



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Washington, DC

February 22, 2015

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A Sermon on the Hill

John Carr, *America*, Feb 16 2015, www.americamagazine.org, Used with permission.

John Carr is director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University. He writes extensively about the role of faith can play in the public life of Catholics. This piece challenges Catholics working in government in Washington, DC to consider Catholic Social Teaching, particularly the preferential option for the poor, as they make public policy. We offer it as a reflection to consider in conjunction with the Feb. 20th and 27th simple suppers offered by the Social Justice and St. Jean Baptiste Haiti Committees, respectively.

The most predictable Washington ritual is the president's State of the Union address. This civic liturgy includes an entrance procession of the Senate, Cabinet and Supreme Court followed by the president, who declares the union "strong" and offers his policies to make it stronger. Members of the president's party repeatedly stand and applaud and the other party offers disapproving silence from their seats. The ritualistic political theater includes the presence of symbolic citizens chosen for their moving stories, which reinforce poll-tested messages.

The next time Vice President Biden and Speaker Boehner preside together, the occasion won't be so predictable. John Boehner and Nancy Pelosi, very different Catholics, have invited Pope Francis to address Congress in September. Only five decades ago, some American leaders declared a Catholic should not become president because he would take orders from the pope. Now Jorge Bergolio of Argentina has been invited to offer guidance to American legislators because of his leadership as Pope Francis.

The papal visit is generating much excitement, but are our leaders ready for Francis' challenges to political, economic and ecclesial business as usual? A Congressional resolution of invitation reportedly faltered, with some Republicans wary of Pope Francis' indictments of an "economy of exclusion," "trickle-down economics" and anti-immigrant policies. Some Democrats might be worried about Pope Francis' criticism of a "throw-away culture" that threatens unborn children and others. He has said, "It is not 'progressive' to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life." Francis' defense of families takes on both economic and moral pressures on family life, making ideologues on both left and right uncomfortable.

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Igniting Our Values

www.jesuits.org/ignite

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Trinity is a Catholic parish sponsored by the Society of Jesus. We share the Society's mission to serve the faith and to promote justice. As disciples of Christ, we seek to be transformed by the Holy Spirit through our celebration of Eucharist and our practice of Ignatian spirituality into a welcoming and prayerful community that shares God's life and love with each other and the world.

JESUIT STAFF

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PARISH CENTER

Phone: 202-337-2840 **Fax:** 202-337-9048

Parish Center Hours: Mon-Thur: 8:30am-7:30pm, Fri: 8:30am-4:30pm, Sat and Sun: No receptionist on duty but the parish center is accessible during mass times. **Snow closures:** Montgomery County Public Schools.

PARISH DEPARTMENTS & STAFF

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From the Pastor's Desk

This weekend's column is written by a teacher at Holy Trinity School.

The Friday before Valentine's Day. It was barely 7:30am and Holy Trinity School was alive with the arrival of teachers and early bird students. One energetic 4th grader gleefully lit up when he saw the stacks of food piled high on tables in the lower school multipurpose room, "Oh a party for us?" he inquired.

"No, breakfast for the homeless," and I directed his attention to the line of students.

He turned back toward me with a genuine and joyful smile, "Even better!"

And so began my glimpse at a different kind of love this Valentine's weekend.

Our Pre-K through 4th grade students happily assembled 1,000 breakfast bags for Cup-O-Joe, a service project brought to us by Kate Tromble, Pastoral Associate for Social Justice. The "breakfast-to-go" bags go to men and women who have a safe bed in overnight emergency shelters provided by Catholic Charities, who otherwise might have to begin their day on an empty stomach.

Living out our school theme: "Forming young people for others", students arrive to the multipurpose room setting up at designated stations. Each class arrives eager to do their part and reluctant to leave when their time is up.

Each student is assigned a task. Bag after bag is filled with V8 juice, granola bars, a fruit cup, cereal bar, peanut butter crackers and many decorated hearts with handwritten "love" notes from the students, "Espero, Paz, enjoy a "heartly" breakfast, we love you, we pray for you"... The room is buzzing with excitement and the dialogue among the students is purposeful:

"Turn the V8 juice on its side so we can close the bags easier."
"Be careful not to crush the crackers."

"Press all the air out of the bags so we can zip them.

Now this is a Valentine's party worthy of our true hearts!

Fast forward two days later. Holy Trinity School teachers arrive to the Georgetown Presbyterian Church, where our principal, Charlie Hennessy has asked us to participate in a parish ministry, to serve the hungry on this near zero degree evening. Lasagnas are kept warm as faculty and school staff set tables and arrange serving stations. There is once again a palpable excitement in the air.

New teachers take on leadership roles and veteran teachers are happy to be directed to the task at hand, a mutuality of purpose once again.

Mike Conway, coordinator (on behalf of Holy Trinity Parish) of the Sunday meals for the marginalized in the Georgetown area is here to oversee the process and coach us on protocol. We are led in a prayer, mindful that the love that we have to give is all the love there is.

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Daily Mass Intentions

The parish community prays for all the dead every day at every Mass. However, we encourage parishioners to mention specific persons by name during the General Intercessions when invited to do so by the presider.

Parishioners can also request that a specific person be remembered by name at a particular weekday Mass by calling or visiting the receptionist's desk in the parish center during normal office hours.

Names must be submitted one week in advance. Persons to be so remembered at weekday Masses this week are:

Monday	7:00 am	
	8:00 am	Steve Kuyoka+
Tuesday	5:30 pm	Christopher Plajser+
	7:00 am	
Wednesday	8:00 am	
	5:30 pm	Aura Price+
Thursday	7:00 am	
	8:00 am	Alberto Angulo+
Friday	5:30 pm	
	7:00 am	
Saturday	8:00 am	John Donovan+
		Gertrude Pajak+

Parishioners are asked to remember the following persons in their prayers:

Pray for those who are sick: Bensten Schone

Pray for those who are dead: Meila Balkus; Clarke Cox; John Philip Stump, Jr.

PRAYER REQUESTS

To add a name to these prayer lists, contact Rose Mary Padberg at: rpadberg@trinity.org. You must be an immediate relative of the one to be remembered, or have express permission in order to add a name to these lists. The names on this prayer list will be mentioned aloud at Sunday Mass during the General Intercessions and will be published in the parish eLetter.

We also invite parishioners to write the name of deceased loved ones in the Book of the Dead which is kept in the back of the chapel. The parish community remembers these persons each time we gather for Eucharist.

SACRAMENTS

Mass Schedule (*Check bulletin or website for Holy Days*)

Weekdays: 7am, 8am & 5:30pm in the Chapel (on N St.)
Note: Chapel is open on weekdays between Masses.

Saturday: 8am — Chapel; 5:30 pm Vigil — Church

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:30am, 1:15pm & 5:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday from 4:30pm—5:15pm or by appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

Communal anointing is celebrated periodically during Sunday Eucharist. Call the Parish to request the sacrament at home or in the hospital.

Baptisms and Weddings:

- To schedule a Baptism or Wedding, contact Helene Flanagan, 202-903-2806 or hflanagan@trinity.org
- To register for the preparation process, see next item.

Sacramental Preparation:

Persons desiring to receive certain sacraments at Holy Trinity need to be registered parishioners and are expected to participate in a preparation program. For more information or to register, contact the appropriate staff person:

- Infant Baptism: readmin@trinity.org, 202-903-2808
- First Reconciliation: Judith Brusseau, 202-903-2807
- First Eucharist: Judith Brusseau, 202-903-2807
- Marriage Preparation: readmin@trinity.org, 202-903-2808
- Adult Initiation (RCIA): Anne Koester, 202-337-2840x174
- Children's Initiation (RCIA): Judith Brusseau, 202-903-2807
- Adult Confirmation: Judith Brusseau, 202-903-2807
- Youth Confirmation: Justine Javier, 202-903-2814

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome to Holy Trinity! We invite you to join our parish. You may register at **www.trinity.org**. Parishioner registration forms can be found under the **Participate** tab. Questions about registering can be directed to Rose Mary Padberg @ registration@trinity.org.

New parishioner orientations are held several times throughout the year. See the bulletin, eLetter and website for an announcement of dates/times.

PARKING

Limited on-street parking is available. On most Sundays, free parking is also available at the following Georgetown University parking lots — underground parking garage off Canal Road entrance; surface lot at the end of the Canal Road entrance; and the parking structure under the Leavy Student Center (university section only). Parking is also available at Visitation Academy, off 35th Street at Volta, on most Sundays. Handicapped parking is at the corner of 36th & O St. NW.

BULLETIN NOTICES & WEBSITE UPDATES

Please email proposed updates for the website or bulletin to the parish staff member responsible for overseeing the activity (see page 2 sidebar) by *2pm Thursday*, 8 days before the targeted weekend. Please note that the bulletin is published online, so information you submit may be available online.

Questions? www.communications@trinity.org

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Daily Scripture Readings

A list of readings for the week can be found on the USCCB website:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>

The Light is On for You!

Lenten Reconciliation Opportunities

As part of the Archdiocesan Lenten campaign, The Light is On for You, the Church will be open every Wednesday night from 6:30pm-8:00pm for private prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Second Collection for Church in the Developing World

Next Weekend

Next weekend, we will take up a second collection for the Church in the Developing World. The collection is directed to support the needs of the Church in Latin America, Africa, and Eastern Europe. These Churches often struggle to meet basic pastoral, educational, and infrastructure needs that are necessary for their success in deepening the faith of their members and in the evangelization of their cultures. Please consider help these struggling Churches.

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY & PRAYER

Quiet Spaces:

A Lenten Morning of Prayer

Today! Sunday, February 22nd

10:15am – 11:15am, Chapel

You are invited to delve more deeply into Lent by joining the Ignatian Retreat Team for an hour of praying with Scripture. There will be time to reflect on a passage from Scripture and time for silence. No prior experience is necessary. All are welcome.

Movie Moments of Grace presents Chocolat

Friday, March 6, 2015

**Simple Supper, 5:30pm, McKenna
Screening and Discussion to follow.**

Gentle Jesus, give me a lively faith, a firm hope, and perfect charity, so that I may love you with all my heart and all my soul and all my strength. Make me firm and steadfast in good works, and grant me perseverance in your service... Amen.

-St. Clare of Assisi

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Help MD Workers Earn Paid Sick Days.

In Maryland, more than 700,000 workers are forced to choose between going to work sick, sending an ill child to school or staying home and sacrificing much-needed income or, worse, risking job loss. Currently, more than 80% of low-wage workers and over half of full-time workers who earn less than \$35,000 annually in Maryland are unable to earn paid sick days.

Join Baltimore's Jesuit institutions in raising your voice on behalf of these workers. Support their right to earn 7 days of paid sick leave each year. More information is available at the Working Matters website:

<http://www.paidicksdaysmd.org/>.

If you live in Maryland, please consider writing your state legislators to express support for earning paid sick leave. You may find your legislators on the MD General Assembly website:

<http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/07leg/html/gaco.html>

Underwear for Georgetown Ministry Center.

Please help the men who come to GMC stay clean by considering a donation of new underwear. Donations of new underwear can be made by going to GMC's Amazon.com wishlist or by dropping them off at the parish center. More information from Kate Tromble at ktromble@trinity.org.

FAITH FORMATION/ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Rite of Election

Today, 5 children(9:00am) and 10 adults (11:30am) will be sent from Holy Trinity to the Basilica for the Rite of Election with Cardinal Wuerl and all those in the Archdiocese who are on the RCIA journey and anticipating full initiation at Easter.

Baptism Preparation

The next Baptism Preparation session will be offered March 7th, 10:00am, McKenna Hall. Registration information is available on the parish website. Parking is available at Visitation.

Marriage Preparation #185 March 26th, 7:00pm, McKenna

Preregistration is required. More complete information on upcoming Marriage Preparation sessions are available on website, <http://trinity.org/marriage>

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

From the Pastor *(continued from page 2)*

Guests are admitted at 5:00pm. And so begins a whirlwind of outstretched hands, some offering salad, vegetables, lasagna, homemade rolls, brownies, and pies, and other outstretched hands receiving care, and sustenance, and love.

Then it occurs to me that this mutuality of our outstretched hands is what is necessary for transformation. Either side of this table- each pair of hands is restoring the other's dignity. I, in this moment offering you what you need this night, in this meal, and you, in your hunger, and in your need restoring me, back to the loving person I was called by Jesus to be. I am so humbled and grateful for the young and the old, the women and the men, who allowed me to serve them this cold night in Washington DC.

-A Holy Trinity Teacher

CYO Basketball Update

The CYO basketball season was exciting and formational, with the parish fielding 15 teams (totaling 150 students) from grades 3rd-8th. Some of the highlights include the junior varsity boys and girls teams playing in a halftime showcase at a Georgetown University women's game and the Mid-Atlantic Boys team winning their divisional championship in overtime with a last second 3-pointer. The Mid-Atlantic boys will now play in the city CYO championship tournament. Congrats to the Titans!

Hard Hats and High Heels Genuine Scoter Buddy 125 Raffle!

Ride To Mass with power and charm and never worry about parking again. Scooter retails for \$3096 but you can purchase a Raffle tickets today for \$20 or 5 tickets for \$100. Holy Trinity School parents will be outside selling after mass. Other prizes include a 2 night stay at Embassy Suites in DC and Spirit of Holy Trinity teacher experiences!

Winner will be announced at the Holy Trinity Annual Auction on March 21st. Winner does not need to be present to win. For additional info or to purchase tickets please contact Jennifer Touchette: Jennifer.Touchette@gmail.com.

Hard Hats and High Heels Auction Items Needed

The Hard Hats and High Heels Annual Auction committee are looking for donations for their Silent and Live Auctions. Have an idea or item to donate? Please contact Diane Favret, dfavret@trinity.org or donate online at: <http://trinity.maestroweb.com/>.

A Sermon on the Hill *(continued from page 1)*

When this modern "Francis" insists authentic power requires humble service, he is challenging the culture of Washington. When he calls nations to place the poor and vulnerable first, pursue peace and care for God's creation, the pope is offering stark alternatives to the priorities of Congress. Francis has said politics is "a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity, inasmuch as it seeks the common good.... I ask God to give us more politicians capable of sincere and effective dialogue." This call for dialogue focused on the common good challenges the partisan gamesmanship and special interest power that dominate Washington.

But it doesn't need to be this way, especially on poverty and opportunity. President Obama seems liberated, not demoralized, by the loss of a Democratic Senate. His "middle class economics" would help lift up the poor, though he doesn't say the word *poverty*. Surprisingly, Mitt Romney (of "47 percent" fame) is talking about poverty; and Republicans like Paul Ryan of Wisconsin and Marco Rubio of Florida and Democrats like Chris Van Hollen of Maryland and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts are offering interesting policy responses. There are quiet conversations among thinkers and researchers from left and right looking for common ground. Catholic, evangelical and other leaders are coming together to make overcoming poverty a moral imperative and national priority, taking on the ideological divisions between a narrow focus on family factors and an exclusive emphasis on economic factors. These false choices are bad policy, bad politics and bad for poor people.

There are crucial tests to come. Republican reformers cannot justify or go along with food stamp and Medicaid cuts that undermine the safety net and hurt the poor. Democratic leaders need to address clearly how family structures and strengths affect the lives of poor children. Work is at the center of Pope Francis' dignity agenda, but jobs are often neglected in this developing discussion. A decent job with a decent wage and benefits is the centerpiece of any real opportunity strategy. Catholic social teaching insists that those who can work should do so, but they need work and wages that can support a family, not offer another form of poverty. Justice requires that those who cannot work should be able to live in dignity and be treated with compassion.

If Pope Francis comes before Congress in September, he is likely to say once again, "The greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty." I hope all our leaders stand, applaud and say that's one thing we can work on together.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sun Feb 22, 2015

9:00am - 10:00am

Youth Mass

Chapel of St. Ignatius

3:00pm - 5:30pm

Just Matters

McKenna

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Maria Madre sponsors meeting *Neale Room*

4:45pm - 7:15pm

Contemplative Leaders in Action - 1st year

Faber Room

7:00pm - 8:30pm

Social Justice Youth Group

Neale Room

Mon Feb 23, 2015

7:30pm - 9:00pm

Separated, Widowed, Divorced

Neale Room

Tue Feb 24, 2015

7:30pm - 9:00pm

RCIA

Neale Room

Wed Feb 25, 2015

8:00am - 9:00am

Capital Campaign Meeting

Faber Room

6:30pm-8:00pm

Parish Reconciliation Service

Church

6:00pm-8:00pm

Explore and Discern Program

Chapel

Thu Feb 26, 2015

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Marriage Preparation Session

Faber Room, McKenna

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Job Seekers Support Group

Georgetown Neighborhood Library

7:00pm - 8:30pm

YAC Faith Sharing Group

Chapel of St. Ignatius

7:15pm-8:45pm

Book Discussion Group

Upper School Cafeteria

7:15pm-9:30pm

Triduum Choir Rehearsal

Neale Room

Fri Feb 27, 2015

6:00pm-7:00pm

Stations of the Cross

Church

6:00pm-8:00pm

Simple Supper

Neale Room

Sat Feb 28, 2015

9:00am-11:00am

Principium

Faber Room

9:00am-3:00pm

Hands On Housing

Offsite

10:30am-12:30pm

Grief Support Group

Upper Room

Sun Feb 29, 2015

10:15am-11:00am

Bible Story Hour

Lower School Cafeteria

2:30pm-4:00pm

Men's Choir Rehearsal

Neale Room

3:00pm-4:00pm

Rite of Baptism

Chapel of St. Ignatius

3:00pm-5:00pm

Inner Peace In Divine Love Retreat

Upper Room

6:00pm-8:00pm

YAC Steering Committee Meeting

Faber Room

7:30pm-9:00pm

Kenyon College Chamber Singers Concert

Church

For more information about these and other events, please visit

www.trinity.org;

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityCatholicChurch/)

HolyTrinityCatholicChurch; or register for the eLetter at www.trinity.org