

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*

**Sexagesima Sunday
February 12, 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

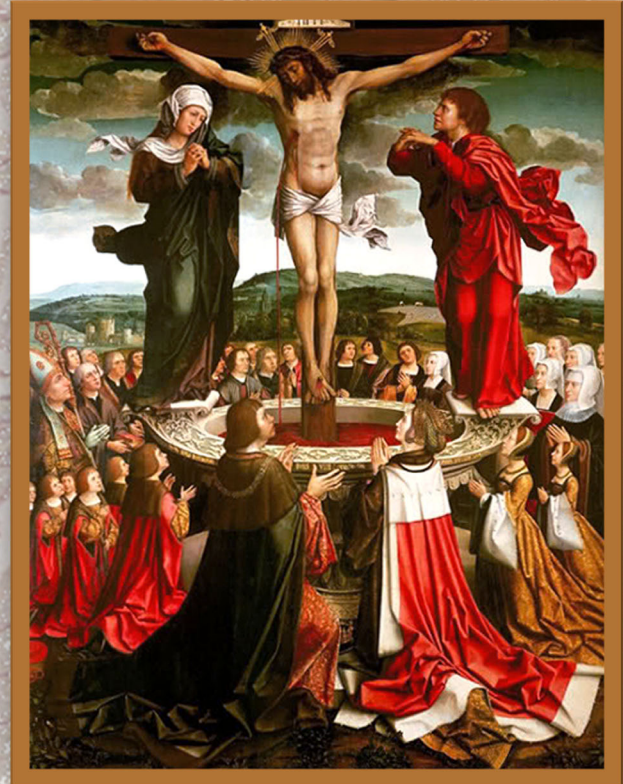
Confession Schedule

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
office@mpboj.com
Geraldine Redic, Bookkeeper/Safe Environment
bookkeeper@mpboj.com
John Rokosz, Music Director
music@mpboj.com
Jeannine 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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Sunday in Sexagesima, 2nd Class—Violet

8AM *Pro populo*

11AM Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of the Kedzierski Family

Monday, February 13, 2023

Votive Mass of the Holy Trinity, 4th Class—White

12PM Matthew Haupt-Godson, Birthday (Tom & Carol Nypaver)

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

St. Valentine, 4th Class—Red

12PM + Jean Hueffed (Randal & Piper Kotwica)

7PM My Children & Grandchildren (Jan Bolea)

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Ss. Faustina & Jovita, 4th Class—Red

12PM + Edward & Theresa Schurdak (Mark Schurdak)

Thursday, February 16, 2023

Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament, 4th Class—White

12PM St. Maria Goretti Foundation (Dave Rethage)

Friday, February 17, 2023

Votive Mass of the Holy Cross, 4th Class—Red

12PM Alicia Stull (Patrizio Family)

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Our Lady on Saturday, 4th Class—White

Commemoration of St. Simeon

9AM Spiritual & Temporal Welfare for Canon Avis & Canon Bourgeois (Kish Family)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Sunday in Quinquagesima, 2nd Class—Violet

8AM + Alfred & Margaret Ferla (Herman Marini)

11AM *Pro populo*

Our Weekly Offerings

Sunday, February 5, 2023

Offeritory \$12,318.00

Parish Share \$817.00

ICRSS Seminary Fund..... \$10.00

Food Pantry..... \$385.00

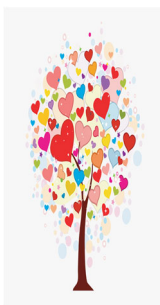
Mass Attendance: 8AM 562; 11AM 370; Total 932

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.

Family Party—St. Valentine's Day

Plan to join fellow parishioners for a St. Valentine's party on Sunday, February 12th, following the High Mass at 1 pm in the school building. The event will begin with a potluck lunch, followed by Valentine making for nursing home residents, cookie decorating and rosary. Please sign-up for potluck at: <https://mostpreciousbloodofjesus.flocknote.com/signup/110944> Hope to see you there!



Palms Wanted

The parish is collecting your blessed palms to burn and use on Ash Wednesday (February 22, 2023). Please place your palms in the collection bins located in the church entrances until February 19th.

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.

Institute's U.S. Provincial Appeal "Many Apostolates, One Mission"

Do you *value* what the Institute of Christ the King is doing in the Church today? **This Lent**, consider making a sacrifice of **\$80, just two dollars a day during these 40 days** to help the Institute continue its work for the salvation of souls. On **Sunday, February 26**, there will be a special second collection for this appeal to **help the Institute grow in the USA**. This Lent, you can make a difference in the Church today by donating to the people and the places that work to restore Catholic life and culture in America. **Thank you for your generous support!** May Christ our King reward you eternally.



Donation Summaries

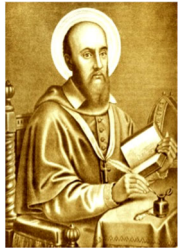
In an effort to save personnel time and postage expense, the parish will not send 2022 end-of-year donation summaries to parishioners who utilize envelopes. If you need a summary for tax purposes, please contact the parish office by email (office@mpboj.com) or by phone (412.761.1508) to request a statement. Faith Direct will automatically provide end-of-year statements to those who utilize our on-line giving option. As always, your financial support of the parish during 2022 is most appreciated. We were able to make quite a number of improvements this past year, thanks to those who give so generously to Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish! May God bless you abundantly.

"But that upon good ground, these are they who, with a right and good heart, having heard the Word, hold it fast, and bear fruit in patience."—Luke 8:15

Introduction to the Devout Life

By St. Francis de Sales

The Nature & Excellence of Devotion (Part I, Chap. 2)



Those who sought to discourage the Israelites from going up to the Promised Land, told them that it was "a land which eateth up the inhabitants thereof," that is, that the climate was so unhealthy that the inhabitants could not live long, and that the people thereof were "men of a great stature," who looked upon the new-comers as mere locusts to be devoured. It is just so, my child, that the world runs down true devotion, painting devout people with gloomy, melancholy aspect, and affirming that religion makes them dismal and unpleasant. But even as Joshua and Caleb protested that not only was the Promised Land a fair and pleasant country, but that the Israelites would take an easy and peaceful possession thereof, so the Holy Spirit tells us through His Saints, and our Lord has told us with His Own Lips, that a devout life is very sweet, very happy and very loveable.

The world, looking on, sees that devout persons fast, watch and pray, endure injury patiently, minister to the sick and poor, restrain their temper, check and subdue their passions, deny themselves in all sensual indulgence, and do many other things which in themselves are hard and difficult. But the world sees nothing of that inward, heartfelt devotion which makes all these actions pleasant and easy. Watch a bee hovering over the mountain thyme; --the juices it gathers are bitter, but the bee turns them all to honey,--and so tells the worldling, that though the devout soul finds bitter herbs along its path of devotion, they are all turned to sweetness and pleasantness as it treads;--and the martyrs have counted fire, sword, and rack but as perfumed flowers by reason of their devotion. And if devotion can sweeten such cruel torments, and even death itself, how much more will it give a charm to ordinary good deeds? We sweeten unripe fruit with sugar, and it is useful in correcting the crudity even of that which is good. So devotion is the real spiritual sweetness which takes away all bitterness from mortifications; and prevents consolations from disagreeing with the soul: it cures the poor of sadness, and the rich of presumption; it keeps the oppressed from feeling desolate, and the prosperous from insolence; it averts sadness from the lonely, and dissipation from social life; it is as warmth in winter and refreshing dew in summer; it knows how to abound and how to suffer want; how to profit alike by honor and contempt; it accepts gladness and sadness with an even mind, and fills men's hearts with a wondrous sweetness.

Ponder Jacob's ladder:--it is a true picture of the devout life; the two poles which support the steps are types of prayer which seeks the love of God, and the Sacraments which confer that love; while the steps themselves are simply the degrees of love by which we go on from virtue to virtue, either descending by good deeds on behalf of our neighbor or ascending by contemplation to a loving union with God. Consider, too, who they are who trod this ladder; men with angels' hearts, or angels with human forms. They are not youthful, but they seem to be so by reason of their vigor and spiritual activity. They have

wings wherewith to fly, and attain to God in holy prayer, but they have likewise feet wherewith to tread in human paths by a holy gracious interaction with men; their faces are bright and beautiful, inasmuch as they accept all things gently and sweetly; their heads and limbs are uncovered, because their thoughts, affections and actions have no motive or object save that of pleasing God; the rest of their bodies is covered with a light shining garment, because while they use the world and the things of this life, they use all such purely and honestly, and no further than is needful for their condition --such are the truly devout. Believe me, dear child, devotion is the sweetest of sweets, the queen of virtues, the perfection of love. If love is the milk of life, devotion is the cream thereof; if it is a fruitful plant, devotion is the blossom; if it is a precious stone, devotion is its brightness; if it is a precious balm, devotion is its perfume, even that sweet odor which delights men and causes the angels to rejoice.

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.

“Begin now ... Believe me, don't wait until tomorrow to begin becoming a saint.”

- Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

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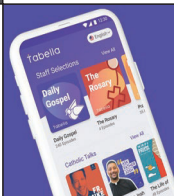
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