

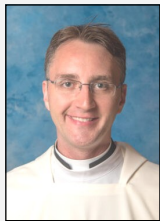


Blessed Trinity Parish

Roman Catholic Church

Greenfield, Massachusetts

Thoughts from the Pastor's Desk ...



Dear friends of Blessed Trinity,

Merry & Blessed Christmas!

With festive gathering and the glint of sparkling snow, I am most grateful to greet and welcome you on this joyous Christmas day! We have prepared together in anticipation with budding hope and now the day has come. This moment can be because each previous moment has been.

As we consider what this year of 2025 has been, there are certainly incredible moments we have all shared together and still more occasions that have marked us individually. Such is the mystery of family life that is the Church!

I think of April and May this year as we received the final Easter blessings of Pope Francis and soon after mourned his death. With gratitude to God for his ministry and service, we prayed for the next successor of St. Peter. Lo, God gave the world a new gift in the person of **Pope Leo XIV** and he comes from our American homeland! Conventional wisdom blares that no such thing would have been, but God speaks ever-new and mysterious!

Similarly, God gave us the gift of a new priest in our Diocese of Springfield here. After five years without a single priestly ordination, how blessed we are to have **Fr. John Williams** join the ranks of our local priestly shepherds. How much more a gift that Fr. Williams's first pastoral assignment is with all of us here at Blessed Trinity Parish! Where once there was a desert of priestly vocations, let us continue to pray for a flourishing of hearty responses to God's call to serve His people, especially in sacerdotal ministry.

This can be realized as we foster our shared mission

in Christian witness and the proclamation of hope in Christ. Most certainly in the amazing work of our many volunteers and staff, but likewise in the tenderness of our homes and the care of our children.

How thoroughly blessed and honored I pray you and all recognize us to be as we opened our **Beacon of Light Catholic Pre-School**. After deliberate preparation and persistent seeking, we are fulfilling the command to



teach and engage the Gospel call of Jesus. With our educators and students, even just 3 and 4 years old, we are sharing the joy of new life and trust in God's provident care. May He be ever praised!

This Christmas I pray that you give thanks for all that 2025 has gifted us in Heaven's grace. All the more I pray that you will recognize a God who seeks to enter the human story with His blessing. Through the humble and trusting participation of those who trust His will, just imagine what life and goodness can be given birth, just as once happened before the blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and humble shepherds in a Bethlehem manger.

With thoughtful reflection on what has been and eager consideration of what can be, I wish you and all your loved ones a most blessed Christmas and grace-filled New Year!

Most Holy Trinity, I adore You!

My God, I love you in the Most Blessed Sacrament!

Fr. Pierz



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Beacon of Light Preschool



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Pastoral Ministry to the Sick & Homebound. *Serving our Nursing Homes, Hospital, & Homebound*

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"Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love".

-Saint Teresa of Calcutta

A Christmas Gift from Jesus:

Jesus gave his followers the gift of wisdom in stewardship and care of God the Father's many gifts. How can we feel provided for by God and not worry about our resources? His answer: Give generously. He told His followers, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38)

God does not just give gifts at Christmas. Every physical and spiritual gift we have in this life comes from God. In return, He asks us to trust Him. In the Bible we learn of tithing, to give the first 10% of our income (a tithe) to Church and charity, to share in His Work in the world.

If we do so, He says our hearts will be free, and He will meet our needs: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.'" (Malachi 3:10)

This Christmas and in the coming year why not respond to God in faith? Practice generosity with the first 10% of your income, *whatever that may be*, and see if He upholds His promise – supplying your needs and deepening your experience of His grace. *Merry Christmas!* **- A faithful parishioner**



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