

# *Blessed Trinity Parish*

## *Roman Catholic Church*

*Greenfield, Massachusetts*

*Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 25, 2023*



### *Schedule of Holy Mass*

**Lord's Day Vigil— Saturday 4 pm**

**Lord's Day—Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, & 11 am**

#### **Weekday**

M-T-Th-F- 8:30 am

Wed. 12:05 pm & 6 pm

First Saturday - 8 am

Holy Day Vigil - 6 pm

Holy Day - 8:30 am, 12:05 pm, & 6 pm

*"Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so also the one who feeds on me  
will have life because of me." Jn 6:57*

### *Our Churches & Sacred Spaces*

#### *Blessed Sacrament Church*

221 Federal Street

Mass: Saturday—4 pm | Sunday—11 am

Monday & Tuesday—8:30 am | Wednesday—6 pm

Holy Day Vigil: 6 pm | Holy Day: 8:30 am

#### *Calvary Cemetery*

Wisdom Way | First Burial recorded 1792

#### *Holy Trinity Church*

135 Main Street

Mass: Sunday - 8 am & 9:30 am

Wednesday 12:05pm | Thursday & Friday—8:30 am

Holy Day: 12:05 pm & 6 pm

#### *Perpetual Adoration Chapel*

221 Federal Street | Always present 24/7

[www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](http://www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org)

*All are Invited & Welcome to Join Us!*

We are a diverse Catholic Community of Greenfield which shares a faith in Jesus Christ, is nourished at the table of the Eucharist, celebrates life-giving and healing Sacraments, tries to live the Beatitudes, and reaches out in service, together.

Please join us on this journey of life and faith!

## **TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love Your holy name for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of Your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.—*Amen*



### **PARISH OFFICE.**

14 Beacon Street. Greenfield, MA 01301

**HOURS:** Monday-Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

413.773.3311 | 413.774.2884  
office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael M. Pierz

pastor@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org | x103

**DEACONS:** deacons@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

Deacon Paul F. DeCarlo | Deacon John Leary

Deacon George Nolan | Deacon Channing L. Bete (ret.)

**CAMPUS MANAGERS:**

Deacon Paul DeCarlo | Deacon John Leary

**OFFICE STAFF:**

Monique Richardson | Jane Fay | Amanda Edson

**MAINTENANCE STAFF:**

Harry Demers | Curtis Plausky

**CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION:**

Betty Fritz, Administrator

**MUSIC MINISTRY:**

Paul Calcari, Choir Director | Kathleen Galluzzo, Organist

Stephen Glover, Organist/Choir Director

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

Katie Pierce, Interim Coordinator

ReligiousEd@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

**FOOD PANTRY:**

Donna Leary, Coordinator

pantry@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

**BULLETIN:**

Charlene Currie, Editor *pro tem*

bulletin@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

(Deadline: **Wed.5pm -10 days prior-** for following weekend.)

**FINANCE COUNCIL:** (transitional)

Bill Bell (Co-Chair) | Kevin O'Neil (Co-Chair)

Pierre Belhumeur | Ann Dillon

Gary Longley | Mark Penfield

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BOARD:**

Marshall Carroll (Chair) | Virginia Christi

Phil Corrinet | Jason Edson

Mary Fleury | Michael Motisi

Lindsay O'Neil | Katie Pierce

**BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMISSION:**

Pierre Belhumeur | Skip Descavich

Johan Livingstone | Gary Longley

Mark Penfield | Greg Rode

**FATHER JAMES CASEY HALL** (135 Main St)

**PASTORAL CENTER HALL** (14 Beacon St)

**BL. MCGIVNEY CONFERENCE ROOM** (14 Beacon St)

Arrangements for use can be made through the Parish Office.

**PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL**

Deacon John Leary, Coordinator

Hours available and Coverage Requested

**CALVARY CEMETERY**

Arrangements for burial can be made through the Parish Office.

## **OUR MINISTRIES.**

**FOOD PANTRY**

Saturday 9 am– noon | Tuesday Noon-3 pm | Thursday 3 pm-6 pm | pantry@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

**COMMUNITY MEALS:** 2nd, 4th & 5th Thursdays—to volunteer call Kathy Melnik 413.773.3311

**ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER**

413.774.6010 *Pregnancy Tests, Counseling, Support, Post Abortion Support*

**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING:** Ed & Suzi Cottrill 413.773.3311

**YOUNG & CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP OF FRANKLIN COUNTY:** Stephanie Paige 413.773.3311

**POPE ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT YOUTH GROUP:** Ed & Suzi Cottrill 413.773.3311

**BLESSED TRINITY ROSARY SODALITY:** Marcy Hoynoski, President. 413.773.3311

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, LT. JOHN GALVIN COUNCIL No. 133:** Dan Arsenault, Grand Knight. 413.773.3311

**HOSPITAL MINISTRY | JAIL MINISTRY | HOMEBOUND MINISTRY | HOMELESS MINISTRY**

## ***Thoughts from the Pastor's Desk ...***

Dear friends of Blessed Trinity,

During this month of June, dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we are invited into the humility of a merciful God and the dynamism of His divine love. God is Love and He invites us into the mystery of that love, not according to our own conception, but according to His revelation. The Lord our God reveals to us the opportunities and the workings of His love.

One such opportunity is our weekly encounter at Holy Mass. Each and every Sunday (and its vigil), we are invited to witness and bear witness to the gift of divine love. We encounter God's living word. We receive His sacramental presence. We engage His bounty of graces. God is love and He invites us each week to participate in the great sacrifice (*sacro-facere*) of love which makes us holy. Holiness is not perfection in some sanctimonious or activist sense; it is the openness and configuration of our deepest selves to divine love, active and engaged in us and through us by God's invitation and our humble perseverance.

Opportunities for holiness abound. Encounters for witness to divine love are ever present.

In the Gospel today, Jesus declares "Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father" (Mt. 10:32). The gift of divine love, incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ, becomes a mandate and duty. To come to know Jesus Christ means also that we make Him known. The gift of divine love received is a gift that itself must be shared. Such is the dynamism of divine love: we enter into the exchange of love that is the hallmark of the Blessed Trinity itself. Acknowledging the Son, we are acknowledged before the Father. Witnesses to divine love, we bear that witness and enter that mystery all the more.

Our encounters therefore cannot remain solitary ones. The action of grace effected in us and through us by Christ's sacrifice of the Mass cannot be contained to a few moments on a Sunday. Our encounters must lead to accompaniment. Our encounters must lead to an ongoing exchange and engagement in the witness of divine love every day of the week, every moment of our being.

I invite you, dear friends, to help build a parish of encounter and accompaniment. May our Sunday Masses, our charitable actions, our daily encounters, our shared moments, our being the Church of Greenfield, lead us to continue the journey of holiness and the witness of divine love. May our parish, each and every one of us, work together along the way and lead us to the heart of God Himself.

*Most Holy Trinity, I adore You!*

*My God, I love you in the Most Blessed Sacrament!*

**Fr. Pierz**

**CATHOLIC 101: WHAT IS THE COLLECT PRAYER?** The "Collect" (pronounced "call' ect") is a short thematic prayer consisting of 5 parts that concludes the opening rites of the Mass. The Collect invites people to pray in silence for a moment, and then offers a prayer to God that is drawn from the readings or feast of the day, or the purpose for which the Mass is being offered. The word "Collect" comes from the Latin phrase *ecclesia collecta*, which means that it is a public prayer prayed by and for the assembled church. Each week's **Collect** is found at the top of page 2. Breaking down the 5 parts of this prayer using this week's prayer are:

**Invocation:** O Lord

**Acknowledgment/Description of God:** Your holy name

**Petition/Request:**...You never deprive of Your guidance those You set firm on the foundation of Your love.

**Aspiration/Desired Result:** ...that we may always revere and love Your holy name

**Conclusion/Doxology:** Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. (*CatholicHerald.org*)

# OUR FAITH.

## OUR SACRAMENTS.

### EUCCHARIST:

#### LORD'S DAY MASS

Saturday 4:00 pm (BSC) | Sunday 8:00 am (HTC), 9:30 am (HTC), 11:00 am (BSC)

#### WEEKDAY MASS

M & T 8:30 am (BSC) | Wed. 12:05 pm (HTC) & 6 pm (PAC) | Th & F 8:30 am (HTC)

#### ADORATION

Always present, 24/7 in our Perpetual Adoration Chapel (PAC)

### CONFESSION:

Saturday, 2:30-3:30 pm | 30 min. before Sunday Masses | Wednesday, 5-5:45pm | or by appointment. (Every effort is made to arrive 30 min. before the 11 am Mass for Confession, however priest availability can be limited.)

### BAPTISM:

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule baptism preparation classes, review sponsor eligibility, and plan celebration of the sacrament. Typically celebrated within 8 weeks of birth. Ceremony may be private or during our Sunday Masses.

### MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office at least 9 months in advance to enroll in marriage preparation classes and plan liturgy arrangements.

### CONFIRMATION:

Typically takes place through our Religious Education program. If you are an adult and have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact the Parish Office.

### HOLY ORDERS:

Have you ever been inspired of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Please speak with Fr. Pierz or call the Parish Office.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Available during pastoral visit, Sacrament of Confession, or by appointment.

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:** Seeking to receive all your sacraments and enter full communion with the Catholic Church? You are invited and welcome to join us! Please contact the Parish Office to learn how to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of initiation.

### NEW PARISHIONERS—WELCOME

We are eager to meet you & invite you to register at the Parish Office. We look forward to getting to know you in prayer & service & we hope that you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, and your talents.

## OUR MINISTRY MEETINGS – THIS WEEK.

All are encouraged to inquire about these opportunities or join these meetings—no commitment required.

**JAIL MINISTRY MEETING** Wednesday, June 28th 6:45 pm in our Pastoral Center Conference Room following 6:00 pm Mass.

**COMMUNITY MEAL** 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Thursday, June 29th at our Holy Trinity Church

**PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL** *"Could you not keep watch with me for one hour?"* - Matthew 26:40

**Hours Available. | Coverage Requested.**

Please contact Deacon John Leary at 413.773.3311 or [deacons@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](mailto:deacons@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org)

**PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND.** Do you know of a parishioner entering a nursing home, recently or with an upcoming hospital stay who would like a visit or to receive the Eucharist? Contact [comfort@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](mailto:comfort@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org) or call 413-773-3311



# OUR FAITH.

## NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

This weekend we celebrate the *birth of John the Baptist*. John the Baptist is highly unusual among the Saints: **He is the only person besides Mary and Jesus whose birthday is celebrated instead of his day of death.** That's because he was "filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb" (*Luke 1:15*). Jesus himself declared that "of all those born of women," there was none greater than John the Baptist, the prophet chosen to prepare the way for the Lord. Saint John had the privilege of baptizing Jesus, marking the beginning of his public ministry. *He* was a heroic prophet who was also humble enough to declare that he was unworthy to tie the strap of Christ's sandal (John 3:30).



Christians have traditionally honored his feast day on **June 24** with distinctive customs.

**The Nativity of John the Baptist coincides with the feast of Midsummer**, or the Summer Solstice. Church leaders wanted to "Christianize" a pagan feast, but most likely it is because his birthday falls six months before Christ's birth celebrated December 25.

**There is great theological significance to St. John's birth coinciding with the summer solstice:** Christ is the "light of the world" (John 8:12) and John famously said of Christ, "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30). After this feast, the days get progressively shorter until Christ's birth, when they begin to get longer again.

**The birth of St. John the Baptist was a high holy day for much of Church history.** It was called "**the summer Christmas**", and Christians marked the day with festivals, parades, and many other celebrations. These customs have fallen by the wayside in some places, but they remain a beautiful way to celebrate this special feast.

**In some European cultures**, the Solemnity of the Birth of St. John the Baptist is often combined with earlier pre-Christian customs such as building bonfires and other customs associated with the Summer Solstice. ([aleteia.org](http://aleteia.org))

## OUR MINISTRIES – MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

Each week we will update how our growing Ministries are having a positive impact in our community while sharing our Catholic Faith by the caring of others.

**Community Meals:** On 6/08/23 even with the rain, we served 40 meals.

**Homebound Visits:** Currently we have 43 homebound visits

**Nursing Homes:** Currently we have 34 nursing home visits

**Food Pantry - Month of May:** Total individuals served: 1845,  
new individuals: 24, Total Households: 765

**Bread of Life - June Meal:** 40 meals, prepared by 12 2023

Confirmation Class & family volunteers



Interested in volunteering? Please contact us at the Parish Office 413.773.3311 or [office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](mailto:office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org).

# OUR PARISH.



## Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, June 24 — FATHER CAMPOLI

FATHER'S DAY NOVENA – DAY 7

4:00 BSC

DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE PAVONI/  
DUKE FAMILIES — by the Family

SUNDAY, June 25 — BISHOP BYRNE

FATHER'S DAY NOVENA – DAY 8

8:00 HTC

GUY & ALICE BEAUDET — by the Family

9:30 HTC

MAFALDA MUSACCHIO — by Bill & Donna  
Kilgour

11:00 BSC

GRACE & BLESSINGS FOR LAURIE TILTON  
— by Maureen Filiault

MONDAY, June 26 — MONSIGNOR YARDEAU

FATHER'S DAY NOVENA – DAY 9

8:30 BSC

JUDY LAPOINTE — by her Husband &  
Family

TUESDAY, June 27 — CLERGY IN PURGATORY

8:30 BSC

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES A SHATTUCK JR.  
— by the Lively Family

WEDNESDAY, June 28 — FR. O'MANNION

12:05 HTC

PATRICK REILLY — by his sister, Mary  
Reilly Parsons

6:00 PAC

DAVID TETREAU — by Emily  
Tetreault

THURSDAY, June 29 — DEACON DECARLO

8:30 HTC

STANLEY NIEDZWIEDZ — by Mike Lapointe  
& Family

FRIDAY, June 30 — VOCATIONS

8:30 HTC

DENNIS ROUX — by Deacon Joe & Marie  
Bete

**FIRST SATURDAY**, July 1 — FATHER PIERZ

8:00 BSC

HEALTH & BLESSINGS FOR THE PAVONI  
FAMILY — by Sandra Pavoni

4:00 BSC

HELEN MCGREEVY — by Annie Keough

SUNDAY, July 2 — FATHER CAMPOLI

8:00 HTC

RICK DUFRANE — by Doug & Joanne  
Brown

9:30 HTC

STEPHEN HLATKY — by Mary Reilly  
Parsons

11:00 BSC

IN THANKSGIVING FOR SANDRA PAVONI

## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**JUNE 25, 2023**

Give eternal life, O Lord, to all our beloved dead.  
May they rest in peace! We remember in our prayers:

Paul Campbell | Mary W Hoynoski | Mary Lyle

## JUNE 18-JULY 1

**BSC SANCTUARY CANDLE** is burning in memory/honor of  
Geraldine Wong - from Virginia Vielmetti

**ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES** will burn in memory/  
honor of:

1. Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Vielmetti—from Claire Heath Virginia  
Vielmetti

2. Joe Merlino—Virginia Vielmetti

3. 15th Anniversary Jason & Anne Lively

4. Patricia Duffey Earley—from Robert Earley

**HTC 7-DAY CANDLE:** Jacob Garmalo 7th  
Anniversary —from his family.

*If you would like to burn a candle or  
donate flowers for a special occasion, in  
memory of a loved one or other  
intention, call the parish office at  
773.3311*

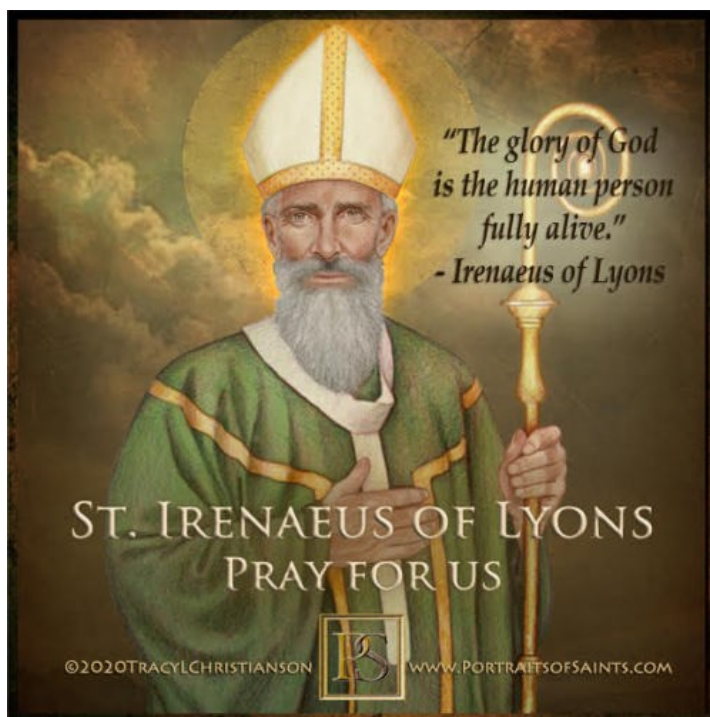


## **THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWERS**

Our altar flowers were donated in memory of

Jacob Garmalo by the Family

*Thank you for this beautiful show of remembrance.*



# OUR PARISH.

**Y+C Franklin County**



**SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH, 4:00 PM**

**LAUREL LAKE—ERVING STATE FOREST**

PLAN FOR HIKING, SWIMMING AND BRING SOME FOOD TO EAT!

MEET IN PARKING LOT TO THE LEFT OF THE RANGER'S STATION OFF  
OF LAUREL LAKE RD.

CAN'T MAKE IT BUT WANT TO JOIN NEXT TIME?  
Email [franklincounty@youngandcatholic.org](mailto:franklincounty@youngandcatholic.org) to get updates

## WEEKEND OF JUNE 18, 2023

*"Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to  
God, the almighty Father"*

Weekly Collection: \$6464

Fuel/Energy Collection: \$103

Maintenance Collection: \$127

*"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and  
glory of His name, for our good and the good of His Holy Church."*

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## PRAYER CHAINS.

Please contact us with your petition.  
Our Parish Prayer Chains are available to all..

Andrea Lapointe: Parish Office at 773.3311

Marie Boynton: 775.3633  
[memeboynton@comcast.net](mailto:memeboynton@comcast.net)



## THIS WEEK AT BLESSED TRINITY PARISH

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!



### Saturday June 24

4:00 pm Mass (BSC)

### Sunday June 25

8 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes  
beforehand

9:30 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes  
beforehand

11:00 am Mass (BSC) Confession: 30 minutes  
beforehand (Note: Priest availability can be limited  
with 9:30 am Mass at HTC.)

### Monday June 26

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

6:00 pm Roses for Mary Prayer Group (PAC each  
Mon.)

### Tuesday June 27

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

### Wednesday June 28

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

5-5:45 pm Confession (PAC)

6:00 pm Mass (PAC)

6:45 pm Jail Ministry Meeting - Pastoral Ctr.  
Conference Room

7 pm Holy Hour for the Sick & Dying-(PAC)

### Thursday June 29

8:30 am Mass (HTC)

5-6:00 pm Community Meal (HTC)

### Friday June 30

8:30 am Mass (HTC)

### Saturday July 1

2:30 pm—3:30 pm Confession (BSC)

4:00 pm Mass (BSC)

### Sunday July 2

8 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes  
beforehand

9:30 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes  
beforehand

11:00 am Mass (BSC) Confession: 30 minutes  
beforehand (Note: Priest availability can be limited  
with 9:30 am Mass at HTC.)

## DONATIONS FOR REFUGEES

Please bring donations of clothing and toiletries to our  
Pastoral Center | 14 Beacon St, Greenfield Mass

**Monday through Friday 9 am - 3 pm**

**Immediate Needs:** Women's clothing sizes medium &  
large, men's shirts sizes small, medium, large, men's  
pants size 32-34, Children's sizes 3T-6T, all ages socks  
& underwear, diapers size 1-5, shampoo, soap,  
toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant.



# OUR YOUTH.



## GRAB YOUR SUNGLASSES FOR NATIONAL SUNGLASSES DAY.

Tuesday, June 27 is National Sunglasses Day.

(Yes, it's a real thing!)

*"When in Rome, do as the Romans do."*

Or at least wear your sunglasses and be in good company with Bishop Byrne, Father Pierz, our Deacons and the 2023 Blessed Trinity Parish Confirmation Class!

**SUMMER SUNDAYS.** Summertime is here and it's tempting to skip Sunday Mass while relaxing on the beach, but summer vacation doesn't exempt us from going to church. Make it memorable. Is there an historic church nearby your vacation spot? Learn about its history. Don't just attend, but immerse yourself into the experience. Research before you go. Is there a church by the water? Is there one with beautiful gardens? Does it have an unique history or beautiful stained glass? Windows or statues? Be sure to meet the Priest, Deacons and parishioners **and don't forget to bring back 2 bulletin for us**—one to post on the Parish Bulletin Board and one to share with the grateful Blessed Trinity Parish Bulletin Editor! ***Let's see how many bulletins we can collect over the summer!***

**Enders Island near Mystic, CT** is home to St. Edmund's Retreat, a Catholic Community offering hospitality to all who are seeking hope and healing in the beauty of God's Creation. ***(Editor's Note: Personally recommend a visit to this beautiful island while in the Mystic Seaport area!)***



This island is an 11-acre gem off the coast of Connecticut, that invites visitors to participate in their retreats, workshops, and programs, with many opportunities for prayer and reflection. For decades, people from all walks of life and backgrounds have experienced Enders Island as Holy Ground, a sanctuary of healing and hope, home to a Recovery Residence Community, the Sacred Art Institute, and an active Retreat Ministry. Enders Island is a place where people can deepen their intimacy with God in the prayerful rhythm of our Community.

Pray in their Chapel, celebrate daily Mass, walk the grounds, participate in their programs, or join them online **EndersIsland.org** for online Mass. You'll be surrounded by the beauty of the ever-changing seascapes, fragrant gardens alive with color, and the work of sacred artists that draw you into prayer.



**History:** Originally the home of Dr. Thomas and Mrs.

Alys Enders, this classic 20th Century Arts and Crafts estate has been the home to a ministry of healing and hope for over 70 years. In 1954, Mrs. Alys E. Enders donated her beloved estate on Enders Island to the Society of St. Edmund, which is a Roman Catholic religious community of priests and brothers with a rich history of pastoral ministry, education, spiritual renewal, and social justice dating back to the 19th century France. Since that time, Enders Island has offered a respite for retreats, residents, and visitors alike. It welcomes all to refresh their minds, hearts, and spirits along peaceful prayer walks,

indoor and outdoor chapels, sacred art studios, and gathering places for fellowship honoring Mrs. Enders' wish for the Island to be preserved and to provide a home for religious and charitable purposes. ***(EndersIsland.org)***

**Daily Mass:** 9:00 a.m. | **Sunday Mass:** 9:00 a.m. (No Saturday Vigil) | **Priests:** Fr. Tom Hoar, SSE and Fr. Richard Myhalyk



# OUR YOUTH.

## CELEBRATING “SUMMER CHRISTMAS”.

The birth of St. John the Baptist was a high holy day for much of Church history. It was called “the summer Christmas”, and Christians marked the day with festivals, parades, and many other celebrations. These customs have fallen by the wayside in some places, but they remain a beautiful way to celebrate this special feast this weekend.

If you’d like to observe the feast of St. John the Baptist in the traditional way, check out these 5 suggestions below. Each one is rich in meaning and honors Christ through his cousin, St. John.

**Enjoy!**

**Bonfires.** A bonfire is the most essential way to honor this feast. These “St. John’s fires” burn brightly all over the world as a reminder of the light Christ brings. And it’s a wonderful excuse to toast marshmallows.

**An Outdoor Feast.** Fittingly for the time of year, dining al fresco—or eating outdoors, is customary on St. John’s day. Plan a picnic. Have a barbeque. And head to your backyard to pick flowers and branches to create a crown where in some countries, it’s traditional to wear a flower crown or leaf crown on this day.

**Splashing Water.** Going swimming or splashing friends with water is a nod to the great Baptist. Water guns or water balloons would be a fun twist on this interpretation!

**Songs and Poems.** Singing folk songs and hymns is a heartwarming tradition on this special feast day. After all, “He who sings prays twice!”

**Dancing.** Jumping over the campfire is an old custom on this day, however, **dancing around the bonfire** is a safer alternative. Folk dances are traditional on this day, expressing the joy that Christ and his saints bring. (*aleteia.org*)

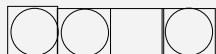


## Blessed Trinity Jumble

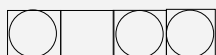
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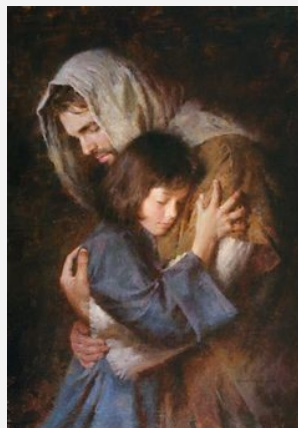
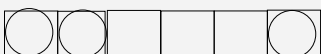
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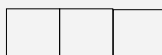
ULSO



TNUYOB



Someone doesn't  
have to sneeze for  
you to tell them -



## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK.



New up-to-date posts, photos,  
opportunities to volunteer, Parish  
information & more!

[Blessed Trinity Parish Greenfield](#)

[www.BlessedTrinityGreenfield.org](http://www.BlessedTrinityGreenfield.org)

## DIVINE MERCY MINISTRY TO SENIORS.

A regional Catholic ministry is seeking volunteers to spread Jesus’ message of Divine Mercy to seniors in local nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

As a volunteer prayer group leader, you would lead a weekly 30-minute Divine Mercy prayer group using a simple prepared model of readings, prayers, and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry of mercy, please contact Mary Higgins.

(413) 773.3311 or email Mary at:  
[DivineMercyMinistryToSeniors@gmail.com](mailto:DivineMercyMinistryToSeniors@gmail.com).

# OUR YOUTH.

## How Do You Choose a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor?

Choosing these important life long roles should never be a passive or quick decision based on which friend or relative happens to be available that Sunday, but rather it is choosing someone to play an active role throughout your child's lifetime. Prayer is the first step as you start your search. Asking the Lord who His choice of Godparent or Sponsor, or asking Him to make it apparent to your own heart who will take on the role well.

**How to Choose?** This is not an easy task, but it is crucial to ensure the person you choose will take on the role and not neglect it. Carefully consider how this person has lived his/her own life. Have they sought to have a deeper relationship with the Lord, even in their own imperfections and flaws? Have they handled trials and stormy seasons in a godly manner? Are they honest, trustworthy, and do they have an intentional heart? Lastly, would you trust your child to learn and grow from their influence?

**Who is Eligible?** Not just anyone can be a Godparent or a Confirmation Sponsor. There is specific criteria that the Catholic Church requires candidates to meet in order to qualify. *(These are found on the **Godparent/Eligibility Form** on opposite page.)*

**Meeting with Priest.** Once a Godparent/Sponsor is selected, the next important step is for you as parents (and often Godparents/Sponsors) to meet in person with your Priest. He will discuss this sacred role by answering your questions and asking you questions to be sure there is a full understanding of the importance of the promises that will be made on behalf of the recipient. You may even attend a pre-Baptism course if one is available.

**Lifetime Roles.** Godparents chosen for **Baptism** make a pledge on behalf of the child to renounce Satan, to believe in God and the Church, and to guide the child into a life of faith and devotion. The **Sacrament of Confirmation** Sponsors pledge to help guide them into adulthood, and to give them the skills needed to face life's challenges and to help strengthen their faith in God and the church. By taking this pledge, they are accepting the responsibility of nurturing them in the Catholic Faith and be a responsible role model for them.

The role of a Godparent or Sponsor is to encourage a child to know, love, and serve God well. Being purposeful in choosing noble and trustworthy candidates, is not something to be taken lightly, but becomes one of the greatest gifts that can be given to a child. *(Online sources include **Crosswalk.com**, **ScriptureCatholic.com**, **BuildFaith.org**)*

## 5 Ways to Be an Amazing Godparent or Sponsor.

**Pray for Them..** Pray for them. Pray with them. What a great reason to renew your regular prayer life!

**Take Them to Church.** If you live nearby, count your blessings, and be in their life as they grow. Help celebrate milestones. Go with or take them to church. In worship and out of worship, share how God is present in your life and what your faith means to you, as appropriate for the child's age and context.

**Read Bible Stories Together.** Know their favorite Bible stories or scripture passages, and share yours with them. Ask open-ended questions and be willing to listen to their answers. Buy a Bible for them as well as books for Christmas and Easter.

**Be a Good Example.** Children watch how we live our lives, and will see it as an example of how to carry out their own lives. This even comes down to the words you speak. Are your words of encouragement, positivity and faith? Or are they of complaining, hopelessness, or harshness. Much of a child's perspective of the Church will come from how they see other Christians living. Help them to learn from their own mistakes and not pass personal judgment for their failures. You don't have to be perfect but instead provide an authentic, sincere, real, and honest way of living in what it looks like to follow Christ daily.

**Keep in Touch With Them** —Especially on a Baptism or Confirmation Anniversary. If you live far away, you can still be active and engaged. Send cards, texts, or Facebook messages on special occasions. that remind you of the special relationship between Godparent/Sponsor and child. Check in, share prayers, tell them you love them and are **always there** for them. *(Online sources include **Crosswalk.com**, **ScriptureCatholic.com**, **BuildFaith.org**)*

# OUR YOUTH.



BLESSED TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH  
*Blessed Sacrament Church | Greenfield, MA 01301 | Holy Trinity Church*



## GODPARENT/SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM



To be chosen as a Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation is a great honor that carries with it great responsibility. It is your role to help form the candidate for Baptism or Confirmation in the Catholic Faith, and/or to assist their parents, who are the primary educators of the faith, to be a good role model, and to inspire them to live an authentic Catholic Christian life.

1. Sponsors must be at least 16 years of age.
2. Sponsors must be Catholics who have received all Sacraments of Initiation (are baptized and confirmed, and have received first communion).
3. Sponsors must lead a life "in harmony with the faith;" this, must be a registered and active member in their parish, attending Mass regularly; and if married, must be in a valid Catholic Marriage.
4. Sponsors must be someone other than the child's parents.  
(cf. 874)

As a Sponsor for: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of child, youth, or person you are sponsoring)

(With my initials below) I affirm the following:

- ☐ I am a practicing Catholic, regularly attend Mass and receive the Sacraments, following the Law of God and the precepts of the Church.
- ☐ I am over the age of sixteen and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ☐ I am not a parent of the candidate who will receive the Sacrament.
- ☐ I understand and accept the obligations of a Sponsor, to lead a life of faith and to pray and assist my candidate in his/her spiritual growth.
- ☐ I regularly approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- ☐ I am not married/cohabitating -or- I am in a recognized Catholic marriage; (married in the Catholic Church or celebrated Convalidation of Marriage.)

I hereby solemnly declare that I fulfill all of the requirements and joyfully accept my role to act as a Godparent/Sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation.

Name of Godparent/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Godparent/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Date of declaration \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your home Parish (if other than Blessed Trinity, including the former Blessed Sacrament and Holy Trinity Parishes)

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**To be completed by sponsor's pastor subsequent to a personal meeting:** This certifies that the above named individual is known to me as a parishioner in good standing and that he/she is qualified to serve as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation.

Church of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish Seal