

# Most Holy Trinity Sunday, June 7, 2020



**Sunday June 7, *Most Holy Trinity***

Intentions of All Parishioners

**Monday June 8, *Weekday***

**8am** For all Deceased Members of Anna Wilczynska Family

**Tuesday June 9, *St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of the Church***

**8am** For all Deceased Members of Anna Wilczynska Family

**Wednesday June 10, *Weekday***

No Mass

**Thursday June 11, *St. Barnabas, Apostle***

**8am** Leocadia & Sydney Symolon Req. Daughter Lorraine

**Friday June 12, *Weekday***

**8am** For all Deceased Members of Anna Wilczynska Family

**Saturday June 13, *St. Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor of the Church***

**8am** St. Anthony Society Living & Deceased Members

**Sunday June 14, *Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ***

Intentions of All Parishioners

**Fr. Ray will be celebrating the Sunday Masses above privately at unannounced times**

## A Thought for Trinity Sunday

Today we celebrate Trinity Sunday. In doing so, we celebrate one of the most fundamental beliefs of Christianity: The Trinity – three distinct, co-equal persons in one God.

For the Church, the Trinity is considered a mystery. There are aspects of it we will never grasp on this side of life. But it is a revealed truth.



We may never comprehend its totality, but we experience its presence.

St. Patrick used the three-leaf clover to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish people. He said that the three-leaf clover has leaves. If it had only two leaves or one leaf it would not be a three-leaf clover. God, he said, is very similar: Three persons, yet one God.

The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity has been an official and universal celebration in the Church since the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

The sign of the cross is probably the prayer most commonly said by Catholics. In fact, a good number of Catholics go through the motions of the sign of the cross, without thinking about the words at all.

During this week, make a point to notice how many times you make the sign of the cross. Think about the words, the meaning.

Ask the Holy Trinity to guide you in strengthening our unity in faith as we continue to respect and cherish our diversity as persons.

May God Bless You,  
Fr. Ray

## Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy!

We welcome you to enjoy this online bulletin at a time when we are not able to worship within the walls of our church.

If you are new to our parish and wish to become a member of OLM, we invite you to introduce yourself to our pastor, Fr. Raymond Smialowski when Mass resumes, and to register. Registration can be completed by stopping by the parish office, filling out the short form on the front page of our bulletin, or completing a short registration form which can be found on our home page at [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org) under the heading "New to Our Parish?" Please return the form to the office by dropping it off at the Parish Office, the collection basket, or mailing it to 19 S. Canal St., Plainville.



### Helping Our Parish Grow

#### WEEKLY OFFERTORY



We ask that you continue to support OLM with your weekly offerings by placing your donation in the mail, dropping it off at the office or placing in the donation box in the church.

*Thank You for Your Continued Generous Support & May God Bless You!*



### The Tabernacle Lamp...

is lighted for the Greater Glory of God and in recognition of the Real Presence of Christ. This week the candle is flickering *for the Intentions of those who have Cancer*. The Tabernacle Lamp is available as a memorial for \$5.

We will keep you updated and informed on our *website*, [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org), our *Facebook* page,



[www.facebook.com/ourladyofmercychurchct](http://www.facebook.com/ourladyofmercychurchct), and *My Parish App*, [myparishapp.net](http://myparishapp.net) as to any new news connected with OLM.

### Sacrament of Baptism

We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism of your child. You may begin preparation even before your child is born. To begin the process, call Sue at 860-747-5451. The date of the Baptism is scheduled after attending the Parent Preparation Program. Please note that Godparents must be confirmed and obtain a *Sponsor Certificate* from their own Catholic parish.



### Thank You to our Parish Gardeners

Thank you to the following parishioners who have planted flowers in the containers and other areas around the church property for the glory of God. If you would like to help out, some pots still need someone to adopt them. Our OLM Gardeners are:



Leona Bisson  
Ted Doiron  
Sue & Rich Dziura  
Cathy Galvin  
Lucille & Henry Jurgilewicz  
Jean Kelly  
Trudy Kijanka  
Dan Kulas  
Robin, Don & Vinnie Lecco  
Kathy & Dennis Maynard  
Peg Matteo  
Dr. William Petit

### St. Joseph Cemetery News

We recently posted a notice in our parish cemetery announcing that over grown shrubs will be removed by cemetery personnel beginning *June 1, 2020*. Please understand that there is a great need to maintain our parish cemetery benevolently. In addition, glass vases, containers, wire fencing around monuments are not allowed in our cemetery. Such glass objects and fencing are a potential danger to our personnel,



particularly when the lawn is being mowed. Wire fencing can get caught in lawn mowing machinery and cause mishaps and injuries.

We respectfully ask that you remove all of these items. After that date the cemetery staff will be removing these items from the grave plots in the cemetery. These items will be placed at the back of the cemetery behind the green fence where the shed is for you to claim. We ask that you *ONLY plant flowers 10" from the base of an upright monument. To ease mowing, plantings of any kind are prohibited near flat markers.* If you would like a copy of the updated cemetery rules mailed to you, please call the cemetery office at 860.747.6825. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**Decree Promulgated Approving Miracle Attributed to the Intercession of Fr. Michael J. McGivney, Priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford and Founder of the Knights of Columbus**



"It is with great joy that I have received word of the decree of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints approved by Pope Francis on May 26 regarding a miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God, Michael McGivney (1852-1890), a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford and Founder of the Knights of Columbus. Having been born in Waterbury and having died in Thomaston, his whole life and ministry as a priest were devoted to the people of his home state of Connecticut, and as the Founder of the Knights of Columbus, his legacy of pastoral charity was destined to embrace our country and the world. We look forward to the joyful celebration of his beatification, so that venerating him as blessed in heaven, Fr. McGivney may, by his intercession, continue to accompany us on earth."

Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair  
Archbishop of Hartford

### Is a Vocation Right for You?

Come along in our company. Welcome the Trinity – Father, Son and Spirit – to guide you on your journey. Listen to these companions on the way. If your journey is leading toward priesthood or religious life, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail [vocations@aohct.org](mailto:vocations@aohct.org) or visit the web at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com)



## Vacation Bible School

Due to the coronavirus and the restrictions associated with it, the Vacation Bible School will not be held this summer. We look forward to VBS in 2021!

### The Dispensation for the Sunday Obligation...

Granted by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair has been extended through Sunday, September 6, 2020. This will remain in effect even when the public celebration of Sunday Mass resumes. We do not know when that will take place. The elderly and physically compromised are encouraged to shelter at home.

### Baptisms, Wedding Masses and Funeral Masses...

Can resume as of June 8, providing all the procedures and precautions are observed such as the wearing of face masks and distancing of at least 6 feet from others in attendance.

### Guidelines as Mass Resumes

- All members of the congregation need to wear masks, with a few exceptions:

*Children under the age of two should not wear masks*

*Parents should judge for children between the ages of two and five whether they should wear a mask*

*Any people who claim an exemption for a legitimate health reason can forgo wearing a mask*

- No congregational singing at all since singing has been shown to spread the virus easily
- Congregants are asked to bring hand sanitizers with them and to use it to sanitize their hands

- No passing of offertory baskets. A collection box will be available at the church entrance
- Congregants who are not coming forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing should get out of their pews at the beginning so that no one will have to climb over anyone else
- All Communion lines should be single file with people wearing masks, approaching row by row and keeping 6 feet apart, except for family members
- Communicants will receive the consecrated host on their hand, step to the side, consume the Host, replace their mask and return to their pew
- People who insist to receive Holy Communion on the tongue should be given Communion only after everyone else has received
- Following Mass the congregants should file out pew by pew. Gatherings should not take place in church or in the parking lot

### Sacrament of Reconciliation to Resume June 6<sup>th</sup> at Noon

The Sacrament will take place ***behind the screen*** in the Reconciliation Room. Penitents must wear masks.

### Solemnity of the Holy Trinity: Claimed in the Name of the Trinity

There are two cities relatively close to us here on the West Coast of Florida that have a tremendous historical significance, St. Augustine, Florida and Savannah, Georgia. Each was the place where explorers landed and claimed the land for their King.

On September 8th, 1565, Don Pedro Menendez de Avila landed on the northeast coast of Florida and established the first colony in the new world, St. Augustine. With banners flying and in full regalia, Menendez planted the Spanish flag and claimed the land in the name of Philip II, the King of Spain.

Just a two and a half hour drive north of St. Augustine another colony was established for another king. On February 12, 1733, 168 years after Menendez, General James Oglethorpe landed in Savannah and claimed the land in the name of his

king, George II of England. The colony was also named after the king and called Georgia.

Once a land was claimed for a king it was considered part of the Kingdom. Any assault on that colony would be treated as an assault on the Kingdom, not on a remote land.

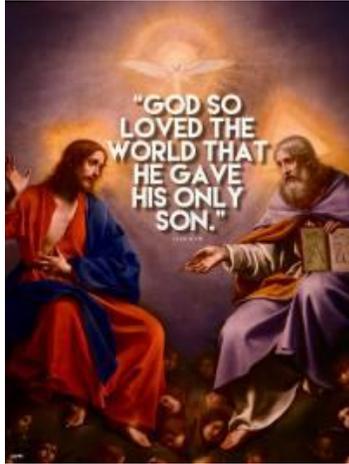
When we were baptized, we were claimed in the name of the Holy Trinity. The priest or deacon poured the water and said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." From that point, the Kingdom of God was extended to wherever we might be.

We are under the protection of the Kingdom against any assault, particularly the assault of evil.

But why were we baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit? Why not simply in the name of Jesus Christ? Why were we not baptized simply in the name of God? We were baptized in the name of the Trinity because we were claimed by all that God is, the fullness of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Today's celebration, the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, reminds us that we belong to the fullness of God. The readings each give a glance at one of the Persons of the Trinity. In the first reading from Exodus God came down for a cloud and proclaimed His Name, "Lord." Or perhaps it was the angelic hosts that cried out, "The Lord, the Lord, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity."

These are the attributes given to the first person of the Trinity, the Father. The Gospel proclaims that God's love is so great, that He gave his Son to us to save us from the assault of evil. The second reading from Second Corinthians presents Father, Son and Spirit as St. Paul prays that we continue to enjoy the union with the Holy Spirit, the Power of God working through us and uniting us into the Church. The heart of the mystery is simply that God dwells within us. Sadly, some people continue the concept held by many during revolutionary times that God is removed from us. That is not what God told us. In John 14 Jesus said, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." He is not out there somewhere. He is in here, in the spiritual life that makes a human a child of God.

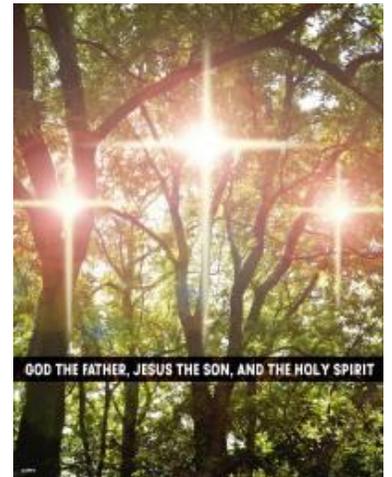


Jesus promised us that He would never leave us alone, and we are not alone. He is with us always, not just outside of us, but within us. The ability to call upon the power of God and the ability to be vehicles of this power forever is the gift of Pentecost, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Our dignity as sons and daughters of God is far more than a title. We have been claimed by God. We belong to Him. He belongs to us. We have to keep this in mind when others present as normal that where God is not found. We need to ask ourselves, "Is God in the room, in the house, at the party?" If people are enjoying His gifts while still honoring His Presence, then we know He is there. If people are flaunting the basic dictates of morality, then we know He is not there. And we know that it is beneath our dignity as children of God to be there ourselves.

In the sacrament of penance, good people come to a recognition that they have not behaved as well as they should. Sometimes people will have a huge laundry list of serious sins they wish to confess. They will go on and on talking about sexual sin, sins of hatred, sins of disrespecting themselves and others, etc. When they finish, if they have sat across from me, they will often look at me sheepishly expecting a scolding or something. I do not scold people. I simply mention to them,

"You are better than that, and you know that. That is why you are here. And I know also that I am better than the many times I have strayed from God." By better I mean that we are sons and daughters of God. We are children of God. We are better than the



forces of the world that are trying to destroy us. St. Augustine was not just a remote colony. It was part of the Spanish Empire. It could claim the King of Spain as its protector. Savannah was not just a remote colony. It was part of the British Empire. It could claim the King of England as its protector. And we are not just members of a religion. We are part of the Kingdom of God. We claim our God as our protector, our protector from the evil that is trying to destroy us.

Today we are reminded both of who God is, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and who we are, God's children carrying His Presence into the world.

*Written by: Msgr. Joseph A. Pellegrino*