# **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 S 7:30am H 6:30pm H

St. Gregory Holy Trinity Holy Trinity

#### **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 sgfaithformation@gmail.com Holy Trinity Parish

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

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### **Worship Schedule**

Saturday Dec 9—Advent Weekday 4pm SG + Barb Lutzke

Sunday Dec 10—Second Sunday of Advent 8am HT + Wayne, Kevin, Stanley Binversie, & Laurie Binversie-Heckmann 10am SG People of Holy Trinity & St. Gregory Parishes

7pm HT + Joseph Winkel

Monday Dec 11—Advent Weekday 8am HT + Thomas Kurtzweil

Tuesday Dec 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe 8am HT + Fr. Paul Vanden Hogen (LBA)

Wednesday Dec 13—St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr 8am SG + Victoria DeSouza

Thursday Dec 14-St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church 8am SG + Byrnece Riesterer

Saturday Dec 16—Advent Weekday 7am SG Ken & Jean Binversie 4pm SG + Dale Schuler

Sunday Dec 17—Third Sunday of Advent 8am HT People of Holy Trinity & St. Gregory Parishes 10am SG + Binversie Family 7pm HT + Bob Swita

> December 11—December 17 **Sanctuary Candles** are burning in memory/honor of:

HT: Wayne, Kevin, Stanley Binversie & Laurie Binversie-Heckmann SG: Expectant Mothers, Parish Families

#### Liturgical Ministers December 16 & 17

#### Greeters:

4pm SG: Jim & Mary Bonde 8am HT: Brian Hruby Family 10am SG: Mary Ann Ristow 7pm HT: Volunteers

#### **Readers:**

4pm SG: Isaac Isselmann 8am HT: Mike Kleczewski 10am SG: Jerry Dewane 7pm HT: Cecelia DeBruin

#### Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:

4pm SG: Deacon Gary, Debbie Griem 8am HT: Dennis & Lois Albright 10am SG: Fred Reindl. Theresa Zimmermann 7pm HT: None

#### Ushers:

4pm SG: Jim Bonde, Bill Wachal 8am HT: Ryan Schad, Tim Schad, Dennis Graf 10am SG: Ron Egan, Joe Weber 7pm HT: Volunteers

#### Servers:

4pm SG: Cecelia DeBruin 8am HT: Landon Herzog, Jessica Hruby 10am SG: Kevin Halverson, Ann Marie Schoenberger 7pm HT: Mason Schneider

#### Scrip:

4pm SG: Debbie Griem 8am HT: Karen Graf 10am SG: Alice Petermann

#### Parish News



End of Year Reminder: Just a reminder, there are only a few weeks left until the end of the calendar year. Any contributions to be recorded for this calendar year must be in the parish office by December 29. Offices will be open Fri., Dec. 29 8am-noon.

HT & SG December Hospitality will be December 16 & 17. Plan to stay for Advent refreshments after Mass.

December Green Sunday Collection will take place December 16 & 17 (next weekend). Since Christmas Masses are on a weekend, the collection will take place one week earlier.

HT Christian Women Calendars are available for purchase at both parish offices. Get yours today! They make great Christmas gifts! If you need more to sell, there are extras. Thank You!

2023 Missalettes are available at the back of church at Holy Trinity starting Dec. 3. This past year's book has the largest insert of prayers

Thank You to Mike Mueller, and Bob & Josh Salm for helping upgrade outdoor lighting.

HT Christmas Decorating will be Wednesday, December 20 starting at 9am. Many hands make light work.

#### Retirement Collection Weekend of December 9 & 10

Today, through the Retirement Collection, we are able to Share in the Care of our retired sisters, brothers and religious order priests through the National Retirement Fund for Religious, as well as of the senior priests of our own diocese. Envelopes are available to make your contribution at the back of church. Please be generous in helping those who have given so much over the years.

Bulletin Deadline Bulletin submissions must be received the Tuesday two weeks prior to the date of print. December 23 & 24 Bulletin Submission Deadline is Tuesday, December 12



#### Holy Trinity Stewardship for December 3, 2023

Envelopes Loose Total Support Budget/Week Difference This Week

Weekly Fiscal Year Budget \$ 1,660.00 \$101,220.00 \$ 14,200.00 20<u>9.10</u> \$ \$ 1,869.10 \$115,420.00 \$ 55.428.3<u>1 received for year</u> \$ 2,220.00 -350.90 \$ 59,991.69 needed by 6/30/24 \$

Green Sunday: \$75.00 Christmas Flowers: \$1,548.00

#### St. Gregory Stewardship: December 2 & 3, 2023

|                      | Weekly            | Fiscal Year Budget             |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Envelopes            | \$4,164.50        | \$186,500.00                   |
| Loose                | <u>\$ 255.00</u>  | <u>\$ 20,000.00</u>            |
| Total Env. & Loose   | \$4,424.50        | \$206,500.00                   |
| Support Budget/Week  | <u>\$3,971.15</u> | \$ 73,141.80 received for year |
| Difference this Week | \$ 453.35         | \$133,358.20 needed by 6/30/24 |

Total December Green Sunday: \$55.00 Christmas Flowers: \$975.00



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

| <b>Dec 9 &amp; 10</b> Second Collection: Retirement Collection       |
|--|
| Mon Dec 11 Caring Hearts & Hands Mtg 1pm SG                          |
| Sat Dec 16 Rorate Mass 7am SG  |
| Sat Dec 16 Youth Choir Practice 9am HT                               |
| Dec 16 & 17 Second Collection: Green Sunday                          |
| Dec 16 & 17 HT & SG Hospitality Weekend (3rd Sunday Advent—Rejoice!) |
| Mon Dec 18 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 4—7:30pm at HT        |
| Tues Dec 19 Food Pantry noon SG                                      |
| Tues Dec 19 SG Finance Council 6pm; Pastoral Council 7pm             |
| Wed Dec 20 Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions 4—7:30pm at SG        |
| Dec 25 & 26 Parish Offices Closed                                    |
| Fri Dec 29 Parish Offices Open 8am—noon                              |
| Jan 1 & 2 Parish Office Closed                                       |
|  |



#### Thoughts for Today's Readings

**To the Point:** At the beginning of Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist simply appears. He suddenly and out of nowhere is there in the desert proclaiming repentance and preparing the way for Jesus' coming. His child-

hood is completely invisible, but we who have also read Luke know what it took to get him here. We know the story of Elizabeth's unlikely pregnancy; we know her baby leapt in her womb, recognizing and revealing Christ's presence before he was even born. God does not suddenly start working through John; God gave him a special mission and a special connection to Christ from the moment of his conception. We do not know much about John's childhood, but we know he was raised by parents who were holy and faithful and also geriatric, likely unable to keep up with their boy, full as he was of the Spirit. Their labor, all that went into raising him, all they taught him, is overlooked here. Mark has him appear with nice dramatic effect. But John doesn't really appear out of nowhere.

**To Experience:** Mark's Gospel does not give us John's background, and neither does it tell us much about those affected by his ministry. It would be nice to know some individual stories, how the real people who made up his audience were changed by him. In ministry we very often don't get to know these stories. We are rarely thanked. We scatter seeds in hopes something will take root. This reminds us that, like John, we are not the primary workers here; God is. We clear ways and create conditions in which God can work, but God is the real agent and actor here.

- 1. Who in your life provides invisible work that makes your possible? Whose work do you support in quiet, unacknowledged ways?
- 2. Do you proclaim God mostly in whispers or in shouts? Do you feel called to speak of God in intimate settings or in public ones? Do you work best through personal relationships or in large-group settings?
- 3. What makes it hard for you to hear God's voice? How could you make room for greater silence in your life?

Source: Living Liturgy 2024, Liturgical Press

#### Mass Readings for Week of Dec 11—Dec 17

|              | <u>Readings</u>         | <u>Gospel</u>        |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Mon/Dec 11   | Isaiah 35:1-10          | Luke 5:17-26         |
| Tues/Dec 12  | Revelation 11:19a;      |                      |
|              | 12:1-6a, 10ab           | Luke 1:39-47         |
| Wed/Dec 13   | Isaiah 40:25-31         | Matthew 11:28-30     |
| Thurs/Dec 14 | Isaiah 41:13-20         | Matthew 11:11-15     |
| Fri/Dec 15   | Isaiah 48:17-29         | Matthew 11:16-19     |
| Sat/Dec 16   | Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11     | Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 |
| Sun/Dec 17   | Philippians 4:4-5       |                      |
|              | I Thessalonians 5:16-24 | John 1:6-8, 19-28    |



"May Christ dwell in your hearts through Faith." Ephesians 3:17

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of my favorite places to pray is the Loretto chapel. It's peaceful. If today was not a Sunday, it would be the liturgical Memorial of Our Lady of Loretto. Fr. Oschwald brought the statue of Our Lady of Loretto with him when he emigrated from Germany. Later, he had a chapel built to house this statue.

Loretto is a town in Italy. In the center of that town is a large church that contains the house where Jesus lived with Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. The holy house of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was in danger of being destroyed by Islamic armies when they re-took the Holy Land, so it was transported to Italy for its preservation in 1294. It has been venerated as the Holy House ever since.

The legendary story is that angels picked up the house and carried it first to Greece and later to Italy. This miracle is depicted in the artwork in the church in Loretto. In addition to this miraculous story is historical documentation that a merchant family by the name of DE ANGELI lent the use of one of their ships and paid for the house to be moved to Italy.

In either case, whether by miracle or by an act of generosity of the De Angeli family, archeologists have studied the house in Loretto. They have found that it is made of stone that comes from the area around Nazareth, and that it is constructed in the style and with the techniques that were common in Galilee in the time of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In addition, the outline of the house matches the remains of a foundation in Nazareth that has been venerated as the location of the house of the Holy Family since ancient times.

What's more important than the authenticity of the Holy House, is that it reminds us that Jesus chose to make a home with us here on earth. As we recite in the Profession of Faith each Sunday, Jesus is "God from God, light from light, true God from true God..." yet, "was Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary and became man."

In Jesus, the Lord God makes His home with us. He is close to us.

This calls for a response on our part. Just as Mary and Joseph prepared a home for Jesus, we are called to prepare a home for Jesus. He no longer needs a crib or a roof over his head, but rather he makes his home in the hearts of those who are prepared to receive him. We welcome him by meditating upon His Word in Sacred Scripture, especially the Gospels. We welcome him when we receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist in a worthy and reverent manner. We welcome him in our prayer, when he comes to dwell in the tabernacle of our hearts.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus shares this promise: "Dwell in me, and I will dwell in you" (John 15:4). Christ does come to make his home in us by the <u>p</u>ower of His Word, His <u>p</u>resence in the Sacraments, and the fulfillment of His <u>p</u>romise in our Prayers.

> Blessings, Father Bill

CAU Things CAdvent

#### Second Week of Advent

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become a people ready to welcome you into our hearts, fill us with a deep abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.



The Annual Advent Food Drive is quickly approaching. The following is a suggested list of needs for the Food Pantry.

Weekend of Dec. 9 & 10: Mac & cheese, small summer sausage Weekend of Dec. 16 & 17: Canned vegetables (carrots, beets, potatoes) Weekend of Dec. 23 & 24: Canned fruits, cookies

Boxes are at all church entryways at Holy Trinity & St. Gregory. Thank you for your anticipated donations.

Faye Riesterer (773-2422), Food Pantry Coordinator

#### Christmas Youth Choir to Sing December 24 at 4 pm Mass

Anyone under 18 who would like to share his/her musical talent (vocal or instrumental) at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass at Holy Trinity should contact the parish office. The choir will be learning two Christmas hymns to share before Mass.

> A practice will be held 9am Saturday, December 16 at Holy Trinity.

# Elent Night Holy N

#### Mass Schedule Change

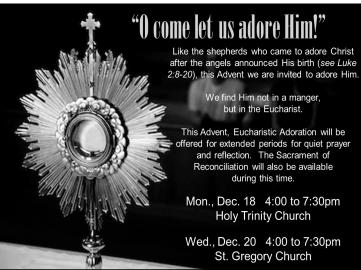
4th Week of Advent: 4pm (SG) Saturday, December 23 \*\* 9am (HT) Sunday, December 24 \*\*

Christmas Eve—Sunday, December 24 4pm (HT) 9pm (SG)

Christmas Day—Monday, December 25 8am (HT) 10am (SG)

#### Rorate Candlelight Mass Saturday, December 16 7:00am at St. Gregory

What is a Rorate Mass? It is a traditional Advent devotion where the 'Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Advent' is offered just before dawn. The interplay of light and darkness speak to the meaning of Advent and the coming of the Light of the world.



#### Plan to arrive early for Christmas Masses!

The choirs will be singing hymns and carols prior to the start of Masses. Arrive early, enjoy the music, and prepare your heart for the celebration of Christ's birth!

#### Holy Trinity 23rd Annual Perch Fry February 16, 2024

**Raffle Donations Due December 15** to be acknowledged on the raffle ticket. Donations received after December 15, 2023 will not be printed on the raffle ticket, but will be acknowledged on signage and winner notifications. Cash, gift cards, or gift certificates are preferred. Donations can be given to any committee member or dropped off at the parish office.



Thank you for giving of your time and talent to make our Annual Perch Fry a success!

 Dennis & Lois 894-2895
 Dennis & Karen 693-8700
 Mary Beth 920-946-9205

 Brian & Barb 693-8330
 Dave Hartlaub 565-2193
 Kim Schad 920-464-0347

 Tim Schad 920-286-1722
 Billy O'Neil 920-773-2952
 Parish Office 773-2380



#### St. Gregory Parish Green Sunday Fund

The Green Sunday fund (for maintenance & building/grounds upkeep) was started sometime around the early 1990s and was later made into an official fund entity for better tracking of projects. It has been serving our parish very well since.

What has the fund been used for, you might ask?

Here is a partial list of recent projects/items, the higher dollar items include the approximate costs.

- Replacement of broken windows in the Parish Center (PC)
- Floor scrubber and burnisher machine pads
- Fiber optic network cable routed to church from PC
- Ethernet cable routed to support Steeple Carillon
- Church steeple heavy duty extension ladder
- Light bulbs
- Sidewalk and entranceway ice melt salt
- Water Softener salt
- Church entrance mats \$1000
- PC entrance mats \$700
- Gutter repair and cleaning, rectory building \$700
- Rectory building heat control valves \$1400
- PC parking lot sinkhole blacktop repair \$1300

- Blacktop repair to lane between the church and back of the PC \$1400
- Parish Office thermostat used to help monitor PC boiler operation \$500
- Repairs to church parking lot \$3,500
- Boiler service calls and repair over the past 4 years \$10,000
- Sealcoat and striping of PC parking lot \$5,200
- Kitchen mixer \$1800
- Repair of insulation and ceiling in church south entrance (planned) \$4,300
- Boiler replacement Project (underway) Up to as much as \$25,000

So, now you know!

Our Green Sunday fund has allowed our property and facilities to operate smoothly, and with your continued support will do so into the future. Please consider including Green Sunday in your list of parish year-end contributions.

Thank you!

Allen Dietrich, Building & Grounds Project Coordinator

#### The Story of Our Lady of Guadalupe—Feast Day December 12

The feast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe goes back to the 16th century. Chronicles of that period tell us the story.

A poor Indian named Cuauhtlatohuac was baptized and given the name Juan Diego. He was a 57-yearold widower, and lived in a small village near Mexico City. On Saturday morning December 9, 1531, he was on his way to a nearby barrio to attend Mass in honor of Our Lady.

Juan was walking by a hill called Tepeyac when he heard beautiful music like the warbling of birds. A radiant cloud appeared, and within it stood an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his own language and sent him to the bishop of Mexico, a Franciscan named Juan de Zumarraga. The bishop was to build a chapel in the place where the lady appeared.

Eventually the bishop told Juan to have the lady give him a sign. About this same time Juan's uncle became seriously ill. This led poor Juan to try to avoid the lady. Nevertheless the lady found Juan, assured him that his uncle would recover, and provided roses for Juan to carry to the bishop in his cape or tilma.

On December 12, when Juan Diego opened his tilma in the bishop's presence, the roses fell to the ground, and the bishop sank to his knees. On the tilma where the roses had been appeared an image of Mary exactly as she had appeared at the hill of Tepeyac.

#### Reflection

Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God's preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.





### WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 9 & 10, 2023

#### Pray for the Sick:

Mary Mueller, Kay Binversie, Fritz Koeppen, Mary Jo Koeppen, Tom Pelk, 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)
- Sponsor flowers for Sunday Mass

#### St. Gregory Parish Boiler Project Update as of 12/10/2023

Piping construction for the new boilers continues offsite. Work at our jobsite is expected later this month. One old boiler will be removed to create space to set one of the two new boilers. This will be the first step of many to allow switching from old to new without causing extended loss of heat to our two buildings.

#### 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 3 — \$6,235 (includes online sales) Profits ending December 3 — \$266.53 (includes online sales)

> Thank you to all who continue to purchase SCRIP! New to inventory: Log Cabin \$20 10% rebate.

#### 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 3: \$6,955.17 3% (average) profit to the parish: \$208.65

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...

| Nov 27 - \$20<br>Nov 28 - \$20<br>Nov 29 - \$20<br>Nov 30 - \$20 | Brandon Malesich, Dillon, MT<br>Rodney Steffen, Sheboygan Falls<br>Gerald & Kathleen Salm, Newton<br>Dale Post, Newton<br>Carter Strebe, Hilbert<br>Dennis Ramaker, Iron River, MI | #866<br>#1948<br>#1551<br>#1055<br>#1366<br>#1071 |
|--|--|---|
|  | Dennis Ramaker, Iron River, MI<br>Carol Joas, Kiel   | #1071<br>#1736                                    |



#### Family Event Celebration

On Wednesday, December 13, the RE group will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Family Night filled with prayer, dinner, and fun. Families are asked to bring a rose for Our Lady and either diapers or wipes for The Crossing.

It's never too late to enroll for the 2023-2024 year. Call the office (773-2511) for information.

#### St. Gregory Kitchen Stand Mixer

We are facing a year with a very tight budget. The purchase of the mixer is an unexpected expense and was not part of the 2023-24 budget plan. Donations are being accepted to help defray the cost to the parish budget line and can be brought to the office or placed in the collection basket at Mass.

| Cost of Mixer:     | \$3,554        |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Donations to Date: | <u>\$1,800</u> |
| Balance:           | \$1,754        |

Thank you to those who have donated!



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.

| Parish   |
|----------|
| Outreach |

<u>SG Prayer Line</u>: 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...

