



MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

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

Quinquagesima Sunday

February 11, 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

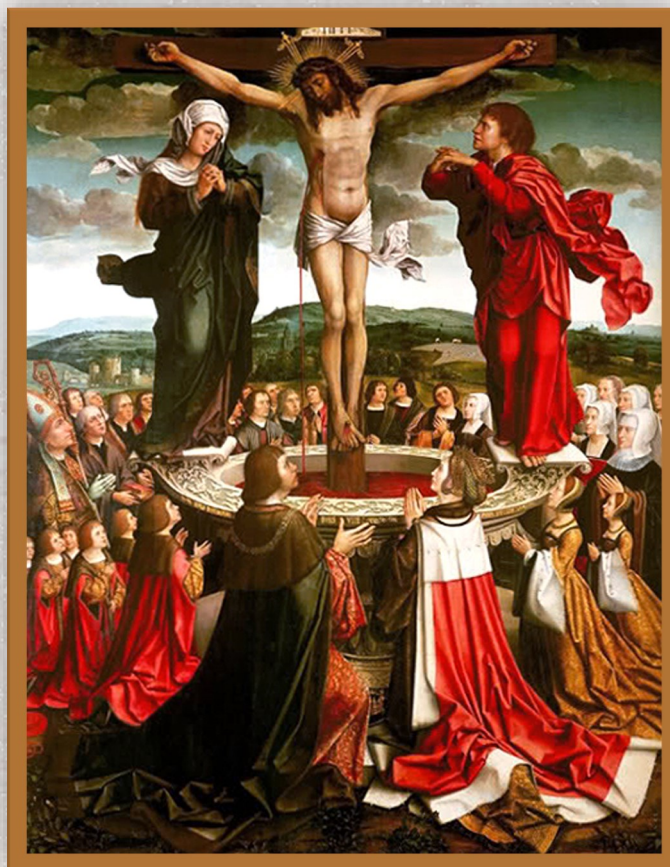
Confession Schedule

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, February 11, 2024

Quinquagesima Sunday, 2nd Class—Violet

8AM LMO *Pro populo*
 11AM HM + Raymond, Tillie & Bob Pasierb (Nick Logan)
 Processional: At the Name of Jesus (pg. 54)
 Recessional: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (pg. 78)

Monday, February 12, 2024

Seven Holy Servite Founders, 3rd Class—White

12PM LM + Marian B. Creel (Susan Fischer)

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

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

12PM LM In Honor of the Holy Face of Jesus
 7PM LM + Soul of Jeffrey Tripodi (Matthew Pesavento)

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 *Fast & Abstinence*

Ash Wednesday, 1st Class—Violet

12PM LM + Grandparents (Grandson)
 7PM HM + Betty Kantz (Brenda Briola)

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

Commemoration of Ss. Faustina & Jovita

12PM LM Michael Gryszko (Martin Olshanski)
 8PM Holy Hour of Adoration
 9PM Compline

Friday, February 16, 2024 *Abstinence*

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

12PM LM + Aud Nedrehagen (Beverly Bendiksen)
 6:30PM Stations of the Cross

Votive Mass of the Crown of Thorns—Red

7:15PM LM + Rev. Alvin P. Gutierrez

Saturday, February 17, 2024

Lenten Feria, 3rd Class—Violet

9AM LM + George Hertrich-Wedding Anniversary
 (Margaret Hertrich)

Sunday, February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent, 1st Class—Violet

8AM LM + Helen & Bill Ondek (Bob Pacacha)
 11AM HM *Pro populo*
 Processional: Attende Domine (chant)
 Recessional: 40 Days and 40 Nights

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

Our Weekly Offerings

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Offertory	\$11,525.00
Ash Wednesday	\$2.00
Parish Appeal 2023	\$1,336.00
Parish Improvement	\$25.00
St. Anthony School	\$50.00
Food Pantry	\$5.00

Sunday Mass Attendance: 8AM 582; 11AM 436; Total 1,018

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 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 for more information.

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 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.

Sursum Corda Mass, Stations, and Pizza - This Friday, Feb. 16th, following Stations of the Cross and Mass, join Sursum Corda in the school building for pizza and fellowship.

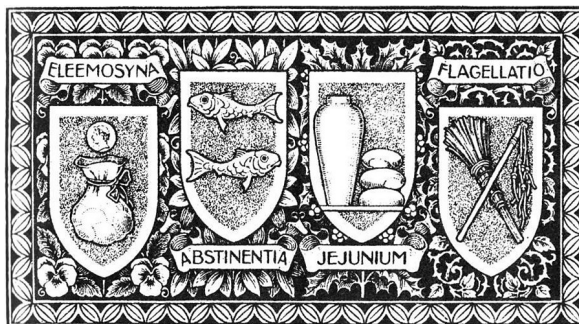
Annual Sursum Corda Retreat - Save the date in your calendars! The Institute's Annual Sursum Corda Young Adult Retreat will be held at the Colombiere Conference and Retreat Center in Michigan, from July 5th to 8th, 2024. We hope to see you there!

Stations of the Cross

Stations will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the Fridays of Lent and followed by Holy Mass. On Good Friday, March 29th, Stations will be at a time to be announced in the Holy Week Schedule.

Collection of Palms Ends Today

The collecting of blessed palms for use on Ash Wednesday ends today. Please do not leave more palms at the church after today!



LENTEN REGULATIONS

Lent begins this week, on Wednesday, February 14th.

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence in the U.S.
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. 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.
6. 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. Attendance at social events, banquets, wedding rehearsals or receptions, or funeral wakes are not considered sufficient reason to request a dispensation.

40 Days for Life

From Feb. 14th – March 24th, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. *See back cover for more information.* Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish has "adopted" **Sunday, March 10th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm** to provide the prayer coverage at Planned Parenthood! Sign-up sheets in Narthex.

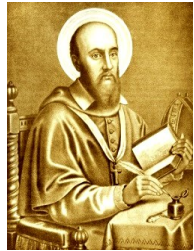
Introduction to the Devout Life

By St. Francis de Sales

Greater Humility

(Book 3, Chapter 4)

Elisha bade the poor widow "borrow vessels, even empty vessels not a few, and pour oil into all those vessels;" and so in order to receive God's Grace in our hearts, they must be as empty



vessels—not filled with self-esteem. The swallow with its sharp cry and keen glance has the power of frightening away birds of prey, and for that reason the dove prefers it to all other birds, and lives surely beside it—even so humility drives Satan away, and cherishes the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit within us, and for that reason all the Saints—and especially the King of Saints

and His Blessed Mother—have always esteemed the grace of humility above all other virtues. We call that vainglory which men take to themselves, either for what is not in them, or which being in them is not their own, or which being in them and their own yet is not worthy of their self-satisfaction. For instance, noble birth, favor of great men, popular applause, all these are things nowise belonging to ourselves, but coming from our forefathers, or the opinion of others. Some people are proud and conceited because they ride a fine horse, wear a feather in their hat, and are expensively dressed, but who can fail to see their folly, or that if any one has reason to be proud over such things, it would be the horse, the bird, and the tailor! Or what can be more contemptible than to found one's credit on a horse, a plume, or a ruff? Others again pride themselves upon their dainty moustaches, their well-trimmed beard or curled hair, their white hands, or their dancing, singing and the like: but is it not a petty vanity which can seek to be esteemed for any such trivial and frivolous matters? Then again, some look for the world's respect and honor because they have acquired some smatterings of science, expecting all their neighbors to listen and yield to them, and such men we call pedants. Others make great capital of their personal beauty, and imagine that every one is lost in admiration of it; but all this is utterly vain, foolish and impertinent, and the glory men take to themselves for such matters must be called vain, childish and frivolous. You may test real worth as we test balm, which is tried by being distilled in water, and if it is precipitated to the bottom, it is known to be pure and precious. So if you want to know whether a man is really wise, learned, generous or noble, see if his life is molded by humility, modesty and submission. If so, his gifts are genuine; but if they are only surface and showy, you may be sure that in proportion to their demonstrativeness so is their unreality. Those pearls which are formed amid tempest and storm have only an outward shell, and are hollow within; and so when a man's good qualities are fed by pride, vanity and boasting, they will soon have nothing save empty show, without sap, marrow or substance. Honor, rank and dignity are like the saffron, which never thrives so well as when trodden under foot. Beauty only attracts when it is free from any such aim. Self-conscious beauty loses its charm, and learning becomes a discredit and degenerates into pedantry, when we are puffed up by it. Those who are punctilious about rank, title or precedence, both lay themselves open to criticism and degradation, and also throw contempt on all such things; because an honor which is valuable when freely paid, is worthless when sought for or exacted. When the peacock opens

his showy tail, he exhibits the ugliness of his body beneath; and many flowers which are beautiful while growing, wither directly we gather them. And just as men who inhale mandragora from afar as they pass, find it sweet, while those who breathe it closely are made faint and ill by the same, so honor may be pleasant to those who merely taste it as they pass, without seeking or craving for it, but it will become very dangerous and hurtful to such as take delight in and feed upon it. An active effort to acquire virtue is the first step towards goodness; but an active effort to acquire honor is the first step towards contempt and shame. A well-conditioned mind will not throw away its powers upon such sorry trifles as rank, position or outward forms—it has other things to do, and will leave all that to meaner minds. He who can find pearls will not stop to pick up shells; and so a man who aims at real goodness will not be keen about outward tokens of honor. Undoubtedly every one is justified in keeping his own place, and there is no want of humility in that so long as it is done simply and without contention. Just as our merchant-ships coming from Peru with gold and silver often bring apes and parrots likewise, because these cost but little and do not add to the weight of a cargo, so good men seeking to grow in grace can take their natural rank and position, so long as they are not engrossed by such things, and do not involve themselves in anxiety, contention or ill-will on their account. I am not speaking here of those whose position is public, or even of certain special private persons whose dignity may be important. In all such cases each man must move in his own sphere, with prudence and discretion, together with charity and courtesy.

Parish Financial Statement

Included with this bulletin is the standardized Quarterly Financial Statement for the second quarter of the 2023-24 fiscal year, with an explanatory letter by Canon Avis on the reverse.

Diocesan Parish Appeal 2024

The Annual Parish Appeal begins today in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Each parishioner should receive a letter from Canon Avis describing the importance of the appeal, along with a pledge form/envelope. Pledge envelopes are also available at both church entrances, and parishioners who use collection envelopes can utilize the Parish Appeal envelopes included in their packets. Finally, if you use Faith Direct for making your offertory donations, you may elect to add a contribution for Parish Appeal via the Faith Direct website. Our annual assessment remains the same as it was in 2023: \$154,689, comprised of \$98,693 for the management fee (which covers diocesan administrative support for functions the parish would never be able to afford on its own), and \$55,996 for the elementary school subsidy. Please be as generous as possible to the Parish Appeal, since if contributions are less than the assessed amount, the remainder is paid from the parish Operating Account.

Institute's U.S. Provincial Appeal

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. Next **Sunday, Feb. 18th**, 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. (Please note that checks should be made payable to *The Institute of Christ the King*, rather than to the parish.)

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.

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) for more information.

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.

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.

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.

Catholic Faith Formation and Spiritual needs:

For those seeking *Catechism*, preparing for *First Holy Communion*, *Confirmation*, needs of the sick or funeral information, please call the parish office.

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.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE[®]

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.



From Feb. 14th – March 24th, you’re invited to join other Christians for **40 Days for Life** – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You’re also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh. Contact **Nikki Bruni**, nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com, or **Jen** at pghsaland365@gmail.com

Most Precious Blood of Jesus parish has “adopted” **Sunday, March 10th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm** to provide the prayer coverage at Planned Parenthood! Sign-up sheets in Narthex.

• 24,211 babies saved • 256 abortion workers converted • 148 abortion centers closed!

Kick-off Mass at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church on Tuesday, Feb. 13th at 6 pm, followed by a **Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood** led by His Excellency, Bishop William Waltersheid. All Christians are welcome to participate!

806001 - Most Precious Blood of Jesus

(Quarter-2 2023/2024)

OPERATING REVENUE:

Offertory Collections	531,884
Donations & Bequests	8,250
Fundraising	5,190
Other Income	3,084
	548,408

OPERATING EXPENSE:

Administration	190,781
Operations & Maintenance	156,919
Liturgical & Rectory	98,520
Religious Ed & School Subsidy	40,563
Social/ Outreach/ Other	18,606
Property & Liability Insurance	16,124
	521,513

OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) 26,895

NON-OPERATING ITEMS:

Extraordinary Maintenance Expense	(5,315)
Net Third Party Collections	503
Proceeds from Insurance Claim (Net)	1,905
	(2,907)

FEATURED ASSETS and LIABILITIES at 12/31/2023

ASSETS:

Unrestricted Funds:

Cash	143,183
Deposit & Loan Operating Savings	8,883
	152,066

Restricted Funds:

Deposit & Loan Restricted Savings	-
Deposit & Loan Restricted Campaign	-
Parish Endowment Investment	-
Other Investments	-
	-

LIABILITIES:

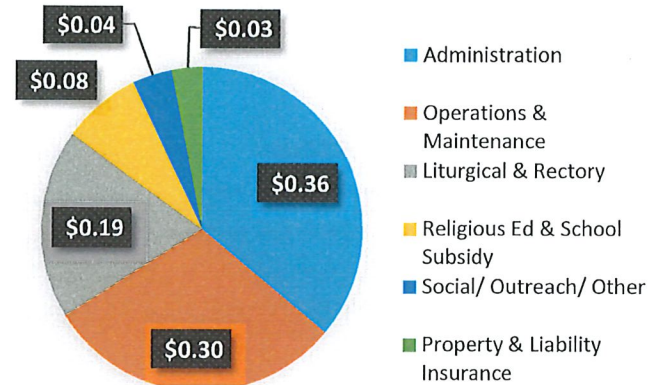
Insurance Past Due	-
Deposit & Loan Borrowing Debt	533,313
Other Payables	-
	533,313

Revenue vs. Expense for 7-1-2023 thru 12-31-2023

Revenue: 548,408

Expense: 521,513

How each Expense Dollar Supports the Parish



A Parish is much like a business. There are costs that keep the Parish running. The pie chart above details how your dollars are spent. The following line items include but are not limited to:

Offertory Collections: Offertory, Parish Appeal

Campaign Income: Capital Imp., Debt Reduction, etc.

Other Income: Interest Income, Hall Rentals, Votive

Administration:

Staff, Office Supplies/Equipment, Management Fee

Operations & Maintenance:

Staff, Church Utilities, Upkeep, Taxes, Supplies

Religious Ed & School Subsidy:

Staff, Supplies, CCD, Adult Ed, RCIA, Elem School Grant

Liturgical & Rectory:

Staff, Worship Expense, Rectory Food, Utilities, Upkeep

Social/Outreach/Other:

Youth, Community, Net Rental Property, Preschool

Extraordinary Maintenance Expense:

Purchases/Improvements over \$4,000

Net Third Party Collections:

e.g. St. Anthony's, Holy Land, Peter's Pence

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THIS STATEMENT.

Dear Faithful of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish,

With the second quarter of the fiscal year complete (12.31.23), please note the following financial State of the Parish:

Total Revenue of **\$548,408** is up 33% over the same six-month period last year of \$410,448 in part due to inclusion of Parish Appeal of \$52,942 for the period, where in previous years, Parish Appeal¹ (Parish Share) donations had been excluded from revenue. For a more detailed view of the last six months, compared to the same period last year, please see the Statement of Cash Flows below.

<i>SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</i>							
<i>For the Quarter Ending:</i>	<i>9/30/2023</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>	<i>3/31/2024</i>	<i>6/30/2024</i>	<i>2024 YTD</i>	<i>2023 YTD</i>	<i>CHG PY</i>
<i>BEGINNING CASH BALANCE (\$)</i>	127,781	116,601	-	-	127,781	366,426	(238,646)
Operating Income (All Donation Sources)	246,941	301,467	-	-	548,408	410,448	137,960
<i>Cash Available for Operations</i>	374,721	418,068	-	-	676,188	776,874	(100,686)
<i>Expenditures</i>							
Administration (net of Mgt Fee)	73,163	68,316	-	-	141,479	136,146	5,333
Diocesan Management Fee	24,673	24,673	-	-	49,346	-	49,346
Operations & Maintenance	78,138	78,782	-	-	156,919	168,191	(11,272)
Liturgical & Rectory	44,467	54,053	-	-	98,520	98,237	284
Religious Education (net of School Subsidy)	1,234	11,330	-	-	12,565	14,265	(1,701)
School Subsidy	13,999	13,999	-	-	27,998	33,453	(5,455)
Social Outreach (net of loan payments)	7,809	5,414	-	-	13,223	17,000	(3,777)
Property & Liability Insurance	8,062	8,062	-	-	16,124	16,124	-
D&L Loan Payments	6,962	6,962	-	-	13,924	-	13,924
Extraordinary Maintenance	-	5,315	-	-	5,315	177,105	(171,790)
Insurance Claim Proceeds (net)	-	(1,905)	-	-	(1,905)	(7,810)	5,905
Net Third Party Activity	(387)	(116)	-	-	(503)	(4,176)	3,673
Total Expenditures	258,121	274,885	-	-	533,005	648,535	(115,530)
Period Surplus (Deficit)	(11,180)	26,582			15,402	(238,088)	253,490
<i>ENDING CASH BALANCE (\$)</i>	<u>116,601</u>	<u>143,183</u>	-	-	<u>143,183</u>	<u>128,339</u>	<u>14,844</u>

While we have experienced a modest \$15,402 (2.8%) surplus for the period, please note that extraordinary maintenance or large capital improvement spending has been significantly curtailed. To meet the liturgical and temporal needs of 614 registered families which constitute our parish, greater than **431** registered families will need to contribute financially to the parish. At present, only 70% of our families make a financial contribution to the parish. We greatly appreciate those generous families and individuals. Without your contributions, the parish would not exist. That you remember the parish between your water and electric bills helps us to pay the parish's bills also. Your sign of gratitude towards the parish, your spiritual home, maintains and furthers the mission of the parish to give glory to God and to take care of souls. The Lord rewards a generous heart; "And do not forget to do good, and to impart; for by such sacrifices God's favor is obtained." (Hebrews 13: 16) Please be assured of my prayers especially at the *Pro Populo* Masses offered for the benefit of all parishioners.

In Christo Rege et Maria,



Canon William Avis

¹ Published in the MPBOJ Quarterly Report 12.31.22: The Diocese of Pittsburgh has ended what has been known as the Parish Share Program which formulated our annual assessment, most recently at \$197,741 (\$130,836 parish, \$66,905 school subsidy) in 2022. A new management fee program, titled *Parish Appeal*, begins in February 2023. Most importantly, our assessment under the new structure has been reduced and fixed for the next three years at \$154,689 (\$98,693 parish, \$55,996 school subsidy) annually.