



Holy Trinity

Catholic Church and School

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

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday
of Advent



Taking the Journey TOGETHER

*I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul... -Is 61*



Worship online at <https://bit.ly/37n4LAu>

Advent

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LITURGY

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

- Sunday, December 24th at 8:30am

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

- Sunday, December 24th at 4pm, 6pm, and 10pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

- Monday, December 25th at 9am

RETREATS AND GATHERINGS

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

- Sunday, December 10th from 4-6 pm

ADULT ADVENT RETREAT

- Saturday, December 16th from 12pm-4:30pm

SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICES

TAIZE at HOLY TRINITY

- Sunday, December 10th 6-6:45pm (after the Generations of Faith)
- Sunday, December 17th 5- 5:45pm

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

CONFESSION at HOLY TRINITY

- Saturday, December 9th at 3pm
- Wednesday, December 13th at 1pm and 6pm
- Thursday, December 14th at 5:30pm
- Saturday, December 16th at 3pm
- Wednesday, December 20th at 6pm
-

DIOCESAN ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES 2023

- Saturday, December 9th at 10 am (Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, Ankeny)
- Sunday, December 10th at 2 pm (St. Mary of Nazareth, Des Moines)
- Sunday, December 10th at 4 pm (St. Pius X, Urbandale)
- Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 pm (St. Theresa, Des Moines)
- Thursday, December 14th at 7 pm (Ss. John and Paul, Altoona)



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From the Church | December 17, 2023



Advent Giving Tree. Grab an ornament from the tree to help St. Vincent de Paul, The Connection Cafe, Mary's Helping Hands, and Children Family Urban Movement. These organizations are engaged in life changing ministry, and their demands become greater during this time of year.

Thank you for your generosity! Return donations to the tree during Mass or in the parish office through the Christmas season. Contact John Mertes at johnm@holyltrinitydm.org or 515.255.3162 for details.

Enrich Your Advent. HT offers Adoration and Prayer after 8:30 a.m. Mass on Tuesdays during Advent. Share a few extra minutes with Jesus as we prepare for Christmas!

High School Study Club. Students are invited to join Youth Ministry on Sunday, December 17, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Study for finals, work in small groups, and prepare your heart and mind for the upcoming holiday.

HT Youth Ministry will provide snacks, drinks, and dinner!

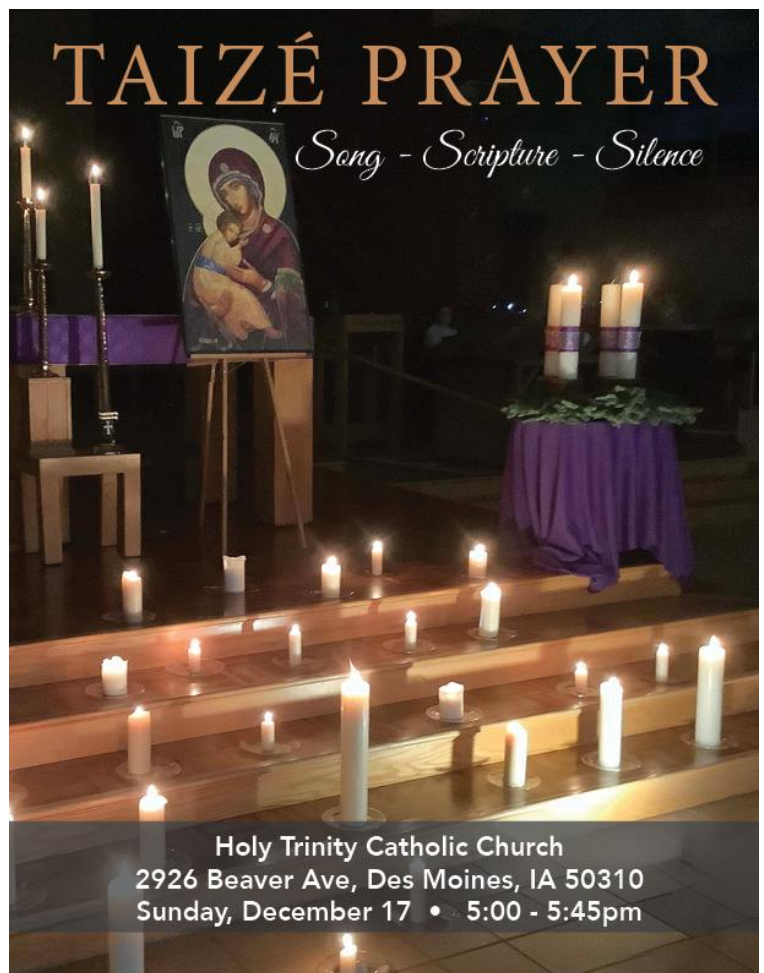
Eucharistic Minister & Lector Training. Parishioners who want to distribute the Eucharist and lector at Mass can attend training on Sunday, December 17, after 10:30 a.m. Mass. Contact mercediess@holyltrinitydm.org for details.

Holiday Bulletin Schedule. Due to holiday closures, we will publish a two-week bulletin before Christmas. We will publish the next bulletin the first weekend in January.

Cub Scout Troop 77. The scouts are giving away handmade Christmas ornaments for freewill donations after 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday, December 17. Go see them in the south entryway!

Deck The Halls. Come one, come all! Help decorate the Church for Christmas services after morning Mass on Friday, December 22. Many hands make light work!

The typical group of volunteers for this project is dwindling, so please consider donating a bit of your time!



Taking the Journey TOGETHER

Financial Blessings Ending December 8, 2023

Budget July 2023 through June 2024	\$958,558	YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$9,592
YTD Actual Tithing	\$419,672	Tithing for the Week	\$30,449
YTD Budget	\$410,080	Number of Donations Received	283



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

Attend Holy Trinity Catholic School!

We pride ourselves on being an Iowa-accredited school that meets and exceeds the state's English, math, science, and social studies standards. Join our educational journey today!

- **Faith Curriculum.** Our students experience Daily Prayer, Weekly Mass, Sacrament Preparation & Participation, Religion Class, and Service Learning.
- **Student Supports.** Our faculty and interventionists are endorsed in special education to meet the needs of diverse learners.
- **Building Character.** Social and emotional learning plays a vital role in the classroom, helping students foster empathy and improve interpersonal skills.
- **Sustained Success.** Holy Trinity is a *Professional Learning Community*. Only one in 200 schools and districts in the United States and Canada receive this honor.

2024-2025 Enrollment Starts Now!

We have space for new preschool, transitional Kindergarten, elementary, and middle school students, and members of Holy Trinity Parish receive top enrollment priority!

2024-2025 Enrollment Priority for Registered and Participating Parishioners began Friday, December 1, and continues through Friday, January 26, 2024. Claim your spot before the general community starts enrolling on Saturday, January 27, 2024.



[Click here or scan the QR Code
to apply before January 26!](#)

Need more information? Contact Richard TeKippe at rtekippe@htschool.org for details! Schedule a tour or Student Shadow Day, discuss tuition assistance, and more.



Call the School Office at **515.255.3162 ext. 115** for more information!

Celebrate Your Family! Revitalize your marriage during the Worldwide Marriage Encounter: positive, simple, common sense, private experiences between husband and wife.

Attend February 16 to 18 in Marshalltown, April 12 to 14 in Epworth, September 27 to 29 in Dubuque, and November 8 to 10 in Holstein. Call Sue Fink at 563-920-9419 for details.



Nominate an Administrator, Educator, and Volunteer. The Diocese of Des Moines will host the Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Education to celebrate over 150 years of faith-centered education and life-changing impacts.

The Bishop will recognize administrators, educators, and volunteers at the event. Visit <https://bit.ly/475v4Eg> to nominate someone before January 22. The Diocese will announce nominees during Catholic Schools Week, January 29 through February 2.

Lessons, Carols, and Christmas Reflections. Drake Alumni Choir, *Umeri*, presents celebratory music, readings, reflections, and a deeply immersive visual experience on Sunday, December 17, 3 p.m., at St. Ambrose Cathedral.

Dr. Michael Rubbelke of the Saint John's School of Theology will offer a pre-concert presentation on the art and spirituality of The Saint John's Bible at 1:30 p.m. at the Diocese of Des Moines Pastoral Center.

Both events are free and open to the public. Contact aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu for details.


Business Manager Opportunity. Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church is hiring a Business Manager that reports directly to the pastor and oversees the stewardship of the physical, financial, and personnel parish resources. Visit <https://bit.ly/3uAAWro> for a full job description. Send your resume to Fr. Michael at frmichael@olih.org to apply.



Man-Up West. Ryland Jones, Army veteran and Dowling *Ut Fidem* Male Coordinator, joins Man-Up West Power Lunch in January.

Ryland will discuss his role with the young men at DCHS and his personal journey to the Catholic Church. Discover how Ryland and the *Ut Fidem* program are helping young men keep and grow their faith in high school and beyond.


Enjoy free lunch from Chick-fil-A on Friday, January 12, at Noon. Man-Up West is at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Visit www.iowacatholicradio.com to register.

 **Exodus**

Trade your distractions for deeper peace.

We start Jan. 1, 2024:

MenOfExodus.com



This is not your average men's group.

Join us as we strive to be better Catholics, fathers, and men through prayers, fraternity and asceticism.

Call or text Jacob Meradith-Eyers for more info

513-633-9148



Notes on the Mass | December 17, 2023 | Third Sunday of Advent

Advent - The twofold character of Advent calls us to prepare for the remembering of the Word made Flesh at Christmas, and directs us to wait with alertness for Jesus' second coming.

Reading I : Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 - God is the joy of my soul.

- The third section of the Book of Isaiah was written shortly after Israel's return from exile.
- Today's passage connects anointing and being filled with the Spirit of God by using vocabulary similar to the servant songs in Second Isaiah.
- The prophet proclaims a year of jubilee when debts are forgiven and land is returned to its original owner.

Reading II : 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 - Do not stifle the spirit.

- At the end of the First Letter to the Thessalonians, Paul gives a series of directions to the faithful.
- Paul advises the Thessalonians to pray and give thanks without ceasing.
- The community is instructed to test everything and encourage that which is good.

Gospel : John 1:6-8, 19-28 - Prepare the way of the Lord!

- John's Gospel uses words from Isaiah 40 to identify John the Baptist as the one who prepares the way for the new exodus and return from exile.
- The priests and Levites ask, "Why then do you baptize?" Baptism was a form of initiation for Gentle converts to Judaism.
- John uses this opportunity to bear witness to the one who will come to baptize not in water but in Spirit.

Question for Children: As we get closer to Christmas, name one thing you really want for your home or the world, such as peace, friendship, or food for the poor.

Question for Youth: John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus' coming?

Question for Adults: If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?

Saint of the Week - Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Mary was chosen by God to be the mother of his son. By the simple act of saying "yes" to God's will, she became the greatest and first among all of our saints and a patron for all of us. Mary has been the intercessor for all people who call upon her and for many causes. As Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mary became a powerful intercessor for the indigenous people of Mexico at a time when the armies of Spain were conquering them. Her story is inextricably tied to the story of St. Juan Diego, to whom she appeared a number of times.
- As the pre-eminent saint of our Church, there are many feast days in honor of Our Lady. We honor her as Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. Under the title of the Immaculate Conception, Mary is also the patron of the United States.
- **Mary's message today:** Our greatest saint, Mary did one basic thing. She listened to God's will that she was to be the mother of Jesus and she accepted that will. "Let it be done to me as you say." (Lk 1:38)



Parish Calendar | December 17, 2023

	Sunday [12/17]	Monday [12/18]	Tuesday [12/19]	Wednesday [12/20]	Thursday [12/21]	Friday [12/22]	Saturday [12/23]
School				School Mass hosted by 6th Grade 8:30AM	Free Pajama Day	No School Christmas Break	
Faith Formation	Taizé 6PM			Faith Formation & Edge Class 6:30PM			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 RCIA (CH) 6:30PM	Mass 8:30AM Reconciliation 6PM	Mass 8AM Adoration 2-9PM Rosary 4:05PM	Mass 8:30AM Decorate for Christmas after Mass	Mass 4:30PM
More						Parish Office Closed at 2PM	
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			
[12/17]	8:30AM	Mass	For the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass	Connie Hellmann
[12/19]	8:30AM	Mass	Jack & Rosemary Marshall
[12/20]	8:30AM	Mass	Delpha McCormick
[12/21]	8AM	Mass	Frederick Hunter
	2-9PM	Adoration	
	4:05PM	Rosary	
[12/22]	8:30AM	Mass	Regina Sinnott
[12/23]	4:30PM	Mass	Sharon Kurns
[12/24]	8:30AM	Mass	Carl & Elizabeth Neal

Upcoming Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers		
Saturday	Altar Servers	P.&L. Carroll, J.&H. Kajewski, Tyler Leo
[12/23]	Lectors	Todd Treese, Mark Judge
4:30PM	EMHC	Team 2
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	McAndrews Family, A. Castro, C. Bryant
[12/24]	Lectors	Wayne Johnson, Karen Quiner
8:30AM	EMHC	Team 3
	Children's Liturgy	none
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Taking the Journey TOGETHER		

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24, at 4 p.m.
Sunday, December 24, at 6 p.m.

Sunday, December 24, at 10 p.m.
Monday, December 25, at 9 a.m.

Sign up in the back of the Church or contact the Parish Office to volunteer during Christmas services!



View the Parish Calendar online at holytrinitydm.org/home/calendar

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