

# *Blessed Trinity Parish*

## *Roman Catholic Church*

*Greenfield, Massachusetts*

*Second Sunday of Lent - March 5, 2023*



### *Schedule of Masses*

**Lord's Day Vigil— Saturday 4 pm**

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

#### **Lenten Weekday**

M -T -Th - F - 8:30 am & 12:05 pm

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 | Lent Weekday  
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 | Lent Weekday  
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!

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – THE MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH**

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. —*Amen*



### **PARISH OFFICE.**

14 Beacon Street. Greenfield, MA 01301

**HOURS:** Monday-Friday: 9 am - 4 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

#### **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 | Virginia Christi

Phil Corrinet | Jason Edson

Mary Fleury | Michael Motisi

Lindsay O'Neil | Katie Pierce

Karen Yestranski-Provost

#### **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 Marcy Hoynoski 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,

This weekend we are invited to gaze upon the transfigured Lord as He displays the radiance of His majesty as the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets in His very person. Jesus is the incarnation of the Father's love. He invites us to recognize, even in a world of broken humanity, the realization of divine love and merciful grace.

In commenting on the Gospel we have heard today, Pope St. Leo the Great writes

The Lord reveals his glory in the presence of chosen witnesses. His body is like that of the rest of mankind, but he makes it shine with such splendor that his face becomes like the sun in glory, and his garments as white as snow.

The great reason for this transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the cross from the hearts of his disciples, and to prevent the humiliation of his voluntary suffering from disturbing the faith of those who had witnessed the surpassing glory that lay concealed.

With no less forethought he was also providing a firm foundation for the hope of holy Church. The whole body of Christ was to understand the kind of transformation that it would receive as his gift. The members of that body were to look forward to a share in that glory which first blazed out in Christ their head.

In Christ Jesus we are made new. Indeed, He makes all things new. While yet in this body we still bear the pain and suffering of our human woundedness and even death, we are called to a living hope. While we feel the burden of the dark and the cold, we are able to recognize the light of truth and the warmth of God's tender love. Do not lose hope!

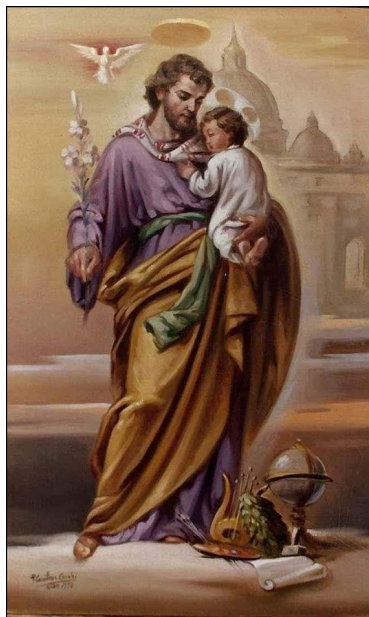
The efforts of our parish going forward must be a visible proclamation of this profound faith and abiding hope. It must be our Lenten duty to accompany one another, neighbors and strangers alike, through the dryness of desert living to the oasis of divine life. Christ Jesus has called us to be His witnesses. BE whom He has called you to be! Rise, and do not be afraid!

*Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, I love you in the Most Blessed Sacrament!*

**Fr. Pierz**



**MARCH: THE MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH.** Even though St. Joseph never spoke a word in scripture, his silent example of obedient faithfulness and diligent care for the Holy Family during Jesus' formative years has made him one of the most beloved saints of Christianity. When we explore some of the phenomenal fathers in the Bible it's impossible to overlook Joseph, Jesus' earthly father. There are many lessons we can take away from what we know of his life, particularly his obedience to God when it came to the announcement of Jesus' birth. Joseph has a great deal to teach us all about obedience and unconditional love. The Bible tells us that Joseph was a man pledged to be married to Jesus' mother, Mary. He was faithful to the Jewish faith and he was a carpenter, as the scriptures proclaim..



**LESSON ONE: JOSEPH TEACHES US KINDNESS.** Joseph faced a choice when he learned that Mary was pregnant. But while Joseph could have shamed Mary and divorce her quietly, he decided to be kind and not to expose her to public disgrace after a visit from an angel of the Lord in a dream.

**LESSON TWO: HE TEACHES US OBEDIENCE.** After Joseph considered divorce, Matthew tells us that an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream with a message. (Matthew 1:20-21). When Joseph awoke, he could continue with the divorce or listen to the angel. In the end, Joseph chose obedience and "took Mary home to be his wife" (verse 24). We should look to God and not our own whims when it comes to making important life decisions.

**LESSON THREE: HE IS A PROTECTOR.** Joseph was also a wonderful protector. Matthew 2:13 reveals that an angel of the Lord again appeared in a dream and told Joseph to flee with Jesus and Mary to protect them. The angel warned that Herod would try to kill Christ. So, he got up and fled to Egypt with Mary and Jesus. The family stayed there until Herod's death. **Joseph's repeated obedience and protective measures are a guide to all parents.**—*Billy Hallowell, Christian Author*



# OUR FAITH.

## SAVE THE DATES—OPEN PARISH MINISTRY MEETINGS CONTINUE.

We invite you to join several upcoming discussions for the growth and expansion of our parish ministries. Your thoughts and suggestions are earnestly invited!



Many of these efforts and initiatives, with more to come, have been born from our first conversations during our **Open Parish Meetings**. Thank you for keeping the conversation going and for the works we can all engage so to build up the Church of Christ here in Greenfield! Let's have an engaging discussion and please bring your creative ideas.

### **FAITH FORMATION PASTORAL COMMISSION.**

**Thursday, March 9 at 9:30 AM** in the Pastoral Center Bl. McGivney Conference Room

Discussions to include all ideas, events, and recommendations pertaining to adult faith formation classes, bible studies, sacramental preparation, Adult Confirmation, and more.

### **WORSHIP/LITURGY PASTORAL COMMISSION.**

**Thursday, March 9 at 1:00PM** in the Pastoral Center Bl. McGivney Conference Room

Discussions to include volunteer opportunities for lectors, altar servers, ushers, sacristans, environmental sacristans, etc. as well as considerations for music, schedules, vocations, children's activities, and more.

### **COME PRAY WITH US.**

**Most Holy Rosary**—11:30 am HTC before 12:05 pm Mass. Join us in asking our Blessed Mother to help, comfort, protect, and heal.

**Adorations & Benediction**—after the Wednesday Daily Masses (Adoration Chapel).

**Roses for Mary Prayer Group**—each Monday at 6:00 pm in the Adoration Chapel. All are welcome.

**Holy Hour for the Sick and Dying**—each Wednesday at 7 pm in the Adoration Chapel. If you know of someone in need of prayer, come and spend an hour for their intention.

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy**—Fridays at 3 pm in the Adoration Chapel—all are welcome.

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT.**



That the graces of the Year of the Eucharist not stop today. May our participation in the Eucharist Congress inspire us to fully live our baptismal promises and strive to evangelize the world around us. Through the blessings of a Eucharistic-focused community, may we persevere in the mission to evangelize. **We pray to the Lord.**



### **DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD**

### **LENTEN REGULATIONS 2023**

1. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of abstinence from meat as well as days of fast, when only one full meal is allowed. On days of fast, two other meatless meals may be taken according to one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.
2. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.
3. The obligation to abstain from meat begins at age fourteen (14) and does not cease.
4. The obligation to fast begins at age eighteen (18) and ceases at age fifty-nine (59).

Please note: Although the faithful may excuse themselves from fast and abstinence, for a just cause, there is an obligation to substitute another penance in its place. No Catholic should lightly excuse him/herself from these Lenten obligations.

**Lenten Penance Service:**

**Sunday, March 19**

**3:00 PM**

**Blessed Sacrament Church**

*"The Lord never tires of forgiving, it is we who tire of asking for forgiveness." - Pope Francis*

# 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 - LENT

MTThF 8:30 am (BSC) | M-F 12:05 pm (HTC) | Wed. 6 pm (PAC)

#### 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.

### LENTEN SEASON: DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday	8:30	12:05	—
Tuesday	8:30	12:05	—
Wednesday	—	12:05	6:00 PM
Thursday	8:30	12:05	—
Friday	8:30	12:05	—

8:30 PM Mass in Blessed Sacrament Church

12:05 PM Mass in Holy Trinity Church

6:00 PM Mass in Perpetual Adoration Chapel



### LENTEN SEASON: CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday 2:30-3:30 PM (BSC)

**NEW** Wednesday 5:00-5:45 PM (PAC)  
Before weekend Mass\* (HTC/BSC)

By appointment. 773.3311

\* Every effort is made to arrive 30 min. before the 11 PM Mass for Confession, however priest availability can be limited

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**April 6—Holy Thursday | April 7—Good Friday**  
**April 8—Holy Saturday | April 9—Easter Sunday**



### LENTEN SEASON: STATIONS OF THE CROSS.

Monday 6:30 PM BSC | Friday 11:30 AM HTC

The Stations of the Cross are representations of the path Jesus bore on his way to the crucifixion. They involve Jesus enduring suffering, insults, moments of support, and the intense sacrifice that Christians believe Jesus undertook for human salvation. The object of the Stations is to help the faithful make a pilgrimage (in spirit) to the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. Most simply, they are usually performed during Lent, especially on Good Friday, and are about **remembering Christ's suffering for our sake.**

We invite you to join us for this long-held and meaningful tradition.

# OUR PARISH.



## Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, March 4—FATHER ROACH

- 8:00 BSC PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
4:00 BSC ANNIE AND ANDREW DEDINAS — their daughter, Birute

SUNDAY, March 5—OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

- 8:00 HTC EDMUND DROWN — Deacon Joe and Marie Bete  
9:30 HTC LUCAS DONAHUE — Mary Reilly Parsons  
11:00 BSC CAROL DION — Christine Dubreuil

MONDAY, March 6 — DEACON LEARY

- 8:30 BSC MATTHEW KOSTANSKI — Britney, George, and Children  
12:05 HTC PATRICIA BYE—the Family

TUESDAY, March 7—DEACON BUCCI

- 8:30 BSC STEPHEN WOLANSKE — Linda and Bob  
12:05 HTC MATTHEW KOSTANSKI — his Parents

WEDNESDAY, March 8—BISHOP BYRNE

- 12:05 HTC PETER REILLY — his sister, Mary Reilly Parsons  
6:00 PAC CATHERINE MORRIS —MaryAnn

THURSDAY, March 9—DEACON BETE

- 8:30 BSC LARRY GAGNON — his Wife  
12:05 HTC MATTHEW KOSTANSKI — Britney, George, and Children

FRIDAY, March 10—FATHER GONI

- 8:30 BSC GRACE AND BLESSINGS FOR BRADLEY FILIAULT—Mom  
12:05 HTC DOLORES “TOOT” CAHILL — her sister, Jeanne

SATURDAY, March 11—FATHER ROUX

- 4:00 BSC JOANNE DENOFRIO- CONEY — her Husband and Family

SUNDAY, March 12—VOCATIONS, SEMINARIANS,  
DEACON CANDIDATES

- 8:00 HTC WILLIAM KILGOUR, SR — Bill and Donna Kilgour and Pat Gaudry  
9:30 HTC BARBARA MCCABE — the Family  
11:00 BSC JESSICA FOLEY — the Family

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT.

**MARCH 5, 2023**

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

**RICK DUFRANE | FRANCIS BRISSETTE |  
VICTIMS OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE | VICTIMS OF THE  
EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY**



**FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 11**

**BSC SANCTUARY CANDLE** is burning this week in memory/honor:

**For a Special Intention** from Anonymous

**HTC 7-DAY CANDLE:** is burning this week for:  
**Blessings for Barbara and Peter Wozniak on their  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary—**by the Rosary Society.

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

1. **Barbar, Sarah, Naomi, Cassi, Daphine & Family—** from June & Greg
2. **Sheliah Moran—** from Joyce Thibido
3. **For a Special Intention—**from Anonymous
4. **Patricia Duffey Earley—** from Robert Earley

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

**FRIENDLY REMINDER.** As we transition into our new Blessed Trinity Parish, the bank has reminded us that **ALL CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO BLESSED TRINITY PARISH.**



The bank warns it will no longer accept any other name going forward. If your check is made out incorrectly, the bank refuses to make the deposit and returns the checks back to us. The parish office staff will then have to call you so that you can rewrite another check. **THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING!**

## **BLESSED TRINITY ROSARY SODALITY.**

**Newcomers welcome!** The next meeting will be on **Monday, March 6 at 6:30 pm** at Father Casey Hall.. Call Marcy for more information 773.3311.

## **CANTORS.**

Saturday Mar. 4 4:00 pm— Sandra Pavoni  
Sunday Mar. 5 11:00 am — Karlana Henry  
Saturday Mar. 11 4:00 pm— Jackie Jurewicz  
Sunday Mar. 12 11:00 am — Jane Winchester



# OUR PARISH.



## COMMUNITY MEALS MINISTRY.



Additional volunteers are needed to prepare and serve meals, as well as bakers to make desserts. Please call Marcy at 773.3311.

**This week! March 9** Kathy Tomaus.

### Upcoming Community Meals.

**March 23** Darlene Steiner | **March 30** Kathy Tomaus  
Take-out only 5-6 pm at Holy Trinity Church on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursday of the month. People can come to the door and they are given a container with a complete meal.

**PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND.** We are looking for volunteers to join our growing ministry visiting Nursing Homes, Homebound, & the Hospital.

**Interested or have questions?** Details & trainings are available by contacting Patti Coffin or Ava Clark at 413. 773.3311.

*Pope Francis has asked us to be the Light of Christ to his people. This is one way we can be Christ's Disciples.*

**2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT.** If you would like a copy of your 2022 Contribution Statement for your tax preparation, please call the office at 773.3311. We will be happy to mail or email you a copy.

## WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Weekly Parish Collection: | \$ 5815 |
| Fuel/Energy Collection:   | 175     |
| Maintenance Collection:   | 344     |

*"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!**

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!



## Coming up at Blessed Trinity Parish

### Monday Mar. 6

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

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

6:30 pm Stations of the Cross (BSC)

6:30 pm Blessed Trinity Rosary Sodality meeting (HTC Ftr. Casey Hall)

### Tuesday Mar. 7

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

5-6 pm Monthly Zoom Class: Youth Ministry Series—(info and registration in following pages.)

6:30-9 pm Boys Scouts Pastoral Center (every Tues.)

### Wednesday Mar. 8

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

5-5:45 pm Confession (PAC)

6 pm Mass (PAC)

7 pm - Holy Hour for the Sick and Dying—(PAC each Wed.)

### Thursday March 9

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

9:30 am Faith Formation Pastoral Commission- Pastoral Center Bl. McGivney Conference Room

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

1 pm Worship/ Liturgy Pastoral Commission- Pastoral Center Bl. McGivney Conference Room

5-6 pm Community Meal—(HTC)

### Friday March 10

8:30 am Mass (BSC)

11:30 am Stations of the Cross (HTC)

12:05 am Mass (HTC)

3 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy recited (Adoration Chapel ea. Fri.)

### Saturday March 11

11 am First Reconciliation for First Communicants (BSC)

2:30 pm—3:30 pm—Confession (BSC)

4 pm—Mass (BSC)

### Sunday March 12 -

(DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS)

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

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

9:45 am—10:45 am Gr. 1-8 Religious Education Classes Pastoral Center. Coffee & conversation for parents.

11 am Mass (BSC) Confession: 30 minutes beforehand (**Note:** Priest availability can be limited because of 9:30 am Mass at HTC)

6-7 pm Gr. 1-8 Religious Education Classes Pastoral Center.

# OUR YOUTH.

## LENT: PRAY, FAST, GIVE.



Here's an easy, kid-friendly craft perfect for Lent to help them discover firsthand the real meaning of Lent.

This project has three pockets to hold ideas for 3 marks of Lent—PRAY, FAST, GIVE. Here is a list

of possible kid-friendly ways they can pray, fast, and give. (Not a bad list for adults either!) You or your kids could also create your own ideas and write them on small cards or strips of paper.

Each morning, each child pulls 3 strips—one from each pocket—and has the goal of completing that sacrifice or prayer by the end of the day. Over dinner you can talk about how they accomplished these goals and how they felt. The next morning, they choose three new things.

This can help them focus and be successful over the course of the long 40 days, and it also can stretch them in a new way each day, leaving room for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts.

NOTE: If you aren't feeling crafty, just use 3 envelopes. The kids can decorate them and then post them on the fridge or bulletin board so they will see each day.

### PRAY.

Pray a decade of the Rosary | Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Pray the Angelus at noon | Pray an Our Father for your priest  
Pray a Hail Mary for your Mom | Pray a Glory Be for your Dad  
Pray for people who are sick | Pray for those who have died  
Pray for moms expecting babies | Read a Bible Story

### FAST.

Fast from electronics | Fast from snacking between meals  
Fast from sweets | Fast from TV  
Fast from complaining | Do things the first time you are asked  
Fast from music | Eat a simple meal today | Drink only water today

### GIVE.

Choose one toy to donate Send a card to someone  
Choose one clothing item to donate Let others have their turn first  
Choose one book to donate Let someone borrow a toy/book/game  
Collect change to give to a charity | Do an extra chore  
Donate to a food pantry | Write a kind note to someone  
Let others have their turn first | Go last in line  
Let someone borrow a toy/book/game | Do an extra chore

For more ideas & educational resources for Catholic homes and classrooms (and the printable PDF for this project) please visit [looktohimandberadiant.com](http://looktohimandberadiant.com).

**SEEKING A DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.** Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic Parish of Greenfield, MA seeks a Director of Religious Education (DRE) to start in the spring/summer of 2023. The **Director of Religious Education** is a leadership role responsible for the development, organization, and administration of the Religious Education program for the school-aged children of Blessed Trinity Parish.

This part-time position (24-28 hours per week; year-round) will report to the Pastor and collaborate with the Religious Education Board as we build the mission of Christ and His Church among our families and young. The full job description can be found at [blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](http://blessedtrinitygreenfield.org). Candidates should submit a resume and cover letter that speaks to their interest and qualifications relative to the job description to [apply@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org](mailto:apply@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org). Thank you.

**VAN DRIVERS NEEDED.** We are looking for volunteer van drivers to bring the kids to St Michael School in Brattleboro.

You may see the van parked out back of the church. Morning and Afternoon shifts are available. If you have extra time and are looking to help, we would love to have you join us. For more details, please contact Mark or Missy Penfield through the Parish Office at 413.773.3311 or email [Pfield4@comcast.net](mailto:Pfield4@comcast.net). **Thank you!**





# OUR YOUTH.




**Catholic Youth Revival**  
Diocese of Springfield, MA

## YOUTH MINISTRY MASTER CLASS SERIES

Strategy and support for  
professionals and volunteers  
working with youth

Spring Edition

 Monthly Tuesdays on Zoom

 5.00 PM TO 6.00 PM

**100%  
ONLINE**

Cost: Free

Registration  
Required

Register now at :



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

### THE SPEAKER LINEUP



JANUARY 10

#### **Rebuilding Youth Ministry in a post COVID reality**

Michael Marchand  
Director & Co-founder  
Project YM  
Chattanooga, TN



FEBRUARY 7

#### **Reaching the Modern Teen**

Tim Habeeb  
Northeast Regional Director  
Life Teen  
Boston, MA



MARCH 7

#### **Mission Field Prayer Life**

Fr. Stephen Rooney  
Associate Pastor  
Notre Dame Parish  
New Hyde Park, NY



APRIL 4

#### **Assisting Teens with Mental Health, Anxiety and Stress**

Dan Hegarty  
Licensed Social Worker  
East Longmeadow, MA



MAY 9

#### **AMA (Ask me Anything)**

Jim Flanagan  
Director of Youth Ministry  
Holy Name Parish  
West Roxbury, MA

**THERE IS STILL TIME.** Visit the Open House at Saint Michael's Catholic School,  
Brattleboro, VT on Monday March 6th & Tuesday, March 7th.

Visiting hour for families with coffee and pastries available in the morning. Students can shadow the entire day. Questions about St. Michael's Open House? Contact Lindsay O'Neil. **802.254.6320**



# OUR FAITH.

## **GUIDE TO CONFESSION - NET MINISTRIES**

**PREPARING FOR CONFESSION** • Pray for the Holy Spirit to help enlighten your conscience so you may know your sins, be sorry for them, and tell them honestly and sincerely. • With the Holy Spirit's help, identify your sins (what sins and how often). • Pray for courage to make a good confession and prepare to receive the great gift of forgiveness. Remember, Jesus wants what is best for you. He is waiting to forgive you and welcome you back.

**MAKING YOUR CONFESSION.** When you arrive at confession, the priest will greet you and both of you will make the Sign of the Cross. You may begin by saying: "Forgive me Father, for I have sinned. It has been (state length of time) since my last confession. These are my sins." Then tell your sins, especially any serious sins. The priest will give the necessary advice and assign penance. Then, you pray the Act of Contrition (see below). It is okay to take the prayer on a piece of paper in with you. You may also say your own Act of Contrition, as long as your prayer mentions that you are sincerely sorry, and that you will try not to commit these sins again. Then the priest will give you absolution (forgiveness). Do your penance as soon as possible.

**ACT OF CONTRITION.** O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all of my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly intend, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

**EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE.** The examination of conscience generally takes place before going to individual confession but can be used at any time to review one's past. The purpose is to call to mind our sins in an orderly fashion (using the Ten Commandments), to best prepare to receive God's forgiveness.

**1. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD. YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.** • Do I pray daily, and seek to place God as the highest priority in my life? • Do I seek to surrender myself to God's Word, as taught by the guidance of the Church? • Have I been involved with superstitious practices or witchcraft (Ouija board, tarot cards, fortune telling, horoscopes), which falsely attribute power to anyone or anything else than God? • Have I received communion knowingly while in a state of mortal sin, without making an effort to go to confession? • Have I ever purposely withheld a sin from the priest in confession?

**2. YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN.** • Have I used God's name carelessly? Have I sworn or used foul language? • Have I told jokes which ridicule God, Mary, or the Saints? • Have I ever wished for evil upon someone?

**3. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH.** • Have I deliberately missed Mass on Sundays or on other Holy Days of Obligation? • Do I pay attention and participate at Mass, or am I passive and uninvolved? • Have I tried to keep Sunday as a day of rest and a time for family? Do I do needless work on Sunday?

**4. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.** • Do I do my best to honor and obey my parents, and those in authority in my life? • Have I ever insulted my father or mother, swearing at them, or talking poorly about them to others? • When I have wronged my parents, do I apologize and admit my failings? • Have I used tobacco, or drank alcohol against the wishes of my parents?

**5. YOU SHALL NOT KILL.** • Have I had an abortion or encouraged anyone to do so? • Have I abused alcohol or other drugs? • Have I driven recklessly, possibly putting myself or others at risk? • Have I harbored feelings of hatred or envy towards others, been resentful or jealous? • Have I been in any fights (physical or verbal)?

**6. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.** • Have I respected members of the opposite sex, or have I treated them as objects? • Do I sincerely seek to be chaste (pure) in my thoughts, words, and actions? • Have I engaged in impure acts by myself (romantic fantasy or masturbation)? • Have I engaged in sexual touching with another person or had sexual intercourse?

**7. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.** • Have I stolen anything from a store or another person which is not rightfully mine? • Do I cheat in school, either by copying homework or stealing answers on a test? • Do I waste time at school or at work, thereby cheating myself or my employer?

**8. YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR.** • Have I lied or deliberately withheld the entire truth to protect myself? • Have I exaggerated any claims to make myself look better, or to impress my friends? • Have I gossiped, telling things about someone to harm their good name? • Do I keep confidential what was told to me in secret, or do I break my word?

**9. YOU SHALL NOT COVET (DESIRE) YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.** • Have I consented to impure thoughts, not trying to control my imagination? • Have I looked at pornographic videos, magazines, computer images or stories? • Have I told impure jokes or stories that would offend God or the dignity of others?

**10. YOU SHALL NOT COVET (DESIRE) YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.** • Am I jealous of other people's gifts, talents, or possessions? Am I greedy or selfish? • Am I materialistic? Do I think about the poor? Do I make an effort to reach out to help them?

# AND MORE.



**SPOTLIGHT:** Meet Mary Fleury who arrived at Blessed Trinity Parish in the summer of 2021.

*"It's been a joy. So many special people and the discovery of Father Darling, an old friend who had touched many others here. A stroke 12 years ago had left me legally blind and greatly affected my memory. At first there was no short term memory. Writing has helped me remember my family, my friends and myself about Abba's loving care. My hope is that we will all fall more in love with God, Our Blessed Mother and each other."* - Mary Fleury

Mary is the author of a 10-page booklet called **Abba—Writings of Mary Fleury** which is a collection of short stories. It is her life's journey as she develops an understanding and cultivates a relationship with "my God, my Father, my Abba."

Available to purchase \$5 | Mary Fleury Book Order | c/o G&P Printing | 180 Houston Ave. | Selmer, TN 38375

## **DISPEL THE DARKNESS ~ BY MARY FLEURY**

### **I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD. YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.**

How many ways have you let Satan into your life? Does the question irritate you? Do you immediately reject the idea?

There was a time in my life when I would have firmly rejected the question. I would have become huffy and started defending myself listing all the good things I was doing for God.

**THEN:** One cold, dreary winter night I came dragging home. I was attending Continuing Ed. Classes working towards a degree in Education. I was sick with some kind of bug but hadn't wanted to miss class. So much covered in each session it would be difficult to catch up. My husband, Les, was watching a TV show. I dropped on the sofa. I will never forget what happened next. I don't know if it was a vision or a dream. I saw myself standing in the doorway looking across a totally empty room, staring at an empty doorway across the room from me. A very sweet, grandmotherly looking woman came through the door. I very calmly watched her walk towards me. I had no apprehension at all. When she stood next to me I was suddenly being choked to death. I couldn't breathe. I gasped the name, "Jesus." The pressure started to break. As I repeated "Jesus, Jesus," it dissipated. I could breathe again. I was shaken by the whole experience.

The next day I shared what happened with a woman who was much wiser in spiritual matters than I. She advised me to take some time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit where I had opened a door for Satan to enter my life. Then ask God's forgiveness for each time and to ask the Holy Spirit to clean and fill the empty spaces.

Today, I would 'Go to confession'. Jesus gave us the sacrament of Reconciliation to keep the room filled with His Spirit.

It was amazing what was revealed. I can still remember the many ways the Holy Spirit showed how I had given pieces of my spirit to Satan. No wonder I was depressed. Like the sweet, grandmotherly woman, it had all seemed very innocent and harmless. But, whenever we put something else in God's place, there is a price to be paid.

**First Time:** Hurray! We received a box of goodies our cousins had outgrown. Hey, cool! A Ouija board. This is a neat game. **Wrong!** It was not an innocent game. I did not intend anything evil but I opened a door.

**Second Time:** Reading astrology forecasts.\* There was a time in my life when I even thought perhaps God wanted to communicate this way. **Wrong again!**

The list went on. As I repented each thing, I began to feel lighter and freer. There would be tough times ahead but thank you Jesus for your freedom and light. Thank you Jesus I did not fall into an abyss of darkness. You really are the Way, the Truth, and the Light Your Love and Your Mercy endure forever. Jesus, you really are our Savior.

Go to Jesus in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any time you gave up a piece of your soul. Walk in the light and freedom of God. And learn what scripture can tell you about what to avoid. The Bible is God's instructional manual. He created us. We often try to live life by ignoring the instructions. No wonder we have screws and bolts out of place. Remember, Jesus instructed us to pray in the Our Father, "Deliver us from evil". We may in our ignorance open the door but Satan plays for keeps for your soul. He presents opportunities to sin that appear as sweet and innocent as that grandmotherly woman I saw. Take the bait and you can be hooked like a fish fighting for your life.

Today we have one more marvelous tool available. The Catechism of the Catholic Church. It will provide the Biblical references for each topic.

\*2116 All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely suppose to "unveil" the future. Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power and over time, history and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone.

***Catechism of the Catholic Church***

***Isaiah Chapter 47*** is a good biblical reference for the fate of those who rely on these practices.