

# Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## January 22, 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
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



### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading** Isaiah 8:23-9:3 (67A)  
**Psalm** Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14  
**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17  
**Gospel** Matthew 4:12-23

#### Don't Turn Off the Light

For me, one of the rare bright spots in the Bills game against the Dolphins last Sunday was the sun that was shining here in Buffalo! It seemed like it had been months since we'd seen the sun. It always seems to revive dropping spirits, put smiles on faces, change dispositions for the better, and lighten the dreariness of long, cold, cloudy, damp days. Isaiah is a dose of much needed 'sunshine' in our first reading this weekend, declaring to God's people, "Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness: for there is no gloom where but now there was distress. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom, a light has shone!" Ask Luis about this message and be ready for a treat for the ears!! This is the same first reading of hope traditionally proclaimed at the *Mass During the Night* (traditionally, midnight mass) on Christmas Eve. There is much that casts a pall of doom and gloom upon us these days. The list is too long. But, we are promised that God is light, in God there is no darkness. Let us walk in the light. (Are you humming the song with me!?) Don't turn off the light. Let's shine with its happy victory!

#### Welcome Joe Strusienski!

Joe has recently joined our Family of Parishes **maintenance staff**. The old saying, "What goes around comes around" proves true once again for me. Joe was the maintenance person for St. James Parish when I was pastor there years ago. He's come back to roost! Joe is a jack-of-all-trades and comes with years of experience in parish maintenance. He has been the maintenance person for St. Lawrence Parish and now will maintain a part-time presence there as well as serving our parish and Ss. Columba-Brigid parish. Join me in welcoming him to the Family!

-Fr. Bob

#### Report on Sodality's Christmas Project



Despite the Christmas Blizzard, parish volunteers succeeded in delivering grocery store gift cards to 14 homebound parishioners and, for the first time since 2019, were able to enjoy personal visits with almost all the recipients. It was

heartwarming to hear about their experiences and conversations. Many thanks to Mickey Dick, Amy Johnson, Roy Laciura, Kathleen Marien, Toni Maus, Rafael Rondon, Sr. Liz Savage and Sue Trabert for conveying holiday wishes from the Blessed Trinity Parish Family.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

**Blessed Trinity Stewardship** – The total offertory collection for January 14/15, 2023, was \$1,572.35 including Catholic Relief \$20 and fuel \$80.

#### Saturday, January 28th

*Lector:* Don Williams

#### Sunday, January 29th

*Lector:* Sr. Liz Savage

*Eucharistic Minister:* Fidelia Ejimadu

**A Coffee Hour will be held** Sunday, January 22, following the 10 AM Mass. If you would like to bring cookies or breakfast treats, please see Colleen Schroeder or Pat Dyer.

**Next week we will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection.** Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need.

**Sodality's New Year** – 2023 came right on time, but this request is late. If you are a Sodality member, your annual dues of \$5.00 are due for the 2023 calendar year, and membership chair, Mickey Dick, will be happy to receive them. Checks should be payable to "Ladies Sodality of Blessed Trinity." Life members (you know who you are) are exempt. Our Sodality officers are hoping that we will be able to resume meetings and schedule activities beginning in the Spring. If there is something in particular that would interest you, please share your idea with President Vera Andrew, V. President Mickey Dick, Treasurer Amy Johnson or one of our secretaries, Toni Maus and Jessie Wells. They can also answer any questions you might have about the Ladies Sodality and why you should become a member.

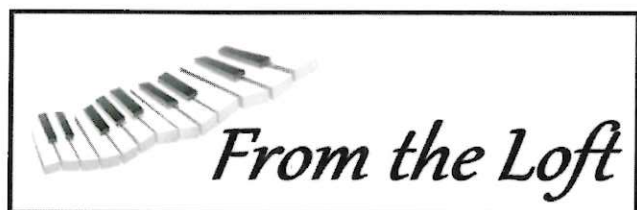
**Respect Life News** - On Saturday, January 14, the Office of Pastoral Ministries for the Diocese of Buffalo presented the "Pro Vita Awards 2023" following a beautiful Liturgy at St. Joseph's Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Michael W. Fisher. This year's recipients were drawn from our local community and chosen for their exemplary commitment to the Gift of Life through a variety of ministries. It was ecumenical as awards were also presented to those representing other Christian denominations.

#### Pro-Vita Awards 2023 Recipients

- \* Amelia Greenan | *Young Adult-Queen of Heaven Church/Respect Life*
- \* Avi & Julie Israel | *Founders of Save the Michaels of the World*
- \* Lexi & Josh Matam | *Witness of faith; in honor of Chiara*
- \* Pastor Al & Vivian Robinson | *Spirit of Truth Urban Ministry*
- \* Sha'Kyra Rain Aughttry - *Good Samaritan* - Sha'kyra provided care to a disabled man stranded in our recent blizzard.

We are grateful for their efforts and for the efforts of all who promote and respect life in every stage of development from conception through to natural death. *Let us pray that every human life be protected in law and welcomed in life.* The 9 Days for Life Novena began on January 19, if you have yet to participate and would still like to do so starting at this later date, visit the website: [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com)





This week's closing hymn is one of my all-time favorites - and most likely one you will hear at my funeral Mass because it so exemplifies my reason for being. As we approach our plan for the formation of our Renewal Family, the words touch my soul in a new way. I believe we are a diverse parish community, and it is my wish that our worship reflects that diversity from a musical perspective. You have heard our choir sing 8th century chant, gospel songs, four-part arrangements of the classic choral repertoire, songs in other languages, and contemporary Christian music. We sing with organ, piano, guitar, violin, brass choir, handbells, drums, and tambourines. We sing the old favorites and try new ways of praising God on a weekly basis. The recurring theme of our music is that it is offered with love to our Creator and our Parish to the very best of our abilities. We are not homogeneous or boring in our musical worship, and, with the inclusion of three equally diverse parishes in our growing family, the potential for growth, tolerance, and praise will only increase.

*How Can I Keep from Singing?* by Robert Lowry,  
words attributed to Anna Barlett Warner

*My life flows on in endless song,  
above earth's lamentation.  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
that hails a new creation.*

*Refrain:  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?*

*Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]*

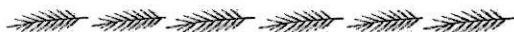
*What though my joys and comforts die,  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]*

*When tyrants trembles, sick with fear,  
And hear their death knells ringing;  
When friends rejoice both far and near,  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]*

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]*

As we approach the formation of our new family, let's remember that no storm can shake our inmost calm while to that Rock we're clinging. Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can we keep from singing?

-Elizabeth Clay



**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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Bison Children's Scholarship Fund** – This is a tuition assistance program helping economically eligible children attend private grammar schools of their choice regardless of income. Pre-application process open for new families online <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarsips>. Deadline to apply is March 15, 2023. With questions or for further information contact BISON Fund office 716-854-0869. Flyers at entrance for more information.

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

Sunday, January 22 10:00 am  
† In memory of Tina James  
Carl James

Monday, January 23 11:00 am  
† Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families  
Estate of Mary Reilly

Tuesday, January 24 11:00 am  
Mother's Day Intentions  
Resurrection Church

Wednesday, January 25 11:00 am  
† Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families  
Estate of Mary Reilly

Friday, January 27 11:00 am  
Mother's Day Intentions  
Resurrection Church

Saturday, January 28 4:30 pm  
† Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly, Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families  
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, January 29 10:00 am  
† In memory of Ivan Parks  
John E. Curtin  
† In memory of Tina James  
Carl James

† 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, 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 23-29, 2023**

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

### Monday: January 23

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

### Tuesday: January 24

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

### Wednesday: January 25

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

### Thursday: January 26

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

### Friday: January 27

10 AM—Noon Food Pantry **SLVMI**  
11:30 AM Rosary **BT** (enter Daily Mass Chapel door at back of rectory)

### 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 FOR  
CHRISTMAS 2022  
FLOWER DONATIONS!

Donor	In Memory/honor of
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Andrew	Geraldine Waters, Yvonne Andrew, Lucy Jackson, Thomas Andrew
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Arnold	Dapp-Roland Family, Renner-Arnold Family
Mr. Robert Barnes	Mary Barnes, Marcel Barnes, Boyd Copeland, Searight Family
Ms. Martha Bobo	
Mr. Thomas Brodfuehrer	JoAnn Brodfuehrer
Mr. Thomas Brown	Bridgette Brown
Ms. Lorna Cameron	Deceased members of the Cameron Family
Mr. & Mrs. Luis Clay	Isabel Billittier, Anne Polglese, Desmond Gunning, Nicky Squire
Mr. John E. Curtin	John & Rita Curtin, Mary Nelson, Bernadette Dorscheimer, Shirley Parks
Ms. Alice Davis	Theodore Davis, Kevin Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Homer Dick	Dick & Stiffler Families, Bridget Blesnuk
Mr. Thomas Dinder	Mary Dinder, Leonard Dinder, Gert Klinko, Brandon Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Darvan Draper	
Ms. Ellen Duffy	Elizabeth Duffy, John Duffy
Ms. Roberta Evans	
Mr. Anthony Hartmann	Hartmann Family
Ms. Amy Johnson	Anne Marshall, Marguerite Moran Marshall
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Karlis	Carl & Evelyn Schmelzer, Bob Lukasik, Carol Schmelzer
Mr. & Ms. Daniel Korchowsky	Michael Korchowsky, Mary Korchowsky, Peter Korchowsky, Helen Korchowsky
Mrs. Mary Kresse	Robert J. Kresse, Kazimierz & Sophia Kresse, Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Miano, Robert & Anna Anderson
Ms. Dorothy Manuppelli	John & Elizabeth Duffy, Michael Duffy, Kristi Duffy, Rita Manuppelli
Ms. Kathy Press	John & Elizabeth Duffy, Margaret Press, Michael Duffy
Ms. Colleen Schroeder	Schroeder & Prentis Family
Mr. William Then	Then Family, Venezia Family

