Holy Trinity
Catholic Church and School

NOVEMBER 29TH | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Taking the Journey TOGETHER



MASS SCHEDULE

MON: No Mass/Communion Service
TUE: 8:30 AM Mass
WED: 8:30 AM Mass
THU: 8:30 AM Mass & 2:00-9:00 PM Adoration
FRI: 8:30 AM Mass
SAT: 3:00-3:45 PM Reconciliation & 4:30 PM Mass
SUN: 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Mass

**Mass Times often change for Holy Days of Obligation*

WORSHIP ONLINE
on Youtube

/HTSCHOOLDM

@HOLYTRINITYDSM

HTTPS://HOLYTRINITYDM.ORG/

Grieving with Great HOPE

Grief Support Workshop

Grieving with Great HOPE is a five week grief support workshop series that offers a **prayerful**, **practical** and **personal** approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a Loved One. If you have lost a Spouse, a Child (including pregnancy loss), a Grandchild, a Parent, another Family Member or a Friend, YOU are encouraged to attend.

Weekly Sessions will be held on
Thursdays from 10am to 12noon

Dates will be January 7, 14, 21, 28 and February 4, 2027
at the Parish Duplex of Holy Trinity Catholic Church
(4201 Urbandale Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50310)
Registration is required but there is no charge for this program.
For more information and to register please contact:
Deacon Troy Thompson,Pastoral Care Minister at
troyt@holytrinitydm.org, 515-447-5707 or 515-255-3162 ext 124.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
2926 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines,Iowa 50310
www.holytrinitydm.org - 515-255-3162

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ENROLLMENT OPEN FOR 2027-2028

FAITH
Education centered in Catholic values

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10% higher scores than state average

COMMUNITY
95% retention, keeping classes together through graduation

VALUE
Average tuition assistance of about $8,500 per student.

Stats provided are Diocesan averages. Individual Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools achieve comparable rates of success and tuition assistance.



Parishioner priority until Dec. 7.
Class sizes limited. Apply today. →

Proud member of Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools

SCHEDULES

UPCOMING MASS SCHEDULE

Nov. 29th	8:30AM	Benjamin Zenti
	10:30AM	For the Parish
Dec. 1st	8:30AM	Jim Bergman
Dec. 2nd	8:30AM	Robert Eugene Bassell
Dec. 3rd	8:30AM	Paula Chamberlain
Dec. 4th	8:30AM	Carolyn Kamp
Dec. 5th	3:00-3:45PM	*Reconciliation*
	4:30PM	Julie Hinners Tracy
Dec. 6th	8:30AM	For the Parish Dennis Hurley
	10:30AM	

UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS & ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, Dec. 5th: 4:30pm
Altar Servers | Jude & Hugh Kajewski and Joan & Nora Niday
Lectors | Dave Bunkers & Kathie Obradovich
EMHC | Team 2
Music Coordinator | Tom Quiner

Sunday, Dec. 6th: 8:30am
Altar Servers I Mary Cate, Ronan & Raf Bergman and Penelope Blaser
Lectors | Luke Lynch & Mark McAndrews
EMHC | Team 2 /MC: Katy Polich
Children's Liturgy I TBD
Music Coordinator | Tom Quiner

Sunday, Dec. 6th: 10:30am
Altar Servers | Colton Barney, Journey Strope-Boggus and Lydia & Bridget Caswell
Lectors I Mike Glynn & Ryan Fox
EMHC | Team 1/MC: Jim Wilwerding
Children's Liturgy TBD
Music Coordinator | Eric Sharp

CALENDAR | NOVEMBER 29TH, 2026

	Sunday Nov. 29th	Monday Nov. 30th	Tuesday Dec. 1st	Wednesday Dec. 2nd	Thursday Dec. 3rd	Friday Dec. 4th	Saturday Dec. 5th
School		No School Teacher PD	K-2nd Music Program 6:30PM (CH)	All School Mass Hosted by 8th Grade		$1 Dress Down Day Hosted by 5th Grade	
Faith Formation			Morning Prayer following 8:30 Mass (CH)	Children's Choir Practice 5:45PM (CH) Advent Generations of Faith 6-8PM (MC)		Short Advent Adoration before Morning Prayer (CH) Morning Prayer following 8:30 Mass (CH)	Sunday Reading Groups Mens (Terry's Patio) 7:30AM Womens (CH) 8:30AM
Adult Faith Formation				Schola 6:30PM (CH)			
More	!st Sunday of Advent		OCIA 6:30PM (CH)	Elementary FF 6:30PM (103, 104) Centering Prayer 6:30PM (Parish Duplex)	Knights of Columbus 7:00PM (MC)		

CH: Church | K: Kitchen | MC: Media Center : 101-106: Classrooms | PO: Parish Office | SR: Social Room

PARISH NEWS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR HOLY TRINITY

November 28th & 29th

The Parish will take up a special collection to raise funds for Holy Trinity's St. Vincent de Paul Society on Saturday, November 28 and Sunday, November 29. The Society helps the needy throughout the year with rent, utilities, food, and other needs. Requests for assistance have been very high this year!

The Society will use the proceeds from the special collection to purchase groceries for Holy Trinity's annual SVdP Christmas project. Thanks for contributing whatever you can!

TAIZE

Sunday, December 13th

Please join us for an evening of Taize prayer on Sunday, December 13th, from 5:00pm to 5:40pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2926 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

Holy Trinity will hold one Taize service this Advent season as an invitation to quiet our minds and soften our hearts in anticipation of the coming of Christmas. The Taize (pronounced tay-zay) prayer service is an ecumenical, meditative form of worship. Founded in 1940, the Taize community unites Christians from all backgrounds through prayer, song, silence and personal reflection. We look forward to sharing this special service with you.

ADVENT PRAYER SERVICES

Join us Tuesdays & Fridays

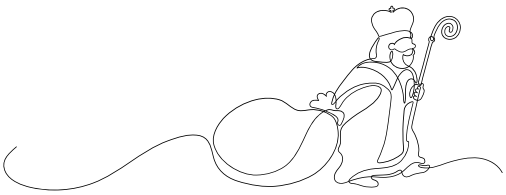
During the Advent Season morning prayer will be on Tuesday and Fridays after Mass.
On Fridays, we will have a short Adoration time prior to daily prayer. If you are able, please join us. Prayer books are available.

ST. NICHOLAS PRAYER CARD

Thank You Respect For Life Committee

The Respect Life Committee will be handing out Saint Nicholas prayer cards on December 5th and 6th to celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas. Please grab one to bring home to use to pray for your children. If you don't personally have children, please grab one and pray for the children of our parish!

Saint Nicholas, patron saint of children, pray for us!



PARISH INFORMATION

Ministries at Holy Trinity

Coffee and Donuts: We appreciate everyone who has volunteered to assist with serving coffee and donuts. If you would like to participate this fall, please **sign up here!** You may also get in touch with Jan Swinton at jans@holytrinitydm.org in the parish office.

Baptism: Do you want to celebrate your child's baptism at Holy Trinity? The next Baptism Class is Monday, January 18. Contact Jan Swinton in the Parish Office at jans@holytrinitydm.org with questions.

Pastoral Care. Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of life, health and career while caring for an aging parent, grandparent, or spouse, either in your home, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides family caregivers practical and emotional supports, shared experiences and useful tools, all with a Christ-centered view. Check out future bulletins for upcoming dates!

PARISH NEWS

HOLY TRINITY'S SECOND ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Coming on January 9th!

People have been asking...and we're excited to announce that Holy Trinity's Respect Life Chili Cook-Off is back for year 2! Ready to bring your best chili to the table? The cook-off will be on Saturday, January 9th. Entry fee is $25, limited to just twelve entrants. Winning entrant receives a $100 gift certificate to Christophers, $50 gift card to Fareway Meat Market and $25 gift card to Grounds for Celebration! The winner will be determined by a panel of judges. Parishioners are invited to sample these delectable offerings by making a free-will offering. Chili, hot dogs, chips, wine, beer, lemonade and cinnamon rolls included! The event will take place in the school gym/cafeteria beginning at 5:30pm (after 4:30pm mass). Questions? Contact Courtney Robey: bcrobey19@gmail.com. Use the QR code below to sign up to be a contestant!

SCAN CODE TO ENTER YOUR CHILI

HOLY TRINITY ART GROUP

Stay Connected!

Nurture your creative side with fellowship, inspiration, and even motivation to work on that creative hobby you've been "meaning to" start! Join us for our open studio session in the 7th grade rooms in the school on:

The last date of the year to attend is Sunday, December 13th from 1-3:30

Contact Hannah Zimmerman with any questions hmjzimmerman@gmail.com

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Thank you from our Committee!

Our gratitude to the HT community once again! The 49th annual Holiday Boutique was a smashing success! So many people! We begged you to bake, donate, volunteer, and SHOP. Repeatedly. You did not disappoint! We are grateful for every single one of you and your partnership to keep this tradition alive for the next generation. We are ready to rock out #50 next year. Come join our team!

-Your BHB Committee 2026

BULLETIN INFO UPDATE

Holiday Dates & Deadlines

With the holidays fast approaching, the Sunday bulletins are being printed a week in advance. Please send any bulletin information you would like included in the bulletin at least a couple of weeks ahead of the scheduled event so that any overlapping of time does not happen. Please contact the parish office at 515-255-3162 if you have any questions.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Reach out to St. Vincent de Paul

As in past years, our Parish SVdP Conference is assisting families this Christmas. If your family needs help this year, or if you know a family that could use help, please contact Jan at the Parish office and let her know. All assistance provided by SVdP is confidential.

Our next SVdP Conference meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 4 p.m. in the HT Middle School. We'd love to welcome new members, so please join us if you'd like to learn more about our group and mission.

SCHOOL/PARISH NEWS

UPCOMING DATES

Mark your calendar!

November 30th | No School- Teacher PD

December 2nd | All School Mass Hosted by 8th Grade

December 4th | $1 Dress Down Day

MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS THIS ADVENT!

Advent Resources at a Discount

As we prepare for Christmas, Holy Trinity invites families to make a little extra room for Jesus this Advent. We have gathered simple, ready-to-use resources from Catholic Sprouts that require no parent preparation and can help your family grow in faith with just 5–10 minutes each day. Resources include Jesse Tree devotionals for younger children and The Quest: A Journey Through Advent to Epiphany for older students.

Enjoy a special 15% discount on Catholic Sprouts orders using promo code HOLYTRINITY15OFF. Make time for Jesus and prepare your hearts to receive the Lord this Advent!

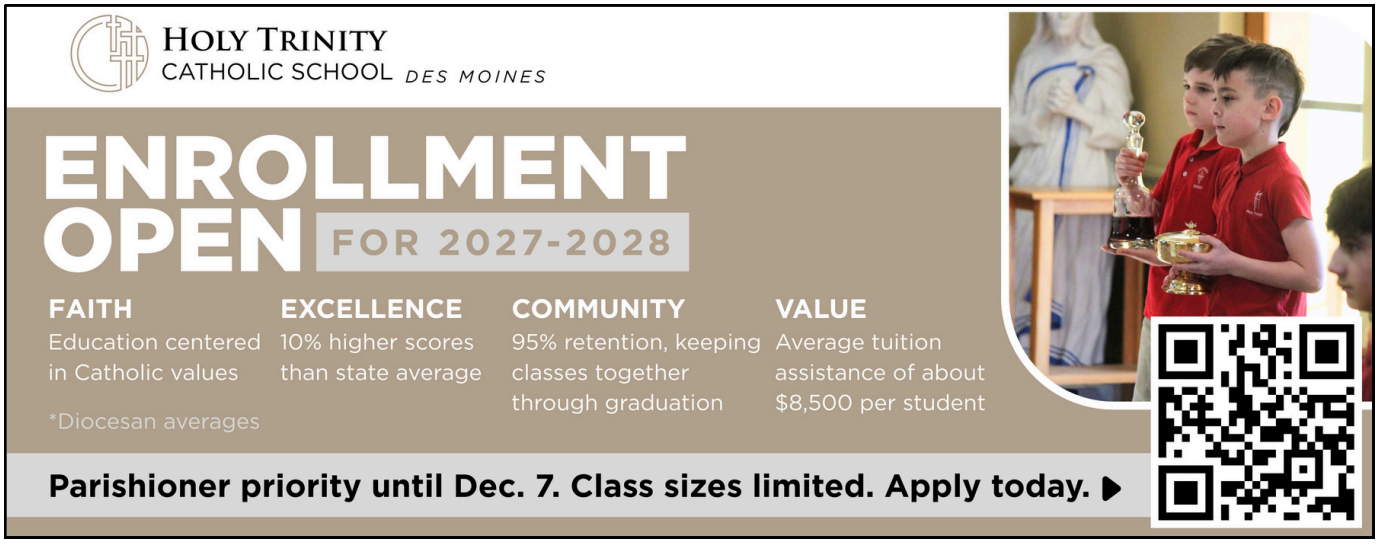
See the more information here!

WE ARE HIRING

Nutrition Department

Ever considered working at your student(s) school?? You're in luck!! We are looking for a dependable, friendly Lunchroom Helper to support daily meal service and keep our dining and prep areas clean, safe, and welcoming. This is a great fit for someone who enjoys working on a team and keeping things running smoothly during busy meal periods. Needing someone 3 days a week from 930-2. Ideally looking for Monday, Thursday and Friday coverage.

If interested please reachout to Amber Knapp, aknapp@htschool.org.



PARISH/DIOCESAN NEWS

IOWA CATHOLIC RADIO PRESENTS

Iowa Women's Conference. January 23, 2027 @ St. Boniface Catholic Church in Waukee, Iowa.

"Be Her" Be inspired, equipped, and empowered to embrace your identity in Christ! Join national speakers, Lisa Cotter and Fr. Dan Reehil for a day of faith, fellowship, and inspiration as you discover and embrace the purpose God has ordained for your life, at every age, stage, and season.

Register today at https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/events.
“She is clothed with strength and dignity.”
— Proverbs 31:25

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Collection – December 12–13

On December 12–13, our parish will participate in the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This appeal supports more than 21,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving the Church and God’s people.

Your generosity helps provide for their growing needs, including health care, nursing support, and medications. Thank you for remembering these faithful servants through your prayers and financial support.

See full letter here

FOCCUS FACILITATOR TRAINING NOVEMBER -

February Now Open

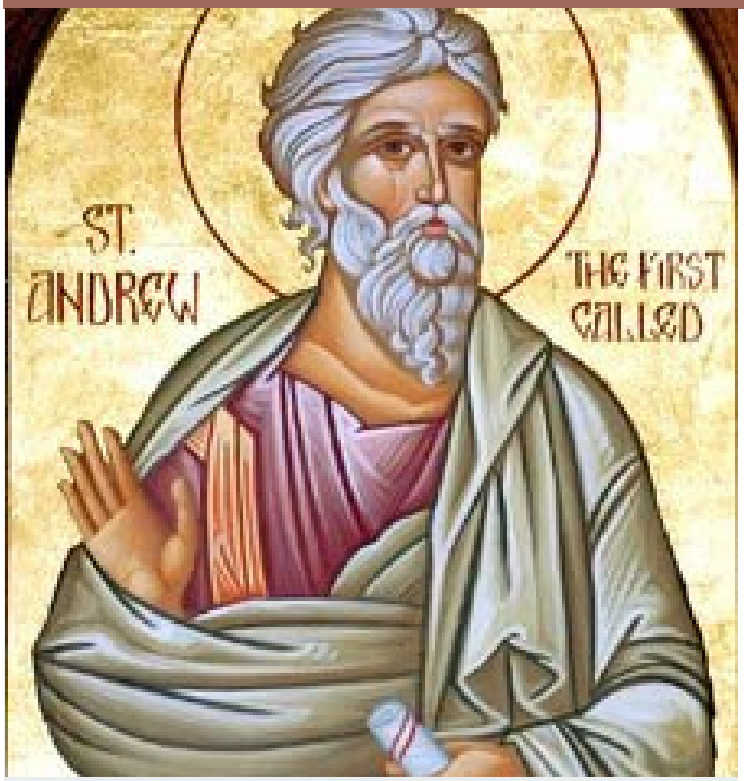
A FOCCUS Facilitator is a trained lay person, mentor couple, clergy member, or counselor who guides engaged (and sometimes married) couples through the FOCCUS® pre-marriage inventory (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding, and Study).

What does a FOCCUS Facilitator do?
• Review the Inventory: Couples independently complete a comprehensive questionnaire covering key life topics—such as communication, religion/spirituality, finances, parenting, conflict resolution, and family-of-origin.
• Guide Private Sessions: The facilitator meets with the couple one-on-one (in person or virtually) to review their unique FOCCUS Couple Report.
• Foster Dialogue: Instead of acting as a therapist or clinical counselor who "fixes" problems, the facilitator serves as a supportive companion and conversation guide, helping couples celebrate their strengths and constructively discuss areas of agreement, difference, or indecision.

Role & Background
• Not a Counselor: Facilitators do not provide formal psychological counseling or medical advice; rather, they encourage open, honest, and respectful communication.
• Faith-Centered or General: While FOCCUS is widely used in Catholic and Christian marriage preparation programs (often affiliated with local parishes or dioceses), versions and training programs exist for various faith and general communities.
• Certification: To become a certified facilitator, individuals must complete an official FOCCUS training workshop or self-paced online course and register through FOCCUS Inc. USA.

If you would like to get involved or know of someone who you think would be a great faciliator,email foccus@foccusinc.com for training dates.

OUR FAITH EXPLAINED



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Andrew, Apostle, First Century

Andrew, a native of Bethsaida, was a fisherman like his father, John, and his brother, Simon. When John the Baptist began preaching penance, Andrew became his disciple. One day, Jesus passed by while John was preaching and John said, "Behold the lamb of God." Andrew immediately grasped John's meaning and went off after Jesus, staying with him for several hours. He later introduced Jesus to Simon Peter, and the rest, as they say, is history.

A feast honors this Apostle on November 30.

Hearing Jesus' words convinced Andrew that the Messiah had come at last. While we can't hear Jesus' words directly, our faith in Jesus as the Messiah grows as we study the Word of God in Scripture.

Andrew's message today: Hearing Jesus' words convinced Andrew that the Messiah had come at last. While we can't hear Jesus' words directly, our faith in Jesus as the Messiah grows as we study the Word of God in Scripture.

- Do you spend some time each day studying the Word of God? Check in a local Christian bookstore or your parish library for books and other resources which may help in your pursuit.

ADVENT WREATH

Devotions, Explained!

The Advent Wreath as we know it today is a modern spin on an ancient practice — or rather, several of them.

Christians have always utilized candles to illustrate the metaphor of Christ as the "great light" shining on a people waiting in darkness (Isaiah 9:2). Historians tell us that pre-Christian societies in Europe also viewed candles as symbolic of the coming light of spring, and may have used wreaths of natural material along with these candles. Traditions and rituals surrounding an "Advent Wreath" are often thought to have originated in the Lutheran tradition in 16th-century Germany. Today, Advent Wreaths are a practice embraced by most Christians in the Western world.

An Advent Wreath consists of a circle of evergreen and four candles, one for each week of Advent. Three of the candles are purple; one is rose, representing Gaudete Sunday, a time of rejoicing at the closeness of Christmas. In Catholicism, Advent Wreaths are blessed on the First Sunday of Advent. For Advent Wreaths in private homes, it is appropriate for a family member to perform the blessing.
©LPi



PRAYER & READINGS



READINGS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading I : Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
We have not seen any God like you!

Reading II : 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
He will strengthen you to the end.

Gospel : Mark 13:33-37
Be constantly on guard!

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Question for Children: What special things do you do to get ready for a visitor at your house? What things can you do like that to get ready for Jesus?

Question for Youth: What is one thing that you can do this week to help you remember that Jesus is coming?

Question for Adults: When you're getting ready to receive a guest, what are some things you do? How do you apply this to receiving Christ?

CHURCH FINANCES

Financial Blessings Ending week of 11/13/2026

Budget July '26 thru June '27	**$1,000,000**
YTD Actual Tithing	**$317,537**
YTD Budget	**$329,840**
YTD Surplus/(deficit)	**($12,303)**
Tithing for the Week	**$17,069**
Number of Donations Received	**69**

For pledging & payment:
https://holytrinitydm.org/donate/
or scan the QR Code --->

FINANCE COUNCIL

Check out the minutes from the lastest Finance Council Meeting Below!

Meeting minutes from August of 2026

Reach out to Mary Gisler, maryg@holytrinitydm.org with any questions.

Holy Trinity
Catholic Church and School
• Taking the Journey Together •

INTENTIONS

Loving Creator, we come before you with hearts filled with both grief and hope. We entrust all of our departed loved ones, and all who have left this world, into your loving and merciful hands. Thank you for the gift of their lives, the love they shared, and the legacies they left behind. Grant them eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them. ***Amen.***

CHILI COOK OFF

Saturday, Jan. 9th, 5:30pm in the social room
Think your recipe is the best? Prove it!

Entry fee is $25, limited to just twelve entrants.

WINNER RECEIVES:

- $100 certificate to Christophers
- $50 certificate to Beaverdale Fareway
- $25 certificate to Grounds for Celebration

SCAN CODE TO ENTER YOUR CHILI

The winner to be determined by an all-star panel of celebrity judges. Join us for dinner and fun. Chili / Hot dogs/Beverages/Cinnamon Rolls included! **FREE-WILL OFFERING.**

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