

SACRED HEART OF JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

295 Balearic Road
Hot Springs Village, Arkansas 71909

WILLIAM A. ELSER, Pastor
Cell: 209.2502 e-mail: frbillelser@gmail.com



Church Office 922-2062
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
website: hsvsacredheart.com
e-mail: sacredheart@hsvsacredheart.com

Dc. John Froning 226-9035
Dc. Larry Lipsmeyer 922-3283

MASSES

Tuesday through Friday 09:00 a.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.
..... 06:30 p.m.

ADORATION

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration 24 hours a day
..... 07 days a week

CONFESSION

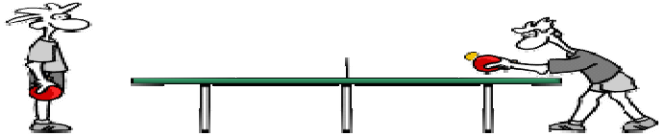
Tuesday - Friday 8:30 to 8:55 a.m.
Saturday 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.
Sunday..... 7:15 to 7:45 a.m.
by appointment

PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday	December 18
09:00 a.m.	Mass
Tuesday	December 19
04:30 p.m.	Sacred Heart Advent Reconciliation Service
Wednesday	December 20
01:00 p.m.	Hand & Foot—Singles Only, Upper Hall
	Spades/Table Games—Upper Hall
03:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	K/C Council 10208—Officers & Directors Meeting
	Classroom D
05:30 p.m.	REY—Advent Party
Thursday	December 21
09:45 a.m.	Family Assistance Group Meeting—Upper Hall
	Rosary Makers
02:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart Bowling League—Fiesta Bowl
03:00 p.m.	HSV Community Foundation Meeting
	Classrooms A & B
06:00 p.m.	Advent Reconciliation Service
	Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Benton, AR
Friday	December 22
09:45 a.m.	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group—Classrooms A & B
11:00 a.m.—	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Noon	Sacred Heart Church
Saturday	December 23
11:00 a.m.—	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Noon	Sacred Heart Church
04:00 p.m.	Mass — Food Collection, Jackson House
Sunday	December 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE
08:00 a.m.	Mass—Food Collection, Jackson House
10:00 a.m.	Mass—Food Collection, Jackson House
04:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass, Solemnity of the Nativity

WINTER ESCAPE

Brrrrrr, winter months get cold! A fun inside activity is available on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 3:30 p.m., so come and enjoy playing Ping Pong in the Lower Hall. Bring a friend as paddles and balls are available. Call Bob Bowman with inquiries at 922-6619.



BOOK COLLECTION

The boxes for books and outdated materials are no longer in the library. They are now in the closet to the left of the main church doors — the same drop-off place as the food and clothing collection. Please do not leave these materials in the library.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our Advent Reconciliation Service presents an opportunity for individual Confessions on Tuesday, December 19, at 4:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT SACRED HEART

Sunday	December 24	04:00 p.m.
Monday	December 25	Midnight Mass
		10:00 a.m.
		(No 08:00 a.m. Mass)

NOTE: *Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation so Catholics are obliged to participate in a Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent AND a Christmas Mass.*

CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Lower Hall will be the gathering place for parishioners and guests who wish to come together to share Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day at 1:00 p.m. This will be a potluck meal, so please bring either a main dish, side dish, or dessert if you can. Drinks will be provided.

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus, to open the doors of hope.

HEAD SACRISTAN NEEDED



Now that Carol and Larry Cruz have retired from their responsibilities as sacristans, the parish is very much in need of a person or couple to take on the responsibility of coordinating this ministry and working with current sacristans who set up for our Masses (about 15 of them) as well as ordering Mass supplies and a few other activities that have to do with the decoration of our sanctuary, narthex and chapel with plants and flowers. We are hoping someone with organizational and people skills who love the Lord and our liturgies, will step forward. While this has, to this point been a voluntary position, we are prepared to offer some monetary (and for sure, spiritual) compensation for the person or persons who take this on. Please call Father Bill to get more information or to offer yourself for this ministry. His cell number is 209-2502.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Helping Hands	Cathy Wedwick Pat Widlowski	915-8456 922-1395
Phone Chain	Ellen Meyer	922-3127
Communion - Homebound	Marge Stehling Jeanne Sanders	922-3837 915-0748
Grief Support	Deacon John Froning	226-5506
Memorial Garden	Buddy Dixon	922-2811

REVEREND FATHER NELSON RUBIO



The Sacred Heart Men's Club congratulates Father Nelson on his ordination into the priesthood for the Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas. His courage to leave his country and family in Venezuela to follow his calling to serve God is a wonderful example to all our parishioners.

Members of the Men's Club received word last week that the package of food and supplies, purchased by the Men's Club and sent in August, has finally been delivered to Father Nelson's parents in Venezuela.

May God bless Father Rubio, his family, and his journey in the priesthood.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

The diary of St. Faustina, which was written by her from 1934-38, contained her thoughts, prayers and reported visions and conversations she had with Jesus on "Divine Mercy". In one particular excerpt she is told to write this: "I am Thrice Holy, and I detest the smallest sin. I cannot love a soul that is stained with sin; but when it repents, there is no limit to My generosity toward it. My mercy embraces and justifies it. With My mercy, I pursue sinners all along their paths, and My heart rejoices when they return to me . . . Tell sinners that I am always waiting for them, that I listen intently to the beating of their heart . . . when will it beat for Me." I thought this would be a good passage to quote and reflect upon in light of our upcoming Advent Reconciliation Service this Tuesday, December 19, at 4:30 p.m.

Whether we have sinned slightly or gravely, the Lord wants to be generous in forgiving us all of our sins. John the Baptist continues to cry out "Prepare the Way for the Lord. Make straight his paths." (Mk 1:3).

I pray that many of us will heed the call and give time to join "fellow sinners" in our communal Word service and consider going to individual Confession to the six or more priests who will be with us that day. If you cannot be there for the start of the service, please come when you can as our priests should be here until at least 6:00 p.m. The greatest gift you can give yourself BEFORE Christmas is an experience with our merciful Lord and rejoice in the peace that he gives to us through his forgiveness and that of his Body, the Church.

For those who can't join us on Tuesday, I will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday, December 22, and Saturday, December 23, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (and the normal times: 8:30-8:50 a.m. on weekdays, 3:15-3:45 p.m. on Saturday, and 7:15-7:45 a.m. on Sunday).



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

SEASONAL POTLUCK

The Wednesday Spades group and our Singles will be having a Christmas Season potluck, a gift exchange (\$10.00 gift wrapped), and will play cards on Wednesday, January 3 starting at 12:00 p.m. in the Upper Hall. Our regulars and anyone else who enjoys cards, can join us for this fun-filled gathering. Sandwiches and snack food (including desserts) will be accepted by those who wish to bring something to eat. Bringing food is NOT required for you to join us for this annual event.

EPIPHANY FEAST

CROCKPOT POTLUCK DINNER

Hello Fellow Parishioners! We will be having an Epiphany Feast Crockpot Potluck Dinner on Sunday, January 7, 2018. Please bring your favorite soup, stew or crockpot dish to share. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex starting Saturday, December 16, so please let us know if you will be attending and if you are bringing a dish so we know how many outlets to have ready. We want everyone's dish to stay nice and warm for a cold January day. There will be a "Secret Santa Bingo" after dinner so please also bring a wrapped gift for the bingo! It should be a fun time with lots of fellowship and laughter! If you have questions, call Jen Rivera at [928-358-9069](tel:928-358-9069).

HAND AND FOOT CLUB

Schedules for January—May are in white envelopes with your name alphabetically listed and can be found in the narthex. Look for a box marked HAND & FOOT. Please pick-up your envelope. Call Ann Krawczynski at [501-915-9629](tel:501-915-9629).

DONATIONS TO THE VILLAGE OUTREACH SHOE FUND

Once again this year we have placed a decorated shoe box in the hallway of the Administration and Education Building for donations to the Village Outreach Shoe Fund. Your donations are used to pay for the shoes given to children in the families receiving a Christmas Basket. If helping by check, please make checks out to Sacred Heart with the notation "shoe fund". Thanks for your generous support throughout the years!

PARISH BABY SHOWER

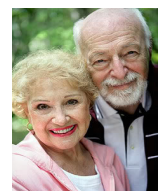
The babies we "spiritually" adopted back in April are due to be born January 8, 2018. To welcome them into the world, we are planning a Parish Baby Shower. All parishioners are invited to participate.

Please purchase a baby item and bring it to church, unwrapped, beginning Saturday, December 30, through Monday, January 8. Members of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart can consider this their "something extra" for January and bring gifts to the general meeting on January 8. A display area will be set up in the narthex, and gifts can be left in the crib. The donated items will be delivered to Catholic Adoption Services in Little Rock and local pregnancy centers in Hot Springs and Benton.

Items needed include: preemie and other newborn clothes, newborn, size one and size two Pampers, scent-free and additive-free wipes and diaper bags, Disposable diapers (all sizes), and baby formula. Also needed are crib sheets, blankets, clothing up to 10 months, powders, bath items bottles, and just about anything else that parents needs for a newborn baby. Please do not wrap gifts.



A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Couples . . . Want to give each other something really special this Christmas? How about a gift filled with romance and excitement? That's just the beginning of what you will receive on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. This special weekend is scheduled for February 9-11, 2018 as held in Subiaco, Arkansas. Space is limited.

Apply online at www.arkansaswwme.org/appy. For more information, call Ben or Leah Brewer at [501-733-1235](tel:501-733-1235).

POT OF GOLD DINNER AND RAFFLE

The Ladies of the Sacred Heart (LOSH) is sponsoring a fundraiser for the benefit of women and children on, January 26, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. A ticket will entitle you to two dinners of Pot of Chicken Ranch Casserole, family-style salad and dessert. Also included will be an exciting raffle that will present a one-time chance to get a return on your ticket investment of \$100.

During the raffle, the first ticket drawn returns \$100, every tenth ticket drawn returns \$100, the 97th ticket drawn returns \$100, the 98th ticket gives \$200, the 99th ticket gives \$500 and the 100th tickets returns \$2,500! Won't you take a chance?

Each ticket sells for \$100 and can be purchased from any member of the LOSH. Please make checks payable to Ladies of the Sacred Heart. Join us on January 26 for a barrel of fun, good food, good drink, and the building excitement of the raffle!

MEMORY AWAKENS HOPE



Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope.

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.
Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, 1986



OUR FATHER: Renew the hope and livelihood of those who suffer from flood, fire, storm or disaster. Amen.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flower arrangements for this weekend were donated by Rich & Jen Rivera in celebration of their one-year marriage anniversary. They are placed in front of the altar. Ken & Lorie Vincent have donated flowers in memory of Cindy Vincent, and that arrangement is placed in front of the statue of the Virgin Mary. Flowers on each side of the tabernacle were donated by Father Nelson Rubio in celebration of his ordination into the priesthood.

RED CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT



For all new parishioners, and others, who would like to bring a red ornament for our family tree, please place in the marked basket in the narthex. Your name should be on the ornament, and it will be hung on the tree in the narthex each year.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

The Sacred Heart Men's Club distributed \$9,500 during November to the following charities:

Thanksgiving/Christmas Basket Program, Jackson House, Samaritan Ministries, McCauley Center, Cedar Mountain Boys and Girls Club, St. John's School, Our Lady of Fatima School. A donation to the Catholic Schools Scholarship Fund will be determined later in the fiscal year.

The Sacred Heart Men's Club thanks its members for participating in the various functions during the year and thanks the members of Sacred Heart for supporting their efforts, particularly our annual Chicken and Fish Bakes.

HAM/TURKEY GIFT CARDS

You can still get your HoneyBake gift cards at website hsvkoafc.org by selecting the button on the upper left side of the Knights of Columbus home page. Please allow seven to ten days delivery by mail. Redeem by phone, online, or at any Honey Bake store. In Little Rock, the address is 9112 North Rodney Parham Road. Gift cards have no expiration date and can be redeemed for any occasion. Promotion ends January 1, 2018. Any questions, call Russ Harrison, Fundraiser Chairman, at [501-276-7837](tel:501-276-7837).

GIFT BEARERS



Thank you to those who will serve this weekend: Gift Bearers as chosen by Reverend Father Nelson Rubio who is celebrating his first Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, and Jim & Pookie Dixon in honor of their 17th wedding anniversary. Congratulations! Please sign-up in the narthex and call Marcie at [922-9366](tel:922-9366) with questions.

Let's give a little of Jesus to everyone, large or small, for Jesus, the Messiah, is the Greatest Gift of all.

PARISH FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL			PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL		
David Witchger	<u>Chair</u> & Grounds	922-9058	Tom Canavan,	<u>Chair</u> & Education	501 204-9546
Ed Crahan	Building	915-0788	Sharon Board	Education	922-6995
Carolyn Bowers	Administration	915-8022	Karen Feckler	Liturgy	501 209-1499
Bob Honzik	Stewardship	922-2702	Reneè Steinpreis	Liturgy	922-4480
Larry Stein	Finance	226-5105	Jennifer Rivera	Parish Life Chair	928 358-9069
				Parish Life	
			Rebecca Huber, VC	Social Justice/Outreach	922-0966
			Bill Gribbon	Social Justice/Outreach	984-3429
			Finance Council	David Witchger	922-9058

Requests to have names of parishioners placed on the Prayer List will be honored within 10—14 days. To ensure privacy, remember to ask the person needing prayers if (s)he would like to be included with the listing. Requests to have names removed from the Prayer List will also be honored within 10—14 days after the request.

PRAYER LIST — Names in ***bold italics*** have been added within the past 14 days

Mary Albert	Patricia Goodson	Lucine Lakebrink	Marge Payne	Marge Thornton
Pat Becker	Mary Ann Hill	Don LaVelle	Judie Pearson	Tom Thornton
Bob Berna	Betty Hoepner	Tom Liszka	Larry Poldrack	Barb Wallisch
Pat Billings	Ken Huber	Marcie Margel	Ida Porterfield	Marylin Wietlispach
Madonna Brown	Joyce Iselin	Pat Massanelli	Diane Prescott	Gene Wigley
Darlene Butler	Damian Janush	Bob McClelland	John Rachwal	Junior Wilken
Diane Castor	Georgia Janush	Shirley Meltz	Shirley Reid	Wilma Willmer
Curt Costello	Pat Jester	Roberta Metz	Barbara Roberts	James Wleklinski, Sr.
Jeannie Culpepper	Billy Jones	Betty Mierzwiak	Edward Roberts	
Theresa Drumwright	Wayne Kapple	Bob Mierzwiak	Dave Rochna	
Pat Dunne	Dianne Kleinke	Barb Mika	Wanda Schmitz	
Azalia Efferson	Scott Krantz	Gerry Millhouse	Marlene Smigel	
Joyce Fleming	Richard Kroetz	Walter Mitchell	Dorothy Sobczak	
Marshall Garrison	Al Kuhn	Barbara Myers	Jim Staudt	
Mary Teresa Gil	Marianne Kuhn	Mary Parks	John Sutey	



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

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December 16	04:00	LOUIS COSTELLO	Friends	December 23	04:00	PAT AKE	Amy Thompson
		MICHAEL COIL	M/M Hill			VIRGINIA SCHRAMER	Joanne DeJanovich
December 17	08:00	JOE MOREAU	Katy Feather	December 24	08:00	REV. GREGORY HART	Father Bill
	10:00	EDWARD BUTLER	Family		10:00	PARISH STAFF	
		S/H PARISHIONERS			04:00	S/H PARISHIONERS	
December 18	09:00	DC/M W. GIERINGER	M/M R. Oesterle	December 25	12:00	MARY DAVIS *	Friends
December 19	09:00	ANN COSGROVE	M/M Dick Birzer		10:00	MARILYN BURKE *	Friends
December 20	09:00	ALBERTA BERTRAND	Family				
		ALAN FEATHER	Family				
December 21	09:00	FARRELL FAMILY	M/M K. Farrell				
		CATHERINE GLINKA	M/M Don Glinka				
December 22	09:00	M/M E. SUTSCHEK	Karen R. Purcell				* Living