

Pastor's Note

June 6, Solemnity of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Come to the Feast!

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ traditionally known as "Corpus Christi." As Catholics, the Eucharist is the center of our faith. Every time we gather for Mass (which means Thanksgiving) we celebrate a feast and we are nourished with Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In Jesus, and in giving of his body and blood, God offers us the way to become one with him and know his love completely.

In the first reading from Exodus, we read how the covenant with Israel is established with Moses using the blood of young bulls to seal the covenant between God and the Israelites. In the second reading to the Hebrews, the author explains that Christ is the high priest, and the new mediator of the covenant. In the Gospel of Mark, this passage describes the preparation, and the celebration of the Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples the night before he died. Jesus blesses the bread and wine at the Passover and instructs his disciples to receive them, as his body and blood of the new covenant.

When we remember the Last Supper, Jesus selfless act of love becomes present to us once again so that we can be transformed.

We are open!

In following the Guidelines from the CDC, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Diocese of Pittsburgh, we are now open to full capacity for daily and Sunday Masses. New signs have been put up indicating that those who are fully vaccinated may attend Mass without wearing a mask. Those not fully vaccinated or those fully vaccinated who feel more comfortable seated around others who are wearing masks, reserved sections are available while attending Mass.

We will still refrain from singing and passing the collection basket and shaking hands at the sign of peace until further notice. Offertory collection boxes will still be available up front for people to contribute. Parishioners may also drop off their weekly envelopes at the parish office in the secured mailbox, mail them in, or participate in our online giving program.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility during this transition time. Special thanks to our parish staff and volunteers for all their hard work.

Bishop Zubik has asked that the clergy and Eucharistic Ministers who help with the distribution of Holy Communion to continue wearing a mask during Holy Communion until September. All of the Bishops in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have dispensed everyone of the Sunday obligation until further notice, so those who are at risk or with health issues still can refrain from coming to Mass. We will continue to Livestream the weekend Mass.

Mission Appeal

This weekend is our Annual Mission Co-op Appeal. This year we have been assigned to assist the **Diocese of Muranga in Kenya (East Africa)**. Please be as generous as possible.

Summer Church Hours

St. Bede Church is open daily for private prayer and meditation Monday through Saturday from 8 am to Noon. Mother of Good Counsel, St. James and St. Bede Churches are open one hour before the Weekend Masses which are Saturday 4 pm at St. James, Sunday 9 am at Mother of Good Counsel and 11 am at St. Bede.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Poppy Grace Kehoe** (granddaughter of Gerard Rohlf from our Music Ministry Department) who is being baptized this weekend!

Congratulations to the Class of 2021 of St. Bede School and Sister Thea Bowman Catholic Academy. St. Bede School held their graduation ceremony this past Wednesday, June 2, and Sister Thea Bowman will be held this coming Wednesday, June 9. Special thanks to Sister Daniela and Stephanie Michael for their leadership. It was a very different school year with being open for in person learning or the option to be online, but our students and faculty adjusted quite well. Both schools will see an increase in enrollment for the Fall 2021 school year. Best wishes to our graduates and to our students, faculty staff!

Congratulations to our parishioners who recently graduated from College and High School! Best wishes on your next journey.

Welcome

Welcome to **Sandra Dillon** who recently registered at St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Something to Think About...

One of the most important pieces of furniture for the home is the family altar.

With God All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor
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