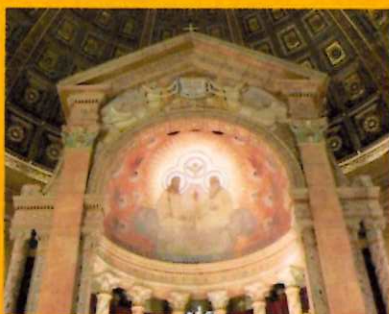
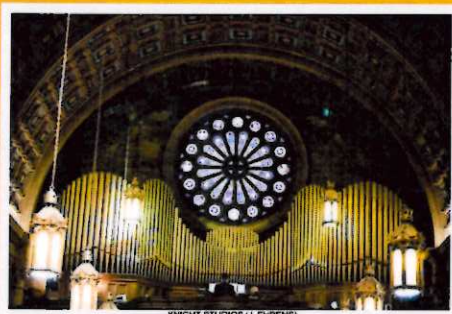


Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 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



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

Catholic Central Food Pantry - 350 Dewey Avenue

Every Wednesday 9:30am - 1:30pm

716-800-1075

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6 (20ABC)
Psalm Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

**Do You Hear What I Hear? Do
You See What I See? Taste,
Touch, Smell.....**



We probably all somewhat take for granted our five senses until they become compromised in some way. For me, my eyes are growing tired, I struggle to hear in vacuous spaces. How many of us temporarily lost some taste and smell when suffering from Covid? It makes me so much more appreciative and aware of the God-given gift of our senses in order to be able to intensely experience the world into which we are born. Epiphany simply means a "showing forth," a "revealing," a "manifestation." In the context of our faith, Epiphany is God's showing forth of God's self to us in the flesh, in Jesus His Son. Let us not miss this great opportunity to take in what God reveals through the sense of our hearts where we can hold and ponder it! Let us not take for granted what God has done for us out of Love for us! Let us not miss the opportunity to follow any shining star or light of God's presence anticipating what God desires show us of Himself, His way, truth and light! It's my faith that God wants us to "intensely experience" His world of Love, His Kingdom of Peace and Justice. Like the magi from the east, enlightened, we travel ever forward – in following – taking routes that avoid the ways of darkness and sin and the evil intents of any of the Herods in our current world.

The Christmas Season Officially Ends This Monday with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – "The manifestation of Christ that we celebrate during Christmas Time culminates in the Baptism of the Lord. On the last day of the Christmas season, may we thank of how we will be open to allow Christ to be manifest in our lives. Let us resolve to consciously choose to follow Christ more closely and take seriously our baptismal call to live as disciples... Jesus begins his ministry of servant leadership as he rises from the waters and is affirmed by "the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." We are called to mission, by virtue of our baptism, by our actions and attitudes to "consecrate the world itself to God" (*Lumen Gentium*, 34). On this feast, we accept- once again the responsibility of our baptism, to live in mission to others – even those we might not want to evangelize and welcome – the least the lost, the homeless, the hurting, the refugees, those most vulnerable, those who are different from us in any way. May our evangelization reach to all of God's people, the Gentiles of today, as Christ himself extended the reach of the Good News in his own person." (*Sourcebook for*

Sundays, Seasons, and Weekdays 2023, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago, IL, © 2022, pp. 54 & 55) It is a very short Christmas season this year, based on how the calendar falls. If you are free, please come and celebrate the simple closing of the season with mass on Monday morning at 11am.

The Annual Diocesan Mass in Remembrance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass will be held Sunday, January 15, 2023, 9:30AM at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church. St. Martin de Porres is located at 555 Northampton, Buffalo, NY. This year's theme is "Come Spirit, I'm Called to Act." The Celebrant will be His Excellency, The Most Rev. Michael W. Fisher, and Homilist Rev. Avery Daniel of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. A reception, immediately following Mass, will be held with theme/gift basket raffles and 50/50 split raffle to support the MLK Scholarship Fund. Donations of baskets and gift cards are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at St. Martin de Porres. Please contact St. Martin de Porres at 716-883-7729. Envelopes will also be provided at Mass to collect funds for the MLK Scholarship and they can be mailed directly to: The Office of Cultural Diversity / Social Justice, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14203.

-Fr. Bob

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for 12/31/22-1/1/23 was \$5,757 including Christmas \$700, Christmas flowers \$50, Solemnity of Mary \$310 and fuel \$210.

Saturday, January 14th

Lector: Greg Gaglione

Sunday, January 15th

*Lector: Mary Kresse & Young Reader: Simon Kresse
Eucharistic Minister: Maggie Gatson*

Liturgy Committee meeting Sunday, January 8, after mass in St. Charles Hall.

Never mind "rain, shine, sleet or snow," even the Christmas Blizzard of 2022 can't deter this group! If they couldn't "do" Christmas, they'll be there for Little Christmas, and you're invited to join them. The Christmas Caroling that was to have preceded our Christmas Eve service will now take place before Sunday Mass on January 8, the Feast of the Epiphany or "Little Christmas," beginning at 9:30 AM. Please come early and Praise the Lord with them in song.

The Rosary group is reevaluating the day and time to meet. Watch the bulletin for an update of a new day and time.

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 Hecklen, or Pat Dyer.



In 1857, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. assembled an elaborate Christmas pageant, for which he wrote both words and music, for the General Theological Seminary in New York City, where he was an instructor in church music. One of the selections dealt with the Wise Men who came from the East, and, for this part of the pageant, Hopkins created one of America's most beloved carols. The three kings, Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar, brought: gold (the traditional metal of royalty); frankincense (an aromatic bark whose smoke was thought to reach the gates of heaven); and myrrh (an unguent used in the preparation of bodies for burial). These gifts thus signified Jesus' kingship, His oneness with God, and His eventual death on the cross. I had no idea this carol was born in the USA – how wonderful we are able to share it as our opening hymn for the Epiphany, which marks the end of the Christmas season.

*We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.*

*Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.*

*Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
Worshipping God on high.*

*Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.*

*Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.*

*O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Let us remember to continue to follow this Perfect Light in the weeks and months to come!

-Elizabeth Clay

Volunteers are the heart of our community! 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. Looking for ways to give back? Call Lisa Carey, Supervisor of Volunteer Services at 716-862-1106 or apply online at <https://www.chsbuffalo.org/volunteer>.



The Diocese of Buffalo is looking at options for opening a tuition-free elementary school in 2024. Please scan the



QR code or use the link to take a short survey designed for interested parents and East Side community members.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfmz8CT-jkxOIFZpQIQD6TYwu_apB-Or8MtFrrrjhQRWDfC1-w/viewform

Or [Or8MtFrrrjhQRWDfC1-w/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfmz8CT-jkxOIFZpQIQD6TYwu_apB-Or8MtFrrrjhQRWDfC1-w/viewform)

Auditions for The St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum from now through early January for our Lent and Easter seasons. The Schola - which



rehearses at Blessed Trinity, Buffalo – is an *a cappella* choir dedicated to preserving, promoting and performing sacred choral works from the great treasury of music of the Catholic Church. We are looking for singers of all voice ranges who can read music and whose voices can blend well with others. You will learn how to read and sing Gregorian Chant. You will be part of a group that loves God and loves great music. You will have the opportunity to sing in some of the most beautiful churches in Western New York. To arrange for an audition, email JP2Schola@gmail.com. Auditions can be in-person or online. Rehearsals for the Lent and Easter seasons begin on January 9.



Mass



Intentions

Saturday, January 7 4:30 pm
† In memory of Shirley Monnin
Family

Sunday, January 8 10:00 am
† Birthday remembrance for John Duffy
Duffy Family
Special Intentions for Madonna Hartzell
Ladies Sodality

Monday, January 9 11:00 am
† Deceased members of the Becker, Curtin and Downs
Families
John E. Curtin

Tuesday, January 10 11:00 am
Mother's Day Intentions
Resurrection Church

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

Friday, January 13 11:00 am
Mother's Day Intentions
Resurrection Church

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

† 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 9-15, 2023

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

Monday: January 9

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

Tuesday: January 10

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 11

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

Thursday: January 12

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

Friday: January 13

10 AM—Noon Food Pantry **SLVMI**

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

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