

Blessed Trinity

All Are Welcome



DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135**

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Website: www.blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/BlessedTrinityCleveland>

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Wednesday: 9 a.m.–8 p.m.
Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p. m.
(Closed for lunch 12:30–1:00 p.m.)
Saturday: 1:00–3:45 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Children's Liturgy of the Word: 11 a.m.
Monday: see worship calendar
for time & location
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Anytime by appointment only

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 80/85/Luke 1: Lord, Make Us Turn to You

Refrain

Lord, make us turn to you, show us your face, and
we shall be saved.

Text: Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-20; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 1:46-55; Marty Haugen, Music Marty Haugen
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What Is Advent?

Why do I say “Merry Advent?” In order for our bulletin publisher to give their workers time off, today’s bulletin had to go to the printer by December 12. So I am writing this column before we’ve even celebrated the third Sunday of Advent, trying to remember all of the things that happen between now and Christmas, and keeping it short.

Oplatki is available after all the Masses. Also available are gift cards, mulberry jam, applesauce, lip balm and salve from our beehives. Sometimes I think about Jesus coming to the temple and chasing out the moneychangers. Are we those people? These items make for great Christmas gifts for the person who has everything or the person who doesn’t need anything. We’re just trying to make it convenient for you. Don’t feel pressured or obligated to buy anything.

Christmas Eve Mass is at 4:00pm and Mass on Christmas Day will be at 10:00am. You can bring your Reverse Advent Calendar box to Masses that day and place it in the sanctuary or by the Christmas tree in the foyer or in front of the cry room.

New Year’s Eve Mass will be at 4pm and New Year’s Day Mass will be at 11:00am

Save the date. New Year’s Eve at 7:00pm will be our annual Witness for Peace and Gospel Non-violence interfaith gathering. This year’s speaker is Mike Fiala. Near West Side resident Mike Fiala recollects how his early life experiences shaped his role in Cleveland’s Catholic Worker movement. He shares his involvement in activism on behalf of affordable housing and providing services for unhoused people on the Near West Side. Fiala highlights the rise of gentrification in the Near West Side, along with the expansion of St. Ignatius High School. He also recollects his involvement in the 2015 March for Tamir Rice. Refreshments after the talk.

Now, let’s get back to Christmas. Merry Christmas to all. May the joy and peace promised in this holy season be yours. In December 2020, Fr. Richard Rohr wrote:

There’s really nothing necessarily pretty about the first Christmas. We have Joseph breaking the law, knowing what he should do with a seemingly “adulterous woman,” but he doesn’t divorce Mary as the Law clearly tells him to do, even though he has no direct way of knowing that the baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit [Matthew 1:18–24]. It can certainly lead us to wonder why so much of Christianity became so legalistic when we have at its very beginning a man who breaks the law to protect the dignity of the woman he loves. Then we clearly have a couple that is homeless and soon to be refugees or immigrants in their flight to Egypt shortly after Jesus’ birth [Matthew 2:13–15].

So where is this God revealing God’s self? Certainly not in the “safe” world, but at the edge, at the bottom, among those people and places where we don’t want to find God, where we don’t look for God, where we don’t expect God. The way we’ve shaped Christianity, one would think it was all about being nice and middle class and “normal” and under the law. In the Gospels, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are none of those things, so they might just be telling us we should be looking elsewhere for our status and dignity. Maybe the reason that our knowledge of God is so limited is because we’ve been looking for God in places we consider nice and pretty. Instead, God chooses the ordinary and messy.

What is our story as Christians? God being totally vulnerable, totally poor, a little child. If we’re honest, this is not a fitting image for God. It’s telling us right away that God is not who we think God is! Sadly, most people’s image of God is jolly Santa, making a list and checking it twice, finding out who’s naughty or nice. It’s certainly not this humble, helpless baby who has come to love us in ways that we’re not ready to be loved.

What this feast tells us is that reality, at its deepest foundation, is good, even “very good.” The divine is hidden quietly inside the human. The holy is hidden in the physical and the material. Therefore, we have every reason to live in hope and trust and confidence. Merry Christmas!



AROUND THE PARISH & OTHER PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL TEAM

216-671-5890

Pastor: Fr. Doug Koesel..... Ext 21
dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Dick Beercheck.....
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OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Ms. Donna M. Bell Ext 10
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Bulletin Editor: Ms. Donna M. Bell Ext 10
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Society of St. Vincent DePaul@ Blessed Trinity ...EXT 14

Stephen Ministry..... EXT 12

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.

Luffa Sponges grown in our own garden will be available to purchase this weekend after Masses. Prices range from \$1 - \$12 for various sized pieces. Sponges for bath use are \$5. These sponges are great for personal use and as gifts. They are excellent exfoliators and scrubbers for all-around cleaning uses.

Christmas Vigil Taize: Join us for an end of Advent/Coming of Christmas Taize Prayer on Sunday, December 22 at 7 pm at Lakewood Baptist Church, 14312 Detroit Ave. in Lakewood. Bring family or a friend to this meditative prayer time of chants, silence and readings.

Please plan to purchase one of our many **Gift Cards**. They're great for doing your shopping and make wonderful gifts for the holidays. The proceeds benefit Blessed Trinity Parish. *Blessed Trinity can make special orders from shopwithscrip.com for those items you may not find in our gift box. Contact the Parish office to place your special order. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

Please pray for:

Joan Andrews, Thomas Ausnehmer, Doris Eikens Az-zarello, Jim Beesley, Kathy Betz, Charlene Boyer, Jeanne Brent, Adele Burke, Callie Carley, Gladys Castro, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipro, Alex & Ashley Cornet, Teri Crowe, Scherrie Damm, John Darmstadt, Al Delattre, Martin Patrick Dugan, Dukles Family, Joseph Dunn, Barb Dylag, Edward Dzuro, Scott Eidam, Erma Eifel, Terry Evans, Donald Flanagan, Marianna Fleming, Joyce Geib, Will Gibson, Vesna Goverdovski, Michael Graham, Dottie Green Family, Maria Guy, Donald Haluska, Robert Hardman, Linda Heaton, Catherine Heidinger, Susanne Heisey, Agnes Hocevar, Eileen Kelly, Denise Kamiola, Nicola Jandric, Roubir Jesri, Jr., Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Dan Kemer, Tony Kernan, Karen Kraus, Linda Kreon, Fr. Dennis Kristancic, Ken Lesko & Family, Marilyn Lombardo, Karen Long, Mary Lynch, Liz Mahon, Eileen Mangan, Sr. Rita Marra SND, Jerry Masek, Claudette Matero, Lucy McInerney, Tom McInerney, Tommy McInerney, Margaret McMahan, 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, Steven O'Malley, Lisa Prokopius, Jose Rivera, Carol Roberts, Matthew Rossman, Liz Rosa, Ron Ruble, Mary Salamon, Marilyn Samonte, Rob Salvaore, Betty Schmidt, Vic Scigliano, Brandy Shuttera, Larry Sowders, Evana Stanonik, Christopher Stein, Roberta Steinbacher, Sean Szill, Janet Tang, Kevin Thompson, Sherrie Thompson, Tom Vasko, Noreen Williams, Jesse Wilson, Monica Woodman, Maggie Wooley, Jay Yesenko, Eileen Young, Jeala Youssef, 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



This Week at Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

9:00am-10:45am PSR Grade 1-3 (A)
10:00am-11:00am Breaking Open the Word (R Liv Rm)
10:00am-10:45am PSR Grade 4-8 (R B)
11:00am-11:45 pm CLW (CH)

MONDAY, DEC. 23

9:00am-10:30am Legion of Mary (CH)
7:00pm-8:00pm St. Vincent DePaul Mtg (R Liv Rm)
7:00pm-8:00pm Peace & Justice Commission (JC Lg)

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

Office Closed
9:30am-12:00pm Bountiful Basement (BB)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

Office Closed

THURSDAY, DEC. 26

10:30am-12:00pm AA Meeting (RB)
6:30pm-7:30pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

SUNDAY, DEC. 29

11:00am-11:45pm CLW (CH)

“THANK YOU!” to the Christ Child Society of Cleveland for the free Christmas Book Giveaway our parish shared in. The Society assists thousands of children and their families with help including newborn layettes, infant cribs, beds, school uniforms, shoes, boots, winter coats, and comfort bags for children entering emergency shelters. We are grateful for the beautiful books shared with our community!

Collections for December 8th will be reported next week

<i>Sunday, December 8</i>	<i>\$ 6,512.75</i>
<i>Zelle's Home</i>	<i>\$ 1,223.00</i>
<i>Bountiful Basement, 2 weeks</i>	<i>\$ 1,273.00</i>
<i>Special Gifts</i>	<i>\$ 5,577.00</i>
<i>Gift Card Profit</i>	<i>\$ 345.36</i>

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

4:00pm Sr. Marie Veres (Joan Francis & Family)

SUNDAY, DEC. 22 Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45(12)

9:00 am Henry Reitinger Jr. (Family)

11:00 am Josephine Dilisio (Mary Chenik)

MONDAY, DEC. 2311:00 am All Souls
@ Westpark Health Center**TUESDAY, DEC. 24 Christmas Eve**

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25 Christmas Day

10:00am Blessed Trinity

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

No Mass

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

4:00pm Rochelle Samonte (Ferdinand Samonte)

SUNDAY, DEC. 29 Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Sir 3-2-6, 12-14 Col. 3-12-21 Lk 2:41-52

9:00 am Pastura & Wrobleski Families

11:00 am Blessed Trinity


The International Order of Alhambra is a fraternal organization of Catholic men and women founded in 1904 dedicated to assisting persons who are intellectually disabled or handicapped, particularly children. Within our Cleveland Diocese is the Cleveland chapter, the Carmona Caravan, organized in 1948. They meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Garfield Heights, 10806 Granger Road. During this season of giving, please consider supporting these special children and the nonprofits that serve them. Visit <https://www.carmonacaravan.org> to support the Caravan & for more details.

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