DECEMBER 1, 2019

14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135

Phone: 216-671-5890
Fax: 216-938-9843
Email: office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org
Website: www.blessedtrinitycleveland.org
https://instagram.com/btp216
Facebook: facebook.btp216.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 am–8 pm
Thursday, Friday: 9:00 am–5:00 pm
(Closed for lunch 12:30–1:00 pm)
Saturday: 1:00–3:45 pm

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am
Children’s Liturgy of the Word: 11 am
Monday: see worship calendar
for time & location
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 3:00–3:30 pm
Other times by appointment

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
Blessed Trinity Parish is an open and welcoming Catholic community, centered in the Eucharist and celebrating God’s gift of Diversity. We bring God’s love to one another and support one another in responding to the challenge of living the Gospel. We strive to deepen participation and encourage all parishioners to take ownership for the everyday life of their church, especially Spiritual Growth, Community Life, the Building of a Just Society, and Service to All God’s People.

Psalm 122: Let Us Go Rejoicing

Refrain
Let us go re-joicing to the house of the Lord;
Let us go re-joicing to the house of the Lord.

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From Fr. Doug’s Desk...

That’s a lot of layers

If you watched any of the impeachment hearings live, you learned the names of people we never hear about. Alexander Vindman, a National Security Council staffer; Marie Louise "Masha" Yovanovitch, an American diplomat and member of the senior ranks of the United States Foreign Service; United States Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland; David Holmes, a top aide in the United States Embassy, were four of twelve people who testified.

Two things struck me about the hearings. First, there are many layers to the running of our government from embassy people, to national security advisors to economic people.

Second, the background of some of these people is amazing. Fiona Hill is from Northern England and became a US citizen. Ambassador Yovanovitch was a career diplomat for over 30 years. Lieut. Col. Vindman speaks four languages and is an expert on Russia and Ukraine. How many other diplomats to other countries there must be who need expertise in the history, culture, language, politics and economics of foreign lands just to begin their jobs. It became obvious to me why people do this as a life work. It must take years just to prepare for such an assignment, let alone do it with competence. Regardless of whom you thought benefitted more from the hearings, there was certainly agreement about one thing – Rudy Giuliani did no one a favor by his involvement and his ineptitude gummed up the works for everyone.

When I lived in El Salvador, I had dealings with the Embassy. The embassy deals with country to country relations. The consular department deals mostly with US nationals living in a foreign country, as well as private concerns like obtaining a visa to visit our country. Over the past weeks, we have not even heard anything about the consular parts of the embassy. That’s a whole other category.

I dealt with five ambassadors to El Salvador in six years. They all came over for dinner. This was not just to share a meal. There were important points to be made. It was complicated. I met many congressmen and women who were on fact finding junkets. Some found the facts and others left with the same closed minded ignorance they brought.

Which leads us to the Vatican. The Vatican is not just the place where the pope lives. The Vatican is also a country and like ours. It has ambassadors, security personnel, and layers of diplomats. Newly ordained priests enter the Vatican diplomatic corps and are members for life. The ambassador from the Vatican to the US is called the papal nuncio. Interestingly enough, he not only deals with Vatican-US relations, he is the liaison for the USCCB to the Vatican and also submits lists for future bishops in the United States.

Callista L. Gingrich, third wife of Newt Gingrich, is the U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See.

I remember when John Paul II came to El Salvador in 1983. There was great speculation about what the pope would say about bishop and martyr, Oscar Romero, if anything at all. Clearly he was not a fan. All the layers of church government had input into the pope’s words that day.

Like our country, most members of the Vatican Foreign Service serve with dignity, anonymity and without fanfare or appreciation. They staff the dicasteries and the congregations of this and the offices of that at the Vatican. But like our country, layers of bureaucracy provide many places for one man to do a lot of damage. There are indeed many Rudy Giuliani in our Catholic institution, hawking conspiracy theories about the murder of John Paul I or warning against the feminist agenda, the gay agenda, the liberal agenda, the dangers of following Vatican II and so on. Some find a heretic behind every bush. If you don’t think so, google Pope Francis, heretic. You will get hundreds of hits, many by organized groups who claim the pope is leading us all into heresy. These groups want to define the real Catholics in the church and expel those who are not. They include lay leaders, priests, bishops, and prominent cardinals.

What all this means for us in the pew is not clear, but I’ll tell you one thing I’ve learned over the years. Take notes on every phone conversation where those notes might be needed. Remember the names of the people who you have to deal with on the phone. (Send complimentary notes if they were good and be honest if they weren’t). And don’t be surprised about undue influence over country or church.

There will be a communal penance service on Tuesday, December 10 for the West Park churches at St Mel on Triskett at 7:00pm.
AROUND THE PARISH & OTHER PARISH NEWS

Please pray for:

Thomas Ausnehmer, Doris Eikens Azzarello, Annie Hadiu, Tom Baldwin, Jr., Mary Brennan, Adele Burke, Ann Busch, Nancy Butler, Mary Chapin, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipri, John Darmstadt, Diane Dorenkott, Dukles Family, Martin Patrick Dugan, Barb Dylag, Edward Dzyro, Bill Eikens, Donald Flanagan, Alice Friedel, Vesna Goverdovski, June Grace, Michael Graham, Catherine Heidinger, Agnes Hocevar, John Iayen, Nicola Jandric, Roubir Jesri, Jr., Ann Jones, Veronica Juris, Betty Kersick, Tony Kerman, Fr. Dennis Kristianic, Eileen Mangan, Sr. Rita Marra, SND, Rosemary Martin, Kathy McAvinue, George McKe, Molly McQuillan & family, Sandra McRae, Andrea Medina, Betty Ann Menzing, Mary Jo Menzing, Rosemary Metzger, Tony Miller, Tom O’Boyle, Jose Ortiz, John Pelcic, Laura Radea, Catherine Rajnikek, Lew Rapp, Henry Reitering, Sr., Carol Roberts, Ron Ruble, Judy Runyeon, Kayana Ryniak, Marilyn Samonte, Arleen Schwab, Mary Ellen Salo, Carolyn Sesplankis, Brand Shautama, Debbie Shavorsky, Ann Shuttera, Marilyn Simmons, Grace Staab, Kevin Thompson, Pete & Teri Thayer, Marie Toulia, Dennis Tysburski, Celine Whelpley, John Williams, Jay Yesenko, Mary Zavada.

Thank you for your generous support!

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 11/17</td>
<td>$ 5,227.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Gifts</td>
<td>$ 1,134.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCRIP Gift cards</td>
<td>$ 150.96</td>
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</tbody>
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Advent and a new liturgical year begin next Sunday. If you or your family would like to light the Advent wreath, please sign up at the back table.

The Bountiful Basement has a wish list: They wish to have canned spaghetti sauce. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Next week’s Advent Collection is for the Retirement Fund for the Religious. Use your envelopes or the ones that will be in the pews.

Mobile Pantry, Produce Give Away. December 4, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Disciples are needed throughout the event. Arrive in the back parking lot after 3 p.m. to help with set up or 4:30–6:30 p.m. to help with distribution. No one may be in line to receive produce before 4 p.m. (FYI - no Mobile Pantry Jan. 1, 2020)

We are going to sell Laura's Delicious Candy on Dec. 7th and 8th, after Sat. 4pm Mass and Sun. 9am and 11am Mass. Also, Rev. Lisa from St. Andrew's said Laura wanted to make sure we knew how very much she and her family appreciate our love and support and our parish commitment to their care and well-being.

PASTORAL TEAM 216-671-5890
Rev. Mr. Dick Beercheck, Deacon
dbeercheck@blessedtrinitycleveland.org
Mrs. Katie Corbett BS Ed., Pastoral Associate
kcorbett@blessedtrinitycleveland.org ...........Ext 20
Ms. Sonia Hu, Music Minister
soniaxinyuanhu@gmail.com
Fr. Doug Koesel, Pastor .........................Ext 21
dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

OFFICE STAFF
Ms. Ginger Needham, Office Manager………..Ext 10
office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org
Mrs. Linda Wilson, Business Manager .............Ext 26
linda@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Society of St. Vincent DePaul @ Blessed Trinity..Ext 14
Stephen Ministry........................................Ext 19

E-MAIL BULLETIN NOTICES TO:
bulletin@blessedtrinitycleveland.org or deliver them to the rectory office. Notices MUST be in by Monday of the week before the bulletin is distributed.

E-MAIL PRAYER LINE REQUESTS TO:
gracesamarin@att.net

May the Peace of Our Lord be with
Marie Kelly,
Youngest Sister of Virginia Bevans
May God grant comfort to her family and friends.

Caring Corner

Becoming a Stephen Minister is one of the best things I've ever done. God puts people in our lives when they need us and when we need them and that is exactly what happened. My care receiver and I will be forever connected. The classes prepared me but I was apprehensive I would make a mistake. Calling on The Holy Spirit, I am confident He is with me every step of the way. I have gotten to know some wonderful people and developed strong bonds. Words cannot describe how fulfilled I feel and how very happy I am that I answered this call. Toni House
This Week at Blessed Trinity

Sunday, December 1
12:00pm—4:00pm  Stephen Ministry Training (Joseph Cntr)

Monday, December 2
9:30am—10:30am  Legion of Mary (Church)
7:00pm—8:00pm  SVDP Society (Rectory Library)
8:30pm—9:30pm  AA Meeting (Rectory Basement)

Tuesday, December 3
8:30am—10:00am  H. O. C. Silent Prayer Group (Rec. Lib.)
9:30am—12:00pm  Bountiful Basement
10:30am—12:00pm  AA Meeting (Rectory Basement)

Wednesday, December 4
4:30pm—6:30pm  Produce GiveAway (North Parking Lot)
5:00pm—6:45pm  Bountiful Basement
7:00pm—8:30pm  Choir Rehearsal (Church)
8:00pm—9:00pm  AA Meeting (Joseph Center)

Thursday, December 5
9:30am—12:00pm  Bountiful Basement
11:00am—12:00pm  AA Meeting (Rectory Basement)
6:00pm—7:30pm  Bell Choir (Church)

Friday, December 6
1:00pm—3:00pm  Stephen Min. Ldrs. Mtg. (Rec. Rm. 22)
8:00pm—10:00pm  AA Meeting (Rectory Basement)

Saturday, December 7
9:30am—11:00am  CSR Group (Joseph Center)

Advent Taize Prayer  Enter spiritually into Advent by joining our Taize Prayer at River's Edge on Tuesday, December 3 from 7 pm to 8 pm. Taize, a combination of short chants, reflective silence and sacred readings, is led by members of our parish choir. River's Edge is at 3430 Rocky River Drive.

Theology on the Rocks – West: Monday, December 9th, 7:00pm. NEW LOCATION: VOSH 1414 RIVERSIDE DR., LAKEWOOD (The old Three Birds-Georgetown) Many of us have a ‘general’ idea of what Judaism, as a faith, is, but truth be told there is so much we don’t know or understand. Join us as Fr. Hilinski, Delegate for Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs, is joined by a special guest, Rabbi Stephen Weiss, B’nai Jeshurun Temple, to discuss with us what it means to be Jewish. $12 per person - register at www.theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west

Come & See...CLC  Christian Life Community (CLC) is a life-giving Ignatian apostolic prayer community. On Saturday, December 14th at 10:00am there will be a gathering to explore the idea of forming a new CLC community on Cleveland’s West Side. The meeting will be held at Centering Space in Lakewood. Centering Space is located at 14812 Lake Ave, behind Lakewood Catholic Academy. Come & See if CLC might be just what you have been hoping for. For more information contact Patrick Cleary-Burns at pclearyburns@gmail.com.

Advertiser of the week:
Brooklyn Point Assisted Living & Memory Care
### WORSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Scripture References</th>
<th>Reader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, November 30</strong> (Rom 10: 9-18; Mt 4: 18-22)</td>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Blessed Trinity</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, December 1</strong> (Is 2: 1-5; Rom 13: 11-14; Mt 24: 37-44)</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>William Schwab (Arleen Schwab)</td>
<td>Kevin Boyer (Family)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, December 2</strong></td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>John &amp; Theresa Yeres (Joan Francis)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>@ Westpark Neuro &amp; Rehab Center</td>
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<td>4401 W. 150th St.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, December 3</strong></td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>George &amp; Julia Barnett (Ron &amp; Kathy Mickler)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, December 4</strong></td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Soss Family (Sylvia Soss)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, December 5</strong></td>
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<td>No Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, December 6</strong></td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>John &amp; Ethel Mickler (Ron &amp; Kathy Mickler)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, December 7</strong> (Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Mt 9: 35-10: 1, 5a, 6-8)</td>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>Robert Spevock (George Spevock)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, December 8</strong> (Is 11: 1-10; Rom 15: 4-9; Mt 3: 1-12)</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Blessed Trinity</td>
<td>Jeanette Miller (Bob Miller)</td>
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There will be a session for **Non Violent Communication** on Dec. 7, 9:30am - 12:00pm at the Rocky River Public Library, 1600 Hampton Rd. 440-333-7610. Free and open to everyone.

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**St. Clarence Parish** has a men’s and women’s Intra-Parish Group that meets on the first Fridays of each month. Their next meetings are Dec. 6th. The **Women’s Group** starts at 9:30am with the rosary, 10am Mass, Fr. Damian Ezeani as celebrant and speaker, then a Snack and Coffee or Tea, then the speaker. Contact Mary Ann Soltis at 440-777-1917, or Mary Tschanz at 440-235-6258.

The **Men’s Group** starts at 11:15am with a luncheon, an inspirational talk and concludes with Mass. Cost is $10 for the men’s luncheon. Call George Perz at (440) 937-6606 by **Tuesday, Dec. 3rd** to make a reservation. ALL ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED IF N. OLMSTED SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED.

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The West Side Catholic Center is looking for Job Search Partners. We help people who are homeless look for work. We train them over an 8 week program and assist them in starting their job searches. After graduation, our clients have asked for someone to help them to support their job search. We would match up one Partner with each Client. As a Partner, you would be a support for that person, encouraging them to continue on despite any disappointments, and showing them that God loves them! You could do this in whatever way works best for the two of you. If being a Partner interests you, please contact Frank Johanek at 216-631-4741 ext. 167, or fjohanek@wsccenter.org; or Jeff Joecken, at 216-226-1492, or jgjkn@ameritech.net.

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5 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**