

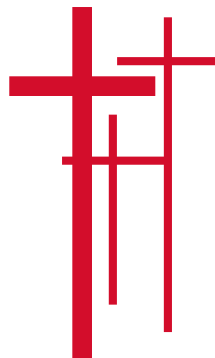
Holy Trinity

Catholic Church & School

Where our hearts & our doors are open to Christ



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
2011-2012



“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

–Matthew 19:14



Cover image, above photograph, and image on page 19 (top left) were submitted by Mindy Myers.

OUR PARISH MISSION

Holy Trinity Catholic Church & School is a faith-filled Eucharistic community committed to Christ-centered stewardship especially through education, justice, hospitality, and service.



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

VISION

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Des Moines, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the mission of the church, are collaborative communities of spiritual formation and academic excellence, where students grow in faith and wisdom, emerging as responsible citizens dedicated to the practice of life-long discipleship of Jesus.

MISSION

We develop and inspire learning for life by providing a world class education within a Catholic environment for our students.

- Catholic Schools exist to enable students to learn the traditions and doctrines of the Catholic church and to carry out the gospel message of Jesus Christ in their daily lives.
- Each student in a Catholic school experiences the value of human dignity and the concepts of peace and justice to enable them to be participants in a global society.
- Catholic schools and parishes are partners with parents in the education of the children.
- Catholic school educators apply research-based curriculum and instructional strategies that enhance the learning of all students.

FROM OUR ADMINISTRATION

DEAR COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF HOLY TRINITY,

We are pleased to present you with the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish and School 2011-2012 Annual Report to the community, which provides information on our key pillars: education, justice, hospitality, and service.

Holy Trinity has an excellent reputation in our Diocese for providing outstanding education which encourages students to learn and achieve to the best of their ability, to grow in their Catholic faith, and to grow in their confidence so students can make positive contributions in an ever changing world. Our faculty, catechists, and staff work hard to provide a positive, nurturing, and engaging learning environment for all of our students and their families.

Education extends beyond the young student; Holy Trinity has a long history of providing on-going formation for adults. The formation occurs through many avenues including the study of the Sunday readings, Christian Family Movement, Teams of our Lady, Christ Renews His Parish retreat, or through other adult enrichment events.

We are humbled to continue our service in charity as we work towards justice. Parishioners donate their time at pregnancy centers, Children and Families of Urban Ministries, Connection Café, St. Mary's Family Center, and St. Joseph Emergency center. In addition, our parish has an apartment that we maintain for individuals in transition after leaving an emergency shelter. The PATCH apartment assists those from a shelter who cannot find or afford permanent housing.

Our parish is honored to welcome many people to our Church and School. Households find a warm and friendly atmosphere as they enter our doors. We treasure our motto, 'Where our hearts and our doors are open to Christ.' This statement is lived everyday as we answer the phone and greet visitors at our door.

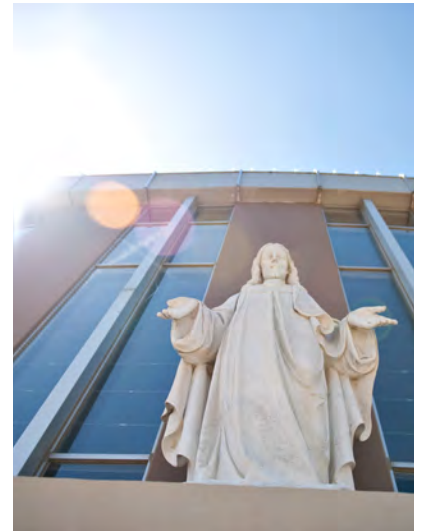
It has been our privilege and honor to serve the parishioners of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and School. Our thanks and gratitude is extended to all as we celebrate the successes of 2011-2012 and look forward to the opportunities of the new academic year.

Sincerely,

Father Michael Amadeo
Pastor

Audra Meyer
Principal

Paulette Chapman
Director of Faith Formation



FAITH FORMATION

The Office of Faith Formation provided direction for sacramental formation for young people of Holy Trinity Parish.

The Faith Formation program had 92 students in grades 1-8, with 23 volunteers serving them. The Office of Faith Formation, directed by Paulette Chapman, offered a program for the children of Holy Trinity Parish who attend public school on Wednesday evenings during the school year. Sixty-three students in 2nd grade prepared for and celebrated First Reconciliation. Parents attended an informational meeting, where they were given materials to work on at home with their child. The students and parents attended a learning day in November, and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in December.

The same 63 students were involved in preparation for First Eucharist. Parents and students worked together on a workbook at home, which supplemented their classroom instruction. In March, parents and students participated in a morning of retreat. They celebrated First Communion at the end of April.

Formation for the Sacrament of Confirmation was also offered. After a parent meeting, 8th grade students were invited to participate in service projects reaching out to extended family, neighbors, parish, school, the diocese and the larger community. Sponsors were involved in the



process, and the students researched their Confirmation names. All students participated in an interview with the pastor, faith formation director or assistant principal. Forty-seven students celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation in October.

The Confirmation students were involved in a wide variety of service activities. They hosted coffee and donuts at the parish, helped with the First Eucharist retreat, raked leaves for elderly members of the community, and provided meals at the St. Joseph Shelter. Some students helped out at the Ronald McDonald House and at animal rescue organizations. Others provided leadership for youth sports. These projects impacted a wide range of organizations and individuals.

Holy Trinity offered its first Generations of Faith event in November. Generations of Faith offered a vision of faith formation for all ages, learning together. The topic for this gathering was the changes in the wording of the Mass which were implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. Over 250 participants from 5 to 95 enjoyed a meal, a humorous skit, and workshops for the various age levels. At the end, participants came together to share with each other what they'd learned. The gathering began and ended with prayer, and a home kit was offered to extend the learning and sharing in the households. Child care was offered for those under age five.

During the season of Advent, the implementation of the new wording of the Mass was a major focus. Families were

encouraged to support the mitten tree project of the Peace and Justice committee.

During the season of Lent, our parish focused on the Corporal Works of Mercy. Each week saw an emphasis on a different work of mercy:

- First Sunday – Feed the hungry
- Second Sunday – Give drink to the thirsty
- Third Sunday – Clothe the naked
- Fourth Sunday – Shelter the homeless
- Fifth Sunday – Visit the sick and imprisoned
- Sixth Sunday – Bury the dead

During Lent the parish collected donations to support agencies or projects connected with a particular work of mercy. Every week, parishioners were given information on the work of mercy and resources (web-based and otherwise) to learn more and become more involved.



ENROLLMENT

Holy Trinity students reside not only in the Des Moines/Beaverdale area, but also in surrounding communities. The chart below shows the population of students by city.



For the 2011-2012 school year, 507 students, preschool-8th grade, were enrolled at Holy Trinity School. Our Preschool 4's program received the state-wide Voluntary 4-Year-Old Preschool Grant for the fifth year. Through the grant, students enrolled in our 4-year-old preschool program received free tuition.

Students are members of Holy Trinity, All Saints, Our Lady's Immaculate Heart and St. Mary's parishes. We also have students who bring other Christian denominations to our family; one of the many ways our hearts and doors are open to Christ.



DISTRICTS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL 2011-2012

DISTRICT	NUMBER ENROLLED
ANKENY	21
DALLAS CENTER	2
DES MOINES	347
JOHNSTON	69
NORTH POLK	2
NORWALK	2
SE POLK	3
SAYDEL	7
URBANDALE	30
WAUKEE	7
WEST DES MOINES	17
TOTAL	507

IOWA TEST OF BASIC SKILLS

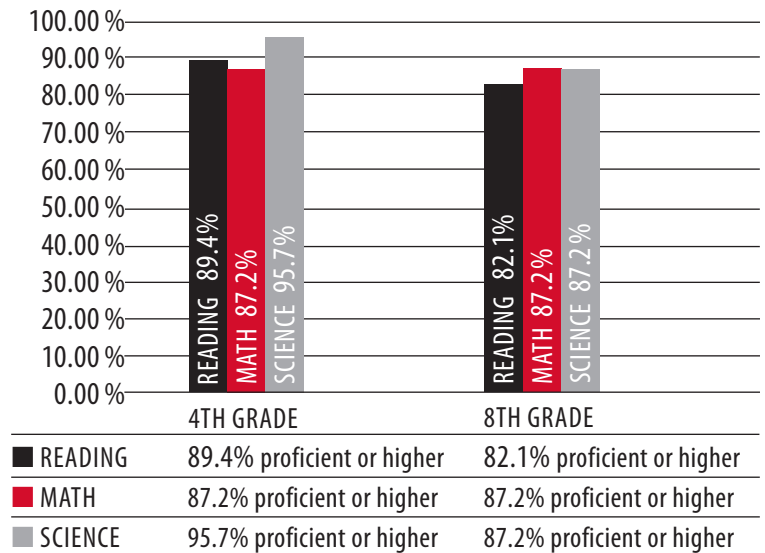
The Iowa Assessments (formerly Iowa Tests of Basic Skills) are administered to the 3rd-8th grade students in January. Test results are shown below.

The school is required to report Iowa Assessment results to the Iowa Department of Education annually for 4th and 8th grade students. The chart at the right, shows the 2011-2012 Iowa Assessment proficiency scores for Reading, Math, and Science.

Teachers and administration spent time during professional development reviewing the Iowa Assessment data, both as group scores and individual student scores. The data was used to develop school wide goals to improve instruction at Holy Trinity School.

The Iowa Assessments serve as one piece of information about student achievement. The school considers the Iowa Assessments as a supplement to other important means of assessment, such as teacher observations, daily work, classroom tests and quizzes, standards based report cards, and alternative standardized assessments.

2011-2012 IOWA ASSESSMENTS Percentage of Students Proficient



PARISH & SCHOOL INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

A two-year statement of activities for fiscal years ending June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2012 is listed below.

Category	Fiscal Year Ending 6.30.2011	Fiscal Year Ending 6.30.2012	% Change from FY-2011 to FY -2012	Description
Tithe	\$1,045,980	\$974,685	-7%	Tithe, Christmas, Easter, Holy Days, Plate
Parish Fund raisers	\$31,507	\$32,091	2%	Garage Sales & Fall Festival
Parish Designated Donations, Bequests, Stipends	\$14,574	\$16,241	10%	Bequests, memorial gifts, mass intentions
Parish Rental Property Income	\$1,330	\$1,740	24%	Rental of parish hall
Parish Miscellaneous Income	\$5,078	\$9,638	47%	Votive stand, bulletin net income, interest income, etc.
Program Fees - RE, Celebrate Income	\$7,503	\$5,950	-26%	Religious Education fees
School / Preschool - Education Income	\$1,277,232	\$1,284,262	1%	School tuition & registration fees, (one less preschool class in FY 12, than FY 11)
School Hot Lunch Fees	\$194,536	\$187,055	-4%	Hot lunch fees + government subsidy
School Before/After Child Care Fees	\$170,338	\$165,159	-3%	12-month child care program
School Designated Donation	\$83,790	\$80,654	-4%	Holy Trinity Guild donation, auction fund raiser, corporate matching gifts, individual donations.
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,831,867	\$2,757,475	-3%	
Employee Salaries / Benefits / Training - All Programs	\$1,924,043	\$1,885,344	-2%	Approximately 85 full & part-time employees
Employee Payroll Taxes	\$127,343	\$123,396	-3%	Approximately 85 full & part-time employees
Building Maintenance & Utility Expense	\$388,314	\$332,632	-17%	Utility, maintenance, insurance, grounds, trash removal, etc.
Parish Assessments	\$129,044	\$123,509	-4%	Chaplaincy Assessment, Dowling/St. Joseph Assessment
Church Liturgical Supplies	\$14,385	\$13,108	-10%	Candles, vestments, wine, hosts, mass books
Church & School Office Expenses	\$48,639	\$123,656	61%	Office Supplies, computers, copy machines, postage
Program Expenses - Parish	\$36,045	-\$17,710	304%	RICA, CHRP, Sacramental preparation, etc. (FY11 reallocated a FY10 expense from parish to school; FY12 began Stephen's Ministries)
Program Expenses - School / Preschool	\$34,703	\$36,510	5%	Books, instructional materials
Program Expenses - Hot Lunch	\$66,154	\$67,897	3%	Food & supply costs
Program Expenses - Kids Care Before/After School	\$12,332	\$11,398	-8%	Food & instructional materials
Program Expenses - RE / Youth Ministry	\$8,675	\$6,614	-31%	Instructional materials, youth conferences, etc.
Rectory Expenses	\$4,545	\$4,105	-11%	Utilities, maintenance, cleaning
Other	\$37,600	\$47,801	21%	Diocesan appeal shortfall, bank charges, payroll processing, payment of loan
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,831,821	\$2,758,260	-3%	
FUND BALANCE CHANGE	\$45	(\$785)		

Note: This financial report does not include results from the Capital Campaign, Education Endowment, or Holy Trinity Foundation activities.

THE HOLY TRINITY GUILD

The **Holy Trinity Guild** is a parent organization committed to supporting the school community through volunteer and fund raising opportunities. The Guild financially supports Holy Trinity School events such as Artist in Residence, as well as school projects such as technology purchases and other classroom needs.

GUILD INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

INCOME

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Holiday Boutique	\$18,142.49
Challenge Fund raiser	\$11,292.89
SCRIP	\$16,066.02
Spirit Shop	\$34.33
Entertainment Books	\$8,632.51
Fall Fund raiser	\$7,115.70
Box Tops	\$2,210.86
Can Redemption	\$1,193.28
Yunker's Day	\$350.00
Interest Earned	\$16.56
Unallocated from 2010-2011	\$11,669.81
TOTAL INCOME	\$76,723.96



EXPENSES

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Contributions to School Budget	\$21,000.00
Artist in Residence	\$2,000.00
Classroom Needs	\$10,000.00
Library	\$2,350.00
Teacher Allotments/Gifts	\$5,000.00
Playground Maintenance	\$2,000.00
Hospitality	\$850.00
Technology	\$25,000.00
Misc -Flowers and Guild Party	\$500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$68,700.00



TECHNOLOGY

Holy Trinity School continues to keep up with the ever-evolving world of technology with the addition of all new computers for our lab and the purchase of eleven additional Promethean boards for our classrooms.

The technology committee worked diligently last year, meeting monthly, looking at budgets, making plans and setting goals to ensure that Holy Trinity is moving in the direction to ensure that our students have the skills to prepare them for the future.

The Next Generation Technology Fund, established through generous donations from parents and parishioners, contributions from the Guild, technology grants and the annual technology fee, was used to purchase many additional technology items for the classrooms. Eleven new Promethean boards were installed throughout the year. Promethean technology is now complete in all classrooms K-8 along with document cameras and projectors being installed in the music and art classrooms.

The Promethean boards are an interactive learning tool for students that allow hands-on practice using technology and having fun while learning. Students are able to create charts, tables, graphs, presentations, and watch videos. Through an Education for the 21st Century Grant, Holy Trinity School purchased thirty new BYTESPEED desktop computers equipped with Windows 7 for the computer lab. The new computer lab allows students to do research, become familiar with Word, Excel and PowerPoint, type projects, and practice their typing skills. Also, all existing computers in the school and parish were upgraded to include the latest Windows software. With funding from a Prairie Meadows Grant, a new fire alarm system was purchased and installed in July.

Over the summer, I-NOW was replaced by PowerSchool, a web-based student information system that allows students and parents to access assessment reporting. The program has many other features that include attendance, seating charts, family and faculty management, scheduling tools, and discipline management.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LUNCHROOM

Holy Trinity food service provided nutritious breakfasts and lunches throughout the school year. The cafeteria staff also planned and prepared other community events and celebrations.

MANY CELEBRATIONS/SPECIAL EVENTS occurred in the 2011-2012 school year. The first of many was the annual celebration of **Grandparents' Day** held in October. The lunchroom staff prepared punch and more than 1000 cookies that were served in classrooms throughout the building.

In November the **20th Annual Thanksgiving Feast** was held for students and guests. This year with the help of over 30 volunteers, the kitchen staff prepared and served a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings to over 700 people.

January, 2012 brought our annual **Donuts with Dad** celebration with 250 students and guests in attendance. **Muffins with Mom** was held on March 1, 2012 and 286 guests spent the morning with their students and friends eating a delicious breakfast and celebrating time together.

During Catholic Schools Week in January, the lunchroom staff prepared cinnamon rolls to be served at the omelet breakfast for parishioners and prospective families. Cinnamon rolls were once again prepared for retired members of the parish who were invited to a special breakfast served by the Student Council.

Special classroom lunches were also a highlight of the year. Several classes received a special meal prepared by the lunchroom staff and enjoyed eating in their classrooms as an all-class PBIS reward. The 8th grade was treated to a pizza lunch with all the extras. Kindergarten received a specialty lunch in their classroom in December as a reward from the Guild for selling the most Entertainment Books. In the spring, two classrooms had frozen yogurt delivered by Mrs. Bunkers to their classrooms as a reward from the Guild for collecting the most box tops for the school.

In March, **Catholic Radio** broadcast from Holy Trinity School. Each morning the lunchroom staff prepared and served our delicious breakfasts to tempt and satisfy the broadcasting team.

Many parents ordered **birthday treats** for their students' classroom to enjoy. The lunch room staff received requests for 184 birthday parties!

In May, Holy Trinity School invited area graduating seniors who attended Holy Trinity School for a formal luncheon. Forty graduating seniors returned to their elementary alma mater to enjoy many of their favorite foods prepared by the lunchroom staff. Many teachers stopped in during the luncheon to wish them well. The students then toured the building and left with a special gift prepared by the lunchroom staff.



ENRICHMENT & EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS

In addition to Diocesan Curriculum (Standards & Benchmarks), students at Holy Trinity had opportunities to participate in the following extracurricular enrichment and service activities.

CURRICULUM

- Accelerated Reader
- Reading Recovery
- Spanish (6-8)
- “Everyday Math”, mathematics for grades K-5
- Learning Support Program
- Family Heritage Projects
- Japanese Tea Ceremony
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Program
- Addition of Promethean Boards and Document Cameras, Instructional Technology

ENRICHMENT

- Mock Trial - 35 Students competed in the mock trial program
- Junior Achievement (JA) Biztown (5th Grade)
- Diocesan Science Bowl
- Job Shadowing
- Artist in Residence
- Mad Science
- K-5th Grade Seasonal Music concert/program
- 5th Grade Snow Plow Painting Contest
- 5th Grade Y-Camp Overnight
- FIRST® LEGO® League



SERVICE

Students at Holy Trinity participated in many service opportunities throughout the school year.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

We celebrate Catholic Schools week with special dress up days and activities with a focus on service. The theme for 2012 was FAITH, ACADEMICS, SERVICE.

HOPE & NEW LIFE BUTTERFLIES

Mrs. Cornish, guidance counselor and Mrs. Koester, art teacher, visited the **Ronald McDonald house and Blank Children's Hospital** last May with a special delivery of ceramic butterflies made by the 8th grade class. The butterflies signify hope and new life and were a gift to children being treated for serious illnesses at Iowa Methodist Hospital.

HOUSE OF MERCY

Holy Trinity students donated much needed items to the "House of Mercy" that assists mothers and their children by providing shelter, food, and necessities.

MISSION AWARENESS JEANS DAY

Held once a month, each grade hosted a charity or organization of their choice. \$1 per student was donated to wear jeans. We collected a total of **\$3,936.38** for various charities last year! Below are the totals collected:

- Sept. 11 Fund \$410.96
- House of Mercy \$592.43
- Connection Cafe \$434.97
- HT PATCH House \$428.43
- Coins for Campers \$408.28
- Terra Livre \$433.77
- Mexican Orphanage \$431.00

DMARC Food Pantry \$404.64
JDRF \$391.90

PINWHEELS FOR PEACE

Holy Trinity participated in the observance of Pinwheels for Peace on the International Day of Peace. All students at Holy Trinity made their own pinwheel. Student partners gathered together to help the younger partner assemble their pinwheels. As a whole school, we formed a human peace symbol and then placed the pinwheels in a peace symbol on the front lawn. It was a great event which helped us to be mindful of peace and how we can affect it in little ways. *(photo on the inside front cover)*

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Students in Grades 2-5 jumped rope to raise \$8,000 for the American Heart Association! The students worked as teams to secure donations and learned many things concerning the organization, how people are helped and the benefits of living healthy.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The 2011-2012 school year provided students with several opportunities to get involved. Listed below are activities that were offered to students:

BAND (grades 5-8)

CHOIR (grades 6-8)

“STATE FAIR” THE MUSICAL (grades 6-8)

CHESS CLUB

GIRLS SCOUTS, BROWNIES, DAISIES

BOY SCOUTS, CUB SCOUTS, TIGER SCOUTS

CATHOLIC FOOTBALL LEAGUE (grades 3-8)

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL (grades 6-8)

GIRLS & BOYS BASKETBALL (grades 3-8)

CHEER LEADING (GRADES 7-8)

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK (grades 5-8)

FIELD DAY

FIRST® LEGO® League

SPANISH AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (GRADES 4-5)

GO THE DISTANCE DAY

Holy Trinity School participated in “Go The Distance Day” last spring. This event was sponsored by Live Healthy Iowa Kids, and many schools across Iowa were involved. Holy Trinity students worked with their partner grades and had a great time doing various activities and exercises during their 30 minutes together.



KIDS CONNECTION – HT CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Kids Connection is Holy Trinity’s before and after school child care program, directed by Jenith Burry.

Holy Trinity continued to offer excellent child care to more than 65 students before and after school, as well as during Christmas and Spring Breaks.

In its fourth year of operation, the DK/AM Preschool 4’s Child Care program cared for 10 students. The program was offered Monday-Friday from 11:20 am-6:00 pm for DK students and from 12-6 pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday for preschool students.

Kids Connection had a very busy summer with 30-40 children each day of the week. Students were taken on field trips two days a week and the kids ventured out around Beaverdale to local parks, Beaverdale Confections and the comic book store. They especially loved a 2 week AIM High program at Farrell’s Martial Arts. The children enjoyed going on new field trips to Monkey Joes and Skyzone Trampoline Zone as well as the usual trips to the swimming pool, an Iowa Cubs game, and the all time favorite, Adventureland!

For the second summer Kids Connection partnered with the other area Diocesan schools’ school-age child care programs and hosted a “Water Day” themed Fun Friday. This is becoming a fun tradition for the programs!

There was a very proud moment for Kids Connection, when after a year long process, the program was able to apply for and was awarded a four star rating from the Iowa Department of Human Services for it’s Iowa Quality Rating System (QRS). Kids Connection was very proud to receive this recognition as a quality school age child care program.



GALA AUCTION

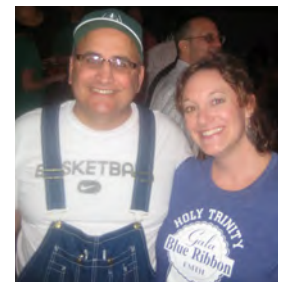
The Gala Auction was held in April of 2012. The “Holy Trinity State Fair—Blue Ribbon Faith” provided an evening of fun and entertainment while supporting the school and endowment fund.

The 2012 State Fair-Blue Ribbon Faith Gala Auction was another record-breaking event all around. A net profit of over \$102,000 was raised, attendance surpassed 400 guests, and there were 420 amazing items up for bid, including a trip to Italy!

Holy Trinity brought the State Fair to Iowa in April! Guests arrived in their finest state fair attire and dined on wonderful “state fair” food while gathered around the Grand Stand. Holy Trinity added an old state fair tradition and crowned a “State Fair Queen.” Teachers of Holy Trinity volunteered to enter as Fair Queen Candidates and donations were raised. The teacher with the highest amount of donations was crowned Queen. Congratulations to Mrs. Riedesel in Kindergarten for being crowned the 2012 Blue Ribbon Faith State Fair Queen!

Father Michael once again challenged auction guests to match a donation from a generous parishioner, this time with the assumption that he would kiss a pig if enough donations were raised. Sure enough, at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year, an assembly was held to watch Father Michael kiss a pig, much to the disgruntled squeals of the pig!! What a sight!

Thanks to all the wonderful, loyal and generous auction guests and donors, the 2012 Holy Trinity State Fair-Blue Ribbon Faith Gala Auction definitely won the 1st Place Blue Ribbon!



PARISH MINISTRIES

Holy Trinity has many different Parish Ministries. These ministries offer many opportunities for parishioners to get involved.

THE HOLY TRINITY WOMENS CLUB

The Holy Trinity Womens Club began when this parish was in its infancy. It is an informal group of women who meet together in small groups, called circles. They come together to socialize and do good works for our church and school community. This organization also monetarily supports monthly birthday parties for a local nursing home. The circles are also available to help with parish functions such as the garage sale, receptions, and funeral lunches. Holy Trinity Womens Club would be happy to welcome new members. Yearly dues are \$6 per person.

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

Christ Renews His Parish, CRHP, completed its fifth year as a path to spiritual renewal for Holy Trinity parishioners. Throughout the years, hundreds of parishioners have participated in a weekend retreat in which fellow members shared their faith journey. A Faith Community gathers for prayer, praise, Adoration, Reconciliation and Eucharist. This is truly a parish community event. Parishioners provide meals, pray in Adoration in the CRHP chapel, write letters of prayer support, provide child care and liturgy support which is truly loving and authentically Christian.

As in previous years, men and women commit to a formation process for a minimum of six months. Meeting weekly, they share their faith stories, read and reflect on scripture, support each other through prayer, fraternity and providing for the practical needs of members. Through the formation process,

members learn and witness to the love of Christ and the need for unity with a community of believers. It is important to note that several non-Catholic spouses have participated and joined formation teams.

Christ Renews His Parish has energized participants spiritual growth, fostered a fire for learning the faith and serving the community. Participation in both spiritual and community opportunities as grown from these participants. New ministries have developed both within the parish and within the Diocese ignited in part by the call to Pentecost, which is the call to Discipleship encouraged for post participation.

HOLY TRINITY SENIOR DINNER CLUB

Holy Trinity dinner club is a social organization open to all parishioners (over 50 years) of Holy Trinity Church. We provide wonderful dinners and programs generally on the second Monday of the month - Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., March., April, May. Programs are announced in the Parish Bulletin. If you would like to assist with telephone calling, food prep, serving, setting and cleaning up please contact: Doris O'Malley 515-278-9799. These acts of hospitality are deeply appreciated.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Trinity's Knights of Columbus is a men's fraternal organization devoted to charitable activities and the support of the family. Last year, money that was raised through the Tootsie Roll Drive by the Holy Trinity Knights council went to Iowa Special Olympics and Van Meter School in Des Moines to support people with intellectual disabilities. In December 2011, they sponsored an Omelet breakfast, donating all proceeds to our local Catholic radio station – KWKY. The Council sponsored two Fish Dinners during Lent and our Founder's Day Picnic in June. The Knights support a seminarian from our parish, Adam Westphal, who earlier served our council as Grand Knight. The council ended the year with 84 members. The Grand Knight is Terry Smith and the Deputy Grand Knight is Rich Puhl.



GARAGE SALE

The Holy Trinity garage sale is held two times per year, during spring break and the first week of August. This Saturday through Saturday project allows over 100 volunteers, ages 5 to 90 to gather together for a fun and social fund raising event. Community members donate numerous items, enough to fill the social room, gymnasium and part of the parking lot. The August 2011 garage sale profited \$13,372.28 and the March 2012 garage sale profited \$11,561.49.



ST. VINCENT DePAUL SOCIETY

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a men's and women's organization devoted to providing assistance to those in need. It was established by Frederick Ozanam in France in the year 1833 and modeled after a number of earlier charitable organizations founded by St. Vincent de Paul. From that early date, the Society has spread into many countries including the United States, Canada and Mexico. The Society's growth has reached many parishes in the form of Conferences which respond to need requests. The Holy Trinity Conference has been active for many years in

providing assistance within the parish and surrounding area. For information pertaining to the Society's work or the Holy Trinity Conference, contact Jim McGinn at 515-321-9536.

WOMEN'S READING GROUP

Saturday Morning Scripture Women meets each Saturday throughout the year from 7:30AM to 8:30AM. We begin with prayer, then read the scriptures for the Saturday/Sunday mass for that week. We share our thoughts about the scriptures and how they apply to our daily lives. It is a wonderful time of drawing closer to each other and to God, to learn something new or deeper from God's Word, and to enrich our worship experience at Mass.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

The Pastoral Ministry program at Holy Trinity is staffed by a part time nurse (Pastoral Minister) and many volunteers. The nurse visits hospitalized parishioners in Des Moines area hospitals. Home and care facility visits are made by the nurse and volunteers. She coordinates two blood drives each year, and two Healing Masses. A committee helps to organize transportation for home bound parishioners to come to the Healing Mass. A reception after each Mass facilitate socialization among our elderly parishioners. The nurse coordinates volunteers who bring Communion to the home bound and others who drive home bound parishioners to doctors' appointments and grocery stores. The nurse also conducts Communion Services in local senior living centers. She helped parishioners navigate the health care system, and brought a SHIIP volunteer to Holy Trinity to help seniors find the appropriate Part D medication insurance plan. She disseminates health information through the bulletin boards and the parish bulletin. She is currently part of the Stephen Leader Team that is bringing one on one distinctively Christian caring to hurting members of the parish.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council serves as a prayer and advisory body to the pastor and our parish. In the past year, the Council was involved with selecting Vince Ambrosetti to lead our parish mission and organizing the event. We advised on the implementation of the new parish directory project which took place this summer. The Council also interviewed a cross section of the parish on what their Catholic faith means to them. These faith stories have appeared as inserts in the bulletin.

continued on page 18

HOLY TRINITY PATCH APARTMENT

The Holy Trinity Parish Assisted Temporary Care and Housing (PATCH) provides housing, utilities, and phone service for a homeless family for up to six months. During that time the family puts as much money as they can into a savings account. The plan is for the family to have enough money for a security deposit and at least a month's rent for their own place when they leave. PATCH also represents a transition between a previous way of living and a better future. At one time there were several PATCH programs in various parishes in Des Moines. After 25 years, Holy Trinity's PATCH is the only one still functioning. As the needs of the under served become greater and greater, it is good to know that Holy Trinity is showing compassion by sheltering a homeless family. A new family moved into the PATCH apartment in early May 2011. Thanks to the generous donations of household items, time and financial contributions from HT parishioners, the apartment came together beautifully. We were able to fully furnish the apartment. We purchased bunk beds for the boys' room at The FreeStore (an organization which helps homeless families in transition). We are so grateful for the ongoing support of parishioners who want Holy Trinity to continue this mission to serve the homeless. We rely on parishioner donations to pay the monthly rent and utilities. The PATCH committee is very grateful for the donations they received. If you are interested in learning more about becoming involved in this mission, please contact Molly Pigneri at 277-4212 or hpatch@gmail.com or Bernie Gradoville at 277-7642.



CELEBRATE PROGRAM

The Holy Trinity Celebrate Sunday Program is a great way to strengthen the spiritual journey of our children. The curriculum is developed especially for the learning styles of preschool children and kindergartners, and incorporates prayer, song, stories and art to teach children about God's love, while emphasizing the fundamentals of the Catholic faith. The program is fun and uses the same scripture readings as the parents hear proclaimed at mass, yet shares the readings at a level they are able to understand. This program meets every other Sunday during the 10:30 mass and is open to preschool and kindergarten age children.

WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY

The Worship & Spirituality Committee is charged with helping to foster the spiritual growth of the parish through its worship. The committee works to develop the ministries of all parishioners. We coordinate and train the various ministries of greeter, usher, EMHC, lector, and altar server. We also coordinate the various prayer opportunities of the parish throughout the year. This past year we spent much time preparing for and instituting the changes to the Roman Missal. We have also placed baskets at the church doors with books for children to use during worship. These books along with a suggestion list for parents of how to engage their children in the worship of the church are part of our mission. The committee also works very hard at Christmas and Easter with providing a welcoming place for everyone who is called to gather for worship at these special times.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS

In 2011, we installed a new heat/cooling control system in the Church. This new system allows us to control the heating and cooling at any particular time of the day for any event. In the past, the heating and cooling would run 24 hours a day if the Church was being used or not. Due to the large amount of energy savings, MidAmerican granted Holy Trinity a \$14,500 rebate.

During the summer of 2011, many areas received “extreme make overs.” Both the middle school classrooms and hallways received a fresh coat of paint. In addition, each middle school classroom received new cabinets. In early fall of 2011, the Parish Office was another recipient of a makeover. Both the carpet and paint was original to that portion of the building which was added 25+ years ago. New paint and new open work spaces were installed, along with new carpet and furniture.

In early April 2012 nine security cameras were added in key spots of our facilities. This allows us to see who is entering the building and where they are going. They are equipped with a recording device and allow us to review what has been recorded whenever needed. The cameras will help us address issues such as bullying in the hallways, vandalism in hallways as well as appropriate use of our facilities in the evenings and weekends.







Holy Trinity
Catholic Church & School