brown, Harry Gilmer, Gladys Jenkins, James Makle, Shannon Maggi, Ann Maggi, Doris Chesley, Kerri McKendree McCoy, Nina Cuevas, Mary Krug, Frankie Murphy, Evelyn Hagens, Hilda Butler, Ramona Dobry, Francis Barbour, Joyce Murray, Mary Ellen Starkey, Eileen Fogarty, Patrick Fogarty, Mary Elzene Hicks, Marty Martin, Larry Edwards, Becky Grimes, Mary Jane Frere, Frances Thomas, John Hoffman, Marilyn Hoffman, Mary Muschette, Mary Ann Spreckelmeyer, Danny Vacin, James Cox, Anna Anstett, Bill Yates, Jeff Lane, Liz Raymond, Elizabeth Johnson, Maureen Johnson, Margie Oliver, Jeffrey Gahan, Camden Flater, and 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 prayer request by calling the parish office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HAPPY REPOSE OF THE SOUL of *Mary Stone Muschette*, retired cook and housekeeper at Sacred Heart Rectory.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Those wishing to arrange for a baptism during the month of August are asked to call Deacon Al Graham at the parish office at 301-934-2261 ***before the end of July.*** *Please keep in mind that those presenting their children for baptism must be active participating members of Sacred Heart parish who have been registered and attending Mass on a regular basis for a minimum of three months.*

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar each week can be donated in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion in our lives. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

I would like to have flowers placed on the altar.
IN _____ **HONOR**
OF _____
WEEKEND
OF _____
GIVEN
BY _____

Please drop in collection basket or return to parish office. Flowers **are not** placed on the altar during Lent or Advent. Suggested donation for flowers -- \$30.00.

locations around the country when you are away from home during the summer holidays.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSIST GABRIEL PROJECT:

The Town of La Plata will donate \$150 to a group that is willing to cook and hand out free hot dogs at their annual 4th of July Festival. We are looking for two more grills (the Town is providing one) and about four more people to help with the grilling/wrapping/handing out of the hot dogs. If you are available from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on July 4th, please contact Crista Fawls at cfawls@hughes.net or 301-392-9065.

HUGHESVILLE HOMELESS SHELTER:

Because this Friday, July 4, is a holiday, Sacred Heart will be delivering our monthly meal to the women and children at the Angel’s Watch Shelter in Hughesville on Thursday, July 3. Donations for the meal may be delivered to the Parish Office on Thursday, July 3, before 4 PM. Many thanks to all those who continue to faithfully support this cause!

FIRST FRIDAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

This Friday, July 4, is Independence Day, a civil holiday. There will be no noon Mass and no evening Mass and Holy Hour. However, confessions will be heard from 9:00 – 10:00 AM, followed by Mass beginning at 10:00 AM. ***Please also note that the parish office will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of the holiday.*** As always, in case of emergency, a priest can be reached by dialing the parish office number and following the telephone prompts.

LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA

presents a practical and effective program to help Catholics better understand their faith. Would you like to learn more about your Catholic faith but don’t have time to read a lot of books? If so, we have an exciting program starting here at Sacred Heart Parish. In the vestibule, you will find a display offering inspiring and educational Catholic CDs and brochures. These CDs include explanations of our Catholic faith, accounts of God’s incredible mercy in the personal lives of Catholics, and practical information for living your faith. These CDs are especially effective for those who would like to learn more about Christ and their faith, but have little time to study. Use your car as a university on wheels. Listen as you drive, or even as you exercise. Being a faithful Catholic is not easy in today’s world, but these interesting and informative CDs will show you why it’s the best thing going. For those who cannot afford to donate, all CD’s are free. But if you are able to support the program, the \$3.00 recommended donation is gratefully appreciated and needed to make new titles available in the future.

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON RELIVING COLONIAL LIFE

at St. Ignatius Church, Chapel Point this Sunday, June 29. Join historian and actor, Mr. Wes Stone, at 3:00 PM as he portrays Fr. Andrew White, who founded St. Ignatius in 1641 and learn about his experiences among the Piscataway and Potobac peoples and the rigors of colonial life in early Charles County. Tours of the church, St. Thomas Manor House and grounds will be conducted before and after his presentation. Punch and cookies will be served while you relax to colonial music. The event is free; however donations will be gratefully accepted to fund continuing renovations of this historic landmark. For info, call 301-392-3980.



Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the great Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. We recall that Peter and Paul are the pillars of the Church, the one shepherd of Christ's flock who governs from his "chair" at Rome, the other the missionary, the "Apostle of the Nations" who went all over the ancient world to found ecclesial communities and strengthen them. In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we realize the difficulties that the apostles experienced under the rule of the religious authorities in Jerusalem. Peter is double chained in prison the night before he is to appear before King Herod. An angel appears to release him from prison and leads him out of the prison into the streets of Jerusalem. All of this takes place during the feast of Unleavened Bread—that is Passover. The deliverance of Peter, whom God frees from prison at night, and precisely at this time of year has great meaning. For the Church, it is still a time of Exodus. During the night of this world, it prays with confidence, remembering the Passover of Christ and giving thanks for the marvel of salvation accomplished by God and looking forward to that day when Christ will come in glory at the end of time accompanied by the angels.

As we read St. Paul's second letter to Timothy, we are reading the last letter he wrote before his death. Paul is imprisoned at Rome under humiliating conditions. He knows the outcome of his trial—a death sentence. In this letter addressed to Timothy, his faithful co-worker, Paul rapidly looks over his life and speaks of his impending martyrdom. He uses the image of being "poured out like a libation." He uses this liturgical image to express the sacrificial character of his life—he has sacrificed his life for Christ and in service to His gospel and is about to shed his own blood for Christ—his last and greatest witness. Paul also uses the image of "departure." He considers the death of every Christian as a passage, a Pasch, to heaven and union with Christ. As an athlete, he has competed well and kept the faith. Now victory and the end of the race are assured as he will share in the crown of glory and see Christ and the fullness of the glory of God.

Peter professes his faith that Christ is the Messiah in today's gospel passage from Matthew. After Peter's profession, Jesus thanks the Father for having revealed this truth. Jesus adds, "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of netherworld shall not prevail against it." The invisible foundation of the Church is the resurrected Lord. When Simon is given the name, Rock, he is assigned the function of that bedrock upon which the Church is constructed. The Son of God is the cornerstone upon which the Church rests, the Church that Jesus has Himself built upon Peter. Jesus continues speaking to Peter and says, "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." The Lord Jesus is going to depart. Until He returns, Jesus entrusts to Peter the keys of the building that He has constructed. Peter along with the other apostles understand that they must be faithful stewards as they serve the needs of Church. The power to bind and to loosen is to be understood in the same light. The forgiveness of sins opens up within the Church, the gates of the kingdom of God. And here this power is given to Peter, who represents the group of the apostles.

God bless you all!

Father Ron

JOIN FR. ROBERT S. PITTMAN, S.S.S., AND THE BODY OF CHRIST COMMUNITY as they celebrate his Golden Jubilee of Priesthood with a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Joseph's Church,

Pomfret, at 5:30 PM, Sunday, July 13, 2008. Mass will be followed by a dinner at St. Joseph's Parish Center, 4590 St. Joseph's Way, Pomfret. RSVP to 301-888-2566 or bodyofchristfarm@yahoo.com by July 1. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

OUR COMMUNITY CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY celebrated the end of a very successful first year with a picnic and Jell-O wrestling extravaganza at St. Ignatius on Saturday, June 21. Congratulations to **Peer Leader of the Year** recipients: Sacred Heart's Brett O'Neill; St. Ignatius' Anna Albrittain; and St. Joseph's Rachel Zaccarelli. The **Youth Night of the Year** prize went to Lauren Albrittain, Kelsey Gahan and Julianna Hieb for their May Youth Night titled "Under the Sea." Many, many thanks go out to our adult volunteers and supporters – youth ministry would not happen without you! Fr. Ron, Fr. Fred, Fr. Jerry, Fr. Dillon and Fr. Dougherty, Ellen Palmer, Beth DeLabar, Mr. T, Mike Gahan, Jim Albrittain, Marti O'Neill, Tina Hieb, Renee Teeney, Cat Lavery, George Wilson, Archbishop Neale Knights of Columbus, Maurice McDonough Knights of Columbus, and the Hard Times Café.

DON'T FORGET, THE FUN DOESN'T STOP JUST BECAUSE IT'S SUMMER! Join us for *Lawn Chair Theater* every Friday at St. Joseph's (except July 4 and August 1). All movies are rated PG13 or lower. Movies start at dusk, weather permitting. Bring your own chair, snacks and friends. Parents welcome. For more info, call Mrs. T in the Youth Ministry Office at 301-934-2261.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Openings are still available for **VBS**, to be held at Archbishop Neale School during the week of July 28 – August 1, from 8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. Preschool, ages 3-5 and elementary ages K thru 5th grade. Hurry and sign up! **Registration deadline is June 30.** Registration forms can be picked up at the church office or you may register on line at <https://www.groupvbs.com/webtoybox/myvbs/sacredheartchurch>. If you register on line, please take your payments to the church office. The fee for VBS is \$25 for 1st child, \$20 for 2nd, and \$15 for third and each additional child. We want no child left out, so if the fee is a hardship, please contact Fr. Ron. We are looking for any eager volunteers. All 7th or 8th graders can earn hours by volunteering. Any adult that has a desire to help just needs to go through the ADW fingerprinting and background check. Please call Shannon Kelley at 301-934-2923 or Teresa Shutters at 301-392-076d1f with questions or concerns