

Blessed Trinity

All Are Welcome



MARCH 8, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**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.



Psalm 95: If Today You Hear God’s Voice

Refrain



If to - day you hear God’s voice, hard-en not your hearts.



If to - day you hear God’s voice, hard-en not your hearts.

Text: Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; David Haas Music: David Haas © 1983, 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-702576. All rights reserved.



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Caring for Wounded Shepherds: Elijah

The Bible is filled with the spiritual practice of naming and lamenting. There were shepherds, prophets, leaders, and kings who were bold enough to name their wounds. Prophetic giants of the Old & New Testament had gone through their own silent exodus and spiritual crisis where they had to name their wounds. They bore witness to the understanding that naming does not equate with weakness. They presented their humanity to God as they named their wounds. To these men and women of God, naming was a source of expression and progress towards liberation. Naming, lamenting, and crying solidified their relationship with their Creator and benefactor. A representation of this sort of experience came from the prophet Elijah. He experienced depression, immense pressure, and had the urge to give up on his call as he entered the period of the silent exodus. He is our first wounded witness.

Elijah, the major Old Testament prophet had just embarrassed King Ahab and his Baal-devoted wife Queen Jezebel by defeating the prophets of Baal at Mt. Carmel. He was used as an instrument by God to expose and destroy not only the religious power Jezebel and Ahab but the political power of the king and queen. God empowered Elijah to tear down a political and spiritual system that had been crafted by Jezebel through her worship of Baal. Jezebel had lost influence, authority, and control. point where she threatened to take his life within the next day.

“Nothing I do is enough.” The prophet thought. Elijah was under the assumption that if he did as God instructed him to do by defeating the prophets of Baal in an impressive victory empowered by the Holy Spirit, the country would be won over, repentance would sweep the nation, and the people would turn their allegiance to God.

Elijah’s depression and feelings of worthlessness drove him to isolation and praying to God for his death. Elijah told God that he was done suffering—*it’s enough*, he said. He felt he could not carry on the call that God placed in his life. He was stressed, overwhelmed, exhausted, and ready to walk away from it all—the call, the purpose, the people. Elijah’s silent exodus broke him because he was saturated in the emotional and psychological exhaustion of burnout. He felt no different than anyone else who carried the call.

Amid Elijah’s exhaustion and entrance into the silent exodus, God was present. Not only was God present, but God *ministered* to Elijah in Elijah’s silent exodus. However, before God could minister to Elijah, he asked him a question—*What are you doing here?* God’s question was not presented to Elijah because he did not know why he had entered the silent exodus, but it was because he invited the prophet to *name his wounds*. Although God knew what was going on, there was power in Elijah naming his wounds. God, in his lovingkindness, wanted to give him the opportunity to unburden himself.

Today, from a modern clinical perspective, mental health professionals align Elijah’s feelings of “having enough” and wanting to die to passive suicidal ideation, hopelessness and despair (1 Kings 19:4). Elijah lying down under the broom tree and sleeping (19:5) a sign of exhaustion, depressive withdrawal, and burnout. Claiming he was no better than his ancestors (19:4) was a clear signal of negative self-image, feelings of failure, and cognitive distortion. Elijah being isolated and afraid, hiding out in a cave (19:9) indicated social withdrawal, avoidance, and post-traumatic stress disorder. He was looking for God in the chaos and disturbance of everything which indicated that he was struggling to make sense of meaning.

In Elijah’s depression and identity crisis, God ministered to him by granting him rest, comforting him, replenishing his soul, and giving him time to recover from his hopelessness. God also allowed Elijah to vent, to voice his frustrations, and be honest. By attending to the mental, physical, emotional, and psychological needs of the servant and prophet, God revealed himself by granting Elijah a new understanding. Elijah experienced God in a new way—by prompting the lay shepherd to, instead of looking for him in theatrical manifestations, learn that God is present by a still small voice.

Elijah’s story mirrors the weight of the call, the breaking point, the pressure, loneliness, and despair that ultimately leads to shepherds burning out in the fields. Shepherds are not abandoning faith but are crying out from the silent caves of despair, yearning for God and others whom they serve to meet them in tenderness rather than spectacle.





AROUND THE PARISH & OTHER PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL TEAM

216-671-5890

Pastor: Fr. Doug Koesel..... Ext 3
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OFFICE STAFF

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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.

Once again we will be having a communal book experience with an option for discussions. Book are normally \$12.95 but if we get 50 people to order the book, they are \$5. The book is *The 15-Minute Prayer Solution*. Drawing on spiritual practices from the Christian tradition throughout the centuries, Jansen offers numerous and wide-ranging prayer exercises that can be completed in less than fifteen minutes. Deeply personal stories, thought-provoking modern-day parables, and even humorous anecdotes bring spiritual ideas down to earth, revealing the practical side of prayer. If you'd like to receive a copy of this book, please sign up at the back table of the church.

Thank you for your generous support!

Sunday, Mar 1	\$ 5,179.55
Easter	\$ 50.00
Haiti Missions	\$ 55.00
Bountiful Basement	\$ 1,349.00
Help The Needy	\$ 150.00
St. Vincent de Paul Society	\$ 50.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 40.00
Memorials & Special Gifts	\$ 3,400.00
Black & Native American	\$ 50.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 40.00

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, 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

Food for the Spirit and the Body

Joining us for Lenten Fish Fry? How about coming a half hour early? We are offering a short prayer service at 5:00 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!



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.



This Week at Blessed Trinity

SATURDAY, MAR. 7

9:30am-11:00am Ragamuffin Faith Sharing Group (R Liv Rm)

SUNDAY, MAR. 8

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)
 12:00pm-1:00pm Community Meal (FH)

MONDAY, MAR. 9

9:00am-10:30am Legion of Mary (CH)
 5:00pm-6:30pm OCIA (R Lib)

TUESDAY, MAR. 10

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-8:30pm Lenten Series (CH)
 7:00pm-9:00pm Bell Choir Practice (CH)

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 11

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 Meeting (R Liv Rm)
 7:00pm-9:00pm Choir (CH)

THURSDAY, MAR. 12

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)

FRIDAY, MAR. 13

5:30pm-7:30pm Fish Fry (FH)
 5:00pm-5:30pm Lent Prayer (CH)

SATURDAY, MAR. 14

8:30am-12:00pm Teilhard de Chardin (JC Lg)

SUNDAY, MAR. 15

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)

March Morning Prayer for Women, Jesuit Retreat Center. Monday, March 16, 9:30am - 11:00am. Women from all walks of life are invited to pray together and learn more about the beauty of prayer. Led by Sr. Mary Ann Flannery, S.C. Free will offering (registration not required).

February CPO Raffle Winners

*Joanne Gorges ... Ann Marie Parker.....
 Judy Beercheck ... Laura McCarthy ...
 Jane Soposky*

WORSHIP

SATURDAY, MAR. 7

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

SUNDAY, MAR. 8 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex 17:3-7 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 Jn 4:5-42
 9:00am Carol Shockley-Kadlubak (Kay Scott)
 11:00am Amalia & Alberto Pirozzeli (Rose & Family)

MONDAY, MAR. 9

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

TUESDAY, MAR. 10

8:30am Blessed Trinity

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 11

8:30am All Souls

THURSDAY, MAR. 12

No Mass

FRIDAY, MAR. 13

8:30am Women of Blessed Trinity (Women's Ministry)

SATURDAY, MAR. 14

4:00pm Blessed Trinity

SUNDAY, MAR. 15 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41
 9:00am Blessed Trinity
 11:00am Blessed Trinity

Our Lenten lecture series continues this Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00pm in church. Dr. Alan Kolp will be presenting our Lenten series. Dr. Kolp has spoken here before and has always been well received. The theme of his talks will be "**Lent: Can't Fast-track to Easter**" Traditionally, Lent is seen as a period of preparation, of learning. We would prefer just to get on with the new life of Easter. However, there are some things to learn and re-learn. Then, we will be prepared for Easter.

March Sabbath Days - a Personal Retreat Day.

Tuesday, March 10, 8:30am - 3:30pm. Come and spend a day of renewal and prayer at the Jesuit Retreat Center. You are welcome to pray in our chapels, sit in quiet reading in the library, and walk and meditate on the beautiful grounds. Cost: \$50.

Welcome

**We Welcome Into Our
 Blessed Trinity Family:
 Terri Pastura & Catherine Austin**

Advertiser of the Week:

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