

Blessed Trinity

All Are Welcome



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**14040 PURITAS AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135**

Phone: 216-671-5890

Fax: 216-938-9843

Email: office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

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 12:30-1:00pm & 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.



Antiphon ♩ = ca. 60



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Drowning:

Let's just get straight to the point: ministry isn't for the hard! It can be challenging, frustrating, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally exhausting. And in some respects, you may feel as though you've been given too much responsibility and not enough time. Everyone expects you to make it happen. They expect you to make the right decisions all the time and sometimes, there may not be enough room for error. Ministry can make you feel as though you are drowning.

I remember being in ministry in the capacity of a Spiritual Health Clinician, a fancy way of saying Chaplain, at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta a while back. I was on-call one night when I got a call from one of the nurses in the Intensive Care Unit. A patient was in distress and needed my presence. Although I was feeling overwhelmed at the time, I had to go. I couldn't say no to someone experiencing spiritual distress; it was my purpose and in my job description to take care of patients and staff at the hospital who felt this way. I remember at the end of the call closing my eyes and letting out a sigh of exhaustion. Then I mumbled to myself, "I'm in distress." I told a friend of mine that after that phone call, I felt like I was drowning. As the week went by, I kept thinking about that word: drowning. It wasn't an overexaggeration because I genuinely felt like that's what I was doing and that there was no one there to help me.

One day, I randomly came across the story of Jesus walking on water. I had read this story many times, but this time I attempted to read it thoroughly through the lens of my spirit. There was something there that I needed to get. It was something in that passage and in that miracle that God had for me. I didn't try to force the revelation, but I had to open my heart to revelation. Something happens every time we are genuinely open and receptive to the Spirit of the Living God.

This time, I experienced true revelation from the perspective of Peter. Peter is by far one of the most inspiring, influential, and relatable of the disciples. I love how throughout the gospels, you see Peter trying to figure out his faith, making sense of his call, and his relationship with a Jewish peasant and carpenter whom he claimed to be the Messiah. Peter doesn't "get it" all the time, but his passion and dedication to the gospel is what truly counts. In this miraculous passage, I saw not only the dichotomy of Peter's humanity and spirituality on full display, but I saw someone in the Bible whom I clearly related to in more ways than one.

As the Bible tells us, Jesus sent the disciples away to go before Him while He went to spend time alone with God and to pray. When the storm began in the Sea of Galilee, which was known for its sudden and tumultuous

storms, it was in the fourth watch of the night. The fourth watch of the night was between 3AM-6AM. The conditions of the storm were scary and appeared to be life-threatening. The disciples were battling the storm and trying to desperately row through it. They were in the middle of the sea and scared for their lives. Then, Jesus appeared, walking on water. The disciples had never seen anything like it as they gripped themselves in fear until Jesus identified himself.

It was then that Peter decided to issue a challenge to Jesus. "If it's you, command me to come to you on the water!" Jesus obliged. Peter's faith allowed him to come out of the boat and walk on water, but then...something happens to disrupt Peter's faith and miraculous act of walking on water. Peter is distracted by the conditions of the storm and because of fear, he begins to drown. As Peter began to drown, he cried out for Jesus to save him. Immediately, Jesus saves him and questions his faith. "Why did you doubt," he asks Peter.

First and foremost, we must understand that Peter's challenge to Jesus was based on the fact that Jesus informed him and the other disciples that they could do the same things He was doing and even greater. So Peter knew if that mysterious figure was truly Jesus, there was no way he would drown. He knew with Jesus, he could walk on water. As Peter began to walk on water, walking in his God-given right, he started to drown because of the conditions of the storm. See, Peter's issue wasn't the wind or the storm, it was his faith. The conditions of the storm shook his faith, and he began to drown.

When we exercise our authority and walk in the power that Jesus commissioned us with to advance the gospel to the four corners of the Earth by working in ministry, we know it's Jesus because great things happen—miracles happen. People get saved, set free, and witness the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. However, it doesn't make us strangers to suffering from a mental, physical, emotional, or ministerial perspective. Suffering in any capacity can shake and rattle our faith to the point where we take our eyes off Jesus and focus more so on the distractions.

The 19th Annotation Retreat: Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life. 32-Week Retreat in Everyday Life (Virtual Program). Tuesday, October 14, 4:00pm - Tuesday, June 2, 5:00pm EST. *Presented by Fr. Paul O'Connor, SJ and other Presenters.* JRC offers the full Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius Loyola in a 32-week retreat in everyday life starting every October. Please email Director of Ignatian Identity and Mission, Fr. Paul O'Connor, SJ, for questions & details: poconnor@jesuitretreatcenter.org. Cost: \$1600



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.....
dbeercheck@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Pastoral Assistant: Briyant Hines..... Ext 19
bhines@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Business Manager: Kathleen Fox, MBA..... Ext 26
accountant@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Music Minister: Julio Santana.....
Julio@julioxsntnsda@gmail.com

OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Ms. Donna M. Bell Ext 10
office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

Bulletin Editor: Ms. Donna M. Bell Ext 10
bulletin@blessedtrinitycleveland.org

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.

A Catholic Call to Action: Caring for Creation

On Sunday, September 28, St. Ladislav Church (2345 Bassett Road, Westlake) will host a special panel presentation to explore the Church's call to care for God's creation. The discussion will highlight the themes of Laudato Si at its 10th anniversary, the global plastics crisis, and practical steps we can take to live more sustainably. Speakers include Brenna Davis (Director of Integral Ecology, Ignatian Solidarity Network), Heidi Paul (AP Environmental Science Teacher, Magnificat High School) and Marty Smith (Co-chair of the St. Ladislav Care for Creation Team). Discussion begins at 4:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Thank you for your generous support!

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday, September 14 | \$ 5,569.00 |
| Haiti Missions | \$ 150.00 |
| Bountiful Basement | \$ 560.00 |
| Help the Needy | \$ 40.00 |
| Capital Improvements | \$ 155.00 |
| Pastoral Ministry | \$ 50.00 |
| Memorials & Special Gifts | \$ 2,185.40 |

Please pray for our sick:

Jim Beesley, Mary Ann Bowers, Charlene Boyer, Adele Burke, Br. Tom Carroll, OFM, 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, Gail Iseli, Eileen Kelly, Nicola Jandric, Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Dan Kemer, Ralph & 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, Richard 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

Prayer for Peace Taize. We gather for the meditative Taize Peace Prayer Sunday, September 21st at the Sisters of St. Joseph Center Chapel at 7 pm.

Liturgy & Ignatian Spirituality: Mass & Ignatian Reflections in October. Tuesdays, 8:00 - 8:45am. October 7, 14, 21, 28. On Tuesdays, the Jesuit Retreat Center offers Mass in the Main Chapel followed by a brief reflection on Ignatian Spirituality. Free will offering (registration is not necessary).



This Week at Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 9:00am-10:45am | CGS Level 1 (A) |
| 9:00am-10:45am | PSR 1-3 (A) |
| 10:00am-10:45am | PSR 4-8 (R B) |
| 10:00am-10:45am | Breaking Open the Word (R Lib) |
| 10:00am-1:00pm | Coffee & Donuts (FH) |
| 11:00am-11:15am | CLW (CH) |

MONDAY, SEPT. 22

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 9:00am-10:30am | Legion of Mary (CH) |
| 7:00pm-8:00pm | Finance Meeting (JC Lg) |

TUESDAY, SEPT. 23

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:00am-8:30am | Novena (CH) |
| 9:00am-11:00am | IDCC (JC Lg) |
| 9:30am-12:00pm | Bountiful Basement (JC Lg) |
| 10:30am-12:00pm | AA Meeting (RB) |
| 6:30pm-8:30pm | Centering Prayer Group (JC Lg) |
| 7:00pm-8:30pm | Parish Council (R Liv Rm) |

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 3:00pm-3:45pm | Witness for Ukraine (outside) |
| 4:00am-6:00pm | IDCC (JC Lg) |
| 5:00pm-6:45pm | Bountiful Basement (JC Lg) |
| 7:00pm-9:00pm | Choir (CH) |
| 7:00pm-8:30pm | LGBTQ Faith Sharing (R Liv Rm) |

THURSDAY, SEPT. 25

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 11:00am-12:30pm | AA Meeting (R B) |
| 7:00pm-8:30pm | Bible Study (R Liv Rm) |

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27

SUNDAY, SEPT. 28

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 9:00am-10:45a | CGS Level 1 (A) |
| 9:00am-10:45a | PSR 1-3 (A) |
| 10:00am-10:45a | PSR 4-8 (A) |
| 10:00am-10:45a | Breaking Open the Word (R Lib) |
| 11:00am-11:15a | CLW (CH) |

Book Discussion Circle - Morning Sessions at

JRC. Three Amazing Conversion Stories. Tuesdays, 10:30am - 12:00pm. September 9, 23, October 7, 21, November 4, 18. Join Fr. Bernie Owens, SJ for readings and discussion on the spiritual transformation of William Wilberforce, an English parliamentarian; of Abraham Lincoln during his presidency of the USA; and of two characters in Alan Paton's *Cry, the Beloved Country*. Free will offering.

*For the month of September, the **Bountiful Basement** could use peanut butter, white rice (1-2 lb bags), pancake mix, and bags.*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Am 8:4-7 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 16:1-13

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am Blessed Trinity

MONDAY, SEPT. 22

11:00am at West Park Health Center
4401 West 150th, Cleveland, Ohio

TUESDAY, SEPT. 23

8:30am Blessed Trinity

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24

8:30am John Joseph Rafter (Catherine Rafter)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 25

No Mass

FRIDAY, SEPT. 26

8:30 Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27

4:00pm Anna Klinger (Catherine Rafter)

SUNDAY, SEPT. 28 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Am 6:1a, 4-7 1 Tm 6:11-16 Lk 16:19-31(138)

9:00am Women of Blessed Trinity (Women's Ministry)

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>



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.

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