CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

ST. GREGORY PARISH HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Mass Schedule

Monday	8:00am	Holy Trinity
Tuesday	8:00am	Holy Trinity
Wednesday	8:00am	St. Gregory
Thursday	8:00am	St. Gregory
Saturday	4:00pm	St. Gregory
Sunday	8:00am	Holy Trinity
	10:00am	St. Gregory
	7:00pm	Holy Trinity

* Rosary begins 30 minutes before each Mass *

Confessions

Saturday Sunday

3:00pm St. Gregory 7:30am Holy Trinity Holy Trinity 6:30pm

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator: Rev. William J. Brunner 920-286-4077 htsgpastor@gmail.com

Deacon: Gary Wilhelm

dcnwilhelm@gmail.com

Holy Trinity Office: Barb Hruby 773-2380 holytrinityparish@tds.net

St. Gregory Office & Religious Education: Rita Steffen 773-2511 sgparishoffice@gmail.com Patty Wilhelm 773-2511 sqfaithformation@gmail.com

Holy Trinity Parish 11928 Marken Road Kiel (School Hill), WI 53042

Email: holytrinityparish@tds.net www.holytrinityschoolhill.org Facebook: Holy Trinity Parish School Hill

St. Gregory Parish PO Box 199, 212 Church Street

St. Nazianz, WI 54232

Email: sgparishoffice@gmail.com www.stgregsparish.com Facebook: St. Gregory Parish

Sacraments

Baptism, Marriage: Call the Parish Office Anointing of the Sick: Call Fr. Bill Brunner

Holy Trinity Council Members

Parish Council: Scott Faust, Ruth Kleczewski, Nancy Augustine, Miranda Schneider, Jan Bennin, Karen Graf—Secretary Trustee

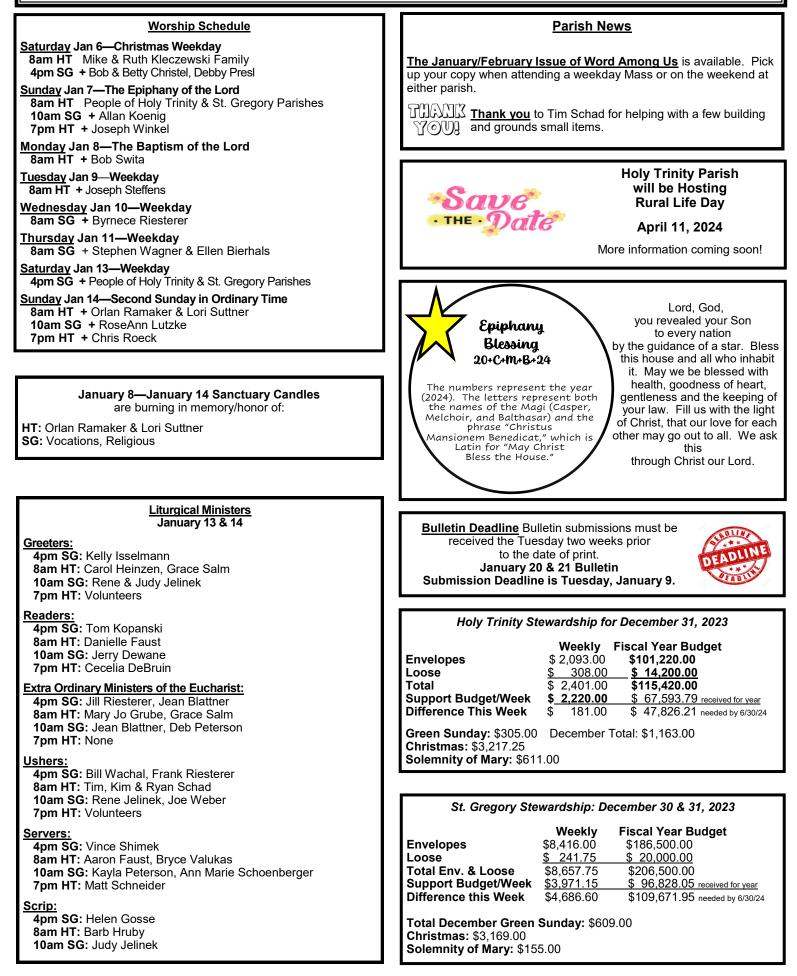
Finance Council: Paul Binversie, Jim Augustine, Wayne Bennin, Mike Herzog, Doug Schneider, Pamela Post—Treasurer Trustee

St. Gregory Council Members

Parish Council: Tre Waldren, Jean Blattner, Theresa Zimmermann, Melissa Frost, Julie Galien, Steve Noworatzky—Secretary Trustee

Finance Council: Jan Reindl, Tom Kopanski, Steve Lenzner, Tom Hoban, Allen Dietrich, Liz Kenneke, Ken Riesterer-Treasurer Trustee

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD





<u>Dates to</u> <u>Remember</u>

Mon Jan 8
Tues Jan 9Caring Hearts & Hands Mtg 1pm SGTues Jan 9
Tues Jan 9HT Finance Council Mtg 6pm; Pastoral Council 7:15pmFri Jan 12
Mon Jan 15
Joint Liturgy Mtg 5:30pm HTJoint Liturgy Mtg 5:30pm HTTues Jan 16
Tues Jan 16
Food Pantry SG noonSG Finance Council Mtg 6pm; Pastoral Council 7pmJan 17—Jan 21
Fr. Bill VacationFr. Bill Vacation



Thoughts for Today's Readings

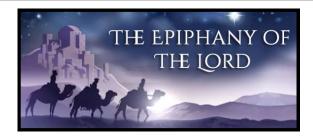
To the Point: When the magi come to Jerusalem, they head for the palace; they came, after all, looking for a king. Their searching leads them ultimately to a much more ordinary abode. They trust that this is what

they were seeking, and they respond with joy and praise. What extraordinary trust—the humble life of Mary and Joseph does not look like the king they were expecting. The magi and the extraordinary trust stand in sharp contrast with King Herod. They are open to the workings of God in places and people foreign to them. He, on the other hand, clings so tightly to his power and title that he cannot see God's hand even as God fulfills promises to the people Herod purports to represent. The magi ask questions earnestly, driven by curiosity and passion. Herod makes inquiries maliciously, intending to maintain his hold on what was never really his. The magi give us an example of the wonders that can happen when we drop our defenses and receive God's presence in each other even when it does not appear as we would have expected.

To Experience: In this life, we do not always see the splendor that God has promised. It can be hidden under all the pain and brokenness still present in our world. But God has fulfilled these promises and continues to fulfill them. Like the magi, we might need to look in places we don't expect. God is present not in wealth and worldly splendor, but in humble family homes.

- 1. The magi come looking for Jesus, but they start by looking in the wrong places. Where might your expectations be keeping you from seeing the fullness of God's work?
- Herod's wickedness has him clinging fast to power. What is a place in your life where you might need to let go of some power or control?
- 3. The magi finally encounter Jesus not in the palace they expected but just in a house. When have you encountered God in a surprising place?

Source: Living Liturgy 2024, Liturgical Press



Mass Readings for Week of Jan 8-Jan 14

	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Mon/Jan 8	Isaiah 55:1-11	Mark 1:7-11
Tues/Jan 9	I Samuel 1:9-20	Mark 1:21-28
Wed/Jan 10	I Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20	Mark 1:29-39
Thurs/Jan 11	I Samuel 4:1-11	Mark 1:40-45
Fri/Jan 12	l Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a	Mark 2:1-12
Sat/Jan 13	I Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1	Mark 2:1-12
Sun/Jan 14	I Samuel 3:3b-10, 19	
	l Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20	John 1:35-42



Hear to Serve ...

PSALM 72 A PRAYER FOR THE KING

I strongly recommend reading and rereading the Responsorial Psalm for each Sunday Mass. Get out your Bible and look up the entire Psalm. The Psalms are filled with every human emotion and con-

tain wisdom that is much needed in our world. Psalm 72 begins as a prayer for Solomon and a

hope for prosperity for his nation now and in the future. The Psalm is really much deeper than that. It is about the coming of the Messiah. It is a prayer of longing for the coming of the King of the Universe, the only King who can rule the whole world with wisdom, justice and mercy. It is a hope far beyond what a human ruler is capable of.

This is the hope that we have for our country. Isn't that what all people hope for in their countries throughout the world? We want our country to be lands of prosperity and abundance. We want leaders that rule with justice, wisdom, and mercy. As we talk about leaders ruling with justice, wisdom, and mercy, that just isn't for our political leaders, this includes our Church leadership as well.

In the world today it seems more prevalent than ever that there is poverty, injustices, wars, and corrupt leadership. There is a breakdown of families, a breakdown of people's faith in the Church and its leadership. While anxiety and stress seem to be on the rise, all these problems in society and in our lives have become holes that keep getting bigger and bigger.

Well, Solomon's reign did not go well, and Israel was split by civil war. Solomon's sin was that while he did love God, he didn't love God with his whole heart. God warned the Israelites not to marry people from other nations. Solomon didn't listen to God. He had many wives; he had wives that worshipped pagan god's and they corrupted Solomon into filling the holes in his life with idol worship.

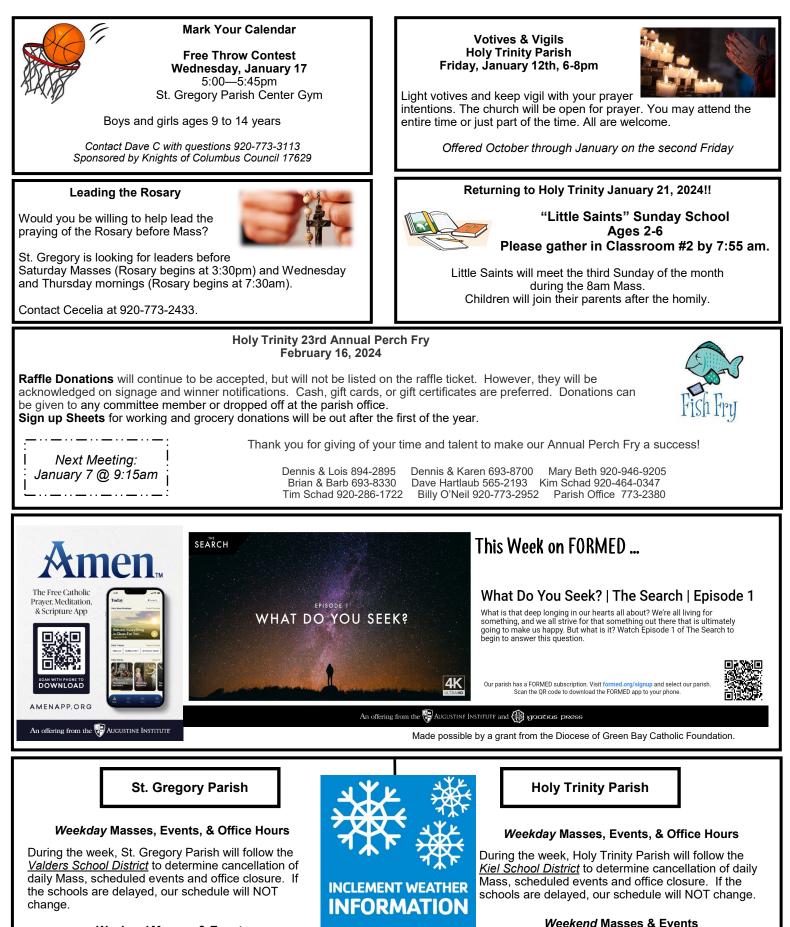
Have we not seen world leaders get power hungry and instead of ruling their country with wisdom, justice, and mercy they become more concerned about their reputations? They seek personal wealth and power; they want to rule the world. History has shown us they will never be happy. They will never be satisfied.

In our personal lives, what pagan god's do we try fill the holes in our lives with ... bigger houses, bigger bank accounts, pleasures of the world?

We have to love God with our whole heart. Filling our lives with these pagan gods will never truly satisfy us. There will always be an emptiness in our lives. It's only when we let the only true King Jesus the Christ take control of our hearts and minds, then these holes will be filled and we will find peace. Our hearts and minds will become filled with an abundance of wisdom, justice, and mercy for our neighbor.

Let us pray for our world leaders; let us pray for our Church leaders; and let us pray for ourselves, that we have learned a lesson from Solomon. Let's take some time and rid ourselves of any idols in our lives. Then we can give our hearts and minds and lives to Jesus the Christ, the King of Heaven and Earth. He is the King of true justice and peace who will reign over us in His eternal Heavenly Kingdom. Amen.

> Viva Cristo Rey, Deacon Lary



Weekend Masses & Events

Cancellation of weekend Masses and events will be on local TV and radio stations. If weather appears questionable, please tune in to a local station.

Closures will be listed as: St. Gregory Parish, St. Nazianz

Closures will be listed as: Holy Trinity Parish, School Hill

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and radio stations. If weather appears questionable, please tune

in to a local station.



Congratulations! 2023 'Family of the Month' Recipients Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus Council 17629



Above: July—Allen & Jessica Fischer Top Right: August—Helen Gosse Below: September—Glenn & Lori Neils Bottom Right: October—Steve Noworatzky







HOLY TRINITY PARISH 11928 Marken Road, Kiel ~ (Located in School Hill) **23rd ANNUAL PERCH FRY** FRI. FEBRUARY 16, 2024 **Dine-In Serving from 3:30-7** Carry-outs from 11:00-1:00 and 3:30-7 \sim Call 920-773-2380 Raffle Tickets, Visit the HT Lounge, Handicapped Accessible **Fillets** 2 Pieces...\$12 3 Pieces...\$14 Served with french fries. homemade American potato salad, or baby reds, with coleslaw, homemade applesauce, bread, milk or coffee. Also available: **Grilled** Cheese Homemade Tortes

Sponsored by Holy Trinity Parish \sim Co-Sponsored by Catholic Financial Life, Branch 109

ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST Disciples Called to Worship

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On August 28, 2022, Bishop Ricken released a pastoral letter entitled "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist: Disciples Called to Worship." A pastoral letter is an open letter sent by a bishop to the clergy and laity of his diocese. The purpose of a pastoral letter is to encourage positive developments in the local church or to place a greater emphasis on certain aspects of Church teaching, or to outline pastoral plans, or at times to admonish the diocese.

The letter, "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist," is the third part of the bishop's "Disciples on the Way" initiative. It is also the diocesan participation in the national Eucharistic Revival that is currently underway. From November 2022 through June 2023, the pastoral councils of both parishes have studied the letter. I highly encourage every member of the parish to read the letter. It is linked on the parish homepage, and is available at https://www.gbdioc.org/docman/office-of-the-bishop/1333-encountering-jesus-in-the-eucharist-pastoral-letter/file. For those who prefer a hard copy, these will be provided upon request.

In the letter, the bishop highlights five practices to live the Mass. He calls these the "Five Alive Practices." They are 1) participating in MASS, 2) preparing for Mass by praying LECTIO DIVINA, 3) extending the graces of Mass through EUCHARISTIC ADORATION, 4) returning to a right relationship with God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (a.k.a. CONFESSION) and 5) drawing closer to Jesus through Mary by praying the ROSARY.

These five practices are basic, but we can only grow if we excel at the basics. One needs to walk before they run, and even crawl before they can walk. Many Catholics do not practice the basics, and some are not even familiar with them. So this is a call to return to the basics to build a solid foundation for future growth and renewal. Starting in January, each month the bulletin will present a focus on one of these "five alive practices." We will be taking them in a different order, so that they align better with the liturgical seasons: January - MASS, February - LECTIO DIVINA, March - CONFESSION, April - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION, and May - the ROSARY.

These practices reinforce what we already know from experience, and from what the best studies teach us about characteristics of thriving Catholic parishes. Thriving Catholic parishes nurture a strong devotion to the HOLY EUCHARIST, and the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. Thriving Catholic parishes encourage reading and understanding the Word of God, through Bible studies and the practice of LECTIO DIVINA. Thriving Catholic parishes also have a healthy practice of people going to CONFESSION.

There is no other life for the parish, except for the life that Jesus offers us through His Word and the Most Blessed Sacrament. By drawing closer to our Lord in the Eucharist, we will experience a deeper spiritual life, and greater life in our parishes. Remember the words that Jesus shared with his disciples at the Last Supper, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5 ESV).

Blessings, Fr. Bill Brunner

Part VI — "Five Alive" Practices To Live the Mass

1. Mass

For most Catholics, our primary contact with the life of our parishes will be at Sunday Mass. It is our opportunity to encounter Christ in the sacrament of Eucharist. As such, the Mass is a powerful instrument for evangelization, and every effort should be made to cultivate an environment that fosters intentional discipleship during Sunday Mass. Attention and care should be especially directed to the welcoming process, the music, the preaching and to the

integration of families with young children into the community. Attention should also be given to bridging the gap between Sunday Mass and a life of discipleship. This means connecting Sunday to our everyday life.

The National Directory for Catechesis published by the USCCB calls all "people to a more effective integration of daily prayer in their lives, especially the ancient practice of praying the psalms and the Church's Liturgy of the Hours, contemplation of the mysteries of the life of Christ through the rosary and a greater reverence of the Eucharist though adoration of the Blessed Sacrament."

Worship involves not only participation in Sunday Mass but also the celebration of the sacraments. It is in participating in the sacraments and the sacramentals of Catholic life that credible disciples emerge. Keeping Jesus at the center of our lives finds its fullest expression in the Mass.

I am reminding all Catholics to attend Mass every Sunday. It is an obligation which carries the weight of serious sin to miss Mass on Sunday. If you have missed Sunday Mass, please bring this to confession before your next Sunday Mass. Also, do try to go another day or two if possible. It can be a very different experience — quieter and more focused. Some people even have the habit of attending every day. Try increasing your Mass attendance by even one Mass a week for a time, then add another one. You will be amazed at how your desire for Jesus increases! Regular Mass attendance strengthens our faith through the Scriptures, the Creed, other prayers, sacred music, the homily, receiving Communion and being part of a faith community. Invite someone to Mass — a personal invitation can make all the difference to someone who has drifted from the faith or feels alienated from the Church.

What brings joy is the love of Christ and the realization that we are a part of the glorious living Christ. We are a part of his mystical body and, therefore, we are never alone! We must not look upon Sunday simply as a day of obligation but as a day to celebrate the resurrection with joy. It is not a day to oppress us but to liberate us, as the Gospel of Mark reminds us that "the Sabbath was not made for man, but man for the Sabbath" (2:27). We must always celebrate Sunday Eucharist with the joy of Christ whom we encounter as the one who loves and saves us.



WEEKEND OF JANUARY 6 & 7, 2024

Pray for the Sick:

Mary Mueller, Kay Binversie, Fritz Koeppen, Mary Jo Koeppen, Jim Riesterer, Ken Schmidt, Kylie Cox, Julie Binversie

To <u>add or remove</u> a name from this listing, a <u>family member</u> should call your Parish Office-SG: 773-2511 or HT: 773-2380 Thank you.



- Legacy Gifts to Holy Trinity Parish
- Current projects for donation consideration:
- Replace candelabras
- Regilding of the Chalice
- Vestments (priest, altar servers)

St. Gregory Parish Boiler Project Update as of 1/3/2024

Mannenbach Mechanical has begun installing the piping that will allow the Church and Parish Center to operate together on one common hot water loop that is heated by two high efficiency boilers. This combination will allow replacing our four boilers with two, and still provide total backup if one boiler is offline.

HOLY TRINITY SCRIP PROGRAM

SCRIP is sold in parish office: Monday—Thursday 8am-Noon Before and after 8am Mass on Sunday

Scrip Coordinator questions~920-773-2380

Sales ending December 31 — \$2,835 (includes online sales) Profits ending December 31 — \$91.38 (includes online sales)

Thank you to all who continue to purchase SCRIP!

ST. GREGORY SCRIP

Scrip is sold in the parish office: Monday—Thursday 8am-Noon After Masses Saturday and Sunday

Scrip Coordinators: Marlene Zutz 775-4253

Sue Popp 773-2319

Scrip sales for week ending December 31: \$4,664.43 3% (average) profit to the parish: \$139.93

Thank you to our Scrip purchasers! Don't use it? Start by purchasing a card for gas or groceries.

HT Christian Women Calendar Winners are...

Dec 25 - \$500 Dec 26 - \$20 Dec 27 - \$20 Dec 28 - \$20 Dec 29 - \$20	Mike Groelle, Two Rivers David Hansen, Cleveland Peter Koenig, Howards Grove Natala Ruhland, Green Bay Cody Fisher, Champlin, MN Mike Beringer, Sheboygan	#593 #1912 #282
Dec 29 - \$20 Dec 30 - \$20	Stephanie Hicks, Wauwatosa	#282 #1538



Do something beautiful for God.

DO IT WITH YOUF LIFE. DO IT EVERY DAY. DO IT IN YOUF OWN WAY. BUT DO IT!" - ST. MOTHER TERESA



Start a New Habit in the New Year!

Begin using scrip for your everyday purchases in 2024 ... gas, groceries, department stores, restaurants, gift giving, etc.

Purchase physical gift cards at Mass or in the parish office. OR

Purchase online and store 'the cards' in a scrip wallet until you make your purchases.

Shop at your favorite stores and support the church you love at the same time! Contact the scrip coordinators (listed each week on the last page of the bulletin) with questions of how to get started.

Thank you to everyone who already supports the scrip program!



The following parish family members are serving our nation in the <u>Armed Forces</u>:

Jesse Augustine, Kurt Binversie, Sydney Binversie, Connor Faucett, Dustin Koenig, Matthew Koenig, Samuel Koenig, Adam Satori, Anton Simon

Please contact the parish office to add or remove a family member.



SG Prayer Line: Lucille Heinzen at 773-2317

SG Nursing Home/Assisted Living: Melissa Frost 773-3270

SG Caring Hearts & Hands: Melissa Frost 773-3270

SG Food Pantry: Faye Riesterer at 773-2422

HT Prayer Line: Call the parish office.

Would you like to receive Communion at home?

<u>St. Gregory parishioners</u> please contact: Mary Olig 775-4756, Gene Riesterer 773-2585, or the parish office 773-2511.

<u>Holy Trinity parishioners</u> please contact: Dennis and Karen Graf 693-8700 or the parish office 920-773-2380.

Please patronize our fine sponsors...

