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BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH
December 15, 2024

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mail@blessedtrinity.org
WEBSITE:
www.blessedtrinity.org
SICK CALLS:
352.629.8092
352.207.5835
(Emergency Pager)
MISSION:
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Associate Pastors	Father Zbigniew Stradomski Father Titus Kachinda	x3227 x3219
In Residence	Father Joseph Maniangat	595.5605
Deacons	Heriberto Berrios, James Maubach, Stephen Floyd, and Rodulfo Reverol	
Sisters	Immaculate Heart of Mary Reparatrix Misioneras Catequistas	867.9860 622.4500

MASS SCHEDULE AT BLESSED TRINITY

WEEKEND	
Saturday	4:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Sunday	7:10 am, 8:45 am, 11:00 am 1:00pm Spanish, 5:00 pm Life Teen
DAILY	
Mon-Fri	7:10 am and 5:30 pm
Wednesday	8:15 am (follows school schedule)
Thursday	6:30 pm (Spanish)
Saturday	8:00am
Reconciliation	Saturday 2:45-3:30 pm 5:00-5:30pm

MASS SCHEDULE AT OUR MISSION CHURCHES

WEEKEND	
Saturday	7:00 pm at Christ the King (Spanish)
Sunday	10:15 am at Christ the King 7:00pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)
DAILY	
Tuesday	7:00pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)
Wednesday	4:00 pm at Christ the King 4:00 pm at Holy Days of Obligation

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CALL RECTORY AT 629-8092

PARISH LIFE

DECEMBER 15, 2024 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MISSION STATEMENT: Blessed Trinity Catholic Church Stewardship Community recognizes Jesus is Lord. We believe that our Time, Talent and Treasure are gifts from God to be used for the spiritual, educational and social needs of our community, the Diocese and the world at large, especially the poor.

Parish Staff	629.8092	
Sr. Juliet Ateenyi	Ministry to Sick	x3211
	JNakalema@blessedtrinity.org	
Katherine Baker	Business Manager	x3218
	kbaker@blessedtrinity.org	
Megan Losito	Blessed Trinity School	622.5808
	mlosito@btschool.org	
Lori Berndt	Elder Care	671.2823
	lberndt@blessedtrinity.org	
Jason Halstead	Brother's Keeper	622.3846
	jason@bkocala.org	
Vicki Cleary	Parish Bookkeeper	x3228
	vcleary@blessedtrinity.org	
Sue Lanier	Stewardship	x3208
	slanier@blessedtrinity.org	
Paul Miranda	Plant Manager	804.2415
	pdmnv@yahoo.com	
Sr. Concepta Najjemba	Soup Kitchen	789.8139
	cnajjemba@yahoo.com	
Melinda Gunn	Parish Secretary	x3201
	mgunn@blessedtrinity.org	
Colleen Rabe	Director of Music & Liturgy	x3202
	crabe@blessedtrinity.org	
Scott Bolton	Angels in Arms	622.6167
	sbolton@btaia.org	
Lydia Ross	Youth Ministry	x 3222
	lross@blessedtrinity.org	
Ana Vanegas	Faith Formation	x3221
	avanegas@blessedtrinity.org	
Trinity Catholic High School	622.9025	
Lou Pereira	President	
Tammie Vassou	Principal	

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME to stop by the Church Office to register Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm or online at www.blessedtrinity.org, click on join us.

BAPTISM: We are pleased to help your family prepare for the special event of your child's entrance into our faith community. To help parents and godparents prepare, a class (English) is held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Community Center and in Spanish the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00am at Guadalupana. Parents and Godparents must attend this class prior to scheduling baptism.

MARRIAGES: If you are planning to be married at Blessed Trinity, your preparation process should begin at least four (4) months prior to desired date. We look forward to helping you during your time of engagement and preparation for the vocation of Christian marriage. Call the Church Office for an appointment with one of our priests.

SICK CALLS AND HOSPITAL VISITS: If you or a family member are in a local hospital or homebound and would like to receive Communion or Sacrament of the Sick, please call the Church Office at 629.8092 or Sister Juliet at x3211. When registering at the hospital, put your name on the Catholic List.

PARISH APP: Download at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for myParish

STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

All of the people in today's readings—the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist—seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

LIVESTREAMING

Please be advised that the Mass is being filmed, broadcast, and/or videotaped, including audio recording. Your attendance at Mass constitutes your consent to these recordings, and to the use of the recordings by the church for public communications, social media, evangelization, and other business or religious purposes. God bless and thank you for attending Mass at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church.



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STEWARDSHIP

THIRDSUNDAY

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Gospel we hear the prophet John the Baptist being asked an insightful stewardship question: "What should we do?" Each group wants to know the appropriate response to John's call; each reply points to how they should treat others. John does not simply say, "Be baptized." Rather, he points them to their jobs and personal relationships. John's message is simple: judgment is near, and repentance includes treating others well. We should be willing to share what we have with those in need. To listen to John the Baptist is to be called to account. Do I give only of my excess, or am I the good steward who is willing to make daily sacrifices in order to help others?

STEWARDS OF THE WEEK

Megan Angel & Family

The Adopt A Parking Lot Island ministry would like to thank Megan and her family for using their time and talent to keep Blessed Trinity looking beautiful!

Thank you for being faithful stewards!

New Parishioners:

Dahlia & Zahir Thompkins

Baptisms:

- Landyn Orozco
- Troy James Leone
- Roman Anderson Leone
- Collin Tyler Leone
- Michael Anthony Hernandez

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (*Gaudete* is the Latin word for "rejoice") this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth.

Our Second Reading gives us cause for joy as St Paul reminds us, "The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all..." Then he gives us a prescription for maintaining this peace: "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Paul's instructions for obtaining peace come as an early Christmas gift. They remind us that we can and should go to God with all our needs and present them to Him *along with our thanks*. This guidance calls to mind a vital aspect of a stewardship way of life: gratitude to God in response to His great love and countless gifts to us.

The Gospel passage, from Luke, shows us how to *live out* this sense of thankfulness, making our lives a "Christmas gift" to Christ in joyful response to His love for us. When the crowds hear John the Baptist's message that their Savior is coming, they ask him what they should do to prepare. He responds, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do the same." He tells tax collectors to stop collecting more than is prescribed and soldiers, to be satisfied with their wages. In other words, he tells them to be good and generous stewards of all God's gifts to them!

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him.



Father Pat's 3rd Sacrament Meeting

Fr. Pat's 3rd Sacrament meeting will be on Sunday, January 12th at 9:55am in the gym.

This is a mandatory meeting for all parents and children that are making their First Holy Communion or Confirmation.

Please try to make it to this meeting but if you can't, there will be a make-up meeting on Saturday, January 18th at 9am in the chapel.



The Music of Christmas Eve

3:00pm Children's Pageant and School Choir Mass

5:00pm Blessed Trinity's Psalt Musicians Mass

6:30pm Chimes, Violin, Flute & Cantors

11:15pm Christmas Concert with the Choir & instrumentalists

12:00 Midnight Mass with the Blessed Trinity Choir & instrumentalists



Expansion of Blessed Trinity Sister Parish Church

So far we have heard from 30 Donors.

We have \$30,850 in pledges over all. We have received \$13,417 in donations.

Our goal to complete the expansion is \$244,000.

Let us know if we can count on you to help us expand our sister parish church to make room for the amazing growth of their parish.

SCRIP

Scrip is available outside of church after the 8:45 and 11:00am Masses on Sunday's (except when there is a school holiday).

Christmas is coming! Get all of your gift card needs now!

Parish Communal

Penance

Prepare now for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a normal part of our Advent journey to Christmas joy.



Our Advent Communal Penance, with 10-15 priests present for confessions will be on: Monday, December 16th at 7:00pm

Other opportunities for confession are: Saturday, December 21st: 8:30am, 11:00am, 2:45pm, 5:00pm

Monday, December 23rd: 8:00am, 11:00am, 4:00pm

Tuesday, December 24th: 8:00am, 11:00am

**Life Teen Christmas Bake Sale:
December 21-22**

Come and support our students going to camp Hidden Lake next summer in Georgia!

We will be outside selling all sorts of holiday treats just in time for you to eat during the Advent and Christmas season.

Take one thing off your list and visit us after Mass next weekend, December 21-22.



Scan to register by 12/14
Price goes up after 12/10

Join us for three days of authentic community, prayer, and service! Grow in your faith, while serving the faces of our community.

Scan to watch a video recap of last year's PandA

PRAYER & ACTION
DECEMBER 29-31
Blessed Trinity Catholic Church | Ocala | 8th - 12th graders



Facilities Calendars

It's that time of year again to submit your calendar request for meeting locations. All ministries and organizations need to submit a calendar for January-June 2025 indicating the name of the ministry, the facility requested, starting and ending times and name and phone number of the contact person making the request. Calendars will be available in the church office. Please return the completed calendars to the church office, attention Melinda Gunn.



The Annual Hoe Down

Once again we had a very successful evening at Adena Country Club. It's purpose is to raise donations for the poor and homeless served by: Brother's Keeper, Open Arms, Project Hope, Saving Mercy and the medical/ dental clinic at La Guadalupeana.

Under the good leadership of Jason Halstead and a very active committee of many, many volunteers, we raised a lot of money and had a most enjoyable dinner and evening.

Thanks to all our sponsors and donors.

LIVE NATIVITY



Saturday, December 21, 2024, after the 4pm Mass (approx. 5pm) and Sunday, December 22, 2024 after the 8:45 Mass (approx. 10am)

Come to experience a Nativity
Reenactment

Young children are encouraged to dress as angels in white with wings.



Sunday, December 15th—Join Life Teen as we continue our annual tradition of a progressive dinner for the holiday season. We will begin at the King of Kings building promptly after the 5pm Mass, and then will continue to two homes on the BT bus for dinner and dessert.

Sunday, December 22nd— No Life Night due to Christmas break. Come to the 5pm Mass with your families and celebrate God's gift of the eucharist!

Medjugorje Trip 2025

Planning has started for the Spring 2025 trip to Medjugorje.

The group will depart on Sunday, April 20, 2025 and return on Monday, April 28, 2025.

If you are interested in going, please contact Katherine Baker at 352.629.8092 or at kbaker@blessedtrinity.org

Angels Courtyard Christmas

The Angels in Arms community had a most enjoyable and well planned Courtyard Christmas celebration on Sunday, December 8. The weather was just perfect.

Thank you to Scott Bolton, director, and all your staff and volunteers.

Easy to see why Angels is so popular.

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Your purchase of Fair Trade coffee, tea, cocoa & olive oil help small family farmers in Asia, Africa, India, South America, and Palestine earn a fair compensation for their products!! Please consider purchasing additional products to include in holiday gift baskets. These products will be available for you to purchase after Mass this weekend! THANK YOU!!

Thank you for supporting farming families around the world.
Photo: Equal Exchange's Dery Goodrich and Julia Baumgartner with members of ACOPAGRO Co-op in Peru.

equalexchange.coop



Monday, Dec 16	7:10am 5:30pm	Sisters of IHMR L/D Eileen Nealy †
Tuesday, Dec 17	7:10am 5:30pm	Rosario Arceo † Homer Rothfusz †
Wed, Dec 18	7:10am 5:30pm	Alejandra DeLaCruz † Mae Fish †
Thursday, Dec 19	7:10am 5:30pm	Helen & Fred Wisneski † Thomas & Catherine Burns †
Friday, Dec 20	7:10am 9:15am 5:30pm	Jude Ogugua † Norma & Richard Pesola † Giuseppe Mignosa †
Saturday, Dec 21	8:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Michelle Ivers † Rudy Blanchette † Fran Harwas †
Sunday, Dec 22	7:10am 8:45am 11:00am 1:00pm 5:00pm	Hilda & Tony Ortiz † JD & Darleth Raftis † Philip Fanelli † Spanish Community Eliza & Ted Fowler †

Please pray for Federico Johnson who has recently passed away.

Mobile Device Giving
Scan the QR code to donate online.
Thank you for your donation!



Perpetual Adoration

The following hours need to be filled:
Sundays: 3:00am - 4:00am
Mondays: 1:00am - 2:00am
Mondays: 2:00am - 3:00am
Tuesdays: 1:00am - 2:00am
Thursdays: 3:00am - 4:00am

Also in need of substitutes, especially between Midnight and 5:00am

Our stewardship way of life here at BT encourages each family to commit one hour a week to the adoration chapel; please prayerfully consider this ministry's needs and if you are unable to serve, please pray that God will send individuals to sustain this core ministry, here at Blessed Trinity.

The Lord looks forward to your visit!

Please see the list of hours, which is in the vestibule, on the counter near the staircase, that need one more adorer.

For your special hour of praise before the Blessed Sacrament call or email: Carol Blackstock 352-622-7348 or 352-425-8638, carolblackstock@gmail.com.

"People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?' My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in holy hours of prayer." - St. Mother Teresa



ADS OF THE WEEK

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Men's Fashion
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BK Bikes also has refurbished adult and kids bikes for sale.

Shop hours:

Monday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Donations of unused or broken bikes are accepted, which are refurbished for sale or given to workers who need transportation.

If you would like to help fix bicycles, BK Bikes has room for a few more volunteer mechanics; training is available.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE ~ WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Weekly Offering	December 8, 2024		
Weekend Total:	421	\$ 23,340.00	Year to date collection: \$ 1,780,119.51
Electronic Offering Total:	467	\$ 50,169.90	
Loose Cash / Votives Total:		\$ 2,245.00	Year to date budget: \$ 1,851,102.00
School Mass Offering:		\$ 51.84	Year to date deficit: (\$70,982.49)
Non Sunday:	76	\$ 8,492.00	
Grand Total for Week:		\$ 84,298.74	Retirement Fund for Religious: \$2,711.00
Amount needed for Operating Expenses:		\$ 84,141.00	
Difference		\$157.74	

"Thank you for your donations."

Reminder: Do your best to put your envelope number on the "memo" line of your check.

A Stewardship Approach to Christmas Giving

The beautiful season of Advent is upon us, and with it a desire for the simplicity which fosters spiritual depth. This desire often runs into headwinds during December. A season which is often marked by excess and over-consumption coincides with the poverty and simplicity of the manger. It's a conundrum for the Christian steward.

We are increasingly aware of Pope Francis's call to be stewards of the environment. But let's face it, how many of us have felt a twinge of guilt on Christmas morning as garbage bags full of unrecyclable wrapping paper and protective plastic toy containers are carried to the trash. Do our children really need so much? Do we?

There's been a movement afoot in the last few years to cut back on Christmas buying, especially as it pertains to our kids, whom we sometimes overindulge on that special day. The easy-to-remember plan is called "Something they want, something they need, something to wear, something to read." Following those four pointers, our children can receive four well-thought-out gifts that fulfill both practical and fun desires. Think quality. Refrain from lots of "stuff," which we excuse as "stocking stuffers" and often are broken or discarded by New Year's Day. The plan can work for a spouse or another special person as well.

Another important consideration for the Christian steward is to remember that the Christmas need to give extends far beyond family. Schools, churches and faith formation programs often promote "giving trees" where we select a person or family in need who may not receive a gift without our help. This is a great program for kids who can become totally involved in the selection, and perhaps with their allowances, even the purchase of a gift for a stranger.



Shelters collect socks, nursing homes need carolers, the clerk at the busy grocery store needs an extra smile, your pastor and your teacher might appreciate a special thank you note. There are scores of ways to give during the Advent and Christmas seasons. If we commit to keeping it a little simpler under the tree on Christmas morning, we'll have more time and energy for other forms of giving. We'll do the environment a favor, and we will give our kids a lesson in giving rather than getting. And that, of course, is an authentic Christmas message.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Mi 5:1-4a

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45



Dec 14 / 15:

Dec 21 / 22: Advent—No Flowers

Dec 28 / 29:

Please call the Church Office at 629.8092 x3201 if you would like more information on placing flowers on the altar.



2024 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Calling all children who would like to participate

in the 3pm Christmas Eve Mass!

We need singers, readers, and actors!

If your children are choir members at BT school we want them to sing!

Sign-up via email: crabe@blessedtrinity.org

Or phone: (352)629-8092 ext.3202

Child's name, age, parent's email & phone # requested

Child should attend all 3 Saturday rehearsals:

12/7 & 12/21 @ 10-11am

12/14 @ 1:30-2:30pm

CITIZENS FIRST BANK presents...
Concert AND 5K for Good
 December 28, 2024
 Because it's always the season for giving.

www.concertforgood.com To benefit:

December 28, 2024 is a day "for good". Start the day with a walk, jog or run at the inaugural 5K for good. End your day with the 4th Annual Concert for Good!

5K at 7:30 AM **Concert at 7:30 PM**
 Baseline Trailhead Ocala Civic Theatre

BT School is HIRING
Teacher Assistants

Applications and Job Descriptions can be found on:
OrlandoDiocese.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

Blessed Trinity

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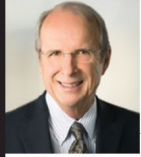
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