

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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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 28, 2021



PALM SUNDAY

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

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

Pastor:

Rev. Gregory Loughney

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Jaime Perez-Restrepo

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

Call or email to contact us.

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

3/29	8:15am	For the People	The Pastor
3/30	8:15am	For the People	The Pastor
3/31	8:15am	For the People	The Pastor
	7:00pm	For the People	The Pastor
4/1	7:00pm	Hayden Gomez	The James Family
4/2	3:00pm	Good Friday Service	
4/3	8:00pm	For the People	The Pastor
4/4	8:00am	Novena	
	10:30am	Novena	
	12:00pm	Novena	



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 1st:

Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00 p.m. at Worship Space

Friday, April 2nd:

Good Friday Service at 3:00 p.m. at Worship Space

Saturday, April 3rd:

Blessing of Easter Baskets at 12noon at MMC Parking Lot

Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 p.m. at Worship Space

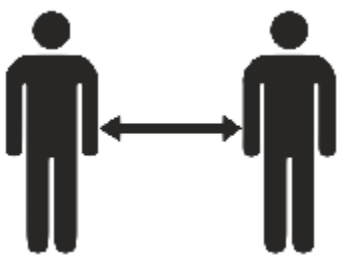
Sunday, April 4th:

Easter Masses at 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. at Worship Space

No reservations necessary for Holy Week or Easter
Socially Distanced Seating is Setup

Safety Measures when Attending Mass

**6 ft
Safe, Social
Distancing**



**Masks On
Covering Nose
and Mouth**



**Sanitize Hands
before
Communion**



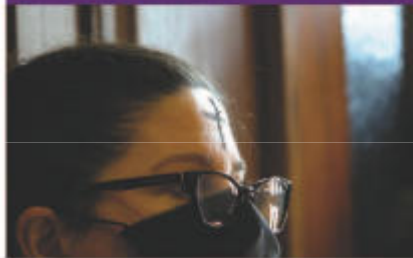
Please Consider Donating Portion of Your Stimulus Check



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.

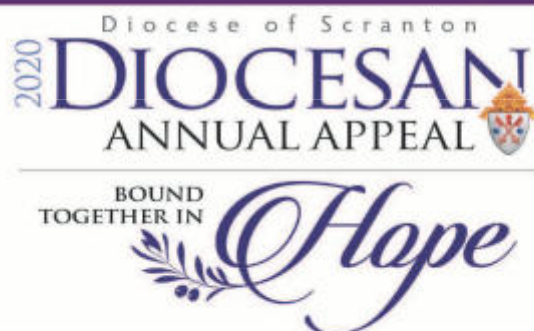
Work is continuing at the Msgr. McHugh Center and in areas connected to our worship space. As a parish, we have taken on the work in multiple areas to reduce costs. We have also relied upon and are most thankful to the volunteers who help in some many ways thus eliminating some labor costs. Nevertheless, 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...”

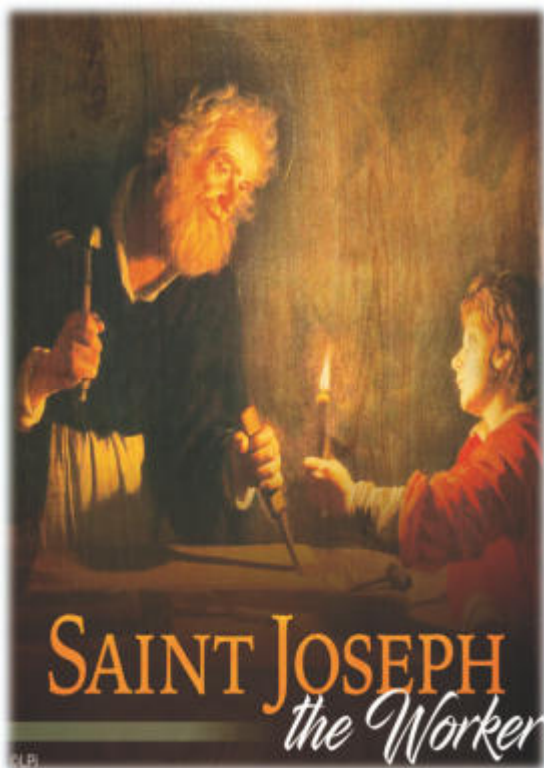


-Pope Francis' 2021
Lenten Message

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



To donate, visit AnnualAppeal.org
or call (570) 207-2250



Prayer to St. Joseph for our Building Project

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.

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!

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced;
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)



PSALM

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
(Ps 22)



SECOND READING

Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness; (Phil 2:7)



GOSPEL

They clothed him in purple and,
weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him.
They began to salute him with,
"Hail, King of the Jews!"
and kept striking his head with a reed and
spitting upon him. (Mk 15:17-19)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?

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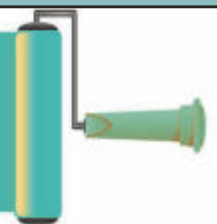
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