Responding to Violence in a New Way

Written in 2014 after the Chicago Fourth of July weekend shootings, this reflection by Jason Downer, S.J. resonates just as well today. Reprinted with permission from the Jesuit Post.

We live in a country where at least 14 people were killed over the 4th of July weekend in Chicago and where mass shootings seem to have become normal. We live in a world with old and new conflicts creating more and more violence: Israel and Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Sudan, Ukraine...etc. What is our reaction when we see this violence? What a shame. They need our prayers. Why is all this happening, God?!

I have always been moved by people who are able to respond artistically. Bob Dylan sang of Ruben “Hurricane” Carter who was set up by police for murder. Bruce Springsteen sang of Amadu Diallo who was shot 41 times by police. School children in Chicago at the Daley Academy used drawing as a means of expressing their own reaction. Reactions can vary from protests, peace vigils, or poetry.

The Alternate Routes, with two members who are graduates of Fairfield University, released a song last year to raise awareness for Newton Kindness, a charity that was formed to honor one of the victims of the Sandy Hook tragedy, Charlotte Bacon. Their mission is to foster compassion in children. One of the repeated lines of the Alternate Routes song goes:

We are how we treat each other, nothing more.

It is a good reminder of something we have heard time and time again, we are all in this together. When we turn away from the violence in different parts of our own cities, states, or countries, aren’t we really just telling the people that live there we don’t care?  

Continued on page 5

Prayer for Students Against Gun Violence

Bless our young people as they work
With wild hope to end gun violence,
To stop the slaughter, and to restrict
The proliferation of weapons in this country.

Bless these students, impatient for justice,
With both passion in the present,
And patience for the long haul,
The difficult labor of changing systems and structures.

Bless these students who want to be
The change they wish to see in this country
Help them hold on to the wisdom that
The way to peace is through peaceful confrontation.

Bless these young adults, their teachers, parents,
Community members and all who support them
In solidarity for the common good,
All coming together to advocate for nonviolence.

Bless us as we strive to build a legacy
Of working for justice and peace,
So they may learn from our struggles
And keep speaking truth to power. Amen

- Jane Deren, Ph.D. Copyright © 2018, Education for Justice, a project of Center of Concern.

The Archdiocese of Washington has shared links to some valuable resources for parents and teachers, which we have posted on our website www.trinity.org/resources.
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

JESUITS 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 kpallan@trinity.org
Facilities Dino Campagnari (202) 903-2813 dcampagnari@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 Heinhold (202) 903-2819 cheinhold@trinity.org
Youth Ministry Judith Brusseau (202) 903-2807 confirmation@trinity.org

Living Our Mission:
Transform Lives

This week’s column is written by Carlos Salinas & Ellen J. Toups, Members of the Parish Pastoral Council

The warm spells, the forsythia, the daffodils all point to spring’s arrival, just as surely as Lent heralds Easter Sunday. Death is not the final word. The Kingdom, not entropy, is what awaits us. Scripture tells us time and again that God is a living God. Often when we discuss the liturgical calendar in our Religious Education classes, we highlight its circular nature—that just as there will be another winter and spring, so will we celebrate another Lent and Easter. But with each “pass,” we encounter the season with a perspective that has likely changed over the past year. And thus more than 700 children of the Religious Education program, along with the more than 300 students at Holy Trinity School, encounter our faith in a classroom setting. The classroom is one of many settings in which our parish lives its calling to help us all be open to God meeting us where we are, to be open to the transformative reality of God’s love. There may be as many as 100 active ministries in the parish, from Ignatian Spirituality and Prayer to Social Justice action and advocacy, to accompanying those who are grieving to the meticulous tending of our gardens: all allow us to build bridges to the best and the least of our entire local community. As we satisfy our spiritual hunger to accompany one another in Christ, we continue to build our parish to mirror our belief that all are welcome at God’s table.

One of the pleasures of serving on the Parish Pastoral Council is learning about these ministries in order to provide our pastor with advice on advancing our parish’s mission. Coming together from many backgrounds, we encourage an increasing conscience across our ministries about our mission: welcoming all to accompany one another in Christ, celebrate God’s love and transforms lives.

In this spirit, we will soon be celebrating the 200th Anniversary of our school and the 225th anniversary of our parish. But before we get to that, we will be holding our yearly elections for our Parish Council in June.

Would you consider sharing your gifts by serving on the council? All are welcome at our monthly meetings. We would welcome your attendance on March 21 or at our Parish Leadership Night on April 18. We always have time allotted for parishioners to express any concern or idea about the parish right after our opening prayer. This is your parish and your council. And whatever you decide, please vote in June.

April 18
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 March 5, 2018
Monday  7:00am
  5:30pm  Don & Ellie Fountain+
Tuesday  7:00am
  5:30pm  William Holley, Jr.+
Wednesday  8:00am  Nemecio Campos+
   5:30pm  Tom & Julie Ronsairo+
Thursday  8:00am  Casmir Czarkowski+
   5:30pm  Colleen Mallet-Prevost+
Friday  8:00am  Ann Gill+
   5:30pm  Rose Marie Karlsson
Saturday  8:00am

Pray for those who are sick:  Ellen Warnock

Pray for those who are dead:  Helen Coll

PRAYER REQUESTS
To add a name to these prayer lists, contact Lisa Dittmeier at 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.

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) 337-2840 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. Questions about registering can be directed to 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 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
Vice President  Ellen Toups  parishcouncil@trinity.org
**LENTEN JOURNEY**

**Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation**
Wednesday, 6:30-8pm  
Saturday, 4:30-5:15pm  
Parish Reconciliation Liturgy, **March 28**, 7-8:15pm

**Praying in Sacred Space: A Lenten Journey**
Hosted by the 5th Week Group: Living the Spiritual Exercises  
**Saturdays, March 10, 17, 24**  
4-5pm, McKenna Hall (Note! **March 10** will be held in St. Ignatius Chapel)

In Lent, we are invited to deeper prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (or direct service). You are invited to take one hour during each week of Lent to reflect on your Lenten practices by praying with Lenten Scripture passages using the Lenten Sacred Space books. All are welcome. Registration is not necessary—come as you are! Questions? Please contact Martina O'Shea at moshea@trinity.org.

**Share a Simple Supper**
Enjoy a simple meal and prayerful conversation; select Fridays, 6pm, McKenna Hall  
**March 9** Hosted by Religious Education  
**March 23** Hosted by our Sister Parish Committees

**IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY**

**Ignatian Training Program to Become a Spiritual Director or Spiritual Companion**

At Holy Trinity and throughout the metropolitan area, there is a serious shortage of men and women who are well-formed in the tradition and practice of Ignatian spirituality. Through the generosity of parishioners who contributed to the 2013 Capital Campaign, Holy Trinity created a two-pronged training program that trains spiritual directors and spiritual companions in the Ignatian tradition—one that is accessible and affordable to individuals who have full-time work and family responsibilities. The next Ignatian Training Program will begin in September and the deadline to apply is **June 30**. For more information, pick up a brochure in the back of the church, visit [www.trinity.org/training-programs-in-the-ignatian-tradition](http://www.trinity.org/training-programs-in-the-ignatian-tradition), or contact Martina O'Shea at moshea@trinity.org.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**Meet Reading Partners**

Reading Partners places community volunteers in low-income DC schools to help students master essential reading skills. Their one-on-one tutoring model empowers students to succeed in reading and life by providing personal attention to each student. Come learn more about Reading Partners volunteer opportunities **today** at 10:10am in the Lower School Big Room.

**Volunteers Needed at SOME**

Every month, on the fourth Sunday of the month for 40 years, Holy Trinity has been serving breakfast and lunch at So Others Might Eat (SOME). The requirement is quite simple: you arrive at 10am and leave at 1:30pm. In between you serve food, wipe down tables, set places, and generally make the men and women eating feel welcome. To keep this tradition going, we are in need of new volunteers. If you are interested, please sign up on the Social Justice web page.

**Book Club**

This Lent, we are hosting book club **March 11** at 4pm in McKenna Hall. The book we’ll be reading is *Mercy in the City: How to Feed the Hungry, Give Drink to the Thirsty, Visit the Imprisoned, and Keep Your Day Job* by Kerry Weber, who may join us via Skype. Join us, even if you haven't read the book! We are looking forward to a thoughtful, dynamic conversation about how we incorporate service and justice into our daily life. For more information, email yacs+socialjustice@trinity.org.

**Franciscan Mission Service Trip to Bolivia**

Facilitated by an FMS staff member in collaboration with the Carmen Pampa campus of the Catholic University of Bolivia, the **May 11-19** Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness trip will provide opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and pastoral theological reflection informed by Catholic Social Teaching. By immersing themselves in the life of a university founded by Franciscan sisters for first-generation students from rural villages, participants will gain not only an understanding of the challenges and joys that characterize the Carmen Pampa community, but also a deeper understanding of how certain human experiences transcend borders. Participants will also lend a hand with work on campus (e.g. gardening, child care, English club) and attend cultural activities.

For information, contact Meghan Meros at meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org or (202) 832-1762 x4.

**Receive Weekly Email Updates!**
Sign up at [www.trinity.org/eLetter](http://www.trinity.org/eLetter)
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FAITH FORMATION

Simple Supper &
March 9, 6pm, McKenna Hall
Join us for a Simple Supper of mac and cheese. Please bring a loaf of bread to share.

Stations of the Cross
March 9, 7pm, Church
Lead by students grades 3-6 of Sunday Morning religious Education Program.

Adult Faith Formation
Save the Date! Fr. Bill Kelley, S.J. will discuss the Sacrament of Reconciliation from the pastoral perspective. March 11, 10:10 am in St. Ignatius Chapel.

Please visit www.trinity.org/faith-formation for more information on all our programs.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to all who have provided such a tremendous and generous response to Father Gillespie's 2018 stewardship request! As you can see, 2018 pledges—as of February 23—reached 88% of the total pledged for all of 2017. At the same time, we reached 88% of 2017's total number of households pledging. This is a wonderful blessing for which we give thanks to God, and to all of you. It is a beautiful demonstration of how our parishioners put their blessings to work for the service of others near and far. If you have not yet had a chance to make a pledge and/or set up recurring donation for 2018, please do so at www.trinity.org/give or call Rock Schuler at (202) 903-2843 should you need assistance.

200th/225th Anniversary Committees
Planning is underway for Holy Trinity School’s 200th Anniversary and Holy Trinity Catholic Church’s 225th Anniversary. Soon, we will provide a link to a volunteer survey highlighting the schedule of events and inviting parishioners to join in the celebrations! For more information, email communications@trinity.org.

Responding to Violence, cont. from page 1

This might seem to be the only sane coping mechanism—to turn away and to not be overwhelmed. Safe, maybe. But, if we turn away from the violence, do we miss the opportunity to grow closer to each other, closer even to God?

The late Jesuit priest Dean Brackley remarked in his book The Call to Discernment in Troubled Times that:

“These turbulent times disclose our needs for a discipline of the spirit. To respond to our world we must get free to love. That involves personal transformation, which includes coming to terms with evil in the world and in ourselves, accepting forgiveness, and changing.”

But how do we “come to terms”? How do we engage with these troubled times? Well I think it starts by not turning away. Rather, turn towards. It can be something as simple as when reading articles about the violence, to go over them slowly, prayerfully. If a name is mentioned, either victim or perpetrator, pray for that person by name. Use your talents to express your reactions, maybe it is writing a poem that no one will ever see. The reaction we have to violence is personal and the more we examine it and pray with it, the more we will let it transform us.

* * *

Once we examine and pray about our reaction to violence, we may find that one way to turn toward it is to engage our elected officials about our concerns. If you feel called to respond in this way, please come to the next Building Our Toolbox for Justice session March 10 at 10am in McKenna Hall. Parishioner Jenny Smulson and Jesuit Refugee Service Policy Director Giulia McPherson will teach us some practical tools for advocating for a less violent community. For more information, contact Kate Tromble, ktromle@trinity.org.

PARISH LIFE

Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day
Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a Parish Connections Potluck get-together Saturday, March 17 from 6:30-9:30pm in McKenna Hall. Wear your green! Please RSVP at www.trinity.org/signup. All are welcome!

Aging Seminar
The Holy Trinity 50+ Community will host the second session of a Speaker Series for seniors and those who love and care for them. The session, Community-Based Aging Resources, will be held on March 11 at 10:10am in the Lower School Big Room. Contact Cathi Coridan at cathi.coridan@verizon.net for more information.
**Sunday, March 4**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:10 AM</td>
<td>Reading Partners Volunteer Presentation</td>
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<td>Lower School Big Room</td>
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**Monday, March 5**

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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Separated Widowed &amp; Divorced Group Meeting</td>
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**Tuesday, March 6**

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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)</td>
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<td>Faber Room &amp; McKenna Hall</td>
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**Wednesday, March 7**

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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Lenten Reconciliation</td>
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<td>Church</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Holy Trinity Book Group</strong></td>
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**Thursday, March 8**

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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Christian Meditation Group</td>
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<td>Saint Ignatius Chapel</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Marriage Preparation</strong></td>
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<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Young Adult Faith Sharing</td>
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<td>Saint Ignatius Chapel</td>
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**Friday, March 9**

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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Simple Supper hosted by Religious Education</td>
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<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>Saint Ignatius Chapel</td>
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**Saturday, March 10**

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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>Zen Meditation</strong></td>
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<td>Parish Center Upper Room, <a href="mailto:rdruecker@aol.com">rdruecker@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Build Your Toolbox of Justice</strong></td>
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<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>Grief Support Group</strong></td>
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<td>Upper Room</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Praying in Sacred Space</strong></td>
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<td>Saint Ignatius Chapel</td>
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**Sunday, March 11**

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<td>10:10 AM</td>
<td>Religious Education</td>
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<td>10:10 AM</td>
<td>Adult Faith Formation</td>
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<td>Saint Ignatius Chapel</td>
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<td>10:10 AM</td>
<td><strong>Aging Seminar</strong></td>
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<td>Lower School Big Room</td>
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<td><strong>“Mercy in the City” Book Discussion</strong></td>
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<td>McKenna Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 PM</td>
<td>Young Adult Community (YAC) Mass &amp; Cafe</td>
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**Coming Up:**

March 17: Parish Connection St. Patrick’s Day Potluck

Please visit [www.trinity.org/lent](http://www.trinity.org/lent) for information about our Lenten offerings

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**Daily Readings:**
[www.usecb.org/bible/readings](http://www.usecb.org/bible/readings)

**For a complete list of events, visit:**
[www.trinity.org/calendar](http://www.trinity.org/calendar)

**Join us for coffee & fellowship:**
Sundays after 9am & 11:30am Masses