

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*

**First Sunday of Lent
February 26, A.D. 2023**

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

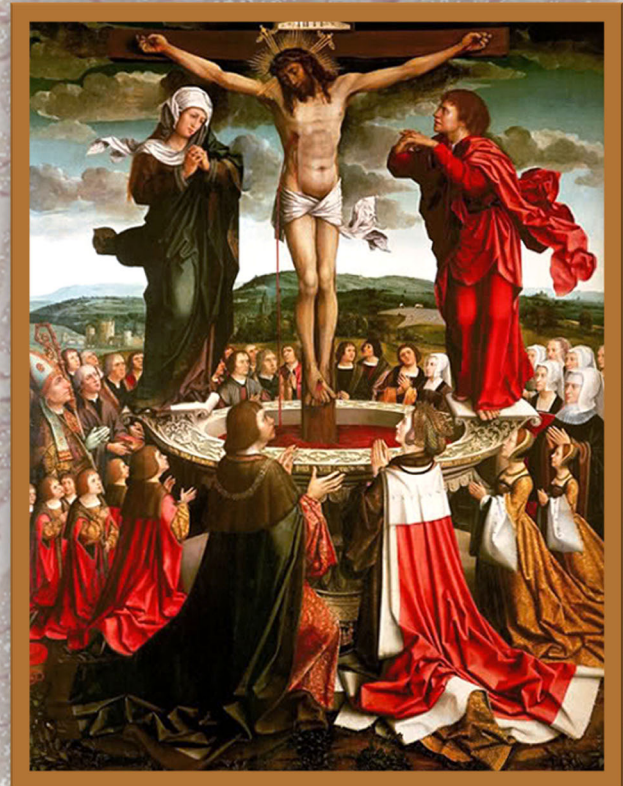
Confession Schedule

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.
For Baptisms, Marriages, Visitation of the sick, Funerals, or Registration
as a parishioner, please contact the Parish Office.*

Clergy & Staff

Canon William Avis, Pastor
pastor@mpboj.com
Canon Ross Bourgeois, Parochial Vicar
canon.bourgeois@institute-christ-king.org
Charles R. Friend, Director of Temporal Affairs
temporalaffairs@mpboj.com
Gail Buchman, Administrative Assistant
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Geraldine Redic, Bookkeeper/Safe Environment
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Jeannine Goelz, Office Coordinator
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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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 26, 2023

1st Sunday of Lent, 1st Class—Violet

8AM *Pro populo*

11AM + Ron Kotwica (Randal & Piper Kotwica)

Monday, February 27, 2023

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

12PM + George D. Zgourides (Susan Schurdak)

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

12PM + Gorge Yuhas (Maria Rikk)

7PM + All Souls of the Benedictine Order
(Dr. Ammie Maravelli)

Wednesday, March 1 2023

Ember Wednesday, 2nd Class—Violet

12PM + Thomas Earl Mousseau (Diane & Jim Mousseau)

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

12PM + Byron L. Miller (DMT)

Friday, March 3, 2023 *Abstinence*

Ember Friday, 2nd Class—Violet

12PM All MPBOJ Christian Mothers (Dave & Mandy Capan)

Mass of the Sacred Lance and Nails of Our Lord—Red

7PM + Ruth Spinneweber (Shawn & Correna Spinneweber)

Saturday, March 4, 2023

Ember Saturday, 2nd Class—Violet

Commemoration of St. Casimir

9AM + Stanley Pisula (Aaron & Margaux Pisula)

Sunday, March 5, 2023

2nd Sunday of Lent, 1st Class—Violet

8AM *Pro populo*

11AM Sam & Romina Napoleon Anniversary (Jan Vairo)

Our Weekly Offerings

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Offertory	\$7,894.00
Parish Appeal.....	\$1,110.00
ICRSS US Provincial Appeal	\$1,661.00
Food Pantry.....	\$25.00
Mission Appeal.....	\$10.00
Good Friday	\$10.00
Flowers	\$5.00

Mass Attendance: 8AM 521; 11AM 374; Total 895

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 <https://membership.faithdirect.net/PA678> or call 866-507-8757.

Holy Hour of Adoration

In the spirit of being with Our Lord during His Agony in the Garden, there will be a Holy Hour of Adoration in reparation for sins committed against the Most Blessed Sacrament on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 8pm.

Memorial Day Picnic

This year's Memorial Day Picnic will be at South Park Fairgrounds on Pentecost, Sunday, May 28. Many volunteers will be needed to help coordinate the event, set up, run activities, and clean up. If you are able to help, please notify Tom Smith at tomsmithpittsburgh@gmail.com.

Parish Notices

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS—Requests for proposed **bulletin announcements** must be submitted in writing to the Parish office ten days in advance of publication.

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.

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.

PARISHIONER MATERIALS—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 the narthex. If you are involved in an event that you would like to publicize, please provide a copy of the poster/notice to Canon Avis for permission to post.

Group News

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS—meets every first Saturday of the month, beginning with the 9 am Mass. The next meeting is Saturday, March 4, 2023. All adult women are welcome. Please contact christianmothers@mpboj.com for more information.

40 Days for Life Campaign

The 40 Days for Life campaign takes place February 22—April 2, 2023. Parishes will pray on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood *every day*, for *forty days!* Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish is scheduled for **Sunday, March 19, 2023** from 7 am to 5 pm. Sign-up sheets will be at the back and side entrances of the church, beginning February 19th. Please consider committing to just one hour to stand, pray and unite the Body of Christ in this fight to end abortion in Pittsburgh.

Stations of the Cross

Stations will be held at 6:30pm on the Fridays of Lent and followed by Holy Mass. On Good Friday, April 7th, Stations will be held at a time to be announced in the Holy Week Schedule.

ICRSS Provincial Appeal Collection

Today, a second collection will be taken up for the Institute's U.S. Province Appeal. Proceeds from the collection benefit the work of the Institute throughout the U.S.A. Thank you for your generosity! May the Infant King reward you!!

Women of Grace® Retreat Pittsburgh
St. John Neumann-Regina Coeli Catholic Church

The Holy Duet:
Mary and the Holy Spirit

March 24-26, 2023

Young Women of Grace Retreat Day
Saturday, March 25, 9am-6pm

Benedicta Enrichment Seminar
"Two Days With Mary"
Thursday-Friday March 23-24


For more info and to register:
www.womenofgrace.com



Introduction to the Devout Life

By St. Francis de Sales

The Need of a Guide for Those Who Would Enter Upon and Advance in the Devout Life (Part I, Chap. 4)



When Tobias was bidden to go to Rages, he was willing to obey his father, but he objected that he knew not the way;--to which Tobit answered, "Seek thee a man which may go with thee," and even so, I say to you, if you would really tread the paths of the devout life, seek some holy man to guide and conduct you. This is the precept of precepts, says the devout Avila,--seek as you will you can never so surely discover God's Will as through the channel of humble obedience so universally taught and practiced by all the Saints of olden time. When the blessed Teresa read of the great penances performed by Catherine of Cordova, she desired exceedingly to imitate them, contrary to the mind of her Confessor, who forbade her to do the like, and she was tempted to disobey him therein. Then God spoke to Teresa, saying, "My child, thou art on a good and safe road:-- true, thou seest all this penance, but verily I esteem thy obedience as a yet greater virtue:" --and thenceforth Saint Teresa so greatly loved the virtue of obedience, that in addition to that due to her superiors, she took a vow of special obedience to a pious ecclesiastic, pledging herself to follow his direction and guidance, which proved an inexpressible help to her. And even so before and after her many pious souls have subjected their will to God's ministers in order the better to submit themselves to Him, a practice much commended by Saint Catherine of Sienna in her Dialogues. The devout Princess Saint Elisabeth gave an unlimited obedience to the venerable Conrad; and one of the parting counsels given by Saint Louis to his son before he died was, "Confess thyself often,--choose a single-minded, worthy confessor, who is able wisely to teach thee how to do that which is needful for thee." "A faithful friend," we are told in Holy Scripture, "is a strong defense, and he that hath found such an one hath found a treasure," and again: "A faithful friend is the medicine of life; and they that fear the Lord shall find him." These sacred words have chiefly reference, as you see, to the immortal life, with a view to which we specially need a faithful friend, who will guide us by his counsel and advice, thereby guarding us against the deceits and snares of the Evil One:--he will be as a storehouse of wisdom to us in our sorrows, trials and falls; he will be as a healing balm to stay and soothe our heart in the time of spiritual sickness,--he will shield us from evil, and confirm that which is good in us, and when we fall through infirmity, he will avert the deadly nature of the evil, and raise us up again.

But who can find such a friend? The Wise Man answers:-- "He that feareth the Lord," that is to say, the truly humble soul which earnestly desires to advance in the spiritual life. So, inasmuch as it concerns you so closely to set forth on this devout journey under good guidance, do you pray most earnestly to God to supply you with a guide after His Own Heart, and never doubt but that He will grant you one who is wise and faithful, even should He send you an angel from Heaven, as He sent to Tobias.

In truth, your spiritual guide should always be as a heaven-sent angel to you;--by which I mean that when you have found him, you are not to look upon him, or trust in him or his wisdom as an ordinary man; but you must look to God,

Who will help you and speak to you through this man, putting into his heart and mouth that which is needful to you; so that you ought to hearken as though he were an angel come down from Heaven to lead you thither. Deal with him in all sincerity and faithfulness, and with open heart; manifesting alike your good and your evil, without pretense or dissimulation. Thus your good will be examined and confirmed, and your evil corrected and remedied; --you will be soothed and strengthened in trouble, moderated and regulated in prosperity. Give your guide a hearty confidence mingled with sacred reverence, so that reverence in no way shall hinder your confidence, and confidence nowise lessen your reverence: trust him with the respect of a daughter for her father; respect him with the confidence of a son in his mother. In a word, such a friendship should be strong and sweet; altogether holy, sacred, divine and spiritual. And with such an aim, choose one among a thousand, Avila says;--and I say among ten thousand, for there are fewer than one would think capable of this office. He must needs be full of love, of wisdom and of discretion; for if either of these three be wanting there is danger. But once more I say, ask such help of God, and when you have found it, bless His Holy Name; be steadfast, seek no more, but go on simply, humbly and trustfully, for you are safe to make a prosperous journey.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence in the United States.
 2. The obligation of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) begins at the age of 14. The law of fasting (limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals) obliges all between the ages of 18-59. No one should consider this obligation lightly.
 3. Those individuals who have a medical condition in which fasting may be considered harmful are not obliged to fast, but should perform some other act of penance or charity.
 4. Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age.
 5. Of particular note, Friday, March 17, 2023 is the Commemoration of Saint Patrick. The celebration of the saint day does not remove the obligation of abstinence on that Friday of Lent.
 6. All members of the Christian Faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by the law.
 7. As a general rule, a request for a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence on Fridays of Lent will not be considered unless some serious reason is present. The attendance at social events, banquets, wedding rehearsals or receptions, or funeral wakes are not considered sufficient reason to request a dispensation.
- N.B. This year, the Feast of St. Joseph (March 19th) falls on the 4th Sunday of Lent. Since the Sunday takes precedence over the Feast, the Feast of St. Joseph is transferred to Monday, March 20th.*

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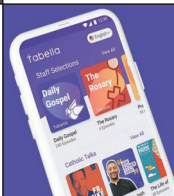
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