

Church of the Holy Trinity & *St. Michael's Church*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ of the Catholic Community in Cohoes,

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, let us prepare our hearts for the beautiful season of Advent. The Advent season is a time of **preparation** that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas.

The beginning of a new year is also a time for us to take a realistic look at the pastoral needs of our parishes balanced with the ability of the church of Albany to serve those needs. On a local level it is up to us to balance our pastoral **wants** against our pastoral **needs**. The diocese of Albany continues to have churches without priests to say masses each weekend.

Therefore, after consultation with Very Rev. David LeFort, and Very Rev. Robert Longobucco; Co-Vicar Generals, and Very Rev. James Ebert, Vicar for Clergy, **the mass times beginning the first weekend of Advent, November 27-28, 2021, will change as follows:**

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 pm - Holy Trinity Church - (Confessions at 3:00 pm)

Sunday Mass 9:00 am - St. Michael's Church

Sunday Mass 10:30 am - Holy Trinity Church

2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month - 11:00 am Polish Language Mass

The daily mass schedule will remain as previously announced:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am - St. Michaels

Thursday and Friday 9:00 am Holy Trinity

Tuesday evening 5:30 Holy Trinity - (confessions beginning at 4:30)

This schedule will allow for the pastoral needs of both parishes. This schedule could, if necessary, be managed by a single priest. We, as Church can no longer expect or ask our retired priests to overextend themselves beyond two masses per weekend. This schedule, although not within our pastoral wants, continues to provide the Polish speaking community the opportunity to worship in the language of their heritage.

The times in which we find ourselves, are ones filled with change and opportunity. Let us take this opportunity to embrace change and remember who brings us together to worship each week. Let us set aside all division and come together as one body in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Paul LeBlanc

Parochial Administrator

Holy Trinity and St. Michael's Churches