

SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

260 NORTH THIRD STREET • LEHIGHTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18235

Rectory: 610-377-3690 **Rectory Fax:** 610-377-0721 **Email:** sspp@ptd.net **Website:** www.peterandpaulchurch.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ssppleightonpa **YouTube:** Search under "Saints Peter and Paul Parish Leighton"

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 October 2026

Rev. Philip J. Maas----- *Parochial Administrator*
pmaas@allentowndiocese.org

Deacon Joseph C. Wilhelm, Jr.----- *Deacon*
Joseph T. Curnew, 856-472-1293 ----- *Cemetery Supervisor*
James G. Logue, Jr., 570-413-3819----- *Communications*
Phil Liszka, 610-217-4768 ----- *CYO President*
Norine Onichimowski, 610-377-3690 ----- *Parish Secretary*

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday from-----9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Bulletin Deadline ----- Monday, 11:00 am



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of ALLENTOWN
CELEBRATING 65 YEARS

The Catholic Presence in Leighton since 1850 + Established as a Parish in 1885

WORSHIP

Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil-----4:00 pm

Sunday----- 7:45 & 10:00 am

Daily Mass - M/T/Th/F ----- 8:00 am

Holy Days----- As announced

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday ----- 12:00 Noon to 6:00 pm

First Friday-----6:00 - 9:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Confession

Thursday: 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Friday: 7:30 AM to 7:55 AM

Saturday: 3:15 PM to 3:55 PM

Sunday: 7:15 to 7:40 AM and 9:30 to 9:55 AM

30 minutes before Sunday Masses

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: First Sundays. Call the rectory for registration and necessary preparations.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Call the rectory at least six months in advance of proposed wedding date for registration and any necessary preparations.

WILLS: Please consider designating SS. Peter & Paul Parish in your last will and testament so the blessings the Lord has given you can continue to build His Kingdom.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Will be issued to parishioners who are active & registered.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

SSPP Parish Religious Ed. Program

Preschool through Grade 8

Sundays from 8:45 to 9:50 am

Deacon Wilhelm, *Director*

610-377-3690

jcwillhelm60@gmail.com

ST. JEROME

REGIONAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, *Principal*

570-668-2757 / sjrschool.com

ST. JOHN NEUMANN

REGIONAL SCHOOL

Dr. Christopher Heery, *Principal*

610-826-2354 / sjnrschool.org

MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Fr. Robert T. Finlan, *Principal*

570-467-3335 / mariancatholichs.org

VOCATION MINISTRY

Mr. John Meier / 570-657-6966

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

DAMIEN COUNCIL #598

Patrick Gallagher, *Grand Knight*

610-393-9470

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Josephine Noll (+2025)

Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Marzen

Mr. James Logue

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Please call rectory for information or registration.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Mrs. Esther Meier, *President*

570-657-6738

SEVEN SISTERS / FASTING

BROTHERS APOSTOLATE

Mary Marzen/ 610-984-2023

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A.

DIRECT TELEPHONE

800-791-9209

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Pamela Russo, MSW, MS

Secretary for Youth Protection

prusso@allentowndiocese.org

610-871-5200, Ext. 2204



Saints Peter and Paul Parish of Lehigh is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that seeks to grow in love of God and neighbor through personal prayer, liturgical celebration, doctrinal formation, and merciful living.

Welcome

Visitors

We are glad you're here! Please greet Father or Deacon after Mass.

Little Ones

We welcome little children and their families. There is a small cry room in the back of the church if you would like to make use of it.

Restrooms

Leave the church by the side exit and enter the parish hall by the door closest to the parking lot. Changing tables available in both restrooms.

Silence Phone

Please silence your devices out of respect for the Eucharist and Sacred Space. Restrict phone use to religious apps or emergencies.

Wi-Fi Network & Password

SSPP PARISH - GUEST
presentense

Low-Gluten Hosts

Please approach for Communion via the priest's line and inform him. For daily Mass, please inform Father or Deacon beforehand.

Prayers at the End of Mass

After each Mass, we pray three Hail Marys and the Prayer to Saint Michael for peace and justice in the world and the Church. Please keep the church a place of prayer after Mass is over.

House Blessings

Gladly conducted by appointment.

Hospitalized or Homebound

Persons in need of pastoral care, please notify the rectory ASAP. (Holy Communion, Confession, or Anointing of the Sick)

Prayer

Treasury of Prayer

Please take a booklet from the pews. They are also available at the door of the rectory. Donations toward future printings are appreciated.

Seven Sisters & Fasting Brothers

Women of our parish who offer one hour of prayer each week for a particular priest. Men fast in conjunction. Contact Mary Marzen, Anchoress. 610-984-2023

Family Rosary

Families of the parish pray the Rosary every third Friday of the month at 6:30 PM. Contact the rectory for more information. All are welcome!

Giving

ParishSoft Giving

One-time and recurring donations through checking accounts, credit cards, or other payment apps. Thanks for assisting with transaction fees!
tinyurl.com/SSPPgiving

Monetary Donations

May be placed in the collection basket or the box in the vestibule.

Used Ink Cartridges

Deposit your used printer cartridges in the box in the vestibule or bring them to the rectory during the week.

FreeWill

FreeWill is a free estate planning service: Create a legacy of giving; please remember our Diocese, parish, and schools in your will!
tinyurl.com/ADfreewill

Resources

Rachel's Vineyard

Pastoral care & retreats for anyone who has been affected by abortion.
www.HopeAfterAbortion.com
866-3RACHEL

Lumen Christi Commission

Resources for those struggling with pornography and their loved ones.
www.ADLumenchristi.org

Natural Family Planning

Information on scientific, natural, and moral methods of fertility awareness.
www.allentowndiocese.org/fertility-awareness-and-nfp

Retrouvaille

Helps heal troubled marriages.
www.HelpOurMarriage.org
800-470-2230

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Material assistance for the needy and suffering in the Lehigh area. Esther Meier, President. 570-657-6738

Catholic Charities

Variety of assistance for the needy throughout our diocese.
www.CatholicCharitiesAD.org

Stay connected to us! Sign up for our email newsletter by visiting:
<https://tinyurl.com/SSPPNews> or text SSPPNEWS to 84576

If you are making any changes in residence or parish affiliation, please contact the rectory.C

This Week at SSPP!

Friday, 23 October

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 AM in Meeting Rm

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday, October 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30 PM

Stewart Alboucq
(Family)

Sunday, October 18

7:45 AM

pro populo

10:00 AM

Josephine Noll
(Elinore Michalik)

Monday, October 19

St. John de Brébeuf &..., Priests & Martyrs, Memorial

8:00 AM

Madeline Marzen
(Grandparents Carl & Mary)

Tuesday, October 20

St. Paul of the Cross, Priest

8:00 AM

Intentions of Peter Johnson
(Sarah Johnson)

Wednesday, October 21

St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr

Thursday, October 22

St. John Paul II, Popel

8:00 AM

Howe & Bruce Families
(Estate)

Friday, October 23

St. John of Capistrano, Priest

8:00 AM

Irena Bezak
(Tony & Norine Onichimowski)

Saturday, October 24

St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM I/H of Paul & RuthAnn Mriss's 50th Anniv.
(The Family)

Sunday, October 25

7:45 AM

pro populo

10:00 AM

Len Mikulski
(Wife Sharon)

Sanctuary Candle

I/M of Ernest P. Christman, R/B Elinore Michalik

Flowers

None

Sanctuary Candle Donation, \$10; Flowers, \$50

Father Maas' Corner



Last week I spoke of Respect Life Month which occurs each October, noting that we must continue to fight the good fight to end Abortion. Both Abortion and Euthanasia make up the two "non-negotiables" when it comes to the Church's

teaching on life, as articulated by Cardinal Ratzinger in the 2004 document, *Worthiness to Receive Holy Communion: General Principles*. While Catholics may have varying opinions on the *application* of the Church's teachings on various life issues, e.g., just war, no such diversity of opinion may exist with Abortion and Euthanasia: it is wrong in every circumstance.

Recently, another life issue has been making headlines, as US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth announced the US Army's plan to livestream the execution of Nidal Malik Hasan who murdered 13 persons at Fort Hood in 2009. Far from embodying the Gospel of Life, such a decision glorifies death and strokes the vindictive ego of the body politic.

The Gospel of Life demands that we uphold the dignity of the human person from conception until natural death. The Catholic Church has historically supported capital punishment as a means of excising moral cancer in society, hastening the conversion of offenders, and, most importantly, protecting the innocent. This is Her perennial teaching and it has not changed. But recent Pontiffs, most notably Pope St. John Paul II, went to lengths to indicate how capital punishment no longer serves these ends in our modern society, especially given our ability to detain criminals for life, both protecting the innocent and maximizing time for conversion.

It is the current prudential judgment of the Church that, given the state of our modern society, we should call for the abolition of the death penalty. It is understandable that we, first as Catholics, secondly as citizens of our nation, may possess a diversity of opinions on said matter. But, if anything, it is increasingly difficult to publicly advocate for the abolition of the grave evil of Abortion while simultaneously recommending the death penalty in America.

In Christ,

Father Maas



Mark your calendars for our annual Halloween Fish Fry!

Friday, 30 October 2026 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Dinner includes Fried Haddock, French Fries, Stewed Tomatoes, Applesauce, Cole Slaw, Roll, & Dessert. **Donation of \$16 each.** *Each in or take out.* **Tickets will be sold after Masses all weekends leading up, or call the Rectory Office!** *Come and support our parish!*

Collection totals

October 10-11: \$5989.10
This includes \$1145.08 from Parishsoft

Second Collection for SvDP: \$993.00

Donations to the Church

may be made using ParishSoft Giving:
tinyurl.com/SSPPgiving

We have also established a PayPal account for donations. Scan the QR code!



Eucharistic Adoration

is held every Thursday from Noon to 6:00 PM.

News

for the bulletin, website, and/or Facebook page can be directed to the parish office at sspp@ptd.net or to Jim Logue at JGMLogue@gmail.com.

Church Cleaners

Next Weekend 10/24 is **Team 5: Ed & Cathy Marzen**. To volunteer for a week either by yourself or with an established crew, call Raegan at 484-464-7131.

All Souls Day Vespers

We will have a special singing of **Vespers** (Evening Prayer) on **All Souls Day, Monday 2 November 2026 at 6:00 PM** in special remembrance of all our parishioners who have passed since last All Souls. Members of the Diocesan Women's Choir *Anegelorum* will be present to help us worship the Lord with our voices. Join us after for light refreshments. More information to follow!

Respect Life Month

October is Respect Life Month. Join Catholics nationwide praying a special novena for the protection of human life from conception to natural death October 22-30. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at respectlife.org/celebrate

**respect life
month
novena**



OCTOBER 22-30
respectlife.org

Confirmandus

Please pray for our Parishioner **Nicholas Keer** who will be **Confirmed by Bishop Schlert this Tuesday, 20 October** with his classmates from St. John Neumann Regional School. Come, Holy Spirit!

FlockNote

We are using FlockNote to keep everyone updated at Saints Peter & Paul! If you are not getting our weekly newsletter by email, you can sign up by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/SSPPNews> or by texting **SSPPNEWS** to **84576**

Second Collections

There will be a second collection **this weekend** for **World Mission Sunday**. The World Mission Sunday collection grants funds to mission dioceses, which help to underwrite the basic physical footprint that keeps missionary life going: where priests live, where sisters live, where children are catechized, where formation and pastoral work can happen, and where Holy Mass can be celebrated, often for the first time.

Part of the funds are used to help missionary dioceses run and survive, while the rest of the funds are used to build churches, seminaries, convents, and pastoral centers. In an average year, WMS helps to fund over 900 infrastructure-related projects for the Church!

Ministries

Our parish is in need of **Lectors** (especially the 4:00 PM Saturday Mass), **Altar Servers**, and **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** (for Mass and/or to the homebound and hospitalized). Please call the Rectory. Training will be available.

Seven Sisters Apostolate

Their mission is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop. It is a group of seven women who pray one Holy Hour for one priest each week, forming one heart of prayer. The commitment is for one year but this can remain open-ended as each individual discerns her call to continue. For information, contact Mary Marzen at 610-984-2023.

Backyard Bash

A preliminary **Back Yard Bash meeting** will be held after the **10:00 AM Mass on 1 November** in the Parish Hall to begin discussing ideas for the summer event. All are welcome!

Donut Sunday

We will be holding our usual light breakfast after **10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, 25 October**. This will coincide with presenting Deacon Joe with his spiritual bouquet at the end of Holy Mass!

Knights of Columbus

Damien Council #598 (1st—3rd degrees) and Msgr. Angelini Assembly #971 (4th degree) meet every first Tuesday in SSPP parish hall at 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM respectively. **The next meeting is November 3, 2026.**

Marian High School Open House

Saturday, October 24th, 11:00-12:30 - Come see how a Marian education is possible. Learn about financial aid and transportation. Tour the school with our amazing ambassadors! Early registration is just \$50! Reach out to Mary Milosh, Director of Enrollment, for more information: mmilosh@mariancatholichs.org or 570-467-3335 ext 116

SSPP CYO

CYO welcomes any boys or girls from public, Catholic, charter, or homeschooling to take part in activities. We welcome volunteers and suggestions for events! **For event information or registration, contact District 5 CYO Commissioner Phil Liszka (610-217-4768; phill@ptd.net) or SSPP CYO Moderator Bill Keer (484-560-4338; bkeer@ptd.net).**



District 5 Spelling Bee

Wed., October 21, 2026

Grades 6, 7, and 8

St. Jerome's School gym

Doors open 5:45 pm, Bee starts at 6:15 pm

Diocese Spelling Bee

Sun., November 15, 2026

SS. Peter & Paul Parish Hall

Doors open at 12:00 noon, Bee begins at 1:00 pm

All winners from Oct 21 advance to the diocesan spelling bee

District 5 CYO Bowling Tournament

Sat., November 21, 2026

Fritz Lanes, Lehighton, Grades K to 8

\$7 for each bowler that signs up

includes lane assignments, ball, shoes, and choice of pizza or hot dogs.

Deadline to register: November 14th

Month of Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by the fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

"If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. Many are the favors granted to private individuals through its devout recitation: there are few devoted users of the Rosary who cannot testify to experiencing its power in their own lives. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary. ...St. Pius V attributed the great defeat of the Turkish fleet on the first Sunday of October, 1571, to the fact that at the same time the Rosary confraternities at Rome and elsewhere were holding their processions. Accordingly, he ordered a commemoration of the Rosary to be made on that day. Two years later, Gregory XIII allowed the celebration of a feast of the Rosary in churches having an altar dedicated to the Rosary. In 1671, Clement X extended the feast to all Spain. A second great victory over the Turks ... occurred on August 5, 1716, when Prince Eugene defeated them at Peterwardein in Hungary. Thereupon Clement XI extended the feast ... to the whole Church." —*Mary in our Life* by Fr. William G. Most



Annual Saint Januarius Blood Drive

For the third consecutive year, Bishop Schlert is pleased to invite the faithful throughout the Diocese of Allentown to participate in the **Saint Januarius Blood Drive** in partnership with Miller-Keystone Blood Center, the only community blood center serving our region. The campaign will once again begin on the Feast of Saint Januarius, September 19, and continue through **December 16**.

All donors who provide their parish's Sponsor Code at the time of their appointment will receive a **Saint Januarius medallion, blessed by Bishop Schlert**. If you do not know the parish code, blood center staff will be able to look it up for you. Donors who already have a medallion may choose a Saint Januarius prayer card or magnet instead. To schedule an appointment, go to www.giveapint.org or call 800-223-6667 ext. 2.

Diocesan Family Festival

Come celebrate 65 years with us! All are invited to a spectacular Diocese-wide Family Festival on **Sunday, November 1, 2026, at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Orefield**. Bring the whole family! The festivities kick off at **noon with a special blessing and opening remarks from Bishop Alfred A. Schlert**, followed by live music from Island Time and Vargas Music, delicious food from parish food stands, carnival games, a Catholic Trunk-or-Treat, a petting zoo, a caricaturist, and more. Then, as we bring this joyful celebration to a close, gather with **Bishop Schlert and families from across our Diocese for Mass at 4:30 p.m. Rain or shine. More information to come!**

Diocesan Men's Conference: Come Home to Mary

Catholic men of all ages are invited to the annual Diocesan Men's Conference, "Come Home to Mary, Mother of the Church," on **Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the DeSales University Center**. Join us for a day of faith, fellowship, and spiritual renewal featuring **Fr. Dave Pivonka, Nathan Crankfield, and Mark Houck**. The day will include breakfast and lunch, opportunities for Confession, and will conclude with **Holy Mass at 4 p.m. with Bishop Alfred Schlert**. Register: <https://tinyurl.com/ADMC26>

Women's Advent Retreat

Join the Bishop's Commission for Women and the Catholic Women's Society of Giving for "**The Gift Within**," a Women's Advent Retreat on **Saturday, December 12, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Allentown**. Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with guest speaker Dr. Carmina Chapp, Dean of the School of Theological Studies at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, as you reflect on Mary, the Ark of the Covenant, and the unique gifts God calls each of us to share. The morning includes a continental breakfast and Mass with Bishop Schlert. Cost is \$15 per person. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/DoAdvent26>

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees had a plan to entrap Jesus in speech. They said, "Teacher, we know you will tell the truth. Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"

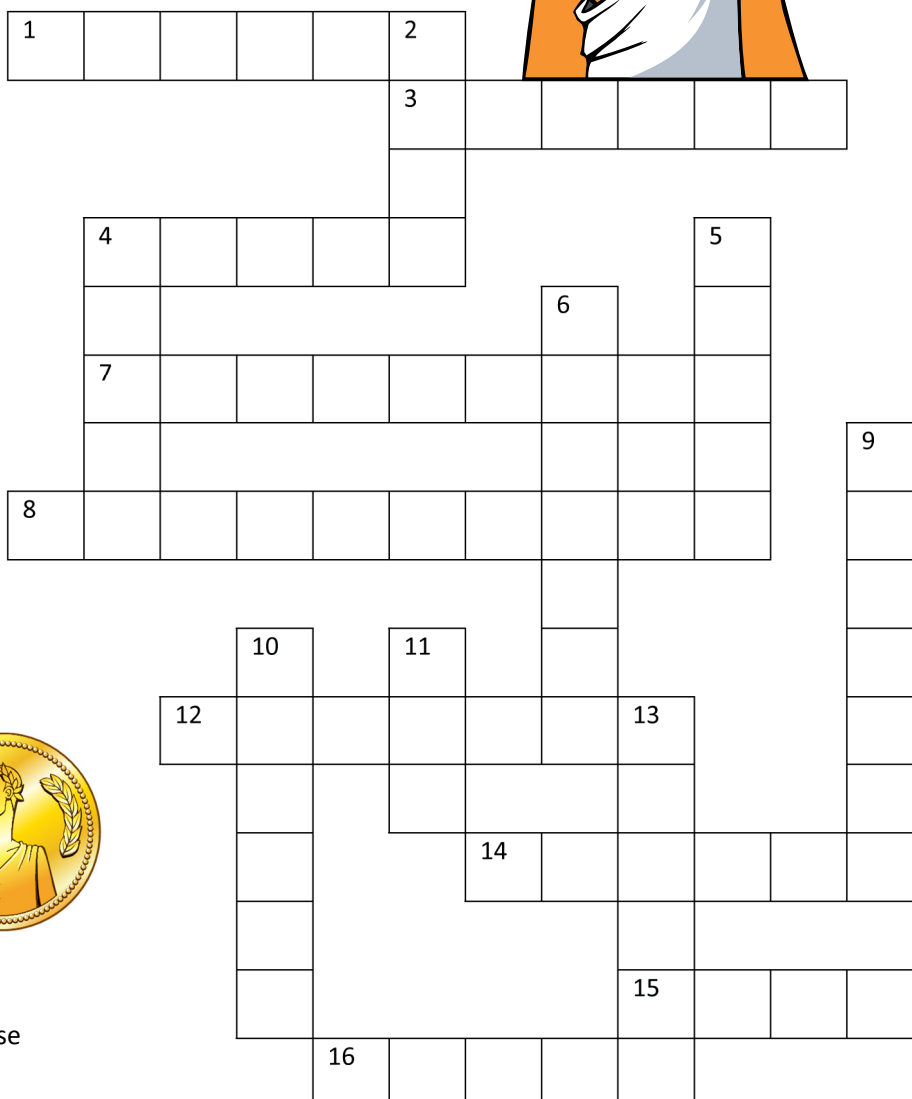
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Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." They handed Him a Roman coin, with an image and inscription of Caesar. Jesus replied, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."



ACROSS

- 1 To catch in; as if in a trap
- 3 Allowed by law
- 4 ____ Catholic Church
- 7 Ancient Jews who strictly observed Mosaic law
- 8 Person pretending to be what they are not
- 12 To be owned by someone
- 14 Title of Roman emperors after Augustus
- 15 Round, flat, metal money
- 16 Real fact, honest



DOWN

- 2 A detailed scheme (to achieve an objective)
- 4 To pay back
- 5 ____ Christ
- 6 Evaluate
- 9 Person who teaches
- 10 Periodic population count
- 11 Supreme Being, Creator of universe (Our Father)
- 13 Act of speaking; public address



All answers are underlined on this page.

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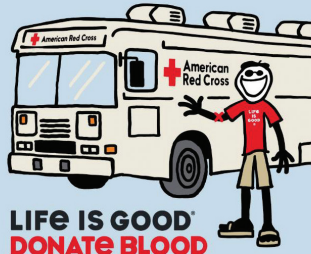
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DON'T POLLUTE
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