Holy Trinity Parish

Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 2024 Gaudete! Rejoice!

Fr. Thomas McCabe, Pastor <u>frmccabe@bevcomm.net</u>

Maria Schultz, Administrative/Faith Formation Assistant <u>holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com</u>

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Website: www.holytrinitygoodhue.org

Office Hours: Mondays 10am-2pm at HT.

Building use request: Call the office.

Confession: Sat. 4:45-5:20pm at Holy Trinity, Sun. 8:20am at St. Mary, or by appointment.

Baptism: Contact the office at least 3 months before the birth to attend a class and set a date.

First Penance/Eucharist: Register for 1st grade catechism classes in preparation.

Confirmation: Register for 7th and 8th grade catechism classes in preparation.

Marriage: Please call Father McCabe at least nine months prior to tentative date.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the office especially if in serious illness, near death or upcoming major surgery.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: If you move to a nursing home/care facility, would like a priest to visit, or are unable to attend Mass and would like Communion at home, contact the office.

Funerals: Contact the office.

Mass Intentions: Mail to the office or place in collection. (\$10/Mass suggested.)

Bulletin Items: Email to <u>holytrinitygood-hue@gmail.com</u> by Wednesday noon. The business office reserves the right to edit. **Trustees:**

Mary Haggerty 651-923-4751 Ed McNamara 651-923-4777 Finance Council Chair: Mike Zorn 651-258-4165 Pastoral Council Chair: Steve Welscher 507-951-6171 John [the Baptist said], "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached the good news to the people. Cf. Lk. 3:10-18



			READINGS			
Sat.	5:30PM	HT	Dec. 14	+Trudy Zorn	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Ps 80 / Matt 17:9a, 10-13	
Sun.	8:45AM	SM	D 45	Parishioners	Zeph 3:14-18a / Is 12 / Phil 4:4-7 / Lk 3:10-18	
	10:30AM	SC	Dec. 15	+Francis and Marjorie McNamara		
Mon.	8:00AM	SM	Dec. 16	+Ray and LaWanda Keller and Deceased Family	Num 24:2-7, 15-17a / Ps 25 / Matt 21:23- 27	
Tue.	8:00AM	HT	Dec. 17	+Charles and Peg Ryan	Gen 49:2, 8-10 / Ps 72 / Matt 1:1-17	
Wed.	8:00AM	HT	Dec. 18	Shawn Frederixon and Family	Jer 23:5-8 / Ps 72 / Matt 1:18-25	
Thu.	9:00AM	SC	Dec. 19	+Fr. Bruce Peterson	Judg 13:2-7, 24-25a / Ps 71 / Lk 1:5-25	
Fri.			Dec. 20		lsa 7:10-14 / Ps 24 / Lk 1:26-38	
Sat.	5:30PM	HT	Dec. 21	Parishioners Songs 2:8-14 / Ps 33 / Lk 1:39-45		
Sun.	8:45AM	SM		+Cy and Mary Ellen Reding	Mic 5:1-4a / Ps 80 / Heb 10:5-10 / Lk	
	10:30AM	SC	Dec. 22	3rd Grade Faith Formation Class	1:39-45	

Mission: We grow together in Christ.

Welcome to our Parish Churches!



Holy Trinity Church (HT) 211 4th Street North Goodhue, MN 55027



St. Columbkill Church (SC) 36483 County 47 Boulevard Goodhue, MN 55027



St. Mary Church (SM) 221 Chester Avenue Bellechester, MN 55027



From Father McCabe

John the Baptist's baptism was different from Christ's baptism. In a sense, you could say that John's baptism removed the sin from the soul, but that it was still in the soul. Whereas Christ's baptism completely removes Original Sin and any personal sin. John said, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire... to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Cf. Lk. 3:10-18.

Praise God we have been baptized Catholic and have the fullness of divine faith! Still, we need to help each other live the faith and keep growing in divine faith, hope and love to build up our parish community. To help attain this goal, there will be a <u>Communal Penance Service</u>, <u>Thursday</u>, <u>December 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity church with</u> <u>multiple priests available for individual confession</u>. An "Examination of Conscience" will be provided for Young People and for Adults, so you might want to arrive 5 minutes early to review them.

The Lord Jesus loves us and wants to forgive our sins and strengthen our souls through the Sacrament of Confession, so that his divine love can become fully one with our thoughts and actions – a taste of the innocence and joy of heaven.

On the night of Jesus' Resurrection, when he proves that he is the Lord of Eternal Life and Love, he appears to his Apostles and shows them his wounded hands and his side:

"The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Gospel of St. John, chapter 20, verses: 20-23 (Jn. 20:20-23).

Talk about 20/20 vision of God's merciful love for us! On the night of his Resurrection, Jesus Christ established the *Sacrament of Confession* that we might be assured of the forgiveness of our sins and the grace to be on the path to heaven!

In the early Church, Christians would make a public confession. Although the form of confession has changed, the essentials of confession remain: 1) Examination of conscience: Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to know the sins committed, and sins of omission, in light of God's Ten Commandments and his Catholic Church's moral teaching; 2) Be sincerely sorry and detest those sins for harming you, and your relationships with God, his Church and others; 3) Honestly confess the number and kind of mortal sins to a Catholic priest; 4) Receive absolution with a firm resolve to avoid sin (to overcome a bad habit and become virtuous takes time and practice); 5) Have a firm intention to do your penance (and please complete it to the best of your ability to receive more blessings and avoid the purifying fire of purgatory).

There are two kinds of personal sin, venial and mortal. <u>Venial sin</u> is not serious in nature, but it harms and weakens our relationship with God, such as skipping meal prayers, and it can lead to mortal sin, like skipping Holy Mass without a serious reason like sickness or caring for a sick baby.

A <u>mortal sin</u> destroys the sanctifying grace in a person's soul because of its degree of gravity – serious nature – although the person may still have the virtues of faith and hope to help them celebrate Confession, and thus be restored to the divine virtue of love. When a



person subjectively commits a mortal sin, they choose to love the serious sin more than God, even though God gives and sustains their every heartbeat and breath and gives them all that is truly good for them, especially himself in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We should only receive Holy Communion when we are free from mortal sin and have made our first confession. The key to anyone's spiritual life is to strive to remain in the state of grace – full communion with God and his Catholic Church, and thereby receive Holy Communion as a pledge of Eternal Glory. To receive Holy Communion with unconfessed mortal sin on one's soul is a sacrilege (a very grave mortal sin), and it hurts the whole community. Yet, it is a good practice to make a perfect act of contrition, even before going to the Sacrament of Confession, which parallels the difference between John's baptism and Christ's baptism.

Three simultaneous conditions for subjective mortal sin: 1) when the thought, or word, or action, or lack of action, is serious in nature as defined by Christ and his Church; 2) the person is fully conscious and has sufficient understanding of what is being done and its gravity (context: the person is of the age of reason and had the opportunity to learn the faith); and 3) have sufficient freedom of will (not coerced by outside influences, parental neglect or mental illnesses).

An example: if a person uses God's name in vain because they stub their toe, that is a venial sin because of painful physical duress. But if a person uses God's name in vain because of slow traffic and their impatience to get to the beach, that should be confessed before receiving Holy Communion because it gravely breaks the 2nd Commandment, "You shall not take God's name in vain." Within the heart of a practicing Christian, both venial and mortal sin should illicit sorrow and a hopeful desire to do penance and sin no more, with the help of God's grace.

Everyone, to the degree of maturity and well-being (no dementia), is responsible for knowing and living the most important sacred truth: loving God above all things and your neighbor as yourself. For God speaks to every heart about good and evil. Some people choose to darken their conscience by sinning and avoiding repentance, but God constantly seeks to bring his light of true love and divine mercy to them and the community through his Catholic Church – what a great mission of love and compassion we have!

Let's build up our parish community with the help of God's grace and truth by following Jesus Christ who said, "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Mt. 5:48. We all have a long way to go to enter into the fullness of heaven, so let's help each other on the way.



Catholic Young Adults: Christmas

caroling on Sunday, December 22. Potluck 6:30-7:30PM at Holy Trinity and caroling until 9:00PM with hot drinks afterwards.

News and Events

Early Bulletin Deadline: Please note that due to the Christmas holiday, the deadline for bulletin articles is Wed., Dec. 18 for the Dec. 22 and Dec. 29 bulletins.

Christmas Program at St. Columbkill: All parishioners' children, including those who don't attend faith formation at Holy Trinity, are invited to partake in the program. The Christmas Pageant is December 22 after the 10:30AM Mass, followed by refreshments (light lunch). Contact Shannon Dicke for more information.

All preschool or kindergartener children are invited to join in a song <u>before</u> the Christmas Pageant at St. Columbkill after Mass on Sun., Dec. 22. Please meet with Shannon Dicke in the back of church after that Mass. <u>Diaper Drive:</u> Catholic Daughters is hosting a diaper drive benefiting First Choice Clinic in Red Wing. Donations will be collected from Dec. 1 to Jan. 6 at the back/entry of each church. Catholic Daughters will match \$1000 worth of diapers donated. Diaper sizes 3-7 are in the greatest need. Thank you!

Gift Card Project: Annual Holy Trinity/St. Columbkill CCW Gift Card Project from Dec. 1 thru Jan. 5. It which helps clients of Goodhue County Social Services who may slip through the cracks throughout the year. You can donate cash or checks made out to Deb O'Connor or Diane Opsahl and we will purchase the gift cards. Amounts of \$10, \$15, \$20, or \$25 are suggested. Businesses are: Target, Walmart, grocery stores in the Goodhue County area, Kwik Trip, Casey's, and gift certificates from local vet clinics, as some clients have companion animals. Drop boxes are at both churches or you can mail cards or donations to: Holy Trinity Parish, Attn: Christmas Gift Card Project, Box 275. Thank you! --Diane Opsahl and Deb O'Connor. **Worldwide Marriage Encounter:** "Yet, O LORD, you are

our father; we are the clay and you the potter; "Let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Weekends are Feb 14-16, 2025 in Buffalo, MN and May 16-18, 2025 in Buffalo, MN. Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-234-7440 or twincitieswwme.org.

Catholic Daughters "Meal In A Bucket" Sale: Preorder slips are in the back of Church for the next 4 weeks. Available meals are BBQ with Buns, Chili, Potato Soup, Portage Soup and Cinnamon Rolls. Orders available for pick up the weekend of Jan. 18-19 after Mass. Your support is truly appreciated.

Sympathy and Prayers: Our hearts and prayers go out to the Zimbar and Erhardt families whose little baby boy Colten died on Friday, November 29.



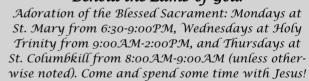
"The only time our Lord asked the Apostles for anything was the night He went into agony. Not for activity did He plead but for an Hour of companionship" – Ven. Fulton Sheen www.perpetualeucharisticadoration.com

Please pray for: Marcy Dilworth, Susan Brown, Margaret Wagner, Maxine Ryan, Ed Heppelmann, Anne Merry, Ray Poncelet, Dave Buck, Scott Cyert, Jerry Joe Majerus, Louise Heppelmann, Brent Hokanson, Anne Skalicky, Neil Stehr, Jen Berg, Marge Majerus, Shawn Frederixon, Gabe Ryan, Laura Luhman, Ryan Zorn, Beth Carlson, Chuck Havrilla, Randy Nardinger, Wilma Seither, Linda Bowar and Alan Gadient.

Holy Trinity is dedicated to protecting children and vulnerable adults. Volunteers serving with minors and vulnerable adults must complete requirements before engaging in ministry. Maria Schultz, Safe Environment Coordinator - holytrinitygoodhue@gmail.com.

Calendar/Events								
Sat., Dec. 14 HT		4:	45-5:20PM	Sacrament of Confession				
Sun., Dec. 15	SM	8:20-8:40AM		Sacrament of Confession				
Mon., Dec. 16	SM	6:30-9:00PM		Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament				
Wed., Dec. 18	HT	9:00AM-2:00PM		Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament				
Wed., Dec. HT 18		2.10 0.001 101		Faith Formation Grades 1-6 Faith Formation Grades 7-10				
Thur., Dec. 19	Thur., Dec. SC 8:00-8:45AM 19		Adoration / Confession					
Thur., Dec. 19	HT	7:30-8:30PM		Communal Penar	nce with multiple priests			
Sat., Dec. 21	Dec. 21 HT 4:45-5:20PM		Sacrament of Confession					
Sun., Dec. 22 SM 8:2		20-8:40AM	Sacrament of Confession					
Sun., Dec. 22 SC			After Mass	Christmas Pageant followed by refresh- ments				
Holy Trinity Church (HT) Collection: 12/7: \$1,817.00			(SC) Collection: (S		St. Mary Church (SM) Collection: 12/8: \$1,374.00			

Behold the Lamb of God!



	Weekend Ministry Schedule								
Church	Role	Dec. 14/15	Dec. 21/22						
HT:	Musician	Cindy Eppen	Wanda Schafer						
Saturday 5:30PM	Cantor	Katie Ludwig	Aurora Wiskow						
Dec. 14	Lector	Loretta Froyum	Karen Albers						
& Dec. 21	Servers	Leeta, Aubriel, Oleana, and Stuart O'Reilly							
SM:	Musician	Wanda Schafer	Wanda Schafer						
Sunday 8:45am	Cantor	Cathy O'Reilly							
Dec. 15 &	Lector	Patricia Mensink	Jeremy Keller						
Dec. 22	Servers	Henry, Noah and Maya Keller	Will Poncelet, Derek Stehr, Danny Keller						
SC:	Musician	Cindy Eppen	Cindy Eppen						
Sunday 10:30am	Cantor	Joel Hernke	Shelly Jacobson						
Dec.15 &	Lector	JJ O'Reilly	Michael Poncelet						
Dec. 22	Servers	Patrick, Francis, Philip O'Reilly	Madalynn and Caleb Schofield, Corbin Jaeger						





Communal Penance Service: All are encouraged to attend this Penance Service with multiple priests, **Thur., Dec. 19, 7:30-8:30PM at Holy Trinity.** The service begins at 7:30PM and after a short reflection the penitents go to one of the confession areas where one of the priests will hear individual confessions. People can stay for the final prayer as a community if they wish, or leave quietly after they complete their penance. Jesus' first words in the Gospel of Mark, "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."



Photo from 2023 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December 2024: For pilgrims of hope We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope. Plan to attend the 2024 Christmas Pageant after Mass on Sunday, December 22 at St. Columbkill. The children have a special program ready to help us <u>prepare the way of the Lord!</u>

And stay for refreshments after the Pageant!

Hope to see you there!