

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

## MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

**Holy Family**

**January 7, 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**

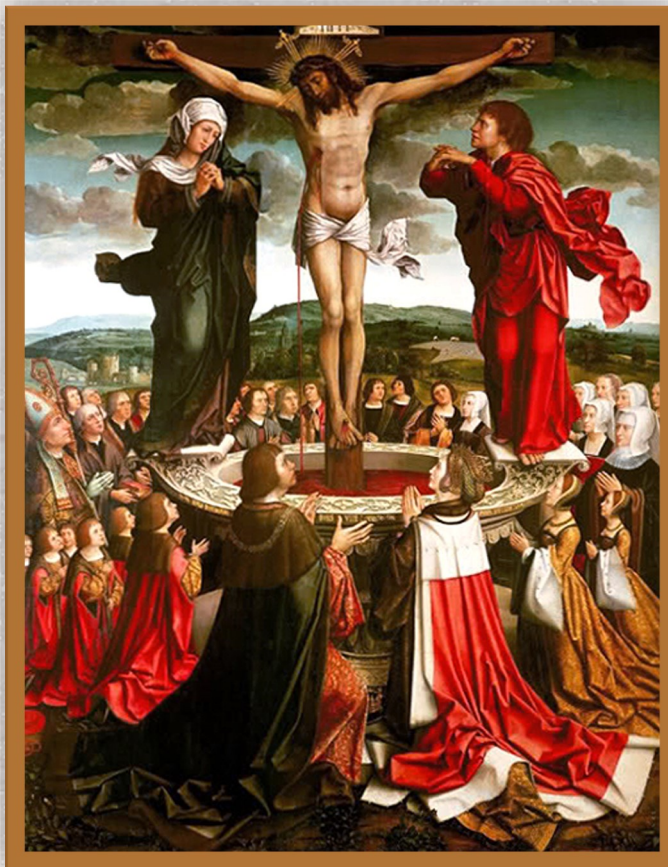
### **Confession Schedule**

**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 7, 2024**

#### **Holy Family, 2nd Class—White**

8AM LMO *Pro populo*  
11AM HM + Concetta Perri Vairo (Romina Napolean)  
Processional: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (pg. 78)  
Recessional: Bethlehem of Noblest Cities (pg. 56)

### **Monday, January 8, 2024**

#### **Feria (from Sunday after Epiphany), 4th Class—White**

12PM LM Poor Souls of Purgatory (Callahan Family)

### **Tuesday, January 9, 2024**

#### **Votive Mass of the Angels, 4th Class—White**

12PM LM Sherry E. Klinke (Mark Schurdak Family)  
7PM LM Our Children & Grandchildren  
(Lou & Judy Tallarico)

### **Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

#### **Votive Mass of St. Joseph, 4th Class—White**

12PM LM + Rosalia Curtis (Friend)

### **Thursday, January 11, 2024**

#### **St. Hyginus, 4th Class—Red**

12PM LM + June Pumford (Andrew & Marianne Pumford)  
8PM Holy Hour of Adoration  
9PM Compline

### **Friday, January 12, 2024**

#### **Feria (from Sunday after Epiphany), 4th Class—White**

12PM LM + Thomas Luteran (Lori Cunningham)

### **Saturday, January 13, 2024**

#### **Baptism of the Lord, 2nd Class—White**

9AM LMO + Maria Kukovica (Warner Family)

### **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

Recessional: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

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

## Our Weekly Offerings

*Sunday, December 31, 2023*

Offertory ..... \$10,756.75  
Offertory (Jan. 1) ..... \$2,354.00  
Parish Appeal 2023 ..... \$310.00  
Food Pantry..... \$1,033.00  
Christmas Charities..... \$25.00

*Sunday Mass Attendance: 8AM 379; 11AM 468; Total 865  
January 1st: 10AM 329*

### **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.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, January 13. The topic will be "The necessity of mental prayer and how to do it."

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.

### **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.

### **Blessed Chalk and House Blessings**

Today and next Sunday, blessed chalk will be available in the church entrances along with instructions on how to bless your home with the chalk. If you have blessed chalk from previous years, you can still use it for this year. Below are the instructions for performing this blessing of your house.



### **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.

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.

### **Update Parish Records**

Whenever you move, change your phone number or your email address, please be sure to notify the parish office ([office@mpboj.com](mailto:office@mpboj.com)) to update your parish record.

## **Introduction to the Devout Life**

*By St. Francis de Sales*

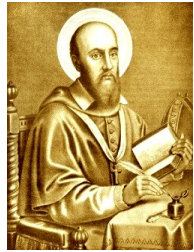
### **How to Select That Which we Should Chiefly Practice**

*(Book 3, Chapter 1 – Part 2)*

It is well for everybody to select some special virtue at which to aim, not as neglecting any others, but as an object and pursuit to the mind. Saint John, Bishop of Alexandria, saw a vision of a lovely maiden, brighter than the sun, in shining garments, and wearing an olive crown, who said to him, "I am the King's eldest daughter, and if thou wilt have me for thy friend, I will bring thee to see His Face." Then he knew that it was pity for the poor which God thus commended to him, and from that time he gave himself so heartily to practice it, that he is universally known as Saint John the Almoner. Eulogius Alexandrinus desired to devote himself wholly to God, but he had not courage either to adopt the solitary life, or to put himself under obedience, and therefore he took a miserable beggar, seething in dirt and leprosy, to live with him; and to do this more thoroughly, he vowed to honor and serve him as a servant does his lord and master. After a while, both feeling greatly tempted to part company, they referred to the great Saint Anthony, who said, "Beware of separating, my sons, for you are both near your end, and if the Angel find you not together, you will be in danger of losing your crowns."

Saint Louis counted it a privilege to visit the hospitals, where he used to tend the sick with his own royal hands. Saint Francis loved poverty above all things, and called her his lady-love. Saint Dominic gave himself up to preaching, whence his Order takes its name. Saint Gregory the Great specially delighted to receive pilgrims after the manner of faithful Abraham, and like him entertained the King of Glory under a pilgrim's garb. Tobit devoted himself to the charitable work of burying the dead. Saint Elizabeth, albeit a mighty princess, loved above all things to humble herself. When Saint Catherine of Genoa became a widow, she gave herself up to work in an hospital. Cassian relates how a certain devout maiden once besought Saint Athanasius to help her in cultivating the grace of patience; and he gave her a poor widow as companion, who was cross, irritable, and altogether intolerable, and whose perpetual fretfulness gave the pious lady abundant opportunity of practicing gentleness and patience. And so some of God's servants devote themselves to nursing the sick, helping the poor, teaching little children in the faith, reclaiming the fallen, building churches, and adorning the altar, making peace among men. Therein they resemble embroidresses who work all manner of silks, gold and silver on various grounds, so producing beautiful flowers. Just so the pious souls who undertake some special devout practice use it as the ground of their spiritual embroidery, and frame all manner of other graces upon it, ordering their actions and affections better by means of this their chief thread which runs through all. "Upon Thy Right Hand did stand the Queen in a vesture of gold wrought about with divers colors."

When we are beset by any particular vice, it is well as far as possible to make the opposite virtue our special aim, and turn everything to that account; so doing, we shall overcome our enemy, and meanwhile make progress in all virtue. Thus, if I am beset with pride or anger, I must above all else strive to cul-



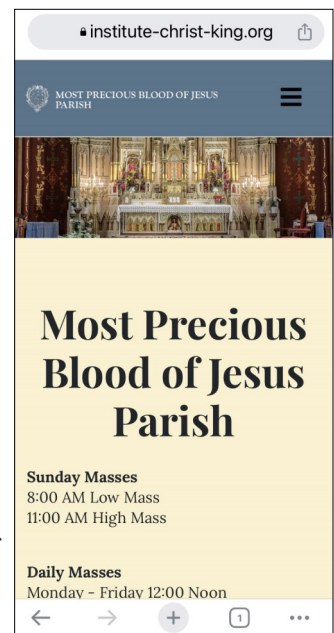
tivate humility and gentleness, and I must turn all my religious exercises—prayer, sacraments, prudence, constancy, moderation—to the same object. The wild boar sharpens its tusks by grinding them against its other teeth, which by the same process are sharpened and pointed; and so when a good man endeavors to perfect himself in some virtue which he is conscious of specially needing, he ought to give it edge and point by the aid of other virtues, which will themselves be confirmed and strengthened as he uses them with that object. It was so with Job, who, while specially exercising the virtue of patience amid the numberless temptations which beset him, was confirmed in all manner of holiness and godly virtues. And Saint Gregory Nazianzen says, that sometimes a person has attained the height of goodness by one single act of virtue, performed with the greatest perfection; instancing Rahab as an example, who, having practiced the virtue of hospitality very excellently, reached a high point of glory. Of course, any such action must needs be performed with a very exceeding degree of fervor and charity.

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### **Parish Website “Remodeling”**

Although we supply and maintain all of the information and pictures on our parish website ([mostpreciousbloodparish.org](http://mostpreciousbloodparish.org) or [MPBOJ.com](http://MPBOJ.com)), the design (or “look”) of the site, as well as the hosting and maintenance of all the Institute’s apostolate websites, is done at the national headquarters. We have been informed that the design is being revamped very soon. The next time you visit the parish website, it may look unfamiliar, like the screenshot at right.

Why the change? We are told that “More than 50% of the visitors to the Institute site use a mobile device. The user experience for a mobile user is different from that of a desktop user.” The new design is optimized for people viewing the site on a phone, rather than sitting at a desk looking at a monitor. The goal of the new design is to place links for all important items within the body of the main page. While desktop users have navigated through multiple pages of a site for years, mobile users prefer to scroll a single page rather than bounce back and forth between multiple pages. The page elements will be arranged differently on a phone vs. a monitor, but we are assured that all of the same content will be available.



### **St. George’s pyrohy The best in Pittsburgh**

Our neighbor, St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church (3455 California Avenue), has been making pyrohy since 1951—and they are experts! The church sells pyrohy every Thursday and Friday, from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. in the church hall. Cost of the pyrohy are \$7.00/dozen for classic and \$8.00/dozen for specialty types. Someone is usually around on Sundays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., if you want to stop before the High Mass to pick up a dozen.

## 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).*