



## MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

*A Roman Catholic Personal Parish  
for the Extraordinary Form  
in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.*

**2nd Sunday after  
Epiphany**

**January 14, A.D. 2024**

### ***Mass Schedule***

**Sundays: 8am, 11am**  
**Monday: 12 Noon**  
**Tuesday: 12 Noon & 7pm**  
**Wednesday through Friday: 12 Noon**  
**1st Friday of Month: 12 Noon & 7pm**  
**Saturday: 9am**

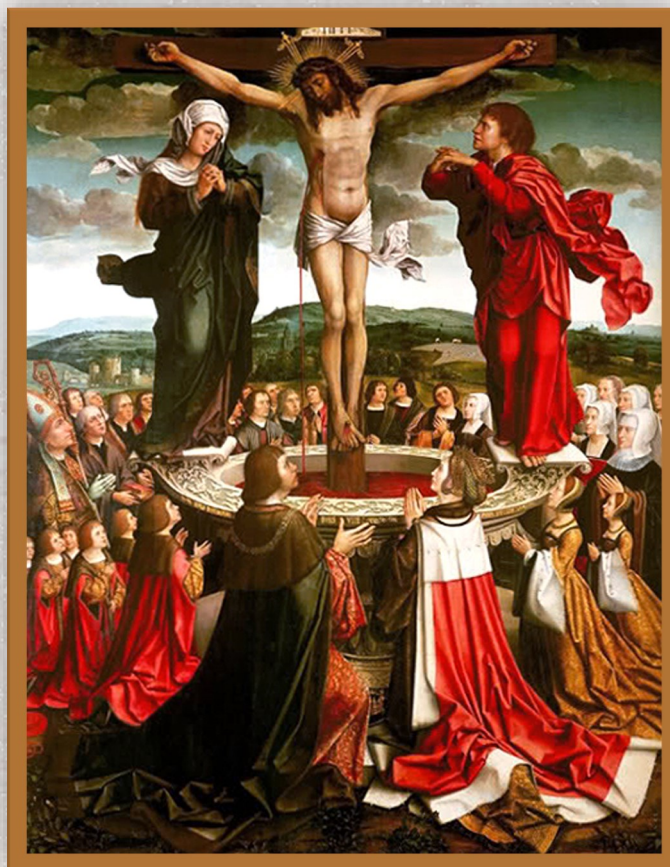
### ***Confession Schedule***

**Sundays: 7-8am; 10-11am**  
**Monday-Friday: 11:15-11:45am**  
**Tuesdays: also 6:15-6:45pm**  
**Saturday: 8-8:45am**

*Please consult the weekly bulletin for modifications to the schedule.*

### ***Clergy & Staff***

**Canon William Avis, Pastor**  
*pastor@mpboj.com*  
**Canon Ross Bourgeois, Parochial Vicar**  
*canon.bourgeois@institute-christ-king.org*  
**Geraldine Redic, Business Manager/Safe Environment**  
*businessmanager@mpboj.com*  
**Gail Buchman, Administrative Assistant**  
*office@mpboj.com*  
**Charles R. Friend, Budgets & Financial Reporting**  
*temporalaffairs@mpboj.com*  
**John Rokosz, Music Director**  
*music@mpboj.com*  
**Jeannine M. Goelz, Office Coordinator**  
*volunteer@mpboj.com*  
**Jack Aul, Project Superintendent**  
*projectsuper@mpboj.com*  
**George Wright, ERT/Usher Coordinator**  
*usher-ert@mpboj.com*  
**Bill Redic, Catechism Administrator**  
*catechism@mpboj.com*



### ***Contact Information***

**Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am-2pm**  
**3250 California Avenue**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15212**  
**Phone 412-761-1508**  
**Fax: 412-761-6454**  
**Email: office@mpboj.com**  
**Website: mostpreciousbloodparish.org or mpboj.com**

**Pennsylvania Childline** (report suspected child abuse)  
**1-800-932-0313**  
**Protection of Children and Youth** (diocesan office)  
**1-888-808-1235**



***Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest***

***Veritatem Facientes In Caritate—Furthering the Truth in Charity***

## Liturgical Schedule

### Sunday, January 14, 2024

#### 2nd Sunday after Epiphany, 2nd Class—Green

8AM LMO + Linda Gentili (MPBOJ Parish)  
 11AM HM *Pro populo*

Processional: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (pg. 87)  
 Recessional: Hail to the Lord's Anointed (pg. 66)

### Monday, January 15, 2024

#### St. Paul the Hermit, 3rd Class—White

*Commemoration of St. Maurus*

12PM LM Robert J. Akins (Mark Schurdak Family)

### Tuesday, January 16, 2024

#### St. Marcellus I, 3rd Class—Red

12PM LM Members of the Wilson/Budd Families  
 (Glenn & Judy Wilson)

7PM LM + John Keane (Patrick & Nicole Keane)

### Wednesday, January 17, 2024 *Infant King Novena begins*

#### St. Anthony the Abbot, 3rd Class—White

12PM LM Sister Bernadette Marie (Priscillo Fello)

### Thursday, January 18, 2024

#### \*Chair of St. Peter at Rome, 4th Class —White

*Commemoration of St. Prisca*

12PM LM Hannah Germain (O'Connor Family)

8PM Holy Hour of Adoration

9PM Compline

### Friday, January 19, 2024

#### \*Ss. Marius, Martha, Audifax & Abachum, 4th Class—Red

*Commemoration of St. Canute*

12PM LM + Jim Gilmour (Beverly Bendiksen)

### Saturday, January 20, 2024

#### \*Ss. Fabian & Sebastian, 3rd Class—Red

9AM LM John Felice-Blessing for Wedding  
 (Michael & Lianne Felice)

### Sunday, January 21, 2024

#### \*3rd Sunday after Epiphany, 2nd Class—Green

8AM LMO Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Erin  
 Shirkey (Joseph & Margaret Shutak)

11AM HM *Pro populo*

Processional: Bethlehem of Noblest Cities

Recessional: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LM = Low Mass; LMO = Low Mass with Organ; HM = High/Solemn Mass

\* The collect, secret and postcommunion of the Mass "For Church Unity" (a.k.a. "For the Removal of Schism") are added to the Mass.

## Our Weekly Offerings

### Sunday, January 7, 2024

Offertory .....	\$10,894.00
Parish Appeal 2023.....	\$1,910.00
Parish Improvement.....	\$260.00
Food Pantry.....	\$180.00
Christmas Charities.....	\$10.00
Ash Wednesday .....	\$10.00
St. Anthony School.....	\$156.00
Christmas Flowers .....	\$10.00
<i>Faith Direct [Partial] Report (December 16 – 30, 2023)</i>	
Offertory .....	\$4,220.00
Offertory (Christmas) .....	\$500.00
Food Pantry.....	\$500.00
<b>Sunday Mass Attendance: 8AM 439; 11AM 437; Total 876</b>	

## On Line Contributions

The parish utilizes Faith Direct for on-line donations, which can be made directly from your bank account or credit card. If interested in making donations in this manner, please visit:

[membership.faithdirect.net/PA678](http://membership.faithdirect.net/PA678) or call 866-507-8757.

## Parish Group News

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS usually meets every First Saturday of the month, beginning with the 9AM Mass. All adult women are welcome. Please contact [christianmothers@mpboj.com](mailto:christianmothers@mpboj.com) for more information.

SURSUM CORDA-YOUNG ADULTS GROUP is a nationwide initiative to foster the spiritual lives of Catholic adults, AGES 18–35, at Institute apostolates. To sign up for the mailing list and receive notice of future events, text **Corda** to 84576 and choose "SC Pittsburgh." For more information, contact Jose Piñero at 863.450.5143 or [sursumcorda@mpboj.com](mailto:sursumcorda@mpboj.com).

RESPECT LIFE GROUP (RLG) The Gospel of Life is at the heart of this new group. RLG promotes a culture of life through three working subcommittees of Legislation, Education, Advocacy. The RLG's next quarterly meeting will be on **Saturday, January 27 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass**. Please contact Brenda Briola at 724-650-5767 or [respectlife@mpboj.com](mailto:respectlife@mpboj.com) for more information.

## Saint Valentine's Day Dance

The Saint Valentine's Day Dance is back! On **Saturday, Feb. 10th**, enjoy a night of professional dance instruction, hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and more! Tickets are a \$30 donation and include one admission and 2 adult beverages. This very popular event is expected to sell out, so plan to purchase your tickets early! Sales will begin on Jan. 14th and continue until Feb. 4th at the latest. Please contact [heather.farah@gmail.com](mailto:heather.farah@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.



## Blessed Chalk and House Blessings

Blessed chalk is still available at the church entrances. If you have blessed chalk from previous years, you can still use it for this year. Below are instructions for performing this blessing.

### Epiphany House Blessing with Chalk

*It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk on the Feast of Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing homes in the New Year. The home blessing can be done as follows.*

*Use the blessed chalk to write above the doorways:*

**20+C+M+B+24**

*20 & 24 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Wise Men – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for "May Christ bless this house."*

*As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers:*

Lord God of heaven and earth, Thou hast revealed thy only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Deign to bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our charity amongst ourselves and for others may reflect Thy love. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

- or -

Lord our God, deign to bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of Thy holy law. We give thanks to Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

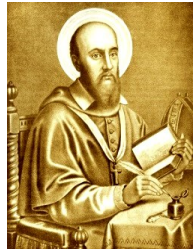
## **Introduction to the Devout Life**

By St. Francis de Sales

### **The Same Subject Continued**

(Book 3, Chapter 2)

Saint Augustine says very admirably, that beginners in devotion are wont to commit certain faults which, while they are blamable according to the strict laws of perfection, are yet praiseworthy by reason of the promise they hold forth of a future excellent goodness, to which they actually tend. For instance, that common shrinking fear which gives rise to an excessive scrupulosity in the souls of some who are but just set free from a course of sin, is commendable at that early stage, and is the almost certain forerunner of future purity of conscience. But this same fear would be blamable in those who are farther advanced, because love should reign in their hearts, and love is sure to drive away all such servile fear by degrees.



In his early days, Saint Bernard was very severe and harsh towards those whom he directed, telling them, to begin with, that they must put aside the body, and come to him with their minds only. In confession, he treated all faults, however small, with extreme severity, and his poor apprentices in the study of perfection were so urged onwards, that by dint of pressing he kept them back, for they lost heart and breath when they found themselves thus driven up so steep and high an ascent. Therein, my child, you can see that, although it was his ardent zeal for the most perfect purity which led that great Saint so to act, and although such zeal is a great virtue, still it was a virtue which required checking. And so God Himself checked it in a vision, by which He filled Saint Bernard with so gentle, tender, and loving a spirit, that he was altogether changed, blaming himself heavily for having been so strict and so severe, and becoming so kindly and indulgent, that he made himself all things to all men in order to win all.

Saint Jerome tells us that his beloved daughter, Saint Paula, was not only extreme, but obstinate in practicing bodily mortifications, and refusing to yield to the advice given her upon that head by her Bishop, Saint Epiphanius; and furthermore, she gave way so excessively to her grief at the death of those she loved as to peril her own life. Whereupon Saint Jerome says: "It will be said that I am accusing this saintly woman rather than praising her, but I affirm before Jesus, Whom she served, and Whom I seek to serve, that I am not saying what is untrue on one side or the other, but simply describing her as one Christian another; that is to say, I am writing her history, not her panegyric, and her faults are the virtues of others." He means to say that the defects and faults of Saint Paula would have been looked upon as virtues in a less perfect soul; and indeed there are actions which we must count as imperfections in the perfect, which yet would be highly esteemed in the imperfect. When at the end of a sickness the invalid's legs swell, it is a good sign, indicating that natural strength is returning, and throwing off foul humors; but it would be a bad sign in one not avowedly sick, as showing that nature was too feeble to disperse or absorb those humors. *(To be continued.)*

### **Donation Summaries**

In an effort to save personnel time and postage expense, the parish will not routinely send 2023 end-of-year donation summaries to parishioners who utilize envelopes. If you do need a

summary for tax purposes, please contact the parish office by email ([office@mpboj.com](mailto:office@mpboj.com)) or by phone (412-761-1508) to request a statement. Faith Direct automatically provides end-of-year statements to those who utilize that on-line giving option. As always, your financial support of the parish during 2023 is most appreciated. We were able to make quite of number of improvements this past year, thanks to those who give so generously to Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish.

### **Rosary Rally**

Psalm 139 says that God knits each and every person together in their mother's womb. From the very earliest moment of creation, He ordains all the days each of us will live. This truth – that God knows and loves the unborn, as much as He knows and love any of us – underscores how truly egregious abortion is. And why you and I must take a public and prayerful stand for the unborn. A Rosary Rally will be held on 20 January 2024 at 12:00 noon in the parking lot of Most Precious Blood of Jesus. For additional information, contact Mary Brodka at 724-816-5573.

### **Ski Retreat Feb. 21 – 24**

Looking for the perfect retreat this winter? Fun & spiritual formation?! Look no further than the Institute's upcoming Ski Retreat in West Virginia! Daily Mass, Conferences, Skiing, Tubing, and Ice Skating! Spread the word, bring a friend:

<https://form.jotform.com/icksp/ski-retreat-2024>.

Deadline to sign up is **Saturday, Jan. 20**. The resort is a three-hour drive from our parish.

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

CANAAN VALLEY RESORT STATE PARK, WV

# SKI RETREAT

WHETHER SINGLE, MARRIED, WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY  
JOIN US FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND FUN IN THE  
APPALACHIANS!

**FEBRUARY 21 - 24**  
Daily Mass & Conference | Skiing | Tubing | Ice Skating

### **Men's Night**

At 6 p.m. on **Saturday, January 27th** the parish will host a Men's Night in the parish center. All male parishioners aged 21+ are invited. Expect lively conversation on Catholic topics, a brief address by one of the canons, and to get to know other men from the parish. Pizza and some beverages will be provided, but attendees are encouraged to bring snack food, drinks, or a few dollars to defray expenses. The basketball court, bowling alley, and pool table will be open. Please RSVP to Mike Konopelski via email to [mike.konopelski@gmail.com](mailto:mike.konopelski@gmail.com). Contact Mike with any questions.

## To All Our Guests...

The Canons and Faithful of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish welcome you and hope that your time in “The ‘Burgh” may be an opportunity to share in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Faith. Please enjoy the beauty of this Personal Parish, established by Bishop David Zubik on July 1, 2019 on the *Feast of The Most Precious Blood of Jesus*.

According to liturgical tradition and the Traditional Latin Mass of the Roman Rite, Holy Communion is received kneeling and on the tongue. All visitors who are not of the Catholic Faith are welcome to join us in prayer but are requested not to receive Holy Communion. Because reception of Holy Communion is the sign of Divine and Ecclesial unity, only practicing Catholics who are free of mortal sin, and have observed the Eucharistic Fast, should present themselves for Holy Communion. For those who need a low gluten Host, let an usher know as you approach the Communion rail toward the end of Communion.

To receive more information about the parish or if you desire to become a member of the Catholic Church, contact the Priory at 412-761-1508. The pastoral care of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish is provided by THE INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST.

Any and all contributions to the parish are warmly appreciated and tax deductible.

**PARISHIONER MATERIALS/REQUESTS**—At the Church entrances, there are racks containing church forms, reading materials, and prayer cards. Please feel free to take what you need, but do not leave your own materials without permission from Canon Avis. Parish events are also publicized on the bulletin boards in the side entrance and in the narthex. If you are involved in an event that you would like to publicize or schedule, please provide a copy of the notice or request to [businessmanager@mpboj.com](mailto:businessmanager@mpboj.com) for approval.

### Sacramental Information

#### Infant Baptism:

Baptism should be administered within two weeks of birth. Please call the office prior to the baby’s birth to make arrangements.

#### Holy Matrimony:

Couples planning to marry at the parish must call the office to schedule proper instruction at least six months in advance.

#### Catholic Faith Formation and Spiritual needs:

For those seeking *Catechism*, preparing for *1st Holy Communion*, *Confirmation*, needs of the sick or funeral information, please call the parish office.

#### Anointing of the Sick:

If you need the assistance of a priest for the dying, please contact the office at 412-761-1508. If after hours, please call and listen to the prompts and select option #1.

#### Certificates:

Certificates for Sacraments administered prior to July 1, 2019 are maintained by the Diocese of Pittsburgh Archives. You may reach the Diocese Archive office at 412-456-3158, or [archives@diopitt.org](mailto:archives@diopitt.org).

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**—Requests for proposed bulletin announcements must be submitted **ten days in advance** of publication via email to [bulletin@mpboj.com](mailto:bulletin@mpboj.com)

**MASS INTENTIONS**—*The Parish Mass Intention Registry* is currently CLOSED. Mass intentions are accepted during specific periods throughout the calendar year, with each period announced in the bulletin, in advance of the request period. Instructions and forms are made available at that time.

**PARISH NEWS**—The parish uses **Flocknote** to circulate news and information. If you’d like to sign up, please text MPBOJ to 84576 from your cell phone and follow the instructions, or check the parish website ([MPBOJ.com](http://MPBOJ.com)) for more information.



MOST PRECIOUS  
BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

### General Safety & Indemnity

In an effort to make Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish a welcoming, safe place for all parishioners and visitors alike, the parish follows a general Safety and Indemnity Policy. When visiting the parish, whether for Mass or any social events in or on parish property, parents accept full responsibility for their children’s safety, by maintaining prudent watch and supervision of their children at all times. When children are registered and involved in parish related activities where a parish program manager oversees the children (e.g., Children’s Choir; Catechism; altar server practice), at least one parent/guardian must remain on campus for the duration of the program and until the parent has regained custody at the conclusion of the parish activity/program.

*Production of this bulletin is partially underwritten by parishioners of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish, all rights reserved.  
For more underwriting opportunities, contact The Priory Office at 412-761-1508 or email [BusinessManager@MPBOJ.com](mailto:BusinessManager@MPBOJ.com).*