



## MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

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

**3rd Sunday after  
Epiphany**

**January 21, 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**

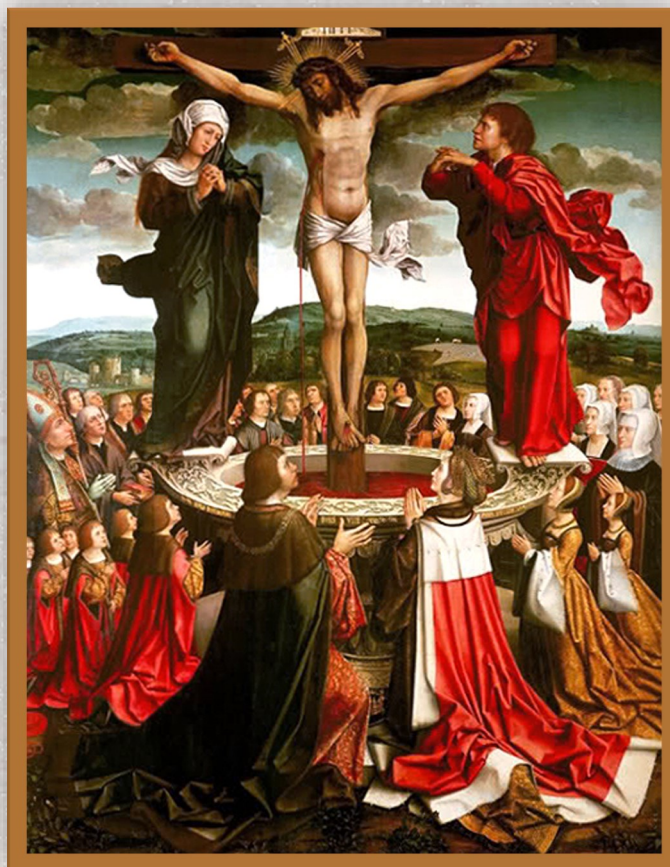
### **Confession Schedule**

**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 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 (pg. 56)

Recessional: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (pg. 87)

### Monday, January 22, 2024

**\*Ss. Vincent & Anastasius, 3rd Class—Red**

12PM LM + Eugene F. Baldwin Family-Living & Deceased (Susan Fischer)

### Tuesday, January 23, 2024

**\*St. Raymond of Penafort, 3rd Class—Red**

*Commemoration of St. Emerentiana*

12PM LM Thomas Kelly-Conversion (Nicole Kelly)

7PM LM + Jack & Anna Marie Killian (David & Rebecca Killian)

### Wednesday, January 24, 2024

**\*St. Timothy, 3rd Class—Red**

12PM LM John P. Klinke (Mark Schurdak Family)

### Thursday, January 25, 2024

**\*Conversion of St. Paul, 3rd Class—Red**

*Commemoration of St. Peter*

12PM LM + Rose M. Lenihan (David Lenihan)

8PM Holy Hour of Adoration

9PM Compline

### Friday, January 26, 2024

**St. Polycarp, 3rd Class—Red**

12PM LM Adrienne Zink-Birthday (Patrizio Family)

### Saturday, January 27, 2024

**St. John Chrysostom, 3rd Class—White**

9AM LM Paras Family

### Sunday, January 28, 2024

**Septuagesima Sunday, 2nd Class—Violet**

8AM LMO *Pro populo*

11AM HM Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of Our Children, Spouses & Grandchildren (Dr. & Mrs. R.A. Capone)

Processional: To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King

Recessional: Come Holy Ghost

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 14, 2024*

Offertory .....	\$7,457.00
Parish Appeal 2023 .....	\$1,895.00
Parish Improvement .....	\$200.00
Food Pantry .....	\$20.00
Christmas Charities .....	\$20.00
St. Anthony School .....	\$265.00

*Faith Direct [2nd Partial] Report (December 16 – 30, 2023)*

Offertory .....	\$13,551.25
Parish Appeal 2023 .....	\$681.00
Parish Improvement .....	\$639.00
St. Anthony School .....	\$190.00

*Sunday Mass Attendance: 8AM 393; 11AM 419; Total 812*

### **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. The next meeting is set for February 3rd and the topic will be *Examination of Conscience*. 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. Contact Brenda Briola at 724-650-5767 or [respectlife@mpboj.com](mailto:respectlife@mpboj.com) for more information.

### **Respect Life Group Meeting**

The Respect Life Group's next quarterly meeting will be on **Saturday, January 27 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass**. Your attendance is highly encouraged, and your input would be greatly appreciated. Save the date!

### **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 two adult beverages. This very popular event is expected to sell out, so plan to purchase your tickets early! Ticket sales will continue until Feb. 4th at the latest, after both Sunday Masses and in the gym during Catechism classes. Please contact [heather.farah@gmail.com](mailto:heather.farah@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.



### **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.

### **Using Collection Envelopes**

Please consider using your parish envelopes when submitting a check in the collection basket. When you do this, the parish office can easily record your donation in the parishioner data base for your year-end tax report, without performing the extra step of looking up your envelope number. If you are registered for Faith Direct, please notify the office to stop delivery of your envelopes, since there is an associated expense with production of the envelopes. As always, the parish greatly appreciates your financial support of the parish.

### **Second Collection for St. Anthony School**

The second collection today benefits the diocesan St. Anthony School Programs, and the DePaul School for Hearing and Speech.

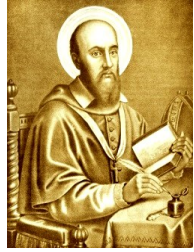
## ***Introduction to the Devout Life***

*By St. Francis de Sales*

### ***The Same Subject Continued***

*(Book 3, Chapter 2—Conclusion)*

So, my child, we must think well of those whom we see practicing virtues, although imperfectly, since the Saints have done the like; but as to ourselves we must give heed to practice them, not



only diligently, but discreetly, and to this end we shall do well strictly to follow the Wise Man's counsel, and not trust in our own wisdom, but lean on those whom God has given as our guides. And here I must say a few words concerning certain things which some reckon as virtues, although they are nothing of the sort—I mean ecstasies, trances, rhapsodies, extraordinary transformations, and the like, which are dwelt on in some books, and which promise to raise the soul to a purely intellectual contemplation, an altogether supernatural mental altitude, and a life of pre-eminent excellence. But I would have you see, my child, that these perfections are not virtues, they are rather rewards which God gives to virtues, or perhaps, more correctly speaking, tokens of the joys of everlasting life, occasionally granted to men in order to kindle in them a desire for the fulness of joy which is only to be found in Paradise. But we must not aspire to such graces, which are in nowise necessary to us in order to love and serve God, our only lawful ambition. Indeed, for the most part, these graces are not to be acquired by labor or industry, and that because they are rather passions than actions, which we may receive, but cannot create. Moreover, our business only is to become good, devout people, pious men and women; and all our efforts must be to that end. If it should please God further to endow us with angelic perfection, we should then be prepared to become good angels; but meanwhile let us practice, in all simplicity, humility and devotion, those lowly virtues to the attainment of which our Lord has bidden us labor—I mean patience, cheerfulness, self-mortification, humility, obedience, poverty, chastity, kindness to our neighbor, forbearance towards his failings, diligence, and a holy fervor. Let us willingly resign the higher eminences to lofty souls. We are not worthy to take so high a rank in God's service; let us be content to be as scullions, porters, insignificant attendants in His household, leaving it to Him if He should hereafter see fit to call us to His own council chamber. Of a truth, my child, the King of Glory does not reward His servants according to the dignity of their office, but according to the humility and love with which they have exercised it. While Saul was seeking his father's asses, he found the kingdom of Israel: Rebecca watering Abraham's camels, became his son's wife: Ruth gleaning after Boaz' reapers, and lying down at his feet, was raised up to become his bride. Those who pretend to such great and extraordinary graces are very liable to delusions and mistakes, so that sometimes it turns out that people who aspire to be angels are not ordinarily good men, and that their goodness lies more in high-flown words than in heart and deed. But we must beware of despising or presumptuously condemning anything. Only, while thanking God for the pre-eminence of others, let us abide contentedly in our own lower but safer path—a path of less distinction, but more suitable to our lowliness, resting satisfied that if we walk steadily and faithfully therein, God will lift us up to greater things.

## ***2024 Wedding Dates***

Our parish is blessed with many couples who are engaged to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony during this year 2024. The Canons are completely booked for marriage preparation classes, and are unable to schedule more marriage preparation classes for weddings taking place this year. If a couple wishes to have the Canons to prepare them for marriage and celebrate the wedding, they should look for a tentative wedding date in 2025. It may not be until after July 1, 2024 that a Canon will contact the couple to begin the marriage preparation process. Thank you for your understanding and God bless those who will receive this holy sacrament in 2024!

## ***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.

## ***From the Little Sisters of the Poor***

Dear Reverend Avis:

The spirit of giving highlights this beautiful Christmas season. On behalf of our Residents, we are so grateful to be recipients of the generous gift of \$2,500 from the Parishioners of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish. Through your support we can give the gift of continued care to the elderly poor living among us and provide them with love this holy season. Thank you for your kindness!

At this time of year, as we celebrate Christ's birth, our prayers of gratitude soar with even greater joy. In a sense, the holiday spirit is with us all year as each gift we receive reminds us of the love brought to us by the Christ child. We Sisters give our time and presence while you give financially from your blessings. We work together to provide a loving Home for our Residents now during Advent and Christmas and throughout the year to meet their daily needs! Thank you for your contribution to these efforts.

Each day the Little Sisters are privileged to be able to pray for all benefactors. This Christmas we are renewed by your generosity and thank God for the many blessings bestowed on our Home and Residents through you. May your Christmas Season be steeped in the awareness of the presence of God among us and may you and all those involved with this collection receive many graces & blessings!

Gratefully in prayer,

Sister Loraine Marie Clare, Isp

Mother Superior

## ***Aquinas Academy Open House***

Parents and students are invited to the Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh's K - 12 Admissions Open House on **Saturday, February 10**, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come and see how Aquinas Academy's academic and virtue programs can form your child to succeed in school and life. Leslie Mitros, Head of School, will give a presentation and families will have an opportunity to tour campus and meet teachers, coaches, parents, and current students. Lunch will be available for visiting families. Register online at [www.AquinasAcademy.info](http://www.AquinasAcademy.info) or contact Joe Austin, Director of Admissions, at (724) 444-0722x15, or email [austin@aquinasacademy-pittsburgh.org](mailto:austin@aquinasacademy-pittsburgh.org).

## 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.



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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).*