

Rev. Matthew B. Wetsel

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January 31st, 2023

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 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. I am grateful to be able to celebrate Holy Week and Easter with all of you. Likewise, we will be able to offer extended hours for confession, a mini retreat, weekly stations of the cross at both parishes, and our usual weekend liturgies for our spiritual nourishment.

Ash Wednesday

Ashes will be distributed within the context of Mass on Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:30 am at Holy Trinity, 12:10 pm at Holy Spirit, and 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity.

Mini Retreat

The mini retreat will take place on **Saturday, March 25th 2022 from 9 am until approximately 10 am** at Church of the Holy Spirit. It will take the form of a Saturday morning Mass with a conference-style homily. The theme of the retreat will be announced in the near future.

If you cannot attend the retreat in person, you can follow the livestream on Zoom with the following log-in information:

ID: 740 737 2043

Passcode: MBW313

I will also have the recording available on demand on Zoom through the remainder of the Season of Lent. I will post the link to the archived recording to the parish websites and facebook pages as soon as possible after the retreat.

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 4th 8:30 am Mass at Holy Spirit and the Saturday, April 1st 8:30 am Mass at Holy Trinity). A period of extended confessions will also be offered on Thursday, March 16th from 2 pm – 7 pm at Holy Spirit in the reconciliation chapel. 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 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity Church (with the exception of Good Friday stations which will be offered at 3 pm at Holy Trinity on Friday, April 7th). Snacks 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.

Holy Week

Holy Thursday Mass will be offered on Thursday, April 6th at 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity. The Good Friday Service will be offered on Friday, April 7th at 5:30 pm at Holy Trinity. The Easter Vigil Mass will be offered on Saturday, April 8th at 8:00 pm at Holy Spirit. Easter Sunday Masses will all be offered at their normal Sunday times (8 am and 10 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 4 pm Holy Spirit, 8 am and 10 am Holy Trinity, and 11:30 am Holy Spirit.

Thank you again for your generosity! I wish you a most blessed Lent!

Peace,

Rev. Matthew Wetsel

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