

# 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](http://www.mht-poconos.org)



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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.

March 14, 2021



# 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

“Whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.” - Jn 3:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## 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

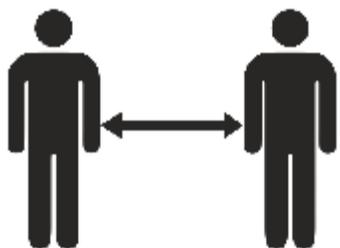
*Other times available by appointment.*

## MHT Parish Mass Intentions

3/15	8:15am	Francis Babe	Daughter Mary Moran
3/16	8:15am	Ingeborg Mignat	Karl & Madeleine Forssell
3/17	8:15am	Angelina Gargano	Jo Ann Giustra
	7:00pm	For the People	The Pastor
3/18	8:15am	Parishioners Who Died in the Month of February	MHT Ladies Guild
3/19	8:15am	Kenneth Noel	Karl & Madeleine Forssell
3/20	4:00pm	Angelina Gargano	Gladys Garber & Family
3/21	8:00am	For the People	The Pastor
	10:30am	For the People	The Pastor
	12:00pm	For the People	The Pastor

# Safety Measures when Attending Mass

**6 ft  
Safe, Social  
Distancing**



**Masks On  
Covering Nose  
and Mouth**



**Sanitize Hands  
before  
Communion**



**Ongoing help is needed at the  
Msgr. McHugh Center!**



There are a variety of tasks to complete including cleaning, to painting, to repairs, etc.

We will meet each Tuesday from  
8:30-10:00am and 6:00-7:30pm.  
If you can join us for one of those times  
please simply show up.

**Monday evenings  
5:30pm to 6:30pm**

The sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in each parish throughout the Diocese of Scranton on Mondays during Lent. We encourage you to avail yourself of the sacrament during this time as there will be no communal penance services during Lent due to covid restrictions.

**The Light is ON  for You.**  
*Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation*

# The Virtue of Generosity



“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two. Give to the one who asks, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father.” (Mt 5:38-45)

These words of Jesus Christ speak life into the true meaning of generosity. How so? To be authentically generous is to go above and beyond what our fallen nature feels comfortable with. Generosity is our humble service – knowing that our lives are not our own but given freely to the service of God and others. We, as faithful Christians, out of love of God, offer all things in imitation of our Lord who was first generous to us. Hence, to turn the other cheek when someone strikes you goes against our human inclination. In the same way, how can we love our enemies and pray for our persecutors when it goes against what we feel we ought to do: return evil with evil?



To be generous means being selfless. As followers of Jesus Christ – as Christians – we are called to unite ourselves with Him. We are to want what God wants, to think as God thinks, to be living examples of how Christ Himself was when He walked the earth some 2000 years ago. Our focus is not on the here-and-now but on eternity with Him in heaven. Everything relating to the things of this world we are to look at as St. Ignatius of Loyola beautifully describes: “...that they may help us in prosecuting the end for which we are created. From this it follows that we are to use created things as much as they help us toward our end, and we ought to rid ourselves of them so far as they hinder us.”



And so, generosity is not just donating money or simply giving in general. No, being truly generous is being selfless in the service of others in terms of things created or actions performed. It is a complete giving of one’s self for the sake of love of God and neighbor in every sphere of our lives; knowing that God, indeed, takes care of us and desires to give to us what we truly long for.

It may seem far-fetched or downright unrealistic to attain to such sanctity but it is possible! Anyone familiar with the lives of the Saints knows that it is possible to be authentically generous in our lives. God desires to give all of us the grace in order to procure this end. He is ready and always willing with arms outstretched! The old saying holds true, “We truly receive when giving” only this time the giving goes far beyond the norm! Imagine the joy!

## What can you sacrifice?

If each family gave up one of these items just once a week during Lent and contributed the dollar amount to our Capital Campaign, then our financial forecast for our building project would be much brighter and we ensure our ability to secure a loan.



Doughnut:  
\$0.89



Large Iced Coffee:  
\$2.79



Medium Shake:  
\$4.39



Quarter Pounder  
Value Meal:  
\$6.75



Haagen-Dass  
28oz Ice Cream:  
\$8.75



Grande Meal:  
\$10.99



16" Pizza:  
\$12.95



16" Cheesesteak:  
\$14.75

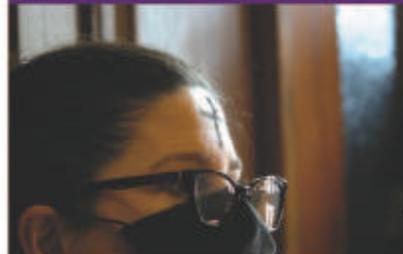
## Donate a Portion of Your Stimulus Check



As the pandemic has placed an extra financial strain on many households, some households find themselves in a sound financial position. To that end we invite you to consider donating a portion of your government issued Stimulus Check to our parish building fund.

Work is continuing at the Msgr. McHugh Center and in areas connected to our worship space. As a parish, we have taken on the work in multiple areas to reduce costs. We have also relied upon and are most thankful to the volunteers who help in some many ways thus eliminating some labor costs. Nevertheless, there remains material and certain labor costs. Any donation that you make will directly support our efforts in these areas. Thank you again, and with your support our dream will soon be a reality.

“The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ...”



-Pope Francis' 2021  
Lenten Message

During this Lenten season, provide help and hope to your neighbors!

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# EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

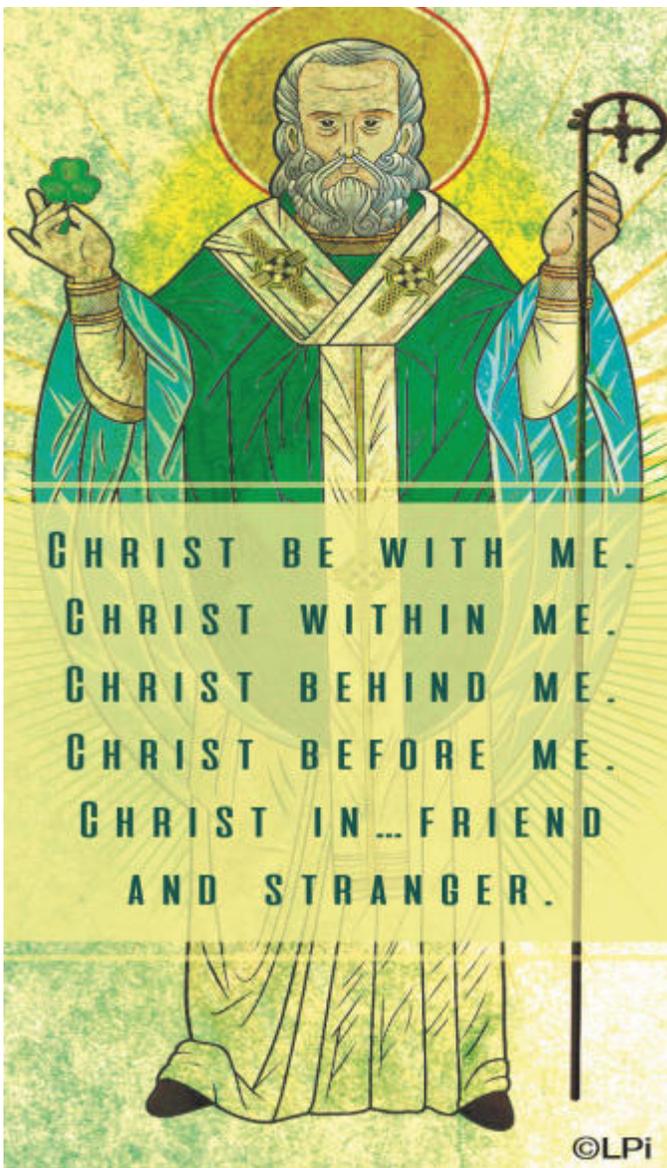
## Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give. I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. "Just five more minutes." You hit the "snooze" button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness. Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

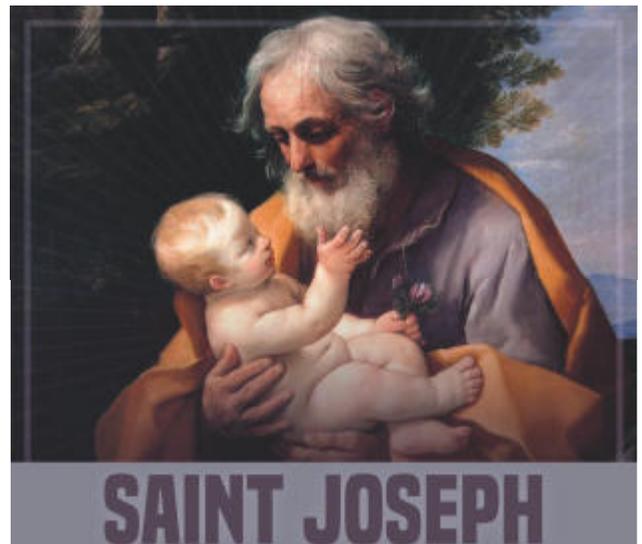
Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting so me merciful shade on the bad. As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the "snooze" button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



## The Solemnity of St. Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the holiness in the midst of unpredictable fatherhood. We first meet Joseph when he discovers his betrothed is pregnant...and not by him! St. Joseph does not know who the father is (yet), but he knows the punishment for adultery is death. He decides to divorce Mary quietly, and thus save her life. When an angel appears to reveal that Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, St. Joseph trusts his dream and marries her. As a new foster father, Joseph must help his wife give birth in a stable. Later, he needs to escape the threats to his son's life by immigrating with his family to a foreign land. We know that St. Joseph is faithful, brave, and willing to sacrifice for those he loves. On the solemnity of St. Joseph, we don't merely celebrate a carpenter. We celebrate a hero!

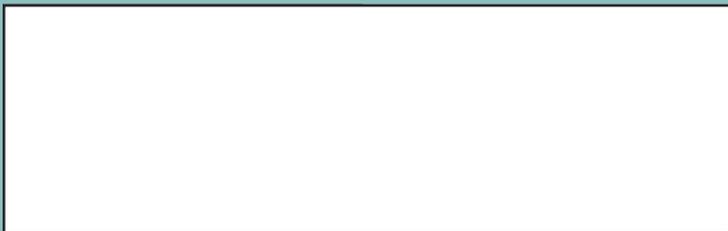


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