

Rev. Matthew B. Wetsel

Holy Trinity Church
205 Glebe Street
Johnstown, New York 12095
518 762 2011, extension 2
Matthew.Wetsel@rcda.org

Church of the Holy Spirit
153 S. Main Street
Gloversville, New York 12078
518 725 3143
Matthew.Wetsel@rcda.org

January 31st, 2024

Dear Parishioners & Friends of Holy Trinity Church and Church of the Holy Spirit:

Lenten greetings to you! I hope that this letter finds you and your loved ones filled with the joy and peace that Christ alone can give.

I am sending this letter to you for several reasons. The first is to let you know that I am so grateful and appreciative of your continued generosity in supporting your parishes with your prayers and fiscal gifts.

Simply stated, we would be in a much different state without your consistent help. Thank you!

On a related note, I want to let you know about the upcoming liturgies and prayer services that will be offered at our parishes during the season of Lent. We will be able to offer extended hours for confession, there will be free copies of Bishop Robert Barron's Lent 2024 book available at both parishes for your spiritual enrichment, weekly stations of the cross at both parishes, and our usual weekend and Holy Week liturgies for our nourishment.

Ash Wednesday

Ashes will be distributed within the context of Mass on Wednesday, February 14th at 8:30 am at Holy Trinity, 12:10 pm at Holy Spirit, and 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity.

Free Book Give-Away

Bishop Robert Barron's 2024 Lenten guide, "Lenten Gospel Reflections 2024", will be available for free beginning on Ash Wednesday at both of our parishes. The book contains the daily gospel readings for the season of Lent as well as reflection questions and space for journaling.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions are offered every Saturday afternoon at Church of the Holy Spirit from 2:15 pm – 3:45 pm. They are also offered following the First Saturday Mass that rotates locations each month (including the Saturday, March 2nd 8:30 am Mass at Holy Spirit). A period of extended confessions will also be offered on Thursday, March 21st from 2 pm – 7 pm at Holy Trinity in the church with the Blessed Sacrament exposed for prayer. If you would prefer to make an appointment to see me privately, please call the Holy Trinity rectory at 518 762 2011, extension 2 and I would be happy to help make accommodations.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are offered every Friday during Lent at 12:10 pm at Church of the Holy Spirit and at 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church. Pizza and a movie will follow in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall after the 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross in the Holy Trinity Church. Note: There will be stations of the cross on Good Friday at 12:10 pm at Holy Spirit but there won't be stations at 5:30 pm on Good Friday at Holy Trinity due to the Evening Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.

Holy Week

Holy Thursday Mass will be offered on Thursday, March 28th at 5:30 pm at Holy Spirit. The Good Friday Evening Liturgy will be offered on Friday, March 29th at 5:30 pm at Holy Spirit. The Easter Vigil Mass will be offered on Saturday, March 30th at 8:00 pm at Holy Trinity. Easter Sunday Masses will all be offered at their normal Sunday times (9 am at Holy Trinity, 11:30 am at Holy Spirit). All of the Holy Week liturgies will be streamed on the corresponding parish Facebook page (see the livestreaming update below for more details).

Livestreaming

As you may or may not know, all of the weekend Masses are livestreamed via Facebook on the respective parish Facebook page. The Saturday, 4 pm Vigil Mass is also available for on demand viewing on my YouTube page the day after.

To watch a Mass as it is being offered live, simply log on to the respective parish Facebook page when the Mass begins (for instance, log on to the Holy Spirit Gloversville Facebook page at 4 pm on Saturday afternoons) and look for the “live video” icon to appear. Click on the icon. If you prefer to watch a Mass on YouTube instead, the 4 pm Vigil is normally uploaded for viewing anytime on Sunday morning. When you log on to YouTube, search “Matt Wetsel” in the search bar. My page icon will appear. Click on the icon and you will find a library of on demand Masses labeled accordingly. If you subscribe to my YouTube channel, the Masses should automatically appear in your YouTube news feed. As a reminder, the Masses are Saturday, 4 pm Holy Spirit, Sunday, 9 am Holy Trinity, and Sunday 11:30 am Holy Spirit.

Thank you again for all that you do! I wish you a most blessed Lent!

Peace,

Rev. Matthew Wetsel

Fr. Matt Wetsel