

Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish

*A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust and Roman Catholic Parish celebrating the Mass in the Extraordinary Form
Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest*

**Sunday after the Ascension
May 24, A.D. 2020**

Special Epidemic Schedule

Mass Schedule

Due to the epidemic, these Masses are live-streamed only
Sundays: 8am & 11am
Monday through Friday: 12 Noon
Saturday: 8am

Confession Schedule

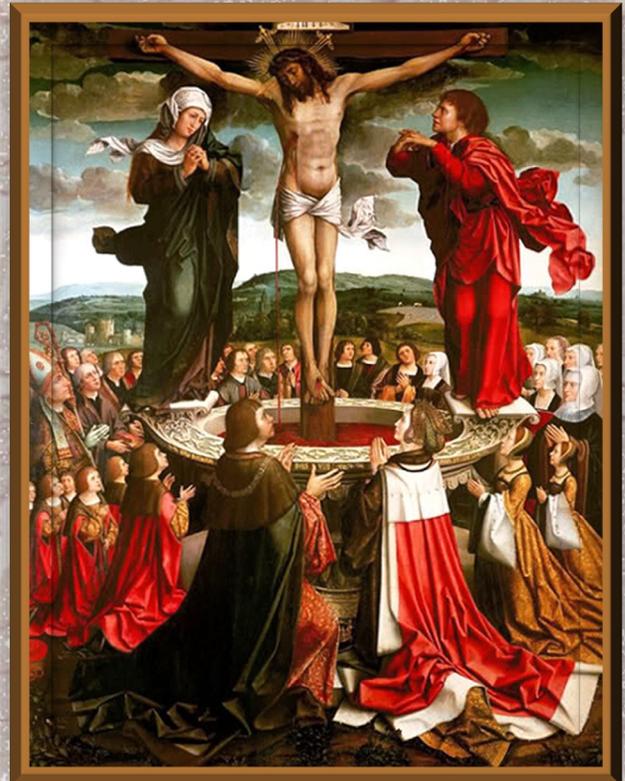
Due to the epidemic, confessions are heard behind the rectory.
Sundays: 9:30-10:30am & 4-5pm
Monday-Saturday: 11-11:30am & 5-5:30pm

*Please consult weekly bulletin for modifications to the schedule
(eg. Holy Days, Civil Holidays...).*
*For Baptisms, Marriages, Visitation of the sick, Funerals, or
Registration as a parishioner, please contact the Parish Office.*

Clergy & Staff

Canon William Avis, Pastor
Canon John O'Connor, Parochial Vicar
Gail Buchman, Administrative Assistant
Gerry Redic, Business Manager
John Rokosz, Music Director
Jeannine Goelz, Office Coordinator

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



Contact Information

Parish Office Hours: Office closed.

3250 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Phone 412-761-1508
Fax: 412-761-6454
Email: office@mpboj.com
Website: mostpreciousbloodparish.org



Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest

Veritatem Facientes In Caritate—Furthering the Truth in Charity

Mass Intentions

Due to current events, these Masses will be live-streamed at the given times. Go to

<https://www.institute-christ-king.org/pittsburgh-home>

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Sunday after the Ascension, 2nd Class—White

8AM + Roseanna Henchar (AMS)

11AM *Pro Populo*

Monday, May 25, 2020

St. Gregory VII, 3rd Class—White

Commemoration of St. Urban I

12noon + Jack Rees (N. Jurewicz)

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

St. Philip Neri, 3rd Class—White

Commemoration of St. Eleutherius

12noon Bernadette & Stanley Schurdak & their unborn baby (Joan DeLuca)

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

St. Bede the Venerable, 3rd Class—White

Commemoration of St. John I

12noon Ed Zeher (Paras Family)

Thursday, May 28, 2020

St. Augustine of Canterbury, 3rd Class—White

12noon + William Allan Obricki (Charles & Deanna Shannon)

Friday, May 29, 2020

St. Mary Magdalen dei Pazzi, 3rd Class—White

12noon Restoration of Purity & Holiness (Catholics in Action Society)

Saturday, May 30, 2020

Vigil of Pentecost, 1st Class—Red

8AM Chuck & Sis Pavlek (Mary Koshut)

Sunday, May 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday, 1st Class—Red

8AM *Pro Populo*

11AM Nick Mamula (Debra Mamula)

Our Weekly Offerings

Mail-In Offertory Collection (counted May 12th)

Offertory	\$12,780.00
Parish Share 2020	\$1,960.00
ICRSS Seminary.....	\$1,210.00
ICRSS U.S. Province.....	\$320.00
Holy Land 2nd Collection.....	\$25.00
CRS 2nd Collection	\$25.00
Food Pantry.....	\$121.00

Thank you to all who have mailed their envelopes to the parish office, or who have found another way to make continued contributions for our parish expenses, either by placing envelopes through the Priory's mail slot, or utilizing Faith Direct. The parish continues to pay its bills, and, if you are able, you may make up contributions once everything returns to normal. Your generosity is most appreciated during this difficult time and may God bless you for your sacrifice.

Faith Direct

You can register for donations to be made directly from your bank account or charged to your personal credit card by visiting www.faithdirect.net or by calling **866-507-8757**. The parish code for Most Precious Blood of Jesus parish is **PA678**.

Holy Mass

Live Streaming: While assisting at Holy Mass and other liturgical functions through Live Streaming does not replace the physical presence in the Sacred Liturgy, it does permit us to unite ourselves with the Mass being celebrated somewhere in the world. Here below are some possibilities:

<https://www.institute-christ-king.org/pittsburgh-home>

<https://www.institute-christ-king.org/videostream>

<https://www.institute-christ-king.org/stlouis-home>

Resuming Public Mass: The Diocese of Pittsburgh is hoping that public Masses may resume on Monday, June 1st in most of the counties. During this phase, the Sunday obligation will remain suspended, as there will be restrictions on the number persons in the church at a given time, and the church building will have to be cleaned and disinfected following each Mass. How long this phase will last is undetermined. Our hope is to make it possible for each parishioner to be able to assist at Mass and/or receive Holy Communion once a week. To this end, there will be additional Masses scheduled and a sign up sheet to ensure a rotation of persons at Mass and that those coming from a distance can enter the church. More details about the Mass schedule, signing-up, and guidelines for attendees will be published soon. Your patience during this process is greatly appreciated!

N.B. Concerning the Precept of the Church to receive Holy Communion at least once during Eastertime (1st Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday), if one has already received during this time, then the obligation is satisfied. If one is not able to receive due to impossibility (quarantine/restrictions), then one is not held to the obligation. A sacrilegious communion (receiving Holy Communion with mortal sin still upon one's soul) never fulfills the obligation. Also one need not receive Holy Communion during Mass to fulfill this obligation.

Latin Classes

Three online Latin classes will be offered this summer through the Community Education program at CCAC. Parishioner Charles Blume will teach the classes, which consist of levels 1, 2, and 3. The sessions will meet virtually via Zoom teleconference and the online platform Blackboard, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, 6:30 - 9:30 pm. The online classes will start on June 1st (level 2), 2nd (level 1), and 3rd (level 3), and continue for 8 weeks through July 20, 21, and 22. You are invited to sign up for one of these courses at <https://shopcommunityed.ccac.edu/Courses/Languages.aspx>. If you have questions or would like more information please contact Dr. Blume at cblume1888@gmail.com.

Meal Containers

Thank you for your kindness in preparing and dropping off food for the Canons over the past weeks/months. It was terrific having home cooked meals without any effort! As a result of all of this wonderful food, we now have a very large collection of food storage containers that need to be returned to their rightful owners. If you would like to pick up your containers, please contact the office to make arrangements. Again, thank you for your kindness in ensuring that we are well fed.

The Ascension of Our Lord

Excerpts from The Roman Catechism

Reasons Of The Ascension

First of all, Christ ascended because the glorious kingdom of the highest heavens, not the obscure abode of this earth, presented a suitable dwelling place for Him whose body, rising from the tomb, was clothed with the glory of immortality.

He ascended, however, not only to possess the throne of glory and the kingdom which He had merited by His blood, but also to attend to whatever regards our salvation.

Again, He ascended to prove thereby that *His kingdom is not of this world*. [John 18:36] For the kingdoms of this world are earthly and transient, and are based upon wealth and the power of the flesh; but the kingdom of Christ is not, earthly, but spiritual and eternal. Its resources and riches, too, are spiritual, as He showed by placing His throne in the heavens, where they are counted richer and wealthier who seek most earnestly the things that are of God, according to these words of St. James: *Hath not God chosen the poor in this world, rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which God hath promised to them that love Him?* [James 2:5]

He also ascended into heaven in order to teach us to follow Him thither in mind and heart. For as by His death and Resurrection He bequeathed to us an example of dying and rising again in spirit, so by His Ascension He teaches and instructs us that though dwelling on earth, we should raise ourselves in desire to heaven, confessing that we are *pilgrims and strangers on the earth*, [Heb. 11:13,14] seeking a country and that we are *fellow-citizens with the saints, and the domestics of God*, [Eph. 2: 10] for, says the same Apostle, *our conversation is in heaven*. [Philip. 3:20]

Results Of The Ascension

The extent and greatness of the unutterable blessings which the bounty of God has showered on us were long before, as the Apostle interprets, sung by the inspired David: *Ascending on high, he led captivity captive: He gave gifts to men.* For on the tenth day He sent down the Holy Ghost, with whose power and plenitude He filled the multitude of the faithful then present, and so fulfilled that splendid promise: *It is expedient to you that I go: for if I go not, the Paraclete will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.*

He also ascended into heaven, according to the Apostle, that He may appear in the presence of God for us, and discharge for us the office of advocate with the Father. My little children, says St. John, these things I write to you, that you may not sin. But if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the just: and He is the propitiation for our sins. There is nothing from which the faithful should derive greater joy and gladness of soul than from the reflection that Jesus Christ is constituted our advocate and the mediator of our salvation with the Eternal Father, with whom His influence and authority are supreme.

Finally, by His Ascension He has prepared for us a place, as He had promised, and has entered, as our head, in the name of us all, into the possession of the glory of heaven." Ascending into heaven, He threw open its gates, which had been closed by the sin of Adam; and, as He foretold to His disciples at His Last Supper, secured to us a way by which we may arrive at eternal

happiness. In order to give an open proof of this by its fulfillment, He introduced with Himself into the mansions of eternal bliss the souls of the just whom He had liberated from hell.

Virtues Promoted By The Ascension

A series of important advantages followed in the train of this admirable profusion of celestial gifts. In the first place, the merit of our faith was considerably augmented; because faith has for its object those things which fall not under the senses, but are far raised above the reach of human reason and intelligence. If, therefore, the Lord had not departed from us, the merit of our faith would not be the same; for Christ the Lord has said: *Blessed are they that have not seen, and have believed.*

In the next place, the Ascension of Christ into heaven contributes much to confirm our hope. Believing that Christ, as man, ascended into heaven, and placed our nature at the right hand of God the Father, we are animated with a strong hope that we, as members, shall also ascend thither, to be there united to our Head, according to these words of our Lord Himself: *Father, I will that where I am, they also whom thou hast given me may be with me*

Another most important advantage is that He has taken our affections to heaven and inflamed them with the Spirit of God; for most truly has it been said that where our treasure is, there also is our heart. And, indeed, were Christ the Lord still dwelling on earth, the contemplation of His human nature and His company would absorb all our thoughts, and we should view the author of such blessings only as man, and cherish towards Him a sort of earthly affection. But by His Ascension into heaven He has spiritualized our affection and has made us venerate and love as God Him whom, on account of His absence, we see only in thought. This we learn in part from the example of the Apostles, who while our Lord was personally present with them, seemed to

judge of Him in some measure in a human light; and in part from these words of our Lord Himself: *It is expedient to you that I go.* The imperfect affection with which they loved Christ Jesus when present had to be perfected by divine love, and that by the coming of the Holy Ghost; and therefore He immediately subjoins: *If I go not, the Paraclete will not come to you.*

The Ascension Benefits The Church And The Individual

Besides, He thus enlarged His household on earth, that is, His Church, which was to be governed by the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. He left Peter, the Prince of the Apostles, as its chief pastor and supreme head upon earth; moreover he gave some apostles, and some prophets, and other some evangelists, and other some pastors and doctors. Thus seated at the right hand of the Father He continually bestows different gifts on different men; for as the Apostle testifies: *To every one of us is given grace, according to the measure of the giving of Christ.*

Finally, what we have already taught of the mystery of His death and Resurrection the faithful should deem not less true of His Ascension. For although we owe our Redemption and salvation to the Passion of Christ, whose merits opened heaven to the just, yet His Ascension is not only proposed to us as a model, which teaches us to look on high and ascend in spirit into heaven, but it also imparts to us a divine virtue which enables us to accomplish what it teaches.



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