FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT + APRIL 7, 2019



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

Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her. ~ John 8:7

2926 Beaver Avenue • Des Moines, IA 50310 • 515.255.3162 www.holytrinitydm.org • www.htschool.org Parish email: parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org • School email: holytrinity@htschool.org



WEEKLY THOUGHTS APRIL 7, 2019

Last Saturday, March 30th, forty-four Holy Trinity second graders along with their moms & dads spent the morning on retreat. With the celebration of their First Eucharist less than a month away, they took the time to take the final steps in preparing for their big day. They got the chance to make their blessing cups, ask Father Mark all of their important questions about the Bread & Wine, participate in an educational church tour led by Sharon Provost, and finally they took time to do a service project making cards for the elderly at our local assisted living centers.

Our second graders will make their First Eucharist On Saturday, April 27th and Sunday, April 28th. We ask our entire Holy Trinity faith community to continue to hold them up in prayer during these coming days. They are all so excited to make their First Eucharist and we are so happy for them. Congratulations to all of our second graders and their families!





SPIRITUALITY OF THE READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 43:16-21 Responsorial 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 Reading II: Philippians 3:8-14 Gospel: John 8:1-11

Caught!

It is a scene from a nightmare.

Yet it turns out well.

Pretend that you are the woman in Sunday's Gospel. You have been "caught in adultery." The officials shove you into a mob of people.

They see your hot shame and how it burns. They recite the ancient law of Moses: "The sacred law says you must be stoned to death for your crime."

Stoned to death! Humiliation would be bad enough! The sin is bad enough. Stoned! No!

There is a man everyone calls the "Teacher." He has been captivating the crowd just before you were dragged in. Now you (= the woman) have become the center of attention.

So the nightmare gets worse. By means of your humiliation the accusers want to trap the Teacher and disgrace him! They are using you for this purpose. Now you see that your devastation is only a mere tool!

They question the Teacher. Doesn't he agree that you should be stoned to death? They have him in a snare, this "teacher," this dreamer, who always preaches about forgiveness and love. If he defends you for the sake of his so-called love, he will break the law of Moses! If he rejects his law of love, he must then follow Moses' law, pick up a stone and throw it.

This teacher leans down, scratching absent-mindedly in the dirt. People hold their breath. The accusers fear. Why is he silent and what will he say? Now they themselves become nervous.

Let us figure out Jesus' answer. Could it be that "the Teacher" is thinking something like the following:

"My Abba has loved each of them through all ages, no matter whether they were sinners or not. 'Be my people,' Abba always begged them. 'Love one another. I love you, and I forgive your sins.""

But their motto is hatred not love. They want death to happen.

For "Father" Jesus uses an Arabic word that expresses

both familiarity and respect, "Abba."

They shout again. "What is your answer? Shall we follow the law and stone this sinful woman?" Remember, reader, you are that woman, and you stand in humiliation, cheeks hot and tears falling. Your heart says in terror, "the accusers are right!"

But teacher lifts his head from the scratchings. He utters a sentence that sums up the Gospel and all of Lent:

"Let the one among you who is without sin throw the first stone." (Gospel)

The crowd creeps away, silently, sunk in their own hidden sins. Now you stand alone before this quiet Teacher, and your terror has gone. There is something about him that supports you, brings you out to solid ground.

"Well, where are they?" he asks. "Has no one condemned you?" You reply, "No one, sir." Maybe he also asks, "Do you condemn yourself?"

You, the woman, spend a long time on this answer because the question is so very hard. Finally you whisper, "I do not wish to condemn myself, Teacher."

"Neither do I condemn you," Jesus answers. "Go and sin no more."

This scene could refashion the whole earth. If we could each accept our own sinfulness and the forgiveness that surrounds it. We would have peace. We would drink compassion from God, who has been there all along, tracing in the sand.

You stammer at last, "I believe, Lord.

"Help my unbelief."

John Foley, S. J. of the Center for Liturgy

Image: Lucas Cranach II Christ and the Woman Taken in Adultery, 1532 ff

FAITH QUESTIONS

Question for Children: How does the Sacrament of Reconciliation help us experience God's forgiveness?

Question for Youth: Who among your family and friends do you need to forgive so that you can heal a broken relationship and experience newness?

Question for Adults: Against whom do you hold prejudices? Who do you believe is a greater sinner than yourself?





PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTES

Children's Liturgy of the Word

One of the many wonderful ministries we offer at Holy Trinity is Children's Liturgy of the Word. Children ages 5-10 are invited during mass to gather, read, and discuss the Gospel for the week as a small group. This is



an opportunity for our children to break open the word and discuss the Gospel with other children their own age. We have a number of adults who lead our Children's Liturgy of the Ministry, and they work very hard to make this an uplifting and fun experience for our children. When Father Mark extends the invitation during mass for our Children to come forward for their Liturgy of the Word, we hope that you child(ren) will join us. Please remember that this ministry is for children ages 5-10. We ask that children any younger or older remain with their families during the Gospel and Homily. If you have any questions about Children's Liturgy of the Word please contact John Mertes, Director of Faith Formation at johnm@holytrinitydm.org or 255-3162, extension 224.

NEXT BAPTISM CLASS



If you would like your child baptized at Holy Trinity, our next Baptism Class is Monday, April 22nd. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the Parish Office at 255-3162 ext. 128 or email parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org to sign up. We look forward to celebrating this

Sacrament with your family!

EASTER VOLUNTEERS

Have you ever wanted to look behind the curtain? The Worship & Spirituality team is in need of some people to assist with setting up for Easter. Set-up starts at 7AM on Saturday April 20. We are usually done by 9AM. While we often have great volunteers from the youth and the older parts of the parish we could use some members of the middle agers to assist. Come for as long as you can 30 minutes, 1 hour or more. Hope to see you there!

Bishop Drumm Garage Sale

On Thursdays, from May 2-September 27th, there will be a Garage Sale at the Bishop Drumm Retirement Center garage (5834 Winwood Drive-Johnston). Donations will be accepted. Items needed: household goods, children and adult clothing, furniture in good condition, toys, books. For questions please call Sue Jansen, 515-279-1843. All proceeds go to the needs of the Bishop Drumm Care Center. Thank you so much for your help.



Fr. Francis Ostdiek Council #14029 Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

April 12 • 5-7pm

Holy Trinity School Gym/Social Room

Menu: Baked Tilapia and Baked Beer Battered Cod, Mac n' Cheese, Potato, Vegetable, Coleslaw, Dinner roll/butter, Fish Tacos, Assorted Drinks

Proceeds benefit charitable causes of the Knights of Columbus

Adults - \$9; Age 5-11 -\$5 Under 5 – Free; Family - \$35

Desserts provided by Holy Trinity Youth Group. Free Will Offering to support Youth Group Activities.





PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTES



Upcoming Youth/Confirmation Retreat

NET (National Evangelization Teams) is coming to Holy Trinity to inspire and ignite OUR HT YOUTH on Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25.

On Wednesday, April 24 - Grades 9-12 students are invited to a retreat from 5-10pm. This retreat includes a meal and will count towards their confirmation retreat requirement. There is no cost for the retreat. Students already confirmed are WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to attend as well! PLEASE RSVP if you plan to attend this retreat to Christy at christyp@holytrinitydm.org/255-3162 ext. 226 or John at johnm@holytrinitydm.org.

On Thursday, April 25 – there will be a retreat during the school day for Holy Trinity Middle School students.

Contact Janelle Kerr (710-6400) or John Mertes (255-3162 ext. 224) if you want to hear more about hosting 2 or more missionaries in your home on the evenings of Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25. They do travel with sleeping bags but appreciate a warm shower and breakfast! You don't have to have a teen in your home to host overnight guests. Thank you!

Iowa Pork Chop Dinner

St. Mary of Nazareth will host a Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, April 27 from 5-8pm. It will be served at St. Mary of Nazareth Parish Hall—4600 Meredith Dr. in Des Moines. Cost is Adult - \$10/ children 5 to 12 - \$5/family (immediate) - \$25. Hope to see you there.

ManUp West Power Lunch- April: "It's Almost Over!"

Newly ordained Deacon Randy Kiel will lead us in a strong charge to live according to the blessings that Christ and his Church have bestowed upon us, and help us finish Lent with our own personal "villa dolorosa". Several years ago Randy led into this topic at a very memorable evening Man-Up. This event promises to help us lean into Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Join us and bring a buddy or 2 to St. Francis of Assisi Parish (Serra Room) on Friday, April 12th at High Noon. Our lunch will include pizza without meat. Please register at:

https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/copy-of-events

Bishop Seeks Prayer and Financial Assistance for Flood Victims

During this period of historic flooding in Iowa and Nebraska, including wide portions of the Diocese of Des Moines, Bishop Richard Pates is urging prayer for those impacted and inviting financial assistance for those in serious need. Many families have been displaced and some may have lost everything. Farmers especially have suffered significant loss, a portion of their land is underwater and livestock and grain that was in storage have been affected.

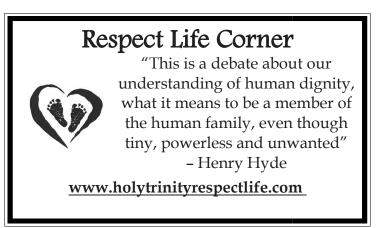
Catholic Charities Des Moines is currently working with Catholic Charities USA to identify and coordinate resources and needs in responding to this tragedy. Bishop Pates encourages financial support at this time either through parish collections or individual donations. All funds should be sent to:

Diocese of Des Moines Flood Relief, c/o Finance Office 601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309

Contributions can be made via credit or debit card online at the following link: <u>https://</u><u>dmdiocese.thankyou4caring.org/pages/donation-</u><u>form---flood-relief</u> Catholic Charities will also work with parish communities and their needs.

PALM SUNDAY OPPORTUNITY

Please join us for our annual Interfaith Palm Sunday procession and prayer service; Sunday, April 14th starting at Central Presbyterian Church (2829 Grand) at 2:45pm proceeding to Plymouth Church(4126 Ingersoll) for the prayer service at 3:30 pm. We will be walking "To Love & Defend our Sacred Earth" with a presentation by Matt Russell from Iowa Interfaith Power & Light. We are expressing a vision of peace, justice & support for the well being of the sacred earth.





Join Us as We Journey through Lent

Wednesday Evenings - Mass at 6:00 pm April 10th & 17th

Friday - Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm April 12th

Friday - Fish Dinners from 5:00-7:00 pm April 12th

Communal Reconciliation Services

St. Mary-Elkhart – April 7 @ 2pm Christ the King – April 7 @ 6pm Assumption Granger – April 10 @ 6:30pm St. Catherine's – April 11 @ 6-8pm St. Joseph's Des Moines – April 11 @ 6:30pm

Palm Sunday - April 14th

Regular Mass Schedule-Process from the Gym

Holy Week Services

Holy Thursday - April 18th Mass at 7:00 pm followed by Adoration in Gym

> **Good Friday** - April 19th Service at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil - April 20th Vigil at 8:00 pm followed by reception in Parish Hall Easter Sunday - April 21st Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am



SAINT OF THE WEEK & OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Joseph of Arimathea, Layman, First Century



One of the early saints of the Church, Joseph of Arimathea is mentioned in all four of the Gospels. According to Luke 23:50, Joseph was "a virtuous and righteous man" who was "himself awaiting the kingdom of God" (Mk 15:43). He was a member of the Sanhedrin and was secretly a disciple of Jesus. Like many Christians of that time, he kept his discipleship to himself "for fear of the Jews" (Jn 19:38).

When Jesus was brought before the Sanhedrin to be condemned to death, Joseph opposed their decision. After Jesus died on the cross, however, Joseph "courageously" went to Pilate and asked for his body. Pilate consented, so Joseph wrapped the body in clean linen and laid it in a new tomb which had been hewn out of rock.

Legend tells us that Joseph went with Philip the apostle to Gaul to spread the Good News. Philip later sent twelve missionaries, under the direction of Joseph, to the British Isles. Though he did not accept Christianity, the king gave the missionaries an island, later to become Glastonbury, on which they constructed a church in honor of Our Lady. Joseph is also said to have inherited the chalice used by Jesus at the Last Supper, the Holy Grail, which as been the subject of many fictional quests. In the Middle Ages, when these legends reached the peak of their popularity, British clerics used them to support their claim that Britain was the first country of the western world to accept the teachings of Christ.

St. Joseph of Arimathea is the patron of funeral directors. Though he has no memorial on the liturgical calendar, he is honored on March 17.

Joseph's message today: After Jesus' death on the cross, Joseph chose to reveal himself as a follower of Christ, a move which must have caused his expulsion from the Sanhedrin. We too are sometimes asked to make sacrifices in the name of Jesus.

Do you offer those sacrifices which Jesus asks of you willingly or do you try to find a way to avoid them?



At Holy Trinity, we have a saying, "*All are welcome in this place.*" When finding the right school for your child, it's important to feel comfortable, safe and that you belong. We're not just your child's teachers or your neighbors. We're your second family. We're a community of educators, parents and advocates who are dedicated to taking this sacred journey together with you

with you.

Start your journey now. Enroll for the 2019-2020 school year.

Spots available in:

- 3-year-old Preschool
- Developmental Kindergarten (for young 5 year olds)
- Kindergarten 8th grade
- Tuition assistance available for Kindergarten 8th grade
- \$1,000 off first year of tuition for 1st 8th grade students who transfer from a non-Catholic school

For more information or to schedule your personal tour, please contact Melissa Heller, Enrollment Director, at 515.255.3162 x115 or mheller@htschool.org.

Register online at <u>www.htschool.org</u>



Follow us on Social Media facebook.com/htschooldm @htschooldm



PARISH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR

	SUNDAY 04/07	MONDAY 04/08	TUESDAY 04/09	WEDNESDAY 04/10	THURSDAY 04/11	FRIDAY 04/12	SATURDAY 04/13
HT School		NO SCHOOL KC Open	Stock Market Game 7:15 am	VIP Breakfast 7:00 am All School Mass hosted by 1st grade 8:30 am	BOE Meeting 6:00 pm MC	\$1 Jeans Day hosted by 6th grade	
Faith Formation RE				Faith Formation/ Edge			
Adult Faith Formation		Men's Bible Study 8:30 pm Rm 105	RCIA		Adoration 2:00-10:00 pm		
Misc.				Lenten Evening Mass 6:00 pm Confirmation Meeting 6:30 pm SR	Stephen Ministry 6:30 pm Rm 102	Fish Dinner 5:00-7:00 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm	
Mass and Liturgy Schedule and IntentionsSunday, April 7th8:30 am MassMike Smith10:30 am MassTracy FraserMonday, April 8th8:00 am MassCommunion ServiceTuesday, April 9th8:00 am MassVicki ScholerWednesday, April 10th8:30 am MassFor the intentions of Fr. Mark Neal6:00 pm MassBarbara FathThursday, April 11th8:00 am MassFor the ParishFriday, April 12th8:00 am MassDeceased members of the Frank & Agnes Gear FamilySaturday, April 13th4:30 pm MassKen YamenSunday, April 14th8:30 am MassFor the Parish10:30 am MassFor the Parish				Saturday, Aj Altar Server Lectors EMHC Organist/Pia Sunday, Apr Altar Server Lectors EMHC Children's Li	Chris Jenn G Team Tom F il 14th at 8:30 a St. Jol Warr Tom T Team iturgy No C St. M Rob F Anita Team	pm atthew Team Nigg O'Tool 3 Quiner m hn the Baptist en Riedesel Henderson 3 L-Palm Sunday am argaret Team Hoover Fleming 3 L-Palm Sunday	CH - Church 101-106 Classrooms DC - Day Chapel Gym - Gymnasium K - Kitchen MC - Media Center PO - Parish Office Conference Room SR - Social Room
Yearly g Weekly	Financia Ending Week oal (July 17-Jun offertory colle date offering	e 18)	2019 \$1,019,700 \$8,549 \$710,499				



PARISH CONTACTS

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Mark Neal, Pastor (515) 255-3162 ext. 126 http://www.virtualclassroom.net/ht/

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm (515) 255-3162 ext. 128

SCHOOL OFFICE

Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (515) 255-3162 ext. 116 Fax: (515) 255-1381

RELIGIOUS FAITH FORMATION OFFICE (515) 255-3162 ext. 224

For a Staff Directory, Calendar, or a List of Ministries and Groups, please go to <u>www.holytrinitydm.org</u>

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms are available in the pews, at the Parish Office or call 255-3162 ext. 128.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Contact Melissa Heller at 255-3162 ext. 115 or email <u>mheller@htschool.org</u>

MASS TIMES

<u>Weekend</u> Saturday: 4:30 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

<u>Weekdays</u>

Monday: 8:00 am- Communion Service Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: 8:00 am Wednesday: 8:30 am-All School Mass

<u>Adoration</u>

Thursday: 2:00 pm-10:00 pm <u>Reconciliation</u> Saturday: 3:00 pm

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism: Class is held once a month on a Monday at 7:00 pm. Contact the Parish Office to register.

Matrimony: Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.

<u>**RCIA</u>**: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process adults go through to come into full communion with the Catholic Church., contact Jim Wilwerding at 771-1847 or jimw@holytrinitydm.org</u>

FACILITIES SCHEDULING & RENTAL

Parishioners may call Andy Negrete at 255-3162 ext. 129 for more information.

PASTORAL CARE

<u>Anointing of the Sick:</u> Contact the Parish Office at 255-3162 ext. 128.

Communion to the Sick: If you are aware of someone who is homebound or in the hospital or nursing home and would like to receive communion, contact Sandy at 255-3162 ext. 124.

<u>Prayer Chain</u>: In the event of a crisis or serious illness of a family member or friend, your party will be included (with their permission) through a phone tree of parishioners who offer prayers daily.

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Submit no later than noon, Friday (10 days before date of Sunday bulletin). Email: <u>parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org</u> Articles will be subject to edit and available space.

Advertisers of the Week

Please support our parishioners and their local businesses listed on the back page.



To advertise your business, please contact Andy Negrete in the Parish Office 255-3162 ext. 129 or andyn@holytrinitydm.org



