



MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

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

Candlemas

February 2, A.D. 2025

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

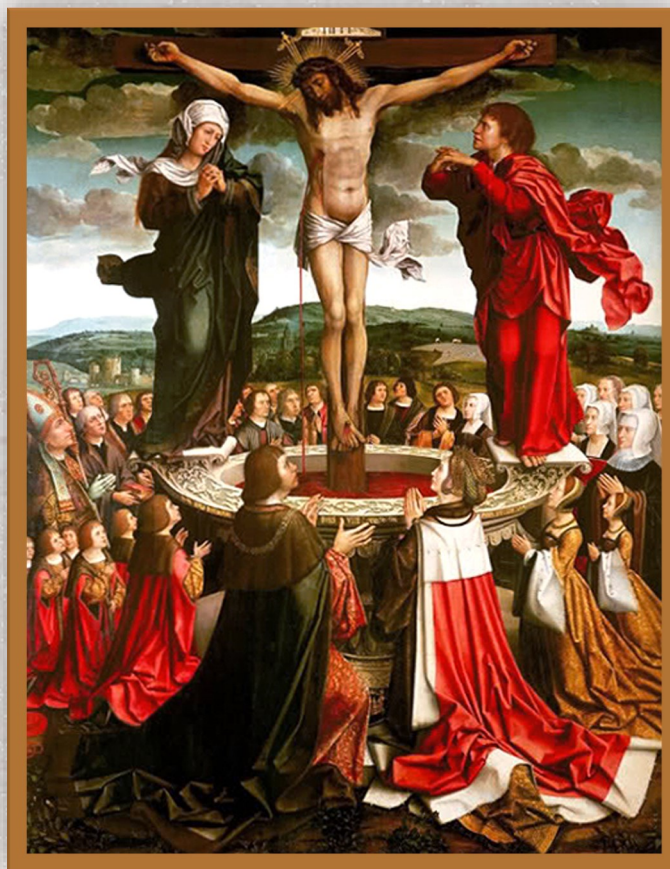
Confession Schedule

Sundays: 7-8am; 10-11am
Monday-Friday: 11:15-11:45am
Tuesdays: also 6:15-6:45pm
Saturday: 8-8:45am

Please consult the Liturgical Schedule on page 2 for particular modifications to this standard 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*
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Michael Eyler, *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 2, 2025 *Candlemas*

Purification of Our Lady, 2nd Class—White

8AM LMO + Nancy Bosh (Rich & Roseanne King)
 11AM HM* *Pro populo*

Recessional: *O Sion Open wide the Gates* (pg. 83)

Monday, February 3, 2025 *Blessing of Throats*

St. Blaise, 4th Class—Red

12PM LM Living & Deceased Members of the Zeher & Marcolini Families (M. Zeher)

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

St. Andrew Corsini, 3rd Class—White

12PM LM + Bill Bradley (Tim & Pat Rowlands)
 7PM LM Sonia, Jesse & Hermes Bunch (Dawn Bunch)

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

St. Agatha, 3rd Class—Red

12PM LM The Sanctification of William X. Bragg (Robert A Setele)

Thursday, February 6, 2025 *First Thursday*

V.M. of Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest, 3rd Class—White

Commemoration of St. Titus

12PM LM Jordan H. Miller (Margaret A. Miller)
 8PM Holy Hour of Adoration

Friday, February 7, 2025 *First Friday*

Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart, 3rd Class-White

Commemoration of St. Romuald

12PM LM Dan & Delaney Aul (Dominique Patrick)
 7PM LM Private Intention (D. Paras)

Saturday, February 8, 2025

St. John of Matha, 3rd Class-White

9AM LM Reparation for Sins against the First Three Commandments (John Wilson Family)

Sunday, February 9, 2025

5th Sunday after Epiphany, 2nd Class—Green

8AM LMO *Pro populo*
 11AM HM + Vincent & Regina Poplawski (Christina Warnagiris)

Processional: *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* (pg. 87)

Recessional: *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* (pg. 84)

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

* includes the blessing of candles and procession

Our Weekly Offerings

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Offertory	\$10,582.50
Parish Appeal 2025	\$600.00
Poor Box	\$20.00
Parish Improvement	\$532.00
St. Anthony School	\$360.00
Funeral Offering.....	\$200.00

Attendance: 8AM 543; 11AM 368; Total 911

Parish Group News

RESPECT LIFE GROUP (RLG) The Gospel of Life is at the heart of this group. RLG promotes a culture of life through three working subcommittees of Legislation, Education, and Advocacy. Contact Brenda Briola at respectlife@mpboj.com or 724-650-5767 for info.

Our Baby Blessing Box at MPBOJ is currently seeking donations of infant sleepers or onesies, binkies/teethers/small toys, diaper crème, wipes, diapers all sizes, but especially size 5 and bigger. Donation Bins are located at the entrances to the church.

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS will next meet on **Saturday, March 1st, beginning with the 9AM Mass. Next month's topic is "On the Holy Eucharist".** Please contact christianmothers@mpboj.com for more information. All adult women are welcome to attend.

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 José Piñero at 863.450.5143 or sursumcorda@mpboj.com.

Feb. 3 – St. Blaise Blessing of Throats

Tomorrow, Monday, February 3rd, the St. Blaise blessing of throats will be given following the noon Mass.

St. Valentine Party and Pot-Luck

Please plan to join fellow parishioners for the St. Valentine party in the school gym next **Sunday, February 9th**, following the High Mass. The event will begin with a pot-luck lunch, Valentine making for nursing home residents, Heart shaped cookie decorating and some games. All ages welcome—so we hope to see you there! Please sign up for potluck/volunteering/cookie making here:

mostpreciousbloodofjesus.flocknote.com/signup/195994



Rosary Rally February 15th

If there was ever a need to pray and sacrifice for priests for their preservation and sanctity, it is now! Through prayer we gain graces for priests which otherwise they would not obtain. Priests need special graces because they have extraordinary responsibilities before God. Please join in a Rosary Rally on 15 February 2025 at 12 noon in MPBOJ parking lot to pray for and raise up our priests and all priests to God for Him to bring them to do His Will. Contact Mary Brodka at 724 816-5573 for further information.

OLSH Class of 2029 Placement Test Feb. 8

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School will be offering its Placement Test for the Class of 2029 on Saturday, February 8. All students who are interested in entering the freshman class in the fall of 2025 should attend this testing session, which begins at 9:00 am. Top-scoring students on the test will be considered for OLSH's St. John Henry Newman Scholarship, which awards up to 10 students with scholarships of \$7,500 per year! Register today under the Admissions page of our website at www.olsch.org (go to *Important Dates*), or call Jessica Sellman '02 at (412) 262-3300.

Aquinas Academy Open House Feb. 8

Parents and students are invited to the Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh's Preschool - Grade 12 Admissions Open House on Saturday, February 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and see how Aquinas Academy's academic, athletic, extracurricular, and virtues programs can form your child to succeed in school and life. Tyler Deschamps, Head of School, will give a presentation and families will have an opportunity to tour campus and meet teachers, coaches, parents, and current students. You are also invited to stay for a light reception at the end of your tour. Register online at www.aquinasacademy-pittsburgh.org or contact Joe Austin, Director of Admissions, at (724) 444-0722x15, or by email: austin@aquinasacademy-pittsburgh.org.

Gospa Missions 1-Day Retreat: Discount Ends Today

Saturday, May 17, at Highfield Community Center (229 Highfield Rd., Butler, PA 16001). Join us for a faith-filled day of conversion, healing, and peace as we open our hearts to the Will of God in our lives. Join us in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Rosary, religious store, lunch, & more! Sign up at Gospa.org or call (724) 538-3171 for **Early Bird Pricing that ends TODAY.**

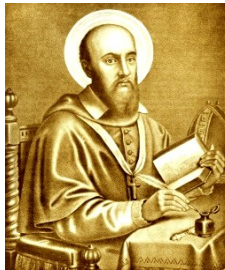
Introduction to the Devout Life

By St. Francis de Sales

We Must Not Trifle with the Words of Worldly Wisdom

(Book 4, Chapter 1)

Directly that your worldly friends perceive that you aim at leading a devout life, they will let loose endless shafts of mockery and misrepresentation upon you; the more malicious will attribute your change to hypocrisy, designing, or bigotry; they will affirm that the world having looked coldly upon you, failing its favor you turn to God; while your friends will make a series of



what, from their point of view, are prudent and charitable remonstrances. They will tell you that you are growing morbid; that you will lose your worldly credit, and will make yourself unacceptable to the world; they will prognosticate your premature old age, the ruin of your material prosperity; they will tell you that in the world you must live as the world does; that you can be saved without all this fuss; and much more of the like nature.

My child, all this is vain and foolish talk: these people have no real regard either for your bodily health or your material prosperity. "If ye were of the world," the Savior has said, "the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

We have all seen men, and women too, pass the whole night, even several in succession, playing at chess or cards; and what can be a more dismal, unwholesome thing than that? But the world has not a word to say against it, and their friends are no-wise troubled. But give up an hour to meditation, or get up rather earlier than usual to prepare for Holy Communion, and they will send for the doctor to cure you of hypochondria or jaundice! People spend every night for a month dancing, and no one will complain of being the worse; but if they keep the one watch of Christmas Eve, we shall hear of endless colds and maladies the next day! Is it not as plain as possible that the world is an unjust judge; indulgent and kindly to its own children, harsh and uncharitable to the children of God?

We cannot stand well with the world save by renouncing His approval. It is not possible to satisfy the world's unreasonable demands: "John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say he hath a devil. The Son of Man is come eating and drinking, and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, the friend of publicans and sinners." Even so, my child, if we give in to the world, and laugh, dance, and play as it does, it will affect to be scandalized; if we refuse to do so, it will accuse us of being hypocritical or morbid. If we adorn ourselves after its fashion, it will put some evil construction on what we do; if we go in plain attire, it will accuse us of meanness; our cheerfulness will be called dissipation; our mortification dullness; and ever casting its evil eye upon us, nothing we can do will please it. It exaggerates our failings, and publishes them abroad as sins; it represents our venial sins as mortal, and our sins of infirmity as malicious. Saint Paul says that charity is kind, but the world is unkind; charity thinks no evil, but the world thinks evil of every one, and if it cannot find fault with our actions, it is sure at least to impute bad motives to them,--whether the sheep be black or white, horned or no, the wolf will devour them if he can.

Do what we will, the world must wage war upon us. If we spend any length of time in confession, it will speculate on what we have so much to say about! if we are brief, it will suggest that we are keeping back something! It spies out our every act,

and at the most trifling angry word, sets us down as intolerable. Attention to business is avarice, meekness mere silliness; whereas the wrath of worldly people is to be reckoned as generosity, their avarice, economy, their mean deeds, honorable. There are always spiders at hand to spoil the honey-bee's comb. Let us leave the blind world to make as much noise as it may,--like a bat bothering the songbirds of day; let us be firm in our ways, unchangeable in our resolutions, and perseverance will be the test of our self-surrender to God, and our deliberate choice of the devout life.

The planets and a wandering comet shine with much the same brightness, but the comet's is a passing blaze, which does not linger long, while the planets cease not to display their brightness. Even so hypocrisy and real goodness have much outward resemblance; but one is easily known from the other, inasmuch as hypocrisy is short-lived, and disperses like a mist, while real goodness is firm and abiding. There is no surer groundwork for the beginnings of a devout life than the endurance of misrepresentation and calumny, since thereby we escape the danger of vainglory and pride, which are like the midwives of Egypt, who were bidden by Pharaoh to kill the male children born to Israel directly after their birth. We are crucified to the world, and the world must be as crucified to us. It esteems us as fools, let us esteem it as mad.

An Act of Faith

O MY GOD, I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; I believe that Thy divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the holy Catholic Church teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, Who canst neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

Saint Valentine's Day Dance



The Christian Mothers are happy to announce it is time for the third annual St. Valentine's Day Couples Dance!

The dance will be held in the parish center on **Saturday February 15th from 6:30-10:00 pm**. Live entertainment provided by the *Duquesne Jazz Quartet*. Hors d'oeuvres, "His and Hers" Specialty Cocktails, Pittsburgh Wedding Cookie Table. Tickets are \$35/person and will be sold after both Sunday Masses and during Catechism. **Last day to purchase tickets is next Sunday, February 9th.** Cash or check accepted.

Conference: The Nature of Music in the Liturgy

Following today's Solemn Mass, Father Luke Melcher will give a conference in the Parish Center on "The Nature of Music in the Liturgy." Father Melcher is the Director of Textual Resources at the International Commission for English in the Liturgy. Light lunch and refreshments available, potluck offerings welcome!



To All of Our Guests...

The Canons and faithful of Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish welcome you to our parish and to the Traditional Mass, celebrated in accordance with the classical Roman Liturgy. This personal parish was established by Bishop David Zubik on July 1, 2019, the feast of *The Most Precious Blood of Jesus*. Our parishioners come from all over the diocese for the prayerful tranquility of the Traditional Mass.

According to liturgical tradition, Holy Communion is received on the tongue, kneeling at the communion rail. Reception of Holy Communion is the sign of Divine and Ecclesial unity, so only practicing Catholics, free from mortal sin and who have observed the Eucharistic fast, may present themselves for Holy Communion. Visitors who are not of the Catholic Faith are welcome to join in prayer, but are requested not to receive Holy Communion. Those who need a low gluten Host should inform the usher as they approach the Communion rail, at the end of the distribution line for Holy Communion.

For more information about the parish, contact the Parish Office 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.



MOST PRECIOUS
BLOOD of JESUS PARISH

General Information

Bulletin Announcements: Requests for proposed bulletin announcements must be submitted **ten days in advance** of the publication date. Submit to bulletin@mpboj.com.

Mass Intentions: The Parish Mass Intention Registry is currently CLOSED. Mass intentions are accepted at specific periods in the year and announced in the bulletin. Instructions and forms are available during those periods.

Parish News: The parish uses **Flocknote** to circulate news and information. Please text MPBOJ to 84576 from your cell phone and follow the instructions, or check the parish website (MPBOJ.com) for more information.

Parish Materials/Events: At both 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 any materials without explicit permission from the Pastor. Parish events publicized on the bulletin boards at both entrances. 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 office@mpboj.com for approval.

On Line Contributions: Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish greatly appreciates all donations and contributions. If interested in making on-line contributions via Faith Direct, please visit: membership.faithdirect.net/PA678 or call 866-507-8757.

Catholic Faith Formation and Spiritual needs: For those seeking to join the Catholic faith, or who wish spiritual direction, please call the Parish Office for information.

Rosary: The Rosary is publicly recited one-half hour before most parish Masses.

Sacramental Information

Penance: The parish offers the sacrament of penance forty-five minutes prior to each Mass. Confessionals are located on the Epistle (right-hand) side of the church, with a sign indicating where to stand for the line. There is an accessible confessional located on the right side of the double confessional, where the kneeler can be lifted for easy access. Both sides of the double confessional may be occupied at the same time. Start your confession when you hear the priest's blessing.

Infant Baptism: Baptism should be administered within two weeks of birth. Please call the Parish Office prior to the baby's birth, to begin arrangements.

Holy Matrimony: Couples planning to marry at the parish must contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance, to schedule an appointment to begin marriage preparation instructions.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation: School age students receive First Holy Communion and the sacrament of Confirmation as part of our Catechism Program. Please see the parish website for registration instructions.

Extreme Unction/Anointing of the Sick: If you need the assistance of a priest for someone who is dying, please contact the Parish Office at 412-761-1508. If after hours, listen to the prompts and select option #1.

Funerals: The funeral home should directly contact the Parish Office to make Mass and burial arrangements.

Sacramental Records/Letters of Good Standing: To obtain sacramental records or a letter in good standing, please contact the Parish Office at 412-761-1508 for instructions.

Safety Awareness

In an effort to make Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish a safe place for all parishioners and visitors alike, please be mindful of our urban neighborhood and the constant traffic. If visiting the parish for Mass or a social event, parents should ensure their children's safety by maintaining prudent watch and supervision of their children at all times. When children are registered and/or involved in a parish related activity overseen by a parish program manager (e.g., Children's Choir; Catechism; altar server practice), at least one parent/guardian must remain on site for the duration of the program.

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