

Blessed Trinity Parish

Roman Catholic Church

Greenfield, Massachusetts

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 8, 2023



Schedule of Holy Mass

Lord's Day Vigil— Saturday 4 pm

Lord's Day—Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, & 11 am

Weekday

M-T-Th-F- 8:30 am

Wed. 12:05 pm & 6 pm

First Saturday - 8 am

Holy Day Vigil - 6 pm

Holy Day - 8:30 am, 12:05 pm, & 6 pm

*"Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me." Jn 6:57*

Our Churches & Sacred Spaces

Blessed Sacrament Church

221 Federal Street

Mass: Saturday—4 pm | Sunday—11 am

Monday & Tuesday—8:30 am | Wednesday—6 pm

Holy Day Vigil: 6 pm | Holy Day: 8:30 am

Calvary Cemetery

Wisdom Way | First Burial recorded 1792

Holy Trinity Church

135 Main Street

Mass: Sunday - 8 am & 9:30 am

Wednesday 12:05pm | Thursday & Friday—8:30 am

Holy Day: 12:05 pm & 6 pm

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

221 Federal Street | Always present 24/7

www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

All are Invited & Welcome to Join Us!

We are a diverse Catholic Community of Greenfield which shares a faith in Jesus Christ, is nourished at the table of the Eucharist, celebrates life-giving and healing Sacraments, tries to live the Beatitudes, and reaches out in service, together.

Please join us on this journey of life and faith!

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – MONTH OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY
Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of Your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat You, pour out Your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. - *Amen*



PARISH OFFICE.

14 Beacon Street. Greenfield, MA 01301

HOURS: Monday-Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

413.773.3311 | 413.774.2884
office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



PASTOR: Rev. Michael M. Pierz

pastor@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org | x103

DEACONS: deacons@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

Deacon Paul F. DeCarlo | Deacon John Leary
Deacon George Nolan | Deacon Channing L. Bete (ret.)

PARISH MANAGER:

Deacon Paul DeCarlo, *pro tem*

OFFICE STAFF:

Monique Richardson | Jane Fay | Amanda Edson

MAINTENANCE STAFF:

Harry Demers | Curtis Plausky

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION:

Betty Fritz, Administrator

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Paul Calcari, Choir Director | Kathleen Galluzzo, Organist
Stephen Glover, Organist/Choir Director

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Virginia Christi, Director of Religious Education
ReligiousEd@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org
Catherine Cuff, Director of Educational Outreach

FOOD PANTRY:

Donna Leary, Coordinator
pantry@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

BULLETIN:

Charlene Currie, Editor
bulletin@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org
(Deadline: **Wed.5pm -10 days prior-** for following weekend.)

FINANCE COUNCIL: (transitional)

Bill Bell (Co-Chair) | Kevin O'Neil (Co-Chair)
Pierre Belhumeur | Ann Dillon
Gary Longley | Mark Penfield

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BOARD:

Marshall Carroll (Chair) | Virginia Christi
Phil Corrinet | Jason Edson
Mary Fleury | Michael Motisi
Lindsay O'Neil | Katie Pierce

BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMISSION:

Pierre Belhumeur | Skip Descavich
Johan Livingstone | Gary Longley
Mark Penfield | Greg Rode

FATHER JAMES CASEY HALL (135 Main St)

PASTORAL CENTER HALL (14 Beacon St)

BL. MCGIVNEY CONFERENCE ROOM (14 Beacon St)

Arrangements for use can be made through the Parish Office.

PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

Deacon John Leary, Coordinator
Hours available and Coverage Requested

CALVARY CEMETERY

Arrangements for burial can be made through the Parish Office.

OUR MINISTRIES.

FOOD PANTRY

Saturday 9 am– noon | Tuesday Noon-3 pm | Thursday 3 pm-6 pm | pantry@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

COMMUNITY MEALS: 2nd, 4th & 5th Thursdays—to volunteer call Kathy Melnik 413.773.3311

ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CENTER

413.774.6010 *Pregnancy Tests, Counseling, Support, Post Abortion Support*

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING: Ed & Suzi Cottrill 413.773.3311

YOUNG & CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP OF FRANKLIN COUNTY: Stephanie Paige 413.773.3311

POPE ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT YOUTH GROUP: Ed & Suzi Cottrill 413.773.3311 stjpiiyouthgroup@gmail.com

BLESSED TRINITY ROSARY SODALITY: Marcy Hoynoski, President. 413.773.3311

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, LT. JOHN GALVIN COUNCIL No. 133: Dan Arsenault, Grand Knight. 413.773.3311

Thoughts from the Pastor's Desk ...

Dear friends of Blessed Trinity,

Quoting the decree *Ad Gentes* from the Second Vatican Council, the Catechism of the Catholic Church gives definition to the origin and purpose of mission in the life of the Church:

The Lord's missionary mandate is ultimately grounded in the eternal love of the Most Holy Trinity: "The Church on earth is by her nature missionary since, according to the plan of the Father, she has as her origin the mission of the Son and the Holy Spirit." The ultimate purpose of mission is none other than to make men share in the communion between the Father and the Son in their Spirit of love.

Here in the Diocese of Springfield, the local Society for the Propagation of the Faith has organized this weekend's diocesan Mission Appeal. Fr. Myron Effing, a Canon Regular of Jesus the Lord, has come to offer us insight into the universal and particular character of our missionary mandate in Christ.

The Lord Jesus declares in the Gospel today, "the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit". The message of Redemption is a most valuable gift to be treasured and shared. It does not belong to those who seek vainglory or self-serving ends.

As disciples of Christ, it must be our duty to make known the salvation won for us in Him. The practice of the faith is not merely a personal disposition of self-assuredness but the public witness of a living truth: Jesus is Lord and Saviour who comes to offer us a share in the life of the Blessed Trinity itself.

This week, our Holy Father Pope Francis has opened the Synod of Bishops: For a Synodal Church. While

there is much contention about this event in various sectors of the Church and society, at its most basic consideration it can be an opportunity for us to reflect on how we are journeying together in Christ.

Jesus Christ remains ever true. The task for us therefore must always be the conformation of our life to the divine will and the Spirit of God. Seek not our own benefit, like ungrateful tenants in the fields of earthliness, but that which draws us humbly to the Divine Master in the cultivation of virtue. In so doing we find that we are called to unity in Him and this unity invites each of us to assist one another in the knowledge of His grace and the pursuit of holiness. Let us help one another to know the truth of Christ and His Church and take on this charge with missionary zeal!

Most Holy Trinity, I adore You!

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

Fr. Pierz

BLESSED TRINITY PARISH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Parish Office - Reception | Project Coordination

Adoration Chapel - Adoration Hours Available

St. Cecilia's Choir - Funeral Choir

Community Meals - Baked Goods | Meal Volunteers

Pastoral Ministry to the Sick & Homebound -

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | Visitors
| Card Ministry

Blessed Solanus Casey Food Pantry - Stocking

| Pantry Hour Coverage | Greeting

St. Dismas Jail Ministry

Greeters & Ushers - all Masses

If interested please contact the Parish Office, 413-773-3311

Welcome!

New Parishioners and guests. Thank you for joining us today. We are so glad you are here!

We are eager to meet you & invite you to learn more about our parish and register at the Parish Office. We hope that you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, and your talents. New to the Catholic faith? We look forward to getting to know you in prayer & service.



OUR FAITH.

OUR SACRAMENTS.

EUCCHARIST:

LORD'S DAY MASS

Saturday 4:00 pm (BSC) | **Sunday** 8:00 am (HTC), 9:30 am (HTC), 11:00 am (BSC)

WEEKDAY MASS

M & T 8:30 am (BSC) | Wed. 12:05 pm (HTC) & 6 pm (PAC) | Th & F 8:30 am (HTC)

ADORATION

Always present, 24/7 in our **Perpetual Adoration Chapel (PAC)**

CONFESSION:

Saturday, 2:30-3:30 pm | 30 min. before Sunday Masses | Wednesday, 5-5:45pm | or by appointment. (Every effort is made to arrive 30 min. before the 11 am Mass for Confession, however priest availability can be limited.)

BAPTISM:

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule baptism preparation classes, review sponsor eligibility, and plan celebration of the sacrament. Typically celebrated within 8 weeks of birth. Ceremony may be private or during our Sunday Masses.

MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office at least 9 months in advance to enroll in marriage preparation classes and plan liturgy arrangements.

CONFIRMATION:

Typically takes place through our Religious Education program. If you are an adult and have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact the Parish Office.

HOLY ORDERS:

Have you ever been inspired of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Please speak with Fr. Pierz or call the Parish Office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Available during pastoral visit, Sacrament of Confession, or by appointment.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS: Seeking to receive all your sacraments and enter full communion with the Catholic Church? You are invited and welcome to join us! Please contact the Parish Office to learn how to become Catholic and receive the sacraments of initiation.

St. Dismas Jail Ministry: Forgotten Women.

Incarcerated women are daughters, sisters, and mothers. They can be the forgotten population. But women in the Franklin County House of Correction need to know they are not forgotten. They are seen. They are loved. They need to know that God has a purpose for their lives. Many have faced a difficult road, that has left them feeling rejected, worthless, and hopeless. And without resources to heal the hurts that lead to their bad choices, many women remain in a destructive cycle.



St. Dismas Jail Ministry ministers to all prisoners—including women—and their families to help strengthen the bond between children and their parents who are behind bars. We share our Catholic faith to lead the way in caring for those impacted by the criminal justice system from a faith based viewpoint. We help to replace the cycle of brokenness that landed them in prison offering them the hope of transformation. Our parishioners involved in this ministry see firsthand the lives being changed, hope being restored, and dark pasts are giving way to brighter futures to these incarcerated women.

Women Helping Women. We are in need of more women in our parish to join this ministry team and work with incarcerated women and their specific needs—which are very different from men. If you are a woman interested in becoming a caring mentor committed to offering hope to these women by walking alongside them on a path to restoration and renewal, **please contact the Parish Office at 773.3311 to learn more.**



@blessedtrinityparishgreenfield



www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

OUR MINISTRIES.

OUR UPCOMING PASTORAL COMMISSION MEETINGS.

OCT 9TH – PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE HOMELESS, POOR, & HUNGRY: *Serving homeless families by providing faith, food and clothing.* Meets 2nd Monday @ 6:00 pm.

OCT 12TH – FAITH FORMATION: *Catholic Education programs and events for Youth and Adults.* Meets 2nd Thursday @ 6:00 pm.

OCT 16TH – PASTORAL MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: Meets 3rd Monday @ 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting: 7:00 pm on Mon., October 16 in our Pastoral Center Conference Room.

Do you know of a parishioner entering a nursing home, recently or with an upcoming hospital stay, who would like a visit or to receive the sacraments? Contact comfort@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org or call 413-773-3311.

OCT 23RD – St. Dismas Jail Ministry: *Serving people and families affected by incarceration.* **Meets:** 4th Mon. @ 6:00 pm

Next Meeting: 6:00 pm on Mon., October 23 in our Pastoral Center Conference Room.

NOV 1ST – WORSHIP COMMISSION: *All matters pertaining to Liturgy and worship.* Meets 1st Wednesday @

4:30pm . **Next Meeting:** 4:30 pm on Weds., November 1 in our Pastoral Center Conference Room.

OUR AFFILIATED PARISH GROUPS.

OCT 19TH – Knights of Columbus: **Meets:** 3rd Thurs. @ 6:00 pm.

Next Meeting: 6:00 pm on Thur., October 19 in our Pastoral Center Conference Room.

NOV 6TH – Blessed Trinity Rosary Society: **Meets:** 1st Mon. @ 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Mon., November 6th at Father Casey Hall

SCHEDULE TO COME. Pope St. John Paul the Great Youth Group: For more information and to be added to the email list for updates and events, please contact stjpiiyouthgroup@gmail.com.

OUR MINISTRIES – MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

Each week we will update how our growing Ministries are having a positive impact in our community while sharing our Catholic Faith by the caring of others.

Community Meals: We served 115 meals of Shepherd's Pie on September 28th.

Homebound & Nursing Homes: Currently we have 22 amazing volunteers visiting 49 homebound parishioners and 50 parishioners in nursing homes.

Food Pantry (August): Number of Pounds of Food - 9720 | Number of Meals Equivalent - 8100 Number of Households - 920 | Number of Individuals - 2240 | Number of Volunteer Hours - 96

Interested in volunteering? Please contact us at the Parish Office 413.773.3311 or blessedtrinitygreenfield.org.



office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



413.773.3311

OUR PARISH.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, October 7 — FATHER LUNNEY

4:00 BSC

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

GRACE & BLESSINGS FOR FATHER MATT HIMES — by Maureen Filiault

SUNDAY, October 8 — VOCATIONS, SEMINARIANS,
DEACON CANDIDATES

8:00 HTC

KATHLEEN BRISSETTE — by the Family

9:30 HTC

VICTORIA KILGOUR — by Bill & Donna Kilgour

11:00 BSC

ESTELLE CLINTON HANSON — by the Family

MONDAY, October 9 — FATHER PIERZ

*SAINT DENIS, BISHOP, & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS;
SAINT JOHN LEONARDI, PRIEST*

8:30 BSC

RICK DUFRINE — by Deb & Greg Isles

TUESDAY, October 10 — CLERGY WHO ARE SICK

8:30 BSC

STANLEY & ELEANOR PARDA — by Donald Parada

WEDNESDAY, October 11 — OUR RETIRED CLERGY

SAINT JOHN XXIII, POPE

12:05 HTC

MATTHEW KOSTANSKI — by his Parents

6:00 PAC

SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR MAE DAVIES — by Mary Fleury

THURSDAY, October 12 — FATHER DIMASCOLA

8:30 HTC

GROGAN & MEYER FAMILIES LIVING & DECEASED — by Tim & Joanne

FRIDAY, October 13 — BISHOP McDONNELL

8:30 HTC

PATRICIA BYE — by the Family

SATURDAY, October 14 — FATHER ROACH

SAINT CALLISTUS I, POPE & MARTYR; BVM

4:00 BSC

RICK DUFRINE — by Greg & Deb Isles

SUNDAY, October 15 — FATHER LISOWSKI

8:00 HTC

SHARON KINGSLEY — by her Husband, Carl

9:30 HTC

HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY — by Laurie Tilton

11:00 BSC

MARGARET & SIMON FOLEY — by the Family

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 8, 2023

Give eternal life, O Lord, to all our beloved dead.
May they rest in peace! We remember in our prayers:

Our Beloved Dead

OCT 8TH - OCT 21ST



BSC SANCTUARY CANDLE is burning for
Bobby Sans — by Anonymous

ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES will burn in
memory/honor of:

1. Souls in Purgatory — by Mary Frances

2. Health & Blessings for Matthew Roehrig — by Claire Heath

3. Special Intention — by Anonymous

4. Patricia Duffey Earley — by Robert Earley

HTC 7-DAY CANDLE: Susie Lott — by Mary Reilly Parsons

*If you would like to burn a candle or donate flowers
for a special occasion, in memory of a loved one or
other intention, call the parish office at 773.3311*

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Our sanctuary flowers
were donated in memory of:

Deceased Members of the Rosary Society

by Mary Reilly Parsons

Thank you for this beautiful show of remembrance.



Updated as of 9/20/23 for the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Our Diocese is at 84.5 % of the \$3,000,000 goal.

Blessed Trinity Parish numbers are:

Donors: 205

Cash Gifts: \$42,819

Pledges: \$33,770

Total to Date: \$78,558

**ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
APPEAL**



Please consider making your donation today.

Contact: 413-452-0670 or email aca@diospringfield.org



@blessedtrinityparishgreenfield



www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

OUR PARISH.

Whoever has a heart full
of love always has
something to give.

Pope John XXIII

INFERTILITY SUPPORT NIGHT

Please join **Young And Catholic** October 14th 7:00pm in our **Pastoral Center** for a night of resources and support for couples bearing the cross of infertility.

Light refreshments provided.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS IN OCTOBER.

You are invited to pray the Rosary with fellow Blessed Trinity Parish parishioners **each Sunday in October** outside of **Holy Trinity Church on Main Street**. We will meet in front of the statue of Mary from **12-12:30pm**. *For those of you who are unable to stand, please bring a chair if you like or you can join us by sitting in your cars.*

In addition, **during the month of October**, you can also pray the Rosary daily at our **Perpetual Adoration Chapel** on Federal St. each evening at **7:00 pm**. Let's join together this October as we dedicate this month to the Most Holy Rosary. **All are welcome.**

WEEKEND OF OCT 1, 2023

"Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father"

Weekly Collection: \$7462.50

Fuel/Energy Collection: \$512

Maintenance Collection: \$111

Online Giving: \$1495

"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of His Holy Church."

Thank you for your generosity!

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEALS:

Thursday October 26th from 5-6pm on
Take out only at our **Holy Trinity Church**
For more info, contact **Kathy Melnik at 773.3311**

THIS WEEK AT BLESSED TRINITY PARISH

Saturday Oct 7

4:00 pm Mass (BSC)
5:30 pm KofC Harvest Supper -
Fr. Casey Hall
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!



Sunday Oct 8

8 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes beforehand
9:30 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-mins beforehand
11:00 am Mass (BSC) Confession: 30 minutes
beforehand (Note: Priest availability can be limited
with 9:30 am Mass at HTC.)
12:00 pm Outdoor Rosary (HTC)
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Monday Oct 9

8:30 am Mass (BSC)
6:00 pm Roses for Mary Prayer Group (PAC each
Mon.)
6:00 pm **St. Dismas Jail Ministry** - Past. Ctr. Conf.
Room
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Tuesday Oct 10

8:30 am Mass (BSC)
6:00 pm OCIA - Pastoral Ctr. Conference Room
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Wednesday Oct 11

11:30 am Most Holy Rosary (HTC)
12:05 pm Mass (HTC)
5-5:45 pm Confession (PAC)
6:00 pm Mass (PAC)
7:00 pm Holy Hour for the Sick & Dying (PAC)
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Thursday Oct 12

8:30 am Mass (HTC)
6:00 pm **Faith Formation** - Pastoral Ctr. Conf. Room
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Friday Oct 13

8:30 am Mass (HTC)
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)

Saturday Oct 14

2:30 pm—3:30 pm Confession (BSC)
4:00 pm Mass (BSC)
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)
7:00 pm **Infertility Support Night** - Pastoral Center
Sunday Oct 15

8 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-minutes beforehand
9:30 am Mass (HTC) Confession: 30-mins beforehand
11:00 am Mass (BSC) Confession: 30 minutes
beforehand (Note: Priest availability can be limited
with 9:30 am Mass at HTC.)
12:00 pm Outdoor Rosary (HTC)
7:00 pm Daily Rosary (PAC)



office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



413.773.3311

OUR YOUTH.

CCD

CORNER

We welcome and encourage family participation in all aspects of our Religious Education program. Our parish provides ample opportunity to enrich your faith. Please read our bulletin for upcoming events. It is a wonderful resource for all things Blessed Trinity Parish!



OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM KEEPS GROWING!

We've had tremendous response this Fall and registration is still open. You can print out the form on our website, blessedtrinitygreenfield.org and submit it to the office. Printed forms are also available in the parish office.

Questions? Please reach out to ReligiousEd@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



OCTOBER RELIGIOUS ED. SCHEDULE: MONTH OF THE ROSARY

- Oct 8 & 15** All Classes
- Oct 14 (Sat.)** Walk to Confirmation— So. Deerfield
- Oct 22** All Classes- Confirmation class attends Bread of Life on 10/22 in lieu of class
- Oct 29** The Mass Part 1-Family Faith Formation class in Blessed Sacrament Church. *No coffee hour-Parents attend class with their children.

Religious Education classes held in the Pastoral Center.
This year all classes grades Kindergarten through Confirmation take place from 9:45-10:45 am.

Please stay for Parent Coffee Hour each week for Coffee & Tea, Pastries, and lively conversation.

DRIVERS NEEDED. FOLIAGE INCLUDED.

The families that drive St Michael's students from the Greenfield area to Brattleboro need volunteer drivers for the afternoon school pickup shifts (2:40 pm leave for 3:15 pm arrival at the school).

If you have an afternoon free and would be willing to drive the 12 passenger van for a shift or two in the afternoons throughout the school year, or even fill in occasionally, we would be grateful.



Please contact the parish office at 773.3311 or **David Korpiewski** at 413.695.2191.

Thank you!



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www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

OUR YOUTH.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” -Proverbs 22:6



SAVE THE DATE!



CYR Franklin County Youth Ministry Walk to Confirmation event will take place

Next Saturday

October 14th
10 am-2 pm

at Holy Family Church | South Deerfield

Join high school aged teens from the Franklin County area Catholic Youth Groups as they gather for a day of talks, activities, lunch, time for prayer, and a short hike to the summit of Mt. Sugarloaf.

Attending high school youth ages 14-18 are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. Parents must complete registration to attend and fill out a Youth Activity Participation and Liability Waiver Form. Forms are available at <https://diospringfield.org/Ministries/office-of-youth-ministry>. Email the signed form to your confirmation teacher or bring it with you.



You must pre-register online & waiver must be filled out!



Parent Conversation & Coffee Hour

You are invited to join us each week while your students are enjoying their Religious Ed. class.

Sundays 9:45-10:45am*

Pastoral Center

Meet other parents.

Ask questions. Talk. Laugh. Learn.

Coffee & Tea | Pastries

***No Coffee Hour Oct. 29th**-Parents to attend Family Faith class with their children.



office@blessedtrinitygreenfield.org



413.773.3311

OUR FAITH.

A Scientist Describes the Miracle of the Sun at Fátima.

On October 13, 1917, a crowd witnessed a miraculous event that was recorded by journalists, lawyers and scientists.

Thousands of individuals gathered near Fátima, Portugal, on **October 13, 1917**, to witness the next apparition of Our Lady. What they saw was widely reported at the time and became known as the “Miracle of the Sun.”

According to various sources, **Dr. Gonçalo de Almeida Garrett**, Professor of Natural Sciences at Coimbra University, was there and later recalled what occurred. (As a note, some claim the account was actually given by Dr. Garrett’s son, Dr. José Almeida Garrett.)

Dr. Garrett explains in his account that at first nothing extraordinary occurred. “I was looking at the place of the apparitions, in a serene, if cold, expectation of something happening, and with diminishing curiosity, because a long time had passed without anything to excite my attention. Then I heard a shout from thousands of voices and saw the multitude suddenly turn its back and shoulders away from the point toward which up to now it had directed its attention, and turn to look at the sky on the opposite side.”

What happened next defied all scientific reasoning. “It must have been nearly two o’clock by the legal time, and about midday by the sun. The sun, a few moments before, had broken through the thick layer of clouds which hid it, and shone clearly and intensely. I veered to the magnet which seemed to be drawing all eyes, and saw it as a disc with a clean-cut rim, luminous and shining, but which did not hurt the eyes. I do not agree with the comparison which I have heard made in Fátima—that of a dull silver disc. It was a clearer, richer, brighter color, having something of the luster of a pearl. It did not in the least resemble the moon on a clear night because one saw it and felt it to be a living body. It was not spheric like the moon, nor did it have the same color, tone, or shading. It looked like a glazed wheel made of mother-of-pearl. It could not be confused, either, with the sun seen through fog (for there was no fog at the time), because it was not opaque, diffused or veiled. In Fátima it gave light and heat and appeared clear-cut with a well-defined rim.

At first he feared what was happening and tried to turn away. “During the solar phenomenon, which I have just described in detail, there were changes of color in the atmosphere. Looking at the sun, I noticed that everything around was becoming darkened. I looked first at the nearest objects and then extended my glance further afield as far as the horizon. I saw everything an amethyst color. Objects around me, the sky and the atmosphere, were of the same color. An oak tree nearby threw a shadow of this color on the ground.

Fearing that I was suffering from an affection of the retina, an improbable explanation because in that case one could not see things purple-colored, I turned away and shut my eyes, keeping my hands before them to intercept the light.

With my back still turned, I opened my eyes and saw that the landscape was the same purple color as before.”

At the end of it, **Dr. Garrett affirmed that he was in his right mind and was not suffering from a hallucination.**

“And in fact everything, both near and far, had changed, taking on the color of old yellow damask. People looked as if they were suffering from jaundice, and I recall a sensation of amusement at seeing them look so ugly and unattractive. My own hand was the same color. All the phenomena which I have described were observed by me in a calm and serene state of mind, and without any emotional disturbance. It is for others to interpret and explain them.”



The Miracle of the Sun ushered in a new wave of devotion to Our Lady that remains to this day. (*Aleteia.org*)



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www.blessedtrinitygreenfield.org

AND MORE.

Blessed Trinity CRYPTOQUIP

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

"PREACH THE GOSPEL AT ALL TIMES;
WHEN NECESSARY, USE WORDS."

- ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



Blessed Trinity Jumble

ESNT
○ □ □ ○

UTO
○ □ □

SSIATS
A ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

LIBBE
○ ○ □ ○ ○

PICLORAM
○ □ ○ □ □ □ ○ ○

Jesus makes us capable to spread the Gospel and
share in the work of our salvation.

What would a movie title be for such a task?

"○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○"



Why do churches have Mary on the left and Joseph on the right?

When walking into Catholic churches, it is very common to see a statue of the Virgin Mary on the left side of the altar and a statue of St. Joseph on the right. But why? You may have never noticed it before, but now that it's been pointed out to you, you'll see it everywhere.

Well, the placement isn't coincidence. It's true that there are no specific norms or rules regarding the placement of statues — the General Instruction of the Roman Missal only notes how, "care should be taken that their number not be increased indiscriminately, and that they be arranged in proper order so as not to distract the faithful's attention from the celebration itself. There should usually be only one image of any given Saint" (GIRM 318).

In the past there was a custom of placing the statue of the parish's patron saint in the center of the church, above the tabernacle, but that tradition has decreased recently in favor of a crucifix in the center.

In regards to the placement of Mary, she is typically on the left in light of the fact that placed there, she is on Jesus' right hand from "His point of view" — from the point of view of someone looking out from the sanctuary.

This is in accordance with the Jewish tradition of having the Queen Mother sit at the right hand of the King. Another explanation is due to the fact that the left side of the church was known as the "Gospel Side" of the church and Mary is seen biblically as the "New Eve," with her pivotal role in Salvation History.

St. Joseph's presence on the right side is then seen in light of Mary's privileged role. (It is also often the case that another saint is placed there instead of St. Joseph.)

However, if an image of the Sacred Heart is placed on "Mary's side" then the statue of Mary is placed on "Joseph's side," as she takes a less prominent position than her Son.

So while there is no hard and fast rule, the left-right traditional placement was developed over time based on biblical texts and various cultural traditions. *Aleteia.org*



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