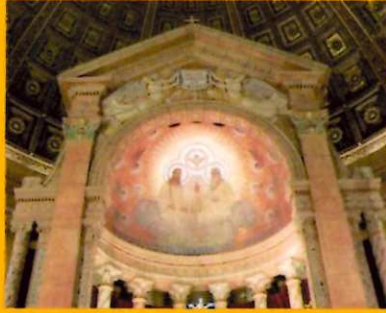


Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 20, 2022

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

Mr. Phil Van Dette
Bookkeeper

Ms. Barbara Sercu
Secretary



RECTORY	Phone: 716-833-0301 Fax: 716-834-4711
EMAIL	blessedtrinitychurch@gmail.com
WEBSITE	blessedtrinitybuffalo.org
CENTRAL BFLO. CLUSTER	catholicchurchesofbuffalo.com
CONFESSIONS	Saturday 4pm
BIBLE STUDY	Every Tuesday 4pm via Zoom
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
FAMILY OF PARISHES	Ss. Columba-Brigid, St. Martin de Porres, St. Lawrence, Blessed Trinity

Catholic Central Food Pantry - 350 Dewey Avenue

Every Wednesday 9:30am - 1:30pm

716-800-1075



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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

First Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3 (162C)
Psalm Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5
Second Reading Colossians 1:12-20
Gospel Luke 23:35-43

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe!

Our celebration of the Feast of Christ the King brings our liturgical year to an end. Like New Year's Eve, this day has us gathering all that "has been and is" together with eyes and hearts pointed to the future New Year of faith and grace. "The culmination of the liturgical year, coinciding with Thanksgiving, moves us from simply celebrating harvest, with a patriotic and Eucharistic thanksgiving, to the harvest of souls with Christ as Our Lord and King. The liturgical year is crowned with this beautiful feast that lifts us from a focus on nature and country to a future that is universal and cosmic, with our recognized saints and our departed friends and families gathered together celebrating the heavenly banquet." (pg. 230) [This feast day celebrates] "the universal kingship of Jesus Christ. The truth of Jesus is the basis on which we can build to transform the world, so it more closely mirrors God's Kingdom of love and justice here and now." (pg. 398)

Sourcebook for Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2022, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, IL, © 2021, pp. 230, 398

Family Thanksgiving Mass – This Coming



Wednesday Evening!

Our Family of Parishes is invited to a Thanksgiving Eve Mass on Nov. 23 at 6 PM at St. Lawrence Church. Please bring non-perishable food donations (peanut butter, tuna, canned fruits/vegetables,

soup) for our three food pantries within our Family of Parishes, which will be part of our Offertory Procession. Interested choir members from all our parishes are invited to a rehearsal in Church at 5:00 PM with Glenn Hufnagel and Linda Appleby. After Mass, please take home a Prayer Card and a loaf of bread from our cornucopia as our Family of Parishes gift to your family for Thanksgiving!



Our annual Advent Penance Service will take place here at Blessed Trinity on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, 7:00pm. Please mark your calendars now for this grace-filled opportunity to prepare for Christmas by celebrating God's reconciling and healing presence in our lives.



ALPHA - Alpha Gatherings are on Tuesday evenings, through December 13, 5:30 – 7:30PM, at St. Lawrence. If you would like more information on the Alpha program, please investigate at www.alphause.org/about/

-Fr. Bob

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for Nov. 12/13, 2022, was \$3,183 including Christmas flowers \$100, Thanksgiving \$55 and fuel \$90.

Saturday, November 26th

Lector: Jack Curtin

Sunday, November 27th

Lector: Maggie Gatson

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Kresse

Any choir member planning to sing with other members of our Family of Parishes at the November 23 Thanksgiving Mass should plan to arrive as close to 5 PM as possible.

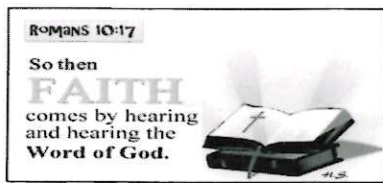
THERE WILL BE NO 11 AM MASS MONDAY, NOV. 18 & TUESDAY, NOV. 19

BINGO IS CANCELED ON THANKSGIVING

Our special collection this weekend will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development will support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the county. In addition, 25% of fund collected remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please give generously for those working on the margins.

Please bring donations for the food pantries of our Family of Parishes to our 6PM Thanksgiving Mass, Nov. 23, at STL.

Remembering our Homebound – For the past eleven years, the Ladies Sodality has been sponsoring a Christmas gift project for homebound parishioners. As we have since 2020, we will be providing grocery store gift cards. Last year your generosity enabled us to present \$50 gift cards to 15 people. We hope that you are in a position to support us once again. Please place your monetary donation in an envelope marked "Sodality Project" and drop it in the collection basket **between now and Sunday, December 11**. Checks payable to: *Ladies Sodality of Blessed Trinity* may also be mailed to Mickey Dick, 2549 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214. For anyone in a senior care facility, we will arrange to have a Mass offered for his/her special intentions. Please let the church secretary know of any parishioners you believe should be included.



KNOW YOUR FAITH

THE HEALER

You've heard many names for Jesus. This weekend we celebrate Jesus, King of the Universe. In the last week of Advent, we hear Jesus called various names - Wisdom, Lord, Root of Jesse, etc. He was known as a wonderworker and healer. Indeed, his healing got him into some trouble with the elders. The apostles, too, were known for their healing powers. The bodily healings in scripture have at least three purposes: to illustrate the power of God, to show the legitimacy of Jesus as the Son of God, and to represent the healing of the soul.

The rites of sacraments can take on different appearances. For example, baptisms can occur, in emergency situations, anywhere and anyone can perform them as extraordinary ministers. Planned baptisms, performed by priests or deacons, of babies and children can occur with just the family present, in larger groups of several to be baptized, and as single or group baptisms at Mass. Adults may be baptized as part of the rites of initiation which include baptism, confirmation, and Holy Communion.

Blessing of the sick is an ancient custom of the Church dating to Christ himself. We are less familiar with the different rituals for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. "Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. The sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage, and his or her suffering is united with the suffering of Christ for the building up of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC], nos. 1520-23)." It was once a sacrament that one expected when in danger of death and thus was known as "Last Rites" and "Extreme Unction." When I was a young nurse in a largely Catholic community, we had cards in a desk set that had information about our patients that gave us a quick summary - name, date of birth, room number, diagnosis, diet, lab orders due, etc. For all of the Catholic patients, there was a note if the patient had received "Last Rites." My parents and grandparents had a 'sick-room' crucifix that opened up to hold candles and holy water. Our understanding, of the sacrament, has now grown to the fullness intended in scripture: "In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin - and sometimes even from physical ailment. His cures were signs of the arrival of the Kingdom of God. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising." (USCCB)

At its most basic level, healing services that are not sacramental can be led by lay individuals with prayers for God's intervention and healing. Sacramentally there are three forms that the sacrament commonly takes. The presider is always a priest. The first is a sacramental healing service, which may be held as part of a Mass, but that is not required. The service will have prayers for healing and a homily. Those in attendance may present themselves to be anointed by the priest presiding or assisting. They may pray for general healing from illness, chronic problems, emotional well-being, sin, etc. These services do not require that the person seeking healing be seriously ill or in danger of death or even be a Catholic. Anointing is always done with the oil of the sick, consecrated by the local bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week and presented on Holy Thursday. The anointing leads to the forgiveness of sins, though serious sins must be confessed as soon as possible.

During my mother's seven-year battle with cancer, she was anointed several times - before her surgeries, during communal anointing, and when she was nearing death. During individual private anointings there is an opportunity for confession and Holy Communion. The rite would thus contain three sacraments: reconciliation, viaticum - i.e.

Holy Communion (sometimes called "Food for the Journey",) and anointing. A few years ago, my brother suffered a sudden and catastrophic heart attack. A priest was called to the emergency room and again the afternoon that the breathing machine was removed. The priest anoints with sacred oil, prays for the person, hears confession if the person is conscious and able, gives absolution (even if not conscious,) and, if the person is able, gives Communion (under either form.)

"The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient." (USCCB) It has become a fairly common practice to offer regular Anointing in parishes on a communal basis. These sacramental celebrations are a "source of strength amid pain and weakness, hope amid despair" and a "joyful encounter" for the entire community (Christifideles Laici, No. 54). At Blessed Trinity, regular anointings will return in January. Individuals with serious illnesses, anticipating surgery, medically vulnerable, and the elderly are invited to participate in the sacrament. You can find more information about the sacrament of anointing at church entrances. Private anointings can be arranged when needed by contacting Fr. Bob or the rectory.

-Pat Dyer

COCOA CHALLENGE 2022 ~ Did you notice? Instant hot chocolate packets are filling up the back pew. With your generous donations of money and cocoa, **we are over halfway to our goal of 2,600 packets** by December 4. Thank you! Your donations for the Prisoner Christmas Gift Project are needed, so put it on your "to



do" list today! Unable to shop? Inconvenient? Put your donation in an envelope marked "Prisoner Gifts" and drop it into the weekend collection basket.

Alpha and Blessed Trinity will need a couple of people to help prepare 3 meals over the next 3 months. Contact Pat Dyer or Fr. Bob if you can help.



Penance Service: Both St. Matthew and St. Paul remind us of the need for repentance. Join us for an Advent Penance Service on Wednesday, November 30 at 7 PM at Blessed Trinity. Start your journey to Christmas well.

Tradition has it that on Christmas Eve the shepherds in southern France would sing to each other from their respective hilltops. Discover the answer at our Parish event: *Do You Hear What I Hear?* Sunday, December 4, 2-4 PM at Blessed Trinity, free admission, take-homes, bring your friends. Come and listen with new ears to the sounds and symbols of Christmas. This event is sponsored by your Family of Parishes. Presenters from all four parishes.

Our first group session for children in grades Pre-K to Grade 8 will be held at 5 PM on December 8 at Ss. Columba-Brigid church. If you are unable to attend our Holy Day Mass on December 7, you are welcome to attend at Mass Ss. Columba-Brigid immediately following the class.

Looking for a child-friendly Mass for Christmas Eve? Consider attending Ss. Columba-Brigid at 6 PM December 24. They are part of our Family of Parishes and offer a Mass featuring las posadas - the journey of Mary and Joseph in search of a place to stay.

Mass



Intentions

Saturday, November 19

4:30 pm

† In memory of Shirley A. Parks
John E. Curtin

Sunday, November 20

10:00 am

† In memory of Margaret and Robert Schimpf
Bud and Mickey Dick
† In memory of Edward F. Schroeder
Colleen Schroeder

Monday, November 21 – NO 11:00 AM MASS

Tuesday, November 22 – NO 11:00 AM MASS

Wednesday, November 23 – NO 11:00 AM MASS

6 PM THANKSGIVING MASS @ ST. LAWRENCE



Friday, November 25

11:00 am

† All Souls
Blessed Trinity Parish

Saturday, November 26

4:30 pm

† In memory of Bernadette Dorscheimer
Family
† In memory of Lucille Venezia and Clara Then
Family

Sunday, November 27

10:00 am

† In memory of Barbara Strusienski
Your prayer partner
† In memory of Robert J. Kresse
His wife, Mary, and their children

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

Remember in our prayers all who are sick especially parishioners

Sr. Ann Helene, Naoma Allen, Bernice Bradley,
Lorna Cameron, Jerry Gallisdorfer, Anthony
Hartmann, Patricia Hartinger, Madonna Hartzell,
Sionen Laciura, Marilyn Lang, Edward Marien,
Shirley Parks, Fr. George Reger, Mary Ellen Roach,
Janeva Tabb, Freddie White, Philip Woods and
Pedro Zola.



**The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for
Desmond Gunning by Luis Clay.**



If you are interested in memorializing a loved one or
special occasion, 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. The stipend is \$15.

This week in our Family of Parishes

November 21–27, 2022

View our entire schedule on the Family of Parishes Calendar
on our website

Monday: November 21

10 – 11:30 AM Food Pantry **STL**
7 PM Bi-lingual Rosary (Spanish/English) via Zoom – click
the link on **CB** website

Tuesday: November 22

4 PM Gospel of Luke via Zoom – **CANCELED TODAY**
5:30 PM Alpha **STL**

Wednesday: November 23

9:30 AM—1:30 PM Food Pantry **BT**
12:30 PM BINGO **STL** Doors open 11 AM
4:15 PM Rosary in church **BT** – **CANCELED THIS WEEK**
6 PM THANKSGIVING MASS **STL**

Thursday: November 24

10—11:30 AM Food Pantry **SLVMI**
8 PM BINGO **BT** – **CANCELED THIS WEEK**

Friday: November 25

10 AM—Noon Food Pantry **SLVMI** – **CLOSED TODAY**



Alpha Tuesdays 5:30 PM **STL** thru Dec. 13
Nov. 30: 7 PM Advent Penance Service @ **BT**
Dec. 4: 2 PM "Do you hear what I hear?" Christmas
program @ **BT**
Dec. 8: 5 PM Group meeting grades Pre-K-8 @ **CB**
Dec. 9: Prison Package Project @ **BT**

Our regular weekday Mass schedule

BT Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11 AM - **STL** Wednesday
6 PM - **SMDP** Monday through Friday Noon

Our weekend Mass schedule

BT Saturdays 4:30PM & Sundays 10AM - **CB** Saturdays 4PM &
Sundays 9AM (Spanish) & 11AM, Last Sunday of the month: Bi-
Lingual 10AM - **SMDP** Sundays 8AM & 9:30AM - **STL** Saturdays
4:30PM & 10PM & Sundays Noon

BT – Blessed Trinity; **CB** – Columba-Brigid; **STL** – St. Lawrence;
SMDP – St. Martin de Porres; **SLVMI** – St. Lawrence Vineyard Ministries Inc;
FP – Family Promise

***BT Weekend masses – livestream
temporarily suspended.***

VANDERCHER & DICK FUNERAL HOME

**2549 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14214
716-832-0150**

Homer H. Dick, Jr., Blessed Trinity Trustee

“We are salt and light: anointing of the sick: joined to christ, witnesses of hope and healing”

Anointing of Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ. The sick person receives the Holy Spirit’s gifts of strength, faith, peace, and courage, and his or her suffering is united with the suffering of Christ for the building up of the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC], nos. 1520-23).

Through the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, the Church carries out Jesus’ mission of compassion and healing for the sick. The one who is ill can also be a minister to others. By uniting their suffering to Christ, those who are sick can be signs of faith and witnesses of Christ’s Resurrection to the entire community (Pope John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici* [*The Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World*], no. 54).

A COMMUNAL CELEBRATION

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is both “a liturgical and a communal celebration.” In the family home, hospital, or church, members of the Body of Christ gather for the sacramental rite led by a priest. The Penitential Rite followed by the Liturgy of the Word and sacramental anointing of the sick can inspire and comfort both those who are ill and their family and friends who are gathered (CCC, nos. 1517-18). Many parishes have communal celebrations at which many persons receive the sacrament. These sacramental celebrations are a “source of strength amid pain and weakness, hope amid despair” and a “joyful encounter” for the entire community (*Christifideles Laici*, no. 54).

CONNECTION TO THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

Anointing with sacred oil is a sign of blessing by the Holy Spirit of the one who is sick. Oil of the Sick, which receives a different blessing from the Chrism oil used during Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders, recalls the community’s sharing of the Holy Spirit and the sick person’s connection to the entire Body of Christ and Communion of Saints.

IMITATION OF CHRIST'S COMPASSION

In the Gospels, Christ's great compassion toward the sick is expressed in the miraculous healings he performs, which heal the entire person, both body and soul. Parables such as the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:29-37) and the Judgment of the Nations (Mt 25:31-46) urge Christ's followers to share his ministry of compassion and healing and to imitate his "preferential love for the sick" and all who suffer (CCC, nos. 1503, 1506; Pope Benedict XVI, *Sacramentum Caritatis* [*Sacrament of Charity*], no. 22).

SOLIDARITY WITH ALL WHO SUFFER

We care for the sick because we see them as children of God and part of our human family. When one part of the Body of Christ suffers, we all suffer (1 Cor 12:26). The suffering of one impacts everyone. Thus, we are called to solidarity, which is responsibility on the part of everyone with regard to everyone (Pope John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* [*On Social Concern*], no. 38; Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate* [*Charity in Truth*], no. 38).

By our compassion, we remind those who are sick that "[the Church] shares your suffering. She takes it to the Lord, who in turn associates you with his redeeming Passion" (Synod of Bishops, *Per Concilii Semitas ad Populum Dei Nuntius*, no. 12). We are called to comfort, pray for and with, and be in solidarity with all who are sick or suffering.

Caring for those who suffer is not a burden, but a gift. Those who care for the sick do holy and important work; they walk with Christ's suffering people and in doing so, serve Christ himself (Mt 25:31-46). Those who minister to the sick and who work to secure decent health care for all become "the living sign of Jesus Christ and his Church in showing love towards the sick and suffering" (Christifideles Laici, no. 53).

UNION WITH CHRIST'S PASSION

While it is possible that the sacrament could bring physical healing, Anointing of the Sick is primarily about the healing of hope and of the spirit. Above all, the sacrament allows the person who is ill to unite more closely to Christ's Passion. This gives suffering a new meaning: a participation in the saving work of Jesus. This is a powerful witness that is for the good of the whole Church (CCC, nos. 1521-22).

BEACONS OF HOPE

Pope John Paul II wrote, “Even the sick are sent forth as laborers into the Lord’s vineyard” (*Christifideles Laici*, no. 53). As the sick unite their sufferings to those of Christ, they become bearers of the joy of the Holy Spirit in the midst of affliction and witnesses of Christ’s Resurrection. Anointing of the Sick testifies to the fact that all are called to participate in the redemption of the world (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, no. 22). We *all* have a role in sanctifying and building up the Church, whatever our physical condition. As the Synod of Bishops told an audience of sick and suffering persons, “We need you to teach the whole world what love is” (*Per Concilii Semitas ad Populum Dei Nuntius*, no. 12).

A WITNESS TO DIGNITY

The sacrament reminds us that each person is made in the image of God and has dignity that remains unchanged, whatever the body suffers. The ministry of those who are sick is a powerful witness to the fact that human dignity is intrinsic and does not increase or decrease based on a person’s physical state or abilities. This is why the Church works to protect the life and dignity of the person at every stage of life—the embryo, the person suffering from AIDS, the family in poverty, and the person nearing death—and why she works to secure access to decent health care for all.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

For those who are ill: Pope Paul VI, at the closing of the Second Vatican Council said:

All of you who feel heavily the weight of the cross . . . you the unknown victims of suffering, take courage. You are the preferred children of the kingdom of God, the kingdom of hope, happiness and life. You are the brothers of the suffering Christ, and with Him, if you wish, you are saving the world. (Address to the poor, the sick, and the suffering)

What role do you play in ministering to the People of God?

For those who are healthy: Pope Benedict XVI noted:

Following [Christ’s] example, every Christian is called to relive, in different and ever new contexts, the Parable of the Good Samaritan who, passing by a man whom

robbers had left half-dead by the roadside, "saw him and had compassion." (2010 Message for the World Day of the Sick)

How are you called to follow Christ's example?

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