

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

60 MAPLE STREET • BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY 08807

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY HAS AS ITS MISSION:

- to form a welcoming community of believers
- to worship God
- to serve God and each other, and
- to spread the Gospel to all

We strive to carry out the teachings of Christ in our daily lives and through our parish activities.

BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at 12:00 noon (except during Lent). Parents must contact the parish office in advance; first-time parents are required to attend a baptism formation session.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Sponsors (Godparents) for Baptism and Confirmation are required to verify their eligibility. They must be fully initiated Catholics who actively practice their faith and are in good standing with the Church. For more information please contact the Parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or desire to complete your sacraments, please contact the parish office for more information about the RCIA.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office to arrange for a pastoral visit, Anointing of the Sick, and/or Holy Communion for those who are ill or elderly and unable to come to church.

MARRIAGES

Arrangements should be made one year in advance of the wedding. Please contact the parish office before booking a reception venue. Once a wedding date is confirmed, a priest or deacon will assist with the required marriage preparation process.

PARISH OFFICE

Hours ----- Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Phone / Fax----- 908-526-2394 / 908-526-5837
Email----- office@holytrinitynj.org
Fr. Jeff Email ----- FrJeff@holytrinitynj.org
Website ----- www.holytrinitynj.org



Under the Pastoral Care of the Priests and Brothers of the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri

Very Rev. Peter R. Cebulka, C.O. ----- *Provost*

Rev. Jeffrey M. Calia, C.O. ----- *Pastor*

Mr. Michael Forrestall ----- *Deacon*

Mr. John Phalen ----- *Deacon*

Br. John Fredy Triana Beltran, C.O. ----- *Deacon*

MASSES

Saturday ----- 5:00 pm
 Sunday----- 8:30 & 10:30 am
 Holy Days ----- as announced

DAILY MASSES

Holy Trinity: Tuesday & Friday ----- 7:00 pm
St. Ann: Monday & Friday ----- 7:00 pm
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ----- 7:00 am
 Saturday ----- 9:00 am
St. Joseph: Monday - Friday ----- 8:00 am
Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament
 Monday - Friday ----- 12:15 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturday ----- 1:00 to 1:30 pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

From September to May
 Monday & Wednesday ----- 10:00 am to 5:30 pm

Mrs. Nancy Cichocki
Parish Catechetical Leader
 RE Office: 908-725-6339

Ann Marie Izzo
Director of Music Ministry
 908-930-4769

Eileen Fisher
Respect Life Comm.
 908-526-6568

Bob Skorny
Social Ministry
 908-526-2394

Maureen Montague
Altar Servers
 908-526-7982

December 15, 2019

Third
Sunday
of Advent



pastor's notes

SATURDAY, December 14th, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Bill Radice r/o Wife, Jean & Family

SUNDAY, December 15th, Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am Our Parishioners

10:30am Theresa Mislan r/o Barbara & Ray Grodkiewicz
MONDAY, December 16th, Advent Weekday

TUESDAY, December 17th, Late Advent Weekday

7:00pm Alison Rodecker r/o Dad, Jack Rodecker
Jack Krapf r/o Patty Villano
Patricia Sauerhoefer r/o Her Children
Edwin Phillipps r/o Daughter, Margaret Chiselko

WEDNESDAY, December 18th, Late Advent Weekday

THURSDAY, December 19th, Late Advent Weekday

FRIDAY, December 20th, Late Advent Weekday

7:00pm Brittany Hann r/o Grandmother, Joan Fine
Mark Salko r/o Wife, Ania
Dominick Foti r/o The Guasco Family
Dorothy Parente r/o Bob & Sheila Parente

SATURDAY, December 21st, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Bart Pesaresi r/o Wife, Sandy

SUNDAY, December 22nd, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30am JoAnne Power r/o Perrin & Joe Moriarty
10:30am Our Parishioners

MONDAY, December 23rd, Late Advent Weekday

TUESDAY, December 24th, Vigil of Christmas (CHRISTMAS EVE)

5:00pm Woody & Ann Connelly r/o The Irely Family
10:00pm Jonathan Schmidt r/o Parents, Gary & Del Schmidt

WEDNESDAY, December 25th, NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY)

8:30am Our Parishioners
10:30am Jeanette & Joe Raimondo r/o Joe & Mary Raimondo



SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament this week is in memory of Bill Radice as lovingly requested by His Wife, Jean & Family.

BLESSED MOTHER FLOWERS



The flowers placed before the Blessed Mother Statue this week are in memory of Edwin Phillipps as lovingly requested by His Daughter, Margaret Chiselko & Family.



JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF HOLY TRINITY in reciting the Rosary for World Peace & Justice on Tuesday's after the 7:00pm Mass.

Our Weekly Offering

Online Giving for November - \$1,286.50
Immaculate Conception 2019 - \$1,174.00 / 2018 - \$1,135.00
December 7/8, 2019 - \$4,025.00 / 2018 - \$4,552.70
Retirement Religious 2019 - \$992.00 / 2018 - \$1,268.00

Thank you for your continued support!

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Last Sunday, we encountered St. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, last of the prophets in the Old Testament tradition. John baptized in water, and proclaimed that the arrival of the Christ and the inauguration of his kingdom was imminent: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

The Third Sunday in Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday, for the Entrance Antiphon begins: "Gaudete in Domino semper" ("Rejoice in the Lord always"). What is the reason for our rejoicing in the midst of this season of waiting? We rejoice because of the certainty that the Christ for whom we long not only has come, and will come again, but indeed comes to us even now. He is present to us and for us at every moment. The promise of the Father, who is always trustworthy, is fulfilled in the Son.

In our Gospel this Sunday, we find the evidence for our certainty. John sends his disciples to Jesus to ask if He is the one they have been looking for. He simply responds, "Go and tell John what you hear and see" (Mt 11:4). And what they observe is that people are being healed and restored in exactly the ways described by the prophet Isaiah in his vision of the day of the Lord, which is our First Reading (Is 35).

Our certainty in the fulfillment of God's promise in Christ makes our Advent waiting joyful. We can look at the ways that we need healing and the longing we experience for being made whole, and invite the Lord into the midst of them with confidence and hope. "Be patient," St. James tells us in the Second Reading. "Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (Ja 5:7-8).

In Christ & St. Philip,
Fr. Jeff



First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Isaiah tells us that when Christ comes, the weak will be made strong, the deaf will hear, the blind will see, and, above all, "sorrow and mourning will flee."

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

As the farmer waits patiently through winter and spring for the "yield of the soil" so, too, must we wait patiently for the coming of the Messiah.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

While in prison, John sends a messenger to Jesus to ask, "Are you He who is to come or do we look for another?" Jesus replies by citing the miracles he has performed for the blind, the deaf, and the crippled. He concludes by identifying John as the messenger He has sent to prepare the way.



Religious Education News

STUDENTS

December 15 10:30am Mass Children's Liturgy of the Word

RE CLASSES (Grade 1 – 8) WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 16th THROUGH JANUARY 5th CHRISTMAS ~ NEW YEAR'S VACATION
Classes Resume Monday, January 6th



Ministry Schedule

DECEMBER 14/15 (Third Sunday of Advent)

- 5:00pm **Reader:** Peter George
Sat. Extraordinary Ministers: Jean Radice and Emilio & Carol Suarez
Altar Servers: Matthew George & Alex Swider
- 8:30am **Reader:** Tammy Weber
Sun. Extraordinary Ministers: John & Kathie Dalessio and Marie Confortini,
Altar Server: Kari La Canna
- 10:30am **Reader:** Dawn Solari
Sun. Extraordinary Ministers: Francine Giorello, Jo Place and Claire Russell
Altar Server: Zachary Salvato
- House Communion:** Francine Giorello

DECEMBER 21/22 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

- 5:00pm **Reader:** Mary Ann Scoloveno
Sat. Extraordinary Ministers: Rebecca Majewski, George Ulassin and Kathy Herdman
Altar Server: Chase Kedziora
- 8:30am **Reader:** Francine Giorello
Sun. Extraordinary Ministers: Sandy Kuklo, Stan Pozarycki and Jim Sheeley
Altar Server: Timmy La Canna
- 10:30am **Reader:** Chris Mariani
Sun. Extraordinary Ministers: Joseph Raimondo and Mike & Charlene Tackvic
Altar Server:
- House Communion:** Joseph Raimondo & Irene Fialkowsky



DECEMBER 24 "CHRISTMAS EVE"

- 5:00pm **Reader:** Lindsay Frevert
Tues. night Extraordinary Ministers: Tom & Allison Truchan and Frank Meier
Altar Servers: Catherine Ulassin, Zachary Salvato & Jacqueline Salvato
- 10:00pm **Reader:** Eileen Clark
Tues. night Extraordinary Ministers: Anne Magaw, Maureen Montague and Eileen Clark
Altar Servers: Kari La Canna & Timmy La Canna



DECEMBER 25th "CHRISTMAS DAY"

- 8:30am **Reader:** Anna Marie Vendemia
Wed. Extraordinary Ministers: Marie Confortini, Nick Vendemia and Sandy Kuklo
Altar Server: Emily Caldarola
- 10:30am **Reader:** Mary Raimondo
Wed. Extraordinary Ministers: Joseph Raimondo, Jo Place and Chris Mariani
Altar Server: Julian DiMaggio



MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2019

WORKERS – MONDAY – TEAM #3

CAPTAIN: Marie Confortini

Laura Wetzel, Janet Bergan, Marge Garzillo & Carol Martin

GAMES BEGIN AT 7:30PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2019

WORKERS – FRIDAY – TEAM #3


CAPTAIN:

Chris Halligan, Max Marquart, Sue Marquart & Pedro Magsalin

GAMES BEGIN AT 7:30PM



CHRISTMAS SECOND COLLECTION – December 24/25 for The Needy of our Parish.

RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED – on  **PLEASE NOTE** Wednesday, December 25th, Thursday December 26th and Wednesday, January 1st in celebration of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays. (Rectory will be open a half day on Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve.)

The Parish Prayer Chain is a group of parishioners that regularly pray for your needs. Should a need for prayer to arise, please call Mary Raimondo at 908-725-7369 or E-mail: babysis30@optonline.net.



FLOWER ENVELOPES - In your December envelope mailing you will find an envelope for flower donations.

This is an opportunity to contribute towards the greenery and poinsettias that make our church so beautiful for the Christmas season. You are welcome to contribute in honor or in memory of loved ones; the inscriptions will be listed in the parish bulletin if received by THIS Sunday, December 15th. This opportunity is also available through Online Giving on our website.

There is a limited supply of Grave Blankets available. If interested, call Sal at 908-725-1738. Please make checks payable to "Holy Trinity Holy Name Society".



Pick up your Christmas Kolach order on Thursday, December 19th from 11:00am until 1:00pm and 5:00pm until 7:00pm in the Rev. John Pringle Parish Center.

Calendar of Events

- December 15 Children's Liturgy of the Word (10:30am Mass)
- December 15 Deadline for "Giving Tree" gifts
- December 18 Scripture Reflection for Advent (St. Ann)
- December 19 Kolach Pick up





In late October, a woman was the first person to legally end her life in NJ under the recently passed Physician-Assisted Suicide bill.

"As believers, how can we fail to see that abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide are a terrible rejection of God's gift of life and love? How can we fail to see the duty to surround the sick and those in distress with the warmth of our affection and support that will help them always to embrace life?" -St. John Paul II

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity will be running a bus trip to the Rally for Life in Trenton, NJ on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. The bus ride is free of charge, but since space is limited all passengers must reserve their seats. Passengers will board the bus at the Diocesan Center in Piscataway at 9:30am. The Rally at the State House begins at 11:00am and ends at 1:00pm. Passengers will attend a small reception afterwards. The bus will bring everyone back to the Diocesan Center around 3:00pm. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a seat please email:

amarshall@diometuchen.org OR call 732-562-1543.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Food Pantry can always use non-perishable items. (Soups are needed for the winter.) Supermarket gift cards can also be used and can be dropped in the collection basket. We are grateful for your support!



The Knitting Club meets every Wednesday evening at 6:00pm in the Rectory. Supplies are available. For information please call Charlotte at 908-526-0477.



Pray for the Military

Look at the Candy Cane
What do you see?
Stripes that are red
Like the blood shed for me
White is for my Savior
Who's sinless and pure!
"J" is for Jesus My Lord, that's for sure!
Turn it around
And a staff you will see
Jesus my shepherd
Was born for Me!



Please take a candy cane as a token of appreciation for a job well done in helping to grant wishes of others this Christmas Season! Thanks to all you angels for taking a wish from the Giving Tree.

-The Giving Tree Committee; Ann Marie Izzo, Jenna Irey, Sue Irey and Carol Suarez.



Christmas Mass Schedule The Congregation of the Oratory welcomes everyone to celebrate Christmas and the New Year with us!

Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve):
5 PM, & 10 PM at Holy Trinity, Bridgewater
4 PM at St. Ann, Raritan

Dec. 25 (Christmas Day):
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM at Holy Trinity
Midnight, 7:30 AM, 10 AM & 12 Noon at St. Ann

Dec. 31 (Vigil of Mary, Mother of God):
5 PM at Holy Trinity
7 PM at St. Ann

Jan. 1 (Mary, Mother of God):
10:30 AM at Holy Trinity
9 AM at St. Ann



Confession Schedule at Holy Trinity:

- Saturday, December 21 – 1:00pm - 2:00pm
(multiple priests available)
- By appointment (please contact the Parish Office)
- Before or after Mass or during office hours, subject to priest availability

Scripture Reflection for Advent

We are teaming up with St. Ann's in Raritan to offer an opportunity to reflect on the Scriptures of the Advent season in a group setting. The final session of "The Advent Word" will take place in the Church Meeting Room (basement) at St. Ann's on: **Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7:30 pm.** All are invited



The following thank you letter was received from Reverend John G. Hillier, Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, Diocese of Metuchen:

Dear Friend of the Missions:
I am so grateful to you for your generous donation of \$1,364.00 for our World Mission Sunday appeal. Like many of you, I often ask myself, as did St. Ignatius Loyola once did so long ago, "what have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What ought I do for Christ?" No doubt, we try to do the best we can to fulfill the command of Jesus to "go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). I thank you for your continued support in following Christ's request. Your World Mission Sunday gift helps in our continued effort to serve the poor around the world, most especially to those in places where priests and parishioners continue to be persecuted for following Jesus. Believe it or not, I receive requests, pretty much on a weekly basis, asking for funds to help priests and bishops who minister in such places. God bless you for your generous donation. May Our Lord shower his blessings upon you and your loved ones!