



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent



Second Sunday of Advent

The Stump Of Jesse

By Garrett Gundlach, S.J.

This month of Advent is full of symbols we can pull from our scriptures and liturgies to wake us up and keep us up for the bridegroom's coming. Light in dark, peace in conflict, levity in heaviness, friends from foes and guests for the table – indeed, our Advent metaphors are plentiful, but this year the image that captures my imagination is so much the underdog that I've never recalled thinking twice about it, and my priest roommate even opened his Bible for us to confirm it.

“On that day,” the verse begins, “a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.” (11:1-2) Our days are too cold and too short and the sprouting bud is too green to convince me; what's caught my eye is the stump.

The stump is a terrible image, heavy with finality. The stump says, “it's over.” I think of the childhood tree that grew with me, year after year, dropping the leaves we'd

continued on page 2



Stump of Jesse from a c. 1500 Flemish Psalter



OFFERTORY

We invite you to share your gifts with others in our parish community!

MAIN CHURCH

36th Street, NW
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Washington, DC 20007

PARISH CENTER & CHAPEL

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



trinity.org



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DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8:00 AM — Chapel
5:30 PM — Chapel

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM — Chapel

SATURDAY (VIGIL): 5:30 PM — Church

SUNDAY: 7:30 AM — Church

9:00 AM — Church and Trinity Hall

11:30 AM — Church and Livestream

5:30 PM — Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays, 4:30 - 5:15 PM — Church

**The Stump Of Jesse** *continued from page 1*

rake and jump into and the sticks we'd collect before mowing, the trunk I'd hide behind while capturing the neighbors' flag or avoiding my brother's eye in a watergun fight –one day, it's completely gone, the whole vibrant, green maple life lopped off, leaving this footprint that resembles the weight in my gut when I notice the empty sky and this heavy silence below. It's over. And amid the terrifying news of slaughter in Gaza, eviction and land seizures in the West Bank, the only image my mind seems to be able to actually process or hold in my mourning hands is the hundreds of hundred-year-old family olive trees razed, mutilated, clearcut along the rolling hills of confiscated land.

This is where God's decided to meet me this Advent: the stump. And it makes perfect sense, considering how these years have gradually and systematically begun beating the hope out of me, starting with the cheapest and naivest, moving onto any kinds of optimism and trust in any goodness, and coming now even at my faith and love. "From the stump..." "a shoot shall sprout!" Here, God? Even here?! New life? Yes, God responds, through Isaiah the prophet who reassured the people that a Messiah could and would still come from the line of Jesse that was thought cut off, dried and lost; yes, God responds, through Isaiah the prophet whose words speak with the same creative, tender force they did then: "a shoot shall sprout."

Lest I feel stupid putting all my hope in this tiny shoot from its comparably immense-cut-trunk, I actually chatted up my friend the bustanji, the orchard-keeper, lover and knower of all things fruiting, if this actually works: Odeh, can an olive tree actually regrow from a stump? "Yes, it works – when you've got a moment call me, and I'll tell you how." No matter the violences done to our hope and capacity for hope in these years, in Advent we contemplate God cultivating saving beginnings where we see only ends.

Fr. Gundlach is a member of the faculty at Bethlehem University in Palestine. He is currently leading a virtual Advent series between Holy Trinity parishioners and parishioners with our sister parish, St. Catherine's, in Bethlehem.

PICK UP A GIVING TREE TAG TODAY!

Gift tags are available on Giving Trees in the Church and McKenna Hall. Each year Holy Trinity parishioners partner with local organizations to bring the joy of Christmas. We are working to fulfill the wish lists of the following organizations: Anne's Place, Brighter Bites, Fr. McKenna Center, Friendship Place, Hope and a Home, Mary House, Returning Citizens Action Network (RCAN), Spanish Catholic Center, and St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families.

We also invite monetary support for the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation. Holy Family Hospital is a maternity hospital located just 1,500 steps from the birthplace of Christ. Your gift provides life-saving medical care and brings hope to expectant mothers and newborns in a time of great uncertainty. The Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem tags include an envelope so you may mail your contribution directly to them.

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation to our "North Pole," you may do so through our online site or by mailing a check to Holy Trinity, Attn: Ashley Klick, with "Giving Tree" in the memo. These funds will be used to purchase gift cards for teens and adults and to fulfill any outstanding wish list items.

Please note that all gifts should be returned to Holy Trinity by December 14. Thank you!

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN DECEMBER

Please consider additional opportunities to serve in December (details at trinity.org/neighbors):

- Weekly Sunday dinners at Holy Trinity
- Holy Trinity will host Saturday Supper on **December 13**
- Monthly community collection for SOME & Fr. McKenna Center on **December 21**
- GMC Extended Dinners for 50 guests **December 22- January 2**
- GMC Bagged Lunches - Holy Trinity provides 60 bagged lunches. The **December 16** slot is still open!

Again, please visit trinity.org/neighbors for more information about these and other opportunities to serve, or e-mail Helen at HDomenici@trinity.org. Thank you!



SHOP FOR A CAUSE - TODAY!

Sunday, December 7 | After the 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM Masses, McKenna Hall
Start checking your naughty and nice list and plan to shop for a cause on **December 7**. Baked goods, Haitian coffee, empanadas, ornaments from Bethlehem, and much more will be available for purchase. Proceeds will support our sister parishes as well as our Migrant Familia. The sale will be hosted in McKenna Hall during the hospitality hours.

ICONOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Sunday, December 7 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Parish Center, 1st floor

Holy Trinity's Iconographers' Guild presents the annual exhibit of their work. Learn more about Christian iconography and see the icons the guild members have written throughout the year. Image: *St. Francis of Assisi* written by *Jini Britain*



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, December 8 | 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM, Church
The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation, is on Monday, December 8. Mass will be held at 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM in the Church. Please note: There will be no other daily Mass in the Chapel on December 8.

ADVENT SERIES: SPARKS OF LIGHT

The St. Catherine's Team invites you to join in a 4-week Advent series with parishioners at our sister parish in Bethlehem. Fr. Garrett Gundlach, S.J. of Bethlehem University will guide participants in an exploration of darkness and light this Advent season:

- **December 9:** Solidarity & Relationships
- **December 16:** God's Role in Our World

Register by scanning the QR code at right:



Those who are gluten intolerant and wish to receive Holy Communion should speak with a Mass coordinator before the start of Mass. The Mass coordinator is stationed near the entrance of the Church.

HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN GEORGETOWN

Tuesday, December 9 | 6:30 PM, beginning in Upper School Cafeteria

All are welcome to go Christmas Caroling around the parish's Georgetown neighborhood. Come to the Upper School cafeteria at 6:30pm to pick up a song sheet and get prepared. No singing experience is necessary, only holiday cheer! Afterward, we'll gather around the firepit for s'mores, hot chocolate, and other treats.

PRAYING IN SACRED SPACE

Advent Saturdays beginning 11/29, 4:00 PM, Zoom
During this hour of guided prayer and faith sharing, all are invited to savor the contemplative silence and encounter the scriptures of the season in the way St. Ignatius gave us in the Spiritual Exercises. Come to one session or all, no preparation necessary. Register for the Zoom link at trinity.org/ignatian-spirituality/invitations-to-pray. For more information, contact Catherine Heinhold at cheinhold@trinity.org.

TAIZÉ PRAYER, FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Friday, December 12 | 7:00 PM, Chapel
The Young Adult Community invites all for an evening of prayer in the style of Taizé. Taizé prayer involves singing short repetitive refrains and scripture reading that foster reflective prayer. In keeping with the liturgical focus of Advent, we will meditate on hope in Christ. The prayer will be on Dec. 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with singing in English and Spanish at 7pm in the Chapel of St. Ignatius. All are welcome.

50 PLUS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, December 16 | 12:00 PM, Whittemore House

Join your HT 50 Plus friends on December 16 at noon for one of the most popular events of the year – the annual Christmas luncheon at the beautiful and historic Whittemore House. In addition to the lovely environs and scintillating conversation, you will get a three-course lunch for \$35 plus tax (no tipping/cash bar). The Whittemore House is located at 1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW two blocks from the Dupont Circle Metro station. Discounted parking is available across the street. **RSVP no later than close of business on Friday, December 12.** E-mail pfitzgerald@democraticwoman.org or call (202) 232-7363, ext. 402 (voicemails accepted).



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY: GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Saturday, December 13 | 10:00 AM

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted." - Psalm 34:18
As we enter the holiday season, we know that joy can feel dim when someone we love is no longer with us. Join us for a grief support group on Saturday, December 13 from 10:00AM to 11:30AM. Our group offers a gentle space to share, pray, and find encouragement with others who understand. So we can plan accordingly, it is helpful if you register by contacting Lisa via e-mail, bereavementministry@trinity.org

INFORMATION SESSION ON THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

Saturday, December 13 | 11:00 AM on Zoom

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola offer a powerful journey into the mystery of Christ's life, death and resurrection. Throughout an 8-9 month retreat made in daily life, the retreatant can deepen their intimacy with Jesus, and grow in their practice of discernment of spirits and self-knowledge. Join us for an hour conversation about this gift that God gave the church through St. Ignatius. Contact Ed McCormack@trinity.org for the link to the online session.



LGBTQIA+ FRIENDS & FAMILY MINISTRY

Sunday, December 14 | 10:15 AM, Neale Room

The Holy Trinity LGBTQIA+ Friends & Family Ministry invites parishioners to a discussion on Sunday, December 14 at 10:15 AM in the Neale Room, exploring the experience of "going home for the holidays" as an LGBTQIA+ person or as a friend or family member. Together, participants will reflect on how to share Christ's love and provide meaningful support to one another during the holiday season.

LESSONS IN HOPE: REFLECTIONS FROM SECOND ISAIAH

Sunday, December 14 | 10:15 AM, Trinity Hall

What gives us hope in troubled times? Tony Tambasco, Holy Trinity parishioner and professor emeritus at Georgetown, will share his reflections from Second Isaiah, including weekday Advent readings. Time for small group conversation will follow to enable us to reflect on what gives us hope. All are invited.

LGBTQIA+ MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Saturday, December 20 | 6:00 PM, Brookland

Join the LGBTQIA+ Men's Group at the annual Christmas Concert at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Afterwards, we will have dinner nearby. For more details please RSVP to Joey and Adam at lgbtqia+men@trinity.org.

JANUARY JOURNEY TO MARIA MADRE

January 22-29 | San Salvador, El Salvador

You are invited to join Holy Trinity's annual trip to Maria Madre de los Pobres, our sister parish in San Salvador, El Salvador, from January 22-29, 2026. Spend a week recharging your soul as you participate in the life of this unique parish: get to know parishioners and staff; experience Salvadoran culture; and learn the history's impact on society. All are welcome. For more information, please contact: hdomenici@trinity.org

SUNDAY LIVE STREAM - UPDATE

From the Liturgy Ministry: Holy Trinity celebrates Mass in a variety of worship styles. We would like to provide a flavor of the diverse ways that we worship here at Holy Trinity so that those seeking a parish home may get a feel for our community's many liturgical customs. In order to do this, we will be begin rotating our live stream between Masses: **During the Advent and Christmas season, we will live stream our 11:30 AM Sunday Mass.**

GIVING OPTIONS BEYOND CASH GIFTS

Holy Trinity now offers a secure online platform that makes it simple to give stock, IRA, or Donor-Advised Fund gifts directly to the parish. This trusted tool - powered by FreeWill's Smart Giving technology - helps you complete your asset-based gift in minutes and automatically notifies our Advancement Office, ensuring your generosity is properly directed, recorded, and acknowledged.

To explore these options or start your gift, please scan the QR code at right. If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Dake, Director of Advancement & Stewardship at cdake@trinity.org or (202) 903-2837 for personal assistance. Thank you!





THE ORDER OF CELEBRATION

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Saturday, 5:30 PM
 Sunday, 9:00 AM & 11:30 AM

Entrance *CANTOR/CHOIR SINGS THE VERSES ~ ALL SING THE FOLLOWING REFRAIN TOGETHER*

Ma - ra - na - tha, ma - ra - na - tha. Come, O Lord and set us free.

Presentation of the 2nd Advent Candle

Penitential Act

Collect

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Isaiah 11:1-10*

Responsorial *Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17*

Jus - tice shall flour - ish in his time, and
 full - ness of peace for ev - er.

Second Reading *Romans 15:4-9*

Acclamation before the Gospel

Gospel *Matthew 3:1-12*

Homily

Nicene Creed

Universal Prayer

Come, O Lord, and set us free.



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory

Ready the Way

VERSES

1. "Read - y the way of the Lord! Read - y the
 2. "Let ev - 'ry val - ley be filled. Let ev - 'ry
 3. Des - ert and waste - land will bloom. Des - ert and
 4. Those who are blind will then see. Those who are
 5. Strength - en the ones who are weak. Strength - en the

way of the Lord!" A voice cries out in the wil - der -
 val - ley be filled. Let ev - 'ry moun - tain be hum -
 waste - land will bloom. Glo - ry and splen - dor will fill the
 deaf will then hear. Those who are lame will then leap for
 ones who are weak. Say to the fright - ened: "Have cour -

ness: "Read - y the way of the Lord!" **to verse 2**
 bled; let ev - 'ry val - ley be filled." **to refrain**
 land. Des - ert and waste - land will bloom. **to verse 4**
 joy. Those who are mute will then sing. **to refrain**
 age." Strength - en the ones who are weak. **to refrain**

REFRAIN

Here is your God, com - ing with your vin - di - ca - tion.
 Look and be - hold the sav - ing pow - er of God.
 1,2 to verses 3,5 Final
 2
 The sav - ing pow - er of God.

Ar 11:30 MASS A Voice Cries Out, *Lloyd Larson*
Holy Trinity Choir

The Eucharistic Prayer



The Communion Processionals

ANTIPHON: Baruch 5: 5, 4:36

Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise and
stand up - on the heights, and be - hold the
joy which comes to you from God.

ALL SING TOGETHER:

Jesus, Hope of the World

Je - sus, hope of the world, Je - sus, light in our
dark-ness, here we a - wait you, O Mas - ter Di - vine.
Here we re - ceive you in Bread and in Wine:
Je - sus, hope of the world.

THE CANTOR/CHOIR SINGS ALONE~THEN THE PEOPLE RESPOND WITH: Come, Lord Je - sus!

THE CANTOR/CHOIR SINGS ALONE~THEN THE PEOPLE RESPOND WITH: Come, Lord, Je - sus!

THE CANTOR/CHOIR SINGS ALONE THEN ALL SING TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING:

Shep - herd your peo - ple in love!
Come and be Lord of our hearts!
Shat - ter the dark - ness of death!
Ban - ish our doubt and our fear!



Sending of the Ministers to our Homebound

Prayer after Communion

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Announcements

Solemn Blessing for the Advent Season & Dismissal

Concluding Processional



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make
 3. For you are our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4. To heal the sick stretch out your hand, and
 5. All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose



noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and heark - en,
 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth and let your
 ad - vent has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of Kings.
 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Movements



Catholics stand. We kneel. We bow our heads and bow our bodies. We process. We strike our breast. The movements we make at Mass are another form of active participation and are meant to be prayerful and filled with intention. Our internal prayer and preparation fill our external gestures, postures, words, and songs with intention and meaning. As we join the different postures and prayers of the Mass, these ritual gestures and words are mysteriously forming us, imprinting attitudes of prayer and relationship with God. These are movements that matter.



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NOW HIRING: ASSISTANT TO FACILITIES MANAGER

Holy Trinity seeks an energetic, experienced person to assist our facility director in maintaining and managing our urban campus. The Assistant will perform a range of duties, including directing custodial staff and contractors, tracking and processing invoices, and dealing with a range of contractors.

Holy Trinity’s facilities operations are cutting edge with several energy saving initiatives and best practices coming on line. This position will have opportunities to learn and innovate. For more information or to apply, please visit trinity.org/jobs.

PARISH LOST & FOUND

Numerous items get left behind after Mass and events - umbrellas, hats, glasses, etc. The parish lost & found is located in the sacristy behind the main Church. Due to space concerns, the lost and found is cleaned out monthly, with items being donated. Thank you!

MORNING PRAYER ONLINE

Mondays and Fridays | 9:00 AM, Zoom

Morning Prayer is celebrated on Mondays and Fridays 9-9:45 am via Zoom. Visit trinity.org/morningprayer for information and the link.



HOLY TRINITY COLUMBARIUM: A SACRED SPACE OF FINAL REPOSE

Holy Trinity’s Columbarium at Holy Rood Cemetery is located at 2126 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, on a hillside overlooking Georgetown, about a mile from the church. The Columbarium is open to all, and nearly three-quarters of the niches have been sold.

For more information, please visit the Holy Trinity Columbarium website at holytrinitycolumbarium.org, or e-mail htcolumbarium@trinity.org.

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 2025

MONDAY	8:00 AM	
	5:30 PM	
TUESDAY	8:00 AM	Virginia Vinton
	5:30 PM	Paul Davisson +
WEDNESDAY	8:00 AM	John Holmes +
	5:30 PM	Alma Ognibene +
THURSDAY	8:00 AM	
	5:30 PM	
FRIDAY	8:00 AM	Don McCrabb
	5:30 PM	
SATURDAY	8:00 AM	

DAILY READINGS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Romans 15:4-9 | Matthew 3:1-12

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 | Luke 1:26-38

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

TUESDAY OF THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40:1-11 | Matthew 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

WEDNESDAY OF THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40:25-31 | Matthew 11:28-30

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

THURSDAY OF THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Isaiah 41:13-20 | Matthew 11:11-15

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Zechariah 2:14-17 | Luke 1:26-38

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

MEMORIAL OF SAINT LUCY

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 | Matthew 17:9a, 10-13



MISSION STATEMENT

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

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome to Holy Trinity!
We invite you to join our parish. You may register at www.trinity.org/register or scan the QR code using your phone:



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) 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 OCIA 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 PPC President Malcolm McCluskey at parishcouncil@trinity.org with any questions.

PARISH CENTER

Phone: (202) 337-2840 **Fax:** (202) 337-9048
Emergencies Only: (202) 903-2817
Hours: Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm (closed Sat/Sun)

JESUIT STAFF

Pastor	Kevin Gillespie, S.J. (202) 903-2800	kgillespie@trinity.org
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Parochial Vicar	Jack Dennis, S.J. (202) 337-2840	jdennis@trinity.org
Senior Priest	Pat Earl, S.J. (202) 337-2840 x130	pearl@trinity.org
Parochial Vicar	William Kelley, S.J. (202) 903-2833	wkelley@trinity.org

PARISH DEPARTMENTS

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Music Ministry	Justin Connors (202) 903-2805	jconnors@trinity.org
	Matthew Ogden (202) 903-2827	mogden@trinity.org
Pastor's Office/ Parish Life	Macaire Carroll-Gavula (202) 903-2801	mcarroll@trinity.org
Social Justice	Ashley Klick (202) 903-2836	aklick@trinity.org



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