

Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Ross Syracuse -- Rev. Michael Johnson Rev. Johnson Machado

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Joseph Gray -- Deacon Bill Walkowiak Deacon Neal Linnan -- Deacon Steven Schumer

MPB Parish Staff

Pastoral Care....Elizabeth Emhof (716-262-4782)
Trustees....Elizabeth Duzen & Conrad F. Piskorz
Business Manager......Mary Lou McEvoy
RCIA......Marie O'Connor (716-549-1818)
Faith Formation......(716-549-1818)
Liturgy Ministries Coordinator.....Corinne Best
Parish Secretary.....Pat Maiorana
Sacristan.....Diann Hosler
Parish Council Chair....John Latimore

MPB Rectory Office Hours

Monday & Friday......9:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.

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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 5:30-6:30 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: Wednesdays: immediately after morning Mass. 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

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Saturday, May 4

Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Joseph V. Newland - req. Wife

Sunday, May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM - Peter Kaczmarczyk - req. Pat

Monday, May 6

8:00 AM - People of the Parish

Wednesday, May 8 - St. Damien de Veuster,

Priest

8:00 AM - Alice Sutton - req. Family

Vigil: Ascension of the Lord

6:00 PM - All the Faithfully Departed

Friday, May 10

8:00 AM - Robert O'Hara - req. Family

Saturday, May 11

Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - All Living & Deceased Mothers of MPB

Sunday, May 12 - Seventh Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

8:00 AM - All Living & Deceased Mothers of MPB

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, MAY 5



ACTS 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 PSALM 98 1 JOHN 4:7-10 JOHN 15:9-17

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, May 12

ACTS 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26 PSALM 103 1 JOHN 4:11-16 JOHN 17:11b-19

A Vocation View

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends," Jesus tells us. This does not always mean one heroic act of self-sacrifice. It can also be a life laid down in daily self-denial and service to others. The priesthood is just such a life. There is no greater love! To learn more, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

A Message from the Pastor

Sixth Sunday of Easter: Begotten By Love

Today's Gospel follows immediately after last week's in which Jesus taught that He was the vine and his disciples were the branches. Our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. This passage, like last week's, is part of Jesus' Last Supper discourse. In the context of John's Gospel, these words are spoken before Jesus' Crucifixion. We read his instruction to the disciples in light of his death and Resurrection. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has, in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples, and for us.

God is love, and He revealed that love in sending His only Son to be a sacrificial offering for our sins. In these words, from today's Second Reading, we should hear an echo of the story of Abraham's offering of Isaac at the dawn of salvation history. Because Abraham obeyed God's command and did not withhold his only beloved son, God promised that Abraham's descendants, the children of Israel, would be the source of blessing for all nations.

We see that promise coming to fulfillment in today's First Reading. God pours out His Spirit upon the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, as they listen to the word of Peter's preaching. Notice they receive the same gifts received by the devout Jews who heard Peter's preaching at Pentecost, the Spirit comes to rest upon them and they speak in tongues, glorifying God.

In His love today, God reveals that His salvation embraces the house of Israel and peoples of all nations. Not by circumcision or blood relation to Abraham but by faith in the Word of Christ, sealed in the Sacrament of Baptism, people are to be made children of Abraham, heirs to God's covenants of promise.

This is the wondrous work of God that we sing of in today's Psalm. It is the work of the Church, the good fruit that Jesus chooses and appoints His Apostles for in today's Gospel. As Peter raises up Cornelius, the Church continues to lift all eyes to Christ, the only one in whose name they can find salvation.

In the Church, each of us has been begotten by the love of God. But the Scriptures today reveal that this divine gift brings with it a command and a duty. We are to love one another as we have been loved. We are to lay down our lives in giving ourselves to others, that they too might find friendship with Christ and new life through Him. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

Choicest Blessings,

Fr. Tim

Catholic Charities

HOPE Day, Catholic Charities' one day "above and beyond" 24-hour fundraising effort, is May 15. Last year's HOPE Day was historic as donors gave a record \$507,456. This year Catholic Charities is aiming for another successful one-day giving blitz. Go to www.ccwny.org for more details on how to make a contribution.

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Pray For the Healing of the Sick

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, Angela Jones, David Skoczylas, Doreen Miller, Mary Ann Barrett, Karl Trembath.

Life in the Eucharist

"The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and work of the apostolate. are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch." (CCC 1324)

As Catholics, we draw our strength and nourishment from the Eucharist Jesus made present to us every time we attend Holy Mass or Eucharistic Adoration.

Everyone is invited to a five-session retreat, Life in the Eucharist. Attend one session for five consecutive weeks to learn more about the Eucharist and to be drawn into a deeper relationship with it. Registration forms can be found on the family website lakeshorecatholicfc.org or in the church vestibule. Please return the form to the parish office via mail or collection basket. Each session begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts approximately 90 minutes.

PLEASE NOTE the revised schedule: May 1 -St. Francis; May 15 - St. John Paul II; May 22 - Most Precious Blood; May 29 - St. Mary of the Lake; June 5 - St. Anthony.

Split Club Drawing

The winner of the 2024 Spring Split Club's eleventh drawing (week of April 28) is Arlene Heineman with ticket # 080.

2024 Split Club tickets are still available for purchase at the Rectory Office. The price of each ticket is \$60. Split Club members are eligible for weekly drawings of \$75 each.

Spring Cleanup at Cemetery

The spring cleanup at Holy Cross Cemetery began April 28 and will continue until May15. Please remove items of value from the grave sites. As part of the cleanup, all remaining winter decorations will be discarded.

Road to Renewal



In his book "The Meaning of Christian Brotherhood", Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger wrote, "In Jesus Christ, God has not only spoken to men

but has also finally and radically made it possible for them to speak to him; for in him God became man and, as man, finally stepped out of his totally different being and entered into the dialogic situation of all men. Jesus the man stands as such within the community of discourse. which unites all men as beings of the same order. The man Jesus can be addressed by every man, but in him it is God who is addressed." (pg. 47)

Through the incarnation, Christ changed humanity; God's entering into history is linked to a dynamic of unity that describes the transition from isolation to communio, from fragmentation and disunity to movement towards God, from the old Adam to the new Adam, from the old man to the new man. What is meant here is not the forces of the stronger power with his armies, who, in the name of establishing unity, erects a fence around man's existence; rather it refers to the gathering together of humanity in the body of Christ. This is what the Fathers meant when, following Saint Paul, they described the Church as the body of Christ.

This week on the Feast of the Ascension, a first glance could bring fear as the Disciples watch Jesus "leave" them. And as we continue to live under a cloud of bankruptcy, scandal, immorality, division, war, famine, disease, and change, let us be mindful that we have not been left alone and God has not left us. We are all one in the same, each made uniquely by the hands of the Father but also, one body of Christ, one family of believers, one shared pilgrimage to see God face to face. The Apostles were left with each other as the Body of Christ. We are that Body today. Through our "communio," as the Body of Christ, we have a great call to allow our road to renewal to be the instrument that brings us together as one, a family of believers united as the Body of Christ.

Choicest Blessings,

Fr. Tim

Ascension Thursday

The Church will celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension Thursday, May 9. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. The following is the schedule of Thursday's Holy Day Masses in the Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community:

- -- Most Precious Blood May 8 (Vigil) 6:00 p.m.
- -- St. Mary of the Lake May 8 (Vigil)
- -- **St. John Paul II** May 9 8:30 a.m.
- -- **St. Anthony** May 9 9:00 a.m.
- -- St. Francis May 9 12:00 Noon

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MPB Calendar

Saturday, May 4

4:00 p.m. - Vigil Mass

Sunday, May 5

8:00 a.m. - Sunday Mass

9:00 a.m. - Faith Formation (K-8) - Hall (Last Class) 11:00 a.m. - Chicken BBQ - Hall

7:00 p.m. - Faith Formation (9-11) - Hall (Last Class)

Tuesday, May 7

5:30 p.m. - Reconciliation - Chapel

Wednesday, May 8

8:30 a.m. - Holy Hour (Following Mass) - Chapel

Saturday, May 11

4:00 p.m. - Vigil Mass

Sunday, May 12

8:00 a.m. - Sunday Mass

Chicken Barbecue at MPB

The Holy Name Society of Most Precious Blood will host a Chicken Barbecue Sunday, May 5 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Dinners are \$15 and may also be purchased for take-out. In addition, a theme basket raffle will be featured during inside dining.

'31 Days of May' Cash Giveaway To Benefit Southtowns Catholic

A daily drawing of \$50 (\$100 Fridays) will take place to determine winners in the "31 Days of May" cash give-away. Tickets are \$20 and are available for purchase (cash or check) at all Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community parish offices (Most Precious Blood, St. Anthony, St. Mary of the Lake, St. Francis and St. John Paul II). A prize of \$1000 will be given away May 31.

Checks should be made payable to Southtowns Catholic School. Proceeds will benefit the students of the school.

Men's Prayer Group to Meet

At its meeting Thursday, May 16, the Men's Prayer Group of St. John Paul II will feature Rev. Ross Syracuse as its speaker. Fr. Ross will present a talk at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room on "Deeper Meaning of Parables."

Recitation of the Rosary will take place prior to the meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the main church. A light meal will be served at 6:00. All men of the Lakeshore Catholic Faith Community are invited to the meeting. Please RSVP to Vince Vaccarelli at 716-536-9271 or at vincent-vacc@verizon.net.

Living Rosary

St. Anthony Parish will host the Living Rosary Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. Participants are to meet in the Church Hall by 6:30 p.m.



4/28/24		
Regular, Loose, Mailed in		
ACH	\$360.00	
Home Missions	\$208.00	
Thank you for your support.		

Diocese Recognizes Altar Servers



The 54th Annual Bishop's Altar Server Awards Mass took place Saturday, April 27 at 10:00 a.m. in St. Joseph Cathedral, Buffalo.

Patrick Pinto, MPB altar server, received the award from Bishop Michael Fisher. Patrick, pictured with the bishop, is the son of Patricia and Paul Pinto.

Thank You for Donations

Many thanks to MPB parishioners who donated to the food drive that took place during the past Lenten Season.

Collected in this year's drive were more than 450 pounds of food, over 200 paper goods items including diapers, 74 personal care items and 27 miscellaneous household items. Everything collected went to those in need residing in the Town of Evans.

Honors at St. Francis HS

St. Francis High School, Athol Springs, reports that MPB parishioner **Patrick Pinto**, a junior at the school, has received First Honors at the completion of the third quarter marking period. First Honors represents a grade point average of 95 - 100 with all grades passing.

Barbecue Dinner at SMOL

St. Mary of the Lake Parish, 4737 Lake Shore Rd., Hamburg, will host a Chiavetta's char-broiled barbecue dinner Sunday, May 12 from 12:00 Noon until 6:00 p.m. Menu choices are:

- 1/2 chicken, 2 sides, roll & butter \$15.
- 1/2 rack of ribs, 2 sides, roll & butter \$18.
- Full rack of ribs, 2 sides, roll & butter \$29.

May 11 & 12	MPB Extraordinary Ministers	Lectors
4:00 p.m.	J. Sack, F. Dybdahl, Volunteer	R.Scaglione
8:00 a.m.	J. Barone, K. Young, L. Feider	J. Sedor