

HOLY FAMILY PARISH COMMUNITY

2210 CALLAWAY STREET

HILLCREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 20748



Rectory 301-894-2222

Rectory Fax 301-894-2938

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 10:00 am— 4:00 pm

www.holyfamilyparishmd.org

School Office 301-894-2323

School Fax 301-894-7100

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 am—3:00 pm

www.holyfamilymd.org

Rev. Matthew J. Fish, Administrator

ext. 13 pastor@holyfamilyparishmd.org

CHURCH STAFF

Deacon Gerald Collins, Permanent Deacon
deaconjer1@gmail.com

Mr. Keith Poindexter, Parish Manager ext. 10
rectory@holyfamilyparishmd.org

Ms. Kristen Bryant, Pastoral Assistant ext. 14
Kbryant@holyfamilyparishmd.org

Mr. Dominic Cipollone, Business Manager ext. 14
accountant@holyfamilyparishmd.org

Mrs. Thelma Adams, Adult Faith Formation
thelmaadams1@verizon.net

Mrs. Helen Norris, Pastoral Care of the Sick

Mr. David Pugh, Maintenance Supervisor

Mrs. Barbra Lathan, Choir Director

Mr. John Adeleye, Pianist

To join our parish family, call or visit the Rectory, or complete the Census form found in the Church.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 8:00 & 11:00am

Holy Days: As Announced

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

(Chapel of Saint Joseph)

Wednesday: 12:10 pm

Thursday: 8:30 am (School Mass)

Friday: 7:00 am

**Friday: Adoration and Confession
7:30 am - 8:30 am**

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturday, 20 minutes before Masses.

SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Michelle Taylor, School Principal ext. 22
mtaylor@holyfamilymd.org

Mrs. Gail Daughtride, School Administrator ext. 11
gdaughtride@holyfamilymd.org

Registration is open for the 2019-20 School Year.

We are a Regional School receiving the support of St Ignatius, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Church of the Incarnation, Saint Luke and Saint Teresa of Avila.

LET'S STAY CONNECTED:

Our schedules, events & activities are communicated also on our website. If you are new to our parish, please let us know who you are. If already registered in the parish you can use this to update.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I'm new and want to stay connected.

Update my info.

I'd like to speak with Father Matt.

Please return in the offertory collection or email to rectory@holyfamilyparishmd.org.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 This next week begins the month of November, traditionally dedicated to praying for the faithful departed. We begin the month next Friday with the Feast of All Saints, when we remember all those who have passed before us, who having been purified of all sin, and having sought the holiness of God with all their hearts, now share in the eternal happiness of God, partakers of his divine nature.

What does it mean to be a saint? Simply put, to be one with God, seeking his will alone, to be totally and wholly his. Of course, that's no small thing! That's not just a wish, or an intention; it's not just a moment of fervent prayer, or even an extraordinary act of kindness or mercy. It's a whole character of life, it's a total offering and consecration. Anything short of everything is not yet sainthood. At the same time, holiness is a progression: we move toward it step by step, closer and closer.

The substance of that teaching of the Church is what is called the three ways of the spiritual life: the purgative stage, the illuminative stage, and the unitive stage.

Theologians and saints have worked out the features of these stages since the earliest centuries of the Church, by observing their own experiences and the experiences of others who have strived toward holiness. What are their distinguishing characteristics?

In the beginning of the spiritual life, the purgative stage, we must rid ourselves of all actual sin and attachment to sin: first mortal sins, then venial sins, and then our attachments to the occasions and appearances of sin. Many, if not most, remain at this stage throughout our lives, as it takes a great effort and much love and generosity to put aside all that is sinful. But that's just the beginning!

As we grow into the illuminative stage, we have become proficient in the works of holiness, praying without ceasing and doing works of charity constantly. But we remain attached to the goods of the world and the flesh: and so God gives us crosses and struggles so that we would love him alone, above all other things, and seek to share in the Passion of Christ. Holiness is not just not sinning, it's positively desiring to take up the cross and die to our self-love, our inordinate love of created things, in which we put the creature before the Creator.

The key events of this stage are what is called "The Dark Night", first in which we no longer feel any pleasure in the spiritual life, and then finally in which we no longer perceive the presence of God

at all. This experience of emptiness and then finally abandonment that all future saints must go through is nothing else but a share in what our Savior went through on Good Friday, in which he put obedience to the Father out of love for him, before all else.

The saint is the one who perseveres by faith, hope, and love through these dark nights, and rather than reacting in resentment, grows in deeper love of God alone, even in emptiness and abandonment. The conclusion of that perseverance is the unitive stage, what we call sainthood: the soul at this point is wholly and totally devoted to God, experiencing the fruits of mystical prayer, seeking the will of God in their personal vocation with all their heart, sharing in the joy and peace of heaven even now on earth.

Is such a thing possible? It is. The saints testify to its reality, just as the Church teaches this possibility in her spiritual doctrine. And our Lord calls us on just the same:

"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Mt 5:48)

"If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Lk 9:23)

What happens if we do not advance through these stages while here on earth? Short answer: purgatory. And that's good news! It means that God will not rest until we have been made holy as he desires. As for purgatory, the traditional focus of the month of November, I'll write more about that next week.

God bless,
 Fr Matt

Offertory for October 20th

Offertory Collected - \$5,167.00
Budget Goal - \$5,769.23
Surplus/(Deficit) - \$(602.23)

Thank you for your continued support.

The second collection for November 2 and 3, 2019 is for the Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Washington. Our priests have selflessly served the faithful and the community to continue Christ's mission for decades. Please use the envelopes that have been mailed to your homes from the Archdiocese and/or the special collection envelopes that will be placed in the pews next weekend. You can support the Retired Priests Collection online at www.adw.org/rpc.

PARISH LIFE

The **Holy Family Men's Club** wishes to thank all that supported the Annual Jazz Concert.

Holy Family will host the **Black Catholic History Month Mass** sponsored by ADW Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach on Saturday, November 9th. Praise and Worship at 3:30 pm, and Vigil Mass at 4:00 pm, celebrated by Bishop Mario Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington with Rev. Anthony Bozeman, SSJ, homilist. Reception to follow in the Allen Drury Room. Volunteers are needed to help with parking and other duties. Contact Thelma Adams, (301) 630-0018.

Father Matt has requested that the **Finance Council** meet on Tuesday, November 12th at 7:00 pm in the parish Rectory.

If you have lost a loved one this past year and would like to remember them with our Church Family, please join us for our **Annual Mass of Remembrance**. On Saturday, November 2, 2019 at 10:00 am. During the month of November, the rich tradition of the Church encourages us to remember especially our deceased loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith and who rest in the sleep of peace.

Holy Family will begin the **baby bottle campaign** to support the Forestville Pregnancy Center in November. A box will be left in the rear of the church. Bottles can be returned by the first weekend in December. If you return a bottle early, please make sure you put it is labeled "Returns" so that someone doesn't accidentally pick up your returned bottle. Make all checks payable to the Forestville Pregnancy Center. Thank you in advance for all you have done to support the Forestville Pregnancy Center.

COMMUNITY LIFE

SOME's 18th Annual Thanksgiving Day Trot for Hunger, will take place on Thursday, November 28th Join **So Others Might Eat** on Thanksgiving morning at Freedom Plaza in Downtown, DC. For more information contact the Trot for Hunger Event Manager, Bianca Washington, at or call (202) 753.4960.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WE KNOW AND LOVE:

Our Parishioners	Homebound	Elsewhere
Denise Richards	Mary Byus	Wendell Young
Cynthia Washington	Bennie Hooks Jr.	Dorothy Nelson
William Green	Andre Johnson	Kathleen Guidry
Demetrius Butler	Rose Sparrow	Alpha Banks
Barbara Smith	Alease Terry	Roy Banks
Angela Hewins	Clarence King	Betty Furr
Richard Hewins	Mildred Jones	David M. Smith Sr.
Barbara Price	Marsha Harper	Francis Briscoe
Iris Pierce	Barbara Moore	Barbara Williams
Angela McNair	Margaret Kennerly	Middleton Russell
Michelle Handon	Hilda Reeves	
Candace Griffin-Miles	Juanita Presley	
Frances Fisher	Frank Wilson	
	Ethel Handon	

We continue to pray for Healing of Candace Griffin Miles, Celestine Warren, Michelle Handon and Elaine Richardson.

MASSES FOR WEEK OF OCT 27—NOV 3

<u>Oct 27th</u>	<u>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>
Sat. 4:00 pm	Carmelo Chillari +
8:00 am	Holy Family Parishioners
11:00 am	Elaine Richardson (L)
<u>Daily Masses</u>	
Wed. 12:10 pm	Retired Priests
Thurs. 8:30 am	Holy Family School
Fri. 7:00 am	All Saints
Sat. 10:00 am	All the Faithful Departed
<u>Nov 3rd</u>	<u>31st Sunday in Ordinary Time</u>
Sat. 4:00 pm	Carmelo Chillari +
8:00 am	Holy Family Parishioners
11:00 am	Elaine Richardson (L)

Daily readings can be found at <http://usccb.org/bible/readings/index.cfm>.

Altar Arrangements and Mass Intentions: Offerings (\$5.00) can be made to honor a deceased or living loved one, or other special occasions. These Mass Intentions will be offered on Sundays in the Church and on weekdays in the Chapel of St Joseph.



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Bob Weiler, F.S.
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