

# Blessed Trinity

## All Are Welcome



**FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**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 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 51: Create in Me / Crea en Mí

Ostinato Refrains\*



Text: Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Tony E. Alonso © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc.; English refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL. Music: Tony E. Alonso, © 2003, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-702576. All rights reserved.



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Word & Spirit in the Season of Lent

There are times in the life of the body of Christ when we must find ourselves asking a painful question: *Are we reading the same Bible?*

In an age of loud certainty and sharp division, many believers confidently proclaim Scripture while arriving at conclusions that feel foreign to the heart and gospel of Jesus Christ. The issue is not always a lack of dedication, commitment, or even study. Many people who speak and try to properly interpret or communicate the Word of God do so with conviction and sincerity.

And yet, something feels misaligned. Something doesn't quite lineup and our spirits can feel it.

What is happening?

In seminary, I learned that proper and faithful interpretation of Scripture requires more than intellect, tradition, or even moral and ethical compasses. Hermeneutics, the sacred task of interpreting the Word of God strongly requires the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is not and never will be optional. The Spirit is essential.

Jesus promised that the Spirit would "guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Paul reminds us that "the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" (2 Corinthians 3:6). Scripture is holy, inspired, authoritative — but it was never meant to be handled apart from the breath of the One who inspired it.

Word and Spirit belong together. You cannot have the Word of God without the Spirit of God.

Think of the Word of God as a beautiful lamp. Crafted with care and precision. Rich with purpose and meaning. Now imagine the Holy Spirit as the power that gives that lamp light. Without power, the lamp remains a lamp — but it does not illuminate which is what it is designed to do. It may decorate a room, but it cannot guide anyone through darkness. Thus, it loses its purpose.

The Word without the Spirit risks becoming information without transformation. This is what we are bearing witness to in the body of Christ in our current state. The Spirit without the Word stands at risk of becoming emotion without grounding. But together between Word and Spirit — there is sacred illumination. Sacred illumination is where Lent meets us.

Lent is not just about fasting or religious observance. It is about illumination gifted to us by the Holy Spirit. The season of Lent has its foundation in repentance through behavior and vision. It is a season that allows us to examine ourselves, our spiritual sight, ask ourselves sobering questions such as: Where have I

allowed my light to dim or certainly to replace surrender?

When interpretation consistently produces exclusion instead of embrace, cruelty instead of compassion, fear instead of love, we must pause and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Scripture tells us we will know a tree by its fruit (Matthew 7:16). The Spirit produces fruit — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23).

If what grows from our reading of Scripture contradicts the fruit of the Spirit, something in our approach requires an honest self-examination.

To practice sacred illumination during this Lenten season is to approach Scripture prayerfully:

“Holy Spirit, open my eyes.  
Remove the scales.  
Straighten what is crooked in me.  
Make me sensitive and aware of my blind spots.  
Create in me a clean heart so that I can worship you in spirit and in truth.”

This prayer helps us to lay the foundation to the season of Lent, our season of transformation, and the indwelling of the Spirit of God.

Having the proper interpretation of Word and Spirit remind us that every person possesses sacred worth. Why? Because they are made in the image of God. The Word of God and the Spirit It calls true believers to serve “the least of these.” The sacred illumination that Word and Spirit brings compels us to resist systems and behaviors that dehumanize, oppress, or exclude. Word and Spirit teaches us to pray not only with our lips but with our feet — embodying God's will on earth as it is in heaven.

May this season of Lent sharpen your discernment, increase your fellowship with the Spirit of God, and grant you the gift of sacred illumination that comes from Word and Spirit.



*May the Peace of Our Lord be with **Jeanne Marie Jarus**, mother of **Chris and Tim**. May God grant comfort to her family and friends*





# 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

**Sacrament Prep:** Terri Pastura ..... Ext 20  
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**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  
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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.

## Lenten Taize Prayer

Join us for our Lenten Taize Prayer on Sunday, February 22 at 7 pm at Centering Space, 14812 Lake Road. Our prayer focuses on being transformed in Christ. A social gathering will follow.

## Lenten Program on God and Science

On Saturday, March 14 from 9 AM - Noon , at the Joseph Center, Mike Reiling is offering a program Living Fully, about how honoring science can expand our understanding and experience of God. It's a game-changer! Information flyer is available on the back table in church. Free-Will offering.

## Thank you for your generous support!

Sunday, Feb 15	\$ 4,070.75
Haiti Missions	\$ 58.33
Bountiful Basement	\$ 693.34
Help the Needy	\$ 33.33
St. Vincent de Paul Society	\$ 50.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 25.00
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 2,390.00
Latin America	\$ 20.00
Black & Native American	\$ 35.00
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 12,000.00

## Please pray for our sick:

Jim Beesley, Kathy Betz, Mary Ann Bowers, Charlene Boyer, Adele Burke, Gladys Castro, Pat Chapin, Romualdo Cipro, Teri Crowe, Scherrie Damm, John Darmstadt, Al Delattre, Diane Dorenkott, 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 Hocevar, Gail Iseli, Jeanne Jarus, Eileen Kelly, Nicola Jandric, Annette Janetzke ,Vicki & Rudy Juris, Joanne Kauchuk, Dan Kemer, Ralph & Judy Kobus, 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, Kathy Vasko, 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 BOUNTIFUL BASEMENT** is looking for volunteers who can drive a 26 ft U-Haul truck to the Cleveland Food Bank and back to Blessed Trinity with a Bountiful Basement representative. Commitment would generally be Mondays from 8:30am to 1pm. Just sign up for weeks you are available. For questions, please contact Anna Marie Parker at 440-734-3704 or [parkeram56@gmail.com](mailto:parkeram56@gmail.com).



**We Welcome Into Our Blessed Trinity Family:**  
The Close Family (Andrew, Kelly & Saffron)



# This Week at Blessed Trinity

<b>SATURDAY FEB. 21</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 22</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)
<b>MONDAY, FEB. 23</b>	
9:00am-10:30am	Legion of Mary (CH)
5:00pm-6:30pm	OCIA (R Lib)
7:00pm-8:00pm	Finance Meeting (JC Lg)
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 24</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)
6:30pm-8:00pm	Centering Prayer Group (RB)
6:30pm-8:00pm	Parish Council (R Liv Rm)
7:00pm-9:00pm	Bell Choir Practice (CH)
<b>WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25</b>	
4:00pm-6:00pm	IDCC (JC Lg)
5:00pm-6:45pm	Bountiful Basement (JC Lg)
6:30pm-7:30pm	Tai Chi (FH)
7:00pm-8:30pm	LGBTQ Faith Sharing Mtg (R Liv Rm)
7:00pm-9:00pm	Choir (CH)
<b>THURSDAY, FEB. 26</b>	
11:00am-12:30pm	A.A. Meeting (RB)
7:00pm-8:30pm	Bible Study (R Liv Rm)
7:00pm-9:00pm	Bell Choir Practice (CH)
<b>FRIDAY, FEB. 27</b>	
5:00pm-5:30pm	Lent Prayer (CH)
7:30pm-8:00pm	Lent Prayer (CH)
5:30pm-7:30pm	Fish Fry (FH)
<b>SATURDAY, FEB. 28</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, MAR. 1</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, FEB. 21</b>	4:00pm All Souls
<b>SUNDAY, FEB. 22 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11(22)
	9:00am Joseph Greene (Mary Kreager)
	11:00am Blessed Trinity
<b>MONDAY, FEB. 23</b>	11:00am All Souls at West Park Health Center 4401 West 150th, Cleveland, Ohio
<b>TUESDAY, FEB. 24</b>	8:30am Kenneth Nodge (The Family)
<b>WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25</b>	8:30am Julie Werblak (Zupan Family)
<b>THURSDAY, FEB. 26</b>	No Mass
<b>FRIDAY, FEB. 27</b>	8:30am Blessed Trinity
<b>SATURDAY, FEB. 28</b>	4:00pm Blessed Trinity
<b>SUNDAY, MAR. 1 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Gn 12:1-4a 2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9 (25)
	9:00am Cathy Wachtel (Kay Scott)
	11:00am All Souls

### Caring Corner

In *The Illusion of Tomorrow: Releasing Anxiety About the Future*, Brian Mueller writes that tomorrow can feel like a place where we must live our life, an invisible room where we rehearse conversations, pre-pay our grief, and try to outrun uncertainty. But tomorrow is just an idea that can't hold our actual life. Anxiety about tomorrow feeds on what isn't happening, but presence closes that distance with something simple and fierce: reality. So today, let the future wait. Come back to what's finished and faithful — a breath, a moment, an ordinary holiness that keeps offering itself over and over again.

### Food for the Spirit and the Body

Joining us for Lenten Fish Fry? How about coming a half hour early or staying a half hour later? We are offering a short prayer service at 5 pm and 7:30 pm in the Church where we can pray for the issues of our time, our personal needs and one another's intentions. Hope to see you there!



**Advertiser of the Week:**  
**Mazzella Lifting Technologies**

**ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT FOR 2025**

To request the amount of your annual contribution to Blessed Trinity, please complete the following information and return to the rectory via collection basket, mail or drop-off. **Or call the office at 216-671-5890, M-F 9am-5pm.**

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