



# HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Washington, DC

December 24 & 31, 2017

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT/CHRISTMAS



### Please note!

Holy Trinity is hosting Georgetown Ministry Center's hypothermia shelter through **December 31**.

The Parish Center will be closed:

Monday, **December 25**

Tuesday, **December 26**

Monday, **January 1**

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

### A New Perspective on Christmas

My favorite part of the season is setting up the Christmas tree. After arranging the tinsel, lights and bulbs, I'd take out our family's beautiful Nativity scene. It has all the star players: Mary, Jesus, and accompanying farm animals. But the figure that I most identify with is a young girl who shyly holds a lantern aloft. You'll see her in many a nativity scene watching from the periphery—an ordinary girl on an extraordinary night.

I've been fascinated with this girl's story since I was a child. Long before I heard of Ignatian contemplation, I prayed over this figure and imagined the Nativity through her eyes. It strikes me that her role was small yet not insignificant in the great drama of salvation.

I imagine her irritation at the interruption the pregnant Mary caused in her busy schedule. How she must have resented having to leave the warmth of the inn to become a midwife for the birth of a Child she did not know. This gives me hope for my own small contributions.

I wish I could say that I am always willing when God interrupts my life. I think I'm a reasonably flexible person, but I still dislike when God throws a wrench into my grand plans and when I am asked to give more than I anticipated. It is hard for me to step outside of my comfortable "inn" for the uncertainty of the cave. Yet when I ask for courage and answer "Yes" to that whispered voice in my heart, surprising things happen. That is what the servant girl means to me, ordinary acts of service, that with God's help, create new life in me and in others. My mother often says that living our lives with and for God is about saying "yes" each day, especially to the interruptions. It is both that simple and that hard. —*Mary Mansour*

*Mary Mansour has been a parishioner of Holy Trinity since January 2016, when she moved to the area from Detroit, MI. She is a member of the YAC Steering Committee and the Holy Trinity Gardeners.*

MAIN CHURCH  
36th Street, between  
N and O Streets, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

PARISH CENTER  
3513 N Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 337-2840



[www.trinity.org](http://www.trinity.org)



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



[@HolyTrinityDC](https://twitter.com/HolyTrinityDC)



## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Jesuit Catholic parish that welcomes all to:

Accompany one another in Christ  
Celebrate God's love  
Transform lives

## PARISH CENTER

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

**Hours:** Mon-Thur: 8:30am-7:30pm; Fri: 8:30am-12pm through August 25; Sat & Sun: No receptionist on duty, but the parish center is accessible during mass times.

**Emergencies Only:** (202) 903-2817

## JESUIT STAFF

Pastor	Kevin Gillespie, S.J. (202) 903-2800	kgillespie@trinity.org
Associate Pastor	Paul Campbell, S.J. (202) 903-2832	pcampbell@trinity.org
Associate Pastor	William Kelley, S.J. (202) 903-2833	wkelley@trinity.org

## PARISH DEPARTMENTS

Communications	Karelia Pallan (202) 903-2837	Kaplan@trinity.org
Facilities	Tass McCarthy (202) 903-2813	tmccarthy@trinity.org
Faith Formation/ Religious Ed.	Judith Brusseau (202) 903-2807	jbrusseau@trinity.org
Finance	Chris Kehoe (202) 903-2811	ckehoe@trinity.org
Holy Trinity School	Charlie Hennessy (202) 337-2339	principal@htsdc.org
Human Resources	Angela Grady (202) 903-2803	agrady@trinity.org
Ignatian Spirituality	Martina O'Shea (202) 903-2810	moshea@trinity.org
Parish Life/ Pastor's Office	Lisa Dittmeier (202) 903-2801	ldittmeier@trinity.org
Music Ministry	Kathleen DeJardin (202) 903-2805	kdejardin@trinity.org
Social Justice	Kate Tromble (202) 903-2809	ktromble@trinity.org
Stewardship	Rock Schuler (202) 903-2843	rschuler@trinity.org
Worship & Liturgy	David Pennington (202) 903-2804	dpennington@trinity.org
Young Adult Community	Catherine Heinholt (202) 903-2819	cheinholt@trinity.org
Youth Ministry	Sara Seligmann (202) 903-2814	confirmation@trinity.org



## From the Pastor's Desk

As the old year wanes and a new one begins, I have an annual habit of performing a personal review of the year. Using the method of the Ignatian Examen, I consider the consolations and the desolations from January through December. This year, there are many consolations surrounding my parish ministry. They include our parish's support of the Cheikhos, our Syrian Muslim refugee family. In addition, I list our parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land as a source of special consolations—recalling and sharing the sacred sites of the Holy Land continues to provide a source of special graces.

These graces were rekindled this month when I visited the "Tomb of Christ" exhibit at the National Geographic Museum. The exhibit, which employs the latest in three-dimensional artistry, enables one to engage imaginatively the sacred places where Jesus died, was buried and was raised.

Some of you may be familiar with the National Geographic special whereby archeologists explored the place that Saint Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, commissioned a structure (or Holy Edicule) around what is believed to be the location where Jesus rose.

Since the structure required repair and therefore needed to be closed temporarily to the public, archaeologists were able to investigate the stone underneath the tomb. Through the exhibit, I was transported back to this area where I and eight other priests said Mass this past June. It was as if I was right back in the room.

In addition, the exhibit offers a comprehensive history of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which houses not only the tomb but also Calvary. I learned about its history from the destruction of Jerusalem to the building of the Temple by the Roman Emperor Hadrian in 150 AD, from the Crusades and the subsequent control by Muslim authorities to two fires and then the creation of the state of Israel. Throughout, one gets an overview of how Jerusalem's often tragic history has impacted the sacred sites.

The challenges involved in Jerusalem's history continue, as on the very day I visited the exhibit, the United States recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. This change in policy sadly has led to violence in the areas we visited last June, including Bethlehem and Jerusalem. It seems, then, in my Examen for the Year what has been a source of consolation also has some areas of desolation and, hence, a particular concern for prayer.

And so, while we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace so many years ago in Bethlehem and his death and resurrection in Jerusalem, may we remember the good people of the Holy Land, and pray for a lasting peace with justice in these sacred cities and lands.

On behalf of my fellow Jesuits and our staff, I wish you a Christmas inspired with wonderful blessings and a new year filled with many consolations.

## Daily Mass Intentions

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

Parishioners may 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:

### Week of December 25, 2017

Monday	7:00am	
	5:30pm	
Tuesday	7:00am	Eleanor & Henry DeBuck+
	5:30pm	Maria Cavanaugh+
Wednesday	7:00am	
	5:30pm	Josephine Martin+
Thursday	8:00am	Patrick E. Branen+ Buenaventura Family
	5:30pm	Howard Schaffer
Friday	8:00am	Bill Cloherty+ Jim Richeson+
	5:30pm	Joseph R. Adams+
Saturday	8:00am	James D. Molloy+

### Week of January 1, 2018

Monday	7:00am	Mary Boyle
	5:30pm	
Tuesday	7:00am	
	5:30pm	Catherine T. McNicholl+
Wednesday	7:00am	
	5:30pm	Frederick B. McNicoll+
Thursday	8:00am	
	5:30pm	Rosa & Jamie Perez+
Friday	8:00am	
	5:30pm	
Saturday	8:00am	

## PRAYER REQUESTS

To add a name to these prayer lists, contact Lisa Dittmeier at [ldittmeier@trinity.org](mailto:ldittmeier@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 and bulletin.

## SACRAMENTS

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

**Weekdays:** 7am, 8am & 5:30pm in the Chapel (on N St.)

*Note: Please see schedule for daily Mass times.*

*Chapel is open on weekdays between Masses.*

**Saturday:** 8am — Chapel; 5:30pm 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 on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the St. Ignatius Chapel. 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 at (202) 903-2806 or [hflanagan@trinity.org](mailto:hflanagan@trinity.org).

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:readmin@trinity.org), (202) 903-2808
- Adult Initiation (RCIA): Anne Koester, (202) 337-2840 x128
- Children's Initiation (RCIA): Judith Brusseau, (202) 903-2807
- Adult Confirmation: Judith Brusseau, (202) 903-2807
- Youth Confirmation: Judith Brusseau, (202) 903-2807

## NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome to Holy Trinity! We invite you to join our parish. You may register at [www.trinity.org/register](http://www.trinity.org/register). Questions about registering can be directed to [registration@trinity.org](mailto:registration@trinity.org).

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

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of conversion and faith formation for individuals who are interested in living the Christian life in the Catholic tradition. Those who want to learn more about the possibility of becoming Catholic are welcome to come to the Inquiry meetings held every Tuesday evening at 7pm in the Faber Room, Holy Trinity Parish Center. Please contact Anne Koester [akoester@trinity.org](mailto:akoester@trinity.org) for more information or visit our website.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

PPC members share leadership responsibility with our pastor. As advisors to the pastor, PPC members assist the pastor in discerning, articulating and communicating to other parishioners the identity and mission of the parish, and they assist the pastor in assuring fidelity to that identity and mission.

President Cecilia Boudreau [ppcpresident@trinity.org](mailto:ppcpresident@trinity.org)

Vice President Ellen Touns [parishcouncil@trinity.org](mailto:parishcouncil@trinity.org)

## WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

**December 24**

4pm, Church and Trinity Hall

5:45pm, 7:30pm, 9:30pm, Church

11:20pm, Lessons and Carols

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Mass Schedule

**December 25**, 8am, 10am, 11:30am, Church

Mass on the Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God

**January 1**, 10am, Church

*Please note: Beginning December 26, 7am Mass will be held **Mondays and Tuesdays only** and 8am Mass will be held **Wednesdays through Saturdays only***

## IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

**God's Abiding Love Retreat in Daily Life**

**January 21-27, 2018**

**Registration Deadline is January 7**

Brochures with registration forms are at the entrances to the church and chapel as well as online at [www.trinity.org/ignatian-spirituality/retreats](http://www.trinity.org/ignatian-spirituality/retreats) or email [moshea@trinity.org](mailto:moshea@trinity.org) for more information.

**Explore Nativities of the World**

**December 3– January 7**



There is still time to see this wonderful exhibit! The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America is showing a unique exhibit "Nativities of the World," from the collection of Holy Trinity parishioners Roger and Marguerite Sullivan. The free exhibit of 170 nativities will run daily from 9 am-

4:45pm at the Monastery complex, 1400 Quincy St NE, Washington, DC. The Sullivans have more than 500 nativities from over a hundred countries.

**Coming in 2018**

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

**February 3**

Movie Moments of Grace presents *Ixcanul*

**February 11-March 25**

Lenten Retreat

A six week long individually directed retreat made at home for individuals who want to engage in a practice of daily prayer during Lent. The retreat is appropriate for those who have made the full Spiritual Exercises or another Ignatian retreat.

Visit our website to learn more!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

**Thank You to All That Participated in Our Christmas Giving!**

We had a wonderful response to the Giving Tree, including Families to Families this year. Through your generosity, the men, women, children and families of A Wider Circle, St Ann's Center for Children Youth and Families, Mary House, Christ House, Bright Beginnings, Spanish Catholic Center, Fr. McKenna Center, Georgetown Ministry Center, Hope and a Home, the Northwest Center, and the San Miguel School, will receive necessities and treasures this Christmas. Thank you to all the parishioners who participated, the religious education classes that adopted families, the volunteers who organized request lists, tags and gifts, and the youth who wrapped, hauled and loaded. It was a true parish-wide effort. Thank you!!

**Winter Coat Drive**

It's getting cold outside! Please consider donating gently used or new coats for Catholic Charities' Coat Closet. We will collect coats on **January 6** and **January 7**. Just place your coats in the bins outside of church. Thank you!

**People of Faith: Confronting the Challenge of Racism**

Please save the date to join us for an Interfaith conversation on Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend about how our community of faithful people can, together, confront racism in our world today. **January 14**, 2:30pm at Holy Trinity. More details coming!

**Attention CPAs!**

This upcoming tax return season, Catholic Charities is managing an IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program at Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. CPAs and tax lawyers are needed to provide *pro bono* tax preparation for the working poor. If a return is filed, many of these workers will enjoy a sizeable IRS refund check due in large part to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC can help lift thousands of Washington area families out of poverty and keeps them out of poverty. Sadly, almost 20,000 low income residents of DC are not claiming the EITC, and thus are losing a potential financial resource for them.

We will be providing training in January for all interested volunteers. Tax return preparation will take place on Saturdays from February 3 to April 14. To learn more about volunteering for Catholic Charities VITA Program, please email Deacon Jim Shanahan at [jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org](mailto:jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org) or call (202) 772-4310.

**Stay Connected in 2018!**

Sign up for weekly updates at [www.trinity.org/eLetter](http://www.trinity.org/eLetter)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/ FAITH FORMATION

### First Eucharist Meeting

The First Eucharist Parent meeting will be **January 7** at 10:10am in the Chapel. This first gathering will focus on Eucharist's meaning and then a prayerful reflection on our experience. Childcare will be available in the Upper School cafeteria for children who do not attend RE. For more information, contact [REAdmin@trinity.org](mailto:REAdmin@trinity.org).

### Save the Date!

In the week of the Church Unity Octave, January 18 - 25, Anthony Tambasco, Ph.D., will lead the Sunday morning adult education program on *Inter-Faith Activity: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?* **January 21**, 10:10am, Chapel

## PARISH LIFE

### Holy Trinity 50 Plus Group

The Holy Trinity 50 Plus Group has an exciting schedule of activities organized for parishioners who are 50 or over, married or single, working or retired. If you would like to get on the email list to receive information about activities/service/outings and to take part in monthly events, please email Linda Wiessler-Hughes and Michael Hughes at [michaelinda88@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelinda88@hotmail.com)

### 2018 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Father Brendan Lally, S.J. of St. Joseph's University will serve as spiritual director for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from June 12-22, 2018. Join Father Gillespie on **January 14** at 1:15pm in the Chapel to learn more about this journey. For more information about the pilgrimage, visit [www.pilgrimages.com/frlally](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frlally)

## STEWARDSHIP

### 2018 Parish Pledge

As 2017 ends, please close-out your 2017 pledge or offer your year-end gift. And please help us meet our 2018 goal of \$3.2M! Pledge or give at [www.trinity.org/give](http://www.trinity.org/give). Your response to God's grace through your gift is deeply appreciated. Merry Christmas & Thank you!

### Homilies for All Seasons

We have published a selection of homilies that Fr. Leo Murray presented at Holy Trinity between 2004 and 2014. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the front desk in the Parish Center during business hours. The cost is \$20, and proceeds will benefit the English-Murray Memorial Fund.

### Prayer for the New Year

In the year ahead, God of New Beginnings,  
Stretch our souls and move us into new awareness  
Of the human family, their needs and their longings.

Make these into our needs and our longings  
So we move more confidently from our small selves  
To a deeper sense of community where our  
resolutions reflect  
Our interdependence.

Help us recognize the possibilities you have offered  
To us as a people, so we can commit to practice  
The Hope that happens when we gather gratefully in  
your Name,

We hold up to you this fragile, precious world.

Grant us all the grace in this year ahead  
To sow the seeds of justice and to gather peace in our  
day. Amen.— *Jane Deren, Ph.D.*

*Used with permission Education for Justice, a project of Center of Concern; [www.educationforjustice.org](http://www.educationforjustice.org)*

## HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL



Holy Trinity School

*A Catholic Elementary School  
in the Jesuit Tradition*

### OPEN HOUSE

**January 11, 2018**  
9-10:30am

Register at  
[www.htsdc.org/visit](http://www.htsdc.org/visit)

\*Best entry years are  
Pre-K, Kindergarten  
& 5th Grade



1325 36th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

[admissions@htsdc.org](mailto:admissions@htsdc.org)  
(202) 337-2339