

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD + JANUARY 6, 2019



# Holy Trinity

## Catholic Church & School

*Where our hearts and our doors are open to Christ.*

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



2926 Beaver Avenue • Des Moines, IA 50310 • 515.255.3162

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Parish email: [parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org) • School email: [holytrinity@htschool.org](mailto:holytrinity@htschool.org)



# WEEKLY THOUGHTS

## JANUARY 6, 2019

### Greetings and Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had an opportunity to spend time with family and friends as we welcomed a new year. At the beginning of a new year, many of us have the custom of making New Year's resolutions. We assess and resolve to improve our job performance, our financial health, and/or our physical health...I know that at the gym where I belong, there certainly have been more people exercising in this first week of the new year.

Yet, how many of us regularly assess our spiritual health or the health of our faith and the practice of it in both word & action? Speaking for myself, I know that sometimes in the "busy-ness" of parish life & activities I get bogged down and lose sight of what is to be the main focus of a priest; specifically the celebration of the Sacraments (especially the Eucharist), the preaching of the Gospel, and prayer. I want to encourage all to take a spiritual inventory just as we take financial and health inventories of our lives. Let us all try to come up with our spiritual plan for 2019.

A big thank you to all who worked very hard to make our Christmas Masses so nice. Many hours of work went into the preparation for our liturgies. Thanks to Tom Quiner and Jim Shutt for coordinating our music as well as all the lovely voices who joined them to make the liturgies so wonderful. Also a big thank you to Brad Rea and all who decorated our church so beautifully for our Christmas celebration. Without the help of so many people, our celebrations would not be possible. Many thanks!!

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for the many cards, gifts and kind words that I received during the holidays. Your encouragement and kind words made my first Christmas as pastor of Holy Trinity even more special. Thanks again!

Have a good week



## Join us for our registration events

### Monday, January 7th

Preschool Information Night

5:30-6:30 pm

Kindergarten/DK Round Up

7:00-8:00 pm

### Sunday, January 27th

Open House for Preschool - 8th grade

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

- 3 and 4-year-old Preschool Programs
- Developmental Kindergarten Program for young 5-year-olds
- Wrap-around child care available
- Christ-centered education
- STEM Learning in every classroom
- Tuition assistance for K- 8th grade
- Enrollment begins February 1st

RSVP at [HolyTrinityJourney.org](http://HolyTrinityJourney.org)

or call 515.255.3162 x115





# PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTES

## NEXT LECTOR TRAINING

We are in need of parishioners to help proclaim God's Word at our Liturgies. Our next training is Monday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Church. This is a rewarding way to serve your Parish. If you feel called to this ministry as a Lector, call the Parish Office at 255 -3162 ext. 128 or email parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org.

## Troop 77 Boy Scout Can Drive January 12th - 9am-11am



Need to clear out your cans after the holidays? Get rid of your empty bottles from the big games? Or want to get a head start on your New Year's resolution to declutter? Load up your cans and let the Holy Trinity Boy

Scouts do the heavy lifting for you. Drive on up with your cans in tow and the Boy Scouts will unload those unwanted cans and bottles. On Saturday January 12th, the fine young men of Troop 77 will be ready to rustle up all your bottles and cans. We hope to see you there from 9am to 11am!

## TROOP 77 BOY SCOUT DINNER

The adventurous scouts of Troop 77 invite you to a Baked Potato Bar Dinner on January 19th after 4:30 mass. The scrumptious potatoes will be served to raise money to send these boys on the wilderness trails of Philmont Ranch in New Mexico. Please stop by and share a hearty warm meal with these fine young men and learn about their thrilling trip of a lifetime. We hope to see you there for some potatoes and adventures! The dinner is \$5 a person or \$20 a family. Hope to see you there!

## Save the Date!

The Holy Trinity PTO presents the Second Annual Holy Trinity Church & School Father Daughter Dance chaired by Matt



Strawn and Nick Gerhart. All preschool through 8th grade Holy Trinity Church & School girls are cordially invited for a magical evening of dinner, dancing and desserts at the unique and historic River Center Eventorium, the newest event venue in downtown Des Moines!

**Saturday, March 9, 2019**

6 PM - Full Dinner Buffet

7 to 9 PM - DJ, Dancing and Desserts

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

St. Vincent de Paul was able to give 31 Families large Christmas Baskets of food and toys. And because of your generosity to the Mitten Tree, we added gift cards to those families in difficult circumstances. Once again, the gifting and love shown by so many willing volunteers made our Parish a Cheerful Giver to those in need.



THANK YOU AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## NEW MEMBER GATHERING AFTER 10:30 MASS JANUARY 27TH



If you are new to our Parish in the last 9 months, please come join us at the New Member Gathering with Breakfast after 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 27th in our Social Room. Our Welcome Committee & Staff

will be on hand to share a cup of coffee and answer your questions about our Parish & the Beaverville Community. We look forward to meeting you...Welcome to HT!

## Celtic Music Concert Saturday!

Longing to hear an Irish harp? Please join us January 12 as we present Northern Ireland based Connla at our parish hall. Tickets are \$25.00 and available at the parish office or through Event-Brite on our website [www.thecma.org](http://www.thecma.org). Three concert packages are available for \$75.00 which includes our January 12, February 8 and March 9 concerts.



## Respect Life Corner

"Defend the unborn against abortion even if they persecute you, calumniate you, set traps for you, take you to court or kill you. No child should be deprived of the right to be born, the right to be fed, the right to go to school." -- Pope Francis

[www.holytrinityrespectlife.com](http://www.holytrinityrespectlife.com)



# SPIRITUALITY OF THE READINGS

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6  
Responsorial Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10  
-11, 12-13  
Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a,  
5-6  
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



## King?

The Wise Men (Magi) took their long journey into one more kingdom.

Courteous, they visit its monarch, not realizing that he was the infamous Herod. Every amenity took place, I suppose: formal welcome, diplomatic over-do, huge meals, fine drinks. Excesses.

Finally, when the moment arrived, the Magi posed their innocent question, something like this:

So, where is this newborn king of the Jews? We have read the signs and know of his birth.

They rely on Herod for truth, since, obviously, such an infant would be Herod's next-in-line.

But this question turns Herod's heart upside down.

He maintained diplomatic balance, temporizing, promising to find an answer, and finally, skillfully, ending the meeting for that night.

But with insides in turmoil. Newborn King? No, no, no! I am the king! My lineage is the only answer to such a usurper. Do something, do something!

But what?

Ah, seek out your chief priests and scribes!

He does. He charms them with his version of a simple question, an idle interest. Do you experts, busy studying day and night, do you know anything about the long-predicted Messiah figure we used to hope for? If he were born today, I wonder where his birthplace would be?

Without hesitation, they reply, "in Bethlehem of Judea, where the great King David was born!" These experts knew scriptures well, as Herod did not. The newborn Messiah would be David's successor, shepherd of the people Israel, fulfillment of everything the Jewish people had awaited for centuries.

The Herodian head swirls. Can you picture it?

At last he forms a plan. Kill him.

Herod will tell the Magi the place to look and they will search out the baby, giving Herod the locale and ... the kill!

He makes his way across his halls, and utters, approximately, the following words:

Bethlehem is the place he will be born! Somewhere around Bethlehem! All you have to do is find him. Oh, and of course, let me know so that I may do him homage too!

Herod's lust for power has to banish love in favor of control. He has to compete, even with God, even with God's Christ.

This is the same offer, notice, that Satan will give to Jesus thirty years later in the desert.

You can control the whole world, if you will only fall down and worship me. Help me defeat God.

What Herod and Satan are grabbing for is in no way related to what Jesus lived and died for. For their part, they wanted to become bigger and bigger, to stretch out to infinity. Jesus wanted to become less and less, to become transparent, just as love is. Heavy, selfish greed could demolish such a heavenly plan, couldn't it? It surely could seem to. For Herod it certainly did seem to.

The Christmas child's weakness formed the only answer to such evil. It showed what God had in mind. Tender, unfeared openness to love.

In our sinfulness, we tend to scoff at such an idea. A Holy Family could never win out, could it? Evil will triumph in the end, won't it? The cross can do what Herod could not, but what Satan could. Won't it?

Maybe. Or maybe not.

Do you or I have the courage to go with love and find out?

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

Image: *Quentin Massys, The Adoration Of The Magi, 1526*

## FAITH QUESTIONS

**Question for Children:** In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

**Question for Youth:** The star guided the Magi to Jesus. What are the people or events who have guided you in your relationship with Jesus?

**Question for Adults:** How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?



# SAINT OF THE WEEK & DIOCESAN NOTES

## John Neumann, Bishop, 1811-1860



John Neumann was born in what is now the Czech Republic. At an early age, he was attracted to the religious life and entered the seminary. Unable to be ordained in Bohemia due to a surplus of priests, John went to the United States where he was ordained in 1836.

The next few years were spent in missionary work, primarily among German-speaking Catholics in upstate New York. In 1840, he joined the newly established branch of the Redemptorists in Pittsburgh and became the first Redemptorist to take his vows in the United States. John continued his missionary work in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and in 1847, he was named superior of the American Redemptorists.

In 1852, John Neumann was consecrated as the fourth bishop of Philadelphia. He now had an opportunity to make great inroads into what had become his passion: the education of poor German, French, Irish, and Indian Catholics.

During his eight years as Bishop of Philadelphia, he reorganized the diocese, as well as opening eighty new churches and nearly one hundred schools. To staff these schools, John brought in many religious orders of priests and nuns. At the first national council of Catholic bishops, he helped to map out a plan of Catholic education for the whole United States.

Although active in his support of education and busy with the duties of leading a diocese, John Neumann was never far from his people. By the time he became bishop, he spoke twelve languages and made it a point to address each of his people in their own language. At the time of his death, John was renowned for his holiness, charity, pastoral work, and his preaching.

John Neumann was canonized in 1977 by Pope Paul VI, becoming the first American male saint and the first American bishop to be sainted. He is the patron of Catholic education.

A memorial honors this saint on January 5th.

**John's message today:** John Neumann's goal was to have a school in every Catholic parish. This was very nearly realized by the middle of the twentieth century. While the numbers of schools has fallen in the years since, the need for educating our children in their faith remains as strong as ever.

✠ *Consider how you could use your talents in the Faith Formation program in your parish. Could you teach a grade? Be a classroom helper? Coordinate instruction schedules?*

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## DIOCESAN NOTES

### Bishop Drumm Seeks Volunteers

Bishop Drumm Retirement Center is seeking people to volunteer their time with one or several of our residents. Some volunteer opportunities include assisting in activities and events, office work, or providing treats for residents. Spiritual health is vital to the life of Bishop Drumm, volunteer opportunities also include taking Communion to residents in their room, reading at Mass or leading a rosary. All are invited to an informational meeting Sunday, January 27 at 3:00 pm at McAuley Terrace Apartments for a Volunteer Information Meeting and Orientation. RSVP to April Young, Director of Mission Integration at [april.young@chilivingcomm.org](mailto:april.young@chilivingcomm.org) or 270-1100 ext 145.

### CHARITY CHANGES EVERYTHING

Celebrate Valentine's Day early on February 8th with a social and presentation from Dr. Sheryl Overmyer, Associate Professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University, on how Charity Changes Everything: How Christian love takes shape in marriage and singleness. The event will be held at the Sherwood Forest Event Center, 7400 Hickman Road, Windsor Heights. Doors will open at 6:30 PM and the event starts at 7 PM. Drinks will be available with purchase. Parish childcare is available with RSVP. Contact Adam Storey at 515-237-5056 or [astorey@dmdiocese.org](mailto:astorey@dmdiocese.org) to register for childcare.

### Help Us Help Others

St. Vincent de Paul needs volunteer to assist students with increasing their skills in reading and math. Classes would be two hours in length on Tuesday and Thursday during daytime hours. Location would be 200 Army Post Road. If you have an interest in this rewarding service, please contact Andrew Gross at 515-282-8327, extension 17 or [ajgross@sverdpsdm.org](mailto:ajgross@sverdpsdm.org)

# PARISH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR

	SUNDAY 01/06	MONDAY 01/07	TUESDAY 01/08	WEDNESDAY 01/09	THURSDAY 01/10	FRIDAY 01/11	SATURDAY 01/12
<b>HT School</b>		Preschool Info Night 5:30 pm MC  Kindergarten Round Up 7:00 pm MC		Chess Club 7:15 am MC  All School Mass hosted by 6th grade 8:30 am	Battle of the Books 7:30 am MC  BOE Meeting 6:00 pm MC	\$1 Jeans Day hosted by 7th grade	
<b>Faith Formation RE</b>				Faith Formation/ Edge			
<b>Adult Faith Formation</b>			RCIA		Adoration 2:00-10:00 pm		
<b>Misc.</b>		PTO Meeting 6:30 pm <b>Rm. 104</b>	1st Eucharist Parent Meeting 2K & FF 6:30 pm <b>SR</b>	1st Eucharist Parent Meeting 2B & FF 6:30 pm <b>SR</b>	Stephen Ministry 6:30 pm		Celtic Music Concert 8:00 pm

## Mass and Liturgy Schedule and Intentions

### Sunday, January 6th

8:30 am Mass            Ken Yamen  
10:30 am Mass        Jim Blomme

### Monday, January 7th

8:00 am Mass            Communion Service

### Tuesday, January 8th

8:00 am Mass            Monica Waters

### Wednesday, January 9th

8:30 am Mass            For the Parish

### Thursday, January 10th

8:00 am Mass            Teresa Heger

### Friday, January 11th

8:00 am Mass            Roxy Ventling

### Saturday, January 12th

4:30 pm Mass            Eleanor Krueger

### Sunday, January 13th

8:30 am Mass            For the Parish  
10:30 am Mass        Lawrence Cibula

*†Give the spiritual gift of a Mass.*

*Offer it for the soul of a loved one or someone special in your life.  
Contact the Parish Office at 255-3162 to schedule a mass intention*

## Financial Blessings Ending Week of December 16, 2018

Yearly goal (July 17-June 18)	\$1,019,700
Weekly offertory collected	\$7,632
Year to date offering	\$455,106

## Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers

### Saturday, January 12th at 4:30 pm

Altar Server	St. Catherine Team
Lectors	Chris Lang Gary Thull
EMHC	Team 2
Organist/Pianist	Tom Quiner

### Sunday, January 13th at 8:30 am

Altar Server	St. Rose Team
Lectors	Marla Gowdy Doug Gross
EMHC	Team 2
Children's Liturgy	Team F

### Sunday, January 13th at 10:30 am

Altar Server	St. Agnes Team
Lectors	Jim Wilerding Margaret Toomey
EMHC	Team 2
Children's Liturgy	Team 4
Musical Coordinator	Jim Shutt

**CH -**  
Church  
**101-106**  
Classrooms  
**DC -** Day  
Chapel  
**Gym -**  
Gymnasium  
**K -** Kitchen  
**MC -** Media  
Center  
**PO -** Parish  
Office  
Conference  
Room  
**SR -** Social  
Room





# PARISH CONTACTS

## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Mark Neal, Pastor  
2926 Beaver Ave  
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

### 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 [www.holytrinitydm.org](http://www.holytrinitydm.org)

### 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 [mheller@htschool.org](mailto:mheller@htschool.org)

### MASS TIMES

#### Weekend

Saturday: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

#### Weekdays

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

#### Adoration

Thursday: 2:00 pm-10:00 pm

#### Reconciliation

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.

**RCIA:** 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](mailto:jimw@holytrinitydm.org)

### FACILITIES SCHEDULING & RENTAL

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

### PASTORAL CARE

**Anointing of the Sick:** 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.

**Prayer Chain:** 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: [parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org)  
Articles will be subject to edit and available space.

## Advertisers of the Week:

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