

SACRED HEART OF JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

295 Balearic Road
Hot Springs Village, Arkansas 71909

FR. WILLIAM A. ELSER, Pastor

Cell: 501-209-2502 e-mail: frbillelser@gmail.com



Church Office 501-922-2062
Tuesday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

website: www.hvsacredheart.com
e-mail: hvsacredheart@gmail.com
Parish EIN#: 71-0522822

Deacon Larry Lipsmeyer 501 922-3283
Deacon B.J. Bowen 501 831-1742
Deacon Gary Christoff 573 645-6814

MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.....	09:00 a.m.
Wednesday.....	04:00 p.m.
First Saturday.....	09:00 a.m.
Saturday Anticipated	04:00 p.m.
Sunday	08:00 a.m.
.....	10:00 a.m.
Holy Day Vigil (with obligation)	as announced
Holy Day.....	09:00 a.m.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration	All hours
.....	7 days a week

CONFESSION

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	08:40 to 08:55 a.m.
Wednesday	03:30 to 03:50 p.m.
Saturday	03:15 to 03:45 p.m.

OR by appointment with the Pastor

DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday	Dec 23
Tuesday	Dec 24 Christmas Eve
09:00 am	Mass
12:00 pm	Christmas Meal Set-up, Lower Hall
04:00 pm	Christmas Vigil Mass
Wednesday	Dec 25 Christmas Day
12:00 am	Midnight Mass
10:00 am	Mass
12:00 pm	Christmas Meal, Lower Hall
Thursday	Dec 26
	Office Closed
Friday	Dec 27
09:45 am	COR Group, Classroom D
Saturday	Dec 28
04:00 pm	Mass - Feast of the Holy Family
Sunday	Dec 29
08:00 am	Mass - Feast of the Holy Family
10:00 am	Mass - Feast of the Holy Family

EPIPHANY SUNDAY CROCK POT DINNER

There will be a parish crock pot dinner on Sunday, January 5, in the Lower Hall. Sign up sheets will be in the Narthex. Please indicate what your contribution will be. We will gather at 4:00 pm and the meal will begin around 4:30 pm. After we enjoy our meal and fellowship we will play bingo. Those choosing to play, please bring a gift valued between \$10 - \$15 for prizes. Come and join the fun!



MASS FOR LIFE

On January 19, 2025, Bishop Anthony B. Taylor will preside at the annual diocesan Mass for Life at noon at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, 617 Louisiana St., Little Rock. Prior to Mass, beginning at 11:20 am, there will be a Rosary for Life and a time of Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is invited. Please join in our prayers for the legal protection of unborn children and for an end to the grave evil of abortion. After Mass, a grab-and-go lunch will be provided to make it easier for all to attend the Arkansas Right to Life's annual March for Life which begins at 2:00 pm.

2025 CALENDARS - FROM THE DIOCESE

Catholic Extension is experiencing delays in production on the 2025 calendars. "Due to unforeseen circumstances in our production facility and the breakdown of a major binding machine, we are experiencing delivery delays at this time," said Dan Stremel, Senior Director of Calendar Operations. "We are working as quickly as we can to accurately fill all our calendar orders." Orders to be delivered by the end of December or early January.

CLERGY WELFARE COLLECTION

The collection at The Masses of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will benefit the Clergy Welfare Fund. This fund provides retirement and health care benefits to retired and infirm priests of our diocese. These men have dedicated their lives to God's work and continue to serve in whatever capacity they are able. Your contributions make our priests' retirement possible. Please consider a contribution this Christmas, giving back to them in thanksgiving for all they have done for us.

START 2025 WITH SOCIABLE SIX!

Our Sociable Six will return for the months of January, February and March 2025. Three couples will be grouped together and then arrange among themselves to share a simple brunch, lunch or dinner at alternate homes, once each month. Participants will enjoy getting to know their fellow parishioners in an informal setting. It is a great way for newcomers to get acquainted with members of our parish family. To sign up call **Nancy or Howard Emery 815 861-0820** or email emeryfam@hotmail.com. Please provide your name, address, phone number and email address. Final sign up for this session is Dec. 27. You will receive a letter/email with the three couples in your group the first week of January.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sacred Heart will once again offer an opportunity for parishioners and guests to enjoy delicious food and fellowship on Christmas Day in the Lower Hall. Chef Johnna has planned the following menu: garden salad with champagne vinaigrette, slow cooked roast beef with French onion gravy, maple and orange glazed spiral ham, twice baked mashed potatoes, zucchini & yellow squash with tomato gratin, cheddar broccoli casserole, rolls and butter, coffee and tea. For dessert there will be Christmas cookies with Fr. Bill's ice cream. The cost is \$17 per person with payment required at the time of sign up. The sheet is in the Narthex. Write your name on and use the provided envelopes if paying cash. **Deadline to sign up is this weekend.** It will be a wonderful gathering with food, fellowship and caroling with family and friends as we celebrate the birth of our Savior



*Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One:
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.*

cf. Isaiah 45:8

PASTORS COLUMN

In the old African spiritual hymn, "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow", the primary characters, the shepherds who were visited by the angel after Jesus's birth, are making their way to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us" (Lk 1:15) referring to the birth of Jesus Christ. The first verse of that hymn wrongly speaks of them following the star to Bethlehem (wrongly because it was the magi, not the shepherds who, according to the evangelist Matthew, were led to the place where Jesus lived). I was informed in a video I watched years ago that the African slaves in the United States sang this hymn as they fled by night to escape their slavery toward the end of the Civil War. Tragically many of them lived through many Christmases as slaves who longed for their freedom. Sadly, in our time, there are many victims of human trafficking who feel the same as they are kept like slaves and are made to do things that degrade them and potentially harm them in many ways. This is especially egregious when it happens to young people. In our state, that is ranked number two in terms of registered sex offenders, and number one when it comes to child abuse, the possibility of young people being victims of human trafficking is high. In general, it is estimated that around 20% of all children in the United States will be approached by a trafficker before the age of 18. Those of you who have grandchildren and great-grandchildren should take notice of this and hopefully be open to hearing more about this issue and what can be done to protect our young people and even rescue those who are currently victims of such behavior toward them. Human trafficking and crimes connected with the making and distributing of both adult and child pornography is estimated to be a \$150 billion dollar criminal industry.

Efforts to combat all of this include a human trafficking and pornography task forces, including one established by Bishop Taylor in our diocese. Gary Wolfer of our parish accepted a position on that task force and will be a welcome resource for our parish as we hear more about what we and the public in general can do to fight against this "forced slavery" of our times. Every one of us is invited to educate ourselves by participating in a symposium on the dangers of human trafficking that will take place at Christ the King Church in Little Rock on Saturday, January 25. An announcement about this symposium and how to go about signing up and attending this free workshop (that includes breakfast and lunch) can be found in our bulletin this week. Experts on this subject from around the country will be making presentations. At the very least, please pray for victims and potential victims of human trafficking, and be open to learning more about this growing and serious problem in our country and in the world. It is well worth our time and attention now and in the future!

LET US
ADORE HIM
Christ the Lord

GIFT OF ADORATION

We need the strength and peace that comes from the Holy Eucharist. If more people would take the time to make a Holy Hour, at least once a week, many things might change for the better.



"Often place your confidence in Divine Providence and be assured that sooner heaven and earth shall pass away than that the Lord neglects to protect you...My past, O Lord, to your mercy; my present, to your Love; my future to your Providence." *St. Padre Pio*

There is a need for regular Adorers on Sunday at 7 - 8:00 pm and 8 - 9:00 pm

Contact Mike Ritch regarding PEA [832 231-7469](tel:832-231-7469)

FORMED

One of the blessings that our parish has at Christmas time is the availability of Formed at no cost. Access seasonal music, art, and programs that enhance, for your family, both Advent and Christmas by simply signing up for your free parish subscription at FORMED.org. Add to your holidays by simply clicking on titles of interest to you and your family.

Merry Christmas

NEWLY ELECTED PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

We are blessed to have the following parishioners serving on the Pastoral Council as the result of our recently held election:

Alison Kordsmeier - Liturgy Commission

Larry Helton - Parish Life Commission

Jackie Fox-Tomassi - Social Justice/Charitable Outreach Commission

A big thank you to them and those who ran in the election.



LADIES OF SACRED HEART CORNER

- Thanks to all for a successful Bake Sale!
- Registration open for Women of Hope Retreat Jan. 31 & Feb. 1. Go to womenofhopear.org for more information.
- To help with the Filly Bags for Oaklawn workers, contact Sheila Harrison at arktraveler594@gmail.com. Filled bags must be returned at the Jan. 13 General Meeting.

Remember to recycle your aluminum beverage cans at the bin in the large church parking lot.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

Sacred Heart Parish and our Music Ministry invite you to join us in an old fashioned "Christmas Carol Sing" before the Midnight and Christmas Day Masses. We will come together at 11:45 pm on Christmas Eve and 9:45 am on Christmas morning to sing some carols of old in celebration of our Savior's birth.



HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



- ♥ Kevin & Rose Farrell, 39 years on December 27
- ♥ Thomas & Peggy Sinclair, 14 years on December 28

* Call the church office to provide your anniversary date.

GIFT BEARERS

The following parishioners have volunteered to bring up the gifts at the 5:00 pm Mass:



Mike and Linda Gonda

Sign up to present the gifts at Mass in the white binder located in the Narthex. With questions, call **Marian LaVelle** at 501 209-2435.

EXERCISE CLASS ADJUSTED SCHEDULE

ALL classes are cancelled for the following days: Tuesday, December 24 through Tuesday, December 31, 2024
Enjoy (in moderation) your holidays and be ready to jump start the new year with classes resuming Thursday, January 2.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER



- ◆ Dec. 31 Consecration to the Holy Family
 - ◆ Jan, 3 Samaritan Ministries
 - ◆ Jan. 7 Bi-monthly Blood Drive
 - ◆ Jan. 7 Monthly Council Meeting 5:00 pm, Lower Hall
 - ◆ Jan. 15 4th Degree O & D Meeting 1:30 pm, Classrooms A & B
 - ◆ Jan. 15 O & D Meeting 2:30 pm, Classrooms A & B
- ** To join the Knights call **Bob Ward** at 501 416-1479

MEN'S CLUB 50/50 RAFFLE

The 50/50 will work like your typical super bowl squares. The per square donation is \$20 and payout is as follows:

1st quarter: \$200, 2nd quarter: \$250
3rd quarter: \$200 and final score: \$350

You are allowed a max of 5 squares per person. Family members/relatives can participate. Our goal is to fill two boards (200 squares). If squares remain the final week in January, then you may purchase additional.

This Men's Club fundraiser is to increase our financial donations to our selected charities.

Checks made payable to Sacred Heart Church - memo line: 50/50 raffle squares. Please indicate name and how many squares for each person. All checks mailed to: David Banaszynski 22 Fachado Way HSV, AR 71909 prior to the January 25 deadline. Numbers will be drawn by Men's Club Board Officers on January 27. Completed boards with all numbers will be sent to each Club's representative on January 29, 11 days prior to the Super Bowl. With questions call Dave Banaszynski 401 332-5999 or email davidbanaszynski@gmail.com. Thanks in advance!!

HUMAN TRAFFICKING & PORNOGRAPHY SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, January 25 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Christ the King church, Little Rock

Attendees will hear from experts:

Fr. Jeffrey Bayhi, Fr. Chuck Swanson, Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, Former Scitlan Yard Inspector Kevin Hyland and Cyber Specialist Kevin Mecalf
Free breakfast & lunch, 5:00 pm Mass
Register for this free symposium at dolrtaskforce.org

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Bereavement Support	Gary Christoff	573-645-6814
Caregiver Support	Evelyn Garrison	501-204-4134
	Maureen Halloran	228-342-0491
Columbarium	Gary Wolfer	501-204-1192
Eucharist: Homebound	Rose Farrell	860-208-9813
Helping Hands	Cathy Wedwick	501-915-8456
	Pat Widlowski	501-922-1395
Perpetual Adoration	Mike Ritch	832-231-7469
Youth Faith Formation	Lou Ann Kemper	469-323-2505

PARISH FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL			PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL		
David Witchger	Grounds, Chair	501-922-9058	Deb Troxel	Education	515-314-6955
Carolyn Bowers	Administration	501-915-8022	Lou Ann Kemper	Education	469-323-2505
Bob Honzik	Stewardship	501-922-2702	Sandy Darnell, Chair	Liturgy	602-418-3414
Murray Claassen	Stewardship	501-908-4346	Marian LaVelle	Liturgy	501-209-2435
Pat Kalisz	Building Complex/ Equipment	630-926-6637	Mark Leslie	Parish Life	501-226-0074
Russ Harrison	Cemetery/ Columbarium	501-922-1767	Becky Jordan	Parish Life	901-605-0333
Larry Lipsmeyer	Cemetery/ Columbarium	501-922-3283	Marge Newburn	Social Justice	501-922-9047
Larry Stein	Finance	501-226-5105	Pietro Tomassi	Social Justice	501-282-4427
			David Witchger	Finance Council	501-922-9058

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Effective immediately, the deadline for submitting bulletin announcements is the **Friday** one week prior to the weekend the bulletin is to be distributed. The deadline time is **12:00 pm**. Please submit announcements to hvsSacredHeart@gmail.com

Sick List - Names in bold italics have been recently added. A * next to last name Indicates non-parishioners.

Parishioners will be placed on the Sick List when a request has been made. To ensure privacy, remember to ask the person needing prayers if (s)he would like to be included in the listing. Recipients will remain on the Sick List for 60 days unless asked to be removed sooner or a request to stay on has been received.

Lew Ake	Theresa Drumwright	Hoang Huynh*	Jeffrey Smith*
Nick Amrhein*	Mary Gerau*	Georgia Janush	Mary Szczepaniak*
Dennis Becker	Ken Gordon	Alice Justus	Tillie Tylka
Brenda Benson	Tim Gray*	Vivian Le*	Darin Wells*
Tony Bertrand*	Larry Gremillion	Diane Prescott	
William J. "Bill" Butler	John Guida	Don Prescott	
Evelyn Donnelly	Joan Hardt	Rustie Seghers	
Tom Donnelly	Betty Hoepner	Audrey Sitkowski	



PRAYER WARRIORS

PRAYERS NEEDED?

We all need a prayer warrior in times of crisis, a critical or dangerous situation that needs serious attention, including emergencies, surgery, imminent death or the loss of a loved one. Our Parish Prayer Warriors are ready to help. Some ninety Parish Prayer Warriors will offer intercessory prayers to God for you and your loved ones at these and other critical times. Please call: **Jim Goodson 204-2494 or Chris Stein, 226-5105** to get your prayers started. They will continue for 30 days, unless cancelled by you, and may be continued by request. You too may become a member of our Parish Prayer Warriors by calling Jim or Chris.



Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you... Jeremiah 29:12

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 21	4:00 pm	HELEN AKE	LEW AKE
		MARY ZELHOFFER	HOLLY HARCK/JIM MAHAN
Dec 22	8:00 am	JULIAN TYLKA	DONNA SMITH/ JULIE VITTON
	10:00 AM	SHJ PARISHIONERS	FR. BILL ELSER
Dec 23	9:00 am	MARILYN BURKE	HELPING HANDS
Dec 24	9:00 am	SUSIE CARDENAS	DIEGO/TERESA MICELLI
	4:00 pm	KAREN KIRCHNER**	PHYLLIS MELENSON
Dec 25	12:00 am	BERNIE KERNAN	HELPING HANDS
	10:00 am	CECIL GRATTAFIORI	GRATTAFIORI FAMILY
Dec 26	9:00 am	EMMA STOVALL	SUSAN HARRELL
Dec 27	9:00 am	MIKE THOMAS	DR. DRINNON/MARY HAND
Dec 28	4:00 pm	WILLIAM SCHANK	MARIE RADCLIFFE
Dec 29	8:00 am	SUSIE CARDENAS	ALL SAINTS GUILD 2
	10:00 am	SHJ PARISHIONERS	FR. BILL ELSER

** = LIVING