

# Blessed Trinity

## All Are Welcome



**DECEMBER 28, 2025**

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

**14040 PURITAS AVENUE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135**

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**Website:** [www.blessedtrinitycleveland.org](http://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.



### Psalm 96: Today Is Born Our Savior

Refrain

To - day is born our Sav-ior, Christ the Lord. To-  
day is born our Sav-ior, Christ the Lord.

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*Paul, Humility, and the Danger of  
Disordered Faith*

In recent years, many within the Body of Christ have grown increasingly concerned about the ways faith can become distorted—not abandoned, but misaligned. This kind of distortion is often subtle. It hides behind religious language, fervor, and confidence. To the untrained eye, it can appear as deep conviction. Yet beneath the surface, it produces division, harm, and a troubling disconnect from the very heart of Christ. Scripture warns us about this danger.

In Philippians 2:3, the Apostle Paul exhorts the church: “Do nothing from selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.” Paul is addressing believers—not outsiders. His concern is not with atheism or disbelief, but with a faith that has turned inward, a spirituality warped by pride, rivalry, and self-importance. The Greek terms Paul uses are instructive. Selfish ambition carries the sense of factionalism—an impulse toward rivalry, exclusion, and the pursuit of personal advantage at the expense of others. Vain conceit refers to an emptiness masked by boastfulness: a spirituality that appears impressive but produces little fruit. Together, these describe a form of faith that is loud, confident, and deeply hollow. This is not a lack of religion. It is a disordered faith.

Paul’s concern is that when humility is absent, believers lose their grounding. They begin to mistake certainty for wisdom, dominance for authority, and self-promotion for faithfulness. Over time, such distortion creates a gap between spiritual language and spiritual reality. People may speak often of God while growing increasingly disconnected from the character of Christ. We see echoes of this danger in the church today. Leadership can quietly shift from service to self-preservation.

Ambition can masquerade as calling. Harshness can be excused as “truth-telling.” When humility erodes, leaders may become unaware of the harm they cause, convinced that good intentions sanctify damaging behavior. The result is not spiritual maturity, but spiritual imbalance—faith untethered from love, truth severed from compassion. Paul reminds us that this kind of faith, no matter how confident, is ultimately fruitless.

True Christian life is not measured by recognition, influence, or religious performance, but by the presence of Christlike humility. Faith that is ordered rightly always moves outward—toward service, toward others, toward self-emptying love. Where humility is absent, the gospel is obscured. This reflection is not meant as an indictment of the church, but as a call to vigilance. Scripture invites us to examine ourselves honestly. To ask whether our faith is forming us into servants or merely affirming our egos. To consider whether our devotion produces unity or division, healing or harm. Paul’s vision is clear: humility is not weakness.

It is spiritual clarity. As we enter a new season, may we resist distorted faith and return to the posture of Christ—who emptied himself, who served rather than grasped, and who remained fully grounded in love. May our eyes be open, our discernment sharpened, and our hearts anchored and rested in genuine humility.



**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  
 accountant@blessedtrinitycleveland.org  
**Music Minister:** Julio Santana.....  
 Julio@julioxsntnsda@gmail.com

## OFFICE STAFF

**Office Manager:** Donna M. Bell ..... Ext 10  
 office@blessedtrinitycleveland.org  
**Bulletin Editor:** 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.

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

## Thank you for your generous support!

Sunday, December 14	\$ 3,738.50
Christmas	\$ 120.00
New Years Day/Sol of Mary	\$ 50.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 377.00
Haiti Missions	\$ 30.00
Bountiful Basement	\$ 538.00
Education	\$ 150.00
Pastoral Ministry	\$ 2,668.00
Zelie's Home	\$ 32.00
The Haven Home	\$ 620.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 935.00

Sunday, December 21	\$ 3,816.11
Christmas	\$ 515.00
Haiti Missions	\$ 1,721.33
Bountiful Basement	\$ 1,388.34
Help the Needy	\$ 103.33
St. Vincent DePaul	\$ 100.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 65.99
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 2,255.61
Zelie's Home	\$ 170.00
The Haven Home	\$ 50.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 1,167.00

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 **Michael Baus, husband of Lisa & son in law of Al Delattre, and brother-in-law of Megan Dubois and Jen Delattre** May God grant comfort to their family and friends and **Julie Werblak, mother of John Werblak.**



## This Week at Blessed Trinity

<b>SATURDAY, DEC. 27</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, DEC. 28</b>	
<b>MONDAY, DEC. 29</b>	9:00am-10:30am Legion of Mary (CH)
<b>TUESDAY, DEC. 30</b>	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) 7:00pm-9:00pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)
<b>WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31</b>	Office Closed 5:00pm-6:45pm Bountiful Basement (JC Lg) 7:00pm-8:30pm New Year's Eve Peace Vigil (CH)
<b>THURSDAY, JAN. 1</b>	Office Closed
<b>FRIDAY, JAN. 2</b>	
<b>SATURDAY, JAN. 3</b>	9:30am-11:00am Ragamuffin Faith Sharing Group (R Liv Rm)
<b>SUNDAY, JAN. 4</b>	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)

## WORSHIP

<b>SATURDAY, DEC. 27</b>	4:00pm Blessed Trinity
<b>SUNDAY, DEC. 28 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH</b>	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)
<b>MONDAY, DEC. 29</b>	11:00am at West Park Health Center 4401 West 150th, Cleveland, Ohio
<b>TUESDAY, DEC. 30</b>	8:30am Goldie & Joseph Koesel (Candace & Joseph McGraw)
<b>WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31</b>	4:00pm Blessed Trinity
<b>THURSDAY, JAN. 1</b>	11:00am Blessed Trinity
<b>FRIDAY, JAN. 2</b>	8:30am Blessed Trinity
<b>SATURDAY, JAN. 3</b>	4:00pm Christine Galayda (Marian Warmuth)
<b>SUNDAY, JAN. 4 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>	Is 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12(20) 9:00am Blessed Trinity 11:00am Blessed Trinity

### THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST

#### For Adults 40 & Over

Join us Monday, Jan. 12  
7 – 8:30pm

Westside Irish American Club  
8559 Jennings Rd. Olmsted Twp.



**Who is C.S. Lewis? Why, as Catholics do we care?** Dr. Matt Carey Jordan, VP of Academic Affairs at Borromeo & St. Mary Seminary, has led several Lewis-themed pilgrimages to England and taken people behind the scenes to walk in the footsteps of C.S. Lewis. Join us for an enlightening discussion of the man behind *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *The Screwtape Letters*.

Light appetizers included. Cash Bar is available. Advance tickets recommended. Register in advance: [www.theologyontherockswest.com](http://www.theologyontherockswest.com).

Please make sure that the Rectory has your current address & telephone number so that contributions are posted to the correct account as well as for contact purposes.



### 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 Every-



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Blessed Trinity Family:  
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