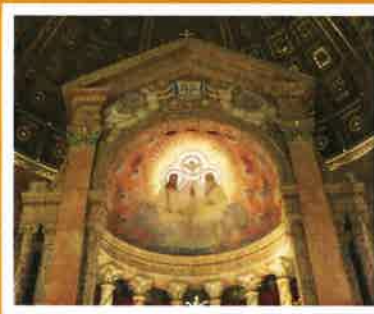


Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 5, 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 L. Gebhard, Jr.
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

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



ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 35:4-7a (128B)
Psalms Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
Second Reading James 2:1-5
Gospel Mark 7:31-37

Thanks to Fr. Christopher Onuoha for his generous willingness to cover for me. I will be back again Sunday, September 5!

--Fr. Bob

Monday is Labor Day and the perfect occasion to remember the tradesmen who built our church. In May, we were able to put a name and a face to one of them when Alan Machtel provided a photo of his grandfather, brickmason Francis Gajewski, standing in front of a window he was framing (to the right of the ambulatory, next to a downspout).



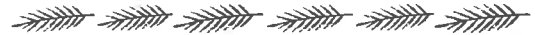
In 1976, former pastor Rev. Walter Kern interviewed another brickmason and neighborhood resident, 80-year-old Harry Barraclough. Mr. Barraclough recalled that it took him and Walter Burg approximately two years to set all the building's ornamental terra cotta, shipped here

by rail in numbered pieces from a plant in Crum Lynne, PA. This included the doorways, windows, columns, rose windows, and the entire front entrance! As you find inspiration in the beauty of our house of worship, give thanks for the work of their hands and those of the iron workers, carpenters, stonecutters, glaziers, tilers, plasters, painters, and electricians who labored with them.

"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 email cannschoederrn@gmail.com or (716)458-0186.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for August 28/29, 2021, was \$1,596.05 which includes Assumption \$10.



Saturday, September 11

Lector: John Curtin

Sunday, September 12

Lector: Maggie Gatson

Eucharistic Minister: Palma Zanghi



Save the date! We'll have a Coffee Hour following the 10 AM Mass on September 12 sponsored by both the Liturgy and Discipleship committees. You are invited to bring folding chairs for the coffee hour, which will be held outside, weather permitting.



Seminarian & Diaconate Formation Fund: This collection will be taken September 12. Please give generously.

Sodality Slow Roll – No, we're not asking women of the parish to bike to church, but at its August 11 board meeting, Sodality officers decided on a slow rollout of the 2021-22 season. We had hoped to draw up a schedule for a year's worth of programs and activities, but that seemed a little too ambitious given fluctuating COVID restrictions. So, here's what we've come up with: Capitalizing on interest in St. Frances Cabrini generated by the movie about her now shooting in Buffalo – including scenes being filmed in our church – we will make "Mother Cabrini" the topic of a group discussion at our October 3 meeting. Our November 7 meeting will feature a remembrance ceremony honoring our recently deceased members. We also intend to continue our Christmas project, counting on your generosity to provide our homebound parishioners and those in senior care facilities with a holiday remembrance. Only time will tell whether we can schedule a Christmas dinner party. Watch future bulletins for details on all of the above.



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



The Catholic Bishops of the United States have designated **September 9th as the Day of Prayer for Peace and September 21st is the International Day of Peace.** September is definitely the month to pray for peace, and music is both our prayer to God as well as a mechanism to show our love for him. St. Augustine once wrote that "in praise there is speaking forth of one confession; in singing, the affection of one loving." This has been shortened to the sentiment "to sing is to pray twice." This month, the music at Blessed Trinity will focus on singing for peace, and what better way to start than with this week's Offertory hymn, *There Is a Balm in Gilead*, a traditional African American spiritual.

The date of composition is unclear, but a version of the refrain can be found in Washington Glass's 1854 hymn "The Sinner's Cure," the first known appearance of this text in contemporary form. According to Wikipedia, the "balm in Gilead" is a reference from the Old Testament, but the lyrics of this spiritual refer to the New Testament concept of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Balm of Gilead is interpreted as a spiritual medicine that is able to heal Israel (and sinners in general). In the Old Testament, the balm of Gilead is taken most directly from Jeremiah chapter 8 v. 22: "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wounds of my [God's] people?" (Another allusion can also be found in Jeremiah chapter 46, v. 2 and 11: "This is the message (of the Lord) against the army of Pharaoh Neco ... Go up to Gilead and get balm, O Virgin Daughter of Egypt, but you multiply remedies in vain; here is no healing for you" - see also Jeremiah chapter 22, v. 6).

It is important to understand the words of the beautiful music we sing in church, and the text of this hymn is offered below to help you carry these words into your heart as you sing them. I encourage you to consider bringing your *Breaking Bread* to Mass so you can pray the words as we sing for peace.

*There is a balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead,
To heal the sin-sick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged,
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
Revives my soul again.*

*If you cannot preach like Peter,
If you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
And say He died for all.*

*Don't ever feel discouraged,
'Cause Jesus is your friend,
And if you lack for knowledge,
He'll not refuse to lend.*

Can we pray for peace through singing? Jesus is the balm - and "da bomb" - to help us find peace.

-- Elizabeth Clay



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops invites all parishes to pray on September 9th for an end of violence, prejudice, and peace in our neighborhoods. Please see insert.

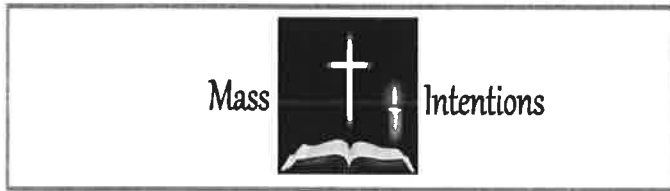
With the pandemic still stretching on, we know concerns and anxieties are still abundant. If you have been feeling overwhelmed, anxious or depressed, and think talking to someone could help, please turn to Catholic Charities! Our agency offers several types of counseling including: comprehensive assessment and counseling for children, adults and families, marriage counseling, substance use treatment, diocesan counseling for church ministers. To get connected, call our Helpline at 716-218-1419. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccnw.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

HELPING TIMON – Silent Fundraising Auction on September 10 by ZOOM 5-8pm. Gift baskets, dinner certificates, sports paraphernalia and much more? \$10 donation gets you in the room and bidding will be done via chat. Call 716-882-3360 or www.svdppwny.org for more information.



Reminder -- Bingo is back on Thursdays!
Doors open at 6:30pm and game starts at 8pm.

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



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

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

Sunday, September 5 10:00 am
Eternal joy for Randy and Rosanne Burgio
Bud and Mickey Dick



Monday, September 6 11:00 am
Repose of the souls of Arthur and Lillian Hildman
Our Lady of Victory

Tuesday, September 7 11:00 am
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Wednesday, September 8 11:00 am
Mother's Day Intention
Resurrection Church

Friday, September 10 11:00 am
Eternal Joy for John and Rita Curtin
Family

Saturday, September 11 4:30 pm
Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, September 12 10:00 am
Birthday remembrance for William Stiffler
Bud and Mickey Dick

† 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.



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



PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Let us pray . . .

O Lord our God, in your mercy and kindness, no thought of ours is left unnoticed, no desire or concern ignored.

You have proven that blessings abound when we fall on our knees in prayer, and so we turn to you in our hour of need.

Surrounded by violence and cries for justice, we hear your voice telling us what is required . . .
"Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Mi 6:8).

Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others.

Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may seek peace and justice in our communities.

Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy will.

Flood our path with your light as we walk humbly toward a future filled with encounter and unity.

Be with us, O Lord, in our efforts, for only by the prompting of your grace can we progress toward virtue.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Copyright © 2016, Therese Wilson-Favors. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Scripture quote taken from the *New American Bible, Revised Edition*, copyright © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Photo: CNS/Gregory A. Shemitz.