



Holy Trinity

Catholic Church and School

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

December 15th, 2024

Third Sunday of
Advent

Taking the Journey TOGETHER

“Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.”



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 15th, 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 22nd

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

Baptism. 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.

Rosary. Please join our HT school and parish community in praying the rosary. We'll meet at the Bigelows house (403 42nd Street) at 8 pm on the first Monday of each month for intentions, rosary and fellowship.

If you're not familiar with the rosary, come learn. We'll meet on Monday, January 6. Please contact Sarah with questions: ssullivanbigelow@gmail.com

Advent Giving Tree. As we journey through the season of Advent, one of the many Holy Trinity traditions is our Giving Tree. We invite members of our community to stop up before or after mass and take an ornament or two from the tree to help those in need during the Advent and Christmas seasons. This year we're supporting St. Vincent de Paul, Connection Cafe', Mary's Helping Hands, and Children & Family Urban Movement (CFUM). Your generosity over the years has extended grace and dignity to a countless number of families in need right here in our own community.

Whether it's gifts under the tree, helping single mothers with basic needs for their young children, or helping someone fill their car with gas to get to work, your acts of kindness have meant so much to so many. You can return purchased items to the Giving Tree during weekend masses during the Advent season, or you can drop them off in the parish office. If you have questions, you can reach out to John Mertes, Director of Faith Formation at johnm@holyltrinitydm.org, or via phone at (515) 255-3162, extion 224. Thank you for your continued generosity!

A Big Thank You. Thank you to Mrs. Sherri TeKippe and her 5th Grade Class for changing the new missalettes into the new book covers. They were also responsible for putting the Messiah booklets in the pews.

DECK THE HALLS. Come one, come all! Help decorate the Church for Christmas services following 10:30 morning Mass on December 22. Many hands make light work! Bring your families for this fun and cherished event!



Financial Blessings Ending Week of 12/6/24			
Budget July 2024 through June 2025	\$958,558	YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$27,896
YTD Actual Tithing	\$413,363	Tithing for the Week	\$27,544
YTD Budget	\$385,467	Number of Donations Received	255



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

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.

Out of Uniform Passes. Make way for the perfect stocking stuffer- Out of uniform passes are \$10 each!

Each passes may purchase up to five passes per student.

Fill out the online form and send in cash or check, made out to Holy Trinity Catholic School. This will need to be dropped off to the school office.

Due December 17th at midnight. Passes will be available for pick up on Friday, December 20th, or sent home in students' backpacks.

<https://forms.gle/FBZ2VuNiNLBw18uR6>

Birding Club. Great job Birding and Conservation club for hosting coffee and donuts!

They will be donating the money to The National Audubon Society for the protection of the habitats of birds.

Thank you for your support, taking care of our environment and happy birding!



Middle School Choir Christmas Concert

December 16 6:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity School Gym

Come and support these wonderful kids as they present a variety of music from Broadway to favorite hymns of the season. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming Dates.

- MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT: December 16th
- NOON DISMISSAL: December 20th
- CHRISTMAS BREAK: December 21st-January 5th



Holy Trinity
Catholic Church and School

Enrollment. 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.

- Parishioner priority enrollment December 1 –January 24.
- General Enrollment opens up January 25.

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



**DES MOINES REGIONAL
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**



Speaker & Founder of Safe Social Network

Ben Tracy will be speaking with 3rd -8th grade students during the school day.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13TH

There will be a parent presentation in the evening- time TBD

Ben Tracy speaks to more than 100,000 students, parents, and educators each year about digital citizenship, online safety, and responsible social media use.

He shares his own powerful story about how teenage social media impacted his life and discusses cyberbullying, online predators, the relationship between social media and mental health, drugs on social media, and he encourages students to use technology in a positive way.



Holy Trinity
Catholic Church and School



From the Diocese & Community | December 15th, 2024

Assist the Homebound. Do you know one of our Holy Trinity family who is homebound, in a care facility, hospital or hospice and would like to have a visit and possibly share in Holy Communion? Maybe they are not up to having a visitor but would enjoy a phone call, email or letter? If so, please contact our Pastoral Care Minister, Deacon Troy Thompson at troyt@holytrinitydm.org. 515-255-3162 ext 124 or 515-447-5707.

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

Why be Catholic? What difference does it make? In a culture which seems to tell people that all religions are the same, does it matter which Church you attend on Sunday? Come hear **Keith Nester** speak on his journey to the Catholic Church.

Keith is a former pastor, serving in various roles in the United Methodist, Assemblies of God, and Evangelical Free Churches. In 2017, after a 20-year-long discernment process, Keith resigned from his full-time ministry position and joined the Catholic Church. Come and hear Keith talk about his decision to join the Church and why he finds Catholicism especially fulfilling to the masculine heart. With his unique background, Keith has a lot of unique insight to offer all men. So, whether you've been going to mass for decades or just dipping your toes in the water, this talk is for you!

Details: **Keith Nester: Why Be Catholic?**

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 8, 2025; Doors open at 7:00 PM; Talk begins at 8:00 PM

Location: The Foundry: 111 S 11th Street, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Website - **FORGE:**

<https://myforge.org/event/why-be-catholic/>

We're Hiring! We are seeking faith-filled leaders passionate about education for the following roles:

Director of Marketing and Enrollment Management: This pivotal role will be responsible for designing and implementing comprehensive marketing strategies to enhance the visibility and appeal of our Catholic schools, fostering enrollment growth, and driving community engagement. The ideal candidate will possess a deep commitment to the mission of Catholic education, a background in marketing and communications, and a proven track record in enrollment management. Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Communications, Journalism or related field required. Master's Degree preferred. To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation to Donna Bishop, Superintendent of Schools, at dbishop@dmdiocese.org.

IT Director for the Des Moines Regional Schools: This position ensures alignment of IT policies, security standards, and best practices between the schools and the parishes that maintain infrastructure and building-related IT resources. The IT Director will establish cohesive IT strategies to support educational goals and safe, effective use of technology across both schools and parishes. To learn more and apply, visit <https://www.indeed.com/job/it-director-f47bab8bebc0852b>.

Academic Interventionist for St. Joseph Catholic School: St. Joseph Catholic School is hiring a part-time Academic Interventionist to deliver high-quality instruction for students in grades 3-8, using data-driven strategies to help them achieve grade-level proficiency. This role offers 20 flexible hours per week. Responsibilities include monitoring student progress, reporting outcomes, and collaborating with school staff. Applicants must be certified teachers. For more information or to apply, contact Lynn Ernst at lernst@stjosephcatholicdsm.org.

For a complete listing of open positions across our schools, visit

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools/office/careers>



Third Sunday of Advent

The third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday” which means “Rejoice” in Latin. This signifies a moment of joy and anticipation during the Advent season. Our focus shifts from penitence to expressing joy about the coming of Christ. It is often marked with a pink candle on the Advent wreath symbolizing joy

Reading I : Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Rejoice, for the Lord is in your midst.

- The prophet Zephaniah preached during a difficult time in Israel’s history.
- Zephaniah told his listeners that the day of the Lord would be a joyless day because they had not been faithful.
- The faithful remnant, who knew their only hope was in God, would be saved.

Reading II : Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always.

- The sense of excitement at the arrival of the Lord continues in the second reading.
- Paul calls the Philippians to joy and peace because of the coming of the Lord.
- They should live their lives as a people saved by the mercy and love of God.

Gospel : Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist announces the coming of the Messiah.

- At the time the Gospel of Luke was written, Christians had begun to realize that Christ’s return might not be immediate.
- They needed to learn how to live in readiness, to be aware that their own deaths might come before the day of the Lord.
- Today’s passage instructs people to live justly within their work.



Bring Home the Gospel | December 15th, 2024

Reading I Zephaniah 3:14-18a | Psalm | Reading II Philippians 4:4-7 | Gospel Luke 3:10-18

Question For The Children Why is it so important to keep promises which you have made?

Question For The Youth What do you remember from stories about your Baptism? What does your Baptism mean to you now?

Question For The Adults How can you live the promise of your Baptism each day?

Activity Of The Week This is the Third Sunday of Advent, a day to rejoice. Do a fun activity with the family, such as sledding, making cookies, or driving together to see the holiday lights.

Saint Of The Week John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor, 1542-1591 Juan Yepes was the youngest of three sons born to Gonzalo and Catalina Yepes. Gonzalo had come from a wealthy Spanish family, while Catalina, an orphan, had been taken into the home of a widow. The Yepes family objected to the marriage of these two and warned Gonzalo that he would be disinherited if he went through with it. The two young lovers ignored the warning and were married in about 1529.

As threatened, Gonzalo was cut off from his family and the family business which he had been a part of. This made the young family largely dependent on Catalina's embroidery and those odd jobs which Gonzalo could perform, all of which provided meager support.

When Juan was about nine years old, his family moved to Medina del Campo where the young boy worked at a hospital and began his studies at a Jesuit school. The hospital administrator, Don Alvarez, noting the boy's sincerity and eagerness to help, offered Juan the opportunity to become a nurse at the hospital. Juan quickly jumped at the chance, believing it would allow him to provide more help to his mother and family.

All of this, while giving Juan a taste of how harsh life can become, also brought him quickly to maturity. But, as might be expected, he treasured the times when he could retreat to a loft of a barn on the hospital grounds where he could study. Don Alvarez, having observed Juan's intensity and eagerness to learn over several years, offered to put him into a new Jesuit school.

Ordained in 1567, Juan elected to join the Carthusians, a very strict order that emphasized solitary and silent contemplation, but before he could do this, he returned to Medina del Campo where a companion introduced him to Saint Teresa of Avila. This future saint told Fr. Juan of her efforts to introduce reforms into the Carmelite order which had become very lax over time and persuaded him to delay his move to the Carthusians. Those Carmelites who followed the revisions brought about by these two saints became known as Discalced (barefoot) Carmelites. It was during this period that Juan became known as Juan de la Cruz (John of the Cross).

While many Carmelites joined Fr. Juan with the discalced group, there remained much dissension. In 1577, his superiors ordered him to return to his original posting, but, having been assigned to his mission by the Apostolic Nuncio, Fr. Juan refused. The superiors then had him abducted and carried to Toledo where he was imprisoned. During his nine month imprisonment, he received public whippings at least weekly. This humiliation inspired some of the poetry which he wrote later in his life.

Escaping from his small cell in August 1578, Fr. Juan went on with his mission and continued to establish new monasteries for the Discalced Carmelites, but the controversy persisted. He became ill and as this illness worsened, he was moved to the monastery at Ubeda. Even there, he was treated cruelly which was the answer to his prayer, "to suffer and be despised." In the waning days of his life, even his adversaries recognized the holiness of their founder and, upon his death, the order celebrated his life of saintliness.

Saint John of the Cross was canonized in 1726 by Pope Benedict XIII. He was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI in 1926. This saint is the patron of contemplatives, mystics and mystical theology, and Spanish poets. He is honored by a memorial on December 14.

John's message today: Early in his life, John of the Cross learned to deny himself in order to bring himself closer to God. Few of us have had the experience of poverty and hardship experienced by John, but all of us can bring ourselves closer to God by prayer and self-denial.



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

Parish Calendar | December 15th, 2024

	Sunday [12/15]	Monday [12/16]	Tuesday [12/17]	Wednesday [12/18]	Thursday [12/19]	Friday [12/20]	Saturday [12/21]
School		Middle School Choir Concert (CH) 6:30PM		School Mass hosted by 6th Grade 8:30AM		Noon Dismissal	
Faith Formation	Taize Service (CH) 5PM			Faith Formation & Edge Class 6:30PM			Sun. 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 OCIA (CH) 6:30PM	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	HT Youth Host Quiet Study for High School Finals (MC) 12PM-5PM		Reconciliation (CH) 1-2PM	Reconciliation (CH) 6-7PM Schola 6:30PM (in choir room)			

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			
[12/15]	8:30AM	Mass	Tim Cooney
	10:30AM	Mass	For the Parish
[12/17]	8:30AM	Mass	Duane Chamberlain
[12/18]	8:30AM	Mass	Dean Young
[12/19]	8:30AM	Mass	Norma Nelson Scolatti
	2-9PM	Adoration	
	4:05PM	Rosary	
[12/20]	8:30AM	Mass	Delpha McCormick
[12/21]	3-3:45PM	Reconciliation	
	4:30PM	Mass	For the Parish
[12/22]	8:30AM	Mass	Rachel Dubec
	10:30AM	Mass	Connie Hellmann

Upcoming Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers		
Saturday	Altar Servers	Elsa McGinn, Joan & Nora Niday & (Sub)
[12/21]	Lectors	Mary Sanders & Vonnie Salem
4:30PM	EMHC	Team 2
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Evelyn Hunt, Cartier Bryant and Gwennie & Jonah Johnson
[12/22]	Lectors	Doug Gross & John Goode
8:30AM	EMHC	Team 2/MC: Mark McAndrews
	Children's Liturgy	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Ruby Severson, Joshua Zwier, Colton Barney and Noah Drago
[12/22]	Lectors	Chris Coleman & Mark Amadeo
10:30AM	EMHC	Team 4/MC: Mark Amadeo
	Children's Liturgy	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY
	Music Coordinator	Eric Sharp





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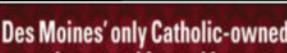

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