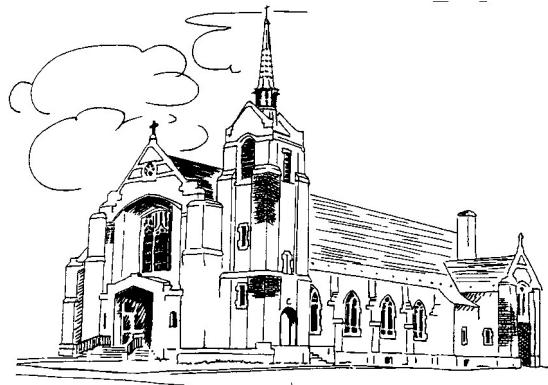


Church of the Holy Spirit



151 South Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078

Holy Trinity Church



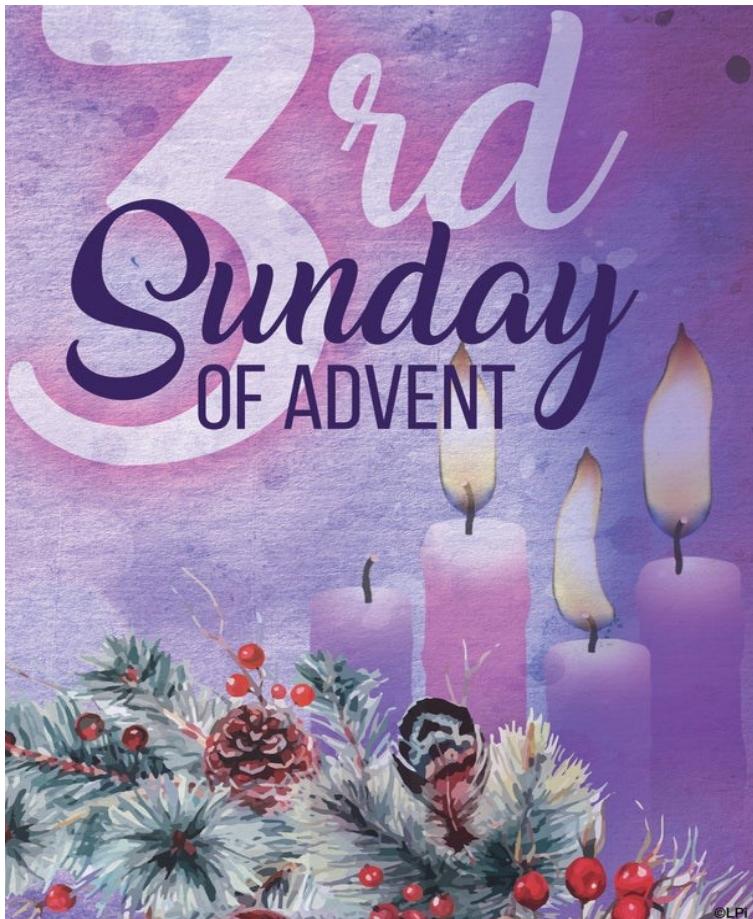
22 E. Clinton Street, Johnstown, NY 12095

Offices for Church of the Holy Spirit and Holy Trinity Church are located at 153 South Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078
Phone: 518-725-3143 ~ Fax: 518-725-7245

Rectory: 205 Glebe Street, Johnstown, NY 12095 Rectory Phone: 518-762-2011
Church of the Holy Spirit Email: HSGlover@rcda.org Holy Trinity Email: HTJohnst@rcda.org
Church of the Holy Spirit website: www.HolySpirit12078.org
Holy Trinity website: <https://parishes.rcda.org/HolyTrinityJohnstown/>

**OFFICE HOURS : Monday - Thursday 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
(Closed 12:00-P.M.-1:00 P.M. for lunch)**

*Rev. Matthew Wetsel, Pastor
Matthew.Wetsel@rcda.org
Priest Residence Phone 518-762-2011 ext. 2
Rev. Donald Czelusniak, Pastor Emeritus*



LINKED PARISH STAFF

Liz Anderson, Office Manager
Michele Miller, Administrative Assistant
Ann Simonson, Faith Formation Coordinator
Adam Valachovic, Buildings & Grounds
Tricia Tauss, Office Assistant

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

David Connolly, Cemetery Director, Mt. Carmel Cemetery
Rich Nigro & Mike Nichols, Trustees

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 P.M.
Sunday - 11:30 A.M.
Daily Mass - Thursday & Friday 8:30 A.M.

HOLY TRINITY

Michael Van Valkenburgh, Buildings & Grounds
John Sefcovic, Cemetery Caretaker-St. Anthony's Cemetery
Concetta Sager & Greg Heroth, Trustees

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday - 9:00 A.M.
Daily Mass - Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 A.M.

LINKED PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

“Inspired by the words of Holy Scripture and committed to serving others with love, our communities are called to be a light to the world.”

BAPTISM: First time parents are required to receive instructions. Call parish offices.

RECONCILIATION: 2:15 P.M. Saturday at Holy Spirit *AND* First Thursday of the Month following devotions, alternating monthly between parishes.

MATRIMONY: Pre-Cana is expected. Call parish offices at least six months in advance.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA): Call the Parish Offices.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: If you are planning a surgery, ask one of our priests to celebrate the Sacrament after one of our weekend or daily Masses. Seriously ill or home bound should call the office. If you or a loved one are sick and not able to attend Mass, please make sure to call the parish office (the number is listed on the front of the bulletin) to let the office and Father Matt know so we can reach out as soon as possible.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: At The Church of the Holy Spirit.

CEMETERIES: Call parish offices.

MOTHER TERESA'S CLOSET: Monthly distribution of personal care items available at Holy Trinity Parish.

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT: Items are available, free of charge, at Holy Trinity Parish for those in need.

**THURSDAY DEVOTIONS:
3:00 P.M. -3:30 P.M.**

In December the Thursday Devotions will be at Holy Trinity Church, Johnstown with the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the presence of the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Prayer to Our Lady Undoer of Knots, Prayer for Vocations, Benediction, Divine Praise and closing prayer.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 8:30 A.M.

Tuesday & Wednesday at Holy Trinity, Johnstown Thursday & Friday at Holy Spirit, Gloversville.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS: 8:30 A.M.

Sites will alternate to coincide with the Thursday Devotions.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Call the office to leave your name and phone number. Meeting times and location to be determined by the group.

PROJECT RACHEL: Call the 24/7 confidential help line at 518-312-3825 if you are hurting from an abortion. Men and women can find healing. Email rachelsvineyardalbany@yahoo.com.

As Catholics, our mission is clear—we are called upon to share our faith as disciples ourselves and disciple-makers as Jesus preached: “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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded of you.” (Matthew 28:19-20) Since each parish and the Diocese are partners in this work, robust support of parish offertory and the Diocesan Appeal ensures the Church has the resources it needs to carry out its mission.

Third Sunday of Advent

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this? As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: “What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?” (Matthew 11:7). He’s not just describing the crowd’s mis-aimed pursuit. He’s naming our tendency to chase after what’s flashy but flimsy. What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can’t satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds? John the Baptist wasn’t a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real. This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— Father John Muir

Mother Teresa's Closet

Like everyone, Mother Teresa's Closet is feeling the effect of increased prices for many of the items that we keep stocked in the ‘closet’ – basic necessities for personal hygiene and cleaning supplies. We are very fortunate and grateful for our volunteers, the donors in our linked parishes and the Helper’s Community store support in making our ministry to the needy a success. We have over 200 people registered for help with an average of 80 recipients attending each distribution on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Monetary donations can be made in honor of loved ones to continue to support this ministry. You may place a donation in the offertory or mail to the Parish office. Make checks payable to Holy Trinity Parish, with MTC in the memo line.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24



Budgeted Expenses for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 are \$372,971.00. The average weekly collections needed to meet our expenses (including income from other sources is \$7,172.52.) Thank you for your continued support.

| Collection | 11/30/25 |
|--------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$3,511.00 |
| Loose | \$890.00 |
| Online | \$503.00 |
| Total Weekly | \$4,904.00 |
| Other | \$1,686.00 |
| Total Income | \$6,590.00 |

Attendance 4:00 P.M. 124 11:30 A.M. 99

| Collection | 11/30/25 |
|--------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$1,399.00 |
| Loose | \$280.00 |
| Online | \$0.00 |
| Total Weekly | \$1,679.00 |
| Other | \$15.00 |
| Total Income | \$1,694.00 |

Attendance 9:00 A.M. 143

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 21, 2025

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

| | <u>LECTOR</u> | <u>MINISTER</u> |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 4:00 P.M. | Mark Amico | Brian Farley (H) Rita Bravo (H) Mary Buchanan (C) Andy LaPorta (C) |
| 11:30 A.M. | Jamin Clemente | Roland O'Brien-Bills (H) Cindy Kollar (C) Sandy Brower (C) |

Help Needed: We will begin decorating for Christmas at Church of the Holy Spirit following the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, December 21st. Anyone wishing to help is more than welcome to join us!

Jubilee Year 2025 : You are encouraged to check out the diocesan pages dedicated to the

Jubilee <https://www.rcda.org/jubilee-2025>

There is a wealth of resources to be discovered from our diocese as well as from the USCCB

The Giving Tree Tags with Gifts from Holy Spirit Church need to be returned no later than December 15th. Thank you to everyone who took a tag to purchase a gift.

Prayer for Advent – New Growth

Dear God,

Bring new life! Your love creates and cultivates. Bring Your power into the places I think of as “deserts” and your grace to the prayers I fear may be “deserted.” You can redeem and restore, bring a new song to my heart. Amen.

HOLY TRINITY PARISH

| | <u>LECTOR</u> | <u>MINISTER</u> |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| 9:00 A.M. | John Sagan | Chris Nunn Crane (H) Gerard McAuliffe (C) Karen Nellis (C) |

Wells House/Pineview Commons December 14—Donna Calhoun and Jane Sitterly

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24th: 2:00 pm Holy Spirit

Wednesday, December 24th: 4:00 pm at Holy Trinity

Wednesday, December 24th: 8:00 pm at Holy Spirit

Thursday, December 25th: 9:00 am at Holy Trinity

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31st: 4:00 pm at Holy Spirit

Thursday, January 1st: 9:00 am at Holy Trinity

Adoration webpage <https://www.rcda.org/adoration> This page includes a Guide to Eucharistic Adoration, a link to Adoration Hours across our diocese, and information on the many blessings that come from spending time adoring our Lord in the Eucharist.



Welcome to Adoration of Our Lord

Everyone is invited to come and visit Jesus in the Adoration Chapel at anytime.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel at Holy Spirit.

JESUS WAITS FOR US. If you are interested in becoming an Adorer or a substitute, please call Ann: 518-725-5989 or Cindy: 518-725-3532. Thank you for your continued support.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HOLY TRINITY PARISH FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

Ann Simonson, Faith Formation Coordinator
email: holyspirit12078@gmail.com

December 28th: No Classes. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

January 18th: Youth Mass for grades K-10 at Holy Trinity in Johnstown at 9:00 am. Confirmation Candidates will be blessed at this Mass. Parents and Sponsors are encouraged to come!

2025/2026 DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT

Holy Spirit

Diocesan Assessment \$16,598.00
Gifts/Pledges \$8,270.00
Balance \$8,328.00

Holy Trinity

Diocesan Assessment \$24,340.00
Gifts/Pledges \$6,812.00
Balance \$17,528.00

Saints or Sinners?

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect! Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert! Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

©LPI

If you are unable to get to Mass and would like to receive Communion or if you know of anyone who would like to receive, please call the Parish office with your contact information so we can arrange for one of our Eucharistic Ministers to bring Communion to you.

Parish Office Holiday Schedule

The Parish Office will be closed **December 24th through the 28th** for Christmas and also **December 31st through January 4th** for New Year.

Extended Hours for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 17th 2pm to 7pm at Holy Trinity Church. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for quiet prayer in the church. Fr. Matt will be available for confessions in the front pew of the church.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

Please follow the dates listed below when submitting **announcements** to be in the bulletin. Announcements need to be in the office no later than noon on the dates listed below.

BULLETIN:

DEADLINE:

DECEMBER 28TH

**DECEMBER 17TH
NO LATER THAN
10AM**

JANUARY 4TH

**DECEMBER 22ND
NO LATER THAN
10AM**

We have an **email prayer line**: all prayer intentions are confidential and prayed for by many prayer warriors. All are welcome to join and or send petitions to: lily.fiorenza@gmail.com or by phone 518-829-4079.



HELPERS COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE:

We are always in need of volunteers to help sort donations, take a shift at the store, or become a substitute. Our new location at 53 S. Main St. is air conditioned! Call Richard at 518-736-1558

Church of the Holy Spirit & Holy Trinity Catholic Church



HOLY SPIRIT MASS INTENTIONS WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

| | |
|------------------|---|
| SAT. 4:00 P.M. | SALVATORE LANDRIO (15TH ANN) REQUESTED BY CHILDREN TIM ARMSTRONG REQUESTED BY JIM AND SHARON HILLIER CAROLYN TIERNEY REQUESTED BY BARBARA RIETH JOHN GULICK REQUESTED BY DAVE AND SANDY & TIM AND SHARON |
| SUN. 11:30 A.M. | OWEN FARHART REQUESTED BY FAMILY DON AMBROSINO REQUESTED BY CEMETERY COMMITTEE |
| MON. | NO MASS |
| TUES. 8:30 A.M. | MASS AT HOLY TRINITY |
| WED. 8:30 A.M. | MASS AT HOLY TRINITY |
| THURS. 8:30 A.M. | BETTY YAWMAN REQUESTED BY MELISSA AND MELINDA |
| FRI. 8:30 A.M. | FOR THE PEOPLE |
| SAT. 4:00 P.M. | HUGO AND HELEN ORLOFF REQUESTED BY A FRIEND JOHN F. FOLEY REQUESTED BY LOVING TWIN SISTER AND POLLAK FAM. ALEXANDER COLLAR JR. REQUESTED BY CAROL AND KIM COLLAR TIM ARMSTRONG REQUESTED BY COOKIE AND DON FLEISCHUT |
| SUN. 11:30 A.M. | CAROLE CRANE REQUESTED BY FAMILY DON AMBROSINO REQUESTED BY CEMETERY COMMITTEE GERTHA ESTELLE KAMPER O'BRIEN REQUESTED BY ROLAND AND GRETCHEN O'BRIEN-BILLS PATRICIA SCAFARIELLO REQUESTED BY HUSBAND AND DAUGHTER |

Sanctuary Candle for December 13—December 26 is in Memory of Rita Bacon by Family.



There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

| | |
|------------------|--|
| SUN. 9:00 A.M. | BERNIE LANDRIO REQUESTED BY DIANE BRADSHAW HELEN CASTELLANO REQUESTED BY MARY AND BERNIE ANNA LANDRIO REQUESTED BY MARY AND BERNIE KRISSEY SCHWARTZ (14TH ANN) REQUESTED BY DAD |
| MON. | NO MASS |
| TUES. 8:30 A.M. | FOR THE PEOPLE |
| WED. 8:30 A.M. | GLENN ADELMAN REQUESTED BY FAMILY |
| THURS. 8:30 A.M. | MASS AT HOLY SPIRIT |
| FRI. 8:30 A.M. | MASS AT HOLY SPIRIT |
| SUN. 9:00 A.M. | TIMOTHY WALSH REQUESTED BY JIM AND SHARON HILLIER SUSAN STOKES REQUESTED BY FAMILY SISTER MARIE AGATHE REQUESTED BY ISABELLE WARNER PAT O'LUCCI REQUESTED BY SANDY YACOBUCCI MICHELE TRAVIS REQUESTED BY COLE FAMILY |



Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are available at Holy Trinity Church. They are located at both entrances of the Church and also available at the Parish Office. The cost is \$1.00 per package.

EWTN INSPIRED PRAYER MOMENT

Holy Mother please grant me the grace of holy remembrance that I may always recall the price Christ paid for my salvation.



Please remember in your prayers all those members of our parish family who are sick or suffering. All those in hospitals & nursing homes and all of our homebound. We pray for all those who have died recently. Remember the men and women serving in the armed forces and their families along with all first responders, & health care workers.