

Most Holy Trinity Parish

Parish Office: 236 Route 390, Cresco, PA 18326

Worship Site: Msgr. McHugh, 212 Route 390, Cresco, PA 18326

Parish Office
(570) 595-3100

Fax
(570) 595-3200

Website
www.mht-poconos.org



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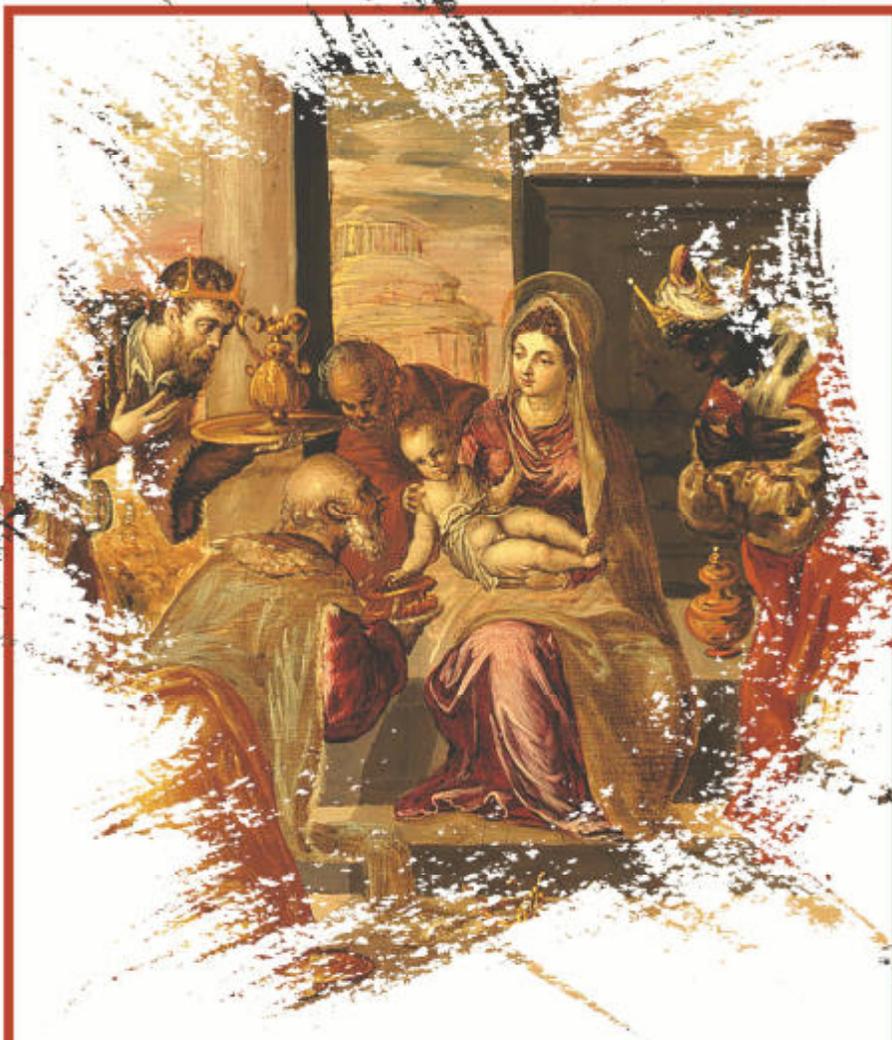


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Mission Statement

We, the Catholic community of Most Holy Trinity Parish, rich in diversity, strive to achieve the unity that is the essence of God and the heart of the Church. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called to be faithful stewards of the apostolic tradition, to stir into flame the gifts of God the Father, and to evangelize through our action as witnesses to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

January 3, 2021



"WE SAW HIS STAR AT ITS RISING AND HAVE COME TO
DO HIM HOMAGE." - MT 2:2

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1979 C.C. ©L.P.

Pastor:

Rev. Gregory Loughney

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Jaime Perez-Restropo

Permanent Deacons:

Alan Baranski
Jose Mendoza

In Residence:

Msgr. John Bergamo

Retired Deacon:

Ron Verkon

Parish Pastoral Council:

Jen Beers
Wayne Beers
Cindy DeLuca
Gladys Guardia
Benito Juarez
Joe Matarazzo
Barb Page
Danielle Rake
Nancy Santi
Ginger Walsh
Eileen Ziobro

Parishioners of the Parish

In the Roman Catholic Church of the United States of America, a member is considered “active” when “one is registered and actively participates in the liturgical and pastoral life of the parish through the generous, sacrificial and proportionate sharing of his/her God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure.”

As a Catholic and registered parishioner of the parish, I am expected to:

- ◆ Regularly attend and participate in Sunday Mass – preferably as a family
- ◆ Regularly participate in the sacramental life of the Church
- ◆ Develop and practice an ongoing personal/family prayer life
- ◆ Witness to the teachings of the Church by my manner of living life
- ◆ Seek to understand and practice what it means to be and live as an active and committed Christian steward in service to the parish and the Church
- ◆ Commit annually to a generous, sacrificial and proportionate commitment of my time, talent and treasure in service to the mission of the parish and the universal Church without counting the cost or any expectation of something in return
- ◆ Recognize, understand, and accept my need to regularly give and share rather than giving and sharing only when there happens to be a need
- ◆ Acknowledge, as a registered parishioner, that I am to participate in the mission of the parish rather than being only a spectator.
- ◆ Realize the necessary and ongoing importance of love, generosity, faith and family.

Let us remember, it is only through God’s love that we receive the gift of life. In the course of our lives, we are the recipients of God’s grace and giftedness. Through our Baptism, we are called to serve as God’s disciples, sharing - *in gratitude* - His gifts and grace in loving service of God and neighbor.

Our expectations within this gift of life must not be allowed to take precedent over what is expected of us in gratitude thereof. “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” (Mt. 16:24)

Email Addresses

Main Office: mht-poconos@outlook.com

Bulletin: mht-bulletin@outlook.com

Modified Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9:00am - 12 noon

Office is closed to the public.

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday 8:15am

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am, 10:30am
12:00pm - Spanish

Reconciliation

Saturday 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Other times available by appointment.

MHT Parish Mass Intentions

1/4	8:15am	Patricia Price	Prayer Shawl Ministry
1/5	8:15am	Agnes & William Seiler	Daughter Darlene
1/6	8:15am	Christian Charron	Walter Dill
	7:00pm	For the People	Pastor
1/7	4:00pm	Barbara Wachter	Walter Dill
1/8	10:00am	Maureen Elliot	Peg & Larry Scott
1/9	4:00pm	Mary Ellen Paulus	Patricia Christmann
1/10	8:00am	For the People	Pastor
	10:30am	Caleb Casey	Grandma & Grandpa
	12:00pm	Dolores Flores	Juarez Family

Epiphany Blessing of Home

All make the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Peace be to this house and to all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reader: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way. The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God

Using chalk, write on the outside of your house or inside above the front main entrance, above or next to an entrance:

+20 C M B 21+

These words mean. "May Christ bless this house" or the names of the Magi

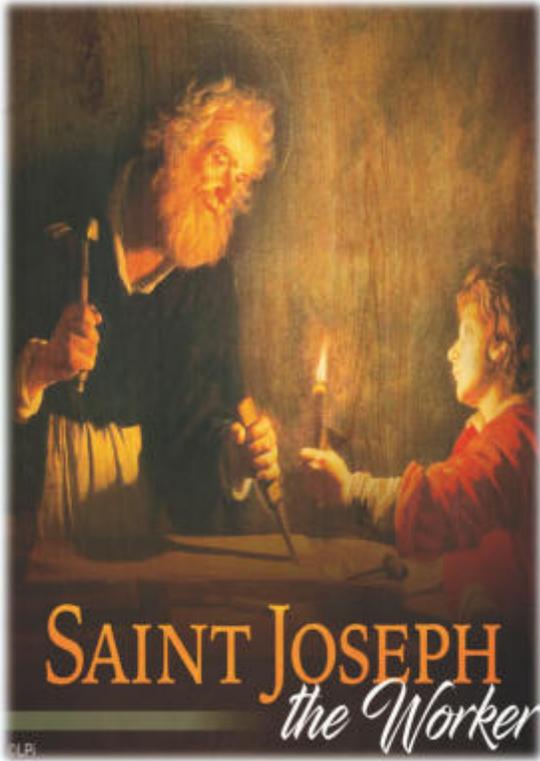
All: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here and all who visit. May we be blessed with health, kindness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



A very warm thank you to all who in so many ways worked to made our Christmas celebrations so beautiful:

- our cantors
- our decorators
- our liturgical ministers
- our deacons
- And all the faithful - parishioners and guests alike - who joined us in prayer

Prayer to St. Joseph the Worker



Ever blessed and glorious Saint Joseph,
kind and loving father,
and helpful friend of all,
who labored to provide for the needs
of Jesus and Mary,
hear us in our need.

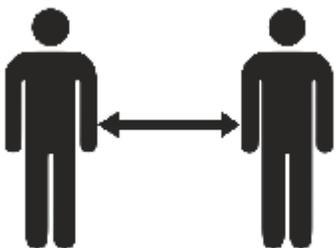
Obtain for us the grace of
generous hearts, open minds,
greater unity, and renewed vision,
as we seek to build a house
for celebration and worship.

May it be a home where all are
welcomed, nourished, and empowered
to be Christ for others. Amen.

**Due to ever-changing government Covid-19 regulations
our liturgy schedule is subject to change.
Please check our website or social media for the latest information.**

Safety Measures when Attending Mass

**6 ft
Safe, Social
Distancing**



**Masks On
Covering Nose
and Mouth**



**Sanitize Hands
before
Communion**



LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

What is the difference between a chastisement and a punishment?

Answer:

The distinction between chastisement and punishment is, in many ways, a subtle one, but which is still relevant in our Catholic tradition. First, chastisement is a concept that is grounded in Sacred Scripture. Here, we see chastisement as a response by God to people's actions that is intended to teach a lesson. As St. John Paul II observed, "chastisement appears to be ... a kind of divine pedagogy, in which the last word is reserved to mercy: He scourges and then shows mercy, casts down to the depths of the nether world, and he brings up from the great abyss" (Tobit 13:2). The idea here is that in order to capture our attention or to highlight how we have not lived out our covenant-relationship with God as we should, there are times when God uses events in life to draw us back to the quality of relationship or faith that we should have.

The concept of punishment, however, has a different sense. The Catechism of the Church observes that punishment is the consequence of a damaging action that "has the primary aim of redressing the disorder" and to protect the community and the common good from further damage or harm (see no. 2266). Although we always hope that someone who is being punished for a crime or some other harmful action will learn from their actions, punishment isn't necessarily intended to teach a lesson in the same way that a chastisement is.

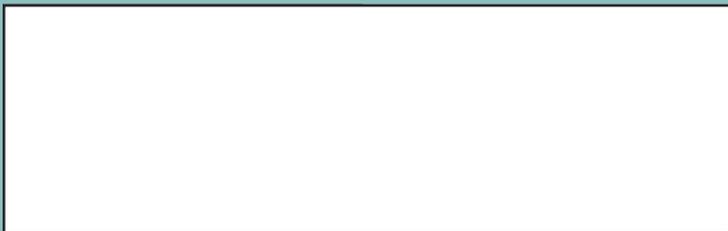
Ultimately, how we make the distinction between chastisement and punishment is a matter of discernment. As with almost everything in life, our experiences can be an opportunity for grace — or for something less — depending on how open we are to recognizing the movement of God's Spirit within them.

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