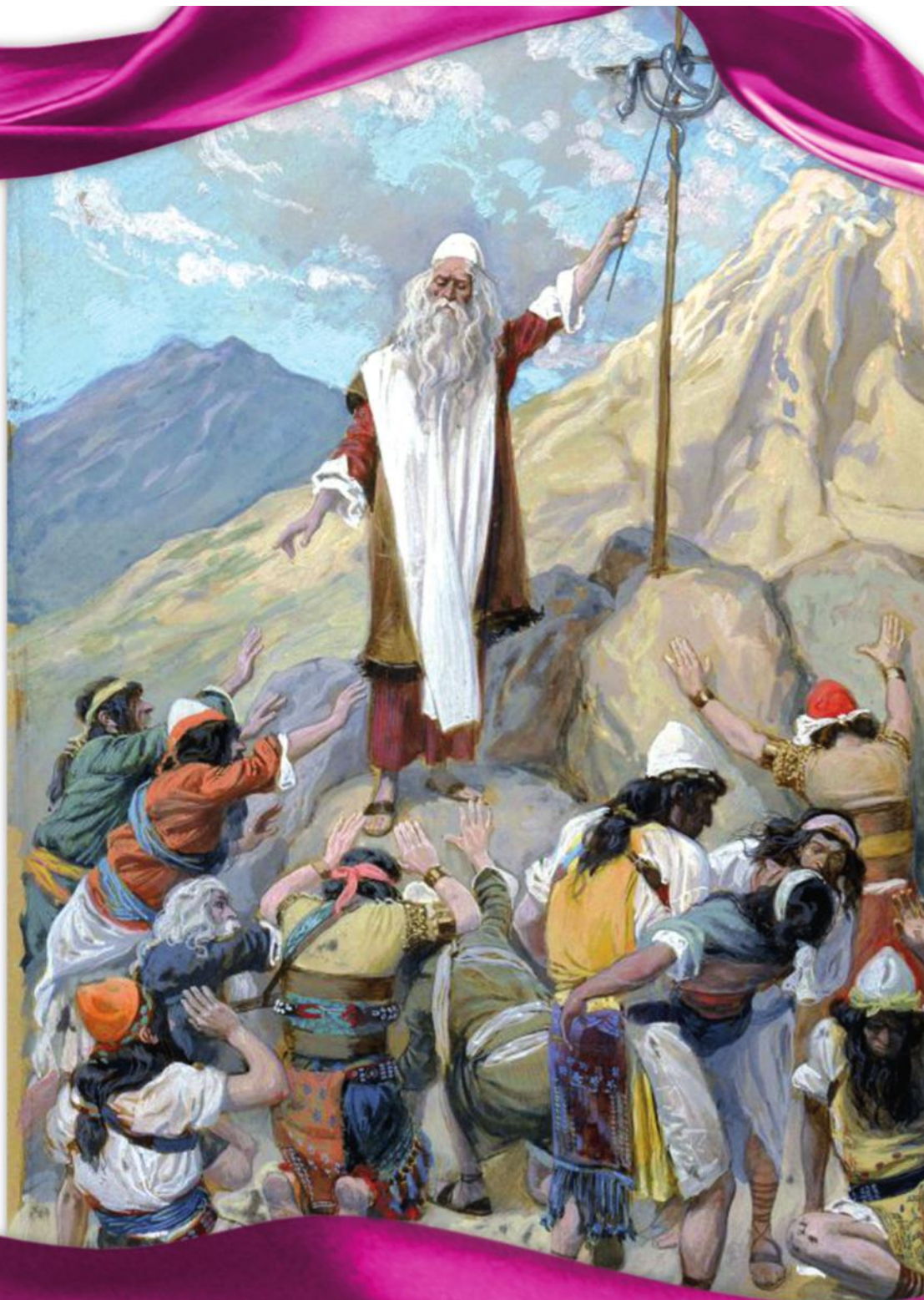


Jesus said to
Nicodemus:
“Just as Moses
lifted up the
serpent in the
desert, so must
the Son of Man
be lifted up,
so that everyone
who believes
in him may have
eternal life.”

John 3:14,15

The Brazen Serpent
by James Tissot, circa 1899



4TH SUNDAY OF
*L*ENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 9

- 8:30AM Holy Souls by Carbajal Family
4:30PM Deceased Martinez Family members by Family

Sunday, March 10

- 8:00AM †Rene Dimas by Dimas Family
10:30AM †Eric Ruiz by Clara Zavala
12:30PM MPB Parishioners
7:30PM †Arcadio Rivera by Lydia Garcia

Monday, March 11

- 8:30AM Powell Families by John Powell
†Arcadio Rivera by Lydia Garcia
†Jose Luis Hernandez by Family
†Concepcion Rhode by Robert Rhode
†Ronny Varnado Jr. by Family
†Elena Perez by Jiminez Family
6:00PM Christopher Story by Stephanie Story

Tuesday, March 12

- 8:30AM †Maria J. Rivera by Lydia Garcia
6:00PM †Rose Mary Zuniga by Family

Wednesday, March 13

- 8:30AM †Ellie Z. Reyna by Lydia Garcia
6:00PM Lt Col Christopher Story by Stephanie Story

Thursday, March 14

- 8:30AM †Tillie Ramirez by Patsy Ramirez
6:00PM †Bodie Justice by Carmen Sanchez

Friday, March 15

- 8:30AM Powell Families by John Powell
†Elvira P. Alvarez by Adela Salazar
Lynn Dornbusch by Robert Straiton
†Santos Perez Sr. by Jiminez Family
†Elena Garcia by Family
†Ronny L. Varnado Jr. by Family
6:00PM †Joaquin DeLaGarza Jr. by Ernie DeLaGarza

Saturday, March 16

- 8:30AM Eulalia Soza by Patricia Rivera and Family
4:30PM †Felipe Vasquez by Family



Religious Education Classes

PKD-5th Grade - St. Maria Goretti Youth Center
Middle & High School - Great Hall

PK3 - 5th Grades	8:45 or 11:45am
6th Grade	8:45am
7 - 8th Grade	1:45pm
9 - 12th Grade	5:00pm

MPB Youth Ministry Staff:

Alexis Martinez - Director of Youth Ministry
email: mpbccym@gmail.com
Tina Villegas - Director of Religious Education
email: mpbreled@yahoo.com

Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the priest and deacon with the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist at the Mass.

Please consider becoming an altar server if you are a Catholic in good standing, male of 7+ in age and have received Baptism, 1st Communion, and in a sacramental marriage (if married).

Training will be provided. For more information and /or to volunteer, please contact Joseph Hernandez at 361-854-3800.

The Sanctuary Candles are lit in the Church, St. Jude Chapel, and Adoration Chapel. These candles are perpetually lit for two weeks for your special intention in a high place of honor which lets us know that Jesus is physically present in the Eucharist. They can be in memory of a loved one, for a special intention, in thanksgiving, or any intention. The cost is \$15.00.

Week of March 3, 2024-March 16, 2024

The Church Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in loving memory of Alex Flores by Bobby and Elizabeth Buck

The St. Jude Chapel Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in loving memory of Bobby Connor by Rosie Connor

The Adoration Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the intentions of the Powell families by John Powell

Scripture Readings for the Week

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33



Fourth Sunday of Lent

MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD WOMEN'S COUNCIL



ST. PATRICK'S BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

Join us in the church foyer
after the 8 A.M., 10:30 A.M., 12:30 P.M. & 7:30 P.M. masses.

Proceeds from the bake sale will be used for Women's Council
service projects for the parish and community.

Twenty minutes before every Sunday mass the deacon will lead us in praying the rosary. Please join us in praying for your special intentions as well as those of the whole world.



Each week, a Traveling Vocations Crucifix will be presented to a different Parishioner. The Family / Individual presented with the Crucifix, will pray for an increase in vocations within our diocese and particularly within our Parish. To participate, please visit the Parish Website mpbchurch.org under ministries and sign up.

"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light." Your vocation is your sanctification in this life to lead you to sainthood in the next. Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest or through consecrated life? Talk to your priest, Fr. Joseph Lopez at 361-854-3800 or via email: jlopez@mpbchurch.org.

"...SO THAT
EVERYONE
WHO BELIEVES
IN HIM MAY
HAVE ETERNAL
LIFE."



Everyone is welcome to join the **31 Club** to pray for an increase in vocations. Pick any date of the month, then commit to go to Mass or a Holy hour on that day each month over the following year. Devote that Mass or prayer to an increase in vocations, and for priests and religious already serving the Church.

This is open to everyone, including parishioners who are homebound and wish to offer their sufferings and prayer for that day.

Sign up is available through the Parish Website.

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31
club

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Our Parish Activities

Sunday, March 10

8:30AM RCIA **FC**

Monday, March 11

Tuesday, March 12

8:00PM AA **C2**

Wednesday, March 13

9:45AM WINE **C1**

3:00PM Divine Mercy **SJC**

6:30PM Women's Council **C2**

6:45PM WINE **GH**

7:00PM KC Council **C1**

Thursday, March 14

6:30PM JCDA **SMG**

8:00PM AA **C2**

Friday, March 15

6:30PM Stations of the Cross **C**

Saturday, March 16

Sunday March 17

8:00AM WC Bake Sale **C**

8:30AM RCIA **GH**

Legend:

C - Church

C1-C2 - Classrooms in Family Center

FC - Family Center

GH - The Great Hall in Family Center

BR - Brides Room

RG - Rose Garden

Sch - MPB School Building

SJC - Saint Jude Chapel

SMG - St. Maria Goretti

Please Pray For:

Sidney Cox, Rudy and Sara, Ramirez family, Daniel San Miguel, Justin Garcia, Joe Balbin, John Navajo, Julie Navejar, and for all those who have asked us to pray for healing and their special needs.



Eucharistic Adoration

Come to me all of you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you..." You are greatly needed! Hours for adoration are available, contact Alice Polansky at 361-737-6360.



We Extend a Warm Welcome to Our New Parishioners:

**Frank V. Garcia, III & Edwina Ramirez
Gregory & Alexis White
David & Sandra Torres**

God bless you as you join our community of faith at **Most Precious Blood Catholic Church**.

The Church office will be closed on
Monday, March 18, 2024

An Evening Adoration and Reconciliation

Join us every Wednesday during the season of Lent for a Holy Hour with Adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament (exposition) with an opportunity for Reconciliation (confession).

7pm-8pm In the church.

March 13



If you are spring cleaning or plan to soon, we are collecting items for our rummage sale (men, women, and children clothes, household items, furniture, and appliances). Please contact Krystle Martinez for drop off location and information @361-562-1142

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church

Lenten Fish Fry

**St. Juliana Family
Center (parish hall)
Dine-in or take out
3502 Saratoga Blvd.**

Every Friday beginning
Feb. 16th- March 22
Lunch: 11 am - 2 pm
Dinner: 4 pm - 8 pm

MENU:

- 1) FISH - 2 fish fillets, fries, hushpuppies, and coleslaw.
- 2) SHRIMP - 6 shrimp, fries, hushpuppies, and coleslaw.
- 3) COMBO - 1 fish fillet, 3 shrimp, fries, hushpuppies, and coleslaw.

A la cart:

Mac&cheese - \$3
Fries - \$3
Mac&fries - \$5

\$12

PRAYER OF ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day. You protected and cherished the Virgin; loving the Child Jesus as your son, you rescued Him from danger of death. Defend the Church, the Household of God, purchased by the Blood of Christ.

Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials. May your prayers obtain for us the strength to flee from error and wrestle with the powers of corruption so that in life we may grow in holiness and in death rejoice in the crown of victory.

Amen.



SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

(MARCH 19)

In the Catholic Church, we have been celebrating the Solemnity of St. Joseph since the 10th century. However, it wasn't until the Middle Ages that the St. Joseph Altar was introduced to our tradition.

In Sicily, where Saint Joseph is regarded by many as their patron saint, and in many Italian-American communities, thanks are given to Saint Joseph (*San Giuseppe* in Italian) for preventing a famine in Sicily during the Middle Ages.

There was a severe drought at the time, and the people prayed for their patron saint to bring them rain. They promised that if God answered their prayers through St. Joseph's intercession, they would prepare a large feast to honor him. The rain did come, and the people of Sicily prepared a large banquet for their patron saint. The fava bean was the crop which saved the population from starvation because it was the only food that survived the drought.

Therefore, the fava bean is a traditional part of Saint Joseph's Day altars and traditions. It is a well-known practice that St. Joseph devotees will place a blessed fava bean in their pantry to ensure that they will always have food and place a fava bean in their wallet or purse to ensure that they will always have money 'in their pocket' to provide for their family's needs.

In some communities it is traditional to wear red clothing and eat a Neapolitan pastry known as a *zeppola* (created in 1840 by Don Pasquale Pinatauro in Napoli) on Saint Joseph's Day.

Upon a typical Saint Joseph's Day altar, people place flowers, limes, candles, wine, fava beans, specially prepared cakes, breads, and cookies. Traditionally, the altar will have three tiers, to represent the Holy Trinity.

The first St. Joseph Altar set up on the Island of Sicily was a small one, of course. But as time went on and the tradition took hold, the flamboyant nature and creative spirit of the Italians caused the altars to grow larger and more ornate.

Though Sicilian immigrants introduced the custom to America, the celebration is not confined to any nationality.

Rather, it has become a public event which its devoted participants embrace for a host of private and personal reasons. The feast is alternately a source of petition and thanksgiving.

Many families believe that having a St. Joseph Altar can bring many blessings. And it is common to hear stories about favors received (a loved one's recovery from an illness, for example), which are in turn attributed to the family's dedication to St. Joseph.

St. Joseph's Feast Day is a tradition that centers on the entire family.

Whether a St. Joseph Altar is an elaborate display at an elegant church or a humble table in a modest home, it is a reflection of deep devotion to St. Joseph, the patron of husbands, fathers, carpenters, labor workers, and for a happy death.

After many centuries, the St. Joseph Altar still serves as a reminder that those who have enjoyed some measure of God's blessings must share it with those who have less.

Schedule of events at Most Precious Blood for the Solemnity of St. Joseph:

March 11 – 19: 9 day Novena of St. Joseph

March 19: 8am Confessions

8:30am MASS & Blessing of St. Joseph Altar

9am – 6pm Personal visits to the St. Joseph Altar

This will be an opportunity for people to come to the St. Jude chapel, visit the decorated St. Joseph Altar, write down personal petitions that will be offered

5:30pm Confessions

6pm MASS

ST. JOSEPH NOVENA PRAYER



I greet you, St. Joseph. You are the faithful protector and intercessor of all who love and venerate you. You know that I have special confidence in you and that, after Jesus and Mary; I place all my hope of salvation in you, for you are especially powerful with God and will never abandon your faithful servants.

Therefore, I humbly invoke you and commend myself, with all who are dear to me and all that belongs to me, to your intercession. I beg of you, by your love for Jesus and Mary, not to abandon me during life and to assist me at the hour of my death.

O glorious Saint Joseph, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin, obtain for me a pure, humble, and charitable mind; and perfect resignation to the divine Will. Be my guide and my model through life, that I may merit to die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

Loving Saint Joseph, I raise my heart to you and implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the Divine Heart of Jesus all the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special favor I now ask:

(Mention your request silently)

Guardian of the Word Incarnate, I am confident that your prayers on my behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God. Amen.

The recitation of this novena prayer begins on March 11th (for nine consecutive days) ending on March 19th (the Solemnity of St. Joseph, husband of Mary).

Those that participate in this novena prayer receive a *plenary indulgence*.



Filiberto Garcia Jr.

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