The Limitless Love of Christ: Holy Trinity’s LGBTQIA+ Ministry

By Brian Flanagan

We have much to celebrate this month. June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a devotion long promoted by the Jesuits that emphasizes the passion and Christ’s deep love for each one of us. In 2015, Pope Francis preached that “The Heart of the Good Shepherd tells us that his love is limitless; it is never exhausted and never gives up.” Jesus’ heart, the pope said, “desires to embrace all and lose none.”

At the same time, June has become a month of celebration for the LGBTQIA+ community and our friends and families. In June, we celebrate Pride – not a sinful pride that puffs oneself up or denies one’s limitations, but pride as the opposite of shame, as a virtue of gratitude for being the persons that God created us to be, and for having the courage to name that grace. Pride observances began as civil rights protests demanding that LGBTQIA+ people be treated fairly and with dignity, and now combine that continuing push for justice with celebration of how far we have come.

If you spend much time on Twitter (pro tip: don’t!), you would get the resounding message, both from some Catholics and from some LGBTQIA+ folks, that these two June commemorations are mutually exclusive. I’m happy to say that here at Holy Trinity, we are lucky to be living a very robustly Catholic “both/and” that recognizes in our celebration of LGBTQIA+ Catholics not the opposite, but the embodiment of, the limitless love of Christ symbolized in his Sacred Heart.

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I help to coordinate our LGBTQIA+ ministry, which was started by long-standing parishioners in 2019 and has grown in various ways in the following years. Some of our members have been here for decades, and others have joined us more recently, drawn to the parish by the steadfast support of our pastor, parish staff, and pastoral council. We hold discussion groups for men, for women and other historically marginalized genders, and for families, both parents of LGBTQIA+ children and LGBTQIA+ parents, and other events for conversation, spiritual development, and mutual support.

I’m happy to say that one of the best signs of the strong welcome of our parish is the fact that often LGBTQIA+ members of our community are too busy to attend our meetings! Instead, they have other commitments accompanying our RCIA candidates, teaching our children, serving at our liturgies, and working for social justice through our parish ministries. In our witness and service, you can find LGBTQIA+ Catholics celebrating pride and the love of Christ lived out in our love for God and others – all throughout the year with all our siblings here at Holy Trinity.

If you know LGBTQIA+ Catholics, especially any who have felt pushed away from the Church because of who they are or whom they love, please pass on the good news that they are welcome here and can always get more information by emailing lgbtqia@trinity.org.

And please join us on Wednesday, June 14, at 5:30 pm in the main church, for our annual parish Pride Mass and commemoration as we celebrate, together, the love of Christ that brings us together and calls us to continued mission in our world.

PRIDE MASS
June 14 | 5:30PM, Church
Join us to our annual parish Pride Mass, followed an ice cream reception.

Stewardship

EASTER FUND
The Feast of Pentecost marks the conclusion of this year’s Easter season fundraising. Thank you so very much to everyone who gave to the 2023 Easter Fund! Your sacrificial generosity and commitment are deeply appreciated, and your gifts are used 100% in support of our parish ministries. Together, we bear witness to the Presence and Power of the Risen Christ’s life through the active and energetic work of the Holy Spirit in our world, and especially through our parish, filled as it is with joyful children, beautiful gardens, engaging and enriching spiritual formation opportunities, and a steadfast commitment to serve others and advance justice. If you did not yet have a chance to give to this year’s Easter Fund, this is your last opportunity! Please do so by:
• clicking the Donate button in the banner at the top of our website at trinity.org
• returning your donation in the hardcopy envelopes mailed with Father’s letter
• scanning this QR Code:

Looking for a quick and easy way to make your Pledge or Offertory contribution in support of Christ’s work here at Holy Trinity? Scan this QR Code to get started! Also, please note that every year we receive contributions - especially from stocks and IRA Distributions - that we cannot attribute to a donor. Your broker or agent often will NOT tell us the donor without your explicit instruction. For example, we recently received a Fidelity IRA Distribution of $4,308.47 for which no donor was identified. If you can verify this is your contribution, please let Rock Schuler know at rschuler@trinity.org. Thank you!
**TODAY!**

**The Pride and Perils of Coming Out**  
**June 4 | after 9:30 AM Mass in Neale Room**  
The LGBTQIA+ Family Ministry will host a discussion on the pride and perils of coming out. June is pride month for the LGBTQIA+ community. While many think that ‘coming out’ only applies to someone who is LGBTQIA+, family members and friends also face the decision of whether to ‘come out’ to others about someone close who is LGBTQIA+. How can we listen to the Holy Spirit, support one another, encourage one another, and be who God wants us to be? Today will be the last session of the LGBTQIA+ Family Ministry until the fall.

**Parents with Young Children**  
**June 4 | 10:45 AM, Upper Room**  
Parents with Young Children aged five and younger are warmly invited to a monthly playgroup and fellowship. Meet in the Upper Room of the Parish Center (Level 2). If you have any questions please email: mary.cain323@gmail.com

**Summer YAC Mass Schedule**  
The monthly 7:15pm Young Adult Mass is taking a pause for the summer. Instead, young adults are invited to sit together at the 5:30pm Mass in the main church on the following summer Sundays, and gather afterwards for the pot-luck YAC Cafe in McKenna.
- **June 4 | 5:30 PM**
- **July 9 | 5:30 PM**
- **August 13 | 5:30 PM**

Several pews will be reserved for the group in the back of the middle-right section underneath the balcony. All adults in their 20’s and 30’s are welcome. Visit trinity.org/young-adults/ for more info about the YACs and to sign up for the twice-monthly email Digest.

**Summer Service Opportunities for Teens**  

**Parish Pastoral Council Election**  
Parish Pastoral Council Ballot Now Open. Voting is now open to select new members of the Parish Pastoral Council. Thanks to all who chose to run! We have five candidates for four open positions. Please take a moment to review the candidate statements and cast your vote.

Voting will be open through **June 11**. Candidate information and ballots can be accessed by using the QR codes below or by visiting trinity.org under Announcements. Please email ppc@trinity.org with any questions.

**Garden Ministry**  
**June 10 | 9:00 AM**  
The Garden Ministry will be gardening at Holy Trinity on June 10. All are invited to help. Please meet at the shed to the right of the Chapel at 9 am and work until noon. Bring some gloves and a bottle of water. If you can join us, please RSVP to htrgardeners@gmail.com.

**Annual Parish Picnic**  
**June 11 | 10:00 AM, Visitation**  
All parish families and friends are invited to our annual Mass and picnic at Georgetown Visitation High School on 35th St. Father Kevin will preside at a 10am Mass in Visitation’s Nolan Center. (there will be no 9am Masses at Holy Trinity). A picnic will follow on the front lawn. DJ DC Child will return and the kids can enjoy a moon bounce, balloon making, face painting and games. Our Fathers’ Club will be grilling hot dogs and sides, beer and treats of watermelon, sno-cones and cotton candy will be available. There is no cost for the picnic, food or drinks. We do need volunteers to help during the day. If you can assist, please sign up here bit.ly/42ina8B.
**Migrant Familia & Friends Update**

Highlighted needs:
- Kitchen chairs for Bernards (Silver Spring)
- Gift cards to Giant, Trader Joe’s, & Uber; Metro Cards (these may be left at the Parish Center or dropped in the collection basket on the weekends)
- Shop the Amazon Community Wish List for items for new and current familia and friends! Updated weekly on our website.

The Migrant Team is trying to help with job placement for several of our familia members and our Nicaraguan friends. These individuals are ready and willing to do any type of work. We are hosting a gathering on June 10 to assist with the job search. Please review the candidates listed below, and if you are hiring or have suggestions please email migrantteam@trinity.org.

**Bernadette**  
Lives in Silver Spring. Speaks French and English. Currently working as a teacher’s aide and tutoring for extra income. Consider Bernadette for your French tutoring needs!

**Carlos**  
Lives in Manassas. Spanish speaker- learning English. Working on securing driver’s license. Would like a job in landscaping, maintenance, or construction.

**Edras**  

**Hugo**  
Lives in DC. Spanish speaker- learning English. Hugo was a human rights lawyer and professor in his home country. Would like a job in that field. Has experience gardening, cooking and in carpentry. CV available.

**Kateryna**  

**Mario**  
Lives in Manassas. Spanish speaker- learning English. Looking for a job in landscaping or in a warehouse.

**Miguel**  

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**Holy Trinity is Hiring!**

**Director of Communications**  
We are seeking a creative, energetic and skilled communications professional to join our pastoral staff.

**Administrative Assistant (Multiple Positions)**  
We are looking for administrative assistants to perform a wide variety of administrative, clerical and support activities for the directors of ministerial programs.

Visit trinity.org/jobs for full job descriptions.

To apply to any open positions, please submit a resumé and cover letter to jobs@trinity.org. No calls, please.

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**Enveloped: 18th Anniversary Spring Concert**

**June 11 & 15 | 7:30 PM, Church**  
The 18th Street Singers is an all-volunteer 50-voice choir based in Washington, D.C. The ensemble is known for performing choral music from a variety of styles, from Renaissance polyphony to contemporary classical music.

Join us June 11th (in-person or for our 2nd ever livestream) and June 15th (in-person only).

For this concert series, tickets are available to reserve online and at the door for a suggested donation of $20 for those who are able. Free student, GA, and donate-what-you’d-like ticket options are also available. Reserve your tickets today 18thstreetsingers.com/home

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**Kayaking with Youth Ministry**

**June 17 | 3:00PM, Key Bridge Boathouse**  
Celebrate summer with Youth Ministry at the Key Bridge Boathouse. Reserve your kayak or canoe. Stay for mass at 5:30pm afterward. Email Katie Laskey at klaskey@trinity.org with questions or for financial assistance.
HTS

Holy Trinity School, a Catholic elementary school in the Jesuit tradition, seeks to hire a Middle School Math Teacher starting in the 2023-2024 school year. This is a permanent position. The successful candidate will teach to segments of grades as part of a dynamic, high-energy educational team and will have strong interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills.

Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in Education or a related field, minimum, and 2 – 3 years teaching experience; Certified to teach in MD, DC, or VA or is willing to gain certification within three years; and demonstrates strong writing and communication skills, a capacity for organization and follow-through, collaboration, and flexibility. Benefits included.

To apply to any open positions, please submit a resumé to principal@htsdc.org. No calls, please.

Middle School Math Interventionist
An educator who is able to plan and deliver targeted instruction to students with diverse learning styles and levels of mathematical skills. This person will apply a variety of instructional methods and strategies to meet the needs of the individual student, making their learning experience relevant and effective. On-site, could be part-time but full-time preferred.

Ignatian Living for Mission Retreat
July 17-20, 2023 at Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House in Faulkner, Maryland. Anyone looking to learn to live the graces at the heart of Ignatian Spirituality: gratitude, healing, call, and co-laboring is invited. The retreat format combines presentations, time for silent prayer and reflection, and group faith sharing. The retreat is open to anyone who seeks to learn more about Ignatian Spirituality. For more information, bit.ly/3MHWFCZ

Daily Readings

Sunday, June 4
The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 | 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 | John 3:16-18

Monday, June 5
Memorial of Saint Boniface
Tobit 1:3; 2:1a-8 | Mark 12:1-12

Tuesday, June 6
Tuesday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tobit 2:9-14 | Mark 12:13-17

Wednesday, June 7
Wednesday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a | Mark 12:18-27

Thursday, June 8
Thursday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a | Mark 12:28-34

Friday, June 9
Friday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tobit 11:5-17 | Mark 12:35-37

Saturday, June 10
Saturday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20 | Mark 12:38-44

Sunday, June 11
Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ
Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a | 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 | John 6:51-58
NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION
Welcome to Holy Trinity! We invite you to join our parish. You may register at www.trinity.org/register or click the QR code below.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION
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 at akoester@trinity.org or (202) 903-2825. Holy Trinity also offers RCIA adapted for children and youth who are not Baptized (ages 7 through high school). Please contact Anne Marie Kaufmann at akaufmann@trinity.org (202) 903-2832 for more information.

LGBTQIA+ MINISTRY
Holy Trinity’s commitment to accompany one another in Christ invites us to be more deeply aware of the diversity of our community and more welcoming to those who are marginalized by society or the Church. Our lay-led ministry embraces individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning/queer, intersex, asexual and their families and friends. More information and upcoming meetings can be found at www.trinity.org/lgbtqia or by emailing LGBTQIA@trinity.org.

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. Contact President Jennifer Dorsey at ppcpresident@trinity.org and Vice President Gail Louis at parishcouncil@trinity.org.

MISSION STATEMENT
We are a Jesuit Catholic parish that welcomes all to accompany one another in Christ, celebrate God’s love and transform lives.

PARISH CENTER
Phone: (202) 337-2840 Fax: (202) 337-9048
Emergencies Only: (202) 903-2817
Hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm Saturday & Sunday: Closed

JESUIT STAFF
Pastor Kevin Gillespie, S.J. (202) 903-2800 kgillespie@trinity.org
Associate Pastor Pat Earl, S.J. (202) 337-2840 x130 pearl@trinity.org
Associate Pastor Ben Hawley, S.J. (202) 903-2814 bhawley@trinity.org
Associate Pastor William Kelley, S.J. (202) 903-2833 wkelly@trinity.org

PARISH DEPARTMENTS
Parish Operations Tom Favret (202) 903-2847 tfavret@trinity.org
Accounting Elebat Mengiste (202) 903-2821 emengiste@trinity.org
Communications Dino Campagnari (202) 903-2813 dcampagnari@trinity.org
Faith Formation/Religious Ed. Anne Marie Kaufmann (202) 903-2832 akaufmann@trinity.org
Holy Trinity School Kevin McShane (202) 337-2339 principal@htsdc.org
Ignatian Retreats & Training Martina O’Shea (202) 903-2810 moshea@trinity.org
Ignatian Spirituality Catherine Heinhold (202) 903-2819 cheinhold@trinity.org
Liturgy Tony Varas (202) 903-2804 tvaras@trinity.org
Music Ministry Kathleen Deflard (202) 903-2805 kdeflard@trinity.org
Pastor’s Office/Parish Life Lisa Dittmeier / Helene Flanagan (202) 903-2801 parislife@trinity.org
Social Justice Ashley Klick (202) 903-2836 aklick@trinity.org
Stewardship Rock Schuler (202) 903-2843 rschuler@trinity.org
Youth Ministry Katie Laskey (202) 903-2846 klaskey@trinity.org
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