

Blessed Trinity

CATHOLIC CHURCH

All Are Welcome



DECEMBER 25, 2022

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

**14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135**

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Fax: 216-938-9843

Email: office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Web: <https://blessedtrinitycleveland.org>

<https://instagram.com/btp216>

Facebook: facebook.btp216.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Wednesday: 9am—8pm

Thursday & Friday: 9am—5pm

(Closed for lunch 12:30–1:00 pm)

Saturday: 1pm—3:45pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Monday: 11:00am

At Westpark Healthcare Campus

4387 W. 150th St.

Tuesday: 8:30am

Wednesday: 8:30am

Thursday: No Mass

Friday: 8:30am

RECONCILIATION

BY APPOINTMENT

ONLY AT THIS TIME

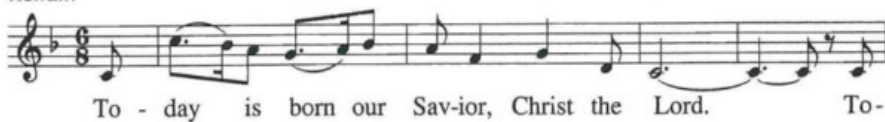
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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 96: Today Is Born Our Savior

Refrain



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From the Desk of Fr. Doug

The Radically Inclusive Love of Jesus

How big is God's love? Scientists tell us that so far, there are at least one hundred billion galaxies in the universe and that each galaxy has over one hundred billion stars. God's love is bigger than that.

The One who has many names, who created this universe, whom we believe became flesh in this humble, poor, immigrant baby, is much bigger than a lot of the repetitive dead language that institutional religion has used up until now. What we need in the world are communities of faith that care more about being a movement of justice and inclusion than being an institution; that choose inspiration over institution; that choose compassion and forgiveness and justice and peace over the status quo. And if we don't do that, we will be reduced to bad religion, tight restrictive narrow religion and theology. And that kind of religion really *does* kill.

Everyone who is hurting tonight, and everyone who is hurting others tonight, is living under an abusive and suffocating theology or philosophy that bears no resemblance to Christmas' love.

The heart of Christianity and Christmas is this: wherever there is exclusion or despair or oppression or bigotry or injustice or violence tonight, whether expressed externally toward others or internally toward ourselves, Christmas says, in the voice of the angels, "Do not be afraid; I bring you tidings of great joy for all people".

You can have the dark night of the soul where everything is as bleak as a Palestinian hillside; you can be the victim of an oppressive occupation where there is little hope in the Middle East, the same Middle East where Mary and Joseph experienced hardship as they had to travel a long distance to register for an economically unjust taxation of the

poor; you can experience that there is no room in life either for you, for who you really are, or for you to take care of your own health needs as a woman as Mary experienced when the innkeeper when he told her there was no room in the inn for her to have her baby; you can be as poor as the shepherds were that night, the poorest of the poor. Since they were too poor to pay the temple tax or to buy an animal to sacrifice, they were known as the lowest of sinners; you can be someone who cares little about religion or who places your hopes in science as did the three wise persons, the Magi, from the East. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of life, God's love is there for you.

The light of the star and the song of the angels sing for you tonight. But if your religious beliefs do not lead you to a radically inclusive love of all of God's people, then you misunderstand what this day is about.

Michelangelo, the great sculpture, architect, painter when he was 87 years old said, "I still have more learning to do." So come back next year and see how we're still learning, still redoing this Christmas thing, until we have global peace, global justice, global inclusion and the presence of the radically inclusive unconditional love of Jesus.

A mature God creates mature people; a big God creates big people; a constricting God creates constricting people; an angry God creates angry people; a vindictive God creates vindictive people; those with a fearful world view carry within them a fear-oriented God. Make sure that you don't adopt a religion that says, "just love those who love us," but rather participate in a larger love, a divine love. Participate in something larger than yourself.

"If you want to honor Jesus today, love someone who is hard for you to love". MLK

Merry Christmas!

AROUND THE PARISH & OTHER PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL TEAM

216-671-5890

Rev. Mr. Dick Beercheck, *Deacon*

dbeercheck@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Mrs. Katie Corbett BS Ed., *Pastoral Associate*

kcorbett@blessedtrinitycleveland.orgExt 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.

Thank you for your generous support!

Sunday, December 11 \$ 4,549.41

Special Gifts \$ 2953.00

Scrip, profit from gift card sales \$ 545.01

"Thank you!" to The Christ Child Society of Cleveland for the free Christmas Book Giveaway our parish shared in. Last year, The Society assisted over 7,000 children and their families with help including newborn layettes, infant cribs, beds, school uniforms, shoes, boots, winter coats, and "My Stuff" comfort bags for children entering emergency shelters.

Prayer Line. If you would like to join others to pray for the needs of parishioners, their family and friends, please sign up for the prayer line by contacting Grace Samarin at gracesamarin@att.net.

Centering Prayer meets on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings each month at 6:30 pm in the Joseph Center. Join us for these spiritual growth sessions.

Please pray for:

Nancy Abarca, Thomas Ausnehmer, Doris Eikens Az-zarello, Lisa Baus, Lenore Begin, Vincent Bontempo, Charlene Boyer, Mary Brennan, Adele Burke, Ann Busch, Callie Carley, Gladys Castro, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipro, Alex & Ashley Cornet, McKayla Coyne, Teri Crowe, Cathrine Damm, John Darmstadt, Diane Dorenkott, Martin Patrick Dugan, Dukles Family, Barb Dylag, Edward Dzurro, Scott Eidam, Shirley Fago, Donald Flanagan, Vesna Goverdovski, Michael Graham, Dottie Green Family, Liz Greller, Donald Haluska, Robert Hardman, Catherine Heidinger, Susanne Heisey, Agnes Hocesvar, Helena Hoogstraten, Gail Iseli, Carole Iseli, John Itayem, Eileen Kelly, Nicola Jandric, Roubir Jesri, Jr., Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Tony Kernan, Karen Kraus, Linda Kreon, Fr. Dennis Kristancic, Marilyn Lombardo, Karen Long, Mary Lynch, Eileen Mangan, Sr. Rita Marra, SND, Rosemarie Martin, Patrick McAvinue, George McKee, Molly McQuillan & family, Andrea Medina, Betty Ann Menzing, Mary Jo Menzing, Tony Miller, Charles Miller, Jim & Steve Moravcik, Dave Norris, Tom O'Boyle, Noreen Ortiz, Tony Pierson, Lisa Prokopius, Carol Roberts, Matthew Rossman, Ron Ruble, Bob Ruddy, Mary Salamon, Grace Samarin, Marilyn Samonte, Jerry Secunde, Brandy Shuttera, Debbie Shavorinsky, Terri Siegwarth, Joanna Somerville, Larry Sowders, Bernie Sprenger, Christopher Stein, Roberta Steinbacher, Janet Tang, Kevin Thompson, Sherrie Thompson, Celine Whelpley, Noreen Williams, Monica Woodman, Jay Yesenko, Eileen Young, Jeala Youssefi, Jacqueline Zambarano.

Please pray for all who are serving in the military, especially the men and women connected to our parish:

- * Brook Robinson (Navy), son of David & Michelle and grandson of Dolores Coleman
- * Kyle A. Riley (Air Force), nephew of Robert Hollowell
- * Greg Koch (Air Force), nephew of Nancy Koch
- * James Ashenhurst (Navy), stepson of Stephen Flynn and son of Jenny Simons
- * Yoshi Cacho (US Marine Corps), son of Medel & Marianne Cacho
- * Michael Duniec (Air Force), grandson of Dottie Schultz and nephew of Margie Pavone.

AUXILIARY HEARING AMPLIFICATION PACKS are available in the sacristy. Please return them when you are finished.

The Calendar Raffle is back! We will be selling tickets this weekend after Masses. We will be drawing winners starting January 1st!

Advertiser of the Week:

Catholic Cemeteries Association





This Week at Blessed Trinity

Sunday, Dec 25	Merry Christmas!
Monday, Dec 26 9:30am—10:30am	Rectory Office Closed Legion of Mary (Church)
Tuesday, Dec 27 8:00am—8:30am 9:30am—12:00pm 10:30am—12:00pm 7:00pm—8:30pm	Novena—Rosary (Church) Bountiful Basement AA Meeting (Rectory Basement) Centering Prayer (JC Lg)
Wednesday, Dec 28 5:00pm—6:45pm 7:00pm—8:30pm	Bountiful Basement Tai Chi Easy (Fogarty Hall)
Thursday, Dec 29 11:00am—12:00pm	AA Meeting (Rectory Basement)
Friday, Dec 30	Rectory Office Closed
Saturday, Dec 31 1:00pm—3:45 pm	Rectory Office Open

Join us New Year's Eve at 7:00 pm our annual Peace and Justice Interfaith Prayer Service for non-violence. Our guest speaker is Alan Kolp.

Early bulletin announcement deadline for Jan. 1st bulletin, deadline is Thurs. Dec. 22nd.
Please make a note of this for your records.

AM 1260 The Rock is having a monthly Mass said for YOU - our listeners and donors and your intentions. Each 11th day of the month we will have a Mass said at a different parish in the Diocese of Cleveland. Why you ask on the 11th of the month? Well, because our first broadcast was May 11th. We would welcome all to celebrate Mass as prayers are offered for you, our listeners, and benefactors. The January Mass is at St. Rocco on Monday, January 11th at 8:45 AM. Visit **AM1260therock.com** for the complete schedule of The Mass of the Month.

AN INTER-PARISH MEN'S GROUP will meet **January 6th** for a First Friday luncheon at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, North Olmsted. Registration begins at 11:15 AM, followed by the luncheon, then an inspirational talk, and concludes with Mass. Please call George Perz at (440) 937-6606 by **Tuesday, December 27th** to make a reservation. Cost is \$16.00.



WORSHIP

Saturday, Dec 24

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

**Sunday, Dec 25 Nativity of the Lord
(Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18)**

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am Blessed Trinity

Monday, Dec 26 St. Stephen

All Souls

Tuesday, Dec 27 St. John, the Evangelist

No Mass

Wednesday, Dec 28 The Holy Innocents

No Mass

Thursday, Dec 29

No Mass

Friday, Dec 30

No Mass

Saturday, Dec 31 The Holy Family

4:00pm Michael, Sr. & Luz Marflak
(Victoria Suzrez)

7:00pm Interfaith Service for Non-Violence

Sunday, Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary

(Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21)

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am All Souls

Blessed Trinity Bible Study is on break until after the start of the new year. Bible Study will resume on Thursday, January 12, 2023 and begin a series on Exodus. Bible Study meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month both in the rectory living room and via ZOOM. Study materials are available in the rectory library. All are welcome.

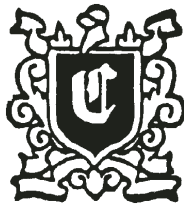
BRING IT TO THE BIN! During the holidays, Americans throw away 25% more trash than any other time of the year. That amounts to 25 million extra tons of garbage. If every family reused 2ft of ribbon, the 38,000 miles of ribbon saved could tie a bow around the planet! If every American family wrapped 3 gifts in reused material, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields! Recycle all your wrapping paper and cards in Blessed Trinity's bins in the back parking lot. Being good stewards earns funds for BT!

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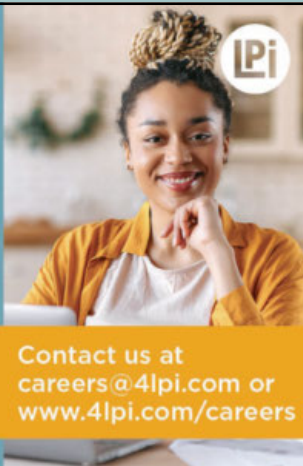
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