Our Continuing Commitment to Ecumenism and the Crisis in the Church

By Judith Brusseau

Mainstream Catholics sometimes pay little to no attention to what goes on in ecumenism—the great strides we have made in our dialogues with our brothers and sisters of other Christian faiths. Certainly, we have moved closer to full Christian unity, and it is important for all of us to understand how this affects us and our own faith, particularly as we face the crisis in our Church.

John Borelli, Ph.D., Special Assistant to the President for Catholic Identity and Dialogue at Georgetown University, is helping us understand the work that has been done and what it means to us at a lecture today at 10:10am in the Chapel of St. Ignatius.

“Remarkably, Catholic principles for ecumenical engagement continue to function 55 years after Vatican II formulated them,” Borelli says. “Our ecumenical agreements, papal messages and Catholic representations reiterate them all the time. We continue striving for full communion in faith, sacramental life and the bonds of Christian life in the ways we live the Gospel and organize our church relationships.

“For example, as we anticipate the February gathering of bishops that Pope Francis has summoned for Rome on the crisis of abuse and leadership, we rely in faith on structures of full communion to allow needed discernment and decision-making. We also expect that in implementing any decisions for addressing the problems we face collectively bishops will engage all who identify as Catholics and wish to be involved in the resolution. We believe that parish, diocesan, regional and universal church structures share these expectations of full communion.”

In June 1996, the retired Archbishop of San Francisco, John R. Quinn, gave a widely publicized address at the Jesuit Campion Hall, Oxford University, “The Claims of the Primacy and the Costly Call to Unity.” It was a first draft of his 1999 book The Reform of the Papacy (Ut Unum Sint). The Latin words for “that they be one” (John 17:21), were the title of the 1995 papal encyclical on ecumenism, and in its concluding paragraphs, the pope famously invited other Christians to dialogue with him on how the papacy may serve the unity of the church. Archbishop Quinn argued that the restoration of unity requires the Catholic Church to give up its monarchical structure, beginning with the papacy. Later that year at a bishops’ meeting, Borelli thanked Archbishop Quinn for elevating our ecumenical outreach to other Christians and calling for reform within the Church. The archbishop replied, “What’s good for the goose is good

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Implementing the Liturgy of Vatican II Mass in English. A full proclamation of God’s Word. Music in which the assembly participates by singing. Homilies that connect living to the liturgy we celebrate. Imagine that, in the 225 years our parish has gathered on Holy Hill, the Mass you know has been celebrated for only a quarter of our life together.

In 1963, the Second Vatican Council issued the landmark document Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, which set out a theology and vision for how the Roman Catholic Church would celebrate the liturgy—Mass, the other Sacraments, Liturgy of the Hours, and the Liturgical Year. At Holy Trinity, the vision of the Second Vatican Council took hold with vigor. It was a place of experimentation and innovation, both for good and for bad. Historic photographs of the church tell us that our forebears began to simplify the Victorian decorations in the church and removed an ornate “high altar” well before 1963’s liturgy Constitution. And after 1963, the parish entered full-force into experimentation with the now-famous (or infamous) Circus Mass, guitar and jazz Masses, and forays into Ecumenical celebrations.

Many thought (and may still think) that those early days of liturgical renewal were the fullest expression of the Church’s liturgy. But folks who study Church history tell us that we can only begin to see the fullest effects of a Church Council, like Vatican II, some 100 years after its implementation. So, some 55 years on, and in the context of this historic parish’s 225 years, where have we been and what’s left to do?

You’re welcome to an expert panel discussion on the implementation of Vatican II’s vision of liturgy on Saturday, January 26 at 10am in Trinity Hall. We’ll begin with coffee and light breakfast at 9:30am in the Upper School Cafeteria. Jim Sabak, OFM, the Director of Worship for the Diocese of Raleigh and former Holy Trinity RCIA formator, and I will moderate the following panel of experts:

- **Msgr. Kevin Irwin**—Research professor of Liturgical Studies/Sacramental Theology at The Catholic University of America, author of eighteen books and eighty articles, and regular presider at Holy Trinity.
- **Gail Ramshaw**—A theologian and crafter of liturgical language, past president of the North American Academy of Liturgy, and professor emerita of religion at LaSalle University
- **John Buscemi**—A renowned liturgical artist and liturgical consultant
- **Deacon Paul Covino**—Director of Campus Ministry at Assumption College, author of several pastoral books, and former staff at Holy Trinity and Georgetown Center for Liturgy

The panel will discuss the past and future of the liturgy and take questions from the audience. Both parishioners and friends are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to HT225@trinity.org.
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 January 21, 2019

Monday 7:00am Denise Rizk+
5:30pm Frank Zodl+

Tuesday 7:00am Jim Richeson+
5:30pm Genowesa Kapusto+

Wednesday 8:00am Dale Cooter+
5:30pm Bill Noonan+

Thursday 8:00am Loretta M. Favret+
5:30pm Tom Tight+

Friday 8:00am Maria J. Carneiro Frota+
5:30pm Joan DeGioia+

Saturday 8:00am George & Margaret Norris+

Pray for those who are sick: Carole Ewens; John Wiss

Pray for those who are dead: John Orson Gurney, Jr.

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 (Monday & Tuesday), 8am (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) & 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 seasonally 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 Beth Gray at (202) 903-2806 or bgray@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 Prep: 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 Ellen Toups ppccpresident@trinity.org

Vice President Chris Hannigan parishcouncil@trinity.org
IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY
Afternoon with a Jesuit
Join us on January 27 at 4pm in the Chapel as Tim O’Brien S.J. will share his journey from being a YAC at Holy Trinity discerning his calling to the Jesuits and his experience as a novice. Hosted by the Young Adult Community (YAC) and open to the whole parish.

SOCIAL JUSTICE
Joint Prayer & Service with Mt. Zion Methodist Church
We will commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr. day this year (January 21) with a joint prayer service and service project with our neighbors at Mt. Zion Methodist Church. We will gather at 9am to travel to A Wider Circle in Southeast, DC and return by 2 pm. More details to follow, but please let Kate Tromble know if you would like to participate, ktromble@trinity.org.

Women Who Persisted
On February 4 we will begin our third short series reflecting on women in scripture. Led once again by Anne Koester and Liz McCloskey, this series will focus on Miriam, Hannah & Peninnah, the Canaanite Woman and Martha & Mary. We will meet from 7pm to 8:30pm in McKenna Hall. Women and Men are welcome! Questions? Kate Tromble, ktromble@trinity.org or (202) 903-2809.

REligious Education/ Faith Formation
Adult Faith Formation
The Search for Christian Unity: Where Are We and What Matters?
Today, January 20, 10:10am, Chapel
John Borelli will offer some remarks on how the questions are “different from the questions decades ago” and comment on the issues and implications being faced by the churches. Additionally, the presentation will offer some of the principles and concepts now at work, such as Differentiating Consensus, Lack of Symmetry, and Steps on the Way to Full Communion. He also will highlight signs of hope and causes of concern.

Stay Connected! Sign up for weekly updates at www.trinity.org/eLetter

Interested in exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic?
Anyone who wants to learn more about becoming Catholic is welcome to come to the Inquiruy meetings that are part of the RCIA process and that are held every Tuesday evening at 7pm in the Faber Room, Holy Trinity Parish Center. www.trinity.org/become-catholic

Safe Environment Training
January 27, 12-3pm, Trinity Hall
Holy Trinity will host Safe Environment Training for all adults seeking to serve as chaperones, coaches, catechists or in any volunteer capacity with children. This training is required. To register, go to www.VIRTUS.org.

Returning & Inactive Catholics Welcome
Landings offers Catholics who has been away from active practice, “a safe place to land,” a place for listening and for being heard, a place for asking questions and for reconnecting with the faith as an adult. We will begin our next sessions, on Saturday afternoons, in mid-January. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Judith Brusseau at 202-903-2807, or Brian Flanagan at landings@trinity.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY
Confirmation
Youth Confirmation Session #2 will meet on January 23 in Trinity Hall. Pizza will be served at 6:30pm, session starts at 7pm. This session is for candidates. Please contact Judith Brusseau with any questions at confirmation@trinity.org. Updated information on Service options and reporting, Saint Reflection and more may be found at www.trinity.org/8th-grade-confirmation-program.

PARISH LIFE
Book Discussion Group
The Holy Trinity Book Discussion Group continues discussions on Vatican I: The Council and the Making of the Ultramontane Church. January 23, 7:15pm, McKenna C. All are welcome! Please email Robert Stewart at grobertstewart1@mac.com for more information.

Parents of Young Children
Please join together January 26 from 9:30-10:45am with your children (newborn—5 years) in McKenna Hall. For more information, contact Kelly Rogers at kellyrogers615@gmail.com.
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for the gander.” “In other words,” Borelli says, “What we require of other Christians for full communion with us we should require of ourselves!”

Pope Francis has come the closest to institutionalizing that needed reform of our Catholic bonds of communion in emphasizing Christian accompaniment and “the dialogue of fraternity.” He applies these expressions to ecumenical life as well to our relationships within the Catholic Church.

Borelli says, “We can enjoy closer accompaniment and fellowship with other Christians, just as we Catholics might expect our bishops to reach sufficient consensus to allow closer accompaniment with us in resolving the present crisis.”

STEWARDSHIP

Phone-A-Thon
This month we will hold our annual Phone-A-Thon in support of the 2019 Parish Pledge campaign. Phone-A-Thon volunteers personally call parish households who have not yet had an opportunity to offer a pledge to the parish or a financial commitment for 2019. The Phone-A-Thon is needed this year more than ever as we strive to spread the good news of what Jesus Christ is accomplishing through the worship and ministries of our parish—especially in this current moment when good news about the Church is so needed and such a powerful witness! The Phone-A-Thon will take place the evenings of January 23, January 24, January 28, and January 31 from 6-9pm each night. Dinner is provided. Please contact Rock Schuler, at rschuler@trinity.org or (202) 903-2843 if you are able to help!

PS: If you have not yet made your 2019 pledge, please do so at www.trinity.org/give.

225TH ANNIVERSARY

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL AT THE 200TH/225TH ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT

200th/225th Anniversary Benefit
March 2, 7pm, Sequoia
Tickets are on sale for the Anniversary Benefit supporting Jesuit education and our social justice programs. The evening is a cocktail event with buffet style stations and will include entertainment, dancing and a live and silent auction. Tickets are $100 until February 3. Tickets are limited and may be purchased online at www.trinity.org/benefit. If you would like to donate to the silent auction, please email HTbenefit@trinity.org. Happy Anniversary!

Anniversary Lecture Series
Implementation of Vatican II Liturgy
January 26, 10am, Trinity Hall
Implementing Principles of Ignatian Spirituality in Relationships:
A Discussion with Tim & Susan Muldoon
February 23, 6:30pm, McKenna Hall
Focus is on adult relationships/marriage
February 24, 10:10am, Trinity Hall
Focus is on family life
Visit www.trinity.org/225 to RSVP and to learn more about future speakers.

Holy Trinity Time Capsule

On the side of the Chapel of St. Ignatius, near the fountain, you will find two gravestones from Holy Trinity’s past. One is of Mary, wife of Notley Young, Esq., a sister of the first U.S. Catholic bishop, Archbishop John Carroll; she died January 10, 1815, aged 72. The other is that of Mary, wife of Augustus Taney, and sister-in-law of Supreme Court Chief Justice Taney; she died August 16, 1817.

The Holy Trinity Columbarium at Holy Rood Cemetery
Holy Trinity and Georgetown University have announced a plan to restore Holy Rood Cemetery on Wisconsin Avenue, including repairs to existing infrastructure, enhancements to landscaping and improvements to the cemetery entrance. The plan will also allow Holy Trinity to build a columbarium at the cemetery. To learn more about the project or purchase a niche, visit www.holytrinitycolumbarium.org.