



Holy Child Church
240 S Main St, Mansfield, PA



Reverend Bryan B. Wright
Pastor



Saint Mary of Częstochowa Church
144 St Mary's St, Blossburg, PA

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

— *CANDLEMAS* —

February 2, 2025



PARISH OFFICE

Mon, Tue, Fri: 9:30am - 2:30pm
237 S. Main St, Mansfield, PA 16933

Phone: 570-662-3568

Email: hlychild@ptd.net

Web: holychildparish.com

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

United with the Pope, we the members of Holy Child Parish seek to be a welcoming church, which fosters spiritual development and expresses charity by living in word and deed the life of Christ. Under the leadership of the bishop, our goals are to implement effective ministries through word, worship, and the sacraments, to enhance the spiritual growth of our parish family, and to encourage, through works of love and faith, the unity of the Church.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office to schedule a meeting with the Pastor and to schedule the ceremony.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on:

Saturdays: 2:15-3:00 pm Holy Child Church
First Fridays: 9:00-10:00 am Holy Child Church
First Saturdays: 10:00-11:00 am Saint Mary's Church
By appointment: please contact the Parish Office.

Holy Communion: Those preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time are asked to call the Parish Office.

Matrimony: Couples should contact their Pastor at least six months before the planned wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: For the infirm & homebound. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

New Parishioners: Welcome to Holy Child Parish! New parishioners are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office. Registration is required for our religious education programs and for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Matrimony.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM Holy Child
Sunday 9:00 AM Saint Mary's
Sunday 11:15 AM Holy Child

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 3:00 PM Holy Child
Sunday 8:30 AM Saint Mary's
Sunday 10:45 AM Holy Child
Monday 11:30 AM Saint Mary's
Tuesday 11:30 AM Saint Mary's
Thursday 5:15 PM Holy Child
Friday 8:00 AM Holy Child



DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

Monday 12:00 PM Saint Mary's The Angelus
Monday 12:45 PM Saint Mary's Miraculous Medal
Tuesday 12:00 PM Saint Mary's The Angelus
Tuesday 12:45 PM Saint Mary's Saint Jude
Thursday 6:00 PM Holy Child The Angelus

PARISH CONTACTS

Financial Secretary: Darlene Buck 570-662-3568
Secretary: Cara Clementi 570-662-3568
Director of Religious Education: Darlene Buck 570-540-1332
Good Samaritans: Parish Office, 570-662-3637
Health Ministry & Medical Equipment Loaning:
Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057
Knights of Columbus:
Scott DiMarco; srdimarco@hotmail.com
Ladies Guild: Patty Hutcheson 570-662-2034
St. Mary's Hall: 638-2783 Holy Child Hall: 662-9996

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
~ prior to all Masses ~



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

<u>Saturday, February 1</u>	First Saturday
9:30 am, St. Mary's: † Gene Abrams (by Cara Clementi)	
VIGIL: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	
4:00 pm, Holy Child: † Dominic Leone (by Ken & Mary Kay)	
<u>Sunday, February 2</u>	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
9:00 am, St Mary's: † Gabriel Partyka (by Paul & Elvira Partyka)	
11:15 am, Holy Child: Our Parishioners	
<u>Monday, February 3</u>	Weekday; <i>St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr</i>
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † The Dead (by Scranton Diocese Society for the Propagation of the Faith)	
<u>Tuesday, February 4</u>	Weekday
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Jack DeRosa (by Matt Neclerio)	
<u>Wednesday, February 5</u>	<i>St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr</i>
No Mass	
<u>Thursday, February 6</u>	<i>St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs</i>
6:00 pm, Holy Child: George Jones (by The Ostapowicz Family)	
<u>Friday, February 7</u>	Weekday; First Friday
8:30 am, Holy Child: † Jerry & Dan Kostovick (by Dolores Kostovick)	
<u>Saturday, February 8</u>	VIGIL: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Holy Child: Our Parishioners	
<u>Sunday, February 9</u>	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 am, St Mary's: † Frank & Helen Signor (by Ron & Sue Signor)	
11:15 am, Holy Child: † Bob Swinsick (by Helen & Jacqueline)	



SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS: THIS WEEK
Holy Child: † Dominic Leone (by Ken & Mary Kay)
Saint Mary's: † Leonard Mahosky (by Margaret Morgan)
The Sanctuary Candle burns to remind us of the Real Presence of Christ reserved in the tabernacle.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
SATURDAYS—2:15 PM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
FIRST FRIDAYS—9:00 AM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
FIRST SATURDAYS—10:00 AM—ST. MARY'S CHURCH
~OR BY APPOINTMENT~

PARISH OFFERINGS: JANUARY 20-26. THANK YOU!

Sunday Envelopes	\$2,446.00
Loose	317.00
Dues	60.00
Initial Offering	5.00
Fuel	405.00
Total:	\$3,233.00
<i>Diocesan:</i>	
Church in Latin America	356.00
Care & Education of Priests	200.00

2024 Financial Statements are now available from the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

36% of Holy Child parishioners have made gifts amounting to 82% of our goal. Please consider giving what you can to support our extended family in the Diocese of Scranton (see info. below). If you've already made a gift... *thank you!*



Donate now at
AnnualAppeal.org,
call (570) 207-2250 or
click this QR code



PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY... We pray, always, for deceased parishioners, family, friends, and benefactors. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. For those serving our country: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families in our time of need. Bless those who need special prayers:

Judi Bonk-Guy ♦ Kirk Euson ♦ Richard Faber ♦ Bernice Frederick ♦ Catherine Gallagher ♦ Lance Hall ♦ Ann King ♦ Tony Lupkowski ♦ Tom MacBlane ♦ Christopher Mortensen ♦ Terri Nash ♦ Richard Niemczyk ♦ Sandy Parker ♦ Ethel Sandstrom ♦ Lori Sherant ♦ Kenneth Simpson ♦ Yolanda Tacka ♦ Jack Watson ♦ Ron Yanuzzi

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.



To request prayer for someone due to illness, surgery, hardship, or other reason, please contact the Parish Office. To respect parishioners' privacy, please ask and specify if their names are to be put in the bulletin, added to the Prayer Chain, or both.

"SPARE A PRAYER" PRAYER CHAIN

Contact: Maryjane Seifried at seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com or 549-7550 or Dotty Welsh at dhjrw@ptd.net or 662-2057.

The Lord is always listening.

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know would like to receive Holy Communion, a Pastoral visit, or a mailed bulletin, please contact the Parish Office.



Would you or someone you know enjoy a friendly visit, a partner to play cards or games with, someone to read to them, or simply keep company? As an outreach of Marian Ministries, Mary Hohman has offered to visit local residents and nursing homes, to spend time with people who may feel alone. Contact Mary at (717) 203-9090.

PRO-LIFE RESOURCES

Heart of Tioga Crisis Pregnancy Center: 570-948-2020



Project Rachel Helpline: 888-456-HOPE for help after abortion

heartoftioga@gmail.com
24/7 ONLINE NURSE CHAT

Abortion Pill Reversal 24/7 Hotline: 1-877-558-0333

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sun 2/2	Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7-10 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40
Mon 2/3	Heb 11:32-40 Ps 31:20-24 Mk 5:1-20
Tue 2/4	Heb 12:4-7,11-15 Ps 22:26b-28,30-32 Mk 5:21-43
Wed 2/5	Heb 12:4-7,11-15 Ps 103:1-2,13-14,17-18a Mk 6:1-6
Thu 2/6	Heb 12:18-19,21-24 Ps 48:2-4,9-11 Mk 6:7-13
Fri 2/7	Heb 13:1-8 Ps 27:1,3,5,8b-9c Mk 6:14-29
Sat 2/8	Heb 13:15-17,20-21 Ps 23:1-6 Mk 6:30-34
Sun 2/9	Is 6:1-2a,3-8 Ps 138:1-5,7-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (FEBRUARY 2)

This Catholic feast day (February 2nd) has many names, including the feast of the Presentation of The Lord, the feast of the Purification of Our Lady, the feast of the Encounter, and Candlemas. Nomenclature aside, the feast celebrates the event recorded in Luke 2:22-38: Mary and Joseph's presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

According to the Mosaic law, a mother such as Mary who had given birth to a male child was considered unclean for 7 days; moreover, she was to remain "in the blood of her purification"—i.e., outside the temple—for 33 days more. If the woman had borne a daughter, the time that she was excluded from the sanctuary was doubled.

When that time (40 or 80 days) was over, the mother was to "bring to the temple a lamb for a holocaust and a young pigeon or turtle dove for sin"; if she was not able to offer a lamb, she was to take two turtle doves or pigeons; the priest prayed for her and so she was cleansed (Leviticus 12:2-8).



Forty days after the birth of Christ, Mary and Joseph obeyed the precepts of the law, and presented Jesus to the Temple. Simeon took Jesus into his arms and

said, "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people, Israel."

Even before Christ's coming, and long after his ascension, nature knew of him — indeed, sun, moon, stars, and earth announce his mystery in concert, as it were. Today's liturgical calendar thus incorporates not only the historical facts of Christ's life — such as his incarnation in the womb of Mary, his birth in Bethlehem, his presentation in the Temple, and his Paschal Mystery — but also elements of God's own creation. ... Candlemas recalls this great mystery: that the light has come into the world (Dec. 25); that it grows in brightness even now (Feb. 2); until that day when it destroys darkness and death by its radiant beauty at the Easter vigil. **This feast is an opportunity to focus on Jesus — the Light of the World — and His encounter with His Church.**

Egeria, a fourth-century pilgrim to Jerusalem, was the first to describe this feast day, which spread over the centuries. The feast appears in Rome in liturgical books of the seventh and eighth centuries. Pope St. Sergius I was the first to prescribe a procession with candles, and the blessing of candles developed in Western and Central Europe during the early Middle Ages. Candlemas was celebrated as an octave in the Middle Ages and still today by religious orders whose special objective is the veneration of the Mother of God (Carmelites, Servites) and by many dioceses (Loreto, the Province of Siena, etc.). The blessing of candles and the procession take place at the beginning of the main Mass, setting the feast apart from most other liturgies.

This feast also marks the end of the Christmas cycle and a change in the Marian antiphon that concludes Compline (Night Prayer). Additionally, in 1997, Pope St. John Paul II chose this feast day to be the World Day of Consecrated Life, as the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple "is an eloquent icon of the total offering of one's life for all those who are called to show forth in the Church and in the world, by means of the evangelical counsels, 'the characteristic features of Jesus — the chaste, poor, and obedient one' (Vita Consecrata, 1)".

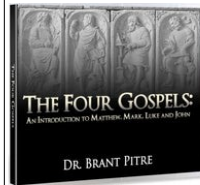
<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/the-tradition-of-candlemas>
<https://www.ncregister.com/features/a-day-of-light-candlemas-celebrates-the-light-of-the-world>

SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION

FEBRUARY 1-2: LOS ANGELES WILDFIRE VICTIMS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Feb 2: Lectio Bible Study: *The Four Gospels* after 11:15 Mass
- Feb 2: KofC Meeting; 6:30 pm, Holy Child Hall
- Feb 9: Lectio Bible Study: *The Four Gospels* after 11:15 Mass
- Feb 11: Ladies Guild, 6:00 pm, Holy Child Hall
- Feb 12: Health Ministry, 10:30 am, Holy Child Hall
- Feb 13: Pastoral Council starting with 6pm Mass, Holy Child
- Feb 16: Lectio Bible Study: *The Four Gospels* after 11:15 Mass
- Feb 23: Lectio Bible Study: *The Four Gospels* after 11:15 Mass
- Mar 2: Lectio Bible Study: *The Four Gospels* after 11:15 Mass



LECTIO BIBLE STUDY: *THE FOUR GOSPELS* Sundays following 11:15am Mass

The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) are the foundation of our faith. No part of the Bible has been more attacked and subjected to criticism than the Gospels. Dr. Brant Pitre answers: *Who wrote the Gospels? When were the Gospels written? What did the Church Fathers believe? What do modern scholars believe?* Dr. Pitre also takes us through the 'portraits' of Jesus found in each Gospel: *Messiah, Rabbi, The New Moses, Miracle Worker, Exorcist, Suffering Son of Man, Son of Mary, Savior, The New Adam, Son of God, New Temple, and Bridegroom.* Please join us! Refreshments provided.

DONATE NEW BABY CLOTHES... WIN A SHAWL!

Heart of Tioga Pregnancy Center is in need of NEW baby clothes (sizes newborn to 24 mo). **Bring one outfit for one chance to win (bring 2 outfits for 2 chances to win) a magnificent silk, beaded shawl!** Knit and donated by Holy Child Parishioner, Adell Westrick, the shawl will be on display in the back of Holy Child in January to celebrate life. It would make an amazing gift for you or someone you love!



The winner will be chosen on February 5th.



SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

Holy Child Parish is collecting donations of canned soup and cash for our local food pantries. **Cans of soup** can be placed in our church vestibules. **Cash donations** can be placed in the collection or office. *Please make donations by next Sunday, Feb. 9. Thank you!*



HOLY CHILD PARISH MASS INTENTIONS & CANDLE INTENTIONS 2025 CALENDAR NOW OPEN

Please use the Request Forms available in our churches and available to print from our website (holychildparish.com... click "Mass Intentions" at the top).

Each family may request:

- Up to a total of ten (10) Mass intentions per year, including up to three (3) weekend Mass intentions per year, one (1) First Friday, and one (1) First Saturday.
- Up to ten (10) Sanctuary Candle intentions per year.



**EVENING OF HEALING & PRAYER WITH FR. PIO MANDATO
AND SPECIAL BLESSING WITH ST. PADRE PIO RELIC**

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Montoursville, PA
Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day—**Tuesday, February 11, 2025**



Confessions 5:30pm—6:30pm

Exposition 6:30 pm

**Adoration, Evening Prayer
Individual prayer for healing**
(physical sickness, addictions,



depression, anxieties, broken relationships, forgiveness, etc.)

Fr. Mandato will bless all attendees with a glove of St. Pio.

All are welcome.

Father Mandato is a Capuchin priest whose mother, Graziella DeNunzio Mandato, was a spiritual child of St. Padre Pio and wrote a memoir about him. Fr. Mandato was named after the saint and, like St. Pio, traces his roots back to the village of Pietrelcina in southern Italy. Fr. Mandato received his first Holy Communion from St. Padre Pio. His family migrated to America, and at 17 years old Fr. Mandato entered the Capuchins. He was ordained in 1985 and offered his first Mass at the same altar as St. Padre Pio. He became involved in hospital chaplaincy and developed a reputation for his devotion to the sick, like St. Pio. In 1998, Fr. Mandato began to lead a life of prayer and solitude as a missionary hermit in the Diocese of Scranton. He now takes breaks from the eremitical life to preach and offer healing Masses for the sick.

THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of February 02, 2025



St. Josephine Bakhita: A Story of God's Rescue

Join Sister Imelda as she shares the amazing story of St. Josephine Bakhita, who, after being taken captive and made a slave, finds freedom by giving her life to God.



The Presentation | Episode 5 | Mysteries of the Rosary: The Joyful Mysteries

The Presentation is already foreshadowing the Cross. The offering Mary makes at the Presentation in the Temple becomes manifested and reaches its fulfillment at Calvary.



Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

Originally born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped by slavers and was eventually sold to a merchant in Italy. By the grace of God, she lived a heroic life of forgiveness and mercy which led her to become a saint.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and EPISCOPAL PROCESS

LOST PHONE NUMBER - VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND



Recently a phone call was made to this ministry, but the caller's information was misplaced. If you requested a visit to the homebound, and your call was not returned, please call again (717) 203-9090. Mary looks forward to speaking with you!

Online Lenten Book Study



Marian Ministries is offering another book study that will focus on the season of Lent.

Beginning on March 5th, Linda Sampson and Chris Troncone will be guiding and encouraging

participants to reflect on a life of simplicity and poverty as they read Made for

Heaven: A Guided Lent Journal for Prayer and

Meditation. Written by Father Augustino Torres,

CFR, and inspired by St. Francis, we will begin the

season "with a vow of poverty and end at Easter with a

heart free from the desert of sin and open to love,

serve, and care for others."

If you are interested in joining our book study, (all done through email), please call/text Linda or Chris for further information. Book will be purchased and distributed the weekend before Ash Wednesday. The cost is \$10.00. **Deadline to register is Friday, February 14th.**

Linda Sampson: (570) 404-2180

Chris Troncone: (570) 404-7278

HEALTH MINISTRY—NOTES



Where have all the doctors gone? Well, here are some interesting facts. Becoming a doctor is expensive! \$250,000 for education costs alone. A general practitioner for geriatrics (older people), pediatrics

(younger people) or family medicine (all the rest) only gets paid about \$250,000 per year. But that doesn't cover malpractice insurance,

continuing education costs, office overhead, and household expenses. So what does the graduating physician do? If they specialize,

there is the possibility of a higher salary and more coverage for their additional expenses. So, how do I find a provider? The Partnership for Community Health has a website listing everything you may need for your health care and emergency needs. To reach their site just type in www.tiogapartnership.org and browse through the various programs available within Tioga County. Or call 570-723-0520. Use this free resource to be the best you, you can be everyday.

SCAM ALERT



If you receive a text message or phone call from an unknown number claiming to be Father Bryan, possibly asking for help...*disregard. If Father needs you, he will speak with you directly.*

Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage



The Dominican Friars invite you to pray the Rosary and the 9-month Novena prayer on the **last Saturday of the month for the next 9 months**, starting **January 25, 2025**. Visit https://rosarypilgrimage.org/pilgrimage_novena/january-2025-novena/ to view a novena prayer video with a reflection by a friar every month. This month Fr. John Paul Kern, O.P., leads January's prayer and reflection. Prayer cards can be found in the back of our local churches.

Mark Your Calendars

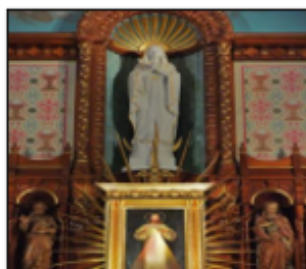
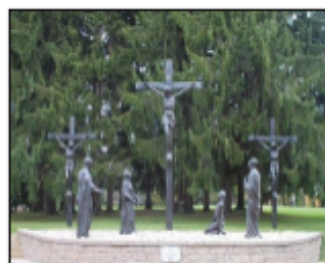


Saturday, March 29th
Deanery Lenten Retreat for Women
St. Lawrence Parish, Williamsport

Jessica Ryan, will offer three talks: *"Exploring Virtue through Marian Saints," "Our Lady of Sorrows" and "Who is Mary? How does the Church Describe Her?"*

Registration will open soon! Watch the bulletin for updates and a registration link. Registrations are made online; this retreat is open to the first 100 participants. If you need help with registration, contact Linda Sampson at (570) 404-2180. For updates, follow "Our Lady of Champion PA Retreats" on Facebook.

Divine Mercy Pilgrimage National Shrine of Divine Mercy Tour Stockbridge, MA



**September 23-24,
2025**

Price: \$571.00 per person (single occupancy)
\$402.00 per person (double occupancy)

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 1 Night accommodations at Red Lion Inn
- 1 Breakfast including taxes and gratuity
- Tour of the National Shrine of Divine Mercy
- \$100.00 group donation to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy Taxes, meal motorcoach gratuities for driver
- Roundtrip Motorcoach transportation

DEPARTURE LOCATIONS:

- AAA, South Williamsport 5:00AM
- Wellsboro 6:00AM

NOT INCLUDED:

- Items of a personal nature
- Meals not mentioned
- Baggage Handling
- Travel Insurance
- AAA Host

Reservation & Cancellations
A \$120.00 deposit, per person, is required at the time of making your reservation. \$20.00 of the deposit is non-refundable. Final payment is due June 5, 2025. If cancellation is necessary after final payment no refund will be due. Cancellation Insurance is strongly recommended. Ask your travel agent for details.
All prices are based on a minimum number of passengers. If the number falls below that number, the tour may be canceled, or additional costs may apply. Additional fuel surcharges may be imposed at any time by the tour operator, up to and including time of departure that will be the responsibility of the client.
For more information call Terrie Thomas (570-418-3881) or Karen Emery with AAA of Wellsboro, (570-724-4134, ext 175). This tour is organized by Marian Ministries and AAA.


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Mansfield, Pennsylvania 16933
Phone (570) 662-8888 ~ Fax (570) 662-1146
buckheitcandcrematory.com

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**Special Occasions
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15 N. Main Street, Mansfield, PA 16933
570-662-ROSE (7673)
www.SpecialOccasionsofMansfield.com



Papa the Butcher
Meat-Deli-Seafood
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570-662-7885

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**Food
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The local food
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our donations of
nonperishable
items.
Collection bins are in both churches.
Thank you for your support!

Health Ministry—Available Medical Equipment:
Basket for walker, Canes, Crutches, Emesis Basin,
Foot Bath, Hospital Bed, Hoyer Lift, Ice Therapy
Machine, Knee Crutch, Knee Scooter, Toilet
Chairs, Raised Toilet Seats, Toilet Handles, Rising
Frame for Chair, Rollator Walker, Shower Bench,
Shower Chair, Transfer Bench, Transfer Board,
Tub Handle, Tubing, Walkers, Walker with Seat,
Wash Basin, Wheelchair, Wheelchair Cushion,
Baby Items at the Welsh's: Bath Tub, Booster
Seat, Bed Rails, Safety Gate

**NEW Book Recommendation
from Father Bryan...**
The Exorcist Files
By Father Carlos Martins

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored,
glorified, loved, and preserved throughout
the world, now and forever. St. Jude, worker
of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the
homeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times
a day, by the 8th day your prayers will be an-
swered (if it be God's will).
It has never been known to fail.
Thank you, St. Jude. Amen.



**The Blessed
Sacrament is
reserved in the
Tabernacle.**
*Please help to
maintain a prayerful*
SILENCE AND REVERENCE

Reminder for Funerals...
Eulogies are permitted during:
♦ Funeral home vigil services
♦ Graveside committal services
♦ Luncheons after Funeral Masses
*Eulogies are not permitted during
Funeral Masses (CCC1688). Thank you.*