

Spring/Summer 2021



# Holy Trinity

## Herald Tribune

Dear families and friends of Holy Trinity Catholic Church,

It is with great joy that I again get to write a welcome message for the front cover of a Holy Trinity Herald Tribune! Many thanks to Paul Resch, Mickey Willy, and everyone else who has contributed to renewing this beautiful parish tradition. The Herald Tribune suffered a three-year lapse after the passing of Ed Wickenheiser, former editor of the HTHT—and so it is appropriate that his name nobly grace the front page of this publication he dedicated so much energy to.

Of course, the world of three years ago, when the last edition was released, could not have predicted the world we know today. Common phrases today like “social distancing” and “where’s my mask?” are things we’re still getting used to, even over a year into this COVID-19 world. But our parish persevered through the 1919 Spanish Flu virus just as it will persevere through the 2019 COVID-19 virus. We persevered through the social tensions of the 1960’s and ‘70’s as we will persevere through the social tensions of the present. We treasure and nurture our relationship with God, with his holy Church, and with the other members of his Church: our beloved friends and families.

As we yearn for the end of virus-mitigation restrictions, many are yearning for a “return to normal.” In some ways, that will be nice, comfortable, and familiar. But we can also hope that the new normal is even better than the way it was before. Our greetings and embraces will be more heartfelt. Seeing others smile will be more joyful. Being with those again, especially in nursing homes, who have been isolated, and whom we have been separated from, will be a strengthening and appreciation of those relationships as we took for granted before. Maybe that’s our lesson from this: maybe we took too much for granted. As we look forward in hope to the relaxation of the present restrictions, let us look forward to making the most of the opportunity. Let us choose more generously to serve as His instruments of peace, of love, of pardon, of faith, of hope, of light, of joy.

We hope you enjoy the revival of the Holy Trinity Herald Tribune, reading through our recent parish highlights, and being part of the history of our beloved parish family.

With prayers and blessings,  
Fr. Stephen Kelley, pastor

# Deacon Henry Reese answers call to serve

Think about what you could accomplish in five years. Earn a double-major bachelor's degree? Payoff a car loan? Build the Colosseum in Rome? Complete the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program for the Diocese of Harrisburg? That's exactly what lifelong Holy Trinity parish member Henry Reese achieved!

Henry was among 35 men who were ordained to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate on September 12 at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Harrisburg. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer was the principal celebrant, assisted by numerous Diocesan priests and deacons. Father Stephen P. Kelley, concelebrated the Ordination Mass with Bishop Gainer. Because only a limited number of family members was permitted to attend, parishioners, family and friends gathered in the Holy Trinity Parish Center to view the live presentation of the Mass.

On September 13, Deacon Henry officially served at the altar and preached his first Gospel message at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity. Through the generous donation of an anonymous parishioner, Deacon Henry's wife, Claudia, and daughter, Victoria, presented him with a beautiful set of liturgical vestments with a matching set for Father Kelley. The Mass was filled with family, friends and parishioners.

Following the Mass, various parish organizations held a celebration in honor of Deacon Henry on the grounds of Our Lady of the Angels School. Many were on hand to celebrate with Deacon Henry and congratulate him for his dedication and commitment to service for the Church, Parish and Diocese.

Deacon Henry is the son of the late Charles L. and Gloria J. Reese and sibling of Betty Jean Mahan, Regina Watkins, Mary Barninger and Charles L. Reese, Jr. Deacon Henry credits his commitment to faith, family and service to the life example of his dear mother. This model inspired and directed Deacon Henry to do the same.

At a young age, Deacon Henry felt God might have called him to a vocation of service to the Church, but life took him down a different path. He became an altar server in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and after completing 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Holy Trinity School, he attended Columbia High School, graduating in 1986.

Through God's grace, circumstances would have it that Deacon Henry would be offered employment with Texas Eastern Transmission Corp. It was during this time, that Deacon Henry met his wife, Claudia, and her daughter, Brittany. They began a meaningful relationship and were married at Holy Trinity on April 18, 1998.

The diaconate is an order of the Catholic clergy and is open to married and single men. The permanent deacon is a member of the Church's hierarchy, who is configured to Christ the Servant through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. As ordained ministers of the Church, deacons perform a variety of roles. During Mass, as ministers of the Word, they can proclaim the Gospel, preach and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of the Altar, deacons can baptize, lead the faithful in prayer, witness marriages and conduct wake and funeral services.



**Bishop Ronald W. Gainer ordains Henry Reese as a Permanent Deacon.**



**Deacon Henry and his wife, Claudia, are the proud parents of Brittany, Victoria, Hannah and Andrew and grandparents to Jaxson, Charlotte and Kenneth.**

# Welcome to our parish family

On Holy Saturday, April 3, eight men and women received the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil to officially become members of the Body of Christ. We welcome the following parishioners who have joined our parish family through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and ask you to remember them in your prayers.



Jasmine Preston



Aaron Alfonseca



Jerry Brown



Chrissy Anderson



Sharon Pennell



Cody Zook



George Bish, Jr.



Dave Anderson

## Coming Soon

### FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

The Parish Revitalization Task Force is planning a Big Cash Raffle.

Winning tickets will be drawn on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets will be mailed to all registered parishioners and will also be available at the rectory. Watch for more details!

**Holy Trinity**  
**CHICKEN**

**BAR-B-QUE**

**May 8 th**  
**11am-2:00pm**

**Donation: \$8.00**  
*Picnic Pack Includes:*  
*1/2 chicken, a treat, bag of chips & drink*

**Half Chicken Only: \$6.00**

For tickets call:  
Rectory Office 684-2711 (8am-4pm) or Regina Fisher (684-4248)  
Anyone who wants to sell additional tickets call Regina Fisher (684-4248)

**Easy drive through pick-up**  
Columbia Boro. Fire Dept 10th & Manor St. Columbia

Prepared by: Formerly Susquehanna Fire & Rescue Co. #4



# Be Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit

We congratulate the following young men and ladies from our parish who were confirmed at Holy Trinity on February 20:

Drew Bennett  
Steven Fontanez  
Nikolaus Schoelkoph  
Brandon Day  
Noah Horn  
Cieran Stehman  
Sydney Droege  
Derek Irwin  
Clayton Ruth  
Olivia Edmond  
Brianna Nikolaus  
Breanna Young  
Maria Fontanez

The confirmation class included five students from Our Lady of the Angels School, seven religious education students and one home schooled student. Catechists were Mrs. Karen Fischer and Mrs. Regina Fisher. The candidates were formally enrolled and presented to the members of our parish on January 23 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

Bishop Ronald W. Gainer celebrated the Confirmation Mass. Father Stephen P. Kelley served as concelebrant. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, most parishes held their own Confirmation ceremonies this year. Holy



**Bishop Ronald W. Gainer speaks to the Confirmation class about their preparedness for the reception of the final Sacrament of Initiation.**

Trinity was blessed that Bishop Gainer chose our parish as one of approximately 20 he visited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Bishop Gainer met with the class in the Parish Center for about an hour prior to the Mass, answering their questions and asking them about their patron saints. He shared that his favorite saint is St. Thomas More, a lawyer, author and statesman who lost his life opposing King Henry VIII's plan to subordinate the Church to the English monarchy.



**Front: Brianna Nikolaus, Brandon Day, Sydney Droege, Derek Irwin, Cieran Stehman, Maria Fontanez. Back: Breanna Young, Clayton Ruth, Nikolaus Schoelkoph, Drew Bennett, Olivia Edmond, Noah Horn, Steven Fontanez.**

## OLA & Religious Ed students send St. Joseph cards to parishioners

This winter, students at Our Lady of the Angels School and Religious Education students sent hand-colored cards of encouragement to 80 parishioners with a special message in the Year of St. Joseph.

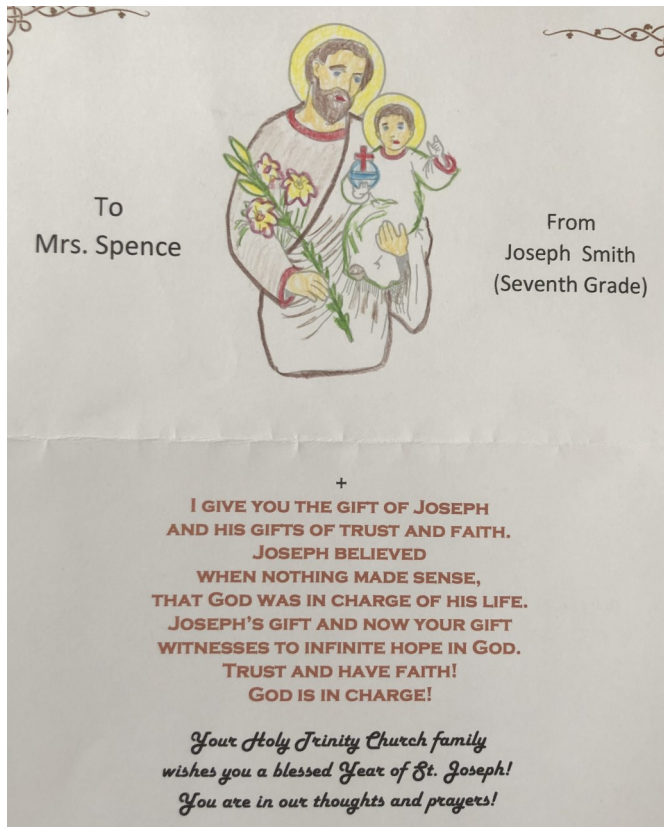
Ben Grab, one of the leaders of our parish Youth Ministry, designed the card with images that are symbols of the virtues possessed by Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus and patron of the Catholic Church. They included a lily, a carpenter's square, a dove and a tender image of St. Joseph and the Christ child.

Sister Anna Cosgrave, who assisted with the project, said she received numerous thank you notes and messages from those who received the cards. Many asked her to relay heartfelt messages of thanks to the students who colored their cards.

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2021 as a special "Year of St. Joseph." The Holy Father wrote his Apostolic Letter titled *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble St. Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

At the conclusion of his Apostolic Letter, the Holy Father includes a prayer to St. Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*



*To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.  
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and  
courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



# Holy Trinity men gather to watch conference

Men from Holy Trinity and St. Peter's gathered on March 20 at the St. Peter's Parish Center to watch the Diocese of Harrisburg men's conference. The in-person viewing was hosted by the Holy Name societies of Holy Trinity and St. Peter parishes and the That Man Is You! men's group. The theme for the conference was Catholic Men: Defenders of the Faith.



Front: Aaron Alfonseca, Tony DeLeon, Paul Resch, Paul Nikolaus, Ben Grab. Back: Dave Anderson, Bernie Wolgemuth, Jr., Jim Knapp, Gerald Nikolaus, Mark Grab and Deacon Henry Reese.

More than 600 men from across the diocese attended the conference, which was held via video conference after being cancelled in 2020. One of the blessings of having a virtual conference this year was the number of outstanding speakers who were featured. Attendees heard from Dr. William Donohue, president of The

Catholic League; Fr. Robert Spitzer who has a show on EWTN; and Father Frederick Miller from the Archdiocese of Newark. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer also delivered an uplifting talk about how the First Letter of St. Peter delivers a message of encouragement for Christians who live in times that test faith.

## New cemetery fence

Holy Trinity is proud to maintain its beautiful parish cemetery. Located between Manor Street, 10th Street and Barber Street, our cemetery is the resting place for those of our parish families and friends who have gone before us.

An anonymous donor recently approached the parish and offered to replace the chain-link fence along 10th Street with a beautiful black aluminum spear top fence. The new fence has garnered rave reviews and makes quite an impression on passers by and those entering through the main cemetery



entrance.

The cemetery has many burial plots available, which are sold as a set of three graves. To inquire about burial in our parish cemetery, or about anyone who is buried there, please contact the parish office.

# Saint Spotlight: Mary Magdalen

She is called “the Penitent.” St. Mary was given the name Magdalen because, though a Jewish girl, she lived in a Gentile town called Magdale, in northern Galilee, and her culture and manners were those of a Gentile. St. Luke records that she was a notorious sinner and had seven devils removed from her. She was present at Our Lord’s Crucifixion, and with Joanna and Mary, the mother of James and Salome, at Jesus’ empty tomb. Fourteen years after Our Lord’s death, the Jews put St. Mary in a boat without sails or oars. She was accompanied by Sts. Lazarus and Martha, St. Maximin (who baptized her), St. Sidonius (“the man born blind”), her maid Sera, and the body of St. Anne, the mother of the Blessed Virgin. They were sent drifting out to sea and landed on the shores of Southern France, where St. Mary spent the rest of her life as a contemplative in a cave. She was given the Holy Eucharist daily by angels as her only food, and died when she was 72. St. Mary was transported miraculously, just before she died, to the chapel of St. Maximin, where she received the last sacraments.

More about this saint: Mary Magdalen was well known as a sinner when she first saw Our Lord. She was very beautiful and very proud; but, after she met Jesus, she felt great sorrow for her evil life. When Jesus went to supper at the home of a rich man named Simon, Mary came to weep at His feet. Then with her long beautiful hair, she wiped His feet dry and anointed them with expensive perfume. Some people were surprised that Jesus let such a sinner touch Him, but Our Lord could see into Mary’s heart, and He said: “Many sins are forgiven her, because she has loved very much.” Then to Mary He said kindly: “Your faith has made you safe; go in peace.” From then on, with the other holy women, Mary humbly served Jesus and His Apostles. When Our Lord was crucified, she was there at the foot of His cross. She was unafraid for herself and thinking only of His sufferings. No wonder Jesus said of her: “She has loved much.” After Jesus’ body had been placed in the tomb, Mary went to anoint it with spices early Easter Sunday morning. Not finding the Sacred Body, she began to weep, and seeing someone whom she thought was the gardener, she asked him if he knew where the Body of her beloved Master had been taken. But then the person spoke in a voice she knew so well: “Mary!” It was Jesus, risen from the dead! He had chosen to show Himself first to Mary Magdalen, the repentant sinner.



**St. Mary Magdalen's stained glass window at Holy Trinity. Her feast day is July 22 .**

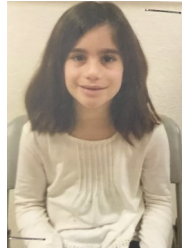


# First Eucharist Class

April 10, 2021



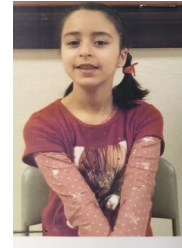
*Henry Fleckenstein*



*Madison Deascent*



*Chase Royce*



*Kirsten Martin*



*Lucia Galvez*



*Chase Murphy*



*James Horn*



*Carter Weiss*



*Kieran McGinn*



*Lillie Smith*



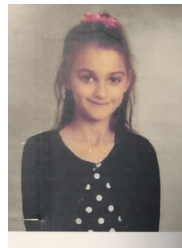
*Ava Jones*



*Kateri Herskowitz*



*Molly McCarthy*



*Lena VanFossen*



*Max Foehlinger*



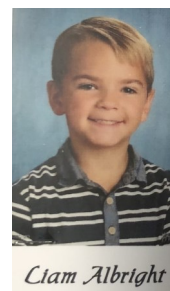
*Zoey Kauffman*



*Emma Musser*



*Anthony Fontanez*



*Liam Albright*



# Do You Remember?

## Columbia fastnachts gain worldwide acclaim as Scott visits town

On February 7, 1989, Shrove Tuesday, Willard Scott, then the weatherman for NBC's Today Show, broadcast his weather forecast from Holy Trinity Parish Center. The story actually begins a year earlier, when the staff at WGAL News 8 sent an express package containing three Holy Trinity fastnachts to Scott at NBC headquarters in New York. He ate the fastnachts on air, and he and then Today co-host Bryant Gumbel

tried to locate the word in a dictionary. A year later, Scott came to Columbia to sample more fastnachts and to watch volunteers from the parish roll, cut and bake the treats. The broadcast was a major event in the Susquehanna Valley, with spectators filling the hall to watch. A few days after the broadcast, one of the local newspapers reported that the parish office was still receiving phone calls requesting "the fastnacht recipe." The Parish Archives contains this photograph of some of the fastnacht workers with Scott, in addition to several aprons worn by the workers during the broadcast and the newspaper coverage from several local papers.



Fastnacht workers welcome weatherman Willard Scott to Holy Trinity. Kathleen Lutz, Bern Nikolaus, Pat Smith, Esther Meisenbach, Lorraine Keim, Mim Benedict, Russ Messer, Helen Messer and Lucille Watts.



Willard, right, seems overwhelmed by fastnachts brought out by Russ Messer, Holy Trinity congregation member.

# Parish Music Ministry

## RETURN TO FULL, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AT MASS

It was with great joy that we learned about Bishop Ronald Gainer's recommendation for parishes to take the next step toward full restoration of the liturgical rites during the Mass. Congregations have been invited to once again sing and respond during the Sacred Liturgy. It does the heart and spirit good to hear the sound of the singing assembly once again.

## THE PARISH CHOIR

Rather than full choirs, small groups of singers or scholas may be used (with proper social distancing) to support the assembly's singing and offer special choral works reflecting the seasonal liturgical celebrations.



*Holy Trinity Christmas Choir ~ 2019*

Divided into small groups, 11 of Holy Trinity's 22 choir members were in service for the six Holy Week/Easter Triduum liturgies.





# Music ministry welcomes new cantors

The ministry of the parish cantor is to bring the song of the assembled community to life, and to assist the people so that their song may be prayer, from the heart as well as the head. The cantor is also a Psalmist who proclaims the Psalm after the first reading and leads the gathered assembly in singing the refrain. Then the cantor intones the Gospel Acclamation and verse.

It is with gratitude that we recognize two parishioners who recently responded to the call to serve in music ministry. Giving their time and talents to serve the needs of our parish worship as cantors are Faith Nikolaus, a senior at DeSales University, and Aidan Stehman, a senior at Lancaster Catholic High School. Each brings to ministry personal and musical qualifications and experience.

Faith Nikolaus graduated from Lancaster Catholic High School in 2017 and is now a senior at DeSales University. Faith will be graduating May 21 with degrees in Catholic theology and dance as well as a minor in marriage and family studies. She has been on the Dean's List consistently during her four years of higher education. Faith has always had an interest in the arts, as she played the piano and flute in her youth. She began seriously training in dance at age 13 and now specializes in classical and contemporary ballet and modern dance, as well as authentic jazz and swing dance. Faith plans to instruct dance at Silver Spring Dance Conservatory in the fall. Faith also participated in choir during high school and college, and is excited to begin music ministry as a cantor at Holy Trinity. Faith hopes to serve the parish in the future through religious education and marriage, family and youth ministry.

Aidan Stehman will graduate from Lancaster Catholic High School May 27. During his time in high school, Aidan has



**Cantors Faith Nikolaus and Aidan Stehman.**

participated in marching band, jazz band, concert band/concert choir, Mass choir, spring musical and football. Aidan also writes, edits and produces for the morning show. Aidan has also performed at Susquehanna Stage and most recently he stepped in as an adult volunteer for the Columbia High School production of Aladdin Jr. in order to ensure they had enough cast to put on their play. Aidan was recently awarded the honor of Eagle Scout. He is a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Church and a graduate of Our Lady of the Angels School. After high school, Aidan plans to pursue a career in voice, acting and performing.



**JUNE 26, 2021**

## **ART, CRAFT, & YARD SALE**

**Columbia, PA**

**COME ONE, COME ALL!**

**Hosted by Holy Trinity Catholic Church**

**Antiques, Artisans, Crafters, Collectables,  
Goodies, Food, Etc.**

**WHERE:** Janson's Field, 6th & Cherry Streets, Columbia, PA

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 26, 2021, 8:00 AM–1:00 PM (Set up 6:00–8:00AM, Teardown 1:00–3:00 PM)

**REGISTRATION:** \$25 per 12x15 space and \$35 per 12x20 space. Please bring your own tables, tents, chairs, displays, etc. You will be able to keep your vehicle at your area.

- \$25/\$35 fee must accompany registration form. Mail or deliver form to Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 409 Cherry St. Columbia, Pa. 17512 prior to June 5, 2021.
- All items belonging to you, including trash, must be removed by 3pm day of event
- Fee is non refundable
- Event is rain or shine

### **2021 Registration Form**

June 26, 2021 – Janson's Field, 6<sup>th</sup> & Cherry Streets, Columbia, PA

Mail this form along with your \$25/\$35 entry fee to Holy Trinity Catholic Church,  
409 Cherry St. Columbia, PA 17512 before June 5, 2021.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Area Size you require (circle one) 12x15      12x20      Number of spaces \_\_\_\_\_

Type of items you will be selling \_\_\_\_\_

*Liability: In Consideration of the right to participate, entrants, participants, and spectators by execution of this entry form release and discharge the sponsoring organization or anyone connected with the presentation of the Community Sale of any and all known and unknown damages, injuries, losses and/or claims from cause whatsoever that may be suffered by any entrant to his/her person or property.*