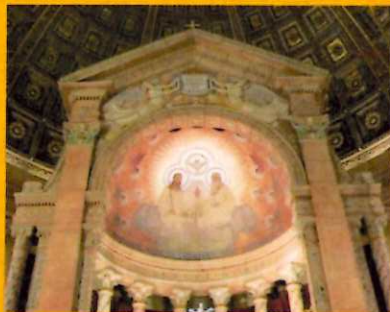


# Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 15, 2023

*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](mailto:blessedtrinitychurch@gmail.com)  
WEBSITE [blessedtrinitybuffalo.org](http://blessedtrinitybuffalo.org)  
CENTRAL BFLO. CLUSTER [catholicchurchesofbuffalo.com](http://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

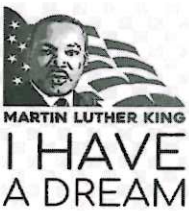


## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 (64A)  
**Psalms** Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10  
**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:1-3  
**Gospel** John 1:29-34

### Mission Impossible

As we hear the words of Isaiah the Prophet this weekend, it is a good reminder that ALL baptized individuals, like Isaiah, are "formed from the womb" to be God's servants. "We are made glorious in the sight of the Lord!" "Glorious servants (!)" indicates to me that, in being formed by God, we are made to shine with the light of God's grace and mercy. Beacons, we should understand that our MISSION is to cast light and draw others to The Light! Any serious mission can seem daunting and sometimes impossible, but then we encounter servants like Martin Luther King, who we celebrate in a special way this Monday, who forged a seeming impossible way into racial equality and justice. We see what is possible when we convict ourselves with the words of Isaiah the Prophet, "God is now my



strength." Though we have a way to go on the road to racial justice, I am personally so proud of the strides that the churches of our newly forming Family of Parishes continue to make in coming together as ONE in celebration of our faith, diversity and richness in our peoples! I am always inspired by the song *Shed A Little Light*, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsKTzFwvI6w>). I know it's not easy to copy a link into your computer browser but I encourage you to take the time to do so in honor of Martin Luther King and our willingness to continue the mission. I hope the song will inspire you, as it does me, to walk with God, and heroes & heroines like Dr. King, and make the impossible POSSIBLE. To use the words of the song, *let us turn our thoughts today to the God who makes all things possible.* (Mt.19:26)

### Christmas Lingers

For me, crazy as this Christmas was in being **stormed** into celebrating the day in very different ways than ever before, hopefully we all found the quieting of what is usual on this day an opportunity to really be touched by the heart of the Mystery of the Word Made Flesh. I found that, free of "the usual" (as much as that is a blessing too), I was afforded a deeper consideration and appreciation of the story of my faith and those who journey with me into our STORY. I had more time to appreciate the many gifts of these days with a deeper gratitude.... for those who sent cards & offered greetings, called me to check on me at the rectory, offered Christmas cookies and treats, opened their

treasure chests with gifts of support for our parish, gathered for the annual transformation of our Church announcing Christmas in poinsettias, trees, lights, ornaments, & Creche extraordinaire, spent time cleaning, lifted choir voices, served/ministered, proclaimed, greeted... Though the Christmas season was very short this year, in the time we were together, post-Christmas day, the air was filled with the joy of the One Born for US.... Many thanks to all for in you Christmas Lingers still!

-Fr. Bob

### ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

**Blessed Trinity Stewardship** – The total offertory collection for January 7/8, 2023, was \$3,171 including Religious Retirement \$30, Christmas \$100, Christmas flowers \$10, Catholic Relief \$5 and fuel \$173.

#### Saturday, January 21st

Lector: Jack Curtin

#### Sunday, January 22nd

Lector: Palma Zanghi

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Marien

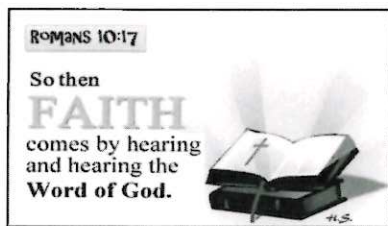
**UPDATE:** *The Rosary* will be now prayed on Fridays at 11:30 after the 11:00 Mass. Please join us if you can.

*A Coffee Hour is planned* for Sunday, January 22 following the 10 AM Mass. If you would like to bring cookies or breakfast treats, please see Colleen Schroeder, Bob Heicklen, or Pat Dyer.

**RESPECT LIFE NEWS** ~ Hundreds of thousands of people from around the country including our Diocese of Buffalo will travel to Washington D.C. for January 19-20 to pray together for an end to abortion and greater respect for human life at the National Prayer Vigil for Life. The opening Mass of the Prayer Vigil for Life can be viewed live on Thursday, January 19 at 5 PM (EST). Visit: [uscgb.org/national-prayer-events-for-life](https://uscgb.org/national-prayer-events-for-life). It will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. *You are invited to join with others from around the country to pray the 9-day Novena for the protection of human life. It is available online at [www.9daysforlife.com/](https://www.9daysforlife.com/)*

*You are cordially invited to the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Racial Healing Prayer Service* on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 7 PM ET. The National Day of Racial Healing has been celebrated every year, the Tuesday following the national observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day since January 17 of 2017. This is the day to reflect on people coming together in their common humanity and inspiring collective action to heal from the effects of racism. St. Martin de Porres's ministry **#Onebody** will be sponsoring a virtual prayer service in observance of the 7th Annual Day of Racial Healing. **Rev. Joseph Rogliano, administrator**, will be rendering a reflection on racial healing. The event is Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 7-8:30 PM. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88273213678/> Meeting ID: 882 7321 3678.





## KNOW YOUR FAITH

### *What's on your list?*

I make lists. I put things on lists I have already finished so I can cross them off. (It is a psychological trick that helps me deal with having a lot to do.) My family thinks that it is funny. I like a plan - a pathway and a goal. I want to know where I am going. As usual, I made many lists around the holidays, and, as the wind howled outside, I crossed off one plan after another. Until, very early on Christmas morning, with nearly all of my carefully laid plans blown away, I looked out the window at the peaceful stillness all around us. "Be still and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:10) It was as clear as the bells of Christmas 1863, that reminded the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The Wrong shall fail, The Right prevail, With peace on earth, good-will to men." (Wikipedia)

Pope Francis has a list, too. His list is a "New Year's Resolution" list. If I were to summarize this list, it might be said that we should live life on purpose. Life on Purpose is the theme for Part One of our Confirmation program, but its lessons apply to all of us.

Let's take a look at what Pope Francis has to say. His "resolutions" speak particularly to this principle. Here are some of them. The first lesson of Living Life on Purpose is to "Trust in God." That does not mean living life on a whim or without thought. Perhaps, it means just the opposite.

- Number 9 is "Make it a habit to ask the Lord." Prayer is familiar to all of us, but do we really listen for the answer? Is the answer always what we want it to be? God asks, "Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?" (*The Summons*, written by David Peacock, Graham Maule, and John Bell, 1987) Pope Francis quotes 1 Samuel 3:1-10, "Speak, Lord, for I am listening." ... You too can ask the Lord: What do you want me to do? What path am I to follow?"
- Number 3 is to make time for others. In much of our studies on evangelization we have learned that the biggest factor in bringing people to God through the Church is our relationships with each other. This will be even more true as we begin to work more intentionally with other parishes.
- Number 8 is to make commitments. He speaks directly about marriage, but if we are to trust the Lord who honors his covenant with Abraham and the covenant through Jesus shouldn't we be able to be trusted? What does it say about us if we are always waiting for something "better" to come along?
- In number 7 he asks us to befriend those with whom we disagree. This will certainly be a handy one to keep as we move forward in our renewal journey. Really listen to what others say. Sometimes a disagreement is not so much about the little thing being discussed but the "self" that seems to be getting lost in the process.

- Number 6 is to stop judging others: "If we, each doing our own part, if we do good to others, if we meet there, doing good, and we go slowly, gently, little by little, we will make that culture of encounter: we need that so much. We must meet one another doing good."

In today's Psalm response, we echo the sentiments of Samuel, "Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will." (Ps 40:9) This weekend, our country celebrates Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy of non-violent peaceful activism toward a society free from racism, prejudice, and inequality. His life was shaped by the commitment made by his parents and his early experiences with travel in the northern states. He reported back to his parents that blacks were eating alongside white patrons in restaurants and sitting next to each other on public transportation. I am quite certain that this experience was not everything that we would want it to be, but it was an impetus for his early career choices. His study of ethics and religion further shaped his actions. Many of the celebrations this weekend will include invitations to volunteer days of service. That was not the legacy of King. His legacy was as a community organizer for the betterment and fair treatment of all people through peaceful means. We can do similarly if we follow those principles set forth in our Pope's New Year's Resolutions: Make time for people, Pray, Make commitments, Listen, and Be friendly. Could it really be this simple?

-Pat Dyer

**Catholic Health Services** is looking for volunteers for all of our hospital sites – Kenmore Mercy, Sisters of Charity, South Buffalo Mercy and Mt. St. Mary's. Call Lisa Carey, Supervisor of Volunteer Services at 716-862-1106 or apply online at <https://www.chsbuffalo.org/volunteer>.

**Our Confirmation process begins** on Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 PM at Ss. Columba-Brigid. Candidates who are in 9th grade or above are invited to join us. (Bring a friend - even one who is not interested in Confirmation at all!) There will be four classes in the spring of 2023 and six classes in the fall of 2023. We begin with a video presentation followed by a discussion. Confirmation will be in late Fall of this year..

**We are seeking mentors** to attend our Confirmation classes. Active adult parishioners who have been Confirmed are invited to volunteer. No experience is required. If you have never been to a Protecting God's Children class and would still like to participate, please see Pat Dyer (716-256-2598) or Joyce Davis (SMdP.) They will be planning a "Family" class soon.

**Our next religious education group meeting** for youngsters Pre-K through grade 8 will be held at Ss. Columba-Brigid on Thursday, March 9 at 5:30 PM. We begin with dinner. Please have the first 18 lessons completed.

**Cardinal O'Hara High School Alumni Association to present two live concerts:** BBC Band concert will take place Fri., Jan. 27 and The Strictly Hip on Fri., March 10 with an 8PM start for each. The BBC Band features music from The Beatles, Dave Clark Five, The Hollies, The Zombies and other bands from the 60s. The Strictly Hip are the "Masters of the Music of The Tragically Hip." Cash bar will be available at each concert. Call 716-695-2600, ext. 312 or purchase your tickets online at [www.cardinalohara.com](http://www.cardinalohara.com). Concerts will take place in the O'Hara Performing Arts Center, 39 O'Hara Rd., Tonawanda.



Mass



Intentions

Saturday, January 14 4:30 pm  
**Special Intentions for Angela Jost**  
*Ladies Sodality*

Sunday, January 15 10:00 am  
† In memory of William Stiffler and Margaret Stiffler  
Schimpf  
*Family*  
**Special Intentions for Sr. Ann Helene Koenig**  
*Ladies Sodality*

Monday, January 16 11:00 am  
 † Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly,  
Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families  
*Estate of Mary Reilly*

Tuesday, January 17 11:00 am  
**Mother's Day Intentions**  
*Resurrection Church*

Wednesday, January 18 11:00 pm  
† Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and  
Pfeiffer Families  
*Estate of Mary Reilly*

Friday, January 20 11:00 am  
**Mother's Day Intentions**  
*Resurrection Church*

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

Sunday, January 22 10:00 am  
† Deceased members of the Becker, Curtin and Downs  
Families  
*John E. Curtin*

† 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, Nancy DeBoy, Jerry  
Gallisdorfer, Anthony Hartmann, Patricia Hartinger,  
Madonna Hartzell, Sionen Laciura, Marilyn Lang,  
Edward Marien, 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.

## This week in our Family of Parishes

January 16-22, 2023

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

### Monday: January 16

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

### Tuesday: January 17

4 PM Gospel of Matthew via Zoom **BT** – Go to the date  
of the meeting and click the link  
<https://blessedtrinitybuffalo.org/calendar/>

### Wednesday: January 18

9:30 AM—1:30 PM Food Pantry **BT**  
12:30 PM BINGO **STL** Doors open 11 AM

### Thursday: January 19

10—11:30 AM Food Pantry **SLVMI**  
8 PM BINGO **BT** Doors open at 6:30 PM

### Friday: January 20

10 AM—Noon Food Pantry **SLVMI**  
11:30 AM Rosary **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*

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.

**BT Weekend masses – livestream on Facebook.**  
**Recorded service available on**  
**YouTube later in the day.**

## **VANDERCHER & DICK FUNERAL HOME**

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

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

# Thank You

Jan. 4

Dear Friends ~

Thank you so much for your  
very thoughtful and generous gift.

you're TOPS!!

you've made checking out  
easier.

Warmly,  
L. Barbe