

# Blessed Trinity

## All Are Welcome



**DECEMBER 21, 2025**

**FOURTH 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 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.



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

Refrain  $\text{♩} = 44$

Lord, make us turn to you, show us your face, and

we shall be saved.

*rit. To verses* [Final ending]

Text: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-20; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 1:46-55; Marty Haugen  
Music: Marty Haugen © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission  
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This article had to be ready for the bulletin that went to the publisher on Dec. 12. It may be out of date by the time you read it. Also, I am writing it on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December in the middle of the second week of Advent, but it gets published on the 21 for the fourth Sunday of Advent. Christmas is the following Thursday. So what do we put on the cover of the bulletin, fourth Sunday of Advent? Christmas? Which psalm? It's hard to think two and a half weeks ahead, especially at my age.

So, on this fourth Sunday of Advent we hear the story of the Annunciation. "Emmanuel, God is with us" is one of the many messages we cling to today. In these troubled times, with so much violence, such a lack of decency, such a disregard for societal norms, with no end in sight, it is good to be reminded that we are not alone, God is with us. The footprints prayer comes to mind as a source of comfort.

Rather than worry about the world outside of us, let us focus on the world we can control. Today's collection will support our mission in Baraderes, Haiti. You know how troubled that country is. The people have suffered immensely. Bags and boxes of food and other things will soon fill our sanctuary, decorations more appropriate for Christmas and poinsettias. It is our way of combatting those neglected in the world.

We will decorate our church for Christmas on December 21 after the 11:00am Mass. Christmas trees need to be decorated. There are two manger scenes; one goes in front of the altar and the other goes in front of the Christmas trees by the cry room. Wreaths get hung on the doors of the church. Candles get places on the registers.

For those who have been participating in the reverse Advent calendar, bring your box or bags to church on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Place it in the sanctuary. We will decorate our church with them.

Mass on Christmas Eve is at 4pm. Mass on Christmas Day is at 10:00am. Note the change in time from years past. Also, there will only be one Mass that day.

On New Year's Eve we will once again bring in the New Year with our annual peace vigil and commitment to non-violence. We have been doing this in conjunction with Pax Christi. This year, our own Briyant Hines will be the guest speaker. After the service there will be refreshments.

It seems like our parish has been a bevy activity these past few months. I know I have been running

non-stop with parish stuff and Virgil and doctors appointments. Hopefully things will slow down you as well.

So, Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. Let us count our blessings and pray for good health and happiness in 2026.

Madeline L'Engel in her poem, the First Coming wrote:

He did not wait till the world was ready, till men and nations were at peace. He came when the Heavens were unsteady, and prisoners cried out for release. He did not wait for the perfect time. He came when the need was deep and great. He dined with sinners in all their grime, turned water into wine. He did not wait till hearts were pure. In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt. To a world - like ours, of anguished shame he came, and his Light would not go out. He came to a world which did not mesh, to heal its tangles, shield its scorn. In the mystery of the Word made Flesh—the Maker of the stars ! was born. We cannot wait till the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice, for to share our grief, to touch our pain, He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!



**A Unique Program to Renew, Strengthen and Heal Your Marriage – Beginning February 13-15, 2026**

The Retrouvaille program is designed to help married couples develop improved ways of communicating and relating to each other in order to overcome challenges which have left them feeling disconnected, hurt, or even hopeless.

Retrouvaille, which means rediscovery, is open to couples of all faiths and is supported by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. This program consists of a weekend experience and six follow up sessions.

For more information or to register, visit <https://helpourmarriage.org/CLE> or call Shelly or Rob at 216.509.0301 or 440.836.4810.

# 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:** Devra Konjura ..... Ext 26  
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**Music Minister:** Julio Santana.....  
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.

## Christmas Vigil Taize

Join us at 7 pm on Sunday, December 21 for our Christmas Vigil Taize. Our praying combines Advent with an imminent Christmas. We gather at Centering Space at 14812 Lake Ave. A social at Centering Space follows our prayer.

## 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, Annette Janetzke, 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

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!

*May the Peace of Our Lord be with Annette Zucca, mother of Greg Zucca. May God grant comfort to their family and friends*



**CALENDAR RAFFLE FOR JANUARY 2026 IS HERE!** This gives you 31 chances to win! If your name is drawn for one day it is put back in for a chance to win again. These



make great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers! Calendar raffle tickets are on sale after all weekend masses through December and are available in the rectory office during the week for just \$10. Good Luck Everyone!

Collections for December 14 will be reported next week.



## This Week at Blessed Trinity

**SATURDAY, DEC. 20**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 21**

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)  
 10:00am-1:00pm Coffee & Donuts (FH)  
 11:00am-11:15am CLW (CH)

**MONDAY, DEC. 22**

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

**TUESDAY, DEC. 23**

8:00am-8:30am Novena (CH)  
 9:00am-11:00am IDCC (JC Lg)  
 10:30am-12:00pm A.A. Meeting (RB)  
 9:30am-12:00pm Bountiful Basement (JC Lg)  
 6:30pm-8:00pm Centering Prayer Group (JC Lg)  
 7:00pm-9:00pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24**

4:00pm-6:00pm IDCC (JC Lg)  
 5:00pm-6:45pm Bountiful Basement (JC Lg)

**THURSDAY, DEC. 25**

**FRIDAY, DEC. 26**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 27**

**SUNDAY, DEC. 28**

## WORSHIP

**SATURDAY, DEC. 20**

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

**SUNDAY, DEC. 21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Is 7:10-14 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24(10)

9:00am Blessed Trinity

11:00am Henry Reitinge, Jr.

**MONDAY, DEC. 22**

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

**TUESDAY, DEC. 23**

8:30am Blessed Trinity

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24**

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

**THURSDAY, DEC. 25**

10:00 Blessed Trinity

**FRIDAY, DEC. 26**

8:30am Trudie Gaal

**SATURDAY, DEC. 27**

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

**SUNDAY, DEC. 28 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,  
 MARY, AND JOSEPH**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Mt 2:13-15,  
 19-23(17)

9:00am Mary Petrigac (Raffay Family)

11:00am Evelyn Boehmer (Mary Lou Murray)

**January Weekend Directed Retreat.** Friday, January 9, 5:30pm - Sunday, January 11, 1:00pm. Directed Retreats are a time of sacred silence, an invitation to step away from the pressures and demands of daily responsibilities, and an opportunity for sustained personal prayer. These retreats are ideal for anyone seeking to explore or deepen one's relationship with God and take the next step in his or her spiritual journey. You will be accompanied by a trained spiritual director, who will meet with you daily during the retreat. Cost: \$300 - \$400

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.

### 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](mailto: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](https://www.proximotravel.com/trip-store/?action=view_trip&triptemplateid=482)

**We still have the following available for purchase in the Rectory:**

Small honey	\$9
Large honey	\$18
Lip balm	\$3
Salve (in the tin)	\$5
Lotion bar	\$7
Jam	\$7
Oplatki	\$2
Haiti coffee	\$12
Applesauce	\$5



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