

St. Stanislaus

Parish Family

May 30, 2021
The Most Holy Trinity

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. John J. Siekierski, Administrator
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director of Religious Education
Anne J. Ruiz, School Principal
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)
Office Closed: Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rectory	398-2341
Convent	397-7059
School	398-1316

MASSES

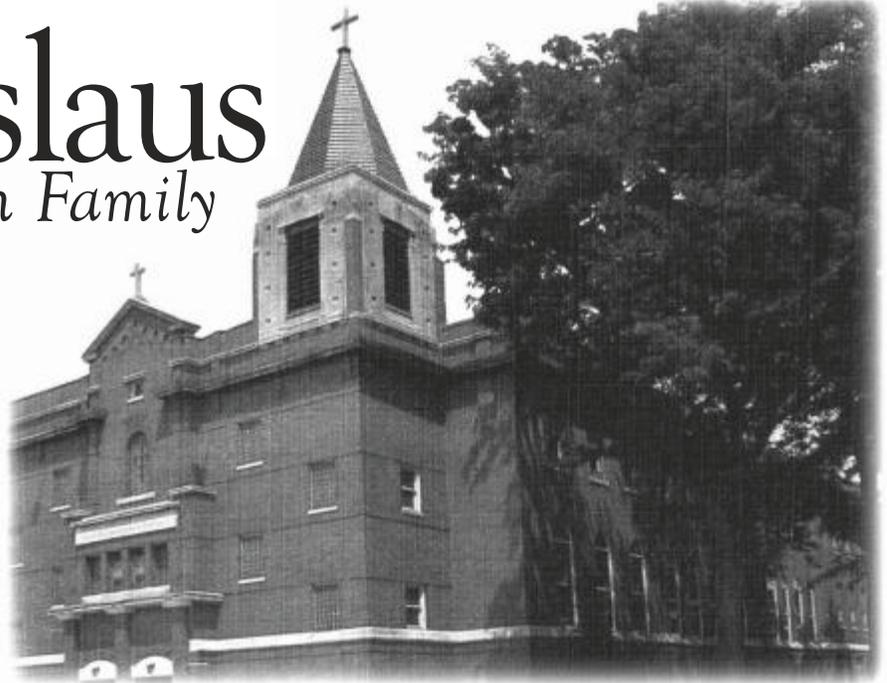
Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

There are no weekday Masses or Word & Communion Services at this time.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions by appointment only.



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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." - Mt 28:18-19

Liturgical Notes for the Week

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, And of the Holy Spirit.

Today is the first Sunday in Ordinary Time after Easter, but it is no ordinary celebration. Today we celebrate the Holy Trinity: that God the Father, Jesus His Son and the Holy Spirit are all united in one God. Today we celebrate the divine qualities that have been revealed about our Triune God: mercy, fidelity, love, grace and community. The word Trinity does not appear in the Scripture Readings, yet evidence of the Triune God is seen throughout the Bible. In their commentary on today's gospel the authors of Living Liturgy note that Jesus speaks the words of the baptismal formula that, since then, have been used for millennia to usher men, women, and children into the life of God. The threefold gift of water is to be imparted "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." On this feast of the Most Holy Trinity, we pause to reflect on the mystery of "Trinity" not as a way of thinking about God, but as our Christian way of knowing God. All theology is rooted in our experience of God, and this is true for the doctrine of the Trinity as well. In her book *Quest for the Living God*, theologian Elizabeth Johnson describes how the early Christian community of the New Testament knew "the saving God in a threefold way as beyond them, with them, and within them that is, as utterly transcendent, as present historically in the person of Jesus, and as present in the Spirit within their community. These were all encounters with only one God." In the Trinity we experience God as a continuous outpouring of love, and in our baptism we have been welcomed into the dynamic dance of grace that occurs between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Just as we begin and end each prayer by making the sign of the cross, so too will our very lives begin and end with that same sign of the cross. It shows to whom we belong: we trace on our bodies and bear in our souls the marks of his same cross. As we speak the names of the persons of the Trinity, we recall that it is not just our prayer, but all that we do that is dedicated to them: "In the name of ..." There is a long and varied history of the sign of the cross; suffice it to say here that it is both an ancient gesture and one imbued with significance for all Christians across time and space. St. Athanasius (AD 296-373) said, "By the signing of the holy and life-giving cross, devils and various scourges are driven away. For it is without price and without cost and praises him who can say it." The Sign of the Cross is a very simple prayer but it reflects one of the most complex truths of our faith: the one true God is a Trinity of divine Persons. We can remember our baptism each time we make the Sign of the Cross. But unfortunately, it's such a familiar prayer that it might become rote or automatic. Don't let that happen! Read through the following reflective words written for

today's consideration offered in The Word Among Us.

In the name of the Father: Remember the Father who loves you. He sees you not as a slave to order around but as a child to be loved. He wants you to know that everything that separates you from him has been forgiven.

And of the Son: Remember the Son who redeemed you. Sent by the Father in love, he made the ultimate sacrifice so that you could join his family. He wants you to understand that you are an essential part of his body, the Church.

And of the Holy Spirit: Remember the Holy Spirit who gives you life. Gift of the Father and the Son, he actually dwells in you. He wants you to experience, even now, the wisdom and power and presence of God within you. What a powerful and profound little prayer! Today, on Trinity Sunday, let the Sign of the Cross remind you of everything you received at your baptism. You are an adopted child of God. You are a member of the body of Christ. You are a temple of the Holy Spirit. **"Most Holy Trinity, I love you and want to share in your life both now and forever!"** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

As today closes the Easter Season, take to heart these "three suggestions for living the Spirit of the Easter Season throughout the year which were given by Anthony Spalla of Senior Services Staff in an article he wrote for the May/June 2021 issue of Keenager News by that very same title.

We can finish these 50 days (of the Easter season) to cultivate an Easter spirit that enables us to be truly Christian, through summer and the rest of the year... First, live with joy. Joy is a deep-down gladness that cannot be taken away. The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus teach us that suffering is transformed through faith in the risen Christ. With this faith, we are able to hold on to an enduring sense of joy even in the midst of the sadness we experience from the loss of a loved one, a failure to achieve an important goal, or a set back during recovery from an illness. The second suggestion is to live without fear. The resurrection teaches us that God can overcome anything, even death. When the risen Christ appears to the women at the tomb, and later, to his disciples, his first words are, "Do not be afraid!" (Mt. 28:5) These words speak to our hearts, helping us cope with the fear from loss of a job, a serious illness, or a crumbling relationship. Our faith allows us to trust that God can help us overcome our most serious problems. Finally, the third suggestion is to allow Christ's resurrection to help you live with new eyes. Easter means to live with a newness. Just as the spring lifts our spirits and makes us feel like the world is new, the resurrection of Jesus makes "all things new." (Rev. 21:5) The Easter spirit is a spirit that enables us to renew relationships that have been taken for granted, and to express appreciation and affection to those closest to us. It means to see the world through new eyes — God's eyes. We can finish these 50 days to cultivate an Easter spirit that enables us to be truly Christian, through summer and the rest of the year: embracing joy, living without fear and seeing the world again —as if for the first time.



Scripture Reflection

Let God be who God is. This is often one of the hardest things to do. Rather than allowing the mystery of being created in the image and likeness of God unfold and take root in our lives, we change the dynamic. We want to be the creators who want to make God into the image and likeness we need God to be. We have a hard-enough time letting the people in our lives be who they are. We struggle even more so with God. It is almost as if we want God to be our imaginary friend who is not only with us whenever we need but becomes the Being we need God to be. Who is it that we want God to be today? A protector, disciplinarian, champion for justice, healer, advocate for our cause, grantor of prayers, guardian of my life, or the avenger? Our prayers tell an interesting story. When you pray, what does God look like? Recently, a young woman who was feeling invisible, overlooked, ignored, and misunderstood by her husband struggled to make her feelings known and get his attention. Finally, she screamed, "Listen to me!" Thus, birth was given to a renewed and healthier relationship. We spend so much time storming heaven with our agenda and trying to make God into a "god" of our desires that we do not hear God saying, "Listen to me!" God is desperately trying to get our attention. God is saying, I am here among you as not one but three, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Many people seldom notice God's presence because they are so caught up with other spiritual cares and concerns. And, when the "god" they fashion and create doesn't produce as they desire, they shake the dust from their feet and move on. "I tried," they exclaim, "but God didn't listen." Healthy relationships aren't built on making someone be who we need them to be. Healthy relationships are built on encounters of persons and the development of an appreciation of someone solely for who they are. Deeper relationships can even be found with two people marveling at each other and almost experiencing a childlike joy and giddiness when they see the other coming. Do you ever have these feelings about God? Believe it or not, God does for you! There is a joyful laughter that gives rise to and connects all three members of the Holy Trinity. It is this laughter, flowing from the very depths of the Godhead that not only keeps the Trinity in joyful unity but spills over into the creation of all beings and things. It is an expression of Divine Delight! Have you ever taken time away from your agenda to experience the Divine Joyfulness of God? We can reach a connection of Presence wherein even the smallest of creatures suddenly radiate the fullness of God: the wonderful creation of their being, the innocence and playfulness of their movements, and the sustaining life breath that flows through their veins. The same God who created the heavens and the earth is the same God who wants you to call him 'Dad' and the same God who preserves your life and has all things in His care.



Financial Blessings

YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH LAST WEEK IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$2,480.00

Adult envelopes issued.....294 (May, 2021)

Adult envelopes used.....79/27% (May 23, 2021)

Thank You for your continued support! May God Bless You!

Catholic Services Appeal/CSA 2021

Many sincere thanks to the **2 families** of our parish who made a pledge/gift last week in the amount of **\$400.00** toward our Catholic Services Appeal parish goal of **\$24,294.00** We need **\$12,939.00** to reach our Parish Goal. Please be generous in helping our parish reach its CSA goal. Thank you and God bless you and yours.

— Msgr. John

Everyday Stewardship

An acquaintance who works in church ministry once told me a story about one of the students she had in Faith Formation. This student informed my friend that his family doesn't come to Mass in summer. "God takes a break in summer, and so do we," he said. There's a lot to unpack here. First, it's tragic to think of anyone voluntarily missing out on the Eucharist for so long. It's also a real problem in the church today that a lot of our folks don't understand the beauty of the Sunday obligation. But if I had to dissect this situation and pinpoint the thing I find most troubling, it's the idea of God taking a break. I hope it's starting to look like summer where you are. We've still got a few weeks left before it's official, but the school year should be winding up for most kids, the birds should be chirping a little louder, and hopefully your lawn is starting to green up nicely. You're probably daydreaming about the annual cabin getaway weekend or waterskiing on the Fourth of July. All in all, summer is going to be a nice break, even if — like typical Americans — our break is full of productive work. Thank God — literally — that He doesn't take a break, even if we do. Can we try to remember that, even in the midst of our many wonderful distractions? Let's enjoy this summer. Let's live it to the full. But let's see it for the gift that it is — and remember the thanks we owe the Giver.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Inspiration For The Week

The immensity, scope, intimacy, and pervasiveness of God's presence is too intense for the human mind. We often limit God by our expectations of Him and have a hard time just letting God be God. Some people all too easily lose faith because God does not meet their expectations. Worse still, the idea of faith is rejected altogether by others because of polarities and experiences they have that don't square with who they need God to be. The Holy Trinity is one of those teachings that is best encountered rather than dissected. It is only through being present with the Trinity that we can experience both the immensity and otherness of God's presence as well as the intimacy of the God who wants us to call Him "dad." We feel the loving guidance of a God who wants to take us from fear and give us confidence. Our God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow is a God of all ages whose three-fold Presence invades all senses, seasons, and times. God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is much more than any of our expectations if we simply let God be who God is.

Monday, May 31 - The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Day

Tuesday, June 1 - St. Justin, Martyr

Wednesday, June 2 - Sts. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs

Thursday, June 3 - St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs

Friday, June 4

Saturday, June 5 - St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr
 4:30pm †In memory of Deceased members of St. Stan's Class of 1969
 †Edward C. Traher - Birthday int. Wife, Diane

Sunday, June 6 - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
 8:30am †Wincenty & Janina Zioto int. Teresa Radziwiecki Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Quote from Pope Francis
 Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place:
 on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey.



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Question: If it isn't only for people who are dying, when should someone receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

Answer: One of the unfortunate realities in the Church today is that so few people understand the meaning and value of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, largely because so many people still mistakenly think of this sacrament as "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction." In his life and ministry, Jesus healed the sick. In this sacrament, the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and, in hope, prays that God will grant healing to the person who is suffering. But even if there is no physical healing, the sacrament offers spiritual healing through the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. And so, anyone who is living with serious illness (including emotional or psychological illness) and the elderly are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament when it is needed. The ritual for Anointing of the Sick does also include special prayers and blessings for those who are facing death, including viaticum (communion given to the dying, trusting that the Lord Jesus will be their companion along the way, as they make their final journey).

Question Of The Week

First Reading:

In the closing remarks of the speech delivered to the Israelites in the desert, Moses reflects on God's fidelity and love for them. In return for God's favor, the Israelites are instructed to keep God's statutes and commandments. Why do you think so many people are resistant to this divine expectation?

Second Reading:

Paul sees the Holy Spirit as integral to our identity as "children of God" and "joint heirs with Christ." How do you sense our Triune God at work in your life?

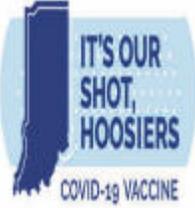
Gospel:

We hear today the closing words in the Gospel of Matthew — Jesus' final commissioning of the disciples to evangelize and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. What insights to the nature of God does this divine relationship offer?



Community Events

Indiana Department of Health
 Indiana residents older than 12 years of age are now eligible to receive the vaccine. You may schedule your Covid-19 vaccine appointment by visiting ourshot.in.gov or call 211 to find a site near you.



Congratulations Class of 2020-2021

Heavenly Father,
 Surround those who have graduated with your grace. Bless them with eager and open hearts. Help them to put the knowledge, skills, and insights gained through their education to use for the good of all humankind. Inspire them to believe in the goodness of life even when faced with changes and difficulties. As they commence with their lives, may they grow ever more grateful and wise. All of this we ask in the name of Jesus, your beloved Son. Amen.



If anyone is interested in helping the Food Bank of NWI's Mobile Market in the area of East Chicago, please contact Sarah Barnard at 219-980-1770 ext.316 for more information on how you can help. Or you can always find more information on their website at www.foodbanknwi.org

Food Pantry News



Thanks to your generosity we were able to help 210 families. Without your help we would not be able to serve our community. Now we are in need of all canned goods. (pork&beans, vegetables, soup, etc.)

As always, we would like to thank all the volunteers that help before, during, and after in the pantry. Next food pantry will be **June 28, 2021**, beginning at 8am. Thanks again to all, May God Bless You!



Memorial Day Prayer

Let us turn to You, Lord, in our grief and in our remembrance of the fallen. Guide us toward a harmonious existence as we honor those who were willing to give up their lives that we may gather here today freely.

On this **Memorial Day**, we **pray** for peace and for those who gave **all**.



Church office will be closed on **Monday May 31, 2021** for Memorial Day, office will resume regular hours on **Tuesday and Thursday, 9am-3pm.**



Catholic Charities Father's Day Collection

To help our Northwest Indiana neighbors during their time of hardship, please consider providing a special Father's Day Collection gift to Catholic Charities in honor of your father and father figures. Right now, Catholic Charities has a \$25,000 matching gift opportunity. Your gift in any amount will be doubled and make twice the impact! To learn more about the programs and to donate online, please visit www.catholic-charities.org. Those not attending Mass can send their Father's Day Collection gift in the mail to Catholic Charities at 940 Broadway, Gary, IN 46402.

TRINITY SUNDAY



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