

# Most Precious Blood

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Parish Motto:**

*Let us do little things with great love.*



22 PROSPECT ST., ANGOLA, NY 14006

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**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 16****Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent**

4:00 PM - Mary & Carl Mascio, Sr. - req. Joseph  
Mascio

**Sunday, December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM - Living and Deceased of the Rosary & Altar  
Society, especially Barbara Ahrens

**Monday, December 18**

8:00 AM - All the Faithfully Departed

**Wednesday, December 20**

8:00 AM - Janet Kaczmarczyk - req. Pat

**Friday, December 22**

8:00 AM - Clara Brick - req. Granddaughters Fran &  
Maryann

**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

*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 17**

**ISAIAH** 61:1-2a, 10-11

**PSALM** Luke 1

**1 THESSALONIANS** 5:16-24

**JOHN** 1:6-8, 19-28

**READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24**

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

**PSALM** 89

**ROMANS** 16:25-27

**LUKE** 1:26-38

**A Message from the Pastor**

*Third Sunday of Advent: We are God's Children*



This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. We depart from the Gospel of Mark and read from the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel combines a passage from the prologue with a report about John the Baptist. As in Mark, John contains no birth narrative. Instead, John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

Among the first philosophical principles I learned in school are the principle of identity and the principle of non-contradiction. "Identity" states that a thing is what it is and nothing else; while "non-contradiction" states that something cannot be and not be at the same time. One might imagine why are we looking at these philosophical principles today. The reason is that unless we accept the veracity of these statements, we may find it difficult accepting who we are or what we are at any moment. John the Baptist humbly demonstrated this for us.

Notice how the Jews sent the message to John the Baptist to reveal his identity to them. For want of respect, John could have presented himself as the Messiah or Elijah – those the Jews were longing to see. But instead, we are told he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' People live inauthentic lives just to have respect accorded them. But there is great joy in accepting the person you are. It is better for people to despise you because of who you are, than for them to honor you because of what you are not, or what you have claimed to be. The truth remains, to claim that you are what you are not cannot make you become that which you are not. There is a great rewarding humility in accepting who we are.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering that question, John announces that the Savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our Savior.

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## 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.



### **Recently Deceased Religious**

Two Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph, with ties to Family parishes, passed away recently. You are asked to remember them in your prayers:

- Sister M. Richard Outcault died November 23, 2023. She was a teacher at St. Mary of the Lake School from 1982 until 1984.
- Sister Marie Stachowiak died December 10, 2023 at age 82 after 62 years of religious life. She taught at Most Precious Blood School early in her career and for over 20 years served as teacher and principal at Immaculata Academy, Hamburg.

December 23 & 24	MPB Extraordinary Ministers	Lectors
4:00 p.m.	J. Sack, F. Dybdahl N. Preischel, Volunteer	P. Pinto
8:00 a.m.	J. Barone, L. Feider, K. Young, S. Vail	J. Sedor

### **Road to Renewal Update**



As the procession for Mass began today, you may have noticed the priest and deacon wearing rose vestments. That is because today is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete Sunday makes a breaker like Laetare Sunday, about midway through a season, which is otherwise of a penitential character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming. Of the "stations" kept in Rome the four Sundays of Advent that at the Vatican Basilica is assigned to Gaudete, as being the most important and imposing of the four. In both Office and Mass throughout Advent, continual reference is made to our Lord's second coming, and this is emphasized on the Third Sunday by the additional signs of gladness offered on that day. Gaudete Sunday is further marked by a new Invitatory, the Church no longer inviting the faithful to adore merely "The Lord who is to come," but calling upon them to worship and hail with joy "The Lord who is now nigh and close at hand."

We may all be busy with our Advent traditions and Christmas preparations, but that shall not stop us from moving forward in our Renewal. The Family Pastoral Council and the Clergy have been meeting regularly trying to implement the Family Action Plan. We are trying to weave them into our Christmas Festivities. These include open office hours, devotional schedules, and Lent.

Please remember, if you have any questions or want to offer any thoughts or concerns, call your parish office for a consultation or to schedule a meeting. More clarification is coming, but let us continue to pray for one another and our journey together. God for all of eternity will reign victorious, robed in splendor and glory; keep your eyes set on Him and the promise of the coming of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Choicest Blessings,

*Fr. Tim*

### **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.

### **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**

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During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

For John the Baptist, the reward was that Jesus Himself proclaimed him (John) the greatest: "of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen... ." Perhaps, John's greatness also included his ability to willingly accept who he was. Do you accept the fact that you are a baptized Christian and not a native doctor? Are you ashamed of what you are or who you are? The earlier we stop claiming what we are not, the better for us. Let us first accept who and what God has made us to be and then pray to God to take us up from there.

The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete, a Latin word which means "rejoice," is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass. This theme is echoed in today's Second Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand. And we are God's Children.

Choicest Blessings.

*Fr. Tim*

**STEWARDSHIP**

12/10/23

Immaculate Conception.....	\$350.00
Regular, Loose, Mailed in.....	\$3,126.00
ACH.....	\$335.00
Religious Retirement.....	\$560.00

**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)*

**Beware Of Gift Card Scams**

To stay safe online is to understand the tools scammers use to commit fraud. The most common scams involve imposter schemes, malware, phishing, and spoofing. The victim will be asked for personal information, money, or gift cards.

If you receive an email or text from the pastor, please pay close attention to the address or phone number. Fr. Tim will not solicit directly or ask for help or contributions from parishioners. These are scams that run through parishes on occasion. If in doubt, contact the parish office by phone. PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND to these texts or emails.

Scammers often create a sense of urgency while convincing you to buy a gift card, such as those from Google Pay, Amazon, or Apple Card, followed by providing them with the card number and PIN codes. No legitimate business or government agency will ever request that you pay them with a gift card. Always keep a copy of your gift card and store receipt and use them to report any gift card scams to the company and request a refund.

The more familiar you are with how fraudsters operate, the quicker you will recognize their scams and know how to react: Delete suspicious emails and texts; hang up on high-pressure calls; and don't send payments, click links, or download software.

**MPB CALENDAR**

**Saturday, December 16**

4:00 p.m. - Vigil Mass

**Sunday, December 17**

7:30 a.m. - Rosary (Prior to Mass)

8:00 a.m. - Sunday Mass

8:30 a.m. - Rosary & Altar Coffee Hour: Hall

9:00 a.m. - Faith Formation (K-8): Hall

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

**Tuesday, December 19**

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

5:00 p.m. - Reconciliation: Chapel

**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