

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 22, 2019



Christmas Blessings

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

And the Word became flesh, and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

This sentence from the Prologue of John's Gospel neatly sums up the Christmas event for us. God has made himself "small," has united himself with us in order to be close to us; indeed He is Emmanuel, "God-with-us." In Jesus, we have a new way to relate to God, even to identify with God, and to experience His glory that is full of grace and truth. Why would God do this? There is no logical explanation other than boundless, selfless love. He desires for us to enjoy the fullness of life.

Pope Francis has often remarked that, as Jesus became poor for us, the Church must become poor for the sake of the poor. What does this mean for us? In sending us the gift of Jesus, our Father prioritized our salvation over everything else. We need to do the same, and not let anything - comfort, safety, glory - become more important to us than the ultimate joy of eternal life, for ourselves and for our brothers and sisters.

Christmas is one of those special times when many people who don't ordinarily come to Church make it a point to attend Mass. If you've been away for a while, welcome back! I hope that our worship together will encourage and inspire you to prioritize your salvation, and to join us more regularly. If there is any way I might be able to assist you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

If you're joining us for Christmas because you're visiting family or friends in town, welcome! We're happy to share the joy of this celebration with you. I pray that you travel safely and return home blessed and refreshed.

For many, the pain of grief, illness, broken relationships, or other difficult circumstances means that this Christmas season is not such a joyful time. As Christ is especially close to the poor and brokenhearted, may He comfort you with His presence and fill you with His peace.

On behalf of my brothers in the Congregation of the Oratory and the members of our parish staff, a very merry Christmas to all of you, and every blessing in the new year to come!

In Christ & St. Philip,
Fr. Jeff

- 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
THURSDAY, December 26th, St. Stephen, The First Martyr
9:00am Mass at St. Ann's in Raritan
FRIDAY, December 27th, St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (No Evening Mass at Holy Trinity)
9:00am Mass at St. Ann's in Raritan
SATURDAY, December 28th, Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
5:00pm Theresa Pozarycki r/o Al & Grace Lutzko
SUNDAY, December 29th, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:30am Our Parishioners
10:30am Marilyn Henry r/o Kevin & Audrey Henry
MONDAY, December 30th, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
TUESDAY, December 31st, Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Eve)
5:00pm Theresa Mislan r/o Bob & Rose Gada
WEDNESDAY, January 1st, 2020 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Day)
10:30am Our Parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament this week is in memory of Mario Donadio as lovingly requested by His Wife, Maria Donadio.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Sanctuary Flowers placed before the Blessed Sacrament this week are in memory of Jonathan Schmidt as lovingly requested by His Parents, Gary & Del Schmidt.

BLESSED MOTHER & ST. JOSEPH FLOWERS

The Flowers that are placed before the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph Statues for the Christmas season are in memory of Woody & Ann Connelly as lovingly requested by The Irely Family.



JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF HOLY TRINITY in reciting the Rosary for World Peace & Justice on Tuesday's after the 7:00pm Mass. (not on Dec. 24th or 31st)

Our Weekly Offering

December 14/15, 2019 - \$3,998.00 / 2018 - \$3,923.00
Thank you for your continued support!

Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Ahaz receives from Isaiah a prophecy that he will be successful in war and is urged to ask for a sign that the prophecy is true. The sign is "The virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel."

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul greets the Romans by pointing out that Jesus is the Christ who was promised to them in Scripture. He, Paul, is the apostle favored with the task of spreading the name of Christ to all.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

In a brief, straightforward, simple narrative, Matthew recounts the events leading to Jesus' birth. He details the appearance of the angel in a dream to Joseph and stresses that "All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophets."



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 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:** Maureen Montague
 and John & Kathie Dalessio
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



DECEMBER 28/29 (The Holy Family)

5:00pm **Readers:** Stan & Marcia Pozarycki
 Sat. **Extraordinary Ministers:** Kathy Herdman,
 Maureen Montague and Rebecca Majewski
Altar Servers: Chase Kedziora
 & Alex Swider

8:30am **Reader:** John Dalessio
 Sun. **Extraordinary Ministers:** Jim Sheeley,
 Francine Giorello and Margaret Chiselko
Altar Server: Kari La Canna

10:30am **Reader:** Tom Russell
 Sun. **Extraordinary Ministers:** Frank Meier and
 Kevin & Audrey Henry
Altar Servers: Maeve Siddons
 & Alexandra Vicari

House Communion: Frank Meier



DECEMBER 31st, 2019/January 1, 2020

Solemnity of Mary (New Year's Eve/New Year's Day)

5:00pm **Reader:** Debbie Phibbs
 Tues. night **Extraordinary Ministers:** Charlotte Shipley,
 Kathy Herdman and Rebecca Majewski
Altar Server:

10:30am **Reader:** Anna Marie Vendemia
 Wed. **Extraordinary Ministers:** Irene Fialkowsky,
 Jerry Helmstetter and Claire Russell
Altar Server: Jacqueline Salvato




MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2019
WORKERS – MONDAY – TEAM
NO BINGO



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2019
WORKERS – FRIDAY – TEAM #4
CAPTAIN: Stan Marszalek
 Alan Fross, Sal Adamo & Connie Adamo
GAMES BEGIN AT 7:30PM



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

RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED – on
 Wednesday, December 25th, Thursday
 December 26th and Wednesday, January 1st  **PLEASE NOTE**
 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.*



*The Holy Name Society wishes to thank all who
 placed orders for Authentic Slovak Kolach making
 this Christmas Kolach Sale such a success. There
 were 151 Kolach's purchased! We hope you all
 enjoy your Kolach's this Christmas Holiday. Thank
 you again.*

-Holy Name Society

Calendar of Events

January 4	Three Kings (5pm Mass)
January 11	First Penance
January 13	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
January 20	Bereavement Support Group Begins
January 24	Eucharistic Adoration
January 25/26	Baby Bottle Boomerang begins
January 26	Children's Liturgy of the Word (10:30am Mass)



"The Christmas story chronicling Jesus' life in the womb of Mary and birth in a stable again draws our attention to the humanity of the unborn child and God's great love and plans for each and every human baby, regardless of the circumstances of the child's conception or birth.

-Nat'l. Right to Life News

"During this time when life is threatened in so many ways, we pray that all men and women, through God's mercy, will come to share Mary's commitment to life and her understanding that all human life is a gift of God to be received with gratitude and cherished."

-Carl Anderson, Knights of Columbus



The following letter was received from Tom O'Leary, Executive Director of the Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP):

Dear Church Members:

I wish to express my gratitude and to give thanks to you and to all of those who have helped support SHIP and aid us in our battle to bring some hope to the abandoned and neglected among us. We sincerely appreciate the assistance you provided for the less fortunate through your very generous donation of food items and utensil kits on 11/17/19. This gift will help to restore some hope and encouragement to those engaged in the daily battle to maintain dignity as they cope with the harsh realities of their existence. We are privileged to be in a position to see their expressions of joy and appreciation on their faces as they receive the assistance made possible through your generosity. On behalf of those you helped, please accept our gratitude and appreciation. Be at peace, and know you have touched the hearts and souls of these special people.

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. (not on Dec. 25th or Jan. 1st)



Pray for the Military



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



Thank you Angels for sharing with those in need. So many wishes have come true because of your overwhelming generosity. Thank you also to all the Angels who helped bring the gifts from under the tree in the Church over to the Rectory Patio for sorting.

We wish you a Blessed, Happy and Healthy 2020!
The Giving Tree Committee



Stress in Your Marriage!

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? ...Retrouvaille is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

UPCOMING WEEKEND: February 21-23, 2020

For more information and to Register:
Call Rich Colasuonno: 732-236-0671 Or
Annette Colasuonno: 732-672-0748 Or
e-mail: 3024@retrouvaille.org