

Blessed Trinity

All Are Welcome



AUGUST 17, 2025

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135**

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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 12:30-1:00pm &
 1:15-1:45 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

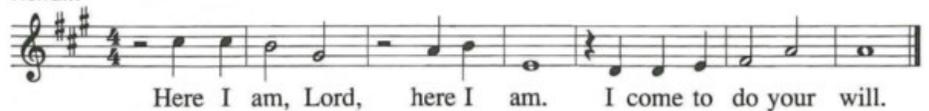
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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 40: Here I Am

Refrain



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Is God a Prisoner?

Every now and then I hear someone say “I gotta go to confession.” Hmmmm. What do they think Muslims do when they are aware that they have sinned? What do Jews do? Neither one has the sacrament of reconciliation. But in both of those religions, seeking forgiveness from one’s sins is an essential tenet of their faith.

I remember learning about “confession” as a child. We peppered out CCD teach with questions. What if you went to Mass every Sunday and then you missed once and then you were killed in a car accident? Would you go to Hell for all eternity just for missing Mass one time? Or conversely, what if you lived a life of sin and then, on your deathbed you made a “good confession.” Would you go straight to heaven? (The answer was “yes” and no, in neither case did it seem fair.)

Sometimes we Catholics make God a prisoner of our sacraments. Reconciliation is a good example. We can always ask God for forgiveness like the Muslims and Jews do at any moment in time. God will forgive us. We don’t have to wait “to go to confession” for our sins to be forgiven.

Many of us are aware of our sinfulness, yet we don’t feel the need to go to confession. In many ways, it seems ridiculous and redundant. Why go and say the same things over and over again. Those of us who use St. Ignatius’ Consciousness Examen every day are aware of those moments each day when we might have been more charitable, more Christian, more gracious to our neighbor. These offenses are not worth confessing, yet we want to become better.

We used to have communal penance services. People loved them. Why? Because they were meaningful. The full church captured the communal nature of our sinfulness. The examination of conscience went beyond the ten commandments, which only made us good Jews, and called us to evaluate our lives in light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; giving food to the hungry, making peace with our estranged relatives, challenging our prejudice and racism, welcoming the immigrant, caring for our planet, and so on.

Communal penance services and general absolution are no longer allowed. But why should God be a prisoner of the sacrament. What if we had a communal penance service that was not sacramental. Can God still forgive our sins outside the sacrament? Of course! Can we acknowledge our sinfulness, seek pardon and praise and glorify in song the God who is so merciful to us all? Can we do this in the light and not in the darkness of a confessional? Could we leave rejoicing that we have been pardoned as has our neighbor been pardoned?

How many parents, especially mothers, have been tortured, believing that their unbaptized child is in limbo? Can not the God who parted the Red Sea and raised Lazarus from the dead, enable an unbaptized baby to go to heaven. Of course God can. Yet for centuries we’ve made God a prisoner of the sacrament of baptism.

Today I will be anointed by the community after the 11:00am Mass. Is it the sacrament of the anointing of the sick? No. Will the prayer of the community for a successful surgery and guided hand of my surgeon be just as powerful? Yes. Is this gathering of the community in prayer just as meaningful and powerful as the sacrament of the sick? Absolutely. Did the assembly make Christ present just because two or three gathered in His name? Yes.

Sacraments are wonderful ritual moments in the life of the church. Their power extends beyond words. Yet there are other ritual moments just as meaningful. Let’s free God from our sacraments and watch God work in other ways.



Welcome

**We Welcome Into Our
Blessed Trinity Family:**
Ashley Kirchner
Brandon & Colleen Traud
Adam Pelleschi & Jennifer Welsh

PASTORAL TEAM **216-671-5890**

Pastor: Fr. Doug Koesel..... Ext 21
 dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Dick Beercheck.....
 dbeercheck@blessedtrinitycleveland.org
Pastoral Assistant: Briyant Hines..... Ext 19
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 Julio@julioxsntnsda@gmail.com

OFFICE STAFF

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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.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Please join us on Sunday mornings to pray with and explore the Sunday scriptures.

Together we will reflect on God’s Word for each of us and for the Church.

We will meet for approximately one hour in the Rectory, beginning Aug 31st at 10 am. (This time is conveniently scheduled so that you can attend either the 9am or the 11am Mass.)

There is no need to register and it is not necessary to attend every week. Please come when you are able.

If you would like more information, please email Laura Fallon Fibbi at: lfibbi@gmail.com

Thank you for your generous support!

Sunday, August 10	\$ 5,374.75
Assumption of Mary	\$ 25.00
Haiti Missions	\$ 80.00
Bountiful Basement	\$ 980.00
Help the Needy	\$ 60.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 130.00
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 4,568.00

Please pray for our sick:

Jim Beesley, Mary Ann Bowers, Charlene Boyer, Adele Burke, Gladys Castro, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipro, Teri Crowe, Scherrie Damm, John Darmstadt, Al Delattre, Martin Patrick Dugan, Dukles Family, Joseph Dunn, Barb Dylag, Scott Eidam, Erma Eifel, Terry Evans, Jenny Flynn, Will Gibson, Michael Graham, Louise J. Hall, Thomas Heim, Susanne Heisey, Agnes Hocevar, Eileen Kelly, Nicola Jandric, Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Dan Kemer, Judy Kobus, Linda Kreon, Marilyn Lombardo, Karen Long, Liz Mahon, Eileen Mangan, Jerry Masek, Claudette Matero, Andrea Medina, Betty Ann Menzing, Mary Jo Menzing, Michael Mitchell, Jim & Steve Moravcik, Genevieve Noar, Dave Norris, Steven Povlis, Jose Rivera, Carol Roberts, Matthew Rossman, Liz Rosa, Ron Ruble, Mary Salamon, Marilyn Samonte, Rob Salvaore, Betty Schmidt, Catherine Sesztak, Evana Stanonik, Christopher Stein, Jacqueline Zambarano, Tom Vasko, Noreen Williams, Jesse Wilson, Monica Woodman, Maggie Wooley, Mary Pat Wynne.

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

Parishioners, families, and friends are invited to come together **immediately following 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, August 16th,** for prayers honoring our Blessed Mother.

On this weekend of the Feast of the Assumption, members of the Legion of Mary who meet at Blessed Trinity will lead us in prayer behind the Music Section of the church. You will also have an opportunity to learn more about Legion of Mary and the group’s contributions to the community. The group meets inside the Church on Mondays at 9 a.m., and then Fr. Doug joins us at Westpark Nursing Home to assist with Mass at 11:00am. For further information, contact Joan Francis at 216-676-4762 or Carmen DeHaan at 216-904-0728.



This Week at Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, AUG. 16

SUNDAY, AUG. 17

10:00am-1:00pm

Coffee & Donuts (FH)

12:15pm-2:00pm

Taize Music Practice (CH)

MONDAY, AUG. 18

9:00am-10:00am

Legion of Mary (CH)

7:00pm-8:30pm

Peace & Justice Commission (JC Lg)

7:00pm-8:30pm

St. Vincent DePaul Society Meeting (R Lib)

TUESDAY, AUG. 19

8:00am-8:30am

Novena - Rosary (CH)

9:00am-11:00am

IDCC (JC Lg)

9:30am-12:00pm

Bountiful Basement (BB)

10:30am-12:00pm

AA Meeting (RB)

6:00pm-7:00pm

Prayer Group (R Liv Rm)

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20

3:00pm-3:45pm

Witness for Ukraine (outside)

4:00pm-6:00pm

IDCC (JC Lg)

5:00pm-6:45pm

Bountiful Basement (BB)

7:00pm-8:00pm

Tai Chi (outside/FH)

THURSDAY, AUG. 21

11:00am-12:30pm

AA Meeting (R B)

7:00pm-8:30pm

Women's Faith Sharing (JC Lg)

FRIDAY, AUG. 22

SATURDAY, AUG. 23

SUNDAY, AUG. 24

Honey is available after Masses this weekend. An 8 oz. Jar is \$9 and a 16oz. jar is \$18. Mulberry jam (\$7) and applesauce (\$5) are also available for purchase after Masses.



The Legion of Mary is collecting used rosaries. If you would like to donate any old rosaries, they would be happy to recycle them. Do not buy new rosaries for them.

*May the Peace of Our Lord be with **Ronald Mickler Sr., husband of Kathleen Mickler.** May God grant comfort to his family and friends.*



*For the month of August, the **Bountiful Basement** could use canned, prepared meals and plastic bags.*

SATURDAY, AUG. 16

4:00pm Alberto Javier Alvarez Predreza (Family)

**SUNDAY, AUG. 17 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10 Heb 12: 1-4 Lk 12:49-53 (120)

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am Martin Dugan (Jeannie Strok)

MONDAY, AUG. 1811:00am at West Park Health Center
4401 West 150th, Cleveland, Ohio**TUESDAY, AUG. 19**

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20

No Mass

THURSDAY, AUG. 21

No Mass

FRIDAY, AUG. 22

No Mass

SATURDAY, AUG. 23

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

**SUNDAY, AUG. 24 TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Is 66:18-21 Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30 (123)

9:00am Pat & Maureen Ruppe (Tim Ruppe)

11:00am Blessed Trinity

Villa Maria Education & Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, PA will sponsor a special weekend retreat with Eric A. Clayton on September 26-28, 2025. Eric is the deputy director of communications for the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States and the author of multiple books on Ignatian Spirituality and everyday life. The retreat is entitled “Cultivating a Spirituality of Storytelling: How Ignatian Spirituality Helps Us Uncover our Deepest Selves.”

For more information or to register, go to: <https://vmesc.org/programs-retreats/all-events?id=1024>

Taize Prayer on August 24 at 7 pm

We will gather at Centering Space, 14812 Lake Ave, for our August Taize Prayer. Our plan is to be outdoors, so bring a chair. If the weather is bad, we will be indoors at Centering Space. Join us for this meditative prayer!

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