



# Holy Trinity

Catholic Church and School

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

December 8th, 2024

Second Sunday of  
Advent

Taking the Journey TOGETHER

*“Blessed are all who wait for the  
Lord.”  
-Ps. 147*

# 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 8th, 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

**Congrats.** Please join us in congratulating our four new Eagle Scouts from Holy Trinity's Troop 77: Erik Altman, Jr., Truman James, Gabriel Polich, and Theodore Johnson. Their Eagle Scout Court of Honor will be held in mid-December. Congratulations to these young men on this accomplishment!

**Congratulations.** To Christopher & Jennifer Rainey (Pithan) on their marriage November 30th 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.

**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](mailto: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!](#)

**Prayers.** Please join in prayer for the repose of the soul of Richard "Patrick" McGoldrick. *Eternal Rest Grant unto Him O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon Him. May His 'soul and the Souls of All the Faithful Departed, Through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen.*

**Holy Trinity Parishioners.** The 2024 Beaverdale Holiday Boutique team would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Boutique a success! We had the most successful Boutique since the pandemic with profits exceeding \$28,000. The bake sale alone brought in over \$2,000.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us to make the 47th annual Boutique a memorable, joyful event for the greater Metro. Our vendors shared over and over again that our friendly Holy Trinity volunteers are what makes our Boutique so special. We appreciate you!

## Financial Blessings Ending Week of 11/29/24

Budget July 2024 through June 2025	\$958,558	YTD Surplus (Deficit)	\$26,237
YTD Actual Tithing	\$385,819	Tithing for the Week	\$8,832
YTD Budget	\$359,582	Number of Donations Received	58



**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!](#)



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**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](mailto:mmorrison@htschool.org).

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**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.

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**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!

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**Upcoming Dates.**

- BAND CONCERT: December 9th
- MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT: December 16th
- NOON DISMISSAL: December 20th
- CHRISTMAS BREAK: December 21st-January 5th



**Holy Trinity**  
Catholic Church and School

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**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](mailto: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.



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# From the Diocese & Community | December 8th, 2024



**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](#)

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## **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](mailto:CharlesS@BasilicaofStJohn.org)

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**Our World Needs Prayer.** Join Fellow Iowans to Pray A Monthly **Rosary**. Iowa State **Capitol** - West Side Steps. Third Sunday of Every Month in 2024 at 1:30 PM. An additional rosary will be inside of the Capitol on the Saturday prior to pray for the healing of our nation.

**Time/Details:** 12:30 PM inside the **Capitol** on Saturday, December 14, 2024 to pray for our country.  
Location: Iowa State **Capitol**, 1007 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319, Inside of the Capitol

**Time/Details:** 1:30 PM at the **Capitol** on Sunday, December 15, 2024 to pray for our country.  
Location: Iowa State **Capitol**, 1007 E Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50319, West Side Steps

**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](mailto: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](mailto:lernst@stjosephcatholicdsm.org).

**For a complete listing of open positions across our schools, visit**  
<https://www.dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools/office/careers>



## *Second 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 : Baruch 5:1-9**

God will show all the earth the splendor of Jerusalem.

- The passage from Baruch borrows the prophetic language of Second Isaiah which presents a glorious vision of the vindication of God's people.
- Jerusalem, clothed in the glory and justice of God, would welcome her children home.
- All creation would share in the delight and make a smooth shady path for the people of God.

### **Reading II : Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**

He who has begun a great work in you will continue to strengthen you.

- Paul's Letter to the Philippians expresses his great hope for the people in Philippi whom had enthusiastically accepted the Gospel of Christ.
- The Philippians had supported Paul financially and shown kindness to him during his imprisonment.
- Paul reminds them to love one another and to value what truly matters.

### **Gospel : Luke 3:1-6**

The preaching of John the Baptist.

- In today's Gospel, Luke sets the story of Jesus in historic context for his Gentile audience by listing the important figures of the time.
- At the end of the list, he concentrates on John the Baptizer.
- The lone prophet, John the Baptist, was to preach the arrival of God's salvation in Jesus.





# Bring Home the Gospel | December 8th, 2024

Reading I Baruch 5:1-9 | Psalm | Reading II Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 | Gospel Luke 3:1-6

**Question For The Children:** What things do you do to get ready for a big event or celebration?

**Question For The Youth:** How do you share the Good News of Jesus with others?

**Question For The Adults** Name one thing you can do to help “prepare the way of the Lord?”

**Saint Of The Week Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor, c. 340-397** A brilliant young lawyer, Ambrose was appointed in about 372 by the emperor Valentinian as governor of Liguria and Aemilia. Sending him to his new post which was located in the city of Milan, Valentinian told Ambrose, somewhat prophetically, “Go; and govern more like a bishop than a judge.”

The bishop of Milan at the time, Auxentius, strongly advocated the Arian heresy which denied the divinity of Christ. In 374, Auxentius died and there was considerable turmoil in the city over who should succeed him. The Arians demanded an Arian bishop while true Catholics called for one of their own. To prevent this conflict from breaking out into open warfare, Ambrose went to the church where the assembly to elect a bishop was being held. In speaking to this group, Ambrose urged the people to conduct their selection in a spirit of peace and without malice. While he was talking, a voice shouted, “Ambrose, bishop!” and the whole assembly took up the cry. The bishops of the province, recognizing the will of the people, ratified this selection causing Ambrose to remark sarcastically that “Emotion has overruled canon law.”

Though a professed Christian, Ambrose was still unbaptized and had no desire to be the bishop. He sought to be excused from this office by the emperor, but Valentinian, noting that it gave him great pleasure to have chosen governors who were worthy of the episcopal office, ratified the selection. Reluctantly, Ambrose accepted the will of the people and the emperor. He was baptized and, one week later on December 7, 374, Ambrose was consecrated as bishop of Milan. Now a man of Christ, Ambrose forsook all of the worldly things which he had acquired in his position as governor. He gave his money to the poor and his lands were given to the Church. He adopted a simple lifestyle, fasting on most days, and devoting himself to the service of his people. His door was always open to members of his flock.

Always noted for his intellect and aware of his ignorance in theological matters, Ambrose threw himself fervently into the study of Sacred Scripture and the writings of the great religious scholars. A gifted speaker during all of his public life, Ambrose carried this over into his ecclesiastical duties. His sermons and his writings on any theological subject had an influence far beyond his diocese. After gaining a better understanding of the Arian heresy, he spoke eloquently against it and largely eliminated it in his diocese after a few years.

During Ambrose’ episcopate, St. Augustine, who was teaching rhetoric in Milan at this time, was so impressed by the sermons of the bishop that he began to study with him. Augustine, whose faith had withered over several years, was baptized by Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in 387. He continued to work with Ambrose and be one of his strongest supporters.

Ambrose spent the remaining years of his life writing works of exegesis, theology, and ascetics, as well as poetry. He actively ministered to the needs of the people of his diocese, and was a prominent political figure in both the Eastern and Western empires. St. Ambrose is honored on the date of his consecration as bishop, December 7.

**Ambrose’s message today:** As bishop of Milan, Ambrose held much power, both in his diocese as well as in the empire itself. Yet he was very careful to use the power to fair and just ends. Above all, he followed Scripture and Church teachings as his true guide.

- *Do you, as a supervisor, a manager, or a parent, use your authority in a wise and just manner?*



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# Parish Calendar | December 8th, 2024

Parish Calendar   December 8th, 2024							
	Sunday [12/8]	Monday [12/9]	Tuesday [12/10]	Wednesday [12/11]	Thursday [12/12]	Friday [12/13]	Saturday [12/14]
<b>School</b>		Jazz Band Christmas Concert (CH) 6:30PM	School Family Organization Meeting 6PM	School Mass hosted by 7th Grade 8:30AM			
<b>Faith Formation</b>				Faith Formation & Edge Class (103, 104) 6:30PM			Sun. Reading Groups Men (MC) 7:30AM Women (CH) 8:30AM
<b>Adult Faith Formation</b>	Mass 8:30AM & 10:30AM  Advent Generations of Faith (SR) 4-6PM	Feast of IC of Mary Mass 8:30AM	Mass 8:30AM Adoration/ Morning Prayer following Mass OCIA (CH) 6:30PM	Mass 8:30AM  Reconciliation (CH) 6-7PM	Mass 8:30AM Adoration 2-9PM Rosary 4:05PM	Mass 8:30AM  Morning Prayer following Mass	Reconciliation 3-3:45PM Mass 4:30PM
<b>More</b>	Coffee & Donuts following 8:30 & 10:30 Mass			Schola 6:30PM (in choir room)  9th Grade Confirmation (101, 102) 6:30PM			Parish Wide Adult Advent Retreat (MC) 12 PM-4PM

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			
[12/8]	8:30AM	Mass	For the Parish
	10:30AM	Mass	Marcie Coleman
[12/10]	8:30AM	Mass	Ruth & Jim Wright
[12/11]	8:30AM	Mass	Dean Young
[12/12]	8:30AM	Mass	Dean Young
	2-9PM	Adoration	
	4:05PM	Rosary	
[12/13]	8:30AM	Mass	Tim Sheaff
[12/14]	3-3:45PM	Reconciliation	
	4:30PM	Mass	Cecilia Roberta Pyle
[12/15]	8:30AM	Mass	Tim Cooney
	10:30AM	Mass	For the Parish

Upcoming Liturgical Ministers and Altar Servers		
Saturday	Altar Servers	Liam Dumermuth, Jude & Hugh Kajewski and Tyler Leo
[12/14]	Lectors	Marsha Szymczuk & Kathie Obradovich
4:30PM	EMHC	Team 1
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Geneva Knapp, Mary Cate & Ronan Bergman and Bennett Steinkamp
[12/15]	Lectors	Jacob Meradith-Eyers & Sherill Whisenand
8:30AM	EMHC	Team 1/MC: Karen Quiner
	Children's Liturgy	Team A: Janelle & Ian Kerr
	Music Coordinator	Tom Quiner
Sunday	Altar Servers	Kellan Murphy and Isaac, Jacob and Lukas Perry
[12/15]	Lectors	Margaret Toomey & Billy Howe
10:30AM	EMHC	Team 3/MC: Jim Wilwerding
	Children's Liturgy	Team 5: Jean Smith & Alaina Hoover
	Music Coordinator	Eric Sharp

Taking the Journey TOGETHER



View the Parish Calendar online at  
[holyltrinitydm.org/home/calendar](http://holyltrinitydm.org/home/calendar)

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**Katy Polich**  
Owner/Parishioner  
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515-770-9515

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**Dentistry**  
Bernard Gradoville, D.D.S.  
Jack Gradoville, D.D.S.  
2800 Ingersoll Ave. Des Moines  
515-243-2412

**Matt Nolan**  
Mortgage Lender  
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Email [parishoffice@holyltrinitydm.org](mailto:parishoffice@holyltrinitydm.org)  
or  
[jans@holyltrinitydm.org](mailto:jans@holyltrinitydm.org)

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