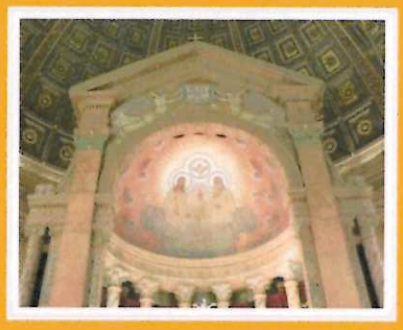
Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214

KNIGHT STUDIOS (J. EHRENS)



Third Sunday of Advent December 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
WEBSITE	blessedtrinitybuffalo.org
CENTRAL BUFFALO CLUSTER	catholicchurchesofbuffalo.com
CONFESSIONS	Saturday, 4pm
BIBLE STUDY	Every other Monday
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

Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading	Zephaniah 3:14-18a (9C)
Psalm	Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6
Second Reading	Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel	Luke 2:10-18

Gaudete Sunday – Joy to the World! Rejoice!

In the words of the prophet Zephania, "Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!... The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior." A call to JOY for all hearers! A time to recount the blessings of God in our midst offering love, healing, forgiveness, restoration.

"There was a time in the history of the liturgical calendar when Advent was seen primarily as a penitential season. Although this characteristic is not entirely set aside, the nature of Advent also allows for a less somber tone as a result of our understanding of the season, as a time having a certain feel of JOYFUL anticipation of the feast of Christ's birth."

(*Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2022*, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, Il, © 2021, p. 2)

Advent Faith-Sharing Reflections

Special thanks, this weekend, to ***Don Williams***, for his faith-sharing with us on finding God in a personal experience of JOY!,

Next Sunday – we look forward to **Bishop Michael Fisher** as our presider. His visit with us is simply pastoral, looking to meet the flock that he shepherds and offer us his care and support. A coffee & pastry reception will take place immediately following mass as an opportunity to say hello to our Bishop. *Calling all bakers.....Breakfast pastries/goodies are needed!*

PROJECT WELCOME! AFGHANI FAMILIES RELOCATE TO BUFFALO ~ Special thanks to all who have responded to the needs of Afghan families resettling to the City of Buffalo as our neighbors. Please continue to bring in your donations. A list of needed items can be found at the doors of the church or on the parish website. Gifts cards for Aldi's, Tops, Wegmans, etc. are deeply needed.

-Fr. Bob

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

At a Glance

Monday, December 13th, 6:30PM - ***Family of Parishes Area Advent Penance Service*, St. Lawrence Church, 1520 East Delavan.

Sunday, December 19th, 10:00AM - ***Mass with Bishop Michael Fisher* presiding, Blessed Trinity Church. Reception to follow.

Sunday, December 19th, 2:00PM - ***Advent Lessons & Carols*, Blessed Trinity Church.

Monday, December 20th, 6:30PM – ***Decorating* **the church for our Christmas celebrations, Blessed Trinity Church.

Christmas Masses.....

Christmas Eve – 9:30 pm Choral Prelude
10:00 pm Mass
Christmas Day – 10:00 am Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for December 4/5, 2021, was $2,639 which includes Christmas flowers $140, Immaculate Conception $5, Religious Retirement $73 and fuel $408.

Saturday, December 18
Lector: *Lorna Cameron*

Sunday, December 19
Lector: *Mary Kresse* & **Young Reader:** *Simon Kresse*
Eucharistic Minister: *Toni Maus*

Advent Service of Lessons and Carols – Next Sunday, December 19 at 2pm, The St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum will present *Lessons & Carols* here at Blessed Trinity. The service combines scripture readings and sung responses, taking you on a journey through time that begins in the Garden of Eden with the fall of man and leads to the coming of a Savior. The Schola – a small, "a cappella" choir dedicated to preserving, promoting, and performing sacred choral works – uses Blessed Trinity as their rehearsal space, and this service is their Christmas present to our congregation. Please plan to join them next Sunday afternoon for this beautiful service which has been celebrated for more than 100 years.

Sodality Christmas Gift Project – Thank you for your continued support of the Sodality's annual collection for homebound parishioners. Decisions will be made this week as to the number and value of gift cards we can distribute. If there was someone you wanted to suggest as a recipient, it is **essential** that you call the church secretary at 716-833-0301 on Monday.

Our opening hymn this Advent is Come, Emmanuel, which is composer Tony Alonso's take on the beautiful hymn *Veni, Veni Emmanuel*. The text was written by collaborator Gabe Huck. Each week offers three different verses with our choir repeating "Come, O come, Emmanuel before bursting into the refrain we all know so well. Father Bob suggested this new setting and I absolutely love it - it truly helps us prepare for the coming of our Savior.

A Cuban-American Roman Catholic, Tony Alonso's compositions embrace multicultural musical expressions and reflect a commitment to strong ritual song. His music appears in compilations and hymnals across Christian denominations throughout the world. Tony's Mass of Joy and Peace is one of the most widely sung Mass settings in the United States - in fact, we will sing it again at Blessed Trinity beginning in January 2022. In 2015, his compositional work was recognized with an invitation to compose the responsorial psalm for the first Mass Pope Francis celebrated in the United States. In 2020, he was nominated for a Latin Grammy for his groundbreaking album *Caminemos con Jesús*.

Gabe Huck, a prolific author, was Director of Liturgy Training Publications from 1977 until 2001. Since then he and his wife, Theresa Kubasak, founded and continue to work with the Iraqi and Syrian Student Project. His text is offered below for you to pray during the weeks to come as we wait, together.

Come, Emmanuel

Week 1: You are Wisdom, from the mouth of God. You are Wisdom, playing before God. You are Wisdom, wond'rous word of God. You are Wisdom, loving friend to God.

You are Wisdom, mother to us all. You are Wisdom, truth told to us all. You are Wisdom, promise to us all. You are Wisdom, banquet set for all.

You are Wisdom, straight our paths to you. You are Wisdom, hearts on high to you. You are Wisdom, here we watch for you. You are Wisdom, open arms to you.

Week 2: Holy God, burning bush, now hear. Holy God, Moses' courage hear. Holy, God, Miriam's song, now hear. Holy God, freeing captives, hear.

Holy God, prophets ever long. Holy God, exiles waiting long. Holy God, all in prison long. Holy God, Holy God, how long?

Holy God, swords to plows shall be. Holy God, greed to grace shall be. Holy God, strife to peace shall be. Holy God, earth made whole shall be.

Week 3: You are Dawn, beauty loved in night. You are Dawn, lovely as the night. You are Dawn, dreams from deepest night. You are Dawn, scatter fears of night.

You are Dawn, morning stars shall sing. You are Dawn, birds awake and sing. You are Dawn, rising sun shall sing. You are Dawn, Sun of Justice, sing.

You are Dawn, wake us now to see. You are Dawn, earth and sky and sea. You are Dawn, all creation, see. You are Dawn, blest be all we see,

Week 4: O Beloved, all creating God. O Beloved, grieving for us God. O Beloved, come to court us, God. O Beloved, wed to us, O God.

O Beloved, word made flesh, we cry. O Beloved, dwell with us, we cry. O Beloved, full of grace, we cry. O Beloved, grace on grace we cry.

O Beloved, hear us night and day. O Beloved, seek us night and day. O Beloved, hide us night and day. O Beloved, wake us night and day.

Come, O Come, Emmanuel! Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

-Elizabeth Clay

The Coffee Has Arrived! We have received delivery of our famous Blessed Trinity Blend coffee available in Regular 12oz. bag, Decaf (Columbian) 12oz bag, Reg K-Cups 12 cnt. and Decaf (Columbian) K-Cups 12 cnt. at $10 each. While supplies late, purchase your pleasure following Sunday Mass with Cathy Cummings or call her 716-400-7383. Consider a purchase today as a Christmas gift for those coffee drinkers of discerning taste, while helping finance costs for painting our church trim.

ADVENT SHARING ~ GIVING TREE

"When I was hungry you gave me to eat.... What you did for the least of my people, that you did unto me."
Matt. 25: 35, 40

Our 2021 Giving Tree will help provide nourishment to very needy children at a mission in Timau, Kenya, begun by the Sisters of St. Francis (Williamsville). All donations will go toward milk and porridge. The milk to make the porridge comes from local cows, thus avoiding use of possibly contaminated water.

To help our young brothers and sisters through the *MILK AND PORRIDGE* and *FOLLOW THE CHILDREN PROGRAM* at the mission:

- **Take** an envelope from the Giving Tree (near ramp exit)
- **Put** in the CASH VALUE of the food item(s) marked on the envelope. For checks, make payable to Blessed Trinity Church, with Giving Tree on memo line
- **Return** the envelope in the collection basket by December 25th

Thank you for helping to feed some of the least of God's people!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 11 @ **4:30 pm**
† In memory of Clara Then and Lucille Venezia
Family

Sunday, December 12 @ **10:00 am**
† In memory of Marion Hartzell
Madonna Hartzell

† Eternal joy for Sr. Bea Leising, OSF
John E. Curtin

Monday, December 13 @ **11:00 am**
† In memory of Dorothy Prystawski
John E. Curtin

Tuesday, December 14 @ **11:00 am**
† In memory of Yvonne Andrew
Amy Johnson

Wednesday, December 15 **@ 11:00 am**
† Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

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

Saturday, December 18 @ **4:30 pm**
† In memory of Ruth Graesser
Dan Graesser

Sunday, December 19 @ **10:00 am**
† Eternal joy for Mary Kirby
Madonna Hartzell

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

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for Adam and Apolonia Glowacki by Barbara Sercu

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

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. Stipend is $15.

It's that time again! **365 of Fr. Roy Herberger's collection of International Nativity Sets from 59 countries** will be on display at the Fatima Shrine, 1023 Swann Rd., Youngstown during their Festival of Lights. You may visit from 5-9 PM on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until January 2 (with the exception of December 24-25 and December 31). If you have any questions, please call Father Roy at 716-852-2076.

This week in our Family of Parishes December 13-19

Monday: 12/13
Bi-Lingual Rosary (Spanish/English) via Zoom
Click the link on *CB* website
https://www.sscolumbabrigid.org/
Family of Parishes Reconciliation Service 6:30 PM *STL*
Wednesday: 12/15
Food Pantry 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM *BT*
BINGO 12:30 PM *STL Doors open 11 AM*
Thursday: 12/16
Food Pantry 9 AM – noon *STL*
BINGO 8 PM *BT* Doors open 6:30 PM
Friday: 12/17
Food Pantry 10 AM – noon *STL*
Saturday: 12/19
Lessons in Carols 2 PM *BT*

Looking ahead: Virtual New Year's Eve Party and Auction SMdP Tickets $25. Contact SMdP parish to buy a ticket and receive instructions on how to get into the party.

*BT – Blessed Trinity; CB – Columba-Brigid;
STL – St. Lawrence; SMdP – St. Martin de Porres

Remember in our prayers all who are sick, *especially parishioners…* Sr. Ann Helene, Naoma Allen, Thomas Andrew, Bernice Bradley, Anthony Hartmann, Patricia Hartinger, 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