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Rev. William P. Lucas, Pastor

Deacon Terrence Rumore

Deacon Serge Brazzolotto

Deacon E. Lee Robinson

Director of Religious Education
Music Director
Parish Secretary

Sonya Lewis
Charmaine Welch
Shelly Hamman

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday : 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m. or
by appointment.

MARRIAGES:

Must be scheduled with the Priest
at least 6 months in advance.

MORNING ROSARY:

8:30 a.m. before Mass.

MONDAYS:

Miraculous Medal Novena following Mass.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY:

Novena To The Sacred Heart
of Jesus - before 9 a.m. Mass.
Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION:

Third Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
Second Wednesday of every month- 7:30 p.m.
Exposición del Santísimo el segundo Miércoles
de cada mes @ 7:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

August through May. Ages 3 yrs.-High School

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church

SUNDAY MASS IS NOW ON FACEBOOK: OUR LADY OF
THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OR THE WEB PAGE @ OLLPELLCITY.COM
CLICK ON MASS-RECORDED SERVICE BUTTON

CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
9:30-1:30 PM DAILY
(limit of 10 people at a time)

Fifth Sunday
of Easter
May 10, 2020



*I am the way and the truth and the
life. No one comes to the Father
except through me.*

—John 14:6



May 11 - May 17

Monday: Joseph Stanley by KOC 12270 †
Tuesday: Mya Taylor by Suzanne Lucas
Wednesday: Connie Hollis by the Brazzolottos †
Thursday: Bruce Raymond by Sonny Butler †
Friday: Ricky Monroe— by Sonny Butler †
Saturday: Bud Vollman by the Zielinskis †
Sunday: For the People

Please pray for the ill and shut-ins:

Paul Boyle, Jacky Johnson, Peggy Gessler, Gail Layton, Tom Michaels, Teresa Wolf, Diana Markevich, Dorothy DiMattia, Walton Smith, Juanita Crowson, Kelly Dale, Toni James, Bob Walsh, Sarah Svetlay, Charles & Libby Lafleur, Kevin Reilly, Rosemary Mateer, Lance Stella, Wayne Lowery

Please pray for all our loved ones who are ill and our shut-ins. To add a name, call the church office; or to add to the Prayer Hot Line call Sharon Stice at 205-338-0207, or email: sharonstice46@gmail.com.

Weekly Readings ~ May 11—May 17

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8; 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18 or 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 14:15-21 or Jn 17:1-11a

Today's Readings



First Reading — To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers. (Acts 6:1-7))

Psalm — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Psalm 33)

Second Reading — We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house. (1 Peter 2:4-9)

Gospel — “Show us the Father,” Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: “Whoever sees me, sees the Father”. (John 14: 1-12)

What Have We Learned?

One of my seminary professors was in the habit of saying, "We never know it all. There is always more to learn." He said that to us as a comforting thought and as a way to deal with our resistance to having to "unlearn" things we thought we knew. After teaching in the seminary for decades he could anticipate our resistance and its accompanying anger.

Jesus Christ is the Truth. However, God in His mercy does not reveal the whole Truth to us all at once. If that happened, we would be overwhelmed. Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. He reveals the truth to us gradually.

Learning takes humility. In our technological age, when attention is the measure of success, humility is devalued. Media personalities know that even negative attention is better than no attention. Often, what prevents us from learning is the lack of humility. It also prevents us from growing in faith. Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Because we are imperfect, He has something to reveal to us today: something about Himself, but also something about us. In order to learn the Truth, we need humility.

If we want to grow in faith, at the end of the day we must ask ourselves this question: What did I learn today? What did I learn about God and what did I learn about myself in relation to God? The answer to that question is a measure of our faith. Sometimes the learning is unlearning. It is the admission that we were wrong about God or about ourselves. Faith grows with humility. We never know it all. There is always more to learn.

CHURCH AVAILABILITY

Here are the options for you to receive the sacraments during this time when Public Masses are suspended:

- The church is open for private prayer from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. every day.
- If you want to receive communion, contact Father Bill or one of the deacons: The numbers are Fr. Bill (205) 383-8134; Deacon Serge (205) 753-3230; Deacon Lee (205) 936-9330; Deacon Terry (205) 253-9223.
- Father Bill will be available for confessions from 11:00 a.m. until Noon on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The confessions will take place in the conference room in the parish hall. You can also make an appointment with him for confession. (Number above.)
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession), including absolution, cannot be celebrated over the phone.
- Baptisms can only be celebrated, "in danger of death."
- Weddings can only be celebrated with fewer than 10 people who can maintain a six-foot distance from each other.
- Funerals can only be celebrated as Graveside Services. Rules for social distancing must be observed. A Memorial Mass may be celebrated once public masses are allowed.
- The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can be celebrated either at the church or at home. It must be celebrated by a priest. By state law, a priest is only allowed to visit someone in a hospital or nursing home if death is immanent.

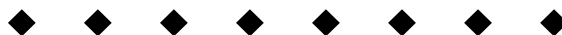


The Christian Love Pantry

The Christian Love Pantry is still trying to help the poor in the St. Clair County area.

To assist them, we are continuing to collect canned soup at the church. The church is open every day from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. You can leave donations, including money, in the South vestibule. (There is a box for cash donations).

If you prefer, you may drop your donation at the parish office during the times above.



The Love Pantry hours and procedures have temporarily changed to ensure the safety of their volunteers and clients.

Open Mon-Wed-Fri from 9 am-12 pm,
205-338-2358



Join Us at Mass

Our Lady of the Lake Church Mass is being recorded and shared so our members can continue to worship. While we are at war with COVID-19, we will make every effort to continue this service weekly.

You can actively participate in the Mass by participating in the Facebook Live Premiere viewing of the Mass scheduled for each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. You may also view the recorded version of the Mass on our website by visiting www.ollpellcity.org.

If you are not already a member of Our Lady of the Lake Facebook group, please join!



Church eGiving
SIGN UP, TODAY!

eGiving with Faith Direct

During this time of uncertainty, Our Lady of the Lake needs your support now more than ever! We are offering a new and secure way for you to support our parish offertory and second collections with Faith Direct.

Faith Direct enables parishioners to make contributions even when you can't make it to church. Now, through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card, you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you do for other expenses.

You may enroll by visiting our website, or logging in directly to faith.direct/AL1065.



**OUR LADY OF THE LAKE
50TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

**Sunday, September 13, 2020
After 11:15 Mass**

We need your help!
If you know of any past members that we can contact to invite to the event, please let us know.

Karen Hand
205-405-1049
wmkhand@yahoo.com

Mark McRae
MMcRae237@yahoo.com

Prayer Line

If you need someone to pray for any intention, an online prayer option is being provided by the Good Shepherd Ministries. Email your request to GSM-prayers@yahoo.com. You can also request prayer through regular mail at:

GSM Prayers
P.O. Box 316
Cropwell, AL 35054

**Weekly
Offertory**

	July 2019	—	June 2020
	Actual*		Needed
Last Week	\$8,802.00		\$6,692.00
Year to Date	\$336,040.98		\$301,140.00

*Please note the actual total includes Seminarian Fund, Building Fund & Special Collections which are not part of the general operating budget.

Perfect Contrition and Spiritual Communion

What to do if you cannot go to Confession or Holy Communion due to the Covid-19 coronavirus



If you have to self-isolate or are quarantined due to the COVID-19 coronavirus, It is unlikely that you will be able to receive the sacraments as normal.

In these circumstances, there are devotions through which you can receive absolution for your sins (under certain conditions), and the consolation of Eucharistic grace.

These devotions are officially encouraged by the Church and have been practiced by saints.

How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you determine to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.

Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: “My God, grant me perfect contrition for all my sins”.

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of a crucifix and say to yourself; “Jesus, my God and my Savior, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins”.
2. Contrition is ‘perfect’ if you repent of your sins because you love God and are sorry for offending Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have brought our Lord to his sufferings on the Cross. Promise him, that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recited, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focused on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: “O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and by the help of your grace I will not sin again. Amen”.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

The key to Spiritual Communion is to grow in your heart a constant desire for the Blessed Sacrament.

1. If you are aware of serious or mortal sin, make an Act of Perfect Contrition.
2. Imagine the sacred words and action of the Mass or watch online or on TV.
3. Make all those acts of faith, humility, sorrow, adoration, love and desire that you usually express before Holy Communion.
4. Desire, with earnest longing, to receive our Lord present — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — in the Blessed Sacrament.
5. Say this prayer of St. Alphonsus de’ Ligouri: “My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You are already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.
6. After moments of silent adoration make all those acts of faith, humility, love, thanksgiving and offering that you usually express through prayers after Holy Communion.

Youth

Our Lake of the Lake Parish Religious Education Suspension

All religious education classes have been suspended due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns. This includes our First Communion classes and all OLL Youth groups.

Please continue to pray for those affected by the virus, as well as for their families and caretakers.



**Please pray for our First Communion
and First Reconciliation class:**

**Wyatt Dale, Haleigh Taylor,
Logan Bluhm, Alene Gurrola,
Analuz Gurrola**

Job Opening

Sonya Lewis, our current Director of Religious Education (DRE), has decided to resign her position, effective June 6th. This is a part-time position (25 hours per week). If you or someone you know is interested, contact Father Bill at the church office.

Church Directories Have Arrived!

The OLL Pictorial Church Directory have been delivered. A copy is available to those who have a picture printed in the directory. The directories are labeled with your last name and located in the north foyer of the church.

The church is open from 9:30am—1:30 pm daily with only 10 people allowed at a time. Please remember the social distancing guidelines as you pick up your directory.

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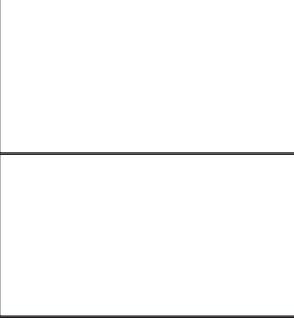
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UPDATE

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MAY 2020

Creative Ideas for Building Up your Parish

CAROLE GARIBALDI ROGERS AND MARY ANN JESELSON



A pastor greets a dog and her owner, during the parish's blessing of the animals. The service was celebrated in observance of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron of animals.

CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

Everything in parish life must build and strengthen healthy and reciprocal relationships among the members. The Holy Spirit helps us generously welcome newcomers to our parishes, yet pews are emptier than ever. A 2018 Gallup poll says fewer than four of ten Catholics attend church in any given week and that overall Catholic attendance is down 60 percent. Plus, about 2,200 American parishes have closed in the last twenty years, says the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).

But some parishes are growing. Ideas for growing parishes are discussed in this issue. Each case includes a list of things to consider in implementing your own version of change.

HOSPITALITY MATTERS

Near destruction by an earthquake caused one parish to commit to welcoming everyone in a special way. Saint Monica Church in Santa Monica, CA, makes an extraordinary effort to greet both newcomers and longtime parishioners at every Mass every Sunday. “We want to be known as a hospitable parish, a place where everyone is truly welcome,” says the parish’s hospitality minister.

Hospitality has resulted in benefits for the parish community. Mass attendance, programs, and ministries have grown. Parish collections are up, enabling the community to add outreach programs and give more assistance to service organizations in the greater community.

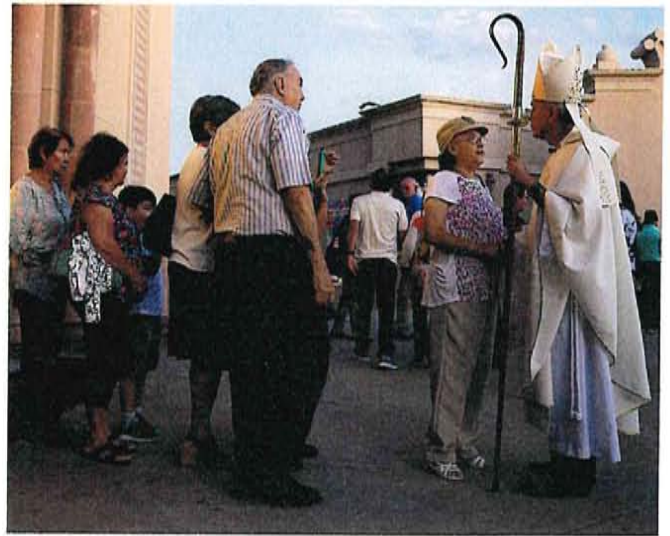
Saint Monica’s hospitality also extends to ministers. The parish offers training sessions using scriptural and theological content, resulting in a time of reflection for seasoned ministers and new volunteers.

Attendees get to ask themselves: *Why are we ministers? What does hospitality mean? What can we learn from Abraham and Sarah, who welcomed three strangers to their home? (Genesis 18:1–15) What message did Jesus send when he washed the feet of his disciples? (John 13:1–15)*



Hospitality Ideas

- 1 Assess your current efforts. Do you welcome people at every door at every Mass? Do greeters see their work as a ministry?
- 2 After meeting with the parish staff and appropriate parish ministries, seek volunteers for a hospitality Ministry. Describe the new effort in the parish bulletin. Have sign-up sheets at each Mass.
- 3 Schedule training for hospitality ministers. Prepare carefully, allow time for prayer, reflection, and for discussion. Resist the impulse to concentrate solely on who will do what, when, and where.
- 4 Consider a welcome table in your gathering space. Begin slowly, if necessary. You may want to start by having the table open only during parish coffee times.
- 5 Encourage celebrants to welcome newcomers and to invite everyone to stop at the welcome table.
- 6 Commit to a hospitality ministry for the long term.



EXPRESS GRATITUDE

One parish gets newcomers involved in the life of the church by hosting a relaxed event three times a year that includes a buffet supper and an informative short program on parish activities and ministries. All new members are invited.

The event typically lasts about three hours and enlists all parish groups—teens, young adults, families, and the elderly. Donna White and her husband, Jim, have volunteered as part of this ministry. Donna feels as if she is representing something unique and relishes the chance to welcome new parishioners into her church, for which she has a “great love.”

What Gratitude Looks Like

- 1 Discuss gratitude with the pastoral team.
- 2 Find out how many newcomers sign up annually, then determine the kind of event your community can arrange. You may prefer a brunch or a picnic.
- 3 Gather volunteers. If a welcome ministry does not yet exist, start one and begin to build for the future.
- 4 Plan your event carefully. Have ample volunteers to cover all aspects of the event—food preparation, set-up, serving, welcoming, speaking, and clean-up.
- 5 Decide on an enriching, informative program.
- 6 Create a resource for future engagement by asking attendees to sign a book. Remember name tags and take care in wording prayers. See Christ in all guests.

A GRAND HOMECOMING

A large banner on a church says, “Catholics Can Always Come Home.” Saint Joseph’s Church in Bridgton, ME, makes a special effort to welcome inactive Catholics back to church. “God is fiercely happy to have these people back,” says the coordinator of the parish’s program to encourage inactive Catholics to return to church. The program offers returning Catholics a chance to meet with one another and the team of ministers for informal, open-ended discussions. The group meets every other Thursday for ninety minutes. After a song and prayer, time is devoted to conversation about whatever issue people want to discuss.

“A real void in my life has been filled,” said a returning member. The church began the program on the first Sunday of Lent when the pastor asked parishioners to offer prayers and Lenten sacrifices for the spiritual benefit of those who might be thinking of “coming home.”

The team often points out that in the Prodigal Son story, the father prepared a feast when the son returned. The team tells participants that Christ is running to them now. The meetings close with a prayer and petitions.

Are Your Parish’s Arms Open Wide?

- 1 Ask your diocesan office to find out which programs they have investigated and what they recommend or may have already established in your diocese.
- 2 Discuss programs with the pastoral staff and lay ministers in the parish who might become members of the core welcome team. Assess the goals of the programs, the time and financial commitments required, and the personnel and training needed.
- 3 Purchase necessary materials. Visit Renewntl.org.
- 4 Plan. Allow time for training, for organizational meetings, for sharing the program with active parishioners, and then allow time for a strong advertising campaign to reach inactive Catholics.
- 5 Pay attention to details that create a sense of spiritual welcome. Saint Joseph’s selects prayers and music for the discussion times and also puts copies of the Bible and rosaries on the table around which they gather.
- 6 Reassess the welcoming atmosphere at all Masses and parish functions. What can you do better?



CNS PHOTO/JAMES RAMOS, TEXAS CATHOLIC

FAITH WITH FORMATION

Religious education is a special package at Old St. Patrick’s Church in Chicago that can be opened by parents and children at the same time. One year the theme of the family ministry program was “The Great Treasure Hunt,” which incorporated monthly themes built around “Unexpected Clues” (the Beatitudes) and “The Ultimate Travel Guide” (Jesus). Each class studied the topic. The program includes children from prekindergarten to eighth grade and typically runs during the school year. Monthly packets of materials relate to the theme and incorporate secular and liturgical days of recognition. It includes monthly birthdays and parish events. Family activities and discussion ideas enhance and deepen what children and parents learn on Sundays.

The sessions take place twice a month. The children meet with their peers; the parents gather with one another. One session the parents hear a speaker address the same topic their children are studying that month. During the other session, they may join a discussion, use the library, or socialize. Once a month, there is a family liturgy that connects children and adults. The director says the program gets parents to commit wholeheartedly to their faith. It becomes more than a Sunday activity.



How Your Parish Can Connect Faith and Family

- 1 The pastoral team and the religious education team could do an assessment of the religious education programs at your parish. Look at the materials used, the number of children and adults involved, the results. You may wish to conduct a survey among parents to determine their satisfaction with programs.
- 2 Does your community have the necessary skills and time to develop a curriculum around themes, to produce the monthly packets, to schedule speakers?
- 3 Determine if you will need to charge a fee for the program and materials. Meet with the religious education teachers, too.
- 4 If you proceed, gather a team with skills. Select speakers for the parents’ programs. Ask your diocesan offices to help with materials and speakers. Speak to the liturgy committee about assisting in planning monthly family liturgies.
- 5 Set a timeline for developing themes and collecting materials. Enlist students and parents by publicizing the new program in the bulletin and by flyers through current religious education classes.
- 6 Send a letter to parents of enrolled students. Describe the program, include important information, such as dates and fees, and ask for volunteers!

REACHING BEYOND THE CHURCH WALLS

Notre Dame Parish in North Caldwell, NJ, is one of several in the area that participate in a ministry to imprisoned women. This ecumenical movement began more than two decades ago and has continued to grow. “In the beginning I was depressed knowing that these women were locked in jail for some time. But now, I’ve come to look at them as people,” says longtime participant Rose Capazzoli.

She and other women from her suburban parish have remained faithful, visiting women inmates at a county jail once a month. The group has been dubbed the “Friendly People” by the inmates. But friendship is just one gift they bring to the imprisoned. Their visits include a worship service with hymns, reading from Scripture, a short reflection, and shared prayer. There is always time for conversation and snacks. Material for further contemplation/study is also shared with the women. It could be a flyer filled with Scripture verses, prayers, poems, or short real-life stories. At Easter and Christmas, the “Friendly People” bring the inmates small gifts—a washcloth, a toothbrush, toothpaste, a prayer card, or a bookmark. What’s most important, however, is the commitment of the visitors’ time.

The ministry team—typically twelve women—operates with cooperation from the prison authorities and visits between thirty to forty-five inmates each month. “We feel like we are really making a difference in the lives of these inmates; they don’t imagine anyone remembers them,” says participant Marjorie Lucas.

A Daily Prayer for *Justice and Mercy*

Jesus, united with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
give us your compassion for those in prison.
Mend in mercy the broken in mind and memory.
Soften the hard of heart, the captives of anger.
Free the innocent; parole the trustworthy.
Awaken the repentance that restores hope.
May prisoners’ families persevere in their love.
Jesus, heal the victims of crime.

They live with the scars.

Lift to eternal peace those who die.
Grant victims’ families the forgiveness that heals.
Give wisdom to lawmakers and to those who judge.
Instill prudence and patience in those who guard.
Make those in prison ministry bearers of your light,
for all of us are in need of your mercy! Amen.

SOURCE: PNCEA.ORG



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

Can Your Parish Touch the Imprisoned?

- 1 Research prison ministry. Contact diocesan offices and Catholic Charities to see what materials are available through them and which programs may help you. A source for information is the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association: pncea.org.
- 2 Discuss the idea with the parish leadership.
- 3 Contact local facilities to determine what their needs are and who else may be visiting inmates. You might want to join an existing volunteer program rather than create a new one. Don’t duplicate services unless specifically asked to do so and don’t attempt to provide services that are not welcome.
- 4 Don’t overcommit. This relates to the frequency of visits as well as services offered.
- 5 Determine how your prison ministry will operate by posing the following questions: What are your goals? How are these related to the needs? How many volunteers will you need? What commitment will you ask of them? Is that reasonable? Who will schedule, provide materials, and so on? Contact other churches and places of worship in your community to create an ecumenical or interfaith prison ministry.
- 6 Invite parishioners to come to a planning meeting. Begin with a prayer to open your meeting. Explain the new ministry. Be clear about the goals and the commitment required. Be prepared to answer all questions fully, understanding that confusion and fear and reluctance are all possible early reactions. Have a sign-up sheet ready for volunteers.

Imprimi Potest: Stephen T. Rehauer, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists

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