

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

*958 E. Tuscola St., Frankenmuth, Michigan
989-652-3259*

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 23 & 24, 2019



*“Be merciful, even as
your Father is merciful.”*

Luke 6:36

Parish Mission Statement

*We, the members of Blessed Trinity Parish,
share a common bond of love
given to us through the Mystery of the Blessed Trinity.*

*As the loving Father does, we welcome and support everyone
who enters our faith community.*

*As His Son exemplifies, we humbly strive to be a learning, giving,
caring, and teaching parish eager to serve, evangelize,
and give generously of ourselves to others.*

*As the Holy Spirit inspires and leads us,
we are a faithful, prayer family that worships God
through the many gifts and ministries
with which the Lord has blessed us.*

This Week in Our Parish

Tuesday, February 26

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
3:00 p.m. Grades 3 & 4 Faith Formation Classes

Wednesday, February 27

8:30 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. Rosary
11:00 a.m. Adult Study Group
3:00 p.m. Grades 5 & 6 Faith Formation Classes

Thursday, February 28

3:00 p.m. Grades 1 & 2 Faith Formation Classes

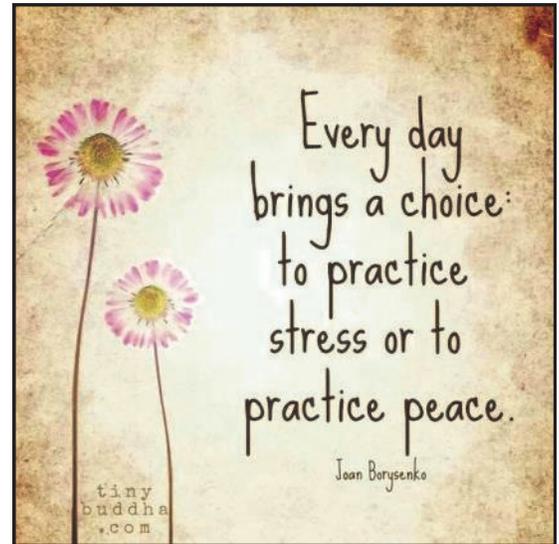
Saturday, March 2

2:00 p.m. The Wedding of
Ryan Hegenauer & Shannon McGinnis
4:00 p.m. Individual Reconciliation until 4:30 p.m.
5:00 p.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. Men's Club Paczki Social

Sunday, March 3

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:00 a.m. Men's Club Paczki Social
11:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Children's Liturgy of the Word;
FF3's, FF4s & Kindergarten Classes
12:00 noon Men's Club Paczki Social
6:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Pretzel Rolling Event
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal



General Information

- ◆ If you would like to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, please call the parish office for more information.
- ◆ If you would like to have your **child baptized**, call the parish office for information. Baptisms are celebrated regularly, except during Lent.
- ◆ Adults who are interested in learning more about the **Catholic faith** are invited to call the parish office for more information.
- ◆ Are you planning a **wedding**? Please call the parish office before setting a wedding date. Six months are required for preparation.
- ◆ Would you or someone you know wish to celebrate the **Anointing of the Sick**? Please call the parish office to request an individual anointing.
- ◆ Please remember that when **entering a hospital**, you should register as a member of Blessed Trinity Parish. When **confined at home**, please contact our parish office.
- ◆ **New parishioners** are always welcome at Blessed Trinity. If you wish to join our community, please contact the parish office for an appointment to register.
- ◆ Text and pictures for the weekly **bulletin** is due by 12:00 noon on Mondays to: lsnyder@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org.

Scripture Readings for March 2 & 3, 2019

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Luke 27-38

Give yourself a break ~ are you overwhelmed with things to do and deadlines to meet? Do you need a break? When did you last take time to "rest" and to "be refreshed?" Though we sometimes ignore it, faith binds us to the practice of taking a break to ensure the "proper relaxation of mind and body," as the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2193) puts it.

God rested while immersed in the work of creation. Jesus and the disciples took time to get away. Mary reflected in her heart. Find a way to take your own spiritual snow day: do your best to find a way to allow everyday work to come to a halt and seek a bit of a respite.

A mistake that makes you humble is better than an achievement that makes you arrogant.

Thoughts from our Pastoral Administrator

Our Gospel reading this weekend reminds me of a sign on the wall of Shishu Bhavan, the children's home in Calcutta where Mother Teresa lived. The sign is entitled "Paradoxical Commandments" - the work of Dr. Kent Keith. It starts out: "People are illogical, unreasonable and self-centered. Love them anyway."

As human beings, we are often caught up with the concept of fairness, equity and everyone having only a fair share. We judge each other by these human standards, then we offer ideals like love and compassion to those we feel are worthy. It can be hard and difficult to love as Christ loves, but that is our calling. We are the Christ-bearers of the world, each extensions of Christ in service to one another.

We are called to respond to hate with compassion, love, and mercy. We are to lend to others with no thought or recompense of return. Our call is to forgive others, even if they do not forgive us. It is much easier to love our families, friends and neighbors than those who we disagree with, don't like the looks of, or pre-determine not to engage with for some reason.

It can be difficult at times to reach out to someone we don't know but needs our assistance. Our response though should be that of Jesus: loving our families, friends, neighbors, and enemies equally. Each of us is called to radically trust in the power of God's love, far beyond what we may determine is fair or right. We offer God's love and mercy based on our discipleship with Christ, not on human standards we may judge someone else on.

For me, the story of the Prodigal Son and the painting by Rembrandt is a prime example of God's unconditional love and complete forgiveness. Despite asking for his inheritance while his father was still living and spending it on vices until it ran out, the father completely forgives him. He lovingly welcomes his lost son home, puts a robe on him, gives him a ring, and engages in a large celebration. His oldest son, judging by human standards, can't believe his Father's actions or come to grip with the situation.

The good news is we act in a manner of love and service to the Lord. At the end of the day, I'm comfortable with Him doing all the judging.

Deacon Larry Deford

Seek Signs of Mercy

Generations still seek a sign. But sometimes we look for signs in the wrong places. Jesus must still heave a sigh whenever we're blind to the divine inklings all around us. When the brokenhearted take heart and the hard-hearted show some mercy - those are signs that God has gotten through. Let's give God - and each other - the benefit of the doubt.

Need Prayers?

Call the Parish Prayer Network with your prayer needs and concerns: Ginger Hall at 652-9519 or Nanci Lyon at 652-6532. You can also submit prayer requests on our parish website.

When you visit Blessed Trinity during the week or when you come to weekend Mass, be sure to write your prayer intentions in the Book of Life in the back of church.

Pastoral Team

Pastoral Administrator ~ Deacon Larry Deford
Sacramental Minister ~ Rev. Thomas J. Fleming
Interim Director of Faith Formation
Pastoral Minister ~ Karen Smith
Coordinator of Faith Formation ~ Pamela Daily
Director of Youth Ministry ~ Kathryn Cramer
Director of Music ~ Alissa Hetzner
Music Assistant ~ Steven Holovach
Parish Secretary ~ Lori Snyder
Bookkeeper ~ Carol Maurer
Director of Maintenance ~ Frederick Fitch
Maintenance Assistant ~ Philip Schmelzer
Commissioned Lay Ministers
Michael Snyder, Veronica Horn, Virginia Little,
Katherine Haney, Joseph Ricard,
Pamela Daily, Jacqueline Gere

We Are Stewards

On-line Giving ~ February 2-9, 2019

Parish Adult Contributions	\$1,205.00
Parish Debt Retirement	5.00
Total	\$1,210.00

On-line Giving ~ February 10-16, 2019

Parish Adult Contributions	\$3,400.00
Parish Debt Retirement	165.00
Total	\$3,565.00

Weekend ~ February 16 & 17, 2019

Parish Adult Contributions (155 envelopes)	\$6,661.00
Weekend Loose	662.00
Parish Development Fund (3 envelopes)	45.00
Weekend Total	\$7,368.00

Children's Stewardship Messages: Natalie's talent ~ I was nice.

Sponsor Sanctuary Lamp

Parishioners are invited to make an offering for the candles used in the sanctuary lamp (the lamp that burns 24/7 before the tabernacle) which reminds us of the presence of the Risen Lord in the Blessed Sacrament that is reserved in the tabernacle.

The light comes from a large candle placed in a red glass container and burns for seven days. The candle is generally replaced on Friday or Saturday each week throughout the year.

If you would like to make an offering of \$50.00 for these candles in honor or in memory of a family member, friend, neighbor, etc. please call the parish office to find out which weeks are available.



*Titles mean nothing,
The one with a servant's heart is the leader.*

The Bishop's Annual "Big Raffle"

Blessed Trinity's Men's Club are selling tickets for the BIG Raffle before and after all weekend Masses on coming weekends. Tickets are \$5.00 each with a portion of the sales price coming back to benefit the Men's Club Scholarship Fund and other projects. The raffle drawing will be held on March 14, 2019. Prizes include:

- 2019 Chevrolet Spark or \$10,000 cash (grand prize)**
- \$5,000 home improvement project (2nd prize)**
- airfare for two in the continental USA (3rd prize)**
- Apple iPad (4th prize)**
- Laptop computer (5th prize)**

Any parishioners interested in selling tickets can check with a Men's Club member after Mass for more info.

*Mark your calendars for this Blessed Trinity Parish event!
All are welcome!*



Youth Ministry News

Tonight/Sunday is Movie Night for our grades 7-12 youth from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Come in your comfortable clothes and bring your favorite snack to share. If we're done early, you can contact your parents for pick up.

Our youth met at Covenant Glen last Sunday and visited with some very nice residents. A gentleman that we spoke with was so appreciative and told our youth that they have wonderful hearts and their kindness meant so much to him (he lost his wife last year and has no children). We were all very touched by his words. Thanks to all who made this a priority. The staff at Covenant Glen were wonderful to us! (see picture at top left)

A March gathering postcard was sent this week. If you don't receive one, let me know.

We'll begin our Lenten preparation with a Pretzel Rolling Event at Weiss Farms (5450 Weiss Rd. - blue farmhouse on west side of road) on Sunday, March 31. We'll gather there from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. and your cost is \$5.00. We'll discuss the significance of the pretzel and what each of us will pursue on our Lenten journey. All will take home pretzels; I hope to see our 7-12 graders there!

Thanks to Katy Schuler for exhibiting her leadership skills and teaching our grade 6 Faith Formation class last week. Katy is awesome with our younger youth members and a wonderful role model. I love it when our high school youth come into our Faith Formation classes to teach or discuss their faith. Leaders lead, and we have great BT leaders!

Attention guys in grades 7-12 ~ you asked for it and you've got it! Our "Guys Night In" will take place on Sunday, March 10 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the parish. Plan on attending to discuss being the best gentleman you can be. Grilled brats will be on the menu.

Pictures are needed from our 2019 graduates for the annual BT senior video - get them to me ASAP.

Ben Cleveland ~ you didn't contact me about reading the bulletin. Will **Joey Furbush** read this column? If so, contact me for your gift card!

Last weekend's production of "Newsies" at the BPAC was wonderful and included many of our BT youth and adults. Great job to all!

Kathy Cramer ~ Director of Youth Ministry
kramer@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org

Parish Weather Policy

Religious Education Classes and Activities: when the Frankenmuth Schools are closed for the day, all after-school and evening religious education classes and activities are cancelled. When the beginning of the school day is delayed, classes and activities will be held as scheduled.

If weather conditions deteriorate during the day, the Director of Faith Formation makes the decision about the after school classes for the children, in consultation with the school principals.

Parish Offices and Events: when the Frankenmuth Schools are closed for the day or the start of the school day is delayed, the church offices will be closed until 11:00 a.m. and all morning events at the parish are cancelled. Day and evening events will be held, weather permitting. Parishioners are encouraged to call the parish office regarding cancellations.

If Frankenmuth Schools cancel evening activities, all parish evening activities are cancelled. If weather conditions worsen during the day, the parish offices may be closed and activities cancelled. Parishioners are encouraged to call the parish office regarding cancellations.



Sponsor of the Week:

Farm Bureau Insurance

To view this ad, see the back of the bulletin.
Please patronize our sponsors.
They make the bulletin possible.

Be humble....you could be wrong.



Looks Like Rain

Big floods tend to produce stories. Folks can recall much about the "flood of 2008 or 1996 or 1956...." People in biblical times had heard flood stories, too. But the flood Genesis described was the Big One, the flood to end all floods - almost. God was angry and decided all of creation was pretty much corrupt and the only solution was to wipe it all out.

But in an almost human way, God left the door open a crack. Noah got to be the ark that preserved a righteous few, including handy mating pairs of all creatures in order to repopulate the earth once the waters receded. So God's wrath was not final.

There's always the possibility of return to God, constantly offered. When the waters of despair, regret, and cynicism threaten to inundate you, remember there's a dove on the way.

*When you are hugging a child,
always be the last one to let go.
You never know how long they need it.*

Parish Mission with Steve Angrisano

St. Agnes Parish in Freeland invites all to join them for a pre-Lenten Mission on:

- ◆ Sunday, March 3 (soup supper at 5:45 p.m. and Mission at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.)
- ◆ Monday, March 4 (soup supper at 5:45 p.m., individual reconciliation at 6:00 p.m., Mission at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.)
- ◆ Tuesday, March 5 (soup supper at 5:45 p.m., Mission at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.)

St. Agnes welcomes Steve Angrisano as speaker and music leader. For more info, see the flyer posted in the gathering area or call 989-695-5652.

Thank You

Thank you to the Parish Funeral Luncheon Committee for your outstanding work at our mom's funeral. The food was delicious, the desserts yummy, and your service to our family is something we are all grateful for. May God bless you all.

the family of Marilyn Little

God Bless Our Military Members!

Robert Bohn ~ Army
Derek Cittel ~ Navy
Glen Darrow ~ Army
Evan Glowiak ~ Air Force
Rick Holtslander ~ Navy
Eric Kueffner ~ Army
Michael McInerney ~ Navy
Michael Territo ~ Navy

Please keep our military members in your daily prayers! If someone in your family is in the military and you would like his/her name listed here and picture posted on our gathering area bulletin board, please email: lsnyder@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org.

Prayer for a New Bishop

Let us pray, Almighty God,
eternal shepherd and guide, in your love for us,
grant to the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw a shepherd
who will guide us to be Christ's heart of mercy,
voice of hope, and hands of justice.
Help him to fill our hearts and minds
with the truth of the Gospel,
the power of the sacraments
and the desire to build up your holy church.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sometimes you don't realize the weight of something
you've been carrying until you feel the weight of its release.

“Christ Renews” Men’s Retreat

All parish men are invited to the “Christ Renews” Weekend Retreat on March 9 & 10 at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Midland, MI. This weekend retreat has been helping men find peace and deepen their relationship with Christ for over 25 years. Retreat applications and more information are available from Deacon Larry Deford.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on March 15-17 at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt. Apply online at: wwwme.org or call 734-531-9191.

Retreat for Mid-life Singles

Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose and belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, MI on March 22-24. Cost is \$185.00 for meals and single room. Call 586-770-172, email reflect.michigan@gmail.com or visit www.ReflectRetreat.com for details.

Prayer Partners Needed

CrossRoads Counseling Ministries enlists the help of Christians to become ‘prayer partners’ for each of our clients. The prayer partner and the client will never know who the other is. Since our ministry is growing, we are in need of your help.

Each client or the counselor for the client fills out a prayer request which is mailed to the designated prayer partner. The prayer partner then can send a card of encouragement to the client through CrossRoads, or just simply pray for the person.

If you are interested in being part of such a ministry or would like more info, please call Wanda at 652-0764.

