



Holy Trinity

Catholic Church and School

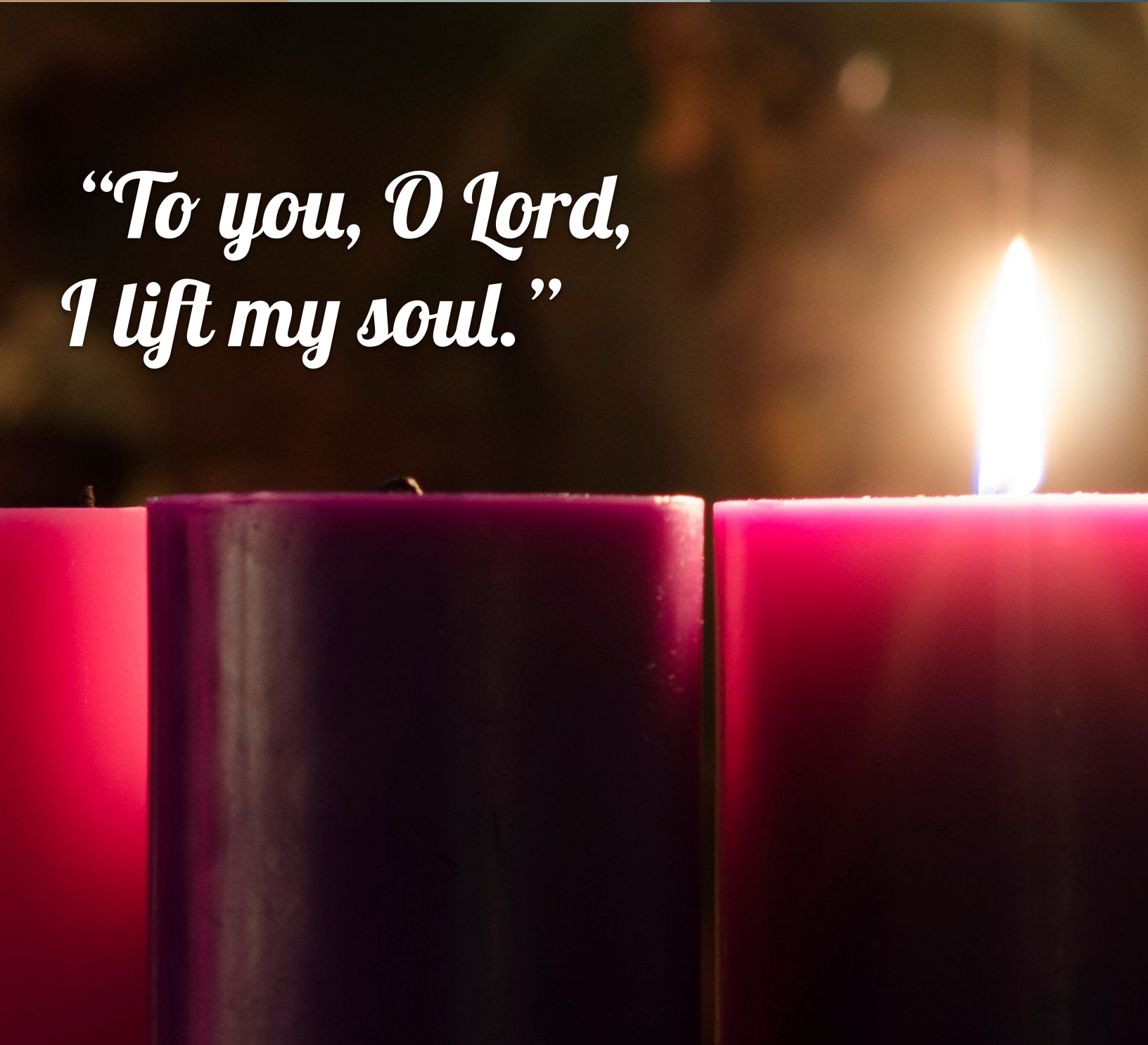
2926 Beaver Ave DSM IA 50310 | 515.255.3162 | holytrinitydm.org

December 1st, 2024

First Sunday of
Advent

Taking the Journey TOGETHER

*“To you, O Lord,
I lift my soul.”*



Advent

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LITURGY

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th at 4pm, 6pm, and 10pm



CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Wednesday, December 25th at 9am

RETREATS AND GATHERINGS

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Sunday, December 4th from 6-8pm

Sunday, December 8th from 6-8 pm

ADULT ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, December 14th from 12pm-4:30pm

SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICES

TAIZE at HOLY TRINITY

- Sunday, December 15th 5-5:45pm
- Sunday, December 22nd 5- 5:45pm

RECONCILIATION

CONFESSION at HOLY TRINITY

- December 3rd: 1pm-2pm
- December 4th: 5pm-6pm
- December 11th: 6pm-7pm
- December 17th: 1pm-2pm
- December 18th: 6pm-7pm

DIOCESAN ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES 2024

- Tuesday, December 3 6:00 pm St. Boniface, Waukee
- Tuesday, December 3 7:00 pm St. Francis of Assisi, West Des Moines
- Wednesday, December 4 6:30 pm St. Augustin, Des Moines
- Sunday, December 8 4:00 pm St. Pius X, Urbandale
- Wednesday, December 11 6:30 pm St. Theresa, Des Moines
- Wednesday, December 11 7:00 pm St. Joseph, Des Moines
- Sunday, December 15 2:00 pm St. Mary of Nazareth, Des Moines
- Sunday, December 15 3:00 pm St. John, Adel
- Tuesday, December 17 6:00 pm St. Boniface, Waukee
- Thursday, December 19 6:30 pm Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, Ankeny
- Thursday, December 19 7:00 pm Ss. John and Paul. Altoona

From the Church | December 1st, 2024

Taize. Holy Trinity's Advent Taizé is a meditative prayer service that quiets the soul in preparation for the coming of the Christ Child. Upon entering the church and getting a song sheet, the candle light and low lights signal it is a time for calm and rest. The lector, cantor and musicians walk you through the 45-minute service. All are invited to listen to the Word and sing simple chants, each followed by short periods of silence. The repetitive nature of this sequence stills us and opens us to God's grace in anticipation of the true Light of Jesus.

This mode of prayer originated in Taizé, France by Brothers who had formed a community devoted to bringing unity to the world and God's One Church. Taizé France annually hosts thousands of youth from all Christian faiths with gatherings, music and fellowship. Today, Taizé is a worldwide community of gatherings in local communities. <https://www.taize.fr/en>

Please join fellow parishioners and community members for this simple and short service the last two Sundays before Christmas.

December 15th and 22nd

5:00 to 5:45pm at Holy Trinity Church

Do you want to celebrate your child's baptism at Holy Trinity? Attend the next Baptism Class on Monday January 6 at 6:00 pm. Contact Jan Swinton in the Parish Office at 515-255-3162 ext. 128 to register.

Please join in prayers for the repose of the souls of Mary Lou Benson, John "Jack" V. Ecker, Glen G. Hall and Norma Nelson Scolatti.

***Eternal Rest Grant unto Them O Lord,
and let Perpetual Light shine upon Them.
May Their Soul and the Souls of All the Faithful Departed,
Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen.***

Advent Generations of Faith:

As we prepare for the start of the Advent season, we want to extend an invitation to our entire parish community to join up for our Advent Generations of Faith evenings. You can sign up to come on Wednesday, December 4 from 6:00-8:00 pm, or on Sunday December 8 from 4:00-6:00 pm. Please sign up for the night that works best for you. Our theme for this Advent is ***Come Let Us Adore Him (Matthew 2:11).***

These are two evenings that are wonderful opportunities for all members of our parish and school to start their Advent with prayerful reflection and a message of hope. There is no cost, and dinner will be provided. Please click on the link to get signed up. If you have questions, or need help getting signed up, please contact John Mertes, Director of Faith Formation at johnm@holytrinitydm.org, or via telephone at (515) 255-3162, extension 224. [Sign up here!](#)

Adult Advent Retreat:

Attention All Adults of the parish. We're inviting you to join us on Saturday, December 14 for Adult Advent Retreat. This year's retreat will run from 12:00-4:30 pm with Mass to follow. We are honored to have Tom Quinlan, Director of the St. Joseph's Evangelization Center, with us to facilitate our afternoon together. This will be an excellent opportunity to take an afternoon for yourself to hear where God is calling you this Advent season, as we journey to the Joy, Hope, & Promise of Christmas.

There is no cost for the retreat, and Lunch from Palmer's Deli will be provided. Please know that a free will offering will be taken, and all proceeds will go to support Holy Trinity's annual Advent Giving Tree. Please click on the link to get signed up. If you have further questions, or need help getting signed up, please contact John Mertes, Director of Faith Formation at johnm@holytrinitydm.org, or via telephone at (515) 255-3162, extension 224. We're looking forward to having you as a part of this special day. [Sign up here!](#)

Financial Blessings Ending Week of 11/22/24

Budget July 2023 through June 2024	\$958,558	YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$34,549
YTD Actual Tithing	\$376,987	Tithing for the Week	\$44,705
YTD Budget	\$342,438	Number of Donations Received	315



Make a donation! Scan the QR Code or visit holytrinitydm.org/donate

Happy STEMMAS. Our STEM instructor is hosting our FIRST EVER STEM Boot Camp!

Put on those Elf hats and join us for STEM Engineering on December 17th.

[See the flier here.](#)

[Register on Eventbrite. Spaces are limited!](#)



Middle School Interventionist. Holy Trinity School is looking for a part time middle school interventionist for math and reading. Applicants must have a valid Iowa Teaching License.

If you are interested in learning more about this position please contact Monica Morrison mmorrison@htschool.org.

Weather Reminder. Students go outside for recess unless the temperature or wind chill is 0 degrees Fahrenheit or below, according to KCCI Channel 8.

Students may bring coats, snow pants, boots, mittens, gloves, and hats for winter recess. Parents and guardians should label and check winter recess clothes daily, as items can be misplaced and damp.



Holy Trinity Spirit Store. With the weather getting colder, now is the perfect time to snag a uniform approved sweatshirt (hooded and crew) or fleece jacket.

Need an item before the holiday break? Make sure your order is placed by **Friday 6th** to ensure delivery by Christmas. All orders received after 12/6 will be delivered in January.

Start shopping online at shopholytrinitydm.com!

Every purchase from the Spirit Store helps raise funds for our school community. Thank you for your support!

Questions? Email megan.mortier@gmail.com and sarahmseverson21@gmail.com

Upcoming Dates.

- NO SCHOOL: December 2nd
- K-2 MUSIC CONCERT: December 3rd
- BAND CONCERT: December 9th
- MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT: December 16th
- NOON DISMISSAL: December 20th



Holy Trinity
Catholic Church and School



Holy Trinity Saint Vincent De Paul

CHRISTMAS PROJECT

As in past years, our Parish SVdP Conference is assisting families with food this Christmas. If your family needs help this year, or if you know a family that could use help, please contact Jan Swinton, jans@holytrinitydm.org or 515-255-3162 ex. 128

***All assistance provided by SVdP is confidential.
Deadline to turn in names is December 2nd.***

SVdP Conference meeting:

- Tuesday, November 26 at 4 p.m. | Holy Trinity School.

We'd love to welcome new members, so please join us if you'd like to learn more about our group and mission.

Any questions reach out to Matt Dore, 515-669-5563 or email at matt.dore@drake.edu



Blue Christmas. "Blue Christmas" is a contemplative church service of peace, healing and hope for anyone who is mourning a lost loved one or experiencing hurt of any kind.

This service includes hymns, scripture readings, candle lighting and quiet reflection to help process feelings that the holidays may be a difficult time of year. Whether you are feeling blue or not, this gathering service unites us together to support one another as we express the fullness of God's goodness, faithfulness and love.

[DEC. 10TH AT 6 PM](#)
[ST. AMBROSE CATHEDRAL](#)

[Learn more here](#)

Job Opening. The Diocese of Des Moines is currently recruiting for a full time Administrative and Accounting Assistant at the Pastoral Center.

For more information, [please apply here!](#)

Rosary. Please join our Holy Trinity school and parish community in praying the rosary.

Our next meeting is Sunday, December 8 at 8 pm and will be held at the Bigelows house (403 42nd Street) for intentions, rosary and fellowship. If you're not familiar with the rosary, come learn. Please contact Sarah with questions: ssullivanbigelow@gmail.com

The Basilica of Saint John is hiring a part-time bookkeeper. If you know of anyone that might be interested, please have them contact the Basilica of Saint John.

Please send resume to: CharlesS@BasilicaofStJohn.org

TAIZE—Experience God's presence through quiet, meditative prayer and chants during the busy month of December!

Join us for an Advent Taize on Wednesday, December 4th, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (at St. Catherine of Siena, 1150 28th St., Des Moines, IA 50311). Taize is a quiet service that invites us to listen to Scripture, join in simple chants, and reflect.

Save the Date. Parishioner Enrollment Starts December 1 At the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools, our students experience nurturing and innovative environments where smaller class sizes foster big dreams.

Plus, with Education Savings Accounts, an education at our schools might be more affordable than you think! All K- 12 Iowa students qualify for an ESA for the 2025-2026 school year.

Parishioner enrollment begins December 1.

Schedule your visit today with Mercedes Steinkamp, email her at mercedes@htschool.org

Santa Lucia Celebration

Sunday, December 8, 3:00PM

Italian-American Cultural Center of Iowa
2633 Fleur Dr. Des Moines

Lighting of the Christmas Fire, Candlelight procession and blessing of the congregation and St. Lucy altar with prayer service. Refreshments to follow. Open to the public and is free of charge.



Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Sunday of Advent

Reading I : Jeremiah 33:14-16

A shoot shall rise up.

- The prophets believed that the fullness of God's kingdom could be experienced in history.
- Jeremiah was writing for an audience that was facing exile.
- In today's passage, the prophet Jeremiah assures the people that even in the midst of disaster God would remain faithful.

Reading II : 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Love one another and act in ways pleasing to God.

- The Christians at Thessalonica believed that Christ's return would come in their lifetime.
- Paul's letter encourages them to live wisely in anticipation of Christ's coming.
- The Thessalonians are urged to persevere in the way of life they had learned from Paul so that the day of the Lord would truly be a day of rejoicing.

Gospel : Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus will come again in glory; be not afraid.

- Today's Gospel uses apocalyptic imagery to describe the return of Christ.
- Luke's audience recognized that the wait for Christ's return could be long.
- Christians must always be ready because no one knows when the great day will come.



Bring Home the Gospel | December 1st, 2024

Reading I | Psalm | Reading II | Gospel

Question For The Children: What helps you to grow in your faith? Who helps you?

Question For The Youth Advent is the Church season when we prepare for Christ's birth at Christmas. What is one thing you can do to prepare yourself spiritually for Christmas?

Question For The Adults Paul exhorts us to "make greater progress" in our spiritual lives. What one step could you take to make greater progress in your own life?

Saint Of The Week St. Catherine Labouré, Religious, 1806-1876 Zoe Labouré was born on May 2, 1806 to a farm family near the village of Saint-Rémy de Provence in southern France. She was the ninth of eleven children. Raised with a strong faith, early on she felt a calling to the religious life. Zoe's mother died when the girl was eight years old. The story is told that following her mother's funeral, Zoe went into her bedroom, picked up a statue of the Blessed Mother and said, "Now, dear Lady, you are to be my mother."

After her mother's death, Zoe was sent to Paris to live with an aunt, but, when an older sister entered the convent of the Daughters of Charity about a year later, she returned to her home to tend to the house and her younger siblings. Taking on these duties at such a young age meant that Zoe had almost no education and never learned to read or write.

Some years later, Zoe had a dream in which a priest was telling her that she was being called to work with the sick. Not knowing what this meant, she dismissed the dream, but, later, when visiting a hospital run by the Daughters of Charity, she saw a picture on a wall of the priest in her dream. Asking who this priest was, she was told that it was St. Vincent de Paul, the founder of the order. Recognizing her calling, Zoe joined the Daughters of Charity in early 1830, taking the name Catherine at that time.

Soon after becoming a postulant, Catherine began to see apparitions, often of St. Vincent de Paul, but also of Jesus. These occurred mostly during liturgies, but the visions which she was to become famous for began on July 19, 1830. After falling asleep, Catherine was awakened by a bright light and a child's voice bidding her to come to the chapel where the Blessed Virgin awaited her.

Arriving at the chapel, Catherine found it brightly lit, as if for a midnight Mass. Kneeling at the altar rail, she heard the angel whisper to her that the Blessed Mother wished to speak with her. Looking up, she saw the Virgin Mary sitting in the presider's chair. Going to her, Catherine knelt beside her and rested her hands on Mary's lap. Mary told her that God had a mission for her and that some might not believe her, but she should tell her confessor all that surpassed in her meeting. Mary promised her that she would have the protection of God and St. Vincent and Mary would be watching over her.

A few months later, Catherine, at evening prayer with her sisters, had a second apparition. This time, in November 1830, Mary appeared standing on a globe as she would appear on the "Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Medal (Miraculous Medal). The Virgin instructed Catherine to have a medal made in that form, promising that all who wear it would be especially blessed. In a third apparition, about a month later, Mary, again appearing as she would on the medal with rays streaming from her hands toward the globe, told Catherine, "These rays are the symbol of the graces that the Blessed Virgin obtains for those who ask them of her." She again directed Catherine to have the medal struck. Not knowing how to do this, Catherine asked Mary who told her to speak to her confessor.

Skeptical at first, her confessor, Fr. Aladel, finally went to the bishop who ordered two thousand medals struck. Receiving the first of these medals, Catherine told Fr. Aladel that now the medals must be propagated. Within a few years, millions of the medals had been distributed and a great devotion to the Miraculous Medal had developed.

St. Catherine Labouré was canonized by Pope Pius XII in 1947. She is honored by her order and in France on November 28.

Catherine's message today: With God's grace one does not have to be a strong, outgoing type to accomplish much in the world. In the years since the Miraculous Medal was introduced, many miracles have been reported.

- *Have you prayed for the grace that you need to carry out God's will in your life?*



Make a donation! Scan the QR Code or visit holytrinitydm.org/donate

Parish Calendar | December 1st, 2024

	Sunday [12/1]	Monday [12/2]	Tuesday [12/3]	Wednesday [12/4]	Thursday [12/5]	Friday [12/6]	Saturday [12/7]
School		No School- Professional Development	K-2 Music Concert (CH) 6:30PM	All School Mass hosted By 8th Grade 8:30AM			
Faith Formation			OCIA (CH) 6:30PM	Advent Generations of Faith (SR) 6-8PM			Sunday Reading Groups Men (MC) 7:30AM Women (CH) 8:30AM
Adult Faith Formation	Mass 8:30AM & 10:30AM	No Communion Service	Mass 8:30AM Adoration/ Morning Prayer following Mass	Mass 8:30AM	Mass 8:30AM Adoration 2-9PM Rosary 4:05PM	Mass 8:30AM Morning Prayer following Mass	Reconciliation 3-3:45PM Mass 4:30PM
More	Advent Begins!		Confessions (CH) 1-2PM	Schola (CH) 6:30PM Confessions (CH) 5-6PM			Parent's Night Out - Youth Grp Babysitting (Gym, SR) 12PM-4:30PM

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

Upcoming Mass Schedule, Liturgy Schedule, and Intentions			
[12/1]	8:30AM	Mass	Tim Cooney
	10:30AM	Mass	Frank Severino, Sr.
[12/3]	8:30AM	Mass	Roselea Grassman
[12/4]	8:30AM	Mass	Shirley Renda
[12/5]	8:30AM	Mass	Julie Hinners Tracy
	2-9PM	Adoration	
	4:05PM	Rosary	
[12/6]	8:30AM	Mass	Dennis Hurley
[12/7]	3-3:45PM	Reconciliation	
	4:30PM	Mass	Albert "Skip" Braak
[12/8]	8:30AM	Mass	For the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass	Marcie Coleman

Upcoming Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers		
Saturday	Altar Servers	Mary, Anna & Paul Heilman & Maggie Fiddelke
[12/7]	Lectors	Lorraine Riseley & Gary Thull
4:30PM	EMHC	Team 3
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Jack Ernst, Cameron Goode, Sullivan Kelley & Philip McAndrews
[12/8]	Lectors	Linda Willems & Jean Severson
8:30AM	EMHC	Team 3/MC: Katy Polich
	Children's Liturgy	Team D: Alicia & Luke Lynch
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Mia & Madelyn Daskalakes, Ruth George and Jack Mundy
[12/8]	Lectors	Peggy Jones & Mary Ellen Winston
10:30AM	EMHC	Team 2/MC: Mary Ellen Winston
	Children's Liturgy	Team 4: Chris Coleman & Joan Niday
	Music Coordinator	Eric Sharp

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