

Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 22, 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

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EMAIL blessedtrinitychurch@gmail.com
WEBSITE blessedtrinitybuffalo.org
CENTRAL BUFFALO CLUSTER 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

21ST Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b (122B)
Psalms Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Second Reading Ephesians 5:21-32
Gospel John 6:60-69

Retrospect, Introspect, Prospect! –



I suggested last weekend that, though we should certainly continue to enjoy more of our summer leisure, now is also the time to begin to look ahead a bit to the soon-returning academic year with the start of September. Our daily life will become a bit less *laissez faire* giving way to being more tied to schedules, structures, deadlines, programs, classes, etc. The academic part of our year is a time for a more focused and intense *pursuing* of things. We give more time, it seems, to really getting into things with more intention, planning and depth. It is a nice balance, I think, to the more casual *lazy hazy crazy* days of summer; both times with their benefits. As we look ahead to the opportunities that the coming days present, what might our parish be offering to those who are *hungry* for and ready to *pursue* the life and ways of Jesus? One of the things that I have been thinking a lot about is the missing presence of children and young people in our pews. In conversations with the other parishes of our Family of Parishes (BT, Ss. Columba-Brigid, St. Lawrence, St. Martin de Porres), it seems that Ss. Columba-Brigid is happily seeing more children in church these days. They think it is because grandparents or neighbors have taken up the task of bringing them to church. And the children seem to enjoy it. We all know that children love a good story... they're hungry for one after another! Our planned monthly Children's Bible Sunday could be an opportunity to see them at church.... to see our children wanting to be at Church! *All we need are a few volunteers, who are good with children, willing to tell our bible stories from the scriptures to children on a Sunday morning and make it fun with a bible activity or craft that reinforces the bible story.... maybe sing a song..... learn a prayer...*

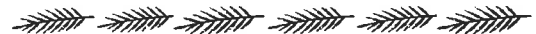
and, before you know it.... Bible Sunday for Children could be a Sunday favorite for kids. And, we will need family members to bring them to church, of course, with the permission of the parents of children. Any child can participate in our monthly Children's Bible Sunday, even (especially!) if they are not members of our parish.

What other avenues might we pursue.... Adult sessions for those interested in the Catholic faith or in being initiated into the Catholic Church.... Confirmation sessions for teens and adults.... A book club.... Faith sharing groups.... Other suggestions!!!

--Fr. Bob

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for August 14/15, 2021 was \$1,585.35 which includes Assumption \$485 and \$23 for fuel.



Saturday, August 28

Lector: Greg Gaglione

Sunday, August 29

Lector: Sr. Liz Savage

Eucharistic Minister Alice Davis

11am mass Friday, August 27 is cancelled.

The collection for the Retired Diocesan Priests' Medical Benefits Fund is this week.. Please give generously.

Liturgy Committee meeting scheduled for Sunday, August 22, after mass in St. Charles Hall.

HUD Senior apartments in Kenmore ~ Amenities and daily mass provided. For more information contact the rectory office (716)833-0301.

"Serving Blessed Trinity Parish" ~ The Parish Council at Blessed Trinity is an active group that assists the Pastoral staff in various and informal capacities. We provide input, help conduct and participate in church activities while supporting the mission of the parish. It is an interesting, enjoyable, and important role as we work together with our church community to be the beautiful congregation we are. At this time of year we invite interested parishioners who would like to join in. Meetings are conducted once per month September through June. If you are interested in serving and would like more information, please contact Colleen Schroeder (716)458-0186 or email cansschroederrn@gmail.com.



"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

For the third time, we sing these words as the Responsorial Psalm through the Bread of Life discourse, and they have landed on my heart during this pandemic. How many times has your life changed since February of 2020? How much loss have you endured? Even our Liturgy looks different as we are finally able to gather together to worship our Lord. When will we be able to hear our choir sing again?

Psalm 34 has been the Responsorial Psalm for the 19th, 20th and now 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - but each week captured a different portion of the text. This week's verses seem particularly poignant:

*I will bless the Lord at all times;
His praise shall be ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the Lord;
The lowly will hear me and be glad.*

*The Lord has eyes for the just,
And ears for their cry.
The Lord confronts the evildoers,
To destroy remembrance of them from the earth.*

*When the just cry out, the Lord hears them,
And from all their distress he rescues them.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
And those who are crushed in spirit he saves.*

*Many are the troubles of the just ones,
But out of them all the Lord delivers them;
He watches over all their bones;
Not one of them shall be broken.*

As we move into the fall, wondering what the next months in the pandemic will bring, let's remember that God hears us and stays close to us. As we anticipate the return of the Blessed Trinity Choir, let's remember the words of Saint Augustine - **"You should sing as wayfarers do - sing but continue on your journey. Do not grow tired, but sing with joy."** Here's to singing with joy as we taste and see the goodness of the Lord!

--Elizabeth Clay

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.

News from Family Promise of WNY ~ We have successfully housed the 4th family in less than a month. And collectively speaking, we are hitting some great outcomes!

~ We composed resumes with each family and **all 4 secured a new job.**

~ We connected 2 of the families to critical **mental health services.**

~ All 4 families were picked up by a **Rapid Rehousing program** which helps supplement rent for a year.

~ 5 of the children in these families participated in our pilot **summer camp program** and got to go on field trips to places like the Buffalo Zoo, Canalside and Explore and More Children's Museum.

~ 3 out of 4 of the families were **sponsored by a group** in our community to help secure apartment essentials and furniture for their new home.

~ Collectively, **10 donated bikes** were given to these families to take home with them.

~ I am so grateful to have this community behind our program

Thank you for helping our families find their way back home.

--Peace, Luanne Firestone, Executive director

Since September Blessed Trinity parishioners have purchased and delivered groceries on 18 days to the Family Promise shelter at Ss. Brigid-Columba Parish. We invite you help us continue this act of charity. You can choose the date best for you and hope you will join us. For more background information go to the website, www.fpwny.org or contact Amy Johnson (716)836-4694.



Barbara Shanahan Presents: Bible Basics

Who: Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, RCIA candidates, RCIA team members, Confirmation candidates and others interested in learning more about Jesus and how the Bible came to be "The Bible"

What: An **entry level** 90 minute discussion

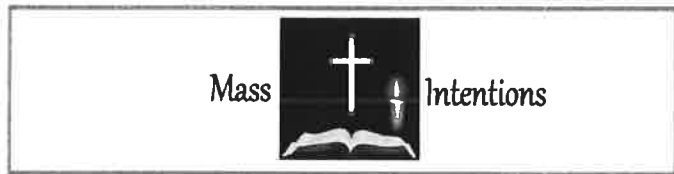
When: Tuesday, September 7, at 6:30pm

Where: St. Charles' Hall, 350 Dewey Avenue - the former school building at Blessed Trinity (317 Leroy).

Why: So that you will have a better understanding of just where the scriptures came from.

How: So that we will have adequate space Pre-Register by September 5, by contacting the Blessed Trinity Office at (716)833-0301 or Faith Formation at your own parish. Social distancing and safety precautions maintained. Handicap accessible.

**Weekend masses - livestream on Facebook;
recorded service available on YouTube
later in the day.**



Saturday, August 21 4:30 pm
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, August 22 10:00 am
Birthday remembrance for Elizabeth Dick
Family

Birthday remembrance for Marion Hartzell
Madonna Hartzell

Monday, August 23 11:00 am
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Tuesday, August 24 11:00 am
Repose of the Souls of Arthur and Lillian Hildman
Our Lady of Victory

Wednesday, August 25 11:00 am
Mother's Day Intention
Resurrection Church

No Mass -- Friday, August 27 -- 11:00 am

Saturday, August 28 4:30 pm
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, August 29 10:00 am
In memory of Sylvia Heicklen
Robert Heicklen

† 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.

REVIVAL 2021

"Families of Faith"

The African American Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo



Blessed Trinity parishioners are invited to join our diocesan-wide revival on behalf of the African American Commission. The forthcoming revival has been inspired by the Diocese Road to

Renewal, adopting the family of parishes model. Please join us as we have a day of family prayer and fun!

-Althea Porter

"Blessed are the families who strengthen one another, encourage compassion, desire to do good despite life's blows and setbacks, for they help bring about the Kingdom of God."

--Tom McGrath

Saturday, August 28th -- 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
St. Martin de Porres, 555 Northampton Street
Buffalo, NY

- 10:00 am** Gathering/Welcome by Fr. Peter Ekanem/
Presentation by Fr. Paul Williams
- 11:15 am** Mass/Presentation from Knights of Peter Claver/Ladies Auxiliary
- 12:30 pm** Lunch
- 1:30 pm** Questions/Comments with Fr. Paul Williams
- 2:20 pm** Multi-Cultural Performances
- 3:00 pm** Family Activities
 - Vendors
 - Rockin' Saints Bingo
 - Corn Hole
 - Face/Rock Painting
 - Crafts & More
- 4:00 pm** 50/50 Raffle
- 4:30 pm** Closing Prayer by Fr. Peter Ekanem



VANDERCHER & DICK
FUNERAL HOME

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Homer H. Dick, Jr., Blessed Trinity Trustee