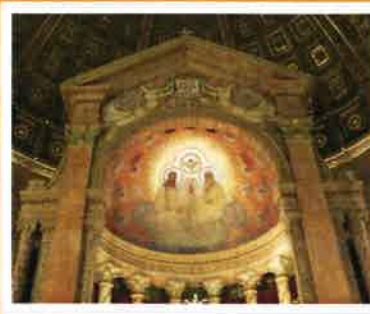


# Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## September 12, 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](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**

## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 50:40c-9a (131B)
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
<b>Second Reading</b>	James 2:14-18
<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 8:27-35



### Roll 'Em...! –

It has been a week of transformation! My return from vacation found me on the brink of the filming of the upcoming movie on the life of Mother Cabrini. Beginning at 4:45 am Tuesday morning (Yes, I had to get up to turn off our security system and unlock doors at that hour ... I did offer it up!), in less than 24 hours our Blessed Trinity campus saw 120 different people grace our church grounds – actresses, actors, work and technology crews of every kind you can imagine ... along with lifts, equipment, cars, trucks, tractor-trailers, caterers. Our lots were full with some having to park on our nearby streets. Filming took place inside the church and outside. John Lithgow even made an appearance! By Tuesday, 7:00 pm, everyone was gone, and there was a quieting return to normalcy ... only a small crew to return on Wednesday morning to spot clean our grounds and church and gather some remaining equipment.

I was amazed at the power of the human spirit and determination to transform! It gives me hope for the Church of Buffalo and our future. As Colleen Schroeder and Pat Dyer attended the special mass to formally begin our diocesan Road to Renewal while I was away, they bring back to our parish some of the basic tools to begin this transformation process in our diocese. Special thanks to them and to all who continue to pray the Church forward trusting the creative power of the Holy Spirit at work in us!

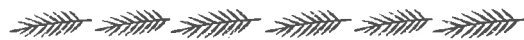
### Mother Cabrini Highlights

Mother Cabrini was born in 1890 in a small town near Milan, Italy and died in Chicago in 1917 in Chicago. Founding the Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mother Cabrini was sent to the United States by Pope Leo XIII to aid Italian immigrants who suffered from poverty and the challenges of inculturation of the times. She was relentless in establishing 67 institutions - schools, hospitals, and orphanages – throughout the world.

--Fr. Bob

## ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

**Blessed Trinity Stewardship** – The total offertory collection for September 4/5, 2021, was \$3,354 which includes Assumption \$10, Peter's Pence \$100, and \$300 for fuel.



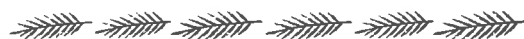
**Saturday, September 18**

**Lector:** Lorna Cameron

**Sunday, September 19**

**Lector:** Palma Zanghi

**Eucharistic Minister:** Toni Maus



**Mass is the highest and greatest form of prayer ~**  
Contact the office to request a Mass for yourself, your loved ones, or for any intention. The stipend is \$15.

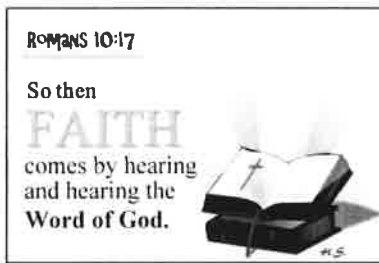
**A collection for the Seminarian & Diaconate Formation Fund** will be taken today. Please give generously to this cause.

**Sodality Trivia Challenge** – We hope that the choice of our church for filming of scenes in an upcoming movie has piqued your interest in Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917). Even if you have never heard of "Mother Cabrini," we challenge you to do a little research over the next three weeks. You can "Google" her name, check out one of at least 4 books about her available from your local library, or watch for articles about the movie in the *Buffalo News*. Then, come and share at least one thing you've learned about the first American citizen to be canonized as a saint at **the Cabrini Trivia Challenge on Sunday, October 3.**

**PARISH COUNCIL** ~ Preparations have begun for the new 2021–2022 Parish Council year. Our September meeting will be Wednesday, September 15, at 7pm in Saint Charles Hall. At this meeting officers will be elected for the new year. We look forward to resuming our monthly meetings as we serve our Blessed Trinity Parish community.

**You are invited to join the Diaconate Community** for evening prayer on Thursday, September 16, at 7pm in our church. Experience the beauty of the prayer of the Church, and there will be music by Elizabeth Clay. Evening prayer will be open to us at other churches throughout the diocese over the next several months.

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



# KNOW YOUR FAITH

***"I am the Lord, your God,  
you shall have no other gods before me."***

Our boys loved scouting - camping and hiking, freeze outs, fishing and canoeing, skiing (and a badly broken leg), father-son trips and badges. One of our sons is an Eagle Scout. But, when it came to middle school our boys transferred to a new troop. "Why?" their friends asked them. "Why?" their parents asked us. The answer was simple: our boys loved scouts and their troop met on the same night as their middle school religion class. And, God comes first.

If we keep this commandment and the knowledge that people are made in the image and likeness of God, we really shouldn't need any other commandments. "There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

*Please*, consult the Faith Formation page of our website for event dates.

***Faith Formation: Not Just for Kids Any More!***

Bishop Mike has asked us to look to Our Lady Undoer of Knots as we continue our journey to renewal. On August 29, Colleen Schroeder and I participated in the Mass for Renewal at Our Lady of Fatima shrine. There we prayed that we would be able to undo the knots that prevent us from moving forward. Those knots bind the Church as a whole, our diocese, our Family of Parishes, our parish, and each of us. Our Bishop asked us to explain these to you. At each door to the church, you will see a rope with five knots placed in it to remind us of how we are bound and the task ahead. **The knots are:**

**Number 1 ~ *The knot of abuse.*** Only time and consistently honorable behavior will loosen this knot. What can we do about this? It seems out of our hands, but is it? It will be important for us to not only pray for victims and perpetrators of abuse, but to also create safe environments in our parishes. Both our children and adults have been victimized. Due to the very nature of the Church, many people are vulnerable to instances of abuse. We must never ignore concerns expressed by others and never become complacent. If you, too, are concerned about this, consider taking the course on Protecting God's Children; thereby, enabling Blessed Trinity and our Family of Parishes to create safe environments for both our children and vulnerable adults.

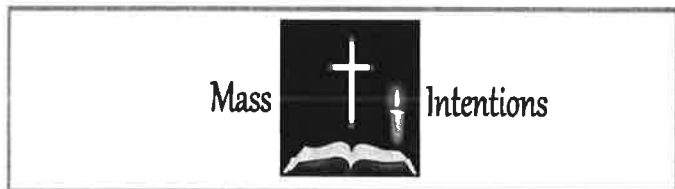
**Number 2 ~ *The knot of indifference.*** Sometimes we can have tunnel vision --- like a racehorse with blinders, we see only that which affects us directly. Recall the man who fell victim to robbers on the road to

Jericho. There are many like him today. Will we cross to the other side as the priest and Levite did? Or, will we, like the Samaritan, recognize his needs and expend our own resources to help another? "I know your works; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say, 'I am rich and affluent and have no need of anything,' and yet do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked." (Rev 3:15-17)

**Number 3 ~ *The knot of mistrust.*** It is very difficult to learn to trust another. Fr. Bob talked about this recently. Remember the "trust training" exercises and learning to swim? We trust our parents implicitly as infants, but it is our instinct to protect ourselves. People trusted the Church, but there was betrayal. Learning to trust again will be a difficult task. Jesus told this story: "It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one -- to each according to his skills. Then he went away. ... (T)he man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing (an) additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' (and so on) ... Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter,' so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.'" (Mt 25:14-30.) It will take much work within our Family of Parishes and within our parish to overcome the fear that we will be swallowed up by another and to recognize that we do have the ability to work together and to create a future for ourselves, our children, and our neighbors. Transparency and integrity will be essential. Each member of our Family of Parishes has resources -- people, time, talent, and treasure. Do we bury them? Or, do we invest them in ourselves, our neighbors and our Family of Parishes? The answer to this question will be the success or failure of our renewal journey.

**Number 4 ~ *The knot of faithlessness.*** Last year, I wrote about doing things without knowing why, because our parents did them. Are we going to Mass out of habit? Are we here for the sake of nostalgia? Because our families would be scandalized if we did not go to Mass? Or, do we go because we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah, to worship and to learn? In the book of Proverbs we hear; "**Trust in the LORD** with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." The difficulties within our Diocese have caused many to question or even lose their faith. This questioning or loss of faith does not demonstrate the faithfulness God has with us through his Son Jesus, and through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

*Cont'd on insert.....*



**50<sup>TH</sup>, 60<sup>TH</sup> AND 70<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES –**

**Couples who celebrate their Golden, Diamond and Platinum anniversaries**

of marriage are invited by Bishop Michael Fisher to a special Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral on Sunday, October 24, 2021, at 10:30am. Please contact the rectory office 716-833-0301 if you are interested in attending and renewing your marriage vows. Pictures and a brunch will follow the Mass.



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  
**Birthdays remembrance for William Stiffler**  
*Bud and Mickey Dick*

Monday, September 13 11:00 am  
**Repose of the souls of Arthur and Lillian Hildman**  
*Our Lady of Victory*

Tuesday, September 14 11:00 am  
**Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families**  
*Estate of Mary Reilly*

Wednesday, September 15 11:00 am  
**Birthdays remembrance for Mary Nutt**  
*Family*

Friday, September 17 11:00 am  
**Mother's Day Intention**  
*Resurrection Church*

Saturday, September 18 4:30 pm  
**Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families**  
*Estate of Mary Reilly*

Sunday, September 19 10:00 am  
**Alumni Memorial Mass**  
*Blessed Trinity School Alumni*

**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**

**Don't delay your goals!** If you're ready to earn your high school equivalency diploma or become career ready, contact Catholic Charities Department of Workforce and Education at 716-893-3500. Services offered for youths and adults in Erie and Niagara counties include tutoring, high school equivalency preparation instruction, basic skills upgrades, employment readiness preparation, post-secondary school education planning and more. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit [www.ccwny.org](http://www.ccwny.org). Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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

Bingo every Thursday – Doors open at 6:30 pm and game starts at 8 pm.

**† 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**

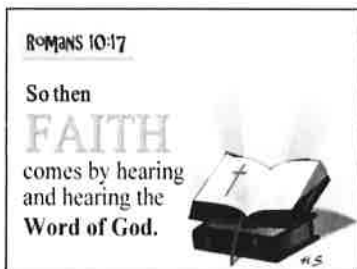
**"Over 100 years of service"**

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

**716-832-0150**

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



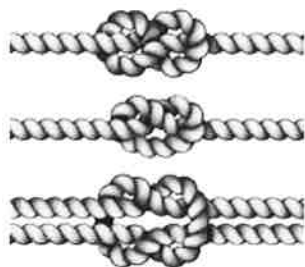


# KNOW YOUR FAITH

Cont'd from pg. 3...

God continues to work through all adversity. The Lord is always with us, and failing to acknowledge God's providence in all situations is a knot. "Faith, it is said, comes from God alone. But how can they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach? And how can people preach unless they are sent?" As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring [the] good news!" But not everyone has heeded the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what was heard from us?" Thus faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. (Romans: 10:14-17) (From the Knots Reflection August 29, 2021 Renewal Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine)

**Number 5 ~ The Knot of Isolation.** Often, I hear people say that "We don't do it that way here." Or, "I really don't care how the diocese wants it done." Do we look at new ideas? "In the Gospel of John we hear, 'May all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.' Our struggle with isolation from the COVID pandemic has caused much separation, anxiety, and stress. The disconnect from family, friends, and community has brought a strain upon relationships and understanding our common bond as human beings. The focus upon individualism and a postmodern culture has exacerbated the isolation that has been felt. The individualism of our culture has resulted in a failure to recognize our striving for the common good, and our connection to the human race. Our lack of recognizing all as part of the Body of Christ has become a knot in our church." (From the Knots Reflection August 29, 2021 Renewal Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine) We're not alone, but will we be willing to reach out?



Learn more about the Knots on our Diocesan website under Renewal and Renewal Mass at Fatima Shrine.

~~**Children's Liturgy** will continue to be held on the FIRST Sunday of every month during the 10AM Mass. This is our primary means of educating our children so it will be very important for them to be at Mass. If children are unable to be present for Mass, please see Fr. Bob or Pat Dyer.

~~**Confirmation classes** begin September 19 for anyone in grade 10 or above. Catholic adults, who have never been Confirmed, are encouraged to call also. Classes will be held at St. Martin de Porres church. I will be there to greet you and to make sure that you feel at home with the others who are journeying with you. Please see me or Fr. Bob to register.

~~**We will begin the process** of welcoming those interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith in September. If you are a non-Catholic worshipping with us on Sundays, these sessions are for you. The first Sunday session will be September 12. Our team works very hard to be ready for our discussions. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith is welcome to participate. Discussions will take place on Sunday mornings. Please see Fr. Bob or Pat Dyer for more information.

~~**We will again offer an adult scripture study** or other classes beginning in September. Please see the sign-up sheet at the entrances to let us know what topics interest you. Right now we are considering the Gospel of St. Luke or Letters of St. Paul. Several other offerings will be available through the Family of Parishes Faith Formation

~~**Our first Intergenerational Session** will be at St. Lawrence Parish on October 19. Please try to be there. All ages and a simple meal will be included. We want a good turnout when it is our turn in the spring.

~~**Adults Only: Wine and Cheese Movie Night and discussion. MUST be over 21.** No charge. Our first movie night will be 9/24 at 6:30 PM. I will be your host at Ss. Columba-Brigid. (They have a screen.) September's movie is Peanut Butter Falcon. Donations to cover costs are gratefully accepted.

### The Pope's Prayer Intentions for September: An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle.

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

-Pat Dyer