

HELLO AGAIN.

THIS WEEKEND WILL MARK THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF OUR PARISH'S SHUTDOWN DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS. IT CERTAINLY HAS BEEN A CHALLENGING AND LONG TWO YEARS. I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY WAYS PARISHIONERS OF HOLY TRINITY HAVE RESPONDED WITH GENEROSITY AND WITH PATIENCE. IN RECOGNIZING THESE TWO YEARS I AM ANNOUNCING, THAT BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND MASKS IN THE CHAPEL AND THE CHURCH WILL BE OPTIONAL. DURING THE RECEPTION OF THE EUCHARIST PRIESTS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS WILL CONTINUE TO USE MASKS. ANYONE WHO IS NOT UP TO DATE VACCINATIONS IS ASKED TO WEAR A MASK. MOREOVER, THIS WEEK HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL, IN RESPONSE TO MAYOR BOWSER'S OFFICE ALLOWING FOR OPTIONAL MASKING, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL NO LONGER REQUIRE MASKS IN THE CLASSROOMS.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE A STATE OF HOLY TRINITY PARISH BY LISTING A VARIETY OF PARISH HAPPENINGS. OUR PARISH CONTINUES TO BE BLESSED BY AN AMAZING NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES.

FOR EXAMPLE OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS BETH FRIGOLA-MCGINN REPORTS THAT

- OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS OUR MASSES, HOMILIES AND REFLECTIONS HAVE BEEN VIEWED OVER 105,000 TIMES BY PEOPLE FROM AS FAR AWAY AS NIGERIA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

- THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUBSCRIBING TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL GREW BY NEARLY 500 LAST YEAR.

WE NOW HAVE ROUGHLY 1,700 SUBSCRIBERS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD.

- OVER THE PAST YEAR, PEOPLE ALL ACROSS THE WORLD HAVE SPENT A COMBINED 19,000 HOURS WATCHING AND LISTENING TO US DELIVER THE MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE.

MEANWHILE WITH THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE BEEN VACCINATED AND RECEIVED BOOSTER SHOTS AS WELL AS THE STEADY DECLINE OF THE COVID VIRUS AND ITS VARIANTS, MORE PARISHIONERS IN THE PAST MONTH HAVE RETURNED TO ATTEND ONE OF OUR 5 WEEKEND MASSES. WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU ATTEND AND PARTICIPATING. AND YES THE LIVESTREAM 9:00 SUNDAY MASS HAS AND WILL CONTINUE.

ALSO ON ASH WEDNESDAY THE ENTIRE HTS STUDENT BODY, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS GATHERED IN THE CHURCH FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE ASH WEDNESDAY, 2020. IT WAS INDEED A DAY OF ASHES AND GRACE. OUR PARISH'S OTHER THREE ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES WERE ALSO VERY WELL ATTENDED.

SYNOD

HOLY TRINITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL WIDE CATHOLIC CHURCH SYNOD HAS BEEN REMARKABLE. SOME 300 PARISHIONERS PARTICIPATED IN ONE OF 7 GATHERINGS. MORE THAN 100 PAGES OF NOTES HAVE BEEN CONDENSED INTO A TWO-PAGE REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE ADW. ON SATURDAY, MAY 14TH I, ALONG WITH TWO PARISHIONERS, JENNIFER DORSEY (VICE CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL) AND ASHLEY KLINK (DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL JUSTICE), WILL PARTICIPATE AT THE ADW SYNOD GATHERING. A SUMMARY OF OUR SYNOD'S REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THIS WEEKEND'S PARISH BULLETIN AND ON THE WEBSITE.

PARISH LIFE

TURNING TO OUR PARISH LIFE ACTIVITIES, THIS PAST WEEKEND WE HAD OUR WINTER NEW PARISHIONER ORIENTATION WHICH 30 NEW PARISHIONERS ATTENDED. FOR THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE BEEN REGISTERING BETWEEN 25 AND 40 FAMILIES PER MONTH. I SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT ON SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH, 23 PARISH PILGRIMS, INCLUDING MYSELF, WILL FLY TO SPAIN TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EIGHT DAY PILGRIMAGE TO THE JESUIT SITES IN SPAIN AND IN ROME. OUR VENTURE IS PART OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE IGNATIAN YEAR WHICH COMMEMORATES THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONVERSION EXPERIENCES OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA.

IGNATIAN PRAYER

MY COLLEAGUE MARTINA O'SHEA REPORTS THAT OUR IGNATIAN PRAYER PROGRAMS ARE FLOURISHING! ALL FOUR OF OUR RECENT IGNATIAN RETREATS IN DAILY LIFE WERE FILLED TO CAPACITY! MOREOVER, THOSE MAKING TWO RETREATS, ONE TITLED, "SETTING CAPTIVES FREE: RACISM, I AND YOU" AND THE OTHER "GOD'S LIBERATING GRACE" INCLUDED 60 INDIVIDUALS NOT ONLY FROM, HOLY TRINITY AND WASHINGTON AREA JESUIT APOSTLATES BUT ALSO FROM AS FAR AWAY AS IRELAND.

OUR SPIRITUALITY PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO FORM INDIVIDUALS TO BECOME SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS AND GIVERS OF THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES. FIFTEEN INDIVIDUALS FROM THE WASHINGTON AREA, MALAYSIA, AND KOREA ARE DEEPENING THEIR GIFTS FOR BEING A CONTEMPLATIVE PRESENCE AS THEY RESPOND TO THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. IN ADDITION, MARTINA REPORTS THAT INDIVIDUALS CONTINUE TO TURN TO HOLY TRINITY FOR HELP IN FINDING A SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR AND SOMEONE WHO CAN GUIDE THEM THROUGH THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES. SHE HAS MET WITH AND ASSISTED FORTY SIX INDIVIDUALS IN FINDING A SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR.

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

MEANWHILE CATHERINE HEINHOLD REPORTS THAT THIS WEEK, MORE THAN 50 PARISHIONERS, INCLUDING SCHOOL PARENTS, BEGAN A LENTEN AND EASTER JOURNEY OF WEEKLY IGNATIAN REFLECTION AND PRAYER IN OUR TRINITY FAITH SHARING GROUPS. PARISHIONERS ARE ALSO INVITED TO SHARE FAITH THIS LENT THROUGH PRAYING IN SACRED SPACE ON SATURDAYS. IN ADDITION

THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER ONGOING SPIRITUAL PROGRAMS. THEY INCLUDE YOUNG ADULT FAITH SHARING GROUPS, MONDAY AND FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER AND THE TUESDAY EVENING ROSARY.

THIS PAST SATURDAY, WE WELCOMED FR. BRYAN MASSINGALE FOR AN AFTERNOON DISCUSSION ON THE INTERSECTION OF RACE AND SEXUALITY. HE EXPLORED HOW THE THREAT OF WHITE NATIONALISM POSES TO THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY AND CALLED FOR A RESPONSE FROM CATHOLICS.

CATHERINE ALSO NOTES THAT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 2, ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO GATHER AS A COMMUNITY FOR A PILGRIMAGE TO REMEMBER OUR FORGOTTEN BLACK PARISHIONERS WHO LEFT OUR PARISH IN 1923 AFTER FACING SEGREGATION AND DISCRIMINATION HERE. IN THIS IGNATIAN YEAR, WE ASK GOD FOR THE GRACE TO SEE BOTH OUR HISTORY AND OUR PRESENT REALITY NEW IN CHRIST.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND WORSHIP

SACRAMENTAL SEASON IS UPON US. CURRENTLY OVER THREE CONSECUTIVE SATURDAYS SOME 100 CHILDREN ARE RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AS THEY PREPARE TO RECEIVE THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DURING THE SUNDAYS OF MAY. MOREOVER, SOME 100 YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ARE PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 1ST.

IN THE AREA OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, ANNE MARIE KAUFMANN REPORTS THAT DURING THE FIRST

SEMESTER OF 2021-2022 THERE WERE A TOTLA OF 450 RE STUDENTS AND AMONG THEM THERE WERE 114 STUDENTS WITH PERFECT ATTENDANCE AND AN AVERAGE CLASS ATTENDANCE FOR VIRTUAL SESSION - 92%. RE HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH HIGH NUMBERS IN ATTENDANCE. PLUS, OUR PROGRAM HAS BEEN UNINTERRUPTED EVER SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY CONTINUES TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF INJUSTICE THROUGH FAITH SHARING, ACCOMPANIMENT, ADVOCACY AND DIRECT SERVICE. THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT THE MIGRANT TEAM NOW ACCOMPANIES 15 FAMILIES/INDIVIDUALS FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES AND HAS RECENTLY PARTNERED WITH WELCOME.US TO ACCOMPANY AN AFGHAN FAMILY.

ALSO IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GREEN TEAM MEMBERS OF THE MIGRANT FAMILIA WILL HOST A STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SIMPLE SUPPER ON APRIL 8.

OUR PARISH'S HISTORY TEAM CONTINUES TO PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO THE EARLY YEARS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY. I INVITE YOU TO READ THE ARTICLES POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AND BLOG. THEIR RESEARCH WILL BE PART OF THE APRIL 2 A PILGRIMAGE TO REMEMBER OUR FORGOTTEN BLACK PARISHIONERS HOSTED BY OUR IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY MINISTRY.

THE GREEN TEAM HAS LED OUR EFFORTS FOR SOLAR PANELS AND CONTINUED TO IDENTIFY WAYS WE CAN CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME ON CAMPUS.

GATHERINGS CONTINUE FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL ZOOM PROGRAM TTILED
“WOMEN WHO STAY” AS WELL AS OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKER NOON SERIES
TITLED, COMMUNITEAS.

AS ALWAYS, OUR PARISHIONERS CONTINUE TO BE PEOPLE FOR OTHERS,
VOLUNTEERING AS TUTORS TO HOPE AND A HOME FAMILIES AND JOINING
GUESTS AT THE WEEKEND MEALS FOR THE MARGINALIZED AT MT. ZION AND
HOLY TRINITY.

WE WALK WITH OUR YOUTH IN THEIR EFFORTS - HOSTING DRIVES FOR OUR
SISTER PARISH IN HAITI, RAISING FUNDS FOR JRS AND CRS AND PREPARING
SANDWICHES EACH WEEK FOR MARTHA'S TABLE.

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TITHE COMMITTEE RECEIVED A RECORD NUMBER OF
GRANT REQUESTS THIS MONTH. AS YOU KNOW 10% OF YOUR GIVING IS SET
ASIDE TO PROVIDE LARGE AND SMALL GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS
ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, RACIAL JUSTICE,
REFUGEES/MIGRATION, RETURNING CITIZENS, HOMELESSNESS, AND
EDUCATION.

YOUR GIFTS TO THIS PARISH ECHO THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY AND TO
OUR PARTNERS IN AFRICA, HAITI AND EL SALVADOR. THANK YOU.

MANY HAVE ASKED HOW TO SUPPORT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN
UKRAINE. PRAYER. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES. DONATIONS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES ARE BEING
DIRECTED TO ST. ANDREW UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL IN MARYLAND.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO HIGHLIGHT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BULLETIN AND WEEKLY ELETTERS.

DEVELOPMENT

IN THE AREA OF DEVELOPMENT OUR DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ROCK SCHULER WANTED ME TO BE SURE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF OUR PARISH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH. YOUR GENEROSITY AND COMMITMENT CARRIED US THROUGH THESE PAST TWO YEARS OF THE PANDEMIC, AND CONTINUE TO BLESS US WITH THE RESOURCES WE NEED TO CARRY ON THE MISSION OF JESUS. AS YOU KNOW, PLEDGES FORM THE BULK OF OUR REVENUE AND RIGHT NOW THE AMOUNT PLEDGED FOR 2022 IS AT AN ENCOURAGING 2.4 MILLION DOLLARS TOWARD A 3.1 MILLION DOLLAR GOAL.

ALSO, OUR PARISH SOLAR CAMPAIGN RECENTLY RAISED \$210,000! COMBINED WITH THE 8TH GRADERS' GRADUATION GIFT THIS YEAR, WE SHOULD BE IN GOOD SHAPE TO COVER THE FULL COST OF OUR SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT.

THE SOLAR PROJECT FOR THE LOWER AND UPPER SCHOOL ROOFS IS ON SCHEDULE TO BE DONE THIS SUMMER. PRESENTLY OUR PROPOSAL IS AWAITING APPROVAL FOR THE ADW'S COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS. BY THE END OF THE MONTH WE EXPECT TO BE GIVEN THE GREEN LIGHT.

CONCLUSION

ALLOW ME TO CONCLUDE BY STATING THAT ON BEHALF OF MY FELLOW JESUITS AND MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH'S AND SCHOOL'S COMPETENT AND

COMPASSONATE STAFF, I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY WAYS YOU GOOD AND GENEROUS PARISHIONERS OF HOLY TRINITY ARE ENGAGED IN YOUR FAITH AND IN PARISH ACTIVITIES. AS WE NAVIGATE THROUGH THE MANY CHALLENGES FACING OUR CHURCH, ORU NATION AND OUR WORLD LET US PRAY TO BE GUIDED BY JESUS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF MARY AND BE CONFIDENT THAT TOGETHER AS A FAMILY OF FAITH WE WILL BE INSPIRED BY HOPE, UNITED BY FAITH AND TRANSFORMED BY LOVE.

