

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER + MAY 26, 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

[www.holytrinitydm.org](http://www.holytrinitydm.org) • [www.htschool.org](http://www.htschool.org)

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



# WEEKLY THOUGHTS

## MAY 26, 2019

Greetings.

In our Visioning Process, there was a call for more information about our parish finances. Therefore, I want to share some information with you about a great asset that we have in the parish, as I am not sure all parishioners are aware of it. I am referring to the Holy Trinity Parish Foundation. This is a foundation, which exists for the benefit of Holy Trinity Parish. At present, the value of our foundation is approximately 1.8 million dollars. This is separate from the school endowment fund and exists for the benefit of our church as well as the overall parish needs. The Holy Trinity Foundation pledges a portion of its value each year to the parish. The amount depends on the return that we have achieved in the previous year. A few years ago, a large bequest was received. Now as the foundation produces sufficient income, the parish receives from \$40,000-45,000 each year. Since this goes up and down with the fluctuations of our investments, it is not something we budget for each year; rather we use it as warranted for current needs and projects.

Over the years, the foundation has helped with funding for various projects from the purchase of adjacent land to needed parish renovation and remodeling projects. More recently, along with some designated memorials, the foundation purchased the St. Peregrine statue for our church. Currently, an example of how this fund is benefitting our parish is seen in the fact that over \$85,000 of the cost of the new Plaza is being paid by our parish foundation.

There are some rules for foundations. One rule states that in order to remain tax exempt, the foundation must receive a set percent of its income from individual donors each year. We are short contributions for the current year and the fiscal year is winding down. If we fall short of this requirement, we will be required to pay income taxes on the foundation's revenue.

Clearly, the foundation is a great asset to our parish. The more it grows ...the more we receive in return to use for the needs and projects of our parish. If you feel so moved, any size donation would be greatly appreciated. Your donation is fully tax deductible just as your tithing support is. Furthermore, a donation to the foundation will benefit the parish for many years to come as we only use the funds generated by the

investments and do not dip into the principal amount. Again, thank you for your very generous support of Holy Trinity Parish and its many diverse ministries & programs.

Have a good week.

*FR. Mark*



**ANNUAL**  
*Diocesan Appeal*

**May 22, 2019**

**We Did It! We have reached our  
Diocesan Annual Appeal Goal!!  
Thank you to all who have  
participated so far.**

**We have received 330 pledges/gifts for  
\$114,771.00 to date. (out of the current  
1,230 households registered in the parish)  
As of this date, we have reached 109% of  
our assessment.**

**Thanks to all who have pledged so far!  
Please still consider pledging to the Appeal  
as any amount received over  
our assessment now stays in our parish.**



**Please remember the  
faithful departed...**

**James Sherman Flansburg**  
Father of Beth (Tom) Duff of our Parish

*... God grant him eternal rest.*



# SPIRITUALITY OF THE READINGS

Reading I: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29  
Responsorial Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8  
Reading II: Revelation 21:10-14,  
22-23  
Gospel: John 14:23-29



## Closer Than Ever

In Sunday's liturgy, Jesus says, "If you loved me you would rejoice."

Imagine this: your best friend is leaving town, the one you had counted on for any trouble you just needed to share. There is no way to change his/her going, it is virtually certain.

What do you do with your sorrow?

In the reading, Jesus was leaving.

He told Mary Magdalene he must go to the Father. He had plunged into death and he swam to shore, but nevertheless could not stay on in this world.

We sorrow, big time.

Sunday, this is the story of the Gospel. The crucifixion had taken him away from us, and now his ascension will make his absence completely final. We, along with the apostles, do not want to lose him one more time! We are aghast that our friend is going away.

Think of the experience of a funeral. You may be truly glad that your beloved no longer has the pains and shortages of this life. But you do not get your own burden lifted, you get more added to it. He or she is gone.

Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, I am going away and I will come back to you." Going away but coming back? What kind of sense does this make?

(1) Start with the pre-Jesus world. God the Father had been with the people for all ages. The First Testament tells this over and over.

But God the Father stayed unknowable in very important ways. He told Moses that he, God, would pass by the mouth of a cave where Moses was, and ...

... when my glory passes I will set you in the cleft of the rock and will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand, so

that you may see my back; but my face may not be seen. (Exodus 33: 22)

To see God directly would destroy a human being.

(2) To close this gap, God decided to tell us everything about himself in a way we could understand. He speaks out his very self using a Word that left nothing unsaid. Jesus was that Word, spoken in the large language called humanity. Now God can be known because we can know Jesus.

(3) Jesus dies, resurrects and ascends to the Father from whom he came. Are we abandoned?

No.

Just as the Father had done, Jesus actually spoke out his very self in a further Word that left nothing of himself unsaid. That Word is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the full reality of a human being called Jesus, who is already the very interior reality of God. We are to be closer to Jesus and to the Father even than the apostles were!\*

If you and I say yes to this Spirit, we will know that Jesus is with us, just as sheep know the voice of their shepherd. In knowing Jesus, we will know the presence of the Father. We will find him in the Mass, in the Great Sacrament of Baptism, in prayer, in the people around us. We will be side by side with the closest possible presence of the God of love.

So we needn't sorrow. Nice as it might have seemed to experience Jesus in his physical company, we now have a much closer relation to him in the here and now.

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

Image: *Bernini Holy Spirit Dove, Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. 1666*

## FAITH QUESTIONS

**Question for Children:** How do you experience the peace which Christ offers us?

**Question for Youth:** Jesus told us to trust in the Holy Spirit to help guide our lives. How can you be open to what the Holy Spirit might say to you?

**Question for Adults:** How do you experience the peace which Christ offers us?



# PARISH & DIOCESAN NOTES

## Innervisions Bottle Drive Comes to Holy Trinity

The Respect Life Ministry at Holy Trinity is organizing a Baby Bottle Campaign for InnerVisions HealthCare, a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. During the weekend of May 25/26th, you'll find baby bottles in the gathering space; please take a bottle, fill it with change, cash, or checks and return it on the weekend of June 1/2. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Quiner @ 515.276.9266. To learn more about the life-affirming work of InnerVisions HealthCare, visit [www.ivhcare.org](http://www.ivhcare.org) or call 515.440.2273.

## NEW HT SUNDAY MUSIC DIRECTOR NEEDED

After 22 years as the Schola Music Director, Jim Shutt has decided to move on. Therefore, we are looking for a new Music Director. This person must have these qualifications:

- Education In Music
- Knowledge of Liturgical music
- Experience in teaching music. Teaching adults a big plus.
- Proficient in piano other instruments also a plus.

For more details, please contact Andy Negrete at 515-255-3162 exit 129.

## NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND AFTER 10:30 MASS

For boys and girls entering 4th - 7th grade (HT student or public school), who are interested in becoming an Altar Server at the weekend liturgies, there will be a training on Sunday, June 2nd after 10:30 Mass in the Church. Donuts will be served! Please contact the Parish Office at [parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinitydm.org) or 255-3162 ext. 128 to sign up.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY IS HOSTING COFFEE & DONUTS AFTER MASSES ON JUNE 2ND

Stephen Ministry is hosting Coffee and Doughnuts after the Sunday Masses on June 2. Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those in need. They use both words and deeds to express Christ's care for others—listening and comforting, calling on the training they have received and employing the tools of faith. If this job description fits your personal goals for ministry, consider becoming a Stephen Minister. A training class is starting in September. Please join us at the second and meet the team. Ask us about the training and why we love serving as Stephen Ministers.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



We would like to greet New Members at our Welcome Table on Sunday-June 9th after the 10:30 Mass. Members of committee will be on hand at our Welcome Table to say "Hello" and answer any questions that you have about our Parish. Stop by the Social Room and also enjoy our Founders Day lunch hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Again, Welcome to HT!!

## Encounter First Fridays—Friday, June 7th, 2019 | 7pm | St. Pius X Catholic Church

Encounter is a night of Adoration, music, and witness created to build a culture of prayer in the Des Moines area. Adoration is paired with live music, a speaker, and time for private reflection to give people multiple ways to grow in their relationship with God. Encounter is on the first Friday of every month starting at 7pm at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Urbandale. Families of all ages are welcome. For more information please email [firstencounterdsm@gmail.com](mailto:firstencounterdsm@gmail.com).

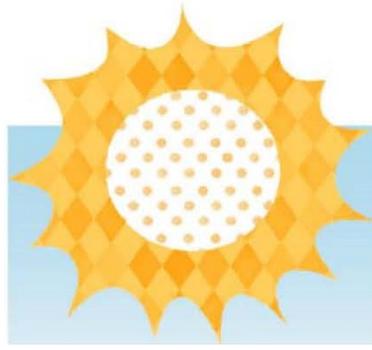
## Vacation Bible School 2019

Participant and Leader Applications are now available for Vacation Bible School 2019. Our Great Safari Adventure will run the week of July 8th -12th from 9:00 - 11:30 am each morning. Participants must be entering DK/K through 5th grade in the fall of 2019. If you would like to help lead VBS this year and you are going to be entering grades 6-12 in the fall, then we want you! We also need lots of adult help to make our week success. Applications can be found on our parish website, in both the parish & school offices along with being in the breezeways of the church. Cost for participants is \$40 per child with a \$100 family maximum. There is no fee for Adult & Teen leaders. If you have questions please contact John Mertes, Director of Faith Formation at [johnm@holytrinitydm.org](mailto:johnm@holytrinitydm.org), or via telephone at (515) 255-3162 extension 224.



## YOU ARE INVITED TO A TEA PARTY

Come join the Catholic Daughters of the Americas-Court Ave Maria #302 Charity Tea. Sunday, June 9th, at 2:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church W. Des Moines, Donation: Adults \$15, children 10-16, \$10:00, under 10, \$5:00. RSVP May 29th., Peg Jacobson, 515-778-6467



# **FOUNDERS DAY PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9th**

**After 10:30 a.m. Mass**

Please join us for an afternoon of FUN at HT!

There will be great food, kid games, and lots of fun!

On the menu:

Pulled Chicken Sandwich, Hot Dog, Brat, Coleslaw,  
Baked Beans, Chips, Watermelon,  
Ice Cream Sandwich, Cookies, Lemonade,  
Iced Tea, Coffee, & Water



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# Do something *\*different\** with your summer

Register today for Prayer & Action!



Prayer & Action is a series of week-long experiences for rising 10th-12th graders in the Diocese of Des Moines.

As a Prayer & Action participant, you'll travel to a community in southwest Iowa to spend a week working in the community by day, and growing in your faith by night.

Week 1 (Shenandoah): June 16-21\*

Week 2 (Shenahdoah): June 23-28\*

Week 3 (Atlantic): July 7-12

Week 4 (Atlantic): July 14-19

\*Weeks 1 & 2 have three-day options:

June 16-18 & 19-21, and June 23-25 & 26-28

\$80/person for full week missions, \$60/person for 3-day missions

Visit [www.dmdiocese.org/PrayerAndAction](http://www.dmdiocese.org/PrayerAndAction) for more information



Diocese of Des Moines  
Youth & Young Adult Ministry



# SAINT OF THE WEEK

## Achilleus and Nereus, Martyrs, c. First Century



As with many of the early martyrs, little is known with certainty about these two saints and many of the accounts are conflicting. What is not disputed is the site of their graves, the catacomb of Domitilla in Rome. But, with that as a starting point, we can surmise the most likely history of their martyrdom.

Persecution of Christians occurred over much of the first three centuries of the Church; however none of the early harassment matched that which began with the ascension of Trajan to Emperor in 98 A.D. An elite unit assigned to the emperor was charged with hunting down Christians and killing those who would not apostatize. Achilleus and Nereus were members of this unit.

While it is not known how long Achilleus and Nereus participated in this persecution, it is believed that, witnessing the strong faith of those who suffered martyrdom at their hands, these two were converted to Christianity and resigned their commissions. As had their victims, Achilleus and Nereus refused to offer sacrifices to the pagan gods which would have spared their lives. For this, they were beheaded in about 100 A.D. Their bodies were recovered and placed in the catacomb of Domitilla where many of their victims had been buried.

Pope Damasus (366-384 A.D.) was extremely interested in the history and tombs of the martyrs of the early Church and had an epitaph inscribed near the tombs of these two soldiers which praised these two praetorian soldiers who volunteered for military service and were carrying on their "cruel" duty, but suddenly laid aside their madness, "cast down shields, helmets, and bloodstained weapons," were converted, and "bear with the triumph of Christ, they were put to death with the sword."

An optional memorial honors these two martyrs on May 12.

**Achilleus and Nereus' message today:** While it is never easy to stand up for what is right in the face of strong opposition, and few of us would face death for

our position, we must not back down when we know that our view is correct.

✠ *How are you at standing up against hostility when you know that you are right?*

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## DIOCESAN NEWS

### EVERYONE WELCOME!

Croatian Mass with Fra. Ivica, St. Jerome Croatian Catholic Church, & Sanja Lakovic, Croatian Consul General from Chicago.

- Sunday, June 9th, 2:00pm
- St. Augustin Catholic Church, 545 42nd St., Des Moines, IA
- Potluck to follow in the Parish Hall

Please mark your calendar and share with your friends. The event is from 2 pm - 5 pm. Contact Marijetka Orr 515-707-7003 with any questions.

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## OUR SCHOOL NEWS



**Take the journey with us.  
Enroll for the 2019-2020 school year!**

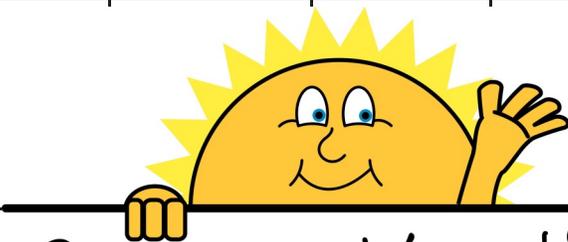
Spots available in:

- 3-year-old Preschool
- Developmental Kindergarten (for young 5 year olds)
- Kindergarten - 8th grade
- Tuition assistance available for Kindergarten - 8th grade
- **PLUS - \$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 [www.htschool.org](http://www.htschool.org)**

# PARISH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR

	SUNDAY 05/26	MONDAY 05/27	TUESDAY 05/28	WEDNESDAY 05/29	THURSDAY 05/30	FRIDAY 05/31	SATURDAY 06/01
HT School		School Office closed					
Faith Formation			<h2 style="font-family: cursive;">Summer Vacation</h2>				
Adult Faith Formation		Men's Bible Study 8:30 pm Rm 105			Adoration 2:00-10:00 pm		
Misc.		Parish Office closed  No morning Communion Service	<h3>Summer Hours begin: 9 am – 2 pm</h3>				No Confessions

### Mass and Liturgy Schedule and Intentions

#### Sunday, May 26th

8:30 am Mass            Mary Crawford  
10:30 am Mass        Dee Ross

#### Monday, May 27th

8:00 am Mass            NO Communion Service

#### Tuesday, May 28th

8:00 am Mass            For the Parish

#### Wednesday, May 29th

8:30 am Mass            Roger Dial

#### Thursday, May 30th

8:00 am Mass            Janice Weast

#### Friday, May 31st

8:00 am Mass            Harold McCarville

#### Saturday, June 1st

4:30 pm Mass            David Michael Stehl

#### Sunday, June 2nd

8:30 am Mass            Ken Yamen  
10:30 am Mass        Tracy Fraser

### Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers

#### Saturday, June 1st at 4:30 pm

Altar Server            St. Benedict Team  
Lectors                Lorraine Riseley  
                              Jenn O'Tool  
EMHC                    Team 3  
Musical Coordinator   Tom Quiner

#### Sunday, June 2nd at 8:30 am

Altar Server            St. Augustin Team  
Lectors                Warren Riedesel  
                              Tom Henderson  
EMHC                    Team 3  
Children's Liturgy    Team A  
Musical Coordinator   Tom Quiner

#### Sunday, June 2nd at 10:30 am

Altar Server            St. Scholastica Team  
Lectors                Margaret Toomey  
                              Bill Miller  
EMHC                    Team 1  
Children's Liturgy    Team 2  
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

### Financial Blessings Ending Week of May 5, 2019

Budget (July 2018-June 2019)	\$1,019,700
YTD Budget	\$895,029
YTD Actual tithing	\$859,125
YTD Overage (Deficit)	(\$35,904)
Weekly offertory collected	\$32,961

*†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.*





# 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 [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

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

### O'Donnell ACE Hardware

5715 Hickman Road 255-2240  
4808 University Avenue 277-0062  
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Visit Us At [www.acehardware.com](http://www.acehardware.com)

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

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