



HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Hudson and Germantown, New York
429 E. Allen St. P. O. Box 323 Hudson, NY 12534

February 4, 2018

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A religious painting depicting Jesus Christ with his arms outstretched, standing in the center of a crowd of people. He has a halo with the letters 'O', 'W', and 'H'. The background shows a village with white buildings and a mountain range under a blue sky. The painting is framed by a dark red border.

**5th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." - Mk 1:38

REV. ANTHONY BARRATT
Pastor

DEACON RICHARD WASHBURN
Deacon

REV. WINSTON BATH
Pastor Emeritus

HELLO AGAIN TO HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Can you believe that it was just about a year ago that the official announcement could finally be made that I was coming to Holy Trinity parish as the new pastor. It is certainly hard to believe how quickly the year has gone by. The first year in a new parish is always exciting, but it can be challenging too. There is the very important task of getting to know the community and of them getting to know the new pastor too. I often think that a new pastor needs to go back to school to study such things as biology (the “DNA” of the parish...what makes it tick), geography (just finding one’s way around the new area), the history of the parish (how we got to where we are today) and, perhaps, even politics (in terms of important dynamics and yes, even tensions, that are part and parcel of all human relationships). With all this in mind, I thought that it might be a good idea to reflect on things one year on and to look to the future too.

The following was written in the introduction (“Hello Holy Trinity Parish”) last year and I feel that it has been part of our journey this first year and that it is still true and relevant...

“People often ask about a vision of priestly service and priesthood. I would see the priest/pastor as above all a spiritual leader. He is a *steward* of the “mysteries”: the sacraments and prayer, the Word (preaching and catechesis) and of the mystery that is each one of us (enabling people to use their many gifts well and helping them to grow in their relationship with the Lord and to share this with others). It is very much about going from maintenance to mission. So, evangelization, welcome, pastoral care, good liturgy/preaching and catechesis would be priorities.”

Hopefully, this vision can also continue to be a key part of our focus as parishioners as well as with our parish groups and committees. For example, these matters will certainly be a fundamental part of the efforts of our Parish Pastoral Council over the next few years.

In our local area, we certainly have an interesting mix of people (or, as the experts call it “demographics”). There are families who have been here for many years and also folks from New York city and elsewhere. There is no doubt that the social makeup of our area is very much in flux with all the good and the difficulties that this inevitably brings. There is certainly a great

deal of need for social outreach to those in need (those struggling financially, the lonely and the lost) and there are elephants in the room such as the toxic culture of drugs. Perhaps too there is some misunderstanding of the church itself, or maybe some people have an expectation that the church should be something that it can never be. I for one, have certainly learnt that most people are never simply *neutral* when it comes to an image of, or an opinion about the Catholic church!

Even though it was written down some 2,000 years ago and in placed in a culture quite different to our own, the Gospel this weekend speaks of a very similar situation of diversity and need and also gives us the approach that we can take. This, of course, should not surprise us for, after all, the Scriptures are the Word of God. That Word is as alive and valid and life-giving today as it was all those centuries ago. We see how Jesus confronts the many needs of the people: both of those who come crowding around the house, but additionally as he goes out to the various villages: “for this purpose I have come.” Notice too that Jesus himself also goes to a quiet place to pray: perhaps so that he can continue to be focused and effective in doing his Father’s will.

This then, as a parish community, can be our model and our purpose. Yes, most certainly to meet the needs of all those in our local and wider community: not just those who come to us or who are a visible part of our parish, but also to go out to them...to seek them out. But, for this to be effective and good and not just some sort of feverish activism with no focus or indeed root, we also need time to pray. We need to be fed by God’s Word and by the sacraments (especially the Eucharist). To be healers, we also need to be healed through the sacrament of reconciliation.

In other words, perhaps our focus as we go forward is to renew our sense of being disciples of Jesus Christ and then, in turn, to be disciple-makers: that is to bring others to encounter the Lord. Now is a great time to think about how we might do this with God’s help. How so? Well in just about ten days’ time we will begin, once again, the holy season of Lent: a time when we hope to be renewed and refreshed in our relationship with God. May it indeed be a truly blessed time for all of us and for our wider local community.



THE WEEK AHEAD

TUESDAY, February 6

■ **Adoration Committee Meeting** -
7:00 PM at St. Mary's Academy

WEDNESDAY, February 7

■ **The Gathering: 7:30 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**

THURSDAY, February 8

■ **Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. St. Mary's Academy**

FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE

Blessing of Throats

On this feast day we have a prayer for healing called "The Blessing of Throats." *In our parish, the Blessing of Throats will be celebrated after each Mass this weekend.*

Time to Bring In Your Palms

Lent will begin with our Ash Wednesday celebrations on February 14th. **Loose palms** may be left in any of the Church vestibules. **Please do not place plastic bags, rubber bands twist ties, etc. in the receptacles.** Thank you.

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GERMANTOWN

Regular Offertory Last Weekend (Jan. 21)..... \$1,660.00
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THE WORD AMONG US

The Word Among Us - February issue has something for everyone. It is available in the front vestibule for \$1.00 a copy. Keep using this valuable tool to learn and experience the power of God's Holy Word.

READINGS AND HYMNS (HUDSON)

Reading: p. 91 Opening Hymn: # 496 Closing: # 516

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY: St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr (Feb. 5)

7:15 AM Paul Donahue - Janice & Bob Pendergast
Phyllis Brabender - Rosa & Buddy Pfeil

TUESDAY: St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs (Feb. 6)

7:15 AM Robert Kurtz - Joanne Walker
Paul Donahue - Rosa & Buddy Pfeil

WEDNESDAY: Weekday (Feb. 7)

7:15 AM Paul Donahue - Sally & Bill Hotaling
John Yaroschuck - Daughter & Son

THURSDAY: Weekday (Feb. 8)

7:15 AM Paul Donahue - Edward & Lynn Pawluk
Lewis Rubino - Janice Clow & Family

FRIDAY: Weekday (Feb. 9)

7:15 AM Veronica Simmons - Teresa Riegle
Paul Donahue - Joanne Walker

9:00 AM Vocations to the Priesthood
(G'TWN)

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: (Feb. 10)

4:00 PM Gail Marie Gabriele - Ron & Arlene Gabriele
(HUD) Josephine Wisniak (daughter) - Marlene & Charles

Polisky

Mr. & Mrs. Reginald Grener - Daughter, Val

5:30 PM For the Living and Deceased of the Parish
(G'TWN)

SUNDAY MORNING MASS: (Feb. 11)

9:00 AM Thomas C. Quigley & MaryLou Bujanow - Family
(HUD) George & Virginia Gardner - Family
Donna Lynn Scalera - David Dolan
11:00 AM Lewis Rubino - Karen & David Pollack

Readings for the Week of February 4

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor
9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10,
11 [2]
/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk
7:14-23
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and
40 [4a]
/Mk 7:24-30
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15
[11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-
22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10

**Never allow yourself to be defined by some-
one else's opinion of you..**

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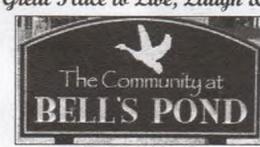
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