

Blessed Trinity Parish

317 Leroy Avenue - Buffalo, New York 14214



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 5, 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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading Isaiah 58:7-10 (73A)
Psalms Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

Igniting A Taste & Lighting the Way for the Good News

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council calls the faithful to full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy. Like liturgy, our faith life is meant to be full, conscious, and active in ways that light a fire on the earth and ignite even the most listless heart. However, rather than being "charged with Good News," it is too easy to be satisfied with passivity, to sit back, to not get involved, to let others take care of what needs to be done, to be lulled into apathy, to settle for mediocrity. Our faith is meant to be anything but lukewarm or indifferent. We're called to be a mission people, bringing Jesus Christ into every situation.... We are called to be Salt & Light as the gospel this weekend declares!.... to stir an appetite for the Kingdom of God; to light a path that will lead others to God's embrace of mercy, love, and fullness of life.

Family 21 Update – Priest Appointments

To reinforce the announcement about our Family of Parishes that I have already relayed to many of you, Bishop Mike has appointed me, Fr. Jud Weiksnar, OFM, and Fr. Joe Rogliano to our Family 21 of parishes. Fr. Joe will serve the Family as Pastor. My appointment, and Fr. Jud's, is for three years. Particulars as to the pastoral duties and responsibilities among the three of us, in serving our 4 parishes, will be worked out as we move through this process. We began that conversation at a meeting this past Thursday. Updates, as to the steps and progress of the Road to Renewal process for our Family, will be provided as available.

-Fr. Bob



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..

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessed Trinity Stewardship – The total offertory collection for January 28/29, 2023, was \$3,063.85 including Catholic Relief \$389.60 and fuel \$50.

Saturday, February 11th

Lector: Jack Curtin

Sunday, February 12th

Lector: Elaine Renouf

Eucharistic Minister: Kathleen Marien

Liturgy Committee will meet Sunday, February 5, after mass in St. Charles Hall.

Thank you for your generous support of the Catholic Relief Services.

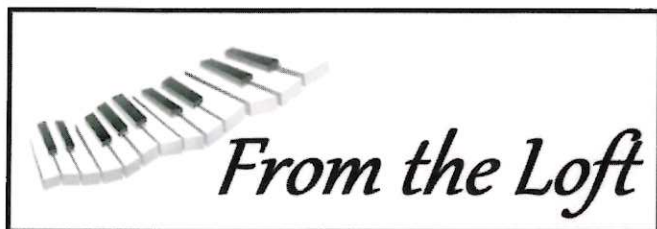
Our next coffee hour will be on Sunday, February 26. Donations of breakfast snack foods or cookies are greatly appreciated.

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.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2023 marks our 99th annual Appeal! In the 98 years of the Appeal, close to half a billion dollars has been raised to provide help and hope to those who need it most, so you can see why its importance cannot be understated. In our founding year, Catholic Charities served about 12,500 people. Last year, we served more than 134,000 – and the annual Appeal makes this possible! Your donation helps ensure programs and services like basic emergency assistance, educational and vocational programs, counseling, and family safety and stabilization services are accessible and readily available. Text **GIVE HOPE23 to 44321** or Give **HOPE** today at www.ccwny.org/donation.



This Sunday marks the return of the Blessed Trinity Choir after a much-deserved rest following our unusual Christmas season. If the choir sounds even better this week, it is because we have added some new voices to our ranks. We are celebrating our increase in number with a new hymn to BT, composed in 2016 by Curtis Stephan. In less than 15 years, Curtis Stephan has leapfrogged from promising young songwriter to one of the most productive forces in liturgical music today. A lifelong musician, he received his bachelor's in music and his master's in jazz studies from the University of North Texas. He is a parish music director, composer, concert and recording artist and workshop clinician.

Curtis travels the world presenting liturgical training and inspirational music, witnessing to all ages through workshops, retreats, missions, conferences, youth rallies and liturgies. Whether he is teaching the foundational elements of planning music for liturgy, the nuts and bolts of arranging and conducting or leading youth through the sacraments, he has the same goal: helping people connect with God and making disciples for Christ. Exploring the themes of Creation, Peace, and Social Concern, as articulated in the papal encyclical *Laudato Si'*, this song, *Tend the Ground*, has a contemporary sound but a solid hymn-like feel. I believe it will become a future-favorite at Blessed Trinity because we have an innovative choir to lead the congregation in praise.

Tend the Ground by Curtis Stephan

(Refrain) *We till the earth, we tend the ground,
sowing hope and peace where none is found.
In selfless love God's life abounds.
We till the earth, we tend the ground.*

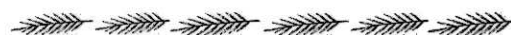
1. *As God provides our every need,
with grateful hearts, let us receive
these gifts of love, and make return
to bless the world, to bless the world.*
2. *All creatures share one common home,
one loving God, one song of hope.
The rocks cry out and praises ring,
rise up and sing, rise up and sing!*
3. *With open hand our Lord has giv'n
his life for all that we might live.
No greater love is there than this,
no greater love, no greater love.*
4. *Where hardened hearts have turned to greed,
trampling upon the fledgling seed,
help us to tend to others' needs,
open our eyes, open our eyes.*

5. *On rocky paths and trodden roads,
Lord, clear the ground where thorns have
grown.
Give us the grace to follow you.
Make straight the way, make straight the way.*
6. *Let plows be forged from swords that kill.
Let tools of war be shaped to till
and break the hard and stony ground.
Lord, bring your peace, Lord, bring your peace.*
7. *Let mercy fall on us like rain
to clear the air and heal the pain,
Where sin has broken bonds of love
let mercy reign, let mercy reign.*

Is God calling you to tend the ground through the ministry of music? There is room for you in the loft - no experience necessary - we'll teach you how to sing. Please contact a choir member for more information on how you can join in this ministry.

-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>.



**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
in re The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y.
Case No. 20-10322**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On February 28, 2020, The Diocese of Buffalo N.Y., ("**Diocese**") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "**Bankruptcy Code**").

The Court entered an Order (the "**Supplemental Bar Date Order**") setting April 17, 2023, at 11:59 P.M. (prevailing Eastern time) (the "**Supplemental Bar Date**") as the deadline to assert claims against the Diocese arising from or relating to abuse that occurred when the survivor was 18 years of age or older, and which, prior to the enactment of the Adult Survivors Act (S.66A/A.648A) would have been subject to a statute of limitations defense ("**Adult Claims**").

If you have an Adult Claim against the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Supplemental Bar Date. **ANY CLAIM FILED PURSUANT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL BAR DATE ORDER SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE RIGHT OF ANY PARTY IN INTEREST TO ASSERT OBJECTIONS TO ANY CLAIM OR ITS TIMELINESS.**

Please visit <https://casestretto.com/dioceseofbuffalo> or call 855-292-7696 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

Mass



Intentions

Saturday, February 4 – Blessed Virgin Mary

04:30 pm † Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly,
Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, February 5 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am † In memory of Catherine and Terry Gress
Bucki Family

Monday, February 6 – St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

11:00 am Mother's Day Intentions
Resurrection Church

Tuesday, February 7 – Weekday

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

Wednesday, February 8 – St. Jerome Emiliani

11:00 am Mother's Day Intentions
Resurrection Church

Friday, February 10 – St. Scholastica

11:00 am For universal peace and understanding
Anonymous

Saturday, February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes

04:30 pm † Deceased members of the Ryan, Reilly,
Reynolds and Pfeiffer Families
Estate of Mary Reilly

Sunday, February 12 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 am Hope and healing for Susan Nowak
Bud and Mickey Dick

† 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.



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.**

This week in our Family of Parishes

February 6-12, 2023

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

Monday: February 6

10 – 11:30 AM Food Pantry **STL**

7 PM Bi-lingual Rosary (Spanish/English) via Zoom – click
the Family Calendar link **CB**

Tuesday: February 7

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

Wednesday: February 8

9:30 AM—1:30 PM Food Pantry **BT**

12:30 PM BINGO **STL** Doors open 11 AM

Thursday: February 9

10—11:30 AM Food Pantry **SLVMI**

5:30 PM First Reconciliation Class **BT** in St. Charles
Hall

8 PM BINGO **BT** Doors open at 6:30 PM

Friday: February 10

10 AM—Noon Food Pantry **SLVMI**

11:30 AM Rosary **BT** (enter Daily Mass Chapel door)

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

SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 21—Apr. 18: Turning Point (Eight lessons from the Gospel of
John) Tuesdays 5:45-7 PM **BT** in St. Charles Hall. No class during
Holy Week.

Feb. 23: The Chosen (season 1) Thursdays 2 PM **BT** downstairs in St.
Charles Hall. No fee

March 2: Thursday 6:30 PM Confirmation classes begin **CB**

March 9: K-8 Religious Education – Quarterly gathering 5:30 PM
CB in Church Hall (dinner provided)

March 27: Monday 7 PM Penance Service at **SMdP**

March 31: Friday 7 PM Tenebrae Service – Enter into the spirit
of Lent **BT**

VANDERCHER & DICK FUNERAL HOME

2549 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14214

716-832-0150

Homer H. Dick, Jr., Blessed Trinity Trustee