

Notes From Our Pastor ~

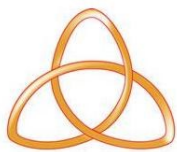
The official celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our parish is almost complete. This celebration has included the two special events on April 23 and August 13, the anniversary float in the 2017 Bavarian Festival Parade, publication of a 36-page update of our parish history, and the renovation and update to the parish hall, kitchen, and education wing of our facilities.

The renovated meeting rooms and classrooms in the education wing are ready for use. If you have an opportunity to do so, please stop and look at the expanded "Atrium" that will be used for the "Catechesis of the Good Shepherd" program. Carol Fox would be glad to tell you all about this wonderful program for our young children.

There is still some work to be done in the social hall and kitchen before we can resume our normal parish activities in that area but everything should be finished in the next few weeks. In addition to parish events like meetings, funeral luncheons, religious education, and youth ministry activities, the social hall will also be available for community and family events like baby showers, rehearsal dinners, graduation parties, anniversaries, and so on. Wedding receptions will normally not be allowed in the hall.

Reservations for using the social hall must be made by a parishioner who will be responsible for clean-up and care of the space. The Blessed Trinity Pastoral Council is finalizing the details of an updated usage policy but if you need further information at the present time, call Lori Snyder in the parish office.

This newsletter also contains a summary of our parish income and expenses for the 12-month period that ended on June 30, 2017. There was a huge increase in the money we received from donations and bequests in the past year due to the generous response to our capital campaign last fall and a bequest from the estate of a parish member.



A total of just over \$486,000.00 was pledged in the campaign and \$415,148.00 was received by the end of June. Payments on pledges are continuing in this new fiscal year. Also in the past year, Mr. George Yambrick, Jr. left a generous gift of \$120,000.00 to Blessed Trinity in his will.

There are dramatic increases from the previous fiscal year in several areas of expense because of the renovation project. The total of the project expenses paid by June 30 was \$333,551.00. The remaining costs for the project will be paid in the current fiscal year. Other than these additional expenses, other parish expenses are comparable to the previous year.

If you have questions about these summary reports or need further information, please contact Carol Maurer in the business office and she can assist you.

Finally, thank you to all of our parishioners who support Blessed Trinity so generously. We have received many blessings from God and we strive to share God's goodness with others.

Fr. Bob Byrne



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Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

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www.blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org

Adult Study

Fr. Bob will continue his Adult Study series at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings, beginning on September 13. All parish adults are welcome to attend the one-hour sessions.

Morning Book Sharing Group

Join us on Thursday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m. to share thoughts and insights on: *A Big Heart Open to God - A Conversation with Pope Francis* by James Martin, S.J. We will also discuss possibilities for future books and meeting times. All are invited!

Women's Bible Sharing

Two Women's Bible Sharing sessions will be offered this Fall:

- ⇒ 1st session ~ (Tuesdays) September 26 - October 31
- ⇒ 2nd session ~ (Tuesdays) November 7 - December 12

All sessions are from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. and held in room #7 of the classroom wing. Contact Val Sulfaro at 652-5953 to reserve a booklet for one or both sessions. No experience necessary!



Calling New Lectors! Calling All Lectors!

Blessed Trinity will host a Lector Workshop on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. in church. The agenda includes:

- ◆ viewing of the Webinar, "Techniques for Effective Proclaiming: Public Speaking Skills to Bring the Word to Life"
- ◆ a Lector Blessing
- ◆ distribution of Lector Workbooks

Any parishioner of high school age and older who is interested in serving in this ministry should report at 6:30 p.m. on September 26 for a brief training session. All current lectors should report at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Joe Ricard at 652-6599 with questions.

Blessing of Pets/Animals

On Saturday, October 7, Fr. Bob will offer a special blessing for pets and animals. You are invited to bring your special creatures to the church parking lot at any time between 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. to receive the blessing. The practice of blessing our "furred, feathered and finned" friends was developed in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi and his love for all of God's creatures. This blessing is usually given on or near the feast day of St. Francis, which is October 4.

Men's Club News

The Blessed Trinity Men's Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the social hall. All men of the parish are welcome to attend the meetings and participate in the group's activities.

Our group will be selling bratwurst, a variety of chips, and soft drinks at the Frankenmuth Auto Fest on Friday, September 8 (we'll be located in front of the SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hotel). Please come and support this event which in turn benefits YOUR parish!



Flu Shot Clinic

Save the date! The Parish Health Ministry will host a Flu Shot Clinic on Sunday, October 8 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (flu shots offered from Wellspring Lutheran Services). All are welcome!

Anointing of the Sick

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick during all weekend Masses on October 21 & 22. As a parish family, we come together to pray for our brothers and sisters who are suffering from illness, disabilities, or health issues of any kind. Through prayer and anointing, we ask God to strengthen and heal them in body, mind, and spirit.

If you would like to be anointed, please sign up in the gathering area or call the parish office.

Ritual of Remembrance

We will have the annual Ritual of Remembrance at weekend Masses on November 4 & 5 in memory of all parishioners who have passed away in the last year.

*Be the one who points out
what is going right and helps out
what is going wrong.*

Youth Ministry News

Kathy Cramer ~ kramer@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org

Time sure flies by! It seems like yesterday that we celebrated our BT Class of 2017 at our Baccalaureate Mass, and now those young adults are heading off to college, joining the military, or starting a new job! I wish good luck and God's blessings on all of them!

What's in store for our incoming BT classes?

There are more events, more service opportunities, and more time to relax!

Our youth are called upon to serve many. Not only are they asked to be involved with their church youth group, but they are asked to serve on parish commissions and be involved in liturgical ministries. These are the same youth that teachers and coaches want involved academically and athletically. These are the same youth that local employers covet for their businesses. We are blessed with outstanding youth who are involved and busy, and we all need to be mindful of their time.

My hope is that our youth and their parents will mark their family calendars for the events and gatherings listed in this newsletter. I hope you make room in your busy schedules for some faith and community time. We, as a parish family, should always encourage and be supportive toward our youth. They are the masters of multi-tasking because they are so much busier than the youth of ten years ago (or even when we were younger!)



Faith Formation News

Carol Fox ~ cfox@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org

As we begin a new school and catechetical year, parents are asked to help their children enjoy the beautiful purpose of their school and faith formation journey (instead of focusing on things they do not love very much). Accentuating the positive goes a long way toward an amazing new year of learning.

This year, we have a completely renovated classroom wing, a new Atrium, new furniture for the children to enjoy, and a pencil sharpener for every room!

We welcome new catechist Lindsay Hudecek to our program. We congratulate Lindsay, Jennifer Harris, and Amy Collings for completing 90 hours of training in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level One Program and Pam Daily for completing an additional 45 hours of training at Level Two.

The Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday during the weekend of September 16 & 17. "Living as Missionary Disciples" is the theme chosen by the American Bishops for 2017/2018. There will be a social, display of materials, and an open House in our new Atrium for all parishioners following Masses on September 16 & 17.

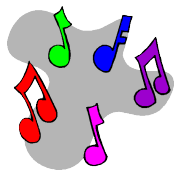
Parishes in the United States commission those members of their faith communities who actively serve in the ministry of catechesis for all ages. It is important that catechists are recognized, commissioned, and thanked publicly on Catechetical Sunday so that the entire faith community can give witness and support to their calling and vocation.

Parents may register their 3, 4 or 5-year old child for our weekday/Saturday Catechesis of the Good Shepherd sessions (which begin in October). Please call the Faith Formation Office or Youth Ministry Office for more info on our offerings for children age 3 to grade 12.

Music Ministry News

Alissa Hetzner ~ ahetzne74@gmail.com

Do you like to sing? We'd love to have you join the Parish Choir! Are you intrigued with the handbells? We'd love to have you join the Handbell Choir! For more information on both of these ministries, please email Alissa at the above address.



Reflections Dance Ministry

Any parish girls who are interested in joining the Reflections Dance Ministry should call Julianne (Haney) Most at 989-598-4365 for more information. Check out and "like" the Facebook page "Reflections, Liturgical Dance."

Thanksgiving Mass

Mark your calendars and plan to attend Mass on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Annulments

Do you have questions about an annulment? Would you like to begin the process? Please contact Karen Smith at the parish for a confidential meeting to discuss your questions and concerns or to initiate the process.

Clothesline Store News

The Clothesline Store thanks our many volunteers for making it possible to donate \$25,500.00 to seven charities at our June 5 Volunteer Luncheon! Your time and efforts are much appreciated!

Thank you also to all who make clothing donations to our store. We help so many people in so many ways because of you!

Need Prayers?

Call our parish Prayer Network with your prayer needs and concerns (for yourself and others): Nanci Lyon @ 652-6532 or Ginger Hall @ 652-9519. Prayer requests can also be posted on our parish website.

When you visit BT during the week or on the weekend, be sure to write your prayer intentions in the Book of Life in the back of church.

Mass at Assisted Living Facilities

Generally, Mass at our local assisted facilities is scheduled at:

- ⇒ Wellspring - first Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m.
- ⇒ Medilodge - second Thursday of each month at 10:03 a.m.
- ⇒ Covenant Glen - third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m.
- ⇒ Independence Village - third Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

Note that this is the "general" schedule because one of the Masses may need to be changed from time to time due to funerals or other unexpected events at Blessed Trinity.

Parishioners and visitors are welcome to attend and participate at any of these Masses along with facility staff and residents. In fact, it is a special blessing for the residents to have others come and pray with them.

The individual Masses are usually listed in the parish bulletin for the coming week. You can also call the parish office regarding the schedule.



Questions about the Catholic Faith?

Thinking About Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process that welcomes anyone who has a desire to know more about the Catholic Church. There is no cost.

This process is a time to discover the beauty of the Catholic Church and grow in your relationship with God. RCIA is tailored to welcome and respect each person on their unique journey of faith. There is no set time frame; everyone will proceed at their own comfort level with the help and support of our RCIA team.

Persons enter the Catholic Church when they are ready, with many (non-baptized) adults entering the Church at the Easter Vigil. Those who are already baptized are received into full communion with the Catholic Church at various times throughout the year depending upon their faith background and their readiness.

For more information about RCIA at Blessed Trinity, please call Karen Smith at 652-3259.

Community Thanksgiving Supper

If you have no plans for Thanksgiving Day dinner or are looking to do something different this year, you might consider joining others in the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. This event is sponsored by Frankenmuth-area churches and includes all of your favorite foods. There is no charge; a free-will offering will be appreciated to help feed the hungry and homeless at the Saginaw Rescue Mission.



The dinner will take place on Thursday, November 23 at 5:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Flint St. Please RSVP by signing up in the gathering area at church or call the parish office at 652-3259 by Sunday, November 19 with number attending. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated at this dinner. Set-up will take place on Wednesday afternoon, November 22 and clean-up will take place after the dinner. Please call the parish office if you'd like to help.

Parish Fall Calendar

- ◆ Adult Catechism Study ~ Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. beginning September 13
- ◆ Men's Club Meetings ~ (2nd Wednesdays of month) September 13, October 11, November 8
- ◆ Morning Book Sharing Group ~ Thursday, September 14 at 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ Catechist Orientation and Training ~ Thursday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Faith Formation Class Registrations Due ~ September 15
- ◆ Catechetical Sunday Weekend, Social, and Open House ~ September 16 & 17 at all Masses
- ◆ Merry Widow's Luncheons at Davinci's Restaurant ~ (3rd Tuesdays of month) September 19, October 17, November 21
- ◆ Christian Service Commission Meeting ~ Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Finance Council Meeting ~ Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Faith for 3's, 4's and 5's Classes ~ (Sundays) begin September 24 at 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Liturgy of the Word Classes for Grades 1-4 Children ~ (Sundays) begin September 24 at 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Youth Ministry Gathering ~ (Sundays) September 24 at 7:00 p.m.; October 1 at 6:30 p.m.; October 8 at 6:30 p.m.; October 22 at 6:30 p.m.; November 12 at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Women's Bible Study ~ (Tuesdays) September 26 - October 31 at 9:30 a.m.
- ◆ Faith Formation Classes for Grades 3 & 4 ~ (Tuesdays) begin September 26 at 2:50 p.m.
- ◆ Lector Training Session ~ Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Faith Formation Classes for Grades 5 & 6 ~ (Wednesdays) begin September 27 at 2:50 p.m.
- ◆ Faith Formation Classes for Grades 1 & 2 ~ (Thursdays) begin September 28 at 2:50 p.m.
- ◆ Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Classes ~ (Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays) begin October 3, 6, and 7 at 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Blessing of Pets ~ Saturday, October 7 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in parish parking lot
- ◆ Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive ~ October 7 & 8 after all Masses
- ◆ Flu Shot Clinic ~ Sunday, October 8 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in classroom wing
- ◆ Rite of Enrollment ~ Sunday, October 8 at 11:00 a.m. Mass
- ◆ Parent & Child Sacrament Prep Session ~ Sunday, October 8 at 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ Pastoral Council Meeting ~ Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Anointing of the Sick ~ October 21 & 22 at all Masses
- ◆ Youth Ministry Harvest Dance ~ Thursday, October 26 from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. in social hall
- ◆ Knights of Columbus Corporate Communion ~ Sunday, October 29 at 9:00 a.m. Mass
- ◆ Faith Formation/Youth Ministry All Saints Display and Social ~ Sunday, October 29 after both Masses
- ◆ Youth Ministry Corn Maze Event ~ Sunday, October 29 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Ritual of Remembrance ~ November 4 & 5 at all Masses
- ◆ Youth Ministry Rake 'n Run Service Project ~ Sunday, November 5 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ First Reconciliation Parent & Child Preparation Session ~ Sunday, November 5 at 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ First Reconciliation Parent Preparation Session ~ Thursday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. OR Friday, November 10 at 11:00 a.m. (choose one session to attend)
- ◆ Youth Ministry National Catholic Youth Conference ~ November 16-19
- ◆ Spanish Mass and Dinner at BT ~ Sunday, November 19 at 5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Advent Family Night ~ Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Thanksgiving Eve Mass ~ Wednesday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Frankenmuth Community Thanksgiving Dinner ~ Thursday, November 23 at 5:00 p.m.

**Please contact Lori in the parish office if you have questions
on these or any other parish events ~ call: 652-3259
or write: lsnyder@blessedtrinityfrankenmuth.org.**



Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
958 E. Tuscola St.
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

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All are invited! Cost is \$10.00 each for spaghetti, salad, rolls and non-alcoholic beverage. \$5.00 of each meal sold and ALL tips will benefit the FHS Cross Country Teams (invitation fees, purchase of GPS watches, team building events, and more). The athletes will also be on hand as host/hostess, servers, salad makers, pop dispensers and dishwashers.

All are welcome! We hope to see you! Please support our teams! Go Eagles!

~ Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser ~
Frankenmuth High School Cross Country Teams
Monday, September 18, 2017 at 5:00 ~ 8:00pm
Da Vinci's Italian Restaurant
524 N. Main St. in Frankenmuth



Blessed Trinity Endowment Fund

Blessed Trinity has been richly blessed with a vibrant parish that has grown and developed over the years through the commitment and generosity of our members. The Blessed Trinity Endowment Fund was established in 2013 to ensure that this tradition of success continues. Gifts to the Endowment Fund will be able to provide for the ministry of Blessed Trinity Parish far beyond our earthly years.

Donations can be made to the Endowment Fund in a variety of ways including cash or assets, such as stocks and bonds, bequests from a will or trust, retirement plan gifts or life insurance gifts. Gifts can be made at any time. More information is available by calling Mary Jo Krick at 652-6600.

Community Impact Award

Restoration Community Outreach (RCO) has chosen Blessed Trinity to receive the "Community Impact Award" at their 7th annual "Each One, Reach One" event on Friday, September 15. This award recognizes folks who have made a difference by contributing unselfishly to the welfare of the community and its people with contributions or volunteer efforts. In recent years, RCO has been the recipient of funds from our Christian Service Tithing Committee.

RCO serves men that are homeless because of drug addictions, disabling physical or mental health illnesses, financial challenges due to the economy, eviction, homeless veterans, as well as those who have recently been released from incarceration. This is a population that is identified as "hard to serve" and therefore very few agencies exist that purposefully and diligently reach out to these men - sometimes in spite of themselves.

RCO's mission is to meet the total need of these men as opposed to simply providing temporary shelter. This goal is accomplished through a variety of avenues including daily case management, healthy life skill classes, addiction counseling, job placement assistance, and other resources that are designed to move the client back into permanent housing.

