

# Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18, 2021

*We are a loving, welcoming community of Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic Church, endowed with a diversity of backgrounds, gifts and experiences. Our lives are based on faith, hope and charity, guided by the Holy Spirit and sustained by the sacraments. Our faith life extends to the larger community around us, and we enthusiastically commit ourselves to serve our neighbors and each other.*



**Rev. Robert Gebhard**  
Temporary Administrator

**Ms. Patricia Dyer**  
Pastoral Associate  
Religious Education Coordinator

**Ms. Elizabeth Clay**  
Music Director

**Mr. Homer Dick**  
**Ms. Madonna Hartzell**  
Trustees

**Ms. Debbie Popple**  
Bookkeeper

**Ms. Barbara Sercu**  
Secretary

**RECTORY** Ph: 716-833-0301  
Fax: 716-834-4711

**EMAIL** [blessedtrinitychurch@gmail.com](mailto:blessedtrinitychurch@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE** [blessedtrinitybuffalo.org](http://blessedtrinitybuffalo.org)

**CENTRAL BUFFALO CLUSTER** [catholicchurchesofbuffalo.com](http://catholicchurchesofbuffalo.com)

**CONFESSIONS** Saturday, 4pm

**BIBLE STUDY** Suspended until September

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** Will resume post pandemic

**VISITS TO THE SICK** Call rectory during business hours

**BAPTISMS** By appointment

**WEDDINGS** Arrange six months in advance

[Catholic Central Food Pantry - 350 Dewey Avenue](#)

Every Wednesday 9:30am - 1:30pm



**Rectory Office Hours:**

**Monday - Wednesday**  
10:30 am - 2:30 pm



**Sunday Mass: 10:00 am**

**Saturday Mass: 4:30 pm**

**Daily Mass: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri - 11:00 am**

## 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading** Jeremiah 23:1-6 (107B)  
**Psalms** Psalm 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6  
**Second Reading** Ephesians 2:13-18  
**Gospel** Mark 6:30-34

**Partial Rainout** – No sooner did a small work-crew show up, for our parish grounds upkeep evening this past Tuesday, than raindrops turned into a downpour topped off with thunder and lightning. However, no fair-weather gardeners here! Between raindrops we accomplished some mulching and weeding. It wasn't everything we hoped for, but bit-by-bit we're making great progress. Special thanks to Mickey, Bud, Allan, Kathy, Dorothy, Ellen and Amy for your efforts. Without your helping hands we certainly would not be able to be such a beautiful sanctuary in our neighborhood. Also, grateful thanks to the volunteers who come to mow our lawns as they are able, Luis & AK.

**Road to Renewal** – Recall that our diocese is beginning a process of renewal and restoration for Catholic parishes and ministries. Bishop Fisher has been meeting with groups of priests to set the stage for this process. I attended a meeting for one of those groups of priests this past Tuesday at the Catholic Center. Fr. Bryan Zielenieski, facilitator for this process, again presented the collaborative nature of the process, which will take the slow-and-steady road toward planning and implementation, to include clergy, religious and lay leadership in all phases. The process is meant to revision the Church of Buffalo which, based on current challenging realities (sex abuse scandal, closure of the seminary, bankruptcy, pandemic, decreasing numbers of priests, declining memberships and attendance in our parishes, need for evangelization, engagement efforts for our youth, teens and young adults, etc.) requires being Church in very new ways. Whatever the new paradigms will be, for our Family of Parishes (Blessed Trinity, Ss. Columba-Brigid, St. Lawrence, St. Martin de Porres) the challenge to create a new reality requires our faithful prayer to the Holy Spirit and intentional trust in the creative, cooperative and compromising charisms of our members. We ready ourselves to see the changing roles of our priests, deacons, religious, laity..... everyone! I recall the words of John Henry Newman, "To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."

Regular general information about this process can be found at [www.roadtorenewal.org](http://www.roadtorenewal.org).

**Donations Needed** – We are in need of a **television/monitor and DVD player** for our Faith Formation Programs. Knowing that sometimes people have these items in great working order, but are going unused in the home, we reach out to you before making this a parish expenditure. If you or someone you know would be willing to make such a donation - of one or the other or both - please contact Pat Dyer, Fr. Bob, or our parish office (716)833-0301.

–Fr. Bob

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

**Blessed Trinity Stewardship** – The total offertory collection for July 10/11, 2021 was \$2,743 which includes Mission Coop \$44, Peter's Pence \$15, Assumption \$6 and fuel \$190.

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**Saturday, July 24**  
**Lector – John Curtin**

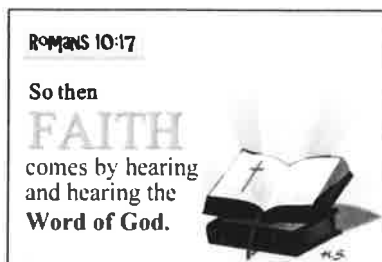
**Sunday, July 25**  
**Lector – Maggie Gatson**  
**Eucharistic Minister – Palma Zanghi**

**Blessed Trinity** is taking up a collection for Peter's Pence this week. Your generosity is appreciated.

**Blessed Trinity Coffee Sales!** Our Blessed Trinity Blend Coffee fundraiser offers a custom premium coffee, locally roasted from select coffee beans obtained from Brazil, Colombia & Honduras. Marketing strategies have been progressing as we continue to spread the word of our exciting new venture and take orders. Due to unforeseen circumstances our local roaster will hold off roasting until late August. This will delay the delivery of our orders a bit, but coffee will be forthcoming before the summer's end. Thank you for your patience and continued support! Remember, our coffee is a unique premium blend and is not available in stores or anywhere else. It makes for wonderful gifts too! Please take an order form and offer this special coffee to family, friends and co-workers. You may make arrangements to turn in your completed form and payment to Cathy Cummings (716)892-4240. Let's make our coffee fundraiser a great success!

**Interested in volunteering?** Additional volunteers to be ushers, greeters or collection counters are needed. Please contact Bob Heicklen or the office at (716)833-0301 if you are interested. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

**The Work of Their Hands** ~ Even 45 years ago when a Pittsburgh, PA industrial appraisal company estimated the replacement cost of our church at \$4.25 million, it was generally accepted that there were not enough skilled artisans available to reproduce it. How fortunate we are to have "inherited" the work of: Joseph Mazur, a Buffalo artist whose paintings are affixed to the dome, transept (Ascension and Assumption), and the choir loft; Vincent Mondo from New Haven, CT who painted the Stations of the Cross, the angels in the Sanctuary, and the Marian and Sacred Heart shrines; Rochester's P. Kuhnle who sculpted the ceramic reliefs over each doorway; Michael Hoffman who designed the tabernacle altar and baldachino (canopy) above it; and brothers Albert and Richard Lippich from nearby Bowmansville whose exquisite woodworking is on display in the confessionals, pews and cabinetry throughout the church.



# KNOW YOUR FAITH

## Gifted with the Spirit ~

The Churches which sprung from the Apostles going out to proclaim the Gospel after Pentecost all have Confirmation as one of the Seven Sacraments, but it is not always celebrated in the same way and at the same age. Even in the Roman Catholic Church (sometimes called *Latin Rite*) the time of celebration differs from one Diocese to another. It is the second (sometimes celebrated third) of the *Rites of Initiation* (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist) and completes the initiation of Christians. In some Churches (like the Maronite Rite) Confirmation occurs at the time of Baptism as does First Eucharist. In the Dioceses of the United States, the time of Confirmation varies from middle school to high school for those Baptized as infants and at the time of Baptism for those who are "adults" (over age 7) at the time of their Baptism. Currently, in the Diocese of Buffalo the normative time for Confirmation is spring of grade 10 or older.

I was Confirmed at the end of seventh grade in 1969. Fr. Parent who was my religion teacher used the last three months of our weekly religion classes to get us ready for Confirmation. He emphasized that this Confirmation would make us adults in the Church with all the rights and responsibilities therein (remember those?). We knew that sometimes the Bishop asks those to be Confirmed questions - and we were ready! And nervous. I cried. I was not ready to be an adult at all. Perhaps if Fr. Parent had emphasized more what gifts God brings to us at this time, I would have been more confident. So, what is it that we receive? What are these gifts - and what is the result of the gifts (sometimes called *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*)?

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit were first written about together by the early writers of the Church. The *Gifts of the Holy Spirit* are: "Six are listed in the "Immanuel Prophecy," which describes an expected future ideal Davidic king: wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength (fortitude), knowledge and fear of the Lord (*Is 11:2*). The translators of the Hebrew Bible to Greek, the Septuagint, added a seventh gift, piety, to achieve the symbolic number for completeness. Jesus was blessed with these gifts by his Father, and those who are confirmed are blessed with these gifts by the Holy Spirit. They supply the spiritual power and strength a person needs to accomplish his or her vocational calling and mission in life."

"**Wisdom** is the ability to exercise good judgment. It distinguishes between right and wrong, seeks and upholds truth and justice, and balances personal good with the common good. It is in touch with reality, demonstrates common sense and is prudent. It often increases as a person advances in years and gains life experience. In the Old Testament, wisdom is personified

by "Sophia," the mythical mother of faith, hope and love; while in the New Testament, wisdom is personified by Jesus himself.

"**Understanding** is the gift of intelligence and enlightenment. It is the ability to think clearly; to perceive, comprehend and interpret information; and to have insight and discern meaning.

"**Counsel** is good advice. It is the ability to teach, inform, guide, direct, warn, admonish, recommend and encourage. It is not limited to the giving of advice but extends to the ability to graciously receive it. The gift is needed by parents, teachers, coaches, supervisors, mentors, therapists, lawyers, clergy, consultants, elders and spouses — anyone who offers advice to others.

"**Fortitude** is an unwavering commitment to God or a proper course of action, and it shows itself as moral strength, courage, determination, patient endurance, long suffering, a resolute spirit, stamina and resiliency (sic.)

"**Knowledge** is the ability to study and learn; to acquire, retain and master facts and information; and to put what is learned to good use for constructive purposes.

"**Fear of the Lord** is awe, reverence and respect for God. It acknowledges that everything comes as a gift from God, downplays personal achievement and self-sufficiency, and gladly offers praise, worship and adoration to God.

"**Piety** is personal holiness, and it includes devotion to God, prayer, virtue, goodness, decency, self-mastery, innocence, the avoidance of sin and obedience to God's will."

(Quoted from <https://thecatholicspirit.com/faith/focus-on-faith/faith-fundamentals/the-gifts-of-the-holy-spirit/>)

St. Paul addresses his letter to the Galatians on the topic of Christian living - an important one for those to be Confirmed as teens and adults, because they are now making these promises for themselves. Paul explains what is accomplished by the Gifts of the Spirit - the Fruits - "In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." (*Gal 5:22-23*)

You should know that after my Confirmation, I felt such peace and calm - no longer afraid - though certainly over the years there have been many missteps and doubts, but the Spirit brings me back. You should also know that the Church offers much help to us as we make our way through life in the form of its social teachings, many of which we have recently discussed. What is scary about being a Catholic Christian adult is that we must make decisions for ourselves based on faith, reason, an informed conscience and Grace. *It isn't black and white any more.*

We all have talents, too, personal gifts. Here we can read what St. Paul wrote about the individual charisms - talents - given each of us, "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given

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Mass



Intentions

Saturday, July 17 4:30 pm  
In memory of the Ferella, Then and Venezia Families  
Family

Sunday, July 18 10:00 am  
In memory of Ann O. McCarville  
Robert J. Kresse Family

Monday, July 19 11:00 am  
For the intention of Judy Wenke  
Maria Suchyna

Tuesday, July 20 11:00 am  
In memory of Cortez Wells  
John E. Curtin

Wednesday, July 21 11:00 am  
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and  
Pfeiffer Families  
Estate of Mary Reilly

Friday, July 23 11:00 am  
Repose of the Souls of Arthur and Lillian Hildman  
Our Lady of Victory

Saturday, July 24 4:30 pm  
In memory of Roxanne Morreale  
Maria Suchyna

Sunday, July 25 10:00 am  
Birthday remembrances – Sara Dick and Homer Dick, Sr.  
Family

† A remembrance in your will and last testament  
keeps alive the beauty and works of this church. †



*The Sanctuary Lamp burns for a week in  
remembrance of a loved one  
or to commemorate a special occasion.*

*If you are interested in memorializing  
a loved one or special occasion,  
please contact the rectory at (716-833-0301).*

**To remember in our prayers all who are sick,**  
especially parishioners: Sr. Ann Helene, Naoma  
Allen, Thomas Andrew, Yvonne Andrew, Bernice  
Bradley, Anthony Hartmann, Madonna Hartzell,  
Sionen Laciura, Marilyn Lang, Shirley Parks, Fr.  
Reger, Mary Ellen Roach, Janeva Tabb,  
Freddie White, Pedro Zola.



**VANDERCHER & DICK  
FUNERAL HOME**

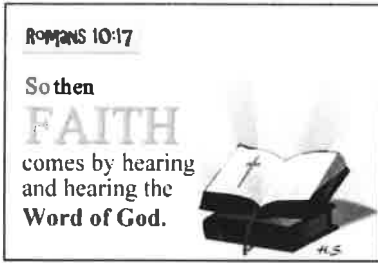
**"Over 100 years of service"**

**2549 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14214**

**716-832-0150**

**Homer H. Dick, Jr., Blessed Trinity Trustee**





KNOW  
YOUR  
FAITH

Cont'd from bulletin..... through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit; to another mighty deeds; to another prophecy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes." (1 Cor 12:4-11) It is this variety of gifts that make up the Body of Christ which will get into a spirit of cooperation.

**Babel** ~ Recently we began an exercise that will help us create not the Tower of Babel, but Parishes of communication and cooperation. With the help of the Holy Spirit and the charisms received by us all, we can make this happen. I hope you enjoyed this little exercise. You will notice one area of cooperation almost immediately - our Faith Formation committee has already begun to work on sharing.

**Our continuing ministry exploration** ~ In the spirit of the mission of all the Baptized, one of our ministries to the disciples among us is our Compassion Ministry headed up by Sr. Liz Savage. Sr. Liz has been doing many of the things she will tell you about on her own for several years as have a couple of other people. This ministry has now been formalized and there will be training and support. If you would like to support this ministry financially, you can purchase cards and postage. Put them into the collection labeled for "Compassion Ministry" or leave them with someone at the Welcome Space near the east parking lot (handicap access) door. Here is Sr. Liz:

"They'll have mail! In the name of the parish, several volunteers will be regularly sending cards to parishioners who are unable to join with us for liturgy and/or other celebrations. People who have recently suffered the loss of a loved one as well as those celebrating a special occasion (marriage, new baby, graduation, etc.) will also know that Blessed Trinity is with them. If you know of someone who wishes to be kept in touch, please contact Patricia Dyer at [patriciadyernp@gmail.com](mailto:patriciadyernp@gmail.com)." Sr. Liz will be working with individuals to help this work well for everyone.

**The Pope's Prayer Intention for August** is quite appropriate for us today "The Church: Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel."

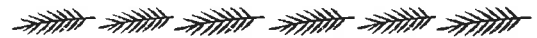
**Confirmation classes** for high school students who will be in grade 10 or above will begin in the Fall. We will be studying together with Ss. Columba-Brigid, St. Lawrence and St. Martin de Porres students. Blessed Trinity will be actively involved in the classes which will be held at each of the parishes. Please see me to register or call or email!

--Pat Dyer 256-2598 or [patriciadyernp@gmail.com](mailto:patriciadyernp@gmail.com)

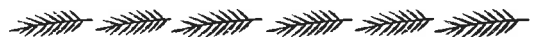
**Vacation Bible School: August 4-26, 2021.** Two locations - same program! Offered Wednesdays from 11am to 12:30pm at Blessed Trinity in St. Charles' Hall and Thursdays Noon to 1:30pm at St. Lawrence in Franciscan Guest House. Scripture (old and new Testament), crafts and a snack. Register for either session. I will be at both locations. All staff Protecting God's Children trained. No charge. Register at Welcome Space or by calling Pat Dyer 256-2598. If anyone is able to prepare snacks for Vacation Bible School, it would be most appreciated.

--Pat Dyer

**Weekend masses are livestream on Facebook and recorded service available on YouTube later in the day.**



**SOUTH BUFFALO COMMUNITY TABLE is looking for a SOUP KITCHEN MANAGER.** The Soup Kitchen Manager facilitates the mission of the South Buffalo Community Table. This hands-on individual is responsible for: the oversight and direction of all employees, volunteer, and programs; management of day-to-day operations; furthering the ongoing goals and purpose of the Table. The position reports directly to the Board of Directors and is guided by the Board's informed decisions relative to the overall operation of the Table. Salary commensurate with experience. All interested candidates should send a resume and two references to [sobufcomtable@hotmail.com](mailto:sobufcomtable@hotmail.com) by July 31, 2021.



**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
in re The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y.  
Case No. 20-10322**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT,** On February 28, 2020, The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., ("**Diocese**") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "**Bankruptcy Code**").

**The Bankruptcy Court has established August 14, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").**

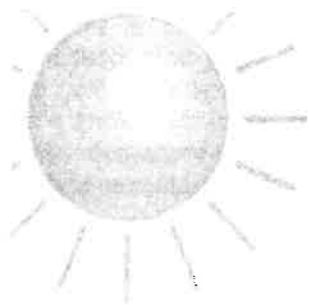
**If you have a claim against the Diocese, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date.**

Please visit <https://case.stretto.com/diocesefofbuffalo> or call 855-292-7696 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

**IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.**

Continued on other side.....

**FAMILY PROMISE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS & YOU'RE INVITED!** Saturday, July 24 from 12-2 PM. Family Promise of WNY has been in existence for 25 years as an emergency shelter for homeless families, and Blessed Trinity has been a part of their support system since the beginning. (Back then, it was known as the Interfaith Hospitality Network, and we assisted the host congregation at neighboring Central Presbyterian Church.) Their **Anniversary Homecoming Celebration** at 75 Hickory St. (Ss. Columba-Brigid campus) will feature a food truck, live music, face painting, a bounce house, ice cream and more! And better yet: Your presence will stand as a sign of our discipleship and continued commitment to feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless.



**Family Promise**  
of Western New York

Join us!

Family Promise of WNY is hosting our

# **25th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration**

Saturday, July 24th

75 Hickory Street  
Buffalo, NY 14204

Ribbon Cutting 12:00pm  
Family Picnic 12:00-2:00pm

**FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY!**



**Food Truck | Live Band | Facepaint  
Bounce House | Ice Cream | More!**

Over.....