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#### Please pray for:

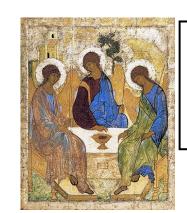
Michael VanFleet, Kevin Mahoney, Jill Virts, Lee Poole, JoAnne Nichols, Mary Lou Adams, Ray Terry, Peg Soule, Joanne Knapp, Ann Minosh, Bill McHenry, Danny Dreschler, Shirley Howell, Jeanine Gagnon, and all of our Parishioners who are ill, at home or in the hospital.



Sam Interlichia — Marines Noah Foro — Air Force Bryan Wetzel — Air Force

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our times of need, and give them peace. I ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. AMEN

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, By the power of God, cast into hell Satan, And all the evil spirits, Who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen



Saint Jude • Saint Mary Magdalene • Saint Thomas 580 Main Street 15 Northup Avenue 6927 Main Street Fair Haven NY 13156 Wolcott NY 14590 Red Creek NY 13143

Parish Office: moved to 43 W. DeZeng St., Clyde, NY 14433 314-902-4130 Check out our website: www.ccblessedtrinity.org!

### Living in Grace through the Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism. We share in your joy as we welcome the newest member of your family into God's family, the Church. Our Parish offers Baptism Preparation Program to parents, with godparents, who wish to share their faith with their child. To register, please call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Persevere on the journey to holiness: Say "No" to sin and "Yes" to God's love, mercy and forgiveness: Sunday's after Mass, at St. Mary Magdalene, before and after Mass at St. Thomas/St. Jude and on the 1st Tuesdays of the month at 6:30pm at St. Mary Magdalene or call the Parish Office to make an appointment.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Jesus con tinues his healing ministry through his Church. If you or any parishioner is ill at home, in the hospital or the nursing home, and desires to celebrate this sacrament of healing, call the Parish Office to schedule a visit.

Sacrament of the Eucharist. One of our priests will bring Communion during home visits or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (communion ministers) can and may bring you Communion regularly. Call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Confirmation. Our young parishioners who wish to prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spir it in the sacrament of Confirmation must be enrolled in a 2 year preparation program in Religious Education Adults must call the rectory.

Sacrament of Marriage. You and your fiancé are called to mirror the love of Jesus for his Church! Please contact the Parish Office at least six months before the intended date of your wedding so we can help you prepare for this wonderful sacrament of committed love.

Sacrament of Holy Orders. Do pray for vocations to the ordained priesthood and permanent deaconate. It is our common obligation to raise vocations-ordained, religious, married, single-in the Church. Now do you happen to know if and when our parish has produced an ordained priest for our diocese?

Are You a Visitor or a Newcomer? Welcome and we are glad you're here to worship with us!

# CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE **BLESSED TRINITY**

## **Easter Sunday** April 12, 2020

### **Our Parish Mission Statement**

We, the people of Blessed Trinity Parish, come from diverse backgrounds and are working together to learn, live and spread the Roman Catholic Faith. We support one another on this journey of faith by studying the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, and nurturing the spiritual growth of all. Our pledge is to consistently strive to build an ever-stronger parish family where the word of God is proclaimed, studied, and integrated into daily living, where we worship in prayer and in sacrament the presence of God in our midst, and where we witness the Gospel through our actions of care and concern for the needs of those around us.

All public Masses throughout the diocese have been suspended until further notice. Father Tedesche and Father Walter will be covering all scheduled Mass intentions in their daily private Mass.

Once public Masses commence Blessed Trinity Parish office hours will be Mondays from 9am until noon in the basement of St. Mary Magdalene. Outside these office hours, calls should be directed to the parish offices in Clyde at 315-902-4130.

Please note St. Thomas in Red Creek is open Sundays from 8:30 to 10:30AM and St. Mary Magdalene is open from 10:30am until noon.

## Now Sacrificial Giving is Easier Than Ever

Your generosity makes a difference! Online giving helps The Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity Parish to save time and money. Recurring donations help us to plan and give us financial predictability

## Sacrificial Giving –3 options



#1) Bill Pay is Blessed Trinity's Preferred Method of giving for electronic contributions from your own checking or savings account. This method is convenient and there is no cost to the parish. Your bank's bill payment service allows you to set up single or recurring payments directly from your account. Use the following information: Payee: The Catholic Community of the Blessed

Trinity Mailing Address: The Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity P.O. Box 499 Ontario, NY 14519 Note Field: specific purpose for the donation. (i.e. Your Envelope Number or Sunday Offering



# # 2 : Check or Money Order

Check or Money Orders should be made payable to The Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity and mailed to: P.O. Box 499 Ontario, NY 14519 In the Memo Field: Note Purpose: i.e...your envelope number or write Sunday Offering if you don't know it.



#3: Mobile Giving Via Text Message Is Now Available!
1. Text Give to: 315-259-1662 2. Fellow the prompts 3. Register your credit or debit card (first time only) Donors can use Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, and Diners Club and debit cards with a Visa or MasterCard logo. You will have the option to also set up single or recurring donations until you stop them.

#### From the desk of Fr. Walter:

#### My Dear People.

The first Easter morning was not, for the Apostles of the Lord, a joyful one. As the sun slowly shed its light upon the grey landscape of Jerusalem and the pall of darkness lifted, the dread and terror of Friday remained firmly lodged in their hearts. Not only because the terror of their own arrest was imminent, but because with the death of their Master, life as they knew it had ended. Perhaps worse still than the terrible loss was the sickening regret that haunted them. So soon after vowing to be at his side in the face of danger, they had fled in fear, even to the point of denying him. Cowardice was a lesser shame to carry than betrayal. Only the youngest Apostle returned to the Cross, and there with the Mother of Jesus watched in powerless horror as each drop of blood drained His body of life. But for this fidelity, the Master Himself confided her to John in one of His last acts. Straining to breathe, He gasped the words of this unique gift. *Woman, behold your son. Son, behold your mother*.' The fear which assaulted the Apostles beginning with the arrest of Christ in the garden of Gethsemane, His imprisonment, torture, His sham trial, His public execution, erased from their minds all His previous words. It was as another lifetime when, removing His outer garments He had washed their feet at the Last Supper and spoken to them of love. Three years of companionship, of teaching, of example. So unfair, so catastrophic, so useless a death! How brutally their hopes had been crushed. How powerful He seemed, what miracles! How empty were His noble words and promises in the face of the power of the Romans and the Temple? In the face of death itself?

One alone believed, one alone hoped, one alone waited. It was so many years ago when the plan had first been told, but she had suspected from the beginning it would be like this. Had not the Prophets met with such fate? Had not Isaiah foretold it? Had not their Psalms implied it? He warned her, it would not be easy. Men are weak, and they are sinful, and they are blind. And when it happened, it was worse than she expected. But He had said to her- '*Wait, wait, and believe. Have I not promised, has My Father not promised?*'

Then, in the grey light of the first day of the week, the third day, the eighth day. The sword that had pierced her Immaculate heart since the moment Simeon made his prophecy 33 years earlier was removed. The wound remained, but it was now glorious like the glorious wound in the side of her Divine Son's pierced side. The moment when He came to her is not recorded in Sacred Scripture, we can imagine what it may have been like, but it was too sacred and too private for our eyes. We will have to wait until heaven to know what took place in this secret and mysterious meeting, between the Savior of the world and His Mother, between the new Adam and the new Eve.

St Elizabeth cried out when Mary came to visit her after the Angel Gabriel appeared 'Blessed are you who have believed, because those things shall be accomplished that were spoken to you by the Lord'. The Faith of Mary had grown daily, year after year, until it reached its climax and pinnacle when she stood at the foot of the Cross. Never was there a moment when the obedience of Faith was harder. Never was there a heart as tender and sensitive, and yet as strong as the heart of Mary.

Many people today would tell us that our Faith is the result of a weakness, an unwillingness to live in reality, a way to escape and put our trust in an illusive Deity whom we blindly hope to fix our problems. How often Christians are mocked publicly, and how much more acceptable it is to ridicule Catholicism than any other religion in the world. Choosing to believe in what Christ, the Bible, the Church teaches is considered proof of backwardness or cowardliness.

To believe is not weak, nor is it really blind. The Apostles had seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead, they had seen Him turn five loaves and fishes into a feast for 5,000. Not only the many miracles, but the clarity and genius of His teaching revealed a more than natural wisdom. Above all, the goodness of Jesus had drawn them. Were He an imposter, such love and friendship would have been impossible to simulate. Such mercy, to the point of forgiving the very executioners while they nailed His hands to the Cross, was beyond human, it was divine.

Faith is not blind, but it is often difficult. God has made it so in order to allow us to merit, to choose, not only freely, but lovingly. The root of all evil in the world was the disobedience of Adam. The solution is the obedience of Faith in the new Adam, Jesus Christ. Every Christian must make this choice, not only once, but daily. To be joyful on Easter Sunday morning is not only a passing emotion, it too is a choice. Jesus Christ has triumphed over sin and death, and I choose to believe in this and what it means. I choose to belong to this work of salvation. I choose to give my 'yes' to the promises and plans of God for me.

There are a thousand reasons to be sad and discouraged this Easter, in the year of Our Lord 2020. The news media can give you at least 987 of them. Your own personal situation may supply the rest, which are likely more valid. Faith weighs them with the one reason to have joy, and finds the balance entirely tipped in its favor.

My great uncle, Fr John Nacca, spent the last years of his fruitful and generous priestly life in a nursing home, neglected and ignored by almost everyone who had known him. He prayed rosary after rosary, unable to do much else. He never complained, but it was evident he faced a great battle against discouragement. I will always remember one time he said to me, out of nowhere: 'If Christ could rise from the dead, what are my little problems in comparison?'

If Christ could rise from the dead, what are any of our problems, what are all the problems of the world, and all its sins and tragedies and catastrophes from the beginning of time to the end in comparison? The world waits in anguish until the final Resurrection and triumph bursts forth in glory and majesty. Until then, we still have time to give God the gift of our trust. Life is very short, eternity is very long, and God is very good. He has His own way of fixing things. Look at the Cross. Faith clings to this in spite of everything, and it will never be disappointed. If Christ could rise from the dead, what is a world pandemic in comparison? Really, what is *anything* in comparison? That's the point. God knows what He is doing. Ask Him to do it and be part of it. Help Him like Mary did. Belief is not blind, ignoring Christ's promise is. For this reason, we sing *Alleluia*.

Fr Walter