

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

Sun. Dec. 15  
 8:00am - All Souls  
 9:30am - Danny Haselhorst  
 by Charlyn James

Sun. Dec. 22  
 8:00am - Intentions of Erik Counts  
 by Nikkei Goodwin  
 9:30am - Tamiko R. Ferguson  
 by Shirley Hargro

2025 dates are now available to have Masses said for loved ones and special intentions. Please arrange with the church

**Special Intentions Prayer for Our Parish**

- ◆ Our Deceased Members
- ◆ Our 1st Responders,
- ◆ Health Care Workers
- ◆ Our Military Personnel
- ◆ All those in need of our prayers especially our sick & shut-ins : Lula Bell, Robert Brown, Kathryn Chatmon, Shirley Hargro, Robert Harper, Susan Hutchins, Margie Lewis, Karl Magby, Jewel Marshall, Antionette (Tonie) Newton, Vanessa Newton, Louise Nolley, Mary Preston, Helen Washington, & Josephine Williams.

**The Holy Name Society is offering a beautiful Christmas ornament memorializing our church.**

**Available for \$25 each, buy four get one free!. To reserve one, please complete your order, please fill out the form found in the Gathering Space**

**December Lectors**

**8:00am Mass**

December 1 - Stephen Williams  
 December 8 - Luke Dyer  
 December 15 - Andre Allen  
 December 22 - Barbara Smith  
 December 29 - Pat Dyer

**9:30am Mass**

December 1 - Cynthia Davis  
 December 8 - Holy Name Society  
 December 15 - Lurita Boyd  
 December 22 - Alice Bragg  
 December 29 - Nikkei Goodwin

 **Toys for Tots** has been a project of St. Lawrence Parish for many years.

St. Lawrence Vineyard Ministries is continuing the tradition. Applications are available from Pat or Luke Dyer, Paula Hunt, Kristen Bell-Singletary, and the food pantries at Blessed Trinity and Schiller Park.

**There is a Toy bin in the Gathering Space for you donation**

The distribution will be on Dec. 21, in St. Charles Hall at Blessed Trinity.  
 Thank you & Merry Christmas

**Road to Renewal Update**

This weekend, every family in our east and west side parishes (Family 21 & 23) is invited to take a candle and a prayer card home as a reminder to pray for and with each other for the future blending of our parishes and a strong, continuing Catholic presence in our parts of the city and neighborhoods. The candle (i.e., lit at dinner time or some other time when it will be central in our day) reminds us of our trust that it is the Light of Christ who leads the way, shines our path forward, and fuels our journey together... And, so, we move – step-by-step – through Advent days of waiting and preparing into the Christmas Days that are all about the inbreak of the ultimate LIGHT that draws us together as one in Christ! All parishes will be asked to pray the prayer together, at weekend masses on the Feast of the Holy Family (December 28 & 29), and then to bring their candles with them for an evening of Christmas Caroling at Holy Cross Church on January 10, 2025 at 7:00PM followed by a light reception. Wishing everyone the Blessing of these most special days!

**Readings for the Week of December 15, 2024**

Sun., Day 15 - Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6  
 /Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Mon., Dec. 16 - Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a  
 /Mt 21:23-27

Tues., Dec 17 - Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Wed., Dec 18 - Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Thur., Dec 19 - Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25


Fri., Dec. 20 - Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Sat., Dec. 21 - Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a  
 /Lk 1:39-45

Sun., Dec 22 - Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

**Volunteers are needed**  
**In decorating the church for Christmas on Sat., December 21 @ 10am.**  
**Please help.**



 **“Would you like the 3 Kings to bless your house at Epiphany?”**

This wonderful tradition comes from Ss. Columba-Brigid and was extended to parishioners from all of Family 21 last January. If you would like one of the “Kings” to visit and bless your home on Sat., Jan. 4, 25, please use the sign-up sheets found in the Gathering Space. Later in the day, following the Saturday Vigil Mass, join us for the Three Kings Party at Ss. Columba-Brigid.

**2025 Church Envelopes**

2025 Church Envelopes will be available in the Gathering Space on Sunday, December 22nd. Please be sure to pick yours up.

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Requests forms for 2024 End of the Year Tax Information can be found in the Gathering Space.

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The Church office will be closing @ 12n on Tuesday, December 24th and will reopen on Thursday, December 26th.

We will also be closing @ 12n on Tuesday, December 31st and will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd.

Parish Financial Information			
*Weekly Totals Include E-Giving			
December 2024			
	Regular Collection	Martin's Future	Diocese Collection
Dec., 1	\$2,066.00	\$690.00	\$9.00
Dec. 8	\$3,256.00	\$822.00	\$0.00
Dec. 15			
Dec. 22			
Dec. 29			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5322.00</b>	<b>\$1,512.00</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>

**(The Catholic Question Box)** Do you have a question for "The Catholic Question Box?" Send an email to: [patriciadyernp@gmail.com](mailto:patriciadyernp@gmail.com) or place your question in the collection, and someone from your parish will get it passed on.) or place your question in the collection, and someone from your parish will get it passed on.) . Have questions about becoming a Catholic? Email Dcn. Mike and have a conversation. [deaconmike716@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmike716@gmail.com)

**St. Martin de Porres**  
**Women's Guild & Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary**  
 Fall 2024 Service Project  
 December 1st – December 15th  
 Collecting New (tags on or in packages) undergarments for male and females Bras (including sports bras), socks, panties, underwear and tee shirts sizes (medium to extra-large) to support  
 Fostering for Greatness.  
 A donation bin located in the Gathering Space

**Catholic Education...** It's everything you value! We are excited to share a message of hope and renewal for Western New York's Catholic Elementary Schools. Like other Dioceses across the country, we have faced challenges; yet, through the collaboration of hundreds of people who are passionate about Catholic education, we are launching a strategy to ensure a brighter and stronger future for our schools.

Our Catholic schools will remain rich in tradition and academic excellence, wrapped in a Christ-centered, safe, and welcoming community. Throughout 2025, we'll share more exciting news. We are currently searching for a Diocesan Superintendent to lead our future strategy. Please spread the word.

Interested in being part of this exciting movement? Enroll your students or apply to join our highly qualified and dedicated team of educators at [https://link.edgepilot.com/s/326b8948/hwkkLY0-XESuE-ouFgi\\_0wg?u=http://www.wnycatholicschools.org/](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/326b8948/hwkkLY0-XESuE-ouFgi_0wg?u=http://www.wnycatholicschools.org/)

Family 21 Events Calendar

Sun., Dec. 15 - Lessons and Carols @ Blessed Trinity at 2pm followed by a dessert social. An intimate Advent service of Scripture and song.



Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Mass-St. Martin de Porres @ 8pm  
 Tues., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Mass-Ss. Columba-Brigid @ 6pm.  
 Tues., Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Mass-Blessed Trinity @ 10pm  
 Wed., Dec 25 - Christmas Day Mass-Blessed Trinity @10am  
 Tues., Dec 31 - New Year's Eve Mass-Ss. Columbia-Brigid @11pm

Wed., Jan 1 - New Year Day Mass @ Blessed Trinity @ 11am  
 Sat., Jan. 4 - Three Kings - House Blessing -- See Gathering Spacer  
 Fri., Jan 10 - Christmas Caroling @ Holy Cross @7pm  
 Sun., Jan. 19 - Martin Luther King Mass - St. Martin de Porres  
 Sun., Mar. 2 - Women's Guild - "Fat Tuesday" @ St. Martin de Porres after 8am & 9:30 Mass.  
 Sun., May 4 - Women's Guild celebrates "Wear White-Women's Day" 8am & 9:30am Mass

\*Flyers are located in Gathering Space

Our next **Baptism Class** for parents of children under 7 will be 6:30 PM Monday, January 6, 2025 at BT in the school building. (The February class has been rescheduled to January 6.) Please register with your parish office.

**Scripture Studies** - Our fall introduction class is complete and participants responded to a survey of different possible future topics, including the best day and time. This is the outcome of that survey. Prophets - in-person beginning January 27, 6:30 PM at Blessed Trinity. Zoom options will be available in the winter months.

**Confirmation 2025:** If you are in at least the 9th grade (including adults) and would like to be Confirmed next fall, now is the time to talk to us! Those who are not attending a Catholic High School and did not participate in the recently ended Introduction to Sacred Scripture Class, please contact Pat Dyer at Blessed Trinity as soon as possible to discuss catching up.

**First Communion** classes begin January 16, 6 PM at Blessed Trinity in the school building. Parents MUST attend the first class. Please contact your parish office if you have not yet registered.

