

Most Precious Blood

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Motto:

Let us do little things with great love.



22 PROSPECT ST., ANGOLA, NY 14006

Phone: 716-549-0420 Fax: 716-549-0425 Email: rectory14006@gmail.com Website: www.mpbangola.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Timothy Koester
Pastor Emeritus.....Rev. John Kwiecien
Pastoral Care: Elizabeth Emhof.....262-4782
Parish Trustees.....Elizabeth Duzen &
.....Conrad F. Piskorz
Business Manager.....Mary Lou McEvoy
RCIA: Marie O'Connor.....549-1818
Faith Formation.....549-1818
Liturgy Ministries Coordinator.....Corinne Best
Parish Secretary.....Pat Maiorana
Sacristan.....Diann Hosler
Parish Council Chairperson.....John Latimore

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday
11:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.



SCAN HERE FOR PARISH WEBSITE

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday:..... 8:00 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday, Wednesday, Friday:..... 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism: During weekend Masses. Parents must be practicing Catholics and attend a Pre-Baptismal Class. Call the rectory office to register.
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Call the rectory office.
Reconciliation (Confessions): Tuesdays 5:00-6:00 p.m. or by appointment - in the Chapel.
Marriage: Couples contemplating marriage must make an appointment to meet personally with the Pastor before a definite wedding date may be scheduled. Church arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding. No wedding date will be scheduled over the phone.
Anointing of the Sick: Anyone who is seriously ill is invited to contact the rectory to request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion.

Parish Devotions

Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration : Tuesdays: 1:00-2:00 p.m.
First Friday Devotions and Benediction: 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Letters of Recommendation: Registered parishioners in good standing for a minimum of 3 months and active, who are confirmed, and if married, did so in accordance with the Church's regulations, will be issued letters on request. One week prior notice is required.

New Parishioners: We welcome you warmly. Please register at the rectory office as soon as you arrive



Saturday, December 23

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM - Donald Mogavero, Sr. - req. Anna Geidel

Sunday, December 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent -

8:00 AM - People of the Parish

Christmas Eve - Vigil Mass

4:00 PM - Deceased Clergy and Religious

**Monday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Day**

10:00 AM - People of the Parish

**Wednesday, December 27 - St. John, apostle &
evangelist**

8:00 AM - Hal Mergenhagen - req. Pat Simchick

**Friday, December 29 - Fifth Day within the Octave
of the Nativity**

8:00 AM - Deborah Gilman - req. Mom & Family

Saturday, December 30 - St. Andrew, apostle

4:00 PM - Brian Galfo - req. Karen & Spencer

**Sunday, December 31 - The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary & Joseph**

8:00 AM - People of the Parish

In your prayers, please pray for the deceased of the parish.

When a weekend Mass is celebrated in the intention of a loved one, please inform one of the ushers that you would like to bring up the gifts in the offertory procession.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24



2 SAMUEL 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

PSALM 89

ROMANS 16:25-27

LUKE 1:26-38

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

GENESIS 15:1-6; 21:1-3

PSALM 128

HEBREWS 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

LUKE 2:22-40

New Hours for Parish Office

Beginning December 26, the Rectory Office will have the following hours: **Monday** and **Friday** from **9:00 a.m.** until **1:00 p.m.**



A Message from the Pastor

*Fourth Sunday of Advent:
The Mystery Kept Secret*

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

What is announced to Mary in today's Gospel is the revelation of all that the prophets had spoken. It is, as Paul declares in today's Second Reading, the mystery kept secret since before the foundation of the world. Mary is the virgin prophesied to bear a son of the house of David. And nearly every word the angel speaks to her today evokes and echoes the long history of salvation recorded in the Bible. Mary is hailed as the "daughter Jerusalem," called to rejoice that her king, the Lord God, has come into her midst as a mighty savior.

The One whom Mary is to bear will be Son of "the Most High" - an ancient divine title first used to describe the God of the priest-king Melchizedek, who brought out bread and wine to bless Abraham at the dawn of salvation history.

He will fulfill the covenant God makes with His chosen one, David, in today's First Reading. As we sing in today's Psalm, He will reign forever as highest of the kings of the earth, and He will call God "my Father." As Daniel saw the Most High grant everlasting dominion to the Son of Man, His kingdom will have no end. He is to rule over the house of Jacob - the title God used in making His covenant with Israel at Sinai, and again used in promising that all nations would worship the God of Jacob.

Jesus has been made known, Paul says today, to bring all nations to the obedience of faith. We are called with Mary today to marvel at all that the Lord has done throughout the ages for our salvation. And we too must respond to this annunciation with humble obedience - that His will be done, that our lives be lived according to His word. Thus, Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able to respond with obedience.

Choicest Blessings.

Fr. Tim

Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community Schedule of Christmas Masses



Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24

St. Francis: 4:00 & 10:00 p.m.
St. Mary of the Lake: 4:30 p.m.
 (Christmas Pageant - 4:00 p.m.)
St. John Paul II: 4:00 p.m. and
 Midnight
Most Precious Blood: 4:00 p.m.
St. Anthony's: 4:00 & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day - -Monday, December 25

St. Francis: 10:00 a.m.

St. Mary of the Lake: 11:00 a.m.

St. John Paul II: 10:00 a.m.

Most Precious Blood: 10:00 a.m.

St. Anthony's: 10:00 a.m.



Pray For the Healing of the Sick

Patricia Jasinski, Diane Cooke, Eugene Frometa,
Jane Granville, Pauline Landes, Karen Schiavone,



Vigo Meyer, Linda Muscato, Anthony Genovese,
Fran Downey, Dorothy Genovese, Lucille Zoda Galfo,

Joseph Schiavone, Marlene Petrie, Antoinette Pinter,
Kim Borkowski, Anna Geidel, John Yerney, Mary Ann Hartzell,

Evelyn Paradiso, Carol Penski, Joyce Prisco, Karen Young.

Diocese to Celebrate Anniversaries

The Diocese of Buffalo and the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Church will honor couples observing their 25th, 50th, 60th and 70th wedding anniversaries with a special Mass Sunday, February 11 at St. Joseph Cathedral. During the Mass, couples will renew their marriage vows.

If you are celebrating one of these anniversaries in 2024 and would like to be in attendance at this Mass, please register with the Parish Office by Friday, January 12.

December 30 & 31	MPB Extraordinary Ministers	Lectors
4:00 p.m.	J. Sack, F. Dybdahl N. Preischel, Volunteer	R. Scaglione
8:00 a.m.	J. Barone, L. Feider, S. Vail, K. Young	D. Gelencser

Road to Renewal Update



The late Pope Benedict XVI wrote the following: "Jesus gave this act of oblation an enduring presence through his institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. He anticipated his death and resurrection by giving his disciples, in the bread and wine, his very self, his body and blood as the new manna.

"The ancient world had dimly perceived that man's real food, what truly nourishes him as man, is ultimately the Logos, eternal wisdom: this same Logos now truly becomes food for us — as love. The Eucharist draws us into Jesus' act of self-oblation. More than just statically receiving the incarnate Logos, we enter into the very dynamic of his self-giving.

"The imagery of marriage between God and Israel is now realized in a way previously inconceivable: it had meant standing in God's presence, but now it becomes union with God through sharing in Jesus' self-gift, sharing in his body and blood. The sacramental "mysticism", grounded in God's condescension towards us, operates at a radically different level and lifts us to far greater heights than anything that any human mystical elevation could ever accomplish." (Deus Caritas Est paragraph 13)

The fourth week of Advent this year is going to become quickly overshadowed by the celebration of vigil Masses for Christmas. Yet, its theme may be the most important, love. As Pope Benedict XVI reflected upon Jesus' self-giving love, made manifest and present in the Blessed Sacrament, it should leave us to ponder: Have we aimed to achieve that level of self-giving love? Most of us at Mass this weekend will approach the altar of the Lord and enter "union with God..." but have we truly taken advantage of this gift? Have we allowed the graces to flow openly through us?

The Road to Renewal has given us some ups and downs this year. Many people lament changes, losing Mass times, and other familiar parish events. Some of you have been put out of your comfort zone, worshipping God with new brothers and sisters in Christ. Some have given countless hours to our pillar groups, taking the burden of your peers on your shoulders to try to preserve what was and imagine the new. Through all of this, we continue to enter the greatest form of love, the most abundant grace-filled action one can partake in, Holy Communion.

Let that be the light in our darkness to continue to move forward, to fall into deeper love with our Lord as he arrives this most holy Christmas night, to live that Love in all we do. Merry Christmas!

Choicest Blessings,

Fr. Tim

2024 Mass Intentions

Requests for 2024 Mass intentions may be made at the rectory during office hours or by mail. Please note that phone requests cannot be accepted.

MPB CALENDAR



Saturday, December 23

4:00 p.m. - Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 24

8:00 a.m. - Sunday Mass

No Faith Formation

4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass

Monday, December 25

10:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Mass

Tuesday, December 26

1:00 p.m. - Holy Hour: Chapel

5:00 p.m. - Reconciliation: Chapel

Sunday, December 31

8:00 a.m. - Sunday Mass

No Faith Formation

Christmas Wishes from Catholic Charities

“The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.” (John 1:9) As we celebrate the joy of Christ’s birth and the true light he brought to the world, we hope your hearts and homes are filled with peace, happiness and love.

Merry Christmas from all of us at Catholic Charities!

Consider ACH Direct Payment

ACH is a process for automatic donations to be made from your checking or savings account to Most Precious Blood Church on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis. If interested in the ACH payment, please fill out the form below and mail it to MPB Rectory Office, 22 Prospect , NY 14006.

- ACH Direct Payment ensures that contributions are received, even if you are ill, on vacation or traveling.
- ACH Direct Payment saves the time you spend writing checks, and will save the postage expense of mailing payments.

Please mail ACH information to:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

ACH Form is also available on MPB’s website: <http://www.mpbangola.org/contact.htm>

Place this completed form in the collection basket at a weekend Mass or mail to: Most Precious Blood Church, 22 Prospect St., Angola, NY 14006.

STEWARDSHIP

12/17/23

Regular, Loose, Mailed in.....\$3,176.00

ACH.....\$335.00

Thank you for your support.

Operation Storm Heaven



The following is the 2024 Rosary schedule at St. John Paul II (LC refers to the Little Church at St. John Paul II). All are welcome.

- January 1 ~ Immediately following 8:30 am Mass in the Main Church.*
- February 1 ~ Thursday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- March 1 ~ Friday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- April 1 ~ Monday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- May 1 ~ Wednesday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- June 1 ~ Saturday *Please attend the First Saturday Devotion at St. Francis**
- July 1 ~ Monday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- August 1 ~ Thursday, 5:30 pm (LC)*
- September 1 ~ Sunday, 10:15 am (LC)*
- October 1 ~ Tuesday, 5:30 pm (LC)*

St. John’s Bible at OLV National Shrine

The Heritage Edition of the St. John’s Bible, a one-of-a-kind exhibit, is on display at OLV National Shrine and Basilica through January 7. All are welcome to visit the Basilica to view and be inspired by this artistic masterpiece. For more information and special programming, visit www.olvbasilica.org/bible.

A Vocation View

“The angel Gabriel from Heaven came...” When God’s plan was made clear to Mary she had questions but ultimately answered with a confident YES. If you have questions about how God is calling you to serve His Church, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

