

Niagara Heritage of Hope and Service, Inc.

Home of

Historic Holy Trinity

DECEMBER 2012



Merry Christmas

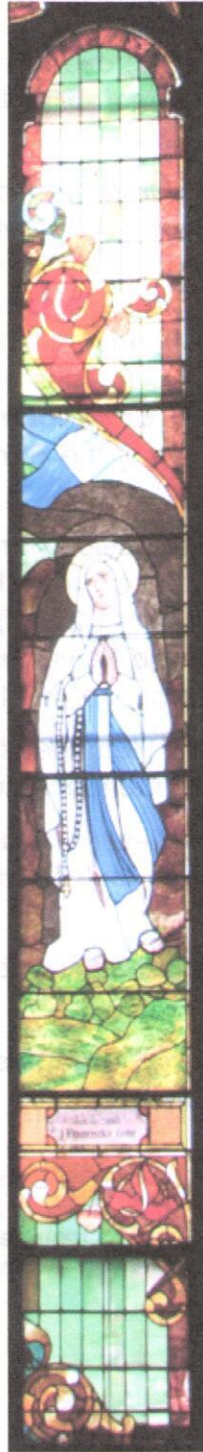
Dear Friends of Niagara Heritage of Hope and Service and Historic Holy Trinity,

Reflecting on 2012, we are ever so grateful for the many blessings this past year. First and foremost, we thank our Dear Lord. It is because of Him that the mission we set out to do three years ago flourishes with each passing week.

Here is the year in review ...

The Donation/Distribution Center, which opened its doors April 30, 2011, the eve of the beatification of Pope John Paul II, started out with one classroom of clothes and shoes for men, women and children and the second room opened shortly after to hold furniture and household items. The growth in 2012 exceeded our expectations. We quickly realized the need to expand further and moved the men's clothes into a third room. Just recently, a fourth room was opened to house all of the winter coats. Through the generosity of so many, we have been receiving donations in faster than ever. That is good because the individuals and families we help continue to grow. The Center is open Saturdays from 10:00 am—1:00 pm.

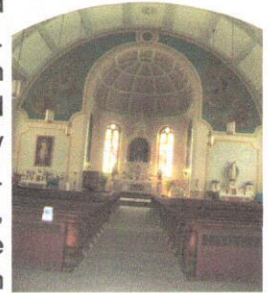
While there are too **many** to thank individually, we would like to acknowledge the support from our community—Sr. Nora, Heart Love & Soul — especially Sr. Beth, Janet, Mike—for their referrals and donations.



For those who don't know, Heart Love and Soul is dedicated to feeding those in need and providing opportunities to improve their quality of life. Visit them at www.heartloveandsoul.org.

Just as important, a very special thank you to all of our volunteers who show up faithfully each Saturday. Without you, our doors could not stay open. Lastly, the generosity of individuals like yourself donating items has been incredible. Thank you!

This summer we started "Fish Fry Friday Tours". From June 1st through September 28th, we opened the doors of the church every Friday from 5:30—8:00pm. All were welcome to come in, say a prayer, light a candle for a loved one, and/or listen to the history of the church and complex. This was more successful than we prayed for. The people we met, the stories that were shared made the time fly by. We decided to open the doors again on Fridays in December—14, 21 and 28th for all to visit the church decorated for the Christmas season. We hope you can stop by to enjoy the beautiful work the volunteers did to decorate for Christmas. Tours are also available upon request. Email: tours@historicHT.org.



Our first "Antiques/Collectibles/Flea Market" was held on June 23rd with several vendors. The weather was absolutely perfect for this successful event. Through the generosity of many, we were able to raise a small amount of money in our first year. We look for 2013 to bring in even more vendors and customers.

Visit us at www.historicHT.org

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In addition to these events, youth from Pennsylvania volunteered their summer vacation to help out around the complex in July. They painted, organized the Center, and landscaped. They were treated to lunch and learned about this history of this special place.

We refreshed our website (www.historicHT.org) over the summer and included a History/Photos section. Let us know if you have pictures or memorabilia that we can include on our website. We are looking to expand this section.

Our Fall "Speakers Series" opened up with Greg Witul on September 18 with a presentation on the history of Holy Trinity's stained glass windows. Two nationally known presentations followed at Historic Holy Trinity. First, on October 24, Tim Francis from **You Shall Believe Ministries** spoke about "Science Tests Faith" a nationally known presentation based on the book "Reason to Believe". This electrifying presentation had those in attendance sitting on the edge of their seats eager to hear more about the modern day instances of miraculous encounters of Christ. Then on November 17, International expert Russ Breault of **Shroud Encounter** gave a fast moving, big-screen experience using over 200 images covering all aspects of the Shroud of Turin research. All presentations were outstanding and well attended.

This Fall, the Diocese of Buffalo granted permission (through our local parish—Divine Mercy) to celebrate weddings and funerals. The first funeral was held in November for Marsha Rajczak (11/24/12) immediately followed by Lillian Koziel (1/27/12). May their souls rest in peace. To celebrate our first wedding in over four years, Julie Felvus and Anthony Baxter were the first couple to be married. Their wedding was held on December 12th (12-12-12).

Thank you to all who have supported Niagara Heritage of Hope and Service to help keep Historic Holy Trinity alive through our Center, events, maintenance and upkeep.

A very special thank you to **ALL** of our volunteers. Your support throughout the year has been instrumental in the successful year we had. We look forward to the opportunities and challenges that will come our way in 2013.

May God bless you and your family this Christmas with love, joy, and happiness.

Florian C. Wasiak

Marg Domagalski

Zyta Reese

Board of Directors

Our Wish List for 2013 is to raise funds to ...

- upgrade the sound system in the church
- purchase a pipe organ

Donations can be made to
Holy Trinity Preservation
1419 Falls Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14303

The Donation/Distribution Center will be open Saturdays from 10 am—1pm in 2013. "Fish Fry Friday" Tours will resume June through September. We will post to our website in January our upcoming events.

Happy 2013!

Thank you for your consideration and support of
Historic Holy Trinity!