



Blessed Trinity

CATHOLIC CHURCH



PURITAS

W. 140



All Are Welcome



DECEMBER 17, 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135

Phone: 14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135

Phone: 216-671-5890

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 12:30–1:00pm)

Saturday: 1pm—3:45pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am and 11:00am

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 25: To You, O Lord



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you, I lift my soul.



Text Psalm25:4-5,8-9,12-14; Marty Haugen, 1982, GIA Publication, Inc; refrain trans. 1969,ICEL
Music: Marty Haugen, 1982, GIA Publication, Inc.



Third Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

James Keane writes "I have a friend, a Jesuit priest, who used to complain when he was younger whenever he would hear people refer to him as "Father What-A-Waste." (The passage of time has saved him from such an unhappy fate, as I remind him now and then.) He didn't like being called that, or at least said he didn't, not just because it objectified him but because it bespoke a presumption that celibacy and religious life are only for people not attractive enough to compete in a world of dating and marriage. But he also had a funny and somewhat shocking story to tell: When he was a novice, he mentioned his complaint to a fellow Jesuit, who laughed and sent him to look up the reasons the early Jesuits had for rejecting candidates—as reflected in the Jesuit Constitutions and Complementary Norms.

And there it was: A potential impediment to admission was "in regard to the exterior, a lack of bodily integrity, illnesses and weakness, or notable ugliness" (No. 185).

Harsh. Way harsh! And why even say it? Well, one presumes that the early Jesuits felt that ugliness didn't attract people, and evangelists need to be attractive. You can't spread the good news if the first thing people notice when they meet you is that you're as homely as a hedge fence, and you can't convince anyone to turn away from sin when you're as ugly as it.

Advent's Gospel readings from Mark gives the lie to that presumption, though. Before we even meet Jesus, we meet John the Baptist, who lives in the desert, is "clothed in camel's hair, with a leather

belt around his waist" and "fed on locusts and wild honey." If we presume he was a Nazirite (from the description in Lk 1:15), he also would never have shaved. The image makes me think of Tom Hanks' character in "Castaway," a dirty, hairy dude with a bad wardrobe. Maybe not someone to bring home to mom and dad.

And yet Mark tells us in today's Gospel that "People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him." In John's Gospel, Jesus comments that "He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light" (Jn 5:35). The Gospels even recount arguments between the disciples of Jesus and those of John the Baptist over who is greater (John, obviously, picks Jesus). Clearly, John the Baptist was nevertheless very attractive to people. What's going on here?

The truth is attractive. John the Baptist speaks the truth, and they come flocking to him. He doesn't seek glory for himself—in fact, he accepts that he must become less so that Jesus can become more. And he preaches not for his own gain, but to proclaim a future wonder just being born as Jesus begins his ministry. So his vehemence and the force of his message—come forth and confess your sins, because the kingdom is at hand—come through clearly and effectively. Good news about the future and forgiveness while you're at it...not a bad deal.

We see that so often today, both in popular media and on the local level: the slick and clever message that doesn't stick, doesn't last; the preachers whom the writer Katelyn Beaty calls "celebrities for Jesus," who are looking to make a buck and end up hurting Christians—and losing their way completely.

But then we look at the events we commemorate in the season in which we are now fully engaged: the Christ Child about to be born to the least likely of people in the most humble of circumstances. There's no reason to be drawn to that person either, on the surface of it—and yet he attracts shepherds, kings, wise men, angels. And John the Baptist himself, eventually, someone who knew that God speaks most clearly through the gritty and the humble. That's hot.

By James T. Keane, a senior editor at America.



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

Fr. Doug Koesel, *Pastor* Ext 21

dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

OFFICE STAFF

Mrs. Krystal Rodriguez, *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:

tntriedel@sbcglobal.net

Thank you for your generous support, Sunday contributions, Advent collections and gift card sales will be reported next week!!

*May the Peace of Our Lord be with
Virginia Bevans*

May God grant comfort to her family and friends.

This week Advent collection is for Religious Retirement fund.

Next weeks Advent collection will support the St. Vincent De Paul Society.. You can use your own mailed envelopes or envelopes will be provided after masses.

Now selling in the Rectory

Homemade Jam-\$ 7.00

Bees wax salve- \$ 5.00

Applesauce-\$ 5.00

Calendar Raffle still available -\$ 10.00

As always Gift cards

An inter-parish men's group will meet January 5th 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, January 2nd to make a reservation. Cost is \$16.00.

Please pray for:

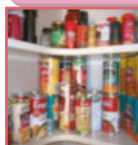
Joan Andrews, Thomas Ausnehmer, Doris Eikens Az-zarello, Lenore Begin, Vincent Bontempo, Charlene Boyer, Mary Brennan, Jeanne Brent, Adele Burke, Callie Carley, Gladys Castro, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipro, Alex & Ashley Cornet, McKayla Coyne, Teri Crowe, Scherrie Damm, John Darmstadt, Martin Patrick Dugan, Dukles Family, Joseph Dunn, Barb Dylag, Edward Dzuro, Scott Eidam, Shirley Fago, Donald Flanagan, Marianna Fleming, Will Gibson, Vesna Goverdovski, Michael Graham, Dottie Green Family, Maria Guy, Donald Haluska, Robert Hardman, Linda Heaton, Catherine Heidinger, Susanne Heisey, Thomas Heim, Agnes Hocevar, Anna Hvizdos, John Itayem, Eileen Kelly, Nicola Jandric, Roubir Jesri, Jr., Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Dan Kemer, Tony Kernan, Paul Kish, Diane Kortan, Karen Kraus, Linda Kreon, Fr. Dennis Kristancic, Ken Lesko & Family, Marilyn Lombardo, Karen Long, Mary Lynch, Eileen Mangan, Sr. Rita Marra, Jerry Masek, SND, George McKee, Margaret McMahon, Molly McQuillan & family, Andrea Medina, Betty Ann Menzing, Mary Jo Menzing, Tony Miller, Charles Miller, Michael Mitchell, Jim & Steve Moravcik, Genevieve Noar, Dave Norris, Tom O'Boyle, Terri Pastura, Lisa Prokopius, Jose Rivera, Carol Roberts, Matthew Rossman, Liz Rosa, Ron Ruble, Mary Salamon, Marilyn Samonte, Betty Schmidt, Vic Scigliano, Brandy Shuttera, Larry Sowders, Bernie Sprenger, Evana Stanonik, Christopher Stein, Roberta Steinbacher, Janet Tang, Kevin Thompson, Sherrie Thompson, Celine Whelpley, Noreen Williams, Jesse Wilson, Karin Wishner, 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
- * Francisco Cacho (Police), son of Medel Cacho and Stepson to Marianne Cacho.
- * Michael Duniec (Air Force), grandson of Dottie Schultz and nephew of Margie Pavone
- * James Andrews (Navy), nephew of Bob and Kathy Grega
- * A.J Butler. (Army) Grandson of Nancy Butler

Advertiser of the Week:

Ken's Home Improvement



For the month of December the Bountiful Basement could use canned prepared meals. Thank You!!



This Week at Blessed Trinity

Saturday, Dec 16	Have a Blessed Saturday!!!
Sunday, Dec 17	
9:00am-10:45am	CGS level 1 Atrium
9:00am- 10:45am	PSR 1-3 Grades (A)
9:00am- 10:45am	PSR 4-5 Grades (R B)
9:30am-10:00am	RCIA (R Lib)
10:00am- 1:00pm	Coffee & Donuts (FH&K)
10:00am—11:00am	Breaking Open The Word (R Liv Rm)
11:00am-12:00pm	CLW church atrium
12:15pm- 2:00pm	Taize practice (Church)
Monday, Dec 18	
9:00am-10:30am	Legion of Mary (Church)
7:00pm-8:30pm	St. Vincent De Paul Society Mtg.(R liv Rm)
7:00pm-8:30pm	Peace and Justice Mtg (JcLg)
Tuesday, Dec 19	
8:00 am - 8:30 am	Novena - Rosary (Church)
9:00 am – 11:00 am	IDCC (Joseph Center)
9:30 am - 12:00 pm	Bountiful Basement (BB)
10:30am-12:00pm	A.A Meeting (RB)
6:30pm-8:30pm	Holy Name Society (JcLg)
Wednesday, Dec 20	
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	IDCC (Joseph Center)
5:00 pm - 6:45 pm	Bountiful Basement (BB)
7:00pm-8:00pm	Tai Chi Practice (FH)
Thursday, Dec 21	
11:00am-12:00 pm	A.A Meeting (R B)
5:30pm-8:00pm	Woman's Faith Sharing Group (JC Lg)
6:30pm-8:00pm	Faith Sharing Prayer Group (R Lib)
Friday, Dec 22	
	Rectory/Office is Closed!!!
Saturday, Dec 23	
	Have a Blessed Weekend !!!!!
Sunday, Dec 24	
9:30am—10:00am	RCIA (R Lib)

Thomas Heim would like to thank all the parishioners and everyone else that has come to visit him in the hospital and who also said a prayer for him. He is very Thankful.

Gift Cards are a great gift for the Holidays. Don't forget about your special somebody this year. We now have \$10 Mc Donald's gift cards and \$10 Burger King gift cards. Need something that we do not keep in stock or more than 10 of any one card? Special order forms are available at the gift card table and at the Rectory.

Early bulletin announcement deadlines for the holidays : If any ministry/ organization has announcements coming up for December 10th– December 31st our deadlines are as follows: **For Dec 24th bulletin, deadline Dec 12th, For Dec 31st bulletin, deadline Dec 18th**

WORSHIP

Saturday, December 16

4:00pm Sr. Marie Veres, HM (Veres Family)

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2a,10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 (8)

9:00am Thomas & Joanne Salem (Family)

11:00am Sharon & John Vertal (family)

Monday, December 18

11:00am All Souls

**At West Park Healthcare Campus
4387 W.150th St.**

Tuesday, December 19

8:30am All Souls

Wednesday, December 20

8:30am All Souls

Friday, December 22

8:30am All Souls

Saturday, December 23

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38(11)

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am Ginger Needham

4:00pm Christmas Vigil Blessed Trinity

Christmas Mass Schedule :

Christmas Eve- 4:00 pm

Christmas Day- 9:00 am & 11:00 pm

Attention all Parishioners. Be on the lookout for our next Holy Name speaker, Lee Pickler sharing about the 5 equities. What's that? That's classified, to be revealed on December 19th at the Joseph center. Doors open at 7pm. All Women and Men are welcome. Come and investigate.

Office Help

We are in need of volunteers to cover the office on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 5pm-8pm Also on Saturday 1pm-3:45pm. Some Morning shifts as well when needed. Contact the office if interested.

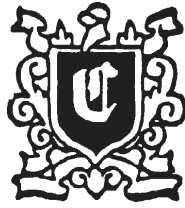
2023 Tree of Remembrance.—Saturday, December 16th at 5PM, the Walter Martens & Sons Funeral Home in partnership with Slone & Company Funeral Directors will hold A Tree of Remembrance ceremony. We invite anyone who has experienced a loss to come to our new office located at 13132 Lorain Avenue between 10 AM and 7PM by December 15th and place a memorial inscription on an ornament provided by us, to hang on our holiday tree. This ornament is yours to take home after the ceremony. This is free and open to all. Please contact Wally or Victoria Martens at 216-281-7111 for more information.

MAZZELLA
Lifting Technologies®

WWW.MAZZELLALIFTING.COM

440.239.7000

21000 Aerospace Parkway
Cleveland, OH 44142



CHAMBERS FUNERAL HOMES

North Olmsted - Cleveland - Berea (216) 251-6566

Family Owned & Operated for 90 Years • www.chambersfuneral.com

Traditional Services & Cremation

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator



WESTPARK
HEALTHCARE CAMPUS

4401 West 150th St • Cleveland
216-252-7555

WE APPRECIATE OUR
ADVERTISERS!

We Are Here For You

*Burial Planning
Memorials
Grief Support*



www.clecem.org
216-641-7575



**FREE
AD DESIGN**

with purchase
of this space

**CALL
800-477-4574**

SLONE & Co.
Funeral Directors

13115 Lorain Ave
Cleveland, OH 44111

At Your Side Throughout The Journey
Charles D. Slone - Funeral Director

216-941-3434

www.slonecares.com

KEN'S HOME IMPROVEMENT "THE ROOFMAN"

Flat Roofs and Roofing Repairs
Chimney Pointing and Rebuilds
Gutters Cleaning and Replacing
Siding Repairs

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

Home: (216) 661-3505 Cell: (216) 407-8252

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized
Provider

SafeStreets

833-287-3502



NATURE'S WAY DAY CARE CENTER

671-0572 252-0024
14010 Puritas Ave. 13835 Puritas Ave.
Ages 3 thru 10 Infants & Toddlers
Hrs: 6:30am-6:30pm Hrs: 6:30am-6:30pm

School Age Transportation



KellerWilliams®

REALTOR
Dametrius Clark

Here To: Help,
Educate and
Serve

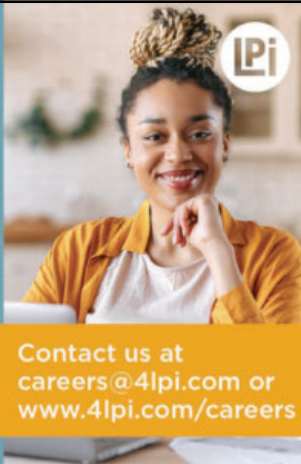
M: 216-762-0059 | dametriousclark@kw.com

WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Vic Preisel

vpreisel@4lpi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6317



For All Your Flooring Needs!

Family Owned and Operated Since 1985
3580 West 140th St.
Cleveland, OH 44111

216.640.5000

www.clevelandflooring.com



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-0244