

Blessed Trinity

All Are Welcome



DECEMBER 7, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**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 126: God Has Done Great Things for Us

Refrain

God has done great things for us, filled us with
laugh-ter and mu - sic; God has done great things for
us, filled us with laugh-ter and mu - sic.

Text: Psalm 126:1-6; Marty Haugen Music: Marty Haugen ©1988, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under One License A-702576. All rights reserved.



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Advent began last week and continues this week with readings that direct our gaze to the ultimate and the immediate realities of our lives. The first Sunday of Advent always looks to history's end. For Christians that's not the stuff of scary movies but the anticipation of the Second Coming of Christ, which we believe will bring all of creation to its fulfillment. The first Christians thought they were on the threshold of that day and made plans accordingly. That's one idea behind Paul's telling the Romans, "Our salvation is near." In last Sunday's Gospel Jesus says, "Stay awake! At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Watching day and night for the end worked for a few decades after Jesus' death and resurrection, but there comes a time when even the most faithful can't keep standing on tiptoe. Seeing signs of the end in every cul-de-sac does not usually lead to a peaceful and productive life.

The Christians of the second and third generation had to radically realign their expectations, realizing that if they had been right, their grandchildren (not to mention us) would have never existed! When we join them in carefully checking what Jesus had to say about the end, we discover that he was remarkably sparing when it came to details. His only unequivocal statement was: "You do not know on which day your Lord will come."

The conundrum of this reading makes me think of some of my friends from California to El Salvador and beyond. They live with the constant threat of a powerful earthquake. They tell me that they have learned to live with it. The occasional tremor reminds them. They ready with survival kits; water, medicines, flashlight and matches. They all know the routes to safety zones. They stay prepared and do their jobs. Life goes on even as they remain vigilant, alert to what could change everything in a flash. Such living has taught them to be watchful without being nervous, an emotional balancing act that flows into wonderful gratitude for each day and hour because they know how precious and precarious life is.

Advent's readings invite us to focus on the end, not to emphasize our vulnerability but to remember where we're going. That's what Isaiah is trying to teach his people as he paints a picture of life as it is

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meant to be. Isaiah addressed a people who had lost faith because they'd lost their prosperity. Isaiah tried to teach them that prosperity based on injustice has nothing to do with God. With words as majestic as any music Handel ever composed, Isaiah painted a vision of Jerusalem as God's capital city where all the nations would come to worship and learn to live in peace. Isaiah shouts, "O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!"

Paul echoed Isaiah's last idea with his wake-up call to the Romans. At a time when Christians were expecting the triumphant return of Christ at any moment, Paul tried to help them keep their balance between their daily life and what was to come. That's the essential tension of the Christian life: to appreciate the moment for all that it is worth in the light of the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Advent calls us to remember what we so often repeat in our Eucharistic celebration, "We proclaim his death, until he comes again." That means that creation is genuinely headed toward fulfillment. It means that Isaiah's vision of the peace of converting weapons into farming tools, roadbuilding machines and construction materials is not only possible, but that God is offering us a strategic plan for its accomplishment. It means that Isaiah's vision of the peace of the lion lying down with the lamb is possible. Paul calls us to wake up to that reality. Jesus tells us to be attentive to the possibilities in every moment.

What we know for sure is that God's future will happen and will come about in unexpected ways. The folks who live near the fault lines can give us hints about trying to be prepared. They know that someday, tomorrow or in 500 years, - everything around them might change. We believe the same of the Kingdom of God. The invitation of Advent is to remember our future so that it can transform our present.



December 8 is a Holy Day of obligation, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass is at 12:05pm.

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

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OFFICE STAFF

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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.

The Peace and Justice Committee will be collecting winter apparel items for the clothesline on West 140th by the bus stop. Hats, gloves, scarves and socks may be placed in the baskets by the Church entrances or dropped off at the rectory during office hours.

Thank you for your generous support!

<u>Sunday, November 23</u>	\$ 5,005.16
All Saints' Day	\$ 5.00
Haiti Missions	\$ 93.33
Bountiful Basement	\$ 328.34
St. Vincent DePaul Society	\$ 300.00
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 20.00
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 1,655.00
Human Development	\$ 55.00

<u>Sunday, November 30</u>	\$ 4,253.40
Christmas	\$ 67.00
New Years Day/Sol of Mary	\$ 50.00
Bountiful Basement	\$ 240.00
Help the Needy	\$ 65.00
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 1,197.00
Zelie's Home	\$ 758.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 30.00

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, Dukles Family, Joseph Dunn, Barb Dylag, Scott Eidam, Erma Eifel, Terry Evans, Jenny Flynn, Will Gibson, June Grace, Michael Graham, Louise J. Hall, Thomas Heim, Susanne Heisey, Agnes Hocesvar, 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

The Catholic Cemeteries Association's next Sunday Grief Support Group will be on December 21. In-person is at 3pm, virtual at 5pm. In person location:

Holy Cross, Brook Park, 14609 Brook Park Road

Advent Taize Prayer

Join members of the parish and others for our Advent Taize Prayer on Sunday, evening, December 7. We will be in the Lake-wood Catholic Academy Chapel, the entrance to which is across the driveway from Centering Space at 14812 Lake Ave. Join us and bring family and friends. A social with refreshments follows our prayer.



This Week at Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

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

MONDAY, DEC. 8

9:00am-10:30am Legion of Mary (CH)

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

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 A.A. Meeting (RB)
 6:30pm-8:00pm Centering Prayer Group (JC Lg)
 7:00pm-9:00pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

4:00pm-6:00pm IDCC (JC Lg)
 5:00pm-6:45pm Bountiful Basement (JC Lg)
 6:30pm-7:30pm Tai Chi (FH)
 7:00pm-9:00pm Choir (CH)
 7:00pm-8:30pm LGBTQ Faith Sharing Mtg (R Liv Rm)

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

11:00am-12:30pm A.A. Meeting (RB)
 7:00pm-9:00pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)
 7:00pm-8:30pm Bible Study (R Liv Rm)

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

1:00pm-3:00pm Stephen Leaders (Zoom)

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

9:00am-10:45am CGS Level 1 (A)
 9:00am-10:45am PSR 1-3 (A)
 10:00am-10:45am PSR 4-8 (RB)
 11:00am-11:15am CLW (CH)
 12:00pm-1:00pm Community Meal (FH)
 12:15pm-2:00pm Taize Music Practice (CH)

AN ADVENTURE WITH FR. DOUG KOESEL

Join Fr. Doug Koesel, pastor of Blessed Trinity Parish, for 13 glorious days in Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Hungary and Slovakia, **June 8 - 20**. Cost is \$5,599 and includes airfare from anywhere in the US. To register go to or contact Fr. Doug for more information at dkoesel@blessedtrinitycleveland.org. Trip includes airport taxes, security fees, transfers, hotels, transportation with luxury bus, all breakfasts and dinners, all guided tours, and tips. Here is a link for the trip:

https://www.proximotravel.com/trip-store/?action=view_trip&triptemplateid=482

WORSHIP

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

4:00pm Jerry Nusbaum (Marian Warmuth)

SUNDAY, DEC. 7 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12(4)
 9:00am Blessed Trinity
 11:00am Nicola & Alberto Pirozzoli (Rosa & Family)

MONDAY, DEC. 8

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

12:05pm Holy Day Mass

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

8:30am Blessed Trinity

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

8:30am Blessed Trinity

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

No Mass

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

8:30am Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

4:00pm Rochelle Samonte (Ferdie Samonte)

SUNDAY, DEC. 14 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 35: 1-6a, 10 Jas 5: 7-10 Mt 11:2-11(7)
 9:00am Blessed Trinity

The Christ Child Society will be here the weekend of Dec 7 to distribute children's religious books. There are books for kids of all ages, from pre-school to junior high. The books are free.

Caring Corner

The holidays are upon us. And for those who have lost a loved one during the year, this can be a difficult time. Coping with grief during the holidays involves acknowledging your feelings, setting realistic expectations, and finding ways to honor your loved one, such as creating new traditions or setting a place for them at the table. It is also important to prioritize self-care, seek support from others, and set boundaries for events that feel overwhelming.

Please join us for an informational meeting, Thursday, **January 7, 2026 at 6:30 pm** in the Joseph Center if you have interest in learning more about the pilgrimage to Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Hungary and Slovakia that Fr. Doug is taking June 8-20. This is a 13 day trip costing \$5599. A representative from Proximo Travel will be available to answer any questions you may have. Hope to see you there!

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